

WHAT'S NEW IN YFU?

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What will 2008 bring?

European Year of Intercultural Dialogue (EYID)

The European Year of Intercultural Dialogue (EYID) was officially launched by the European Union on 8 January in Ljubljana, Slovenia, Slovenia being the current holder of the EU rotating Presidency (see below). Highlighting that Intercultural dialogue is becoming more and more important in today's globalising world and ethnically diverse societies, the Council of the European Union together with the European Parliament declared 2008 the year of Intercultural Dialogue.

During the Opening event, Commissioner Ján Figel' said that the EYID should help to "foster respectful exchanges of views between individuals and groups of different cultural backgrounds on equal basis." He highlighted his wish to "go beyond multicultural societies" of cultural groups coexisting next to each other and to build "intercultural societies where plurality of cultures cooperates in dialogue and shared responsibility" instead.

There will be events held on the topic in each member state of the European Union and a high number of projects will be carried out by the EYID's partners this year; also EEE-YFU is among these partners. The main target group of these events will be European youth. If you wish to have more information on the EYID, please visit <http://www.interculturaldialogue2008.eu>.



Slovenian EU presidency in the first half of 2008

Slovenia took over the EU Presidency for the first time from Portugal on 1 January 2008. Intercultural dialogue is also among their priorities until the end of June, when their Presidency will end. Intercultural Dialogue is very important for the Presidency, because it helps to overcome stereotypes and prejudices and is thus crucial for a wide range of political areas like migration or the fight against organised crime and terrorism. It is moreover the basis for the work in such a diverse community as the European Union.

Regarding Youth, the Slovenian Presidency hopes to ensure the implementation of the European Youth Pact, to work towards youth inclusion in education, employment and society. They also want to promote multilingualism and intercultural exchanges among youth.

EEE-YFU and YID

The YES 2008 will be themed "Migration—Living Diversity" and thus also fit the topic of Intercultural Dialogue. It will be held from 27 June to 1 July in Werbellinsee, Germany and be organised by YFU Hungary, YFU Romania, and International Organisation Team and YFU Germany.

YFU Volunteer Training in Bulgaria

From November 29th to December 2nd the first Volunteer Training in Bulgaria took place in Ribaritzha, a small and colourful Bulgarian town, where 16 Bulgarian YFU - Volunteers and 3 international Trainers met. The guests from Sweden, Finland and Switzerland, who shared their experience and the Bulgarian YFU-volunteer coordinator Asen Zhelkov made this beneficial training possible.

The young Bulgarian YFUers were happy and thankful for the opportunity to learn from the YFU representatives from other countries, to talk about how to develop and increase the organisation in Bulgaria and to plan the next steps for YFU Bulgaria. In many purposive and perfect organised discussions, workshops, presentations and practical exercises the participants trained their presentational skills, learned a lot about working in team, supporting an exchange student and a host family, searching for host families, making and performing a school presentation and making an interview. How to be useful for YFU was the most discussed topic, which showed that this training not only developed the personal skills of the participants, but also increased their



motivation to work for and with YFU Bulgaria, that will celebrate its 10th anniversary in September next year.

One of the most important “eye-openers” from this training was, that it is never too late to start doing something and YFU Bulgaria as a young member of the big YFU family has a long way to go, but with the big international support, that it gets, and the passion of the Bulgarian volunteers it has a promising future.

In spite of the 31 intensive hours of fruitful, but exhausting work none of the participants lost their motivation and the atmosphere in the team was very creative and conducive. This made it possible, that the participants turned into a real team with an important common goal - making the YFU idea and the organisation more popular in Bulgaria.

This seminar proved that YFU is a global idea and makes it possible, that people from different countries cooperate, enjoy working together and have a lot of fun.



Yoanna Zhecheva

Internships in the YFU world

EVS Interns in YFU Turkey

YFU Turkey will be able to receive two EVS (European Voluntary Service) Volunteers starting in June and another two starting in August this year.

The EVS Volunteers will stay in Ankara for 8-10 months and be involved in a wide range of tasks like the preparation of YFU Turkey's outbound students, a summer camp, the recruitment process for the following year, a school-cooperation project, training of new volunteers as well as the day-to-day administrative work in the office of YFU Turkey.

Applicants with YFU experience and knowledge will be favoured.

YFU Turkey will cover all the expenses of the interns related to accommodation, food, travel and visa and will provide them with a monthly pocket money of EUR 85.

If you are interested in applying for an EVS in YFU Turkey, please send in your CV and motivation letter to eylem@yfu-turkey.org as soon as possible.

For further information and a call please see <http://www.eee-yfu.org/eee/jobs.html> or email eylem@yfu-turkey.org.

Internship at YFU Belgium (Wallonie)

YFU French Belgium is looking for an intern for a period of 3 months, from February to April 2008, to be based in the office in Liège.

The intern will work with the Walloon volunteers and be involved in the recruitment of future exchange students, but also do administrative work in the office.

It is necessary that the persons applying have some YFU experience, a good command of English and French, good writing skills in English, that they like administrative work, are computer literates, willing to learn and able to work independently.

Full board and lodging with a host family will be provided. The intern will have to get their own medical and liability insurance and pay for the travel from their home country to Belgium and back; all work-related (travel) expenses will be covered by YFU French Belgium. In addition to that he or she will also be provided with some pocket money.

Find more information on the call. Applications (CV and letter of motivation) should be sent to rostand@yfu-belgique.be as soon as possible.

For more information and the call visit: <http://www.eee-yfu.org/eee/jobs.html>

EVS Intern in the EEE-YFU office in Brussels

EEE-YFU is looking to host an EVS volunteer in its Brussels based office from the beginning of September 2008 onwards for a period of one year.

The intern will work along side the office director, developing the organisations newsletters, updating its website and keeping in touch with our volunteer base. The volunteer will also be involved in the ongoing activities of the organization, such as the YES, Trainings, IRS and study sessions. The volunteer will develop a keen insight into the workings of the European Union. The volunteer will also undertake language classes and will carry out activities with YFU Flanders on a regular basis. A good level of written and spoken English is essential. All travel costs of the volunteer are covered to and from Belgium, together with board and lodging costs. The volunteer will also receive a monthly stipend. A YFU background would be desirable, but is not a must.

Find a detailed description of the project on http://ec.europa.eu/youth/program/sos/hei/hei_form_en.cfm?EID=18000152601. Interested volunteers, who feel they correspond to the description set out, should send a letter of motivation and a CV to office@eee-yfu.org.

Call for participation

Working groups on educational activities

At the extraordinary General Meeting of EEE-YFU in Munich 2007 the “Framework paper for EEE-YFU educational activities” was adopted. The Framework paper sets forth that there should be a long-term strategy for educational activities. This long-term strategy should contain an elaboration of the themes and topics that YFU wants to work with in the near future (three years) and organise educational activities on. As we have been asked by NOs to bring our educational activities closer to the realities and the needs of National Organisations, we decided to form working groups consisting of four to six people from the EEE-YFU board, volunteers, staff and/or board members from the NOs that should work together with us on the long-term strategy. This work will mostly be done via email and phone. The working groups should ensure that there is a coherent activity plan for educational activities that meets the needs and the wishes of the NOs, EEE-YFU and that also coincides with the priorities of the funding organisations of the educational activities (Council of Europe and European Commission).

We are planning to form two groups. One will work on a strategy for the YFU seminars (YES, IRS, Study Sessions, other seminars) and one with the EEE-YFU trainings (European Training of Trainers - ETOT).

If you would be interested to be part of one of the working groups, please contact jenny@eee-yfu.org for more information until **24 January 2008**.

YFU seminar: “Migration - Living diversity”, Cluj, Romania, 11-16 April 2008

European society is changing at a rapid pace, bringing with it increased migration, diversity and consequently, questions of integration. More than ever, intercultural dialogue within Europe is needed when faced with greater mobility of people between regions and when confronted with real challenges to national identities. Young people have a crucial role in ensuring that this dialogue is on the right track in creating a Europe for everyone. Building on this context, the seminar focuses on two interrelated themes: increased cultural diversity and migration in a European context, and its influence on building a common European identity in a diverse Europe.

The **YES 2008** will have the same topic as this YFU Seminar, therefore the participants of the seminar are encouraged to also apply as workshop leaders to the YES in order to multiply their experiences and knowledge on the topic.

Participants should be aged between 18-30, able to work in English, active YFU volunteers, interested in the topic of migration and integration and able to multiply the experiences and knowledge gained at the seminar in their National YFU Organisations.

For more information and an application form please contact intern@eee-yfu.org. The deadline for sending in application forms to your National Organisations is **4 February 2008**.

YES 2008

From 27 June to 1 July the Young Europeans' Seminar will again gather around 430 intra-European exchange students on their way home in Werbellinsee, Germany. This year's topic will be "Migration - Living diversity" and it is organised by YFU Hungary, YFU Romania and an International Organisation Team. YFU Germany is taking care of the logistics. In order to make it all work, apart from the returning exchange students there will also be approximately 100 international volunteers performing different kinds of tasks. If you want to be one of them and feel the YES spirit (again), you can from now on apply for being an International Group Leader or a Workshop Leader on the YES 2008.

Call for International Group Leaders

The around 30 International Group Leaders (IGLs) will play a very important role at the YES, as they will be working closely together with the participants. They are in charge of moderating and facilitating the "Leaving Home Session" and the "Going Home Session", have to coordinate and ensure the well-being of an assigned group of students, will accompany a group of students on their travel to and from the seminar location and play an important role as counsellors for the participants.

In addition to that, they are asked to assist the Workshop Leaders, help the logistics team with different tasks and to help with free-time activities.

IGLs should be at least 20 years old, have returned from their exchange year before 2006 (if applicable), open and willing to interact with the students and other volunteers, like working with and talking to exchange students, be able to work in English and/or German, be able to work independently, have group leading experience, have time to prepare for the YES beforehand, be able to listen to students' feelings and to comfort them if needed and have regular internet access as all the communication between the YES Team and IGLs will be internet-based.

If you can imagine being an International Group Leader and fulfill most of the requirements mentioned above, contact intern@eee-yfu.org for a more detailed call and an application form. **Application forms must then be returned to your national organization before 4 February 2008.**

Call for Workshop Leaders

The different workshops are an important part of the YES. All students will have been approached to the theme of the YES 2008, therefore there will be two categories of workshops offered: "Body" workshops and "Mind" workshops.

"Mind" workshops focus directly on the topic of Migration into and within Europe. It is up to the workshop leaders to come up with a specific workshop theme within the general YES topic and to come up with specific methods.

"Body" workshops can focus on the topic of Migration, but don't have to. Through different activities, such as sports tournaments or trust games, participants are encouraged to get to know and understand each other better, learn from one another and work together in a team. Even if migration is not touched upon during the "body" workshop, the bonding reached through it will assist in further discussions during "mind" workshops.

Workshop leaders should be at least 21 years old, have knowledge and/or great interest in Migration within and into Europe, maybe even have personal experience with migration; be open-minded and open to suggestions; be motivated and able to share their knowledge with a group of up to 40 young people; have a good command of English and/or German and have regular internet access.

The workshops will only take place on two days but the Workshop Leaders are invited to stay at in Werbellinsee for the whole duration of the seminar. During that time they will also be asked to help with other YES activities.

For a more detailed call and an application form, please contact intern@eee-yfu.org. **The deadline for sending in the application forms to the Workshop Coordinator of the YES 2008 is 15 February 2008.**

Call for participation

European Citizenship Training Courses

From October 2007 to March 2008, a series of six [training courses on European Citizenship](#) will constitute a great opportunity for youth workers and youth leaders. The curriculum will be the same for all the training courses.

Applications can still be sent in for the last one of the courses, which will take place in Germany in April 2008.

EC-DE in Germany, 7-13 April, 2008 (deadline: 15 february 2008)

This deadline is for applicants from YiA Programme Countries. The deadline for applicants from South East Europe, Eastern Europe and Caucasus has already expired. Please check about cost coverage with your National Agency.

More information on the courses and the application process is available under: <http://www.training-youth.net/INTEGRATION/TY/Intro/index.html>

Upcoming events for EEE-YFU

| Activity | Eligible | Apply to/ with | Deadline/Date |
|---|----------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| YFU Seminar "Migration - Living diversity"; 11-16 April 2008; Bucharest, Romania | YFU volunteers | National Organisation | 5 February 2008 |
| YES 2008 "Migration-Living Diversity"; 27 June-1 July 2008, Werbellinsee, Germany | YFU volunteers | NO/ Workshop Coordinator | 4 February 2008/ 15 February 2008 |

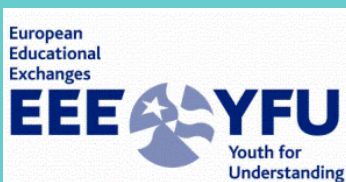
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About us!

In 1985 EEE-YFU was founded as an umbrella organisation for national YFU organisations based in Europe. Our aims are to:

- promote intercultural exchange programmes in Europe
- heighten EEE-YFU's visibility and activity on the European level
- organise trainings for YFU staff and volunteers
- provide financial and administrative services to our members
- facilitate intra-European activities such as seminars, meetings and conferences on various topics, ranging from "Europe and Islam" to "Conflict management" and "Intercultural learning".

