



CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

The Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) and Društvo mladih Slovencev v Italiji (DM+) are looking for participants for the **Diversity Festival “SINERGIJA | SYNERGY”**.

The event will take place in **Trst/Trieste, Italy from the 24th – 30th July 2023** and will be organised by Društvo mladih Slovencev v Italiji (DM+) and the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN/JEV).

About the Diversity Festival

The Diversity Festival is an event where youth from different minorities in Europe meet and spend a week together participating in creative workshops, activities and exchange, with a focus on creative approaches to minority activism. The festival will be held in Trieste, Italy from the 24th – 30th July 2023 under the theme “SINERGIJA | SYNERGY”.

The word synergy comes from the ancient Greek word synergos, συνεργός, which means working together. Synergy is the phenomenon of two or more interacting or cooperating agents which produces an effect that is much greater than the sum of their individual effects. The concept of synergy goes hand in hand with our aim as a youth association.

One of the main goals of our Association of Slovenians in Italy is to provide opportunities for young people to meet, to spend meaningful moments together, to talk about different experiences and to interact with each other. We believe that the prerequisite for achieving synergy is to know and accept each other, including our differences. It seems to us that, especially today, we need people, groups and institutions that live, work in unity and that strive for the common good of the wider society.

You will be able to learn more about the hosts and local minority DM+ throughout the festival.

Workshops

During the festival most of your time will be spent in workshops. There are three workshops:

Workshop 1 - Radio Story-Podcast Workshop

This workshop will mainly focus on what we could name the least aggressive media in the contemporary world - radio! Audio platforms are - especially through podcasting - gaining popularity in the last years, coming back to fashion especially amongst the younger generation. What are the main differences between broadcast and podcast? How to start your own podcast and what to name it? How to build your media persona and how to "properly" talk on air? Who is your audience? What makes a (radio) story interesting? How to make a good interview and be truly present in the moment? And finally... how to send your project to the world (with the help of social media) and build its community? These are a few questions we will be talking through and working on with the contribution of your own ideas, material and creativity.

Workshop 2 - Installation Scenography

During this workshop, we will create installations that will be used as a scenography. The workshop will involve strong interaction with participants of the theatre's course; artworks will be born through the observation of the other and in turn, will

inspire the gestures of the theatre group, in a work of continuous relationship that will give life to a synergy. The course will take place following an introduction to the contemporary art practice of installation and will teach various techniques. If you like to build and you are interested in investigating personal expression, then this course is for you!

Workshop 3 - Theatre Workshop: Playing with the Body

Through theatre improvisations and acting exercises, we will use our imagination to get to know and train the actor's instrument, their body. We will learn what we communicate with our bodies on stage and how to tune ourselves to communicate what we want. We will build the dynamics of the actor's relationships and explore the interaction of the actor with the space and the set. We will stimulate our imagination by co-creating with the participants of the scenography workshop, with whom we will also co-create the final performance. If you want to explore your potential, train your imagination, and express your talent, come and join us!

Choosing your workshop: In the registration you can choose which workshop you would like to attend and we will try to make it possible for everyone to attend their first or second choice. Together with the Info Sheet you will be informed about which workshop you will take part in. All workshops will be held in English. If you are worried your English is not good enough, then please reach out to us and we will try to find a solution!

There will be plenty of time to get to know everybody, so don't worry about only hanging out with the people from your workshop!

Participants profile

You are a young member of a minority aged between 16 and 30 and involved in your minority youth organization? Then sign up for the Diversity Festival in Trieste, Italy!

Please note that we can accept **two to three participants from each YEN member organisation**. However, there will be a waiting list to fill up open seats after the registration deadline. So, if you are interested in sending more participants, get in contact with the YEN office (under events@yeni.org).

We are also happy to welcome **young minority members, who are not a member of a YEN member organisation**. Please be aware, that if we receive more applications than spaces, member of YEN member organisations will be prioritised in the selection process.

All participants are required to take part in at least four full days of the festival.

Arrival & Departure

Arrival Day: 24th July

(Please arrive before 6pm, as we will spend the evening getting to know each other through some activities and ice-breaker games. The Diversity Festival workshops will officially begin on 25th July at 9.15am)

Departure Day: 30th July

- ➔ If you can not arrive and depart on the mentioned days please contact the YEN office events@yeni.org before signing up.

Location

You will be accommodated during the week in the heart of Trieste at [Hotello](#), Valdirivo street 6, 34142 Trieste, in 6-bed rooms. The workshops and activities will take place in various institutions of the Slovene community in Italy, which are around a 10-minute walk from the hostel.

More information on how to reach it will be provided after the application process.

Free time and activities

We have organised a few trips and activities for the participants, which include a guided tour through the city of Trieste, as well as a visit to the main institutions, buildings, and organisations of Slovenes in Italy. We will also take a hike in nature in the Kras region, therefore bring comfortable shoes with you. Since Trieste is located by the sea, you will have few possibilities to swim and sunbathe at different stone beaches during your free time, so please bring with you a swimsuit, towel, sunscreen and sunglasses. In Trieste there are also several museums and events you can go to.

Finances

Travel expenses

Travel expenses can be partially reimbursed up to a maximum amount. This involves a signed “expense claim”. Only if original tickets will be presented and sent to the YEN office and participants provide all needed justificatory documents of travel and expenses (invoices, boarding passes, train or bus tickets...) the reimbursement will be considered. Please notice, taxi costs cannot be reimbursed! We will reimburse your travel costs only if you stay no longer than two days before or after the seminar.

Selected participants will be provided further details.

Participation fees

The participation fee is **100 €** for Western European participants and **70 €** for Eastern European participants. It covers food and accommodation for the entire seminar, as well as excursions and required materials during the event.

Accommodation is only covered during the duration of the seminar. If you arrive before or stay longer, you will have to cover and book it yourself.

- If you have to cancel your participation 2 weeks prior to the event and there will be no replacement, we will have to ask you for the participation fee.

Social fund

If you need support to pay either your travel costs or participation fee, contact the office to ask for more information and/or apply for financial support get in contact with the YEN-Office (events@yeni.org).

About YEN

As YEN we believe in human rights and fundamental freedoms for all humans. We cooperate with and support institutions that share those values. Our work is built on the ideas of respect, openness and tolerance for all minorities. We openly position ourselves against racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, antigypsyism, antisemitism and discrimination or forced assimilation of any kind of minority and, as a matter of principle, are against violence in whatsoever form. When we choose facilitators and topics for workshops we do so with those values in mind.

We are happy that at YEN events our participants and team have various opinions and views on the topics we address. We value discussions and open exchange of ideas. Therefore, we expect that participants and team-members show respect to everyone and do not spread hate. Furthermore, we expect all attendees to acknowledge that every human being is equally valuable, and that each individual's freedom ends where another individual's freedom begins.

About DM+

Our association DM+ Association of Young Slovenians in Italy was established in the year 2019. It was born because we felt the need to participate in our minority and give other young people the possibility to train and develop individually.

DM+ is an association that is young, fresh and opens its doors to all young people who are curious, joyful and want to be active contributors to our social picture. We want to pay special attention to the Slovenes in Benečija, Kanalska dolina and Rezija, which is why we have decided to have our headquarters in Špeter (San Pietro al Natisone). Our members come from different regions: Trieste, Gorizia and Udine. We want to shape our future together.

Our objectives are strengthening and preserving the Slovenian language, promoting the participation of young expatriates, mutual cooperation between organizations at the regional level, networking with associations, organizations and institutions from the Republic of Slovenia, cooperation with youth organizations at the international level, and networking with schools and the school population.

We want to encourage the first experience of social action for the benefit of the wider community and to learn about the richness of the environments where Slovenians live in Italy. We are convinced that in this way we can empower the younger generations and encourage them to become not only active members of the society, but also more aware and critical readers, listeners, viewers and voters.

YEN's Code of Conduct

In order to participate in the Diversity Festival, you must adhere to the YEN Code of Conduct – a set of guidelines compiled by YEN about respect, prejudice and general behavioural standards we expect at our events. Please have a look at [YENs Code of Conduct](#) here. In the registration you will be asked to agree with it in order to participate.

Application procedure

Please note that **you must contact your organisation before you apply**. Applications sent without the knowledge of an organisations will not be considered.

Participants will be informed after the registration deadline whether they have been selected or placed on the waiting list.

All participants are required to take part in at least four full days of the festival.

The closing date for registration is 18th June!

[Link for registration!](#)

Please book your trip directly **after** you receive an official confirmation from the YEN-office! Try to travel as cheaply and eco-friendly as possible.

Additional information's will be sent to you after your participation has been officially confirmed by the office.

Contact

The YEN-office is available for any questions.

YEN Office:

events@yeni.org

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www.yeni.org

We are looking forward to your participation!

The Orga-Team from DM+ and YEN

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