



World Forum for Democracy

STRASBOURG - 2013

Re-wiring democracy: connecting institutions and citizens in the digital age
Strasbourg, 27-29 November 2013

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS FROM THE YOUTH SECTOR
Deadline, 9 August 2013

Intro & Background

The [European Youth Foundation](#) is supporting the involvement of young people in the 2013 edition of the World Forum for Democracy (WFD) in order to ensure a visible and efficient youth presence during all stages of the event.

The second edition of the World Forum for Democracy, which will take place on 27-29 November 2013, will focus on re-connecting citizens with institutions and re-inventing democratic participation in the digital age.

The core content of the Forum will consist of discussions about experimental initiatives and innovative ideas that have the ambition to amplify citizen voices, increase institutions' transparency, responsiveness, re-focus on common interest and enable more deliberation and citizen influence on decision-making. These initiatives and ideas will be challenged with respect to their potential for strengthening democratic participation, risks they may entail, their transferability, and their impact on democratic institutions and practice as a whole. The initiatives will be discussed in a series of 20 creative laboratories (labs) which involve various stakeholders with diverse backgrounds. More information about the 2013 edition of the World Forum for Democracy can be found [here](#).

How does it work?

- ✓ During the preparation phase the youth participants will communicate and share information via an e-learning platform.
- ✓ Prior to the Forum, the participants have the opportunity to contact the leaders of the laboratories and to ask for further information regarding youth participation through the initiatives proposed.
- ✓ The first day of the event the participants will attend preparation and orientation sessions during which they will select the laboratories they are interested in.
- ✓ During the WFD the participants can promote the initiative(s) which they consider have the greatest youth dimension as there will be a voting on laboratories and prizes will be awarded for the most successful ones.
- ✓ During the laboratories the youth participants will, together with other stakeholders, examine and analyse initiatives that promote participation and re-connect citizens and democratic institutions.
- ✓ Some youth participants might be chosen as rapporteur to present the laboratory in plenary (3-5min) or as a panellist.
- ✓ Follow-up actions will be planned during a session one day after the WFD.

The draft agenda:

26 November	27 November	28 November	29 November	30 November
	Getting to know each other and team building - European Youth Centre (EYCS)	WFD - Palais	WFD - Palais	Follow up actions by NGOs and evaluation of the event - EYCS
ARRIVALS	Preparing the youth participation in the WFD - EYCS	WFD - Palais	WFD - Palais	DEPARTURES
	Deciding on the panelists and rapporteurs - EYCS			
	WFD - Palais	WFD - Palais	WFD - Palais	
	Evening session in EYCS	Evening session in EYCS <i>Open space for ideas</i>	Evening session in EYCS	

Who is concerned by this call?

We are looking for 40 young people who:

- ✓ are aged between 18-30
- ✓ are a resident in one of the [50 signatories](#) of the European Cultural Convention
- ✓ are representatives of youth NGOs active at local, regional, national or European level which are working on related subjects
- ✓ are actively involved in civil society democracy initiatives
- ✓ are experienced in running youth initiatives which are promoting democratic processes or willing to develop this kind of initiatives
- ✓ are motivated to contribute to the development of recommendations on youth and re-wiring democracy
- ✓ are able to commit themselves to full and active participation throughout all phases of the work
- ✓ can participate in the whole event in Strasbourg (arrival 26 November, departure 30 November)
- ✓ are able to communicate and work fluently in English (knowledge of French would be an advantage).

The participants who will be chosen as panellists should have public speaking experience.

What are the financial conditions?

Board and Lodging will be provided by the Council of Europe at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg.

Travel costs will be covered by the Council of Europe, on presentation of the relevant receipts, according to Council of Europe rules. The reimbursements will be paid after the event through bank transfer. Only participants having taken part in the whole event will be reimbursed.

Selection and deadline for applications

If you wish to participate in this event you are invited to send the expression of interest together with your CV in Europass format to eyf@coe.int before 9 August 2013 (midnight CET).

Selected participants will receive confirmation and more information in the second half of August 2013.