

# CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

## Seminar

### "Models of youth participation at the local level in Europe"

18th (arrival) – 21st (departure) April, 2018

Lisbon, Portugal

Organized by:

**DYPALL**

In partnership with:

**CID – Centre for Intercultural dialogue**

**ARS for progress of people**

**Forum regionale dei giovani – Campania**

**Europe4Youth**

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



## Background & Context

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DYPALL stands for **Developing Youth Participation at Local Level**, and as a network, it started its development in 2011, with the purpose of fostering the potential of young people to be active citizens and actors of real social change in their local communities, as well as in their regional and international realities.



Our experience strengthened our belief that involving young people in decision making is a key driver to empower them and to increase their sense of belonging and active citizenship. This involvement should include not only the support from local authorities to activities targeting young people, but also a broader dimension, where youth has an active voice and is a fundamental actor of the development of their local communities.

The network itself is built on the principles of creating an effective and sustainable involvement of youth on decision-making with and in cooperation with local authority's demands, as well as willingness and commitment from both parties, but also the development of knowledge, sharing of experience and tools to create and to develop further these spaces of shared decision-making. This demands the development of strategies, building structures and relations of trust and cooperation between actors. This necessity and the similar experiences of several partners, made visible the common need to **establish a network that could work in a stable and systematic way on themes of common interest and strengthen the cooperation among local authorities (LA), civil society organizations (CSO) and young people, where the creation of mutual understanding and learning spaces are the main goals.**

Among a wide range of diverse but complementary activities implemented by and with its members, DYPALL Network has involved and strengthened the cooperation among municipalities and organisations working in the field of youth at local level. These initiatives and all the different local, national and European experiences strengthened our common understanding that it is crucial to develop a new culture of youth participation, especially regarding the decision-making processes on issues of direct concern and interest of youth. It is essential to look at youth as a forceful and creative source of solutions for our societies that can largely contribute for their sustainable development.

For more information on the network and what we do visit us at: <http://dypall.com>

## The Seminar

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The seminar "Models of youth participation at the local level in Europe" will bring together various stakeholders in the field, such as non-governmental organisations, local authority representatives, researchers, youth workers, youth leaders and young people to discuss the importance of youth participation in Europe. Local youth communities need strong, engaged and aware youth that would participate in decision making and, very often, initiate dialogue with other important community actors regarding Youth issues at the local level. Making links among local stakeholders, educating them and improving their capacities surely will increase the level of local Youth participation. The participants to the seminar will have the opportunity to discuss and share ideas, experiences and best practices of involving young people in activities and decision-making processes and thus giving them a voice and active role in their local communities. The seminar will explore the importance of participation in building autonomy and sense of citizenship of youth that is essential for creating European societies based on democratic values and active participation of its citizens. The seminar will tackle topics such as:

- Models of youth participation at the local level - success stories
- Youth participation: décor or essential for democracy development?
- Co-management principles in decision-making at the local level
- Local Youth Strategy and Plan of Action for Youth
- Mechanism for youth participation - success stories and challenges
- European dimension in local youth participation
- Sharing best practices on local youth participation in participating countries
- Promoting intergenerational solidarity through joining young people and municipality representatives in decision-making processes, etc.

The seminar is a part of "Youth Participation Matters", a long-term project implemented by DYPALL Network and its partners, that brings together various non-governmental organisations, local authority representatives, researchers, youth workers, youth leaders and young people to discuss the importance and models of local youth participation in Europe. The participating organisations from Portugal, Belgium, Macedonia, Poland and Italy are also engaged in the process of mapping and sharing best practices and mechanisms of youth participation at the local level.

## Profile of the participants

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This Seminar is targeting representatives of civil society organisations and municipality officers working with youth related issues. The participants, should:

- Be able to work in English;
- Be able to present a practice/model of youth participation in decision-making processes in the local government from their country ([more info](#))
- Be able to attend the whole duration of the event;
- Have relevant experience in the topic of youth participation at local level;
- Be highly motivated to learn about youth participation in decision-making processes at the local level.

## Practical information

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### *Travelling days and expenses*

- **Arrival day** is 18th April (preferably before 5 p.m.) and **departure day** is 21st April (preferably after 12 p.m.);
- **Flight tickets** shall be bought only after agreement and confirmation with the organizers. Travel expenses to and from the venue will be reimbursed up to a maximum pre-agreed with the organizers, according to the Erasmus + rules;
- **Reimbursement** will be done via bank transfer after event;
- **Accommodation and meals** will be provided by the organizers. Any particular need should be communicated at the moment of registration;

### *More information*

- An **info-pack** with further details about accommodation and the program of activities will be shared with the selected participants;
- There is **no participation fee**.

## Registration Procedure

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To apply for participation in this Seminar, please **fill in the online registration form, available on [this link](#)**.

The deadline for applications is **3rd April 2018**, latest by 23:59 Central European Time.

The selection will be announced by 5th April 2018.

## Contacts

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In case you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Aleksandra Maldžiski at [aleksandra.maldziski@dypall.com](mailto:aleksandra.maldziski@dypall.com).