

INVITATION to the “YENiversary”

Youth of European Nationalities (YEN): Networking Weekend in Bleiburg/Pliberk, Austria 18th – 21st July 2024

The Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) turns 40 and we want to warmly invite you to our „YENiversary”, a weekend full of networking, fun and cultural diversity. Together with our **local partner the Slovenian Info-centre: “Slovenski info-center (SIC)”** we aim to gather around 100 people in Carinthia, Austria.

We want to bring together youth who are currently active in minority youth organisations, people who were active in YEN throughout its 40-year history (alumni), partners and friends.

The program includes live bands, artistic performances and sporting activities where we can celebrate together, but also small workshops and panels which will provide space for discussion and reflection on the challenges and opportunities faced by young people in different minority groups.

We want to look back on the history of YEN together and encourage older and newer generations to exchange ideas. With the ‘YENiversary’ we would like to thank all YEN activists, former activists and supporters who are committed to their communities and building a diverse and inclusive society.

We want you to shape this weekend together with us!

So if you have an idea for an activity which you would like to host, or which could become part of the weekend program, please get in touch with us via email and let us know your ideas.

Who is invited:

Are you a member of a minority and are you actively involved in a member organisation of the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN)? Were you active in YEN back then and are curious about how the organisation has developed? Do you know YEN or have you heard of us and would like to get to know us better? Then you've come to the right place!

At our ‘YENiversary’, not only **people from our member organisations** are warmly invited, but also **YEN alumni, friends and partners of the organisation**. You are welcome to share this invitation with others who fit this description

Arrival & Departure

Arrival Day: 18th July 2024
 Departure Day: 21st July 2024 (after breakfast)
 Location & Accommodation: [JUFA Bleiburg/Pliberk, Austria](#)

It is also possible to join for part of the weekend, please indicate so in the registration form. More information on the venue and how to reach the accommodation in Bleiburg/Pliberk, Austria will be provided after the registration process. Please, try to travel as eco-friendly as possible.

Preliminary Program

18.07.2024 (Thursday)	19.07.2024 (Friday)	20.07.2024 (Saturday)	21.07.2024 (Sunday)
Breakfast			
	Celebrating 40 years of YEN – OFFICIAL OPENING	Workshops, panel discussions, discussion rounds, and presentations....	<i>Goodbye</i>
Lunch			
	Workshops, panel discussions, discussion rounds, and presentations.... OPEN STAGE for music, poetry, dances...	Workshops, panel discussions, discussion rounds, and presentations.... MINORITY CINEMA (<i>movies, series in minority language or with a specific meaning for the communities</i>)	
Dinner			
Reception	Cultural Exchange Market	Live-Musik	
Throughout: Art Installations; History of YEN exhibition; Interview- spot – “Share your story in YEN” and more opportunities to share, network, hear, and tell stories....			

BECOME PART OF THE WEEKEND:

→ We want you to shape this weekend together with us, if you have an idea for an activity, please contact events@yeni.org.

Finances

Participation in the event is **free**.

The costs for **accommodation and meals** at the JUFA will be covered by YEN, if you want to stay elsewhere you need to cover your own costs. In case we have more registrations than place at the JUFA, we will prioritise youth who are currently active in YEN or one of its member organisations.

YEN cannot cover **travel costs** and we ask everyone to cover them by themselves.

Social fund

If you need support to pay your travel costs, contact the YEN Office so we can find a solution – events@yeni.org.

Donation recommendation

We would be grateful for alumni and guests, who are able to afford it, to donate around 20€ per participation day (for accommodation and catering in Bleiburg/Pliberk) to YEN.

Bank account owner: Youth of European Nationalities

IBAN: DE 3785550000 1000 032309

Subject: YENiversary donation

Registration procedure

In order to plan the event more efficiently we ask everyone to register online and to check your emails for further updates from our side.

If you are a member of a **YEN member organisation**, please discuss your registration with your organisation. We will contact you after the registration deadline with more information.

The closing date for registration is 23rd June 2024.

[Registration!](#)

Code of Conduct

As YEN we believe in human rights and fundamental freedom for all humans. We cooperate with and support institutions that share those values. Our work is built on the ideas of respect, openness and tolerance for all minorities. We openly position ourselves against racism, sexism, homophobia, transphobia, antigypsyism, antisemitism, and discrimination or forced assimilation of any kind of minority. We are too, as a matter of principle, against violence in whatsoever form. When we choose facilitators and topics for workshops we do so with these values in mind.

We are happy our participants and team at YEN events have diverse opinions and views on the topics we address, and we value discussions and an open exchange of ideas. Therefore, we expect participants and team members to show respect to everyone and to not spread hate. Furthermore, we expect all participants and attendees to acknowledge that every human being is equally valuable and that each individual's freedom ends where another individual's freedom begins.

About YEN

We, the Youth of European Nationalities (YEN), are an independent youth organisation that was founded in 1984. We are proud to currently represent 41 member organisations from 18 different countries (as of January 2023). Our motto is: 'Minority Rights Are Human Rights'. We advocate for the interests of young members of Europe's autochthonous, linguistic and national minorities.

Every year we organise several activities for young people belonging to autochthonous, linguistic or national minorities. These events bring together young people from all over Europe to work intensively on current political and cultural issues affecting minorities in Europe. We want to create space for exchange, discovering commonalities and gathering knowledge, but also space for discussion and socialising - and above all for building friendships across national borders.

Contact

The YEN Office is available for any questions.

events@yeni.org

Tel.: +49 176 31779414

www.yeni.org

Facebook: @yeni.org

We are looking forward to celebrating with you!

The YEN Board and Office