

Workshops:

We have scheduled two days dedicated to workshops. There are one two-day and six single-day workshops. There will take place also a meeting of the YEN competence team. Please indicate your preferred choice on the registration form!

1.

Role play

By actively taking part in planning and decision-making processes, children and adolescents make important experiences for the development of their personality and social competence. By getting children and adolescents to participate in everyday and political planning at an early stage, they become familiar with democratic rules and are pushed towards assuming more responsibility. They experience that their needs are considered important and realise that they have the power to make a difference. This fosters their identification with the physical and social environment and their political and social commitment.

Today we have a wealth of experience about different forms and approaches regarding participation. It is proven that promoting children and youth policy not only contributes to increase the confidence of children and adolescents but it also encourages them to actively participate in the forming of our society.

This workshop aims at highlighting the chances of participation projects. In a role play which is true to reality, the members will apply methods, processes and techniques, and develop transferable models for participation projects.

Workshop coordinator: Ernst Muhr (Fratz Graz)

Duration: 2 days

2.

ParticipACTION in nature

Interactive workshop

Shared experiences bring people together. Being active in the midst of nature gives us strength and provides us with unlimited resources. What counts is not reaching a peak or a certain destination nor how much time you need to get from A to B, but the way in which you move forward.

Shared activities make us get in touch – with nature, with ourselves and with those around us.

Games are a particularly good way for people to discover their possibilities, abilities and limitations in a protected environment. Cooperative games are about working together in a group. The aim is to reach a goal together – to make experiences which bring people together.

Workshop coordinator: 'AVS-Jugend' staff (South Tyrol youth service)

Duration: 1 day

3.

Building bridges through music

Music workshop

Music is part of every culture. It is not restricted to language and can therefore be understood beyond borders – in other words, it is tangible. Music builds bridges between the most different people. We want to turn this into an advantage.

On both workshop days, we are going to work out and rehearse the ‘soundtrack’ for the theatre play in the mornings. Even though previous music skills are not required, they are welcome. I will bring a number of different instruments along with music sheets for musical instruments and vocals.

We will add noises and effects to the story that we will work on with the theatre people in the afternoon. Our challenge will be to establish a balance between the presumably differing skills of the participants.

Workshop coordinator: Rupert Hechensteiner

Duration: 1 day

4.

Theatre and participation

Theatre workshop

Is there such a thing as theatre without participation, just within the confines of one’s own room, without shared processes, without an audience? Certainly not. Theatre thrives only on a sense of belonging and solidarity towards those around us. The only thing that allows deep emotion, and thereby good theatre, is involvement with and opening up towards one’s fellow actors. As in music or painting, there are no barriers of language or culture: the more instruments there are, the fuller the sound we make; the more colours we use, the more colourful the paintings we make.

In these two days, we will find our own common approach to theatre and hopefully a very creative and – more importantly – sensitive kind of participation.

Workshop coordinator: Erich Meraner

Duration: 1 day

5.

Participation and manipulation

Media workshop

In almost every situation life presents us with, we have to deal with the media – whether we like it or not. At any given second, we are covered in news and information to such an extent that we tend to forget that the media not only provide us with information, but also serves as an opportunity to participation. In our workshop, we will try to get better acquainted with the media and take a closer look at some of the given aspects. We will try to demonstrate the possibilities of participation via the media and, in this context, the dangers of being all too easily manipulated by the media.

Taking our results as a starting point, we will then use the media ourselves in order to take a look behind the scenes. Everyone will have the chance to operate cameras and microphones, to direct and to write a script, in order to provide the people around us with information and to motivate them to participate

Workshop coordinators: Arek Lubá, Veronika Hopfgartner

Duration: 1 day

6.

Creating the conditions for participation

Political workshop

This workshop starts out from the demonstration of the prisoner's dilemma and applies the results to minority situations. The participants of the workshop will learn about the integration strategies for the benefit of the whole society.

What is the prisoner's dilemma? How does it feel like to depend on other's cooperation? How can I foster conditions for cooperation? What could a majority do to offer integration to minorities? What could a minority do to offer participation in the majority's society? What are the conditions for cooperation and participation in the absence of central enforcement?

Workshop coordinator: Leonhard Voltmer, EURAC – minorities and autonomies

Duration: 1 day

7.

Participation of youth and minorities

YEN workshop

Led by the board of YEN and by other lecturers or experts the opportunities for participation of minorities and minority youth are explored, especially in respect to the future developments arising from the new European Constitution.

We will particularly deal with the interaction between the processes on European, state and regional-local levels and focus on the work minority NGOs are doing on these levels.

What we want to reach with this workshop is to find guidelines and best practices for a common commitment in Europe and in the network of YEN itself.

Workshop-leaders: Board of the YEN, FUEN-President Romedi Arquint

Duration: 1 days