

London, 09 October 2017

Application Information for Participants and Note on Administrative Arrangements



'Training course of trainers on addressing hate speech through human rights education and counter narratives'

27 November - 1 December 2017, London, United Kingdom

Deadline applications: **22 October 2017**

In Partnership with:
The Commonwealth Secretariat's Youth Division
The Commonwealth Secretariat's Countering Violent Extremism Unit
The Council of Europe's Youth Department

Background Information

The Commonwealth Secretariat promotes democracy, rule of law, human rights, good governance and social and economic development and is a voice for small states and a champion for youth empowerment. Through the work of the Youth Division, the Commonwealth Secretariat supports member states in integrating and valuing youth in political and democratic processes which allows the young people to participate meaningfully and take forward youth-led initiatives. This work includes a focus on creating an enabling environment for social, political and economic empowerment of young people through policy. The Commonwealth Secretariat's Countering Violent Extremism Unit (CVE) work complements the Youth Division's work by assisting member states to develop, define, and understand the phenomenon of violent extremism as it relates to their specific context, and then to strategize, plan and act accordingly. The Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassadors Network serves as a platform for youth activists to engage and network with others on peace and PVE/CVE initiatives across the Commonwealth.



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The Council of Europe as an intergovernmental organisation focuses on promoting human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Europe within its 47 member states. The organisations Youth sector elaborates guidelines, programmes and legal instruments for the development of coherent and effective youth policies at local, national and European levels. It provides funding and educational support for international youth activities aiming at the promotion of youth citizenship, youth mobility and the value of human rights, democracy and cultural pluralism. It seeks to bring together and disseminate expertise and knowledge about the life situations, aspirations and ways of expression of young Europeans. The Youth Department is part of the Directorate of Democratic Citizenship and Participation of the Council of Europe.

The Commonwealth Secretariat and the Council of Europe wish to strengthen their cooperation for the purpose of achieving their common aims within the context of the Commonwealth Charter and the Council of Europe conventions, Resolutions and recommendations for the promotion and protection of human rights, democracy and the Rule of Law. Partners are interested to *exploring the extension of the No Hate Speech Movement, its campaign methodology, resources and related initiatives, through a pilot into Commonwealth regions commencing with a training of trainers and educators.*

The Commonwealth Youth Peace Ambassadors Network (CYPAN) aims to provide an enabling and facilitating environment to grow and sustain youth-led initiatives in championing the Peace & Security agenda. It is the intention of the Commonwealth to mainstream peace within the policy and practice of socio-economic, cultural and political spheres of development by providing a platform for knowledge sharing and synergy with all peace practitioners, providing transformative advocacy, and upscaling the efficiency and significance of youth-led work on peace. CYPAN promotes young people as key actors and partners in enhancing the integration of peace among all members of society including youth, women, civil society, marginalized groups and other stakeholders in leveraging a commitment to prevent and manage conflict, promote peace, and fight radicalization and violent extremism.

The [No Hate Speech Movement](#) is a youth campaign of the Council of Europe to promote human rights online, to reduce the levels of acceptance of hate speech, and to develop online youth participation and citizenship, including in Internet governance processes. The campaign is currently in 44 countries and has been running since 2012 and emphasises the role of the online dimension of hate speech and its potential damage on democratic processes that can inspire action.

The regional and cultural diversity of the Commonwealth, and the fact that 60% of Commonwealth citizens are below 30, requires that intentional and consistent action be taken that includes partnerships with, and participation of, young people on matters of hate speech, violence, conflict and extremism, in order to promote sustainable peace. A campaign on Hate Speech which strongly includes counter/alternative narratives is complementary to the work of the Commonwealth as it relates to building peace and countering violent extremism, as it recognises that hatred and intolerance for difference and diversity can manifest itself in the form of hate speech.



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The Training Course

The Commonwealth Secretariat will host the five-day training of trainers to empower youth leaders from its member states to develop a youth led coordinated approach to address hate speech, and strengthen support for human rights and dialogue through non formal education and awareness raising actions.

Aim and Objectives:

The training course aims to develop the competences of youth workers, youth leaders, educators, and government officials active with young people to work with young people through human rights education to develop counter and alternative narratives to hate speech and violent radicalisation.

The training course objectives include to:

- Develop participants' competences to address hate speech through human rights education
- Develop participants' competences to use counter and alternative narratives to promote human rights and democratic values
- Develop participants' competences to use the manuals 'Bookmarks' and 'We CAN' with young people.
- Develop proposals for off-/online initiatives to address hate speech and violent radicalisation within the programmes of the Commonwealth Secretariat's Youth Division (YTH) and Countering Violent Extremism Unit on the format of the No Hate Speech Movement of the Council of Europe
- Develop participants' competences in creating effective peace building and counter violent extremism programmes,
- Develop participants' competence in supporting and managing youth led peace networks or other youth led groups

Profile of Participants

The training course will reflect the regional diversity of the Commonwealth and invites Commonwealth citizens whom are active as youth leaders or activists, youth workers, educators and government officials active with young people on peace building, dialogue or human rights through awareness-raising and educational activities. Special preference will be given to candidates whom are citizens of countries that experience violent extremism in one of its many forms.

Particular conditions, applicants must be:

- Commonwealth Citizen
- Youth Applicants should be between the ages of 18 and 29
- Submit a completed application by 22 October 2017
- Available for the full duration of the training course
- Preference will be given to applicants who have not attended a Commonwealth funded training session or workshop in the past year



Note on Administrative Arrangements

Date and Venue

a) Date and Time

The Meeting will commence at 9.00am on Monday 27 November 2017 and conclude at 5.00pm on Friday 01 December 2017.

b) Venue

Marlborough House
Pall Mall, London, UK
SW12 5HX
Phone: +44 (0)20 7747 6500

Visa, Immigration and Customs Regulations

With few exceptions, all person entering the United Kingdom must be in possession of a valid passport. Participants are advised to ascertain the entry requirements for the UK, and if applicable obtain the necessary transit visas prior to departure from their home countries for all segments of travel.

Please note that it is the responsibility of the participant to obtain his/her own visa prior to departure from their home country. The Commonwealth Secretariat can only issue a letter of invitation and any other related documents to facilitate the visa, but is not in a position, in any way, to influence the decisions of the Government of the United Kingdom or any countries you may transit through. You are kindly requested to get in touch with your local UK consulate for further intimation and apply for your visa early enough in order to avoid delays. Please also note that your air ticket will be issued only after confirmation of receipt of necessary visas.

Travel Arrangements

The Commonwealth Secretariat will provide funded participants with a return economy class ticket by the most direct route to London, UK. The Secretariat will also cover any incurred visa costs for funded participants.

Please kindly ensure to include the Traveller Form with your application. Applications received without a completed Traveller Form will be considered incomplete and rejected. If you are successful in your application, you will be issued with a travel itinerary for perusal and confirmation. The ticket will then be issued and NO Changes will be allowed thereafter.



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All participants' tickets are subject to restrictions, relevant conditions stipulated for the ticket will apply once issued. Ticket alterations may not be possible, however if so, any additional expense incurred for changes will be at the participant's own expense.

Participants are responsible for any baggage fees incurred and the Commonwealth Secretariat will not reimburse you for any baggage fees.

Airport Transfer and Local Transportation

Participants are responsible for their travel to and from their home airport. Participants travelling to and from London Gatwick, London Luton, or London Stansted will be reimbursed for their train ticket upon presentation to the designated officer at the training conference. Participants travelling to and from London Heathrow or London City Airport are expected to buy oyster cards and will be reimbursed for the oyster card fare. The Secretariat is not in a position to reimburse for taxis, ubers, or mini cabs. The Secretariat will provide all participants an oyster card with a weekly travel card for Zone 1 to facilitate travel between the hostel and the meeting venue.

Accommodation and Meals

a) Accommodation

The Commonwealth Secretariat has arranged and will pay for accommodation on Bed & Breakfast basis for funded participants at the Generator Hostel.

b) Meals

- Breakfast will be provided to those staying in the hostel.
- Lunch will be provided on meetings days.
- Cash per diem will be provided to funded participants for other meals in GBP at a rate of £10 per meal.

c) Additional Expenses

All additional expense such as extra meals, telephone, laundry, room service charges and gratuity, alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages, and all costs for room services, printing and faxing will be at the participant's own expense. The hostel has been instructed to invoice participants for chargeable services/items used/consumed, on or prior to departure from the hostel. All accounts must be settled in advance of departure.

Financial and Travel Arrangements

Funder participants will be provided with an allowance to cover additional meals and incidentals. Participants are required to present their boarding passes to the designated officer Ms Patricia Crosby in order to collect their allowance.



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If participants have had any unavoidable overnight stays in other cities/countries as part of their travel itineraries, please ensure a copy of the airport transfers and airport hotel are handed over to Ms Crosby. Without these documents reimbursement will not be made.

General Information

- a) Dress code: The dress code is business casual
- b) Weather: Please note that weather in November can be cold and wet in London as it is the beginning of winter. Please check the weather before you come and ensure you bring appropriate clothing.
- c) Mobile phones: while they are an integral aspect of the workshop, we would ask that they are put away during session where they are not required.
- d) Smoking: all meeting rooms at the Marlborough House and also the hostel are non-smoking rooms. We would kindly ask that you refrain from smoking outside of designated areas.
- e) Time in London: Time in London is GMT.

Contacts for Further Information

For further information about the training course, please contact p.crosby@commonwealth.int