

Europe@DJHT

Workshops offered
by JUGEND für Europa

18–20 May 2021

ERASMUS+ 2021–2027: A FUNDING PROGRAMME FOR MORE YOUTH WORK OPPORTUNITIES IN EUROPE!

How can Erasmus+ help open up more opportunities for youth work/youth services, its experts and young people? This workshop delivers a wealth of helpful information on the new programme and discusses these and other questions in an informative and interactive manner.

The service workshop “Erasmus+ 2021–2027: A funding programme for more youth work opportunities in Europe!” introduces participants to the new Erasmus+ programme from 2021 onwards and details the many opportunities it offers to the youth work community. After briefly introducing the stakeholders involved, representatives of Germany’s National Agency JUGEND für Europa will outline the new programme and its formats, objectives and priorities. In the second part of the workshop, representatives of organisations will give project presentations that illustrate how the Erasmus+ formats are (and can) be used to open up new opportunities for local youth work and achieve specific aims. Throughout the workshop, participants are invited to address questions about the new programme generation to the organisations and JUGEND für Europa representatives who are present.

Speakers/participating organisations:

- **JUGEND für Europa**
- **Elisa Bodenstab**, Perpetuum Mobility e. V., whose youth exchange project “Unpackaged—the mobile zero-waste store” is part of Key Action 1
- **Martin Bachhofer**, Arbeitsgemeinschaft Jugendfreizeitstätten Baden-Württemberg e. V.; their innovation project “Alles Wissen in der Offenen Kinder- und Jugendarbeit” is part of Key Action 2

This workshop is scheduled to take place on 20 May 2021, 10:45–12:15 CEST

EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY CORPS 2021–2027: A FUNDING PROGRAMME FOR GREATER ENGAGEMENT AND COHESION IN EUROPE!

This workshop outlines the many opportunities for civic engagement offered by the EU's European Solidarity Corps programme. It delivers information on funding options and offers a platform for sharing practical experiences and designing new project ideas.

This service workshop focuses on the opportunities offered by the EU's new European Solidarity Corps (ESC) programme (2021–2027) to young people as well as volunteer and full-time staff working in child and youth services, with specific reference to social needs and the local level. It starts with an introduction to the programme and its objectives and priorities, before outlining ways to get involved, eligibility and funding options, and general requirements. Following this, two organisations will report on their practical experience of the ESC, giving participants insight into how they can make the ESC work for them, too. One of the projects is introduced by a representative of a child and youth services organisation, the other by a young participant. Workshop attendees will have an opportunity to ask questions and develop their own project ideas.

Speakers/participating organisations:

↘ **JUGEND für Europa**

↘ Representatives of organisations: t. b. a.

This workshop is scheduled to take place on 19 May 2021, 14:00–15:30 CEST

EXPLORE THE POSSIBILITIES: TAKING YOUTH WORK TO THE NEXT LEVEL WITH A STRONG EUROPEAN YOUTH WORK AGENDA (EYWA)

What potential could the most recent European impulses unleash upon youth work in the German context? Join this event to learn about the European Youth Work Agenda and discuss ways to get involved in its practical implementation.

The European Youth Work Agenda (EYWA), adopted in December 2020 under Germany's EU Council Presidency and chairmanship of the Council of Ministers of the Council of Europe, opens up new perspectives for the youth field. It represents a strategic framework for the continued development of youth work across Europe. Following the virtual kick-off event that was the 3rd European Youth Work Convention (7–10 December 2020), this workshop at the DJHT is an opportunity to inform an interested German audience of the EYWA's existence and scope, generate broad interest in its implementation and encourage stakeholders to help put it into practice.

JUGEND für Europa will begin by outlining the context and concept of the EYWA and pointing out its relevance for the work of the workshop attendees. In the second part, in cooperation with partners from research, youth associations, decision-makers and professional associations, attendees will learn about the many inspiring and motivating ways the Agenda can help shape their work. Participants will then split into smaller groups to discuss implementation and cooperation options and develop ideas to this end.

Speakers/participating organisations:

- **Elke Führer** and **Barbara Schmidt dos Santos**, JUGEND für Europa
- **Uwe Finke-Timpe**, German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ)
- **Professor Regina Munderlein**, Faculty of Social Science and Health at Kempten University of Applied Sciences
- **Sebastian Vogt**, CVJM, former member of the Advisory Council on Youth, Council of Europe (2018–2021)
- **Dorothee Ammermann**, Arbeitsgemeinschaft der Evangelischen Jugend in Deutschland e. V., AEJ
- **Katharina Teiting**, Internationales Bildungs- und Begegnungswerk e. V. (IBB)
- **Andrea Berger-Nowak**, Lower Saxony State Office for Social, Youth and Family Affairs

This workshop is scheduled to take place on 19 May 2021, 15:45–17:15 CEST

WORK LOCALLY, LEARN GLOBALLY: BOOSTING EXPERTS' SKILLS THROUGH INTERNATIONAL YOUTH WORK

This workshop focuses on youth workers in their role as learners. We discuss the skills that can be acquired by participating in international training courses and how this benefits local-level youth work.

The work of SALTO Resource Center for Training and Cooperation takes place largely within the context of the EU's youth programmes Erasmus+ and the European Solidarity Corps and hence in the field of international youth work. In this workshop, we focus on the link between international youth work and the resulting learning processes while exploring the realities of participants' day-to-day work. We examine learning from a personal and organisational perspective. By doing so, we aim to create a space for reflection and dialogue, with particular attention given to two questions: What is necessary in order to support participants as they learn in their respective settings and to recognise the skills they acquire? And what can organisations such as SALTO (and the National Agency) do to support participants' learning efforts and skills development, as well as the recognition thereof?

Besides inputs, discussions and small-group work, participants will learn about the (online) tools available on the SALTO and Youthpass websites, including the ETS Competence Model for youth workers and an online self-assessment tool.

Speakers/participating organisations:

- ↘ **Kristiina Pernits** and **Gisèle Evrard Markovič**, SALTO Resource Center for Training and Cooperation
- ↘ **Markus Rebitschek**, International Youth Work education officer, European Youth Education and Meeting Centre in Weimar (EJBW), Germany

This workshop is scheduled to take place on 20 May 2021, 09:00–10:30 CEST

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH WORK WORKS – LATEST TRENDS AND RESEARCH INSIGHTS

This event introduces and discusses the newest trends and research insights on the impacts of European and international youth work.

There is no doubt that international youth work and its many diverse formats have long-term positive impacts on both participants and organisations. This is particularly true in regard to their impact on the attitudes and personal development of the young people and experts who participate in international youth work activities. Organisations, too, benefit over the long term and can develop positively as a result. At this event, participants learn about recent trends and research insights and discuss them in the group. This will help give greater visibility to the impacts of international youth work and in turn, raise the profile of this field of activity in youth work and youth policy contexts in Germany. The event is interactive, giving participants an opportunity to reflect on and share their own learning journeys and experiences.

Speakers/participating organisations:

- **Susanne Klinzing**, IJAB e. V.; **Claudius Siebel**, JUGEND für Europa
- **Andreas Rosellen**, Transfer e. V.
- **Andreas Karsten**, RAY | Research-based analysis of European youth programmes
- **Professor Wolfgang Ilg**, Protestant University of Applied Sciences Ludwigsburg
- **Dr Jörn Fischer**, University of Cologne (t. b. c.)

This workshop is scheduled to take place on 19 May 2021, 09:00–10:30 CEST

EUROPEAN AND INTERNATIONAL YOUTH WORK AT THE LOCAL LEVEL – A REALISTIC PROPOSITION?

This workshop explores how European and international youth work can be embedded long term at the local level. The results of two long-term projects are presented to illustrate whether this is a realistic option.

In an ever more globalised world, European and international youth work (international youth and expert exchanges, volunteering schemes, partnership projects, etc.) offers young people and experts working in child and youth services a broad variety of learning and development opportunities. These are organised for the most part by public-sector and independent providers working at the local level. That being said, in Germany there is still much room for improvement when it comes to rooting European and international youth work at the local level over the long term. This event illustrates what needs to be done for this to be successful by discussing the outcomes of two long-term projects that took place locally. It also presents other practical examples of projects involving European and international youth work activities at the local level. Representatives of IJAB, the International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany and JUGEND für Europa round off the event by presenting their information and advisory services.

Speakers/participating organisations:

- **Andrea Bruns** and **Elena Neu**, IJAB e. V.; **Claudius Siebel**, JUGEND für Europa
- **Susann Mannel**, Die Villa e. V., Leipzig
- **Andrea Krieger**, Agency for labour, health, social affairs, families and integration of the City of Hamburg (t. b. c.)
- Representatives of a multilateral international youth exchange (cooperation project in the Kommune goes International network)

This workshop is scheduled to take place on 19 May 2021, 10:45–12:15 CEST

EXPERT FORUM

Shrinking spaces: Youth work under pressure

This expert forum consists of several events all centering on one of the technical issues to be discussed within the European part of the expert conference. Headlined “Shrinking spaces: Youth work under pressure”, the forum examines the increasingly limited opportunities available to civil society groups, with specific emphasis on youth work.

In many ways, the current financial, legal and social developments pose a great challenge for civil society organisations and youth work providers. Public budgets for youth work are being slashed, legal obstacles (e. g., non-profit status) are hampering civic engagement and social development, and general societal trends such as isolationism, (right-wing) populism and increasingly hostile polarisation are spreading across Europe. On the one hand, these developments are limiting civil society groups’ (and in turn, youth work’s) scope for action; on the other, they require that the youth work community take a clear and confident stance when faced with these threats. What role can and should youth work occupy in this situation? How can youth work reconcile its societal mission to empower young people to live an independent life with the strained financial and political situation in which it operates? The presentations and workshops in this expert forum are an opportunity to discuss these matters, exchange good practices, and find responses to these questions.

The forum kicks off on day 1 of DJHT with the headline event of the AGJ’s Expert Committee II. Day 2 (Wednesday, 19 May 2021) features four events by JUGEND für Europa that spotlight specific thematic areas and challenges associated with the eponymous “shrinking spaces” in youth work. The workshops seek to examine the phenomenon of increasingly restricted scope for action for civil society in general and youth work in particular from a European angle. To this end, the workshops start off with an analysis of the status quo before turning to exemplary countries or projects. They close by suggesting a number of strategies that civil society stakeholders in this situation could pursue.

Facilitators:

- **Andreas Karsten**, RAY | Research-based analysis of European youth programmes
- **Christin Voigt**, (International) youth work coach, toolpool

YOUTH WORK UNDER PRESSURE FROM THE RIGHT

The rise of the political right, increasing state-sponsored restrictions and social division are a major challenge for the youth work community in many countries. In this situation, how can youth work maintain its scope for action?

The most recent edition of the CIVICUS State of Civil Society Report clearly shows that civic freedoms around the world are increasingly coming under threat—not just in the Global South, but also in established democracies in the industrialised north and west. They are under pressure from anti-democratic forces and are struggling with a multitude of challenges, including increasingly stringent laws governing non-profit organisations, a curtailed right of assembly and freedom of opinion, and the delegitimisation of protests. Activists are intimidated, threatened and criminalised. These constraints on civil society action are the result of government-sponsored restriction and repression on the one hand and of social developments on the other. In recent years, many societies have experienced a political shift to the right; new conflicts have been triggered or existing conflicts exacerbated; populations have become deeply divided. Associations, organisations and individual stakeholders are vulnerable to attacks from the right, their scope for action is curtailed and their work is denied legitimacy. The youth work sector, too, is equally affected, in particular the organisations working in democracy-building and civic education. In many European countries, the pandemic has been a welcome opportunity to curtail democratic civic engagement.

This workshop explores the situation faced by civil society actors in Europe, against the backdrop of an increasingly tangible political and social shift to the right. It kicks off with two inputs and a panel discussion. The first input provides a general overview of the restrictions imposed on civil society across Europe that are occasioned by the rise of right-wing forces in politics as well as in civil society itself. The second focuses on the youth work sector, using examples from specific countries to demonstrate the state-sponsored restrictions that youth work faces in Europe. Finally, a panel discussion with the speakers and some youth work practitioners whose projects have been directly impacted by right-wing forces will examine what solutions and strategies are available to the youth work community in this situation.

Speakers/participating organisations:

- **Peter Matjašič**, Senior Program Officer, Open Society Initiative for Europe
- **Tomaž Deželan**, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- **Irina Bohn**, Institute for Social Work and Social Education, Germany
- **Vilja Arató**, Power of Humanity Foundation, Hungary

This workshop is scheduled to take place on 19 May 2021, 09:00–10:30 CEST

SHRINKING BUDGETS: POST CORONA, WHAT WILL BE LEFT?

The youth work sector is no stranger to tight budgets. But to what extent have the coronavirus pandemic and its economic consequences made things even worse? How can youth work maintain its scope for action in this situation?

For years, the financial resources available to the youth work sector in many parts of Europe have been limited at best, a situation that for a long time has been subject to much discussion in the field. Chronic underfunding, the result of a lack of funding mechanisms and/or permanent cutbacks, is endemic throughout the community. Youth work funding is typically tied to a certain project, and structured long-term financial support for youth work is a rarity. The fact that tight budgets are a challenge for organisations and providers is hardly news, however the coronavirus pandemic and its (economic) impact are shining a particularly harsh light on the situation. Public budgets all over Europe are under immense pressure owing to the enormous financial straits the pandemic has imposed on them, which – it is assumed – means that budgets in particular for social activities will soon be slashed as well. In this context, the youth sector, too, is severely vulnerable.

This workshop provides an overview of the challenging financial situation of Europe's youth work sector, with particular emphasis given to developments since the pandemic began. How are shrinking financial spaces impacting on youth work in individual countries? And has the pandemic changed or accelerated these trends?

The session starts with a summary of the pandemic-induced (financial) challenges facing European youth work, based on data from an international RAY-COR research project. The subsequent inputs will focus on the financial resources available to the youth work sector, whether it is eligible for assistance under the EU's post-corona economic recovery package, and how local youth work is faring in this situation. Following each input, the audience is invited to ask questions; to conclude, a panel discussion will be held with all speakers including another chance for audience participation.

Speakers/participating organisations:

- **Andreas Karsten**, RAY | Research-based analysis of European youth programmes
- **Simon Lindkær Andersen**, European Youth Forum
- Representative of a municipal youth work agency: t. b. c.

This workshop is scheduled to take place on 19 May 2021, 10:45–12:15 CEST

WHEN CIRCUMSTANCES SHIFT: YOUTH WORK'S RESPONSE TO SOCIAL CHANGE

At this event we want to discuss how youth work can maintain its scope for action in light of demographic change, rising social inequalities and rural flight among young people.

The “shrinking spaces” concept is controversial. Critics claim that it fails to take sufficient account of civil society’s autonomy from the state. Rather than focus on the outside influences that shape civil society’s action space, they say, more attention should be given to other (social) factors that limit the scope for action of certain civil society stakeholders, including the youth work community. Instead of speaking of shrinking spaces, critics say, it is more appropriate to think of changing spaces for civil society action. Among the changing circumstances that shape this action space are demographic change, social inequality and the often stark divide between urban and rural areas (population structure, infrastructure etc.). The youth work sector is similarly vulnerable to these changes. In a rapidly ageing society that is marked by ever deeper social divides across large parts of Europe, with rural regions experiencing pronounced rural flight among the younger generation, the youth work sector needs to consider how to maintain or even extend its scope for action.

This workshop starts with an in-depth examination of these shifting circumstances—demographic change, social inequality, the urban/rural divide—that shape civil society action and, in particular, are capable of restraining what youth work is able to accomplish. Youth (work) researchers will then apply these arguments to the youth work sector itself before transitioning to an open discussion involving the audience, during which representatives of youth work at the local level from Europe will share how they have been dealing with these challenges.

Speakers/participating organisations:

- **Dr Siri Hummel**, deputy director of Maecenata Institut für Philanthropie und Zivilgesellschaft, Berlin
- **Cristina Bacalso**, independent youth researcher
- **Alexandra Podrebarac**, President of the Carpe Diem Youth Centre, Croatia

This workshop is scheduled to take place on 19 May 2021, 14:00–15:30 CEST

NEW SPACES FOR YOUTH WORK – OPPORTUNITIES AND CHALLENGES OF DIGITALISATION

Digitalisation has opened up new spaces for youth work to use in their activities for young people. On the one hand, this is resulting in entirely new opportunities; on the other, there are also major challenges. How is the youth work community responding to digitalisation? And how could it do better?

Digitalisation is increasingly impacting on all parts of our lives and multiplying opportunities for interaction. Youth work is no exception; in fact, digital activities have become indispensable when it comes to reaching out to and communicating appropriately with young people. In addition, youth work has no choice but to engage with the processes of digitalisation if it wants to empower young people to navigate and participate in today's increasingly digitalised society. In this regard, digitalisation appears to have greatly expanded the available spaces for youth work. Activities are no longer restricted to a certain location; bridging even large distances is no longer a problem. Organisations can use digital activities to reach out to new target groups. Digital activities can be more inclusive than their on-site equivalents. Finally, the pandemic and social distancing have meant that digital youth work is now more important and more diverse than ever.

That said, these new spaces are also presenting youth work and more generally, civic engagement with challenges. Many digital tools were developed by major (profit-oriented) tech corporations. Data privacy can be an issue. Phenomena such as online hate speech can make civic engagement more difficult and even pose a concrete threat to organisations and individuals alike. In the youth work sector, it has been shown that access to digital activities is by no means a given; some young people simply have no way to benefit from them.

This workshop begins with an input outlining the challenges of digitalisation for the youth work sector and discusses the role that digital technologies can play, for better or worse. A second input explores the opportunities of digitalisation for youth work in the shape of new spaces and new target groups. These are illustrated using practical examples that demonstrate how projects have been using digital spaces and what their experiences have been. What groups have they been able to reach out to? How should digital spaces be designed so their potential can be fully leveraged? And where are the pitfalls, especially when using digital spaces as a platform for promoting social issues and initiatives?

Speakers/participating organisations:

- **Lasse Siurala PhD**, associate professor, lecturer at Aalto University and Tallinn University, Finland
- **Anne Kivimäe**, Tartu University Narva College, Estonia
- **Justyna Nakielska**, programme coordinator of the Campaign Against Homophobia, Poland
- Representatives of IJAB, the International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany, with their project "Jugendverstärker"

This workshop is scheduled to take place on 19 May 2021, 15:45–17:15 CEST

A detailed overview of the entire programme of DJHT17, all 30 workshops of Europe@DJHT and the schedule of individual programme elements will probably become available in early April 2021 at ➤ www.jugendhilfetag.de/en