

Call for Participants – EU Youth Summit 2015

1-7 November 2015 in Aalborg, Denmark

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| Where | Aalborg, Denmark |
| When | 1-7 November 2015 |
| Aim | To raise awareness of youth politics and youth policy from a European, national and local perspective with a particular focus on furthering young people's democratic participation, civic competencies and common European consciousness. |
| Objectives | <p>This summit will encourage young people to be politically and democratically aware. This will spur the participants on in terms of involving young people in democratic and political life – the idea of furthering civic responsibility among young people. The participants will have an opportunity to freely express their opinions and give the participants the chance to be heard, i.e. interacting with decision-makers and experts. Furthermore the summit will help further a common European consciousness or intercultural understanding, if you will.</p> <p>Key Objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To understand different youth policies across Europe and understand different perspectives on the role of young people in democratic life and the necessity of developing civic competencies among young people.• To challenge the way of thinking in terms of the responsibility at a policy level of involving young people in democratic life as well as the responsibility of young people to engage themselves and make their voices heard.• To interact with young people from across Europe and raise awareness not only amongst other young people but also amongst decision-makers and experts who have a direct influence at a policy level.• To highlight young people's roles in social and democratic development at a European, national and local community level. |
| Participants | <p>Invitations have been sent to organizations in all EU-member states. Preference is given to young people/organizations with following criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1 partner organization in each EU-member state.• 2-3 participants from each partner organization.• For young people aged 16-23 – minimum 1 participant aged 18+ from each partner organization.• For young people who have an interest in EU, national and/or local youth politics and youth policy.• Participants are able to travel on their own.• Valid travel documents/permits that allow the participants to travel to Denmark. |

Activities

After arrival in Aalborg on the 1st and having settled in the rooms, the participants will have an opportunity to meet and socialize with the other participants and see the city of Aalborg.

The 2nd will start with an introductory session before delving into a workshop with a special focus on participatory methods and democratic practices. Role-play with a focus on legislative procedures in the EU is also envisaged. An expert speaker on the social and democratic development in Europe will be invited to further inspire the participants.

The 3rd will be dedicated to the overarching theme of “Foreign and Defense Policy in Europe”. An expert speaker will provide select perspectives on the topic. The workshops that follow will focus on different perspectives on the topic and what actions to take. It is envisaged that a situational analysis of the participants’ own countries be used as a starting point.

The 4th will be dedicated to the overarching theme of “Youth and Democratic Participation and Civic Competencies”. The day will begin with an excursion to the local media house for young people, Station 10. Following the expert speaker, who will provide perspectives on the importance of democratic participation and civic competencies among young people, the workshops will focus on methods of engaging young people in their civic responsibilities at both a practical and policy level. A plenary session and development of a MoU at Aalborg City Council Chamber will round up the day (a politician/decision-maker from the local level to preside over the proceedings).

The 5th will be dedicated to the overarching theme of “Youth and Education”. The day will start with an excursion to an educational institution in Aalborg after which a speaker will give his/her perspectives on the topic. The expert speaker and workshops that follow are intended to inspire the participants in terms of understanding different positions on how to ensure that young people get a decent education. A plenary session and development of a MoU at Aalborg City Council Chamber will round up the day (a politician/decision-maker from the national level in Denmark to preside over the proceedings).

The 6th will round up the week’s activities. Under the overarching theme of “EU’s effect on me – my impact on the EU”, the day will include an expert speaker and workshops on what it means to be a “good young EU citizen”. The plenary session at Aalborg City Council Chamber will address the participants’ experiences of the previous days from an EU perspective (a politician/decision-maker from the transnational level in Europe to preside over the proceedings). The day will end with a gala dinner.

The 7th is for departure.

The overall activity program and the workshops in particular are led by young people, i.e. that the project team mainly consists of young people, who are actively involved in the development and planning of the program and workshops.

An overview of the envisaged program is on the last page of this document.

A final draft program will be available by September 2015 and will be sent to the participating organizations. All participants will have an opportunity to comment after which the program will be finalized.

Process moving forward

Aalborg Youth School will apply for funding opportunities via Erasmus+. Therefore, **please use the attached forms and return them to Aalborg Youth School ASAP and no later than 1 April 2015.** If the forms are returned before 17 March 2015, there will be a discount on the participation fee.

The forms:

- MANDATE – form to give Aalborg Youth School mandate to apply on behalf of your organization. Fill out the form. Print 2 copies. Sign both. Send a scanned version to alkn-skole@aalborg.dk Post both originals to Aalborg Youth School, Godthaabsgade 8, DK-9000 Aalborg, Denmark
- PARTNER INFORMATION – form to give Aalborg Youth School information about your organization. Required for the application. Fill out the form. Please be sure to fill out the section on Background and Experience thoroughly. Email to alkn-skole@aalborg.dk

After the 1 April deadline Aalborg Youth School will inform all organizations that have been selected to participate. Preference is given to organizations that can send young people with the aforementioned criteria. Should more organizations register than places available, we will aim to compose a group with a fair representation of different types of organizations, taking into account the background and experience of the organizations.

In case of any queries in relation to Erasmus+ registration (ECAS and PIC code), please contact the national Erasmus+ agency in your country.

Participation fee

The participation fee will be **€200 pr. participant**. However, if the attached forms are returned to Aalborg Youth School before 17 March the participation fee is **€150 pr. participant**. This fee will cover all expenses in relation to the summit program (including all meals and breaks, accommodation and transportation during the summit/activity period but excluding travel from the participants' point of origin to/from the summit in Aalborg. For more information regarding travel reimbursement, see the relevant section in this document.).

The participation fee has to be paid no later than 15 April 2015 into the Aalborg Youth School bank account. The bank account information will be sent to the participating organizations after the 1 April deadline.

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| Accommodation and meals | <p>All participants will be accommodated in 4 person rooms after a same-gender and mixed nationality principle at Nørresundby Idrætscenter (3 km from Aalborg city center). All participants will also receive breakfast, lunch and dinner (dinner only on Sunday and breakfast only on Saturday).</p> <p>Nørresundby Idrætscenter, Lerumbakken 11, DK-9400 Nørresundby, Denmark</p> |
| Summit language | <p>All summit activities will be conducted in English. As such it is very important that all participants have a decent knowledge of English allowing them to fully understand and express themselves.</p> |
| Travel reimbursement | <p>Each participant/organization is responsible for booking his/her own tickets to Aalborg. Aalborg Youth School will arrange pick-up from Aalborg Airport, Aalborg Train Station or Aalborg Bus Terminal.</p> <p>Participants will receive travel reimbursement according to the Funding Rules of EU's Erasmus+ Key Action 3 program.</p> <p>As such participants will receive travel reimbursement up to 100% of their actual travel expenses or maximum EUR 20, EUR 80, EUR 170, EUR 270, EUR 400, EUR 620 or EUR 800 (costs depending on the travel distance using the official distance calculator). Please refer to the <i>Erasmus+ Programme Guide</i> for more details (http://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/documents/erasmus-plus-programme-guide_en.pdf, Part B, Key Action 3, "What are the funding rules?").</p> <p>We advise that participants use the least expensive route between their place of residence and Aalborg (taxi will not be reimbursed). Return tickets must be purchased before the start of the journey. Only those participants who attend the entire summit can be reimbursed.</p> <p>Documentation for all travel costs must be provided, i.e. a ticket showing the travelled route, price and date of purchase. If ticket does not have date of payment, please add credit card statement or similar. Date of ticket purchase may not be before 1 August 2015.</p> <p>Travel reimbursement will be made by bank transfer to the partner organizations. This may take 6-12 months.</p> |
| Insurance | <p>Aalborg Youth School will not offer any type of travel insurance for the participants. Participants are required to arrange for their own insurance.</p> |

Hosting organization

Aalborg Youth School is hosting this summit.

Aalborg Youth School is the biggest of its kind in Denmark and is a public organization for young people aged 13-19 years. The organization has approximately 500 employees and has 2,000 young active members in youth clubs and 5,000 active youngsters in teaching and culture offerings. Aalborg Youth School has an organizational structure which includes 3 departments, 31 youth clubs, 6 junior clubs and 4 youth houses.

Aalborg Youth School also offers:

- Teaching which provides the possibility to develop and qualify professionally, personally and socially.
- A wide variety of cultural possibilities.
- Special offers that give youngsters the possibility to strengthen and develop social competence.

One of the Youth School's priorities is to give young people a European and international awareness in general. As such Aalborg Youth School has a history of organizing projects with an international dimension, such as youth exchanges, EVS volunteers and other international projects.

Another of the Youth School's priorities is to give young people an understanding and first-hand experience with democratic life, participatory methods and civic competencies. For example the Youth School is responsible for the coordination of Aalborg Youth City Council. The Youth City Council is a joint partnership between the Youth School and Aalborg City Council. The Youth City Council, a platform where 13 democratically elected young people meet regularly to discuss relevant topics and make their voices heard; meet twice a year with Aalborg City Council.

Contact Information

Aalborg Youth School, Godthaabsgade 8, DK-9000 Aalborg, Denmark

Head of Aalborg Youth School: Ole Schøler

Phone/email: +45 91314190 / os-skole@aalborg.dk

Contact person at Aalborg Youth School: Alexander Knudsen

Phone/email: +45 25204195 / alkn-skole@aalborg.dk

| Preliminary Program: 1 – 7 November 2015 | | | | | | | | |
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| | Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday | |
| Theme of the day | | | Foreign and Defense Policy in Europe | Youth and Democratic Participation and Civic Competencies | Youth and Education | EU's Effect on Me – My Impact on EU | | |
| Morning | Arrival and registration | Breakfast | Breakfast | Breakfast | Breakfast | Breakfast | Breakfast | |
| | | Welcome and Introduction | Expert Speaker | Excursion to Youth Media House | Excursion to an Educational Institution | Expert Speaker | | Departure |
| | | Participant Presentations | | | | | | |
| | | Workshop/role-play | Workshops | Workshops | Workshops | | | |
| Midday | | | | | | | | |
| Afternoon | | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | Lunch | | |
| | | Expert Speaker | Workshops (continued): | Plenary session and the development of MoU at Aalborg City Council Chamber | Plenary session and development of MoU at Aalborg City Council Chamber | Plenary session and development of MoU at Aalborg City Council Chamber (continued) | | |
| | | Reflection | Reflection | Reflection | Reflection | Final Evaluation | | |
| Evening | Dinner | Dinner | Dinner | Dinner | Dinner | Dinner | Gala dinner | |
| | | Ice Breaking Activities | Social activities | Social activities | Social activities | Open | | |