



Modules on European Citizenship

2004-2005

MODULE-1

Citizenship in Europe

6-12 December 2004
European Youth Centre Strasbourg

Deadline of application: 15 September 2004

Specific objectives:

1. to develop the awareness and attitudes (and by implication, the capacity) of the participants for dealing with the complexity of the idea and practise of "being a citizen";
2. to explore concepts and practices of citizenship as lived in the realities of the participants and to compare those lived experiences to theoretical and conceptual models of citizenship and European citizenship;
3. to discuss and explore with participants their experiences of European programmes for youth as: a. spaces and locations for (youth and European) citizenship and b. as tools for the promotion of (youth and European) citizenship;
4. to explore, based on the experiences participants, the participants' senses of belonging and identification (local, national, regional, European, cultural, social, political, etc, etc) and how these relate to the ways in which young people construct and express citizenship;
5. to deal with concepts of civil society and to discuss / share approaches and practices of youth participation / action within civil society
6. to reflect on the dynamic context of European and world society and politics (cultural, social, economic, demographic, geographical)

and how that affects the conditions for the development of citizenship in Europe.

7. to develop participants capacity to multiply the newly gained awareness, etc, to their peers and other young people in their youth work contexts;

Participants' profile

The module is intended to be an opportunity for further training complementary to experiences and previous training for youth workers and youth leaders who :

- have experience of at least 2 years in youth work (as volunteers or professionals);
- have organised or co-organised at least 1 international youth project;
- have experience in developing and managing a project with and for young people;
- are directly involved in youth activities with young people;
- are supported by their organisation in the application and in their work to integrate European Citizenship into youth work;
- are committed to work directly with young people on issues related to European citizenship;
- are motivated to undergo training and able to attend the course for its full duration;
- are able to work in English;
- have a general knowledge and understanding of youth work realities in their countries;
- are resident in a member state of the Council of Europe or in another country signatory to the European Cultural convention.

Criteria for composing the group of participants:

- Correspondence to the participant profile outlined above;
- Representation of a diversity of experiences among participants (cultural, social, economic, demographic, political, etc);
- Representation of a diversity of target groups with whom the youth workers work (immigrants, disabled young people, disadvantaged young people, peripheral youth, youth from rural contexts, urban youth, etc);
- Representation of a diversity of levels of youth work conducted (local through to European / international) and of organisations and institutions conducting youth work.

Priority will be given to those applicants who, by their previous experiences, are able to contribute to the reflections and discussion on the programme contents, and/or plan to integrate European Citizenship into youth work following their participation in the training module.

Course Contents

- What is 'citizenship' about?
- Citizenship, identity and European Citizenship
- Formal and legal concepts of citizenship
- Historical and cultural understandings of citizenship & modern concepts and practices of citizenship
- The relation of a citizen to the local environment, the region, the state, to Europe and to the World
- The citizen-citizen aspect of citizenship in youth work
- Migration and immigration in the context of citizenship and youth work
- People without formal citizenship & citizens without a state
- Integrating European citizenship into youth work
- Active participation and civil society

Desired learning outcomes:

It is hoped that, as a result of the module, participants will:

- recognize the parts of their daily work that are related to citizenship and European citizenship;
- recognize the behaviours and actions associated with citizenship in daily life;
- learn more about the content of European citizenship, in terms of attitudes, behaviours and actions;
- learn about concepts of citizenship (e.g. Values, Human Rights, democracy, respect for diversity) and conceptual and theoretical models of European citizenship;
- identify their experiences of citizenship and how they understand citizenship;
- understand better the possibilities of youth work as a space for experiencing citizenship and for developing educational / learning processes useful for developing European citizenship;
- understand better the machinery on the European level that supports in financial and other ways projects with the European citizenship dimension;
- understand that citizenship in its construction and expression is very diverse and heterogeneous among similar and dissimilar youth;
- get to know many and diverse examples of the forms and expressions of citizenship among youth;
- understand the idea of participative citizenship and get to know the practise of constructing citizenship through participation;
- to learn about civil society and the relationship it has to citizenship and European citizenship;
- get to know the main elements of historical evolution and contemporary debate on citizenship and European citizenship (institutional developments and contemporary manifestation of formal citizenship in Europe, link to how to influence such developments through civil society)
- learn about tools for how to multiply their learning once back home.