





Open Call for Participants
International Seminar
"Diversity, Inclusion & Pluralism: Countering Populism"
May 9-12. 2019. Warsaw, Poland

Dear Friends,

It is our great pleasure to invite you to participate in the international seminar on "Diversity, Inclusion & Pluralism: Countering Populism" which will be held in Warsaw from 9th to 12th of May 2019.

This four-day international seminar is the first 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 and the Swedish Centre Party International Foundation.

This first international event shall serve as a kick-off platform for the overall framework of our Work Plan this year. By gathering participants from all over Europe, we will be able to jointly map the different aspects of the topic of pluralism, bring in the various experiences and challenges that different regions and groups face when it comes to inclusion and diversity, and disentangle some of the conceptual complexities of the relationship between democratic participation and pluralism.

The highly interactive four-day seminar will allow the participants to not only build up the relevant knowledge and understanding of the topic—but also to actively create and influence the flow of the Work Plan. While having this outlook-oriented dimension, the event will also already equip its participants with some of the necessary skills and tools that will help them to stand up for pluralism in their home communities.

The primary aim of this event, therefore, is to jointly explore and devise strategies on how to tackle the different challenges that are related to pluralism with their political relevance and consequences in terms of policies and social change. By focusing on the topic of populism, we will also cater to the most requested (within the Federation's membership) and most relevant topic related to pluralism.

The specific objectives can therefore be described as follows:

- (a) Explore and Establish Theoretical/Conceptual Understanding of the Topic
 - → To develop a thorough understanding of the relevant key terms and notions surrounding pluralism and the democratic inclusion—ranging from the conceptual analysis of pluralism to its concrete manifestations in religion, politics, social and personal lifestyle etc..
 - → To establish the connections between democratic pluralism and young people's access to right; as well as inclusive and peaceful societies, from theoretical and practical perspective.
- (b) Map Out Challenges and Opportunities
 - → To map the challenges that diverse societies, especially in today's Europe, face on the way to building pluralistic and inclusive democracies. More specifically, breaking it down to the challenges that are encountered by each of the different groups (with a special emphasis on minority and vulnerable groups, in respect to sexual self-determination, migration, ethnicity and/or religion).
 - → To identify the opportunities from a societal and democratic perspective that diversity, pluralism and inclusion can open to affect

Given the nature of the topic, participants with a background and keen interest in Diversity, Inclusion and Pluralism, and Non-Formal Education (NFE) are highly encouraged to apply.

Below you will find further practical information. Please find here the <u>Online Form</u> through which you can apply. We are looking forward to receiving your application!

Hussam ERHAYEL | Executive Director

Application procedure:

The deadline for applying is: 14th of April 2019 (23:59 GMT).

Applicants must register through our online form by following this <u>link</u>

All required fields must be filled in. IFLRY will not accept blank nominations.

Participants from the following countries are encouraged to apply: Hungary. Serbia, Germany, Turkey, Belgium, Netherlands, Ukraine, Denmark, Norway, Spain, Poland, Finland, UK, Macedonia/FYROM, Sweden, Belarus, France, Croatia, Portugal.

Any late cancellations upon acceptance would be fined with <u>50 EUR.</u>

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

Date & Venue:

<u>Arrival</u>: Participants are expected to arrive at the venue on the 9th of May, as early as possible.

Departure: Participants are expected to depart on the 12th of May in the afternoon.

Please note that full completion of the program is mandatory to qualify for a reimbursement of travel expenses. There can be <u>no late arrivals or early departures</u>. 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 eligible for 80% of reimbursement from the total expenses of their travels, up to 250 euros for CoE, and 500 euros for non-CoE participants. 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.

A participation fee of 50 euros is required in order to attend this event.

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.

The Centre Party International Foundation, CIF, is a Swedish Party-Affiliated Organisation established in 1995 by the Swedish Centre Party. It shares the same core values as the Centre Party, a social-liberal, green party with a strong emphasis on sustainability and decentralisation.

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.