

YOUTH IN EUROPE OFFENBURG TALKS “ ”



#2 “NATIONALISM, POPULISM & FAR-RIGHT IDEOLOGIES AMONG YOUNG PEOPLE AND THE ROLE OF YOUTH WORK”

Monday 2nd – Tuesday 3rd September 2019
SALMEN Offenburg, Germany

WHAT ARE THE “YOUTH IN EUROPE OFFENBURG TALKS” ABOUT?

The series “YOUTH IN EUROPE OFFENBURG TALKS” are expert workshops on themes relevant to the youth sector and with an impact on youth policy, youth work practice and young people’s life in general. The ‘Talks’ are a place where approximately 30-35 participants discuss controversial issues, explore new areas and phenomena and look at answers of the youth field.

They are hosted annually in Offenburg, Germany, organized by a steering group representing five National Agencies of Erasmus+ Youth in Action. Participants are experts, researchers, policy makers, practitioners who are interested in the given theme; they are selected in relation to their expertise on the given theme. Discussions will be stimulated by short inputs of experts who are invited based on a call for papers. A moderator facilitates the event and a rapporteur documents results. The outcomes of the Talks are published in a report.

THEME AND BACKGROUND OF THE 2nd EDITION

Looking at the recent results of elections to the European Parliament the picture seems to be diverse and uneven. While in some regions and countries citizens, including young people, voted for traditional liberal, social democratic or conservative-democratic parties others voted for “green” and ecological options. Results are also showing a third option, even if the expected strong increase of votes failed to appear: a stable, in some regions or countries increasing number of people were voting for nationalistic, populist and far-right parties.

While acknowledging a possible distinction between those voting for such parties and those sharing and believing their values and ideas, recent research shows that right-wing ideologies, neo-conservative convictions and traditionalistic ethos are attracting a growing number of young people who seem to be more open to populist, simplistic solutions, xenophobe attitudes, discriminatory behaviour. Many are questioning and even neglecting European values of democracy, pluralism and human rights and instead believe in concepts of “illiberal democracies”, “ethnopluralism” and “homogenous ‘white’ identities”. Others find their place in criticising societal achievements like equal & minority rights, diversity, gender equality.

With the “YOUTH IN EUROPE OFFENBURG TALKS” #2 we would like to look deeper into these phenomena, differentiate the picture and talk in particular about the role of youth work in this respect.

DATE AND PLACE OF “YOUTH IN EUROPE OFFENBURG TALKS”

The second edition of the Talks will take place on Monday 2nd – Tuesday, 3rd September 2019 in SALMEN Offenburg, Germany (25 km to Strasbourg). The meeting will start at 10h00 on the first day and end in the afternoon of the second day.

CONTACT AND COORDINATION

Claudius Siebel, JUGEND für Europa siebel@jfemail.de

Hanjo Schild, hanjo.schild@gmail.com

¹ JINT Belgium Flanders, ARCHIMEDES Foundation Estonia; EDUFI Finland; JUGEND für Europa Germany, MOVIT Slovenia.

² The venue SALMEN, in which the talk will take place represents two pillars of German history: on the one hand the civil revolution of 1848 with the demands of citizens for freedom, equality and human brother- and sisterhood and on the other hand the extermination of these values in times of National Socialism in form of destruction of the here situated synagogue in November pogroms 1938.

