

## Trans-national Youth Seminar – PARTICIPATION FOR INTEGRATION OPEN CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

### WHY the actual project?

*European Platform for Youth Development* (EPYD) launches a call to young people and those responsible for youth policy to a four day **Trans-national Youth Seminar – PARTICIPATION FOR INTEGRATION**, which will take place between **29<sup>th</sup> of May to 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2008** in the ceremony aula of the University in Craiova, Romania.

The seminar is developed in the framework of **Youth Empowerment Programme** (a pilot programme) with the support of the Regional Association for Rural Development, Gorj County Council, Gorj Prefecture, Youngsters without Borders, Norwegian Youth Council, UK Youth Parliament–Eastern Region and Norfolk County Council-Norfolk Children's Services and ALTER ECO – Communicating through Media, Romania.

The design of the **Participation for Integration** seminar is based on four negative trends facing youths all over Europe:

- a. A steeply increasing scale in terms of young people migration from rural to urban areas
- b. A high wave of youth emigration from the new Member States of the EU to the old EU Member States, as to the mirage of the West.
- c. A drastic fall down of the rate of youth participation in politics and volunteering
- d. Explosion of extremist movements, particularly in neighbourhoods with a great number of immigrants, with racial discrimination from the majority and chauvinism from the minority groups.



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### WHAT?

The hypothesis the current project is that increasing scope and means for youth participation in local governance, there are better chances to smooth the way to integration. Hence, it draws heavily on the *Open Method of Coordination* in the Youth Field.

The seminar will focus on the following issues:

- How to encourage youth local active participation in local governance?
- How to foster a genuine youth local civil society?
- How to promote and sustain youth inter-community governance?
- How to bring local government and public administration closer to its youths?
- How to prevent young citizen from mass migration from their communities through participation?
- How to ease down discrimination?
- How to conceive understanding amongst majority and minority groups?

The seminar is also an open forum debate on *YOUTH PARTICIPATION STANDARDS* in the framework of the Open Method of Coordination in the Youth Field. This youth seminar is meant to be the kick off of a large scale European advocacy campaign for the role youths have to play in the run up local governance and local affairs. The seminar is designed as educating opportunities for learning the partnership and an opportunity to discuss youth policy.

The seminar will also present the study – “*Youth Local Active Citizenship - rhetoric or reality?*” It is a diagnostic study on the level of participation of youth in local affairs and governance in Gorj County. There will be plenary and group sessions organized so that the results of the study are introduced but also to give room for debate and recommendations.

It is important to promote systematic change for having equal and democratic society and a sustainable human development. The way to reach this is through youth and community empowerment, holistic and community based solutions and cross-sectoral partnerships.





EUROPEAN  
PLATFORM  
FOR *Youth*  
DEVELOPMENT



Education and Culture DG

'Youth in Action' Programme



## The YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PROGRAM—Description

**The Youth Empowerment Program (YEP)** is to establish an innovative county and local partnership of the independent, public and private sectors targeting at disadvantaged children and youth and the communities they live in. It is a joint effort designed as the fruitful cooperation in between the Regional Association for Rural Development, Gorj County Council, Gorj Prefecture, Youngsters without Borders, Norwegian Youth Council, UK Youth Parliament—Eastern Region and Norfolk County Council-Norfolk Children's Services.

The program approaches youth community clusters created to ensure a balanced social, geographical and cultural distribution giving equal opportunities for all youths. It draws heavily on the international and European recommendations to which Romania is a signatory, such as: Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life, European Commission White Paper – A New Impetus for European Youth, the European Youth Pact, and also Article 12 of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, or UNCRC.

## EUROPEAN PLATFORM FOR YOUTH DEVELOPMENT (EPYD)—Description

**EPYD** is a non-governmental, non-profit, apolitical body based on regional cooperation between the European Union and partner countries from SEE & Caucasus. EPYDs mission is to increase the quality & accountability, support the development, lobby for the recognition, and advocate the active participation of organizations working in the youth field. EPYD has emerged as an innovative tool to work on the lack of recognition and validation of youth work, poor quality of international youth projects and scarcity of capacity building and sustainable development in the youth field.

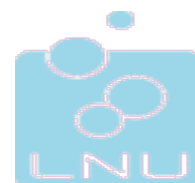
EPYD is to counteract the major lack of structural or policy impact on the youth field due to the low level of involvement of local, regional and national authorities in the support of youth actions that hampers any sort of long term development. Hence, EPYD is to strive for a complementary approach to the current system of 'micro-projects' to be complemented by a more long-term approach thorough larger multi-annual projects which would be useful for enhancing visibility and allow longer-term planning.

**For further information please visit our website [www.evpd.eu](http://www.evpd.eu)**

Regional Association for Rural Development (ARDR) will have the role of the assisting



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## PARTICIPATION FOR INTEGRATION

**Type:** Trans-national Youth Seminar

**Duration of activity:** 29<sup>th</sup> of May to 1<sup>st</sup> of June 2008

### Participants

**Number:** Each partner is to delegate 6 participants.

**Gender:** Gender balance

**Age:** - *Young participants:* young people aged between 15 and 30 and legally resident in a Programme Country.  
- *Policy-makers:* participation of policy-makers or experts in the youth policy field can be involved regardless of their age or geographical provenance.

**Language proficiency:** Advanced level of English

**Profile of the participant:** Youth workers, youth leaders, young people and representatives from all institutions'/committees/NGOs/central and local administration/local governments/EU Commission/SALTO Centers /national/management authorities which is working with youth policies and youth work.

### Participants fee

50 euro/participant from program countries and 30 euro from new EU entrants – to be deducted from the travel reimbursement

### Venue

Craiova – the capital city of Dolj County. South West of Romania.

For more information about the university in Craiova and about the city please visit following links:

<http://www.ucv.ro/>

<http://www.craiova.ro/craiova/servlet/portal>

<http://www.primariacraiova.ro/pcv/servlet/portal?action=Welcome&lang=en>

<http://www.musicalfountain.eu/>



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**PARTICIPATION FOR INTEGRATION  
Craiova , 29<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008**

**Draft Programme**

| <b>29<sup>th</sup> May<br/>2008</b> | <b>30<sup>th</sup> May 2008</b>   | <b>31<sup>st</sup> May 2008</b>  | <b>1<sup>st</sup> June 2008</b>      |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|--------------------------------------|
| <b>Arrival of<br/>participants</b>  | <b>8.00 – 9.00: Breakfast</b>   |  |                                      |
|                                     | 9.00 Presentation of the Study - "Local youth democracy and development - rhetoric or reality?"<br><br>11.00 Coffee break<br>11.30 Group sessions | 9.00 Standards on Youth Participation<br><br>11.00 Coffee brake<br>11.30 Group sessions  | 9.00 Evaluation, Summary             |
|                                     | <b>14.00 – 15.00: Lunch</b>   |  | <b>12.00: Lunch</b>                  |
|                                     | 15.30 Hear by right project initiative in Gorj  | 15.30 Youth Participation & migration<br><br>Minority vs. majority<br><br>16.30. Participation in local governance in multi-ethnic communities | <b>Departure of<br/>participants</b> |
|                                     | <b>19.00- 20.30: Dinner</b>   |  |                                      |
|                                     | Evening activities  | Evening activities   |                                      |

**PARTICIPATION FOR INTEGRATION  
Craiova , 29<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008**

**Practical and Technical Information**

**Accommodation**

All participants will be accommodated in double rooms at Hotel Europa which is a three star hotel in Craiova.

[http://www.europa.hotel.craiova.tourneo.ro/F\\_New/](http://www.europa.hotel.craiova.tourneo.ro/F_New/)

**Food**

All meals will be served at the Hotel restaurant. It will be a fixed menu for everybody, respecting of course the culinary preferences you send us.

**Extra days**

If you are planning to come earlier or stay later in Romania that will be at your own expenses. If you wish to do so we can provide assistance in arranging good accommodation and travelling schedules for you.

**Shopping**

The hotel is located in the centre, very close to the shopping area. Shops are open usually up till 20.00 h.

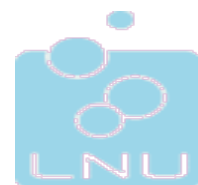
**Currency**

The Romanian currency is RON.

Please bring with you well known currencies – such as Euro or US \$. In case you are coming with your own currency you will have problems finding an exchange office that changes your currency.

The official exchange rate is (of course it varies on a daily basis- with a very little rate)

1 Euro = 3.37 RON, 1 US \$ = 2.56 RON



**PARTICIPATION FOR INTEGRATION**  
**Craiova , 29<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008**

**Travel arrangement and travel reimbursement**

All participants should arrange their travel in such way to arrive on Otopeni Airport – Bucharest on **29<sup>nd</sup> of May 2008** around noon and depart on the **1<sup>th</sup> of June** late afternoon from Craiova.

Travel expenses are to be **60% reimbursed** for each participant within the cost limit. If you choose to travel by train travel expenses are to be **100% reimbursed**.

The reimbursement will be made in the last day of the seminar in cash in euro provided you bring **all travel documents in original:**

- Train/ bus/ plane ticket.
- Invoice issued by the travel company (in case you have electronic tickets – print the payment slip)
- Boarding passes (for the ones travelling by plane)

**Please bring the ORIGINAL documents (tickets – buy also the return ticket, invoices, and boarding passes) and 2 photocopies for each.**

**Important note:** EYPD will not be considered liable for any losses of boarding passes or other traveling documents, required for the reimbursement. The financial officer of the organization will calculate the reimbursement only according to the original documentation.

**Health and/or travel insurance**

This is to be the sole responsibility of the participant. The organizing association shall not consider eligible for reimbursement the costs incurred with such expenses.



**PARTICIPATION FOR INTEGRATION  
Craiova , 29<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008**

**How to get to the location of the seminar**

**From the Airport**

After having exit the place where from you pick your luggage you will arrive in the main area of the airport. Go to the elevators (right side as you go towards the exit doors) and go down one floor. Exit the elevator and you find yourself in the bus stop of the express nr 783. Take that buss till PIATA VICTORIEI station. It takes you about 20 minutes. From the bus station Piata Victoriei in front of you have the METRO station. Go down and take the metro towards Gara de Nord – one stop. Ask to make sure you take the right one.

**From Gara de Nord** you have the following rapid trains:

|  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| <b>R 797</b> Departure from Bucarest   | 08:15 arrive in Craiova 11:16 |
| <b>R 691</b> departure from Bucharest  | 10:40 arrive in Craiova 13:36 |
| <b>R 693</b> departure from Bucharest  | 13:25 arrive in Craiova 16:07 |
| <b>IC 593</b> departure from Bucharest | 15:30 arrive in Craiova 18:00 |
| <b>A1826</b> departure from Bucharest  | 16:20 arrive in Craiova 19:14 |
| <b>R 795</b> departure from Bucharest  | 17:50 arrive in Craiova 20:40 |
| <b>IC 599</b> departure from Bucharest | 18:00 arrive in Craiova 23:00 |
| <b>A 1821</b> departure from Bucharest | 21:20 arrive in Craiova 00:10 |
| <b>R 360</b> departure from Bucharest  | 22:05 arrive in Craiova 00:46 |
| <b>R 695</b> departure from Bucharest  | 22:45 arrive in Craiova 01:18 |
| <b>A1691</b> departure from Bucharest  | 23:55 arrive in Craiova 02:47 |

**PARTICIPATION FOR INTEGRATION  
Craiova , 29<sup>th</sup> May – 1<sup>st</sup> June 2008**

**How to get to the location of the seminar**

**Transfer by Minibus**

For those arriving within a close time frame on 29<sup>th</sup> May 2008, at noon, the organization can provide a more comfortable means of transportation – a rented 8 places minibus that will pick you up from the airport and drive you straight away to the location of the seminar.

The costs for travelling by yourself from the airport to the hotel, using the available travel means is 6 – 7 euro (30% - one way).

The costs for travelling by minibus is 15 euro (30% - one way).

Those of you interested in travelling by minibus – please inform us so, and if a proper number of seats will be covered we will arrange the minibus for you.

**We are searching for co-operating organizations which are working in the field of youth participation in local democracy and local governments.**

**If you are interested in sharing ideas and experiences, please send us the attached Part III, until 5<sup>th</sup> of February 2008, by fax: +40. 353 805 988 and compulsory originals at the address: STR. LOCOTENENT DUMITRU PETRESCU, BL. 19, AP. 6, SC. 2, 210183 TARGU JIU, JUD, GORJ, ROMANIA.**

**Contact information:**

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