



CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH SEMINAR - YOUNG ADVOCATES OF HOPE AND SOLIDARITY





Since 1987, VIDES International (Volunteering Organization Women Education and Development) has been the international volunteering organization of the Salesian Sisters of Don Bosco. It is a global network of youth NGOs recognized by the United Nations in 2003, with consultative status at ECOSOC, focusing on human rights, youth, women, and children.

VIDES promotes youth participation, human rights education, and democratic engagement worldwide through advocacy, volunteerism, and educational projects. It contributes to UN human rights work in Geneva, participates in the Commission on the Status of Women in New York, and is recognized by the ILO since 2012. VIDES International has 51 member organizations in 43 countries.



BACKGROUND OF THE ACTIVITY

Every four years, VIDES organizes an international seminar where youth and delegates share experiences, discuss challenges, and co-create the next organisational strategy. In 2026, the organisation will conclude its current cycle and launch a new one until 2030.

Building on previous projects in social inclusion, education, and environmental protection, the seminar actively involves young people in shaping the future strategy. The project is funded by the European Youth Foundation (EYF) of the Council of Europe, supporting youth participation and democratic engagement.

THE SEMINAR WILL FOCUS ON

THREE INTERCONNECTED THEMATIC AREAS:



Social inclusion and social justice.



Integral ecology (recognising the interconnection between social, environmental, cultural and economic dimensions).



Digital communication, with a rights-based approach and attention to online risks and opportunities for young people.

Its working methodology will rest on the non-formal education (NFE) approach which puts at the center of the learning path each participant and their needs, it is flexible and adaptable to their needs and ideas. It will consist of participatory workshops, group work, experience sharing and peer learning, discussions, role-plays and reflection sessions.



AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

THIS INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR AIMS TO:

- create a space for young people to exchange experiences and perspectives on youth access to rights;
- strengthen youth participation in decision-making processes at organisational and community level;
- empower young and promote youth leadership, ownership and long-term engagement within the organisation.



PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

This call is launched to look for ***young participants from VIDES network, aged 18–30, coming from Council of Europe Member States.***

ELIGIBLE PARTICIPANTS ARE THOSE WHO:

- are **members, volunteers, educators, trainers or young staff** of VIDES member organisations;
- are **actively engaged** at local or national level;
- have a **good understanding** of the challenges faced by young people in their communities;
- **are interested** in VIDES International mission and work



Participation of young people with fewer opportunities, including (but not limited to) young people from rural areas, minorities, migrants, LGBTQI+ youth, and young people with disabilities, is encouraged.

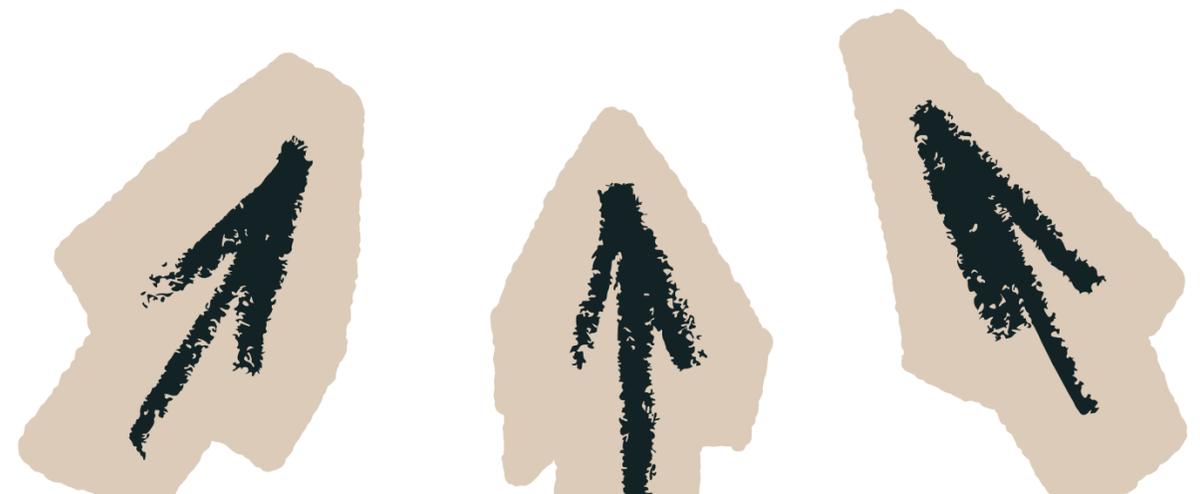
By the end of the seminar participants will have designed concrete follow-up actions to implement at local, national or international level and they will have established a restricted youth group to monitor and evaluate the strategy implementation.





AFTER THE SEMINAR, PARTICIPANTS ARE EXPECTED TO:

- contribute to at least one follow-up activity in their local or national context;
- support the dissemination and implementation of the new strategy;
- remain engaged in VIDES International's youth structures and actions.

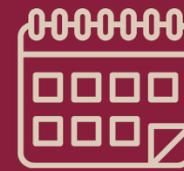


PRACTICAL INFORMATION



VENUE

Sevilla, Spain



DATES

from **26 August** to
29 August 2026
(working days)



LANGUAGE

- English
with translation to *Italian*,
- Spanish,
- French,
- Portuguese.

COSTS:

Thanks to the support of the EYF, VIDES International can contribute up to **200€ for each participant's travel (round ticket)** and 250€ for each participant meals and accommodation costs upon the presentation of the following proof:

- invoice of flights/train/bus booking and proof of the ticket used (for flights keep the boarding pass, for bus/trains keep the ticket itself).

HOW TO APPLY:

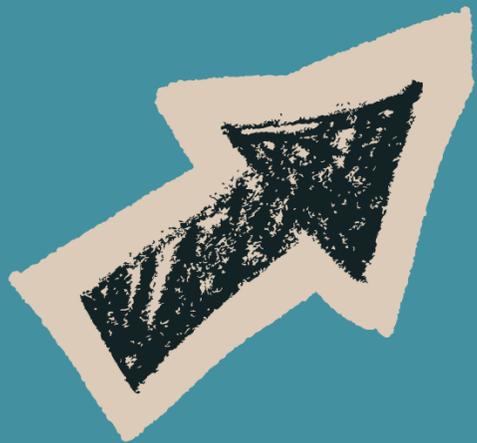
Interested candidates are invited to apply through the official application form to be filled in directly online. You can access it here.

The application period closes by 30 March 2026, and the selection results will be announced by beginning of May, more detailed information will be provided to selected participants.

Contact: for further information, please contact:
videsprojects@vides.org

APPLY NOW

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THIS ACTIVITY IS POSSIBLE THANKS TO THE FUNDING FROM THE EUROPEAN YOUTH FOUNDATION OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE.

