



Study Session “You(th) and Migration: Transforming the Crisis” 15 - 19 May 2017, European Youth Centre Strasbourg, France

Dear friends,

It is my pleasure to invite you to the Study Session on “You(th) and Migration: Transforming the Crisis”. This five-day Study Session is organised by [IFLRY](#) (International Federation of Liberal Youth) in cooperation with the Youth Department of the Council of Europe and will take place in the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg from the 15th until the 19th of May 2017. In the current international landscape migration, especially the movement of refugees and asylum seekers, is of particular and increasing importance. Migration has an international, national and local context and as a political youth organisation with member organisations all over the world, IFLRY cannot be indifferent to it. More action, especially by young people, is needed and it is therefore crucial for IFLRY and its member organisations to act upon it together. The study session aims to devise schemes and innovations that can promote the social inclusion of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers whilst attempting to avoid a negative impact for people in host societies. There will be discussion as to how young people can influence rhetoric and actions taken in their own countries with the overall intended result of promoting harmonious societies in which migrants, refugees and asylum seekers are included and respected. The experience of people and member organisations working on the topic will be used to get the best results out of this study session. The activity thus has several objectives:

Aims & Objectives of the Study Session:

- To develop a better understanding of migration as a concept and reasons why people migrate;
- To better understand the experiences and needs of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, as well as the issues they face with special focus on the impact of other factors such as their gender and age;
- To develop a better understanding of the local policies and politics surrounding migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in different countries, and to explore how young people can influence this;
- To better understand the thoughts and emotions of local people in host communities, the reasons for their actions and the shift in their political behavior;

- To explore actions, strategies and programs that young people can take to help migrants, refugees and asylum seekers integrate into society and promote their acceptance and inclusion, whilst also taking into account the interests of local people in host societies
- To analyze good practices promoting intercultural dialogue and exchange for social reconciliation, peacebuilding and multiculturalism;
- To provide a platform for young activists and politicians to discuss the issues surrounding migration and possible solutions to tackle them;
- To support youth organisations to develop their capacity and exchange good practices in order to facilitate the integration of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers into society, and for participants to become multipliers of this knowledge and understanding within and through their organisations;

The process of the study session aims to ensure a smooth learning curve for participants. On the first day we will define essential concepts and in order to gain a thorough understanding of the global state of migration. On the second and the third day we will focus on migration experiences and the needs of migrants and the reasons for hostile reactions and shifts in political behavior and policies. Participants will focus on the impact civil society and politics can have on a local and international level and on good practices of social activism. On the fourth day participants will work on their strategies and action plans to carry out on a local/regional level in order to better integrate migrants, refugees and asylum seekers into society. Finally, on the fifth day, participants will finalize and present their projects with measurable projected outputs, seeking to achieve concrete outcomes to the study session. Given the nature of the study session, participants with a migration background are highly encouraged to apply.

Below you will find further practical information. Please find here the [online form](#) through which you can apply. We are looking forward to receiving your application!

Andrea UGRINOSKA | Executive Director

Application procedure:
<p>The deadline for applying is: 7th April 2017 (23:59 GMT). Applicants must register through our online form by following this link. All required fields must be filled in. IFLRY will not accept blank nominations. For any questions, please contact the office by e-mail: office@iflry.org</p>
Date & Venue:
<p><u>Arrival:</u> Participants are expected to arrive on Sunday 14 May before 18:00 local time.</p>

Departure: Participants are expected to depart **Saturday 20 May** at any time.

Please note that full completion of the program is **mandatory** to qualify for a reimbursement of travel expenses. There can be **no late arrivals or early departures**.

The venue is the [European Youth Centre in Strasbourg](#).

Funding:

The sponsor for this activity is the Youth Department of the Council of Europe. Meals and accommodation of the participants during the activity will be covered. Travel costs will be reimbursed upon presentation of all tickets and receipts. Participants are required to travel in the most economical manner that is reasonably possible.

The enrollment fee is **50 Euros** and will be deducted from the travel reimbursements.

About the organisers and format of the activity

The **International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY)** is the global umbrella organisation of liberal youth and students organisations from all around the world. Its central mission is to globalise freedom.

The **Youth Department of the Council of Europe** is part of the Directorate of Democratic Citizenship and Participation. The Department elaborates guidelines, programmes and legal instruments for the development of coherent and effective youth policies at local, national and European levels. It provides funding and educational support for international youth activities aiming at the promotion of youth citizenship, youth mobility and the value of human rights, democracy and cultural pluralism. It seeks to bring together and disseminate expertise and knowledge about the life situations, aspirations and ways of expression of young Europeans.

LANGUAGE: English is the working language of this study session.

FORMAT: Non-Formal Education.

Non-Formal Education is participant-centred, action-oriented and value-based. It is instruction that is not obligatory and structured and is learned outside the context of a formal school. The non-formal approach to education and interaction in IFLRY means that the entire experience of a study session is a learning experience – such as interactive lectures, workshops, working groups, simulations, cafes, and peer to peer learning.