



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS “Youth delegate for a year”

Participation of Youth Delegates at the April and October 2020 sessions of the Conference of INGOs

In line with its “Roadmap for youth participation”, the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe will invite 2 young persons, representing their member INGO, to Strasbourg (France), to take an active part, as a youth delegate, in its coming April and October sessions.

The deadline for applications is 15 February 2020.

What is the Conference of INGOs?

More than 300 INGOs enjoy participatory status and make up, since 2005, the **Conference of INGOs**. Together, they constitute civil society’s pillar in the Council of Europe so called “quadrilogue” with the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities.

Through this status, the Council of Europe includes INGOs in its intergovernmental activities and encourages dialogue between the members of Parliament, local and regional authorities and those of diverse INGOs on the various challenges facing society.

If you wish to learn more about the Conference of INGOs, please see <https://www.coe.int/en/web/ingo/home>

The Conference of INGOs and youth participation

In April 2018, the INGO Conference adopted a new Roadmap for youth participation. Following its youth Strategy, it is now inviting 2 youth delegates representing member organizations to take part in its two 2020 sessions:

- to have their say in the debates
- to exchange with Conference of INGOs members on the issues on the agenda.

To learn more about the “Roadmap for youth participation” of the Conference of INGOs please follow this link <https://rm.coe.int/road-map-youth-150618-en/16808b5fbb>

By inviting a number of young people to take an active part in its 2020 sessions the Conference of INGOs aims to give young people an opportunity to be an active and direct contributor to issues being discussed during these sessions.

The specific objectives are to:

- involve young people directly in all aspects of the Conference of INGOs’ work;
- make young people aware about the Conference of INGOs’ work and the tools it has developed to support NGO participation in the Council of Europe work and in its member countries;
- discuss with young people on how youth participation can be boosted in NGO life;
- bring the youth perspective to all thematic debates within the Conference of INGOs;

- motivate the youth delegates to multiply the information and experience acquired during the sessions on their return to their sending organisation;
- share information about existing models of youth-led structures and motivate young people to spread the word about the Conference of INGOs' work;
- promote co-operation between members of the Conference of INGOs and youth delegates;
- demonstrate the importance of including more young people as active members.

Participating in the Conference of INGOs' work for 2020

Being a youth delegate for a year is a unique opportunity to gain international experience, become a part of a diverse group of young activists, network and make an impact by stimulating the debates from a youth perspective thereby highlighting and strengthening the Conference of INGOs' commitment to youth empowerment.

1. Participating as a youth delegate in the sessions

Firstly, the youth delegates will attend both of the Conference of INGOs' 2020 sessions. A preparatory session will be organised prior to each session. Youth delegates must commit to taking part in the whole of the two 2020 sessions: 20-24 April 2020 and 12-16 October 2020.

2. Developing and implementing projects between the sessions

Secondly, between April and October, youth delegates will remain involved in the work of the Conference of INGOs. They will be required to undertake the initiatives and develop projects related to the Conference of INGOs' priorities or to the session themes for 2020. For this, they will have the support of the Conference of INGOs Bureau member. While the Conference of INGOs will not provide funding for project development, it will provide youth delegates with an introduction letter to act as a visiting card in their dealings with other institutions and may provide information material. There may also be possibilities for some of the youth delegates to participate in other events organised by the Conference of INGOs outside Strasbourg such as its committee meetings, seminars or conferences.

Application procedure and selection of participants

Those wishing to apply to take part in the April and October Conference of INGOs sessions must do so by means of the application form enclosed. Participation in only one session is not possible.

The deadline for submitting completed applications is 15 February 2020.

The youth delegates will be selected by a selection panel which includes the President of INGO- Service, 2 Bureau members of the Conference of INGOs coordinators of the Youth road map and two members of the Council of Europe's Advisory Council on Youth. The panel will ensure that the selected applicants represent a balanced group with regard to gender, cultural background and experience.

Applicants will be informed of the results of the selection procedure at the beginning of March 2020.

Travel, subsistence and accommodation

The youth delegates' travel and subsistence expenses will be covered by the INGO Service according to its rules.

Accommodation will be provided and paid for by the organisers, in single-occupancy or shared rooms according to availability. The organisers cannot cover the cost of accommodation elsewhere.

Aims and objectives

Compulsory activities include:

- participation in preparatory activities prior to each session;
- full attendance during both sessions (which included the preparation day on the eve of each session and the evaluation meeting on the last afternoon of each session);
- availability to hold several Skype meetings (April – September) to prepare the youth project;
- implementation of a project between April and October 2020.

Profile of participants

The youth delegates should meet the following criteria:

- be open, committed and motivated to develop and strengthen dialogue between young people and civil society;
- be between 18 and 30 years old;
- represent an INGO member of the Conference of INGOs
- be available to engage in the whole of the activity including the preparation of grass-roots projects;
- have an interest in actively participating in the policy making processes supporting civil society;
- be able to multiply the information obtained during the session on their return in their sending organisation;
- speak English fluently

For more information please contact:

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Application form: youth delegate at the Conference of INGOs 2020

Personal details

First name	
Last name	
Date and place of birth	
Gender (M/F/other)	
Nationality	
Address where you will be residing at the time of the sessions. If you are selected, the Conference of INGOs will cover your cost of travel from this address and return, no other.	
E-mail	
Mobile number	
Working language(s)	
Do you have any special needs or requirements, for example dietary, medical, allergies, disability, etc?	
If you are invited to take part in the sessions, will you require assistance in obtaining a visa for France?	

Experience and motivation (no more than 200 words for each reply: longer answers will be disregarded)

Name of the NGO, member of the Conference of INGOs, that you will be representing.	
What is your personal motivation to take part in the Conference of INGOs 2020 sessions?	
What do you expect to be able to contribute to the sessions?	
What do you expect to learn from this experience?	

How will you disseminate the information obtained during the session on your return home?	
Why do you think Non-Governmental Organisations play a significant role in today's society?	
What would be the added value of young people contributing to the work of the INGO Conference?	
If selected, would you be available for a youth volunteer project in between the two sessions with support from the Conference of INGOs?	

Please return completed application form to rares.craut@ingo-coe.org by 15 February the latest.

Name of the nominating organisation

Name and signature of the representatives of the nominating organisation

Candidate's signature