

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Autumn Seminar - "Tradition in Transition" of the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) in Subotica, Serbia

16th – 22nd October 2023

The Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) is looking for participants for the **Autumn Seminar - "Tradition in Transition"**. The event will take place in **Subotica, Serbia** from the **16th – 22nd October 2023** and will be hosted by the youth organisation of the Hungarian minority in Serbia "Vajdasági Ifjúsági Fórum" (VIFÓ).

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About the Seminar

The Autumn Seminar 2023 of the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) is the last seminar of year 2023 under the title "Keeping Traditions Alive. Since 2023!". We will finalize our reflection about traditions in minority communities and speak about future actions. This Autumn Seminar, the participants will meet in Subotica, Serbia and get hosted by the "Vajdasági Ifjúsági Fórum" (VIFÓ). The Orga-Team is made up of representatives of VIFÓ and YEN.

About 50 young people from national, ethnic and linguistic minorities from around Europe will spend a week together, participate in a workshop based on methods of non-formal education, learn about the Hungarian community in Serbia, get to know each other, and enjoy leisure activities such as the Cultural Exchange Market, where every participant is invited to present their own community, an excursion day and a diverse evening program.

Accommodation will be provided for all during the Seminar.

Workshop

For many national, ethnic and linguistic minorities traditions play a key role in community life. They are tools for creating a sense of belonging, representation or fighting assimilation. Naturally, they have a great impact on the members of these communities. Therefore, we believe it is valuable that young people from minorities better understand the positive and negative impact that traditions can have on minority communities. With this seminar, participants will reflect on the impact and value of "change" for traditions and will be encouraged to seek active dialogue about traditions and find ways to own, adopt or change the traditions of their minority.

As a participant you will:

- have the opportunity to exchange with other young people from minorities about your experiences with changes in traditions. You will discuss questions related to the power and impact of change on your minority community, but also reflect on how it influences you individually.
- be led in a process of reflecting about your role in preserving or changing the traditions of your community and how you want to interact based on that with other community members.
- develop ideas about how you would like to change your traditions and which strategies would help to present and implement such changes in your minority communities.



- gain tools and knowledge about how to communicate and have a dialogue in an effective way, how to find the “right pace of progress of change”, how to take personal actions and be active in your minority community.
 - ➔ *The workshops are based on non-formal education methods and you will spend most of the week in your workshops. Non-formal education is very different from education as you know it from schools or university. It is based on exchange between the participants, on shared experiences and reflection of your own situation.*
 - ➔ *The workshop will be held in English. If you are not sure if your language skills are sufficient, please contact us and we will find a solution together.*

Participants profile

You are a young member of a minority between 16 and 30 years and involved in your minority youth organisation? Then sign up for the YEN Autumn Seminar!

Please notice 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 out of it after the registration deadline. So if you are interested in sending more participants, get in contact with the YEN-office (under events@yeni.org).

If you are not part of a YEN member organisation but still want to experience a YEN event please also contact events@yeni.org, we are always happy to welcome guests.

Arrival & Departure

Arrival Day: 16th October 2023 (if possible until dinner 7pm)

Departure Day: 22nd October 2023 (in the morning after breakfast)

More information on Venue and how to reach Subotica, Serbia will be provided after the application process.



Finances

Travel expenses

Travel expenses can be 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. 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. **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.

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.

What is VIFÓ?

The Youth Forum of Vojvodina was founded in 1996. Since then, we organized numerous events to the Hungarian youth in Serbia. Our goal is to preserve the identity of the young Hungarians of Vojvodina, to involve them in public life, to boost their everyday and cultural life, to represent their interests on a broad scale, to build and nurture a cohesive community, and to transfer practical and theoretical knowledge that can be applied in both private and professional life.



Application procedure

Please note that **you have to contact your organisation before you apply**. Applications that were send **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 seminar.

The closing date for registration is 3rd of September 2023.

Registration!

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

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

Tel.: +49 176 31779414

www.yeni.org

Facebook: @yeni.org

We are looking forward to your participation!

The Orga-Team from VIFÓ and YEN

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