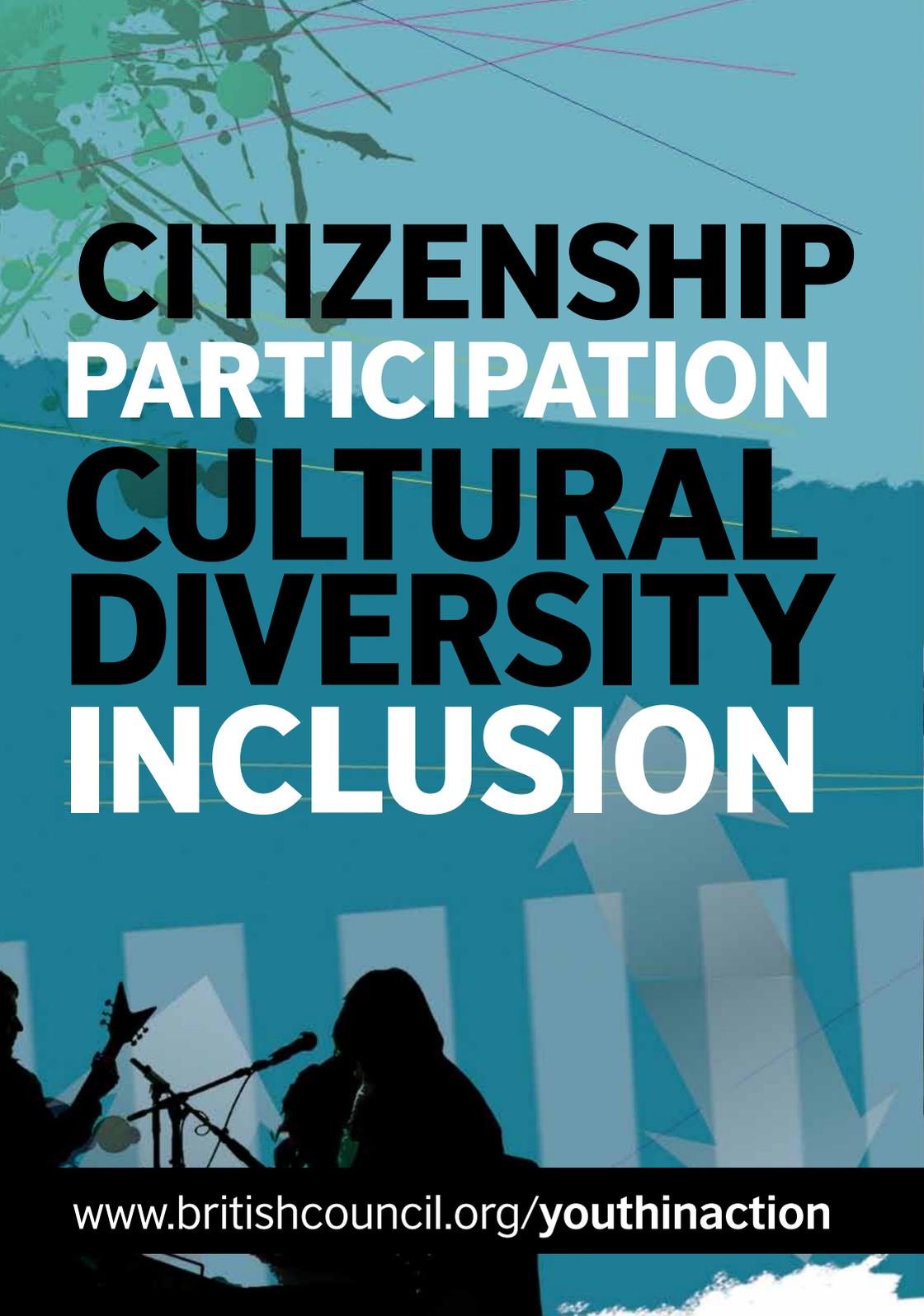




Youth in Action

Funding European opportunities
for your organisation



CITIZENSHIP
PARTICIPATION
CULTURAL
DIVERSITY
INCLUSION

www.britishcouncil.org/youthinaction

The Youth in Action programme provides young people and those working in the youth sector, with a variety of opportunities for non-formal and informal learning with a European dimension.

The Youth in Action programme:

- helps young people's development by supporting them with learning new skills;
- provides young people with a unique non-formal learning experience;
- enhances the European and international dimension of youth organisations' work;
- increases the intercultural learning of youth organisations and the local community;
- builds youth organisations' capacity to innovate and develop quality projects.

What activity does Youth in Action support?

We provide funding for:

- Youth Exchanges
- Youth Initiatives
- Youth Democracy Projects
- Transnational Youth Seminars and National Youth Meetings
- Training and Networking

Projects can be run at local, regional, national and European level.

Broadening horizons by participating in a Youth Exchange

Youth Exchanges bring together groups of young people (supported by youth workers/leaders) from two or more countries. They can provide groups with the opportunity to meet, discuss and confront various themes such as racism, the environment or gender equality, whilst learning about each other's countries and cultures.

Youth Exchanges can be carried out in Europe and some neighbouring countries in: South East Europe, Eastern Europe and Caucasus and Mediterranean partner countries.

Becoming involved in a Youth Exchange promotes active participation of young people in issues that affect their lives. The informal style of learning has many outcomes for participants such as better awareness of others' views, stronger sense of identity, more confidence and stronger engagement in society.

Rebecca Bell – The Spirit of Enniskillen Trust



Supporting young people with running their own projects

Youth Initiatives allow four (or more) young people to develop and lead on their own chosen projects. They can run projects on issues relevant to their communities in their own area, nationally or with European peers.

The 'Click 4 Inclusion' project is based within an inner city youth centre in Cardiff. We have worked with a group of seven young people with mixed backgrounds and abilities which includes special educational needs. After the sudden closure of the darkroom at the Howardian Youth Activity Centre, there was nowhere for young keen photographers to go. We have supported this group with designing a new black and white darkroom; running photography workshops, discussions, field trips and their own exhibition.

Emma Caulfield – Howardian Youth Activity Centre

Empowering young people through supporting their participation in democracy

Youth Democracy Projects aim to increase the active participation of young people within their local, regional or national communities or at international level, by supporting their participation in representative democracy.

'My Europe Network News', a digital technology project, involved 60 young people from the UK, Germany, Slovenia, Poland and Latvia, working together remotely. They learned about each other's countries, democratic processes and about media production.

Each country researched, planned, filmed and edited news reports on current and past news stories, investigating political issues and historical events. These news stories allowed them to explore themes of national and EU identity, democracy, culture and conflict both within their peer groups and the wider community, through interviews they conducted with local politicians and the public. They also learned new skills in media production.

The project culminated in 'Network News Week', an online event hosted on the social network, Radiowaves. Each partner country shared their reports with the Radiowaves' audience of over 40,000 young people.

Alison Booth – DigitalME



Enabling young people to get their voices heard

Transnational Youth Seminars and **National Youth Meetings** allow organisations to run seminars and facilitate structured dialogue between young people, youth workers and youth organisations, and those responsible for youth policy.

We set-up 'Access Explorers', a three day meeting at the Southbank Centre, for disabled and non-disabled young people aged 15–25 from London, Liverpool and Manchester.

The project explored disability access issues for young disabled people at arts venues. Through a range of audience-based and participatory techniques, and through engaging access practitioners and experts, young people explored the issues to inform youth-led policy on disability access.

This was a great opportunity for young people to be actively involved and see that their views mattered. They could voice their opinions to important decision-makers.

Alison Harrow – Shape

Support for youth workers

Training and Networking opportunities aim to assist those involved in youth activities to prepare and develop projects and learn more about youth work in other countries within the context of the Youth in Action programme.

This opportunity is open to all individuals interested in informal education and youth. For example: youth workers, leaders, support persons (youth advisers, assessors and mentors), trainers, information workers, managers and policymakers.

Training can be carried out in Europe and some neighbouring countries in: South East Europe, Eastern Europe and Caucasus and Mediterranean partner countries.

- Establish new partnerships on a regional/national and international level.
- Develop international youth work.
- Exchange good practice.
- Further your professional development.



How can you get involved?

Please visit our website for more information:

www.britishcouncil.org/youthinaction

Guidelines and supporting documentation will help you complete your application.

Advice and Support for Youth in Action

If you have any questions or would like to talk about your application then please use the following contact details:

England

National Youth Agency
Tel: +44 (0)116 242 7400
E-mail: yia@nya.org.uk

Scotland

YouthLink Scotland
Tel: +44 (0)131 313 2488
E-mail: mforrester@youthlinkscotland.org

Northern Ireland

Youth Council for Northern Ireland
Tel: +44 (0)289 064 3882
E-mail: bsweeney@ycni.org or
mcunningham@ycni.org

Wales

Connect Cymru
Ffôn / Tel: +44 (0)2920 575 705
E-bost / E-mail: info@connectcymru.org

Other Support

Eurodesk UK is a free information service on European work, study, travel and volunteering opportunities.

To learn more, please see:
www.eurodesk.org.uk



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