



Open Call for Participants

Local Seminar

“Diversity, Inclusion & Pluralism: Overcoming History”

Sarajevo, Bosnia & Herzegovina

22—25 August 2019

Dear friends,

It is our great pleasure to invite you to participate in the local seminar on “Diversity, Inclusion & Pluralism: Overcoming History” which will be held in Sarajevo, from 22—25 August 2019.

This four-day local seminar is the second of the Work Plan series “*Changing the Norm: Youth's Vision of Diversity, Inclusion and Democratic Pluralism*” organized by the International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY) in cooperation with the European Youth Foundation (EYF).

We believe that the ethnic and religious tensions that led to the violent conflict in South-East Europe and the Balkan region is not only a mandatory case study for fleshing out the different layers of pluralism, but also an important reminder of what happens when communities lack the social practices to deal with diverse attitudes, beliefs, and values.

The primary aim of this event is to put abstract debates about democratic pluralism in the context of a real-world setting.

The specific objectives are:

(a) Gain Insight into the Learnings from other Work Plan Events

- To establish a robust and common understanding of the theoretical underpinnings of democratic pluralism and its practices (i.e. inclusion, civility, etc.) through the documented outcomes of other Work Plan events.
- To recognize the need for pluralist institutions in order to ensure peaceful coexistence, social stability, and inclusive social and political participation with a special emphasis on youth.

- To introduce institutional (formal, i.e. laws and rules; and informal, i.e. norms, customs, habits, and public standards) prerequisites for ensuring pluralist communal life and social discourse.
- (b) Apply the Conceptual Insights to the Historical Experience of the Region
 - To engage with the historical and contemporary experiences (either from participants or experts) that the region offers when it comes to social tensions due to different forms of diversity (e.g. ethnic, religious, socioeconomic, etc.)
 - critically reflect on the theoretical (and more abstract) learnings that are reflected in the outcomes of the other Work Plan events—and whether (and how) they apply to the regional experience.
- (c) Refine Outcomes of the Work Plan and Develop Project Proposals
 - To revisit and (if necessary) refine the outcomes of the other Work Plan events in the context of the insights gained from the experiences shared during this seminar.
 - To embed the learnings and discussions of the event into concrete project proposals with a theme of “We Will Never Let This Happen Again”—where participants will focus on small-scale concrete initiatives that promote the formal and informal institutions of pluralism. For example, by projects that ensure minority representation, co-decision making or co-determination.

Given the nature of the topic, participants with a background and a keen interest in the seminar topic and Non-Formal Education (NFE) 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!

Hussam ERHAYEL | Executive Director



Application procedure:

The deadline for applying is: **21st of July 2019 (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.

Participants from the following countries are encouraged to apply:

Bosnia & Herzegovina, North Macedonia, Croatia, Montenegro, Albania, Slovenia, Romania, Bulgaria

Any late cancellations upon acceptance would be fined with **50 EUR.**

For any questions, please contact the office by e-mail: office@iflry.org

Date & Venue:

Arrival: Participants are expected to arrive at the venue on the 22nd of August, as early as possible, but at least before 12:00 PM

Departure: Participants are expected to depart on the 25th of August in the afternoon. Please note that full completion of the program is mandatory to qualify for reimbursement of travel expenses. There can be **no late arrivals or early departures.** The venue will be announced.

Funding:

This activity is implemented with the support of the European Youth Foundation (EYF).

Meals and accommodation of the participants during the activity will be covered. Visa costs will be covered upon presentation of the visa copy and receipt from the embassy. 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 - and will need to check their preferred travel options with the office before booking them due to travel reimbursement limitations. Official acceptance and confirmation from IFLRY office are required for booking the tickets.

Organizers:

The International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY) is the global umbrella organization of liberal youth and students organizations from all around the world. Its central mission is to globalize freedom.

The European Youth Foundation (EYF) is a division of 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 and Format

English is the working language of this study session.

The study session will be held using Non-Formal Education format and methodology. Non-Formal Education is participant-centered, action-oriented and value-based. It is a form of instruction that is not obligatory and structured and is learned outside the context of a formal school. IFLRY has been an ardent advocate of Non-Formal Education and is using it as a leading approach in its events and activities.