



Call for facilitators and harvesters European Youth Conference 2-5 March 2024, Ghent, Belgium

JINT vzw is the Flemish knowledge centre for international youth mobility and international youth policy and the National Agency in Flanders, Belgium, for the Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps programmes of the European Union.

Between 1 January and 30 June 2024, Belgium will chair the Presidency of the European Union. JINT has been assigned to support the upcoming Belgian EU Presidency and its activities.

WE ARE LOOKING FOR 10 FACILITATORS AND 10 HARVESTERS TO GUIDE THE PROCESS IN THE WORKING GROUPS DURING THE EUROPEAN YOUTH CONFERENCE

1. Background information

1.1. ABOUT THE EU YOUTH DIALOGUE

The EU Youth Dialogue is a continuous process that brings together young people and policymakers across the European Union to jointly discuss, formulate and put forward proposals for the development of youth policy at national and European level.

1.2. ABOUT THE 10TH CYCLE OF THE EU YOUTH DIALOGUE

The EU Youth Dialogue is organised in 18-month work cycles. The 10th cycle runs from July 2023 to December 2024 over the course of the Spanish, Belgian and Hungarian EU Trio Presidencies. The topic of the 10th cycle is based on the **European Youth Goal#3 of the EU Youth Strategy, focused on “Inclusive Societies”, under the title “We nEed yoUth”**. The process during a cycle is chaired by the European Steering Group of the EU Youth Dialogue, composed of National authorities, National Youth Councils of the Trio Presidencies, the European Youth Forum and the European Commission.

A Youth Dialogue Cycle is divided into two main phases: the Consultation (or dialogue) phase and the Implementation phase. During the dialogue phase, consultations are held to gather the opinions, needs and solutions of young people on the covered topic (the youth goal). Then, the implementation phase aims to implement the consultation results into concrete activities and actions at local level. **EU Youth Conferences (EUYC)** are a key element of the EU Youth Dialogue. They are organised by each presidency and bring together **up to 300 young people and political decision-makers at national and**

European levels. These conferences are the moment when ideas and demands regarding the topic of the EU Youth Dialogue are gathered at a European level, good practices and advices are exchanged, results of consultations are collected and concrete political demands are formulated. The content of the three EU Youth Conferences of one cycle build on each other.

During the 10th cycle of the EUYD, the following EUYC are planned:

- From 1 to 4 October 2023 in Alicante
- From 2 to 5 March 2024 in Ghent
- September 2024 in Budapest

2. European Youth Conference in Ghent

The EU Youth Conference during the Belgian Presidency will take place from **2nd until 5th March 2024 in Ghent**, the European Youth Capital in 2024.

During this conference, participants take stock of the outcomes of the consultation phase and suggest possible recommendations to be carried out in order to implement Youth Goal #3. These recommendations will feed into the Council Conclusion on social inclusion.

During 2.5 days delegations of young people and policy-makers **from over 30 countries** work together to come up with valid recommendations towards (youth) policy makers as well as measures for implementation. Representatives of youth organisations, experts and decision makers will be invited to give input on the topic and support this process.

A main facilitator will prepare and chair this conference in cooperation with a national (Belgian) co-facilitator. The European Steering Group, a researchers and editing team, the Belgian organising team and working group facilitators and harvesters all play a key role.

3. Thematic areas and working groups

The Youth Dialogue is built around 3 targets of the Youth Goal on inclusive societies:

- Ensure that all marginalised young people have **equal access to formal, non-formal and informal learning environments**, addressing all the dimensions of inclusion.
- Strengthen the **capacities of educators** to work with young people with fewer opportunities.

- Strengthen **social support** by implementing the right to a living wage, fair work condition, universal access to quality health care, and ensure specific measures for marginalised young people.

These targets will be further split into **concrete areas** (such as formal education, non-formal education, training for educators, (mental)health care, employment, housing, etc.). **Each working group will work on one of these areas, linked to the subtargets.**

Each working group will consist of approximately **20-25 participants** (a mix of youth representatives, youth organisation representatives and ministerial delegates from different countries) who will have the task to focus on one specific area during the entire conference.

Different kinds of **input** will be provided for the working groups:

- the **results** of the national and European **consultation** process
- examples of **good practice and existing support** on local, national and European level
- availability of **experts** coming from the field or academia
- dialogue with **policy makers** in the field of youth and fields related to the subtargets

The facilitators will be responsible to guide the process in their working group and ensure that the objectives and outcomes of their working group are achieved. Harvesters are responsible for keep track of the outcomes of working groups through note taking and use of digital tools. Facilitators and harvesters should work as a team.

4. Tasks

The main tasks of a **facilitator** are:

- expert facilitation of working group sessions using interactive methods (using both online and offline tools)
- implementation of a common methodology and flexible adaptation to circumstances if needed
- facilitation of different formats that will be used during the conference (working groups sessions, market of good practices, dialogue with experts and policy makers)
- creating a safe space for participation and engaging all the participants in the discussions
- guiding and supporting delegates throughout the conference

The main tasks of a **harvester** are:

- helping to formulate the outputs of the working groups
- making sure the discussions as well as the different inputs and key outcomes are reflected in a report template
- supporting the dialogue with experts and policy makers within the working group
- supporting the participants to voice their messages (possibly also using different formats like video, podcast,..)
- Providing general support to the facilitator, the researchers and editing team

Common tasks:

- Attend the necessary preparatory meeting(s):
 - online preparation meetings (approx. 3)
 - 1st of March: arrival day and check in with the team
 - 2d of March: in-person briefing for the whole team and final preparations
- Follow the plenary sessions of the conference
- Work in close cooperation with the main facilitators, the editing team as well as with the organising and communication team of the event and the researchers.

4. Profile

4.1. EXPERIENCE NEEDED IN THE FACILITATOR/HARVESTER TEAM

- Have experience in **facilitating workshops** and other sessions with groups by using **interactive and innovative methods**
- Have experience in **writing analytical reports** (only relevant for harvester)
- Have experience in **leading groups** comprised of participants with different levels of knowledge and diverse profiles (young people, INGYO representatives, ministerial delegates, experts, policy makers)
- Have **intercultural sensitivity** and experience in working with **international** groups
- Have good knowledge of **youth policy and the youth field in Europe**, especially in the chosen theme related to **social inclusion** for young people (see **Thematic areas**);
- Previous involvement with the **EU Youth Dialogue** (former EU Structured Dialogue) or as facilitator/harvester of a European Youth Conference will be considered an advantage.

4.2. COMPETENCES NEEDED IN THE FACILITATOR/HARVESTER TEAM

- Have a good sense of **organization** and be able to work under pressure and with tight deadlines;
- Being able to **create and hold a safe space** where all participants feel comfortable and included in order to allow meaningful participation

- Working with **online and offline tools**
- Show **initiative, flexibility and creativity**;
- Have good problem-solving and **teamwork skills**;
- Have excellent skills of **communication** with young people as well as with high-level public authorities, empathy and tact;
- Be able to **summarise and to present information** in a clear way;
- Proficiency in **note taking** (only relevant for harvesters)
- Good to excellent command of the **English language** (the facilitation and harvesting will be conducted in English)

5. Fees and costs

For this task we consider **5 working days** including (individual and team preparation (1 day), conference (2.5 day), briefing, preparation and debriefing on the spot (1.5 day)

The daily fee will be 360 euro (including taxes).

All costs of travel (2nd class), board and lodging incurred in relation to the meetings and event will be covered by the organizers.

All necessary facilitation materials and online tools are provided by the organizer on demand by the facilitator.

6. How to apply

You can either apply as **facilitator or harvester** or for **both** roles. You can also apply **as a facilitator-harvester team**. In that case please indicate with whom you prefer to collaborate and explain your complementarity.

Please send the following documents to sofie.vanzeebroeck@jint.be by **1st December 2023**

- your **CV**;
- A short **video message** (max. 1 min in English) explaining your motivation in applying for this position and what innovative approaches you can bring to EU Youth Conference.
- A cover **letter** explaining how your experience matches the profile and answering the following three questions:

a) What is your relevant training and experience as a facilitator/harvester in relation to youth activities and/or policy events at national or European level, and the Structured/EU Youth Dialogue events in particular? [You can also add links to video references if you like to].

b) What is your level of knowledge on the topic of social inclusion? Please indicate the thematic areas of your preference.

c) Confirming your availability for the duration of the whole event (arrival on 1st March, departure on 5th March after debriefing) and the preparation beforehand.

The selection will be made by the Prep team of the EUYC composed of representatives from the Department of Culture, Youth, Media, the Belgian youth councils, the National Agency staff and the YFJ.

All applicants will be notified by **18 th December 2023**.

The contract will be issued by JINT in 2024.

For any questions, please don't hesitate to contact sofie.vanzeebroeck@jint.be or 02/209 07 20.