



Open Call for Participants  
Local Seminar

*"The Tensions of Migration: Forced Migration and Integration"*  
August 23 - 26 2018. Istanbul, Turkey.

Dear Friends,

It is our great pleasure to invite you to participate in the local seminar on "The Tensions of Migration: Forced Migration and Integration" which will be held in Istanbul from 23rd to 26th August 2018.

This four-day local seminar is the third of the work plan series organized by the International Federation of Liberal Youth (IFLRY) in cooperation with the Youth Department of the Council of Europe.

This local event in Istanbul will deal with the most urgent subcategory of migration: the effects of mass scale forced migration on host societies. According to the UNHCR, more than 65 million people have been involuntarily displaced—and thus had to leave their homes behind. Especially in the aftermath of the Syrian Civil War where millions have reached the countries of close proximity within a few months or even weeks, we have observed a dramatic increase of ethnic and religious tensions—which ultimately gave rise to populism, political extremism, and xenophobia. In this four day seminar, we will tackle normative questions such as how one should shoulder the burdens of such phenomena, the role of various stakeholders, as well as looking into concrete initiatives that foster the integration process of young refugees after displacement and thus secure stability and peace within societies. We will accept applications from the following countries to keep our focus on the local issues regarding the tensions of migration: Turkey, Greece, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Russia.

This seminar will adapt the broader perspective of the overall work plan "The Tensions of Migration" to its particular local manifestation of these tensions and directly apply to the challenges that immigrants face in the MENA region offering insights into a longer history of forced migration flows, local tensions and existing ethnic discrimination. This broadened perspective will offer participants the engagement with the local historical perspective and thus help them to develop a more profound understanding how to deal with situations of social, ethnic, and religious discrimination and exclusion. We will also introduce, promote, and actively

use the concept of Non-Formal Education to display its power and applicability in conflict transformation and social inclusion.

The main aim of the event will be to identify and map existing challenges in order to work out specific solutions that focus on unmasking the tension in the region.

The specific objectives can therefore be described as follows:

*(a) Map the Challenges of Forced Migration*

- To acknowledge the differences that the various types of migration put on host societies and different migrant groups—and how these challenges are intertwined.
- To recognize that the tension between the immediate humanitarian obligation in the context of refugees and its impact on political realities.
- To identify the effects of forced migration on the different stakeholders—with a particular focus on the institutional level where change-making takes more time.

*(b) Explore Existing Initiatives and Best-Practices*

- To exchange best-practices from different countries (directly by the participants coming from a wide range of countries including South-East Europe, MENA, Turkey, Ukraine and other particularly affected); but also with experts, e.g. the refugee crisis in the aftermath of the Yugoslav Wars).
- To get a better understanding of existing initiatives in Turkey.

*(c) Develop a Plan for Practical Action*

- To create a concrete plan of action that reflects not only existing best-practices but also projects that participants develop during this seminar—and go back to their home countries for implementation with.

The seminar is open for participants who are from the MENA region or have an experience in the MENA region. Given the nature of the topic, participants with a background and keen interest in migration and integration processes, 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!

Andrea UGRINOSKA | Executive Director

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Andrea Ugrinoska', with a small mark at the end of the signature.

#### Application procedure:

The deadline for applying is: 22nd of July 2018 (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: Turkey, Greece, Armenia, Georgia, Azerbaijan, Ukraine, Russia.  
For any questions, please contact the office by e-mail: [office@iflry.org](mailto:office@iflry.org)

#### Date & Venue:

Arrival: Participants are expected to arrive at the venue on the 23rd of August, as early as possible.  
Departure: Participants are expected to depart on the 26th of August in the afternoon. 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 will be announced.

#### Funding:

This activity is implemented with the support of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe. 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. An official acceptance and confirmation from IFLRY office is required to start booking the tickets.

#### Organizers:

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 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-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. IFLRY has been an ardent advocate of Non-Formal Education and is using it as a leading approach in its events and activities.