



**SALTO-YOUTH**  
TRAINING AND COOPERATION  
RESOURCE CENTRE



# European Citizenship

*Intercultural Training Courses 2008/2009*



## Course description for applicants



# hello there!

Are you working with young people? Are you curious about this European Citizenship everyone keeps talking about? Are you keen on intensifying the European dimension of your intercultural work? Are your efforts supported by colleagues and your organisation?

## ***Then the Training Courses on European Citizenship might be for you!***

The five Training Courses organised in English from September 2008 to May 2009 (as well as the Training Course organised in French in September 2008) constitute the central training courses on «European Citizenship» by the network of national agencies of the «Youth in Action» programme. They put into practice «Priority 1 – European Citizenship» of the «Youth in Action» programme by aiming to

*«support the professional development of youth workers and youth leaders by extending their critical understanding of European Citizenship, by exploring and experiencing the potential of the notion of European Citizenship, and by enabling them to recognise and integrate European Citizenship in their youth work.»*

**Do you share this aim?**

**Well then: why don't you read on and think about applying?**

# why european citizenship?!

je participe  
tu participes  
il participe  
nous participons  
vous participerez  
ils profitent



European Citizenship has recently become a widely used buzzword and sometimes seems to be less beneficial for citizens than for political actors.

It is often perceived as the legal and political status of the citizens of the European Union. However, “European Citizenship” goes well beyond this notion and can be considered as a comprehensive concept and practice of citizenship, with many cultural, social, political and economic dimensions. It is actually a more complex practice of a non-traditional (transnational) citizenship to participate in building a new Europe. It is a way of thinking and acting.

European citizenship is not given to you but you can voluntarily decide to take actions for a better Europe, in co-operation with others living anywhere on this continent or in other parts of the world.

# one priority; many opportunities

Promotion of European Citizenship has been a **longstanding priority of the Council of Europe and of the European Commission** alike – since 1998 have the two big European institutions worked together on it.

This co-operation between the Council of Europe and the European Commission happens in the framework of a **Youth-Partnership** with the aims to:

- ⊙ make young people and multipliers aware of human rights and the common values European citizens share and to provide them with the skills and tools to enhance their activities in this context,
- ⊙ train, at transnational level, youth workers and youth leaders as well as other multipliers in the youth field, as well as to develop and consolidate innovative training approaches in this context, and to
- ⊙ sustain and widen existing networks of youth workers and youth leaders; to promote the understanding of and respect for cultural diversity and intercultural co-operation.

If you are interested in the areas and perspectives of this co-operation you may consult the website of the Youth-Partnership: <http://www.youth-partnership.net>

The Youth-Partnership also supported the creation of a new **internet platform** <http://www.european-citizenship.org>, a **training kit** (T-kit "Under construction") and a great variety of **different educational and research activities** on European Citizenship.

Beyond these courses, the European Union and the Council of Europe support and organise a **great variety of different educational activities** on European Citizenship through instruments like the «Youth in Action» programme or the «European Youth Foundation».

**Projects** range from introductory workshops to exchange programmes with youth from other continents; some of these activities are run by the institutions or the Youth-Partnership directly, but the majority is implemented by partners such as non-governmental organisations. All of these activities are developed and **put into practice with the vision for participants** *«to develop a sense of time, space and place in contemporary Europe, the skills and motivation required to be active agents for democratic change while participating in the building of Europe and to provide the knowledge to make informed and future-minded choices within this context.»*

The **«Youth in Action» Programme** of the European Union (2007-2013) is taking these experiences one step further and makes «European Citizenship» a key priority by aiming to "promote young people's active citizenship in general and their European citizenship in particular."

The **European Citizenship Training Courses** were created to **encourage** the development of a **critical and creative understanding** of European Citizenship and, in doing so, to support the implementation and quality of the «Youth in Action» Programme.

# objectives of the Training Courses

The Training Courses on European Citizenship support this vision through a **common curriculum** which fulfills **five objectives**, namely to:

- ⊙ critically explore the meaning relevance and implications European citizenship in youth work in all its dimensions;
- ⊙ promote and facilitate the active use of programmes and structures in support of youth work on European Citizenship, including the «Youth in Action» programme;
- ⊙ experiment and explore the potential of European Citizenship for active democratic change in society;
- ⊙ associate the participants with the current discourse on European Citizenship (its concepts, formal meanings and expressions);
- ⊙ exemplify the connection between European Citizenship, Human Rights, Democracy and Intercultural Learning and the underlying values.

***Still interested? Read on!***

## target group

Each of the Training Courses on European Citizenship is intended for 25 individuals who

- ⊙ are working with young people in a professional capacity on a paid or voluntary basis (e.g. youth workers, youth leaders, community and social workers, teachers);
- ⊙ have experience in developing and managing directly a project with and for young people;
- ⊙ have organised or co-organised at least one youth project with a European dimension;
- ⊙ **are committed and motivated to work directly with young people on issues related to European Citizenship;**
- ⊙ are supported by their organisation in their current and future work;
- ⊙ have a general understanding and knowledge of youth and youth work realities in their contexts;
- ⊙ are motivated to undergo training and able to attend the course for its full duration;
- ⊙ are able to work in English and
- ⊙ are resident in a Member State of the Council of Europe or in another country signatory to the European Cultural Convention.

***Does this profile fit you? That's great!***

# main themes

The main themes are reflecting the aim and objectives of the Training Courses. They are:

**European Citizenship:** What is European Citizenship? How can it be used in youth work? What is the political relevance of the concept?

***Europe and European identity:** What does it mean to be European? How European are young people today? Where does Europe come from? What is its future?*

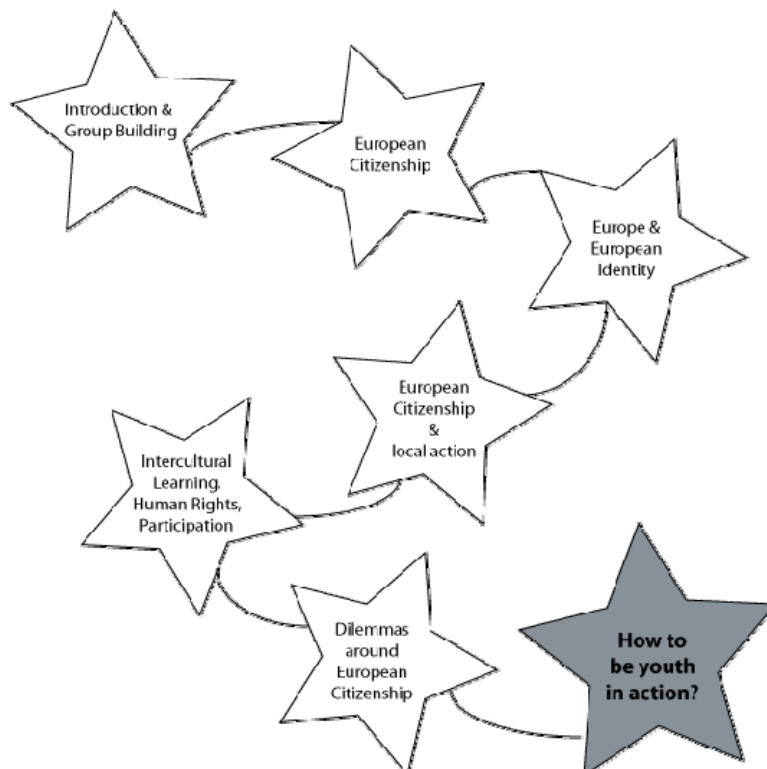
**European Citizenship in local actions:** What does it mean to be an active European citizen? What can we do for Europe at local level? What does Europe do for us?

***Dilemmas around European Citizenship:** Is it accepted to be a critical European citizen? What are the possibilities offered to non-EU citizens? Is there any chance to influence decisions at European level? Why make any efforts? What about the world? Will European Citizenship enrich or limit national citizenship? How can European Citizenship become reality?*

**Democracy and participation, civic competence and youth work, human rights and intercultural learning:** What are the connections between these themes, practices and concepts and European citizenship?

***Youth in Action:** How can European Citizenship be approached in youth work? How can the «Youth in Action» Programme support youth work on, for and through European Citizenship?*

# programme flow



***So do you think this could be for you? Go on, fill in the form and apply!***

## how to apply?

- ➔ If you are a national from one of the so-called "*Neighbouring Partner Countries*"
- in **Eastern Europe and Caucasus** (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine)
  - and in **South East Europe** (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia),

please apply through the following on-line application form:

[http://www.youth-partnership.net/youth-partnership/seminars/seminar\\_3.html](http://www.youth-partnership.net/youth-partnership/seminars/seminar_3.html)

Applicants should also submit a **letter of support (in English)** from their youth organisation, describing the agreement with their organisation concerning their future work plans and projects on European Citizenship.

**Deadline for applications: 30 June 2008.**

- ➔ If you are national from one of the so-called "*Programme countries*" (i.e. where there is a National Agency of the Youth in Action Programme), please follow the procedure described in the SALTO webpage : <http://www.salto-youth.net/EuropeanCitizenship/>

**Deadline for applications: see SALTO webpage for more details.**

**Thank you and... good luck!**