



**YOUTH
POLICY
LABS**

Summer Academy

24-30 July 2016

Berlin, Germany

WWW.YOUTHPOLICY.ORG

Introduction

The challenges facing young people today are massive. Whether it is youth unemployment, low-quality education, lack of healthcare, civil conflict, violence and abuse, or political repression, the issues impacting on the lives of young people are complex and increasing.

From the halls of the United Nations to the streets of capital cities around the world, young people frequently remind us of their powerful ability to react when governments fail them and their determination to achieve a better life for themselves, their family and their communities.

In response, governments and parliaments are increasingly seeing national youth policies as the vehicle through which to channel and mobilise resources for young people. For these to be effective, highly-skilled and professionally trained staff within governments and international agencies are required to transform policies into practical improvements in the lives of youth.

The First Global Forum on Youth Policies, hosted by the UN Secretary General's Envoy on Youth, UNDP, UNESCO and the Council of Europe, was an important milestone for the youth sector. With a renewed political commitment to youth policy development, the Summer Academy aims to support practitioners in the technical aspects: designing, implementing and evaluating youth and public policies.

The Youth Policy Labs Summer Academy aims to ensure participants leave with a clear plan, a network of supporters and the knowledge needed to make decent policies for young people happen.

The academy has the following aims:

- » **Understand** the current state of youth policy globally, the rise of youth-specific policies and the international response to youth challenges;
- » **Consider** the implications and limitations of youth indices, youth research and international benchmarks for youth development;
- » **Interrogate** the conventions and frameworks that underpin best-practice on youth policy development;
- » **Share** best-practice on youth policy amongst participants, using the professional experiences of others as tools for learning and development;
- » **Use** the international principles established at the First Global Forum on Youth Policies to evaluate national youth policies and strategies;
- » **Meet** with city, national and regional governmental representatives to consider the European approaches to youth policy and understand the specific policy and implementation challenges across the region;
- » **Develop** a concrete action plan for strengthening, and advocating for, national youth policies and strategies at a country level.

The Academy

The Programme

In order to strengthen and build the capacity of professionals working on youth policy development, the Academy will provide the latest thinking, tools and best-practice when it comes to responding to the needs, challenges and aspirations of young people.

The programme will include technical input from our team of youth policy practitioners and we'll be joined by leading figures from the international youth sector for expert input. This will include senior officials from the United Nations, parliamentarians, academics and activists.

The Academy will include a mixture of presentations, workshops, group work and individual study.

Participants will spend time in smaller learning groups at the start and end of each day to reflect on learning and challenges throughout the week. The facilitators will adopt a non-formal approach to learning, with the experiences of other participants used to strengthen the development of the group – complementing the more formal, lecture style inputs.

The programme is subject to change and will be shared with participants in advance. The programme will be conducted entirely in English.

We will host a welcome and farewell party and will spend one evening in central Berlin outside of the training venue. We want to create a week of intellectual engagement, but in a friendly and supportive atmosphere.

Our indicative day-to-day programme

| Day | Monday 25th July 2016 | Tuesday 26th July 2016 | Wednesday 27th July 2016 | Thursday 28th July 2016 | Friday 29th July 2016 |
|-----------|---|--|---|---|--|
| Morning | Introduction: youth rights, realities and frustrations | Principles & frameworks underpinning youth policy development | The Baku Principles on Youth Policy Development: Evaluating national youth policies | Establishing indicators for youth policy monitoring | Finalising action plans for improving country level youth policies |
| Afternoon | A national and global response: an international perspective on the rise and importance of youth policy | Youth Indices: the impact on national policies and legislation | | Study visit to the German parliament & Directorate for Children and Youth | Creating a community of youth policy professionals |
| Evening | Welcome dinner | Free evening | Free evening | Evening in Central Berlin | Farewell evening |

You: The prospective participants

The Academy is designed for those who play a leading role in the design, implementation and/or evaluation of national youth policies, strategies or public policies that directly impact on the lives of young people. The programme will be a technical exploration of youth policy development and participants should be working in a professional capacity on youth.

We anticipate the Academy being of most value to:

- » **Youth policy makers:** civil servants, parliamentarians and staff working within ministries or agencies responsible for youth policy development;
- » **International organisations and development agencies:** those promoting youth policies and providing support and technical assistance to member states or partner countries;
- » **Youth organisations and civil society:** those outside of government, such as national youth organisations and agencies, taking a lead role in implementing and advocating for youth policies;
- » **Academics and researchers:** those interested in the evaluation of youth policies, youth research and evidence-based approaches.

30 participants will be selected to join the Academy. We aim to bring together a range of participants from different continents, sectors and experiences during the Academy. Participants must be over 18 years of age.

Us: The organising team

We are Youth Policy Labs, the think tank running youthpolicy.org, where we build a global evidence-base for youth policy. Our team is made up of youth policy experts, youth researchers, and youth workers, with the combined experience and skill needed to balance - and often mediate - the needs of government, international agencies and civil society, while promoting substantial participation of young people.

We have worked on youth issues in all major regions of the world, including in Colombia, Egypt, Hungary, Kazakhstan, Palestine, Kyrgyzstan, Mongolia, Nepal, Swaziland, Tunisia and Uganda. We work with international agencies and inter-governmental organisations, including UNICEF, The Commonwealth Secretariat, the European Commission and the African Union, and collaboratively with local partners, with a keen and sensitive eye for translating an international perspective to domestic socio-political, cultural and economic contexts.

As the technical partner of the First Global Forum on Youth Policies, we provided support to the UN Secretary-General's Envoy on Youth, UNDP, UNESCO, and the Council of Europe in developing the thematic programme, as well facilitated the Forum itself. The Forum brought together 700 representatives from government, civil society, international agencies and academia, including delegations from 115 governments, and was the largest UN-hosted youth-focused event since 1998.

Details and application process

Dates, venue & accommodation

The Academy will take place from the 24th-30th July 2016. Participants will be expected to arrive into Berlin by Sunday 24th July, with accommodation provided from that night. The 25th-29th July will be full working days, with an anticipated day running from 09:30 – 18:00. Participants will be required to check-out of the hotel on Saturday 30th July.

The Academy will take place at “Seminaris Campus Hotel Berlin” with the training and accommodation both on campus. The campus is located in Berlin, around 30 minutes from the city centre. The venue has a university campus atmosphere, with modern facilities and an excellent training environment. There is a gym, lounge bar, and outside leisure area – perfect for the summer weather!

Our venue: Seminaris Campus Hotel Berlin



Costing

Participation in the Academy costs 2250 EUR, payable in advance of the Academy.

This cost **includes**:

- » tuition fees;
- » twin-room hotel accommodation (room shared with one other participant of the same gender) and full board at the Seminaris campus;
- » use of venue training and leisure facilities;
- » printed training materials and course handbook;
- » local travel for course study visits.

Participants can opt for single room accommodation at an additional cost of €150 for the 6 nights.

The cost **excludes**:

- » international air travel;
- » airport transfers;
- » visas;
- » travel and medical insurance.

These costs are fully the responsibility of participants. Supporting materials and invitation letters will be provided to support Schengen visa applications.

Expression of Interest

30 participants will be selected to join the Summer Academy.

To express interest in joining the Academy:

1. Please complete the online application form by **April 11th 2016, at 23:59 CET**. The Expression of Interest form can be found at:

www.youthpolicy.org/blog/youth-research-knowledge/academy/

2. Those selected to attend the Academy, and those placed on the waiting list, will be notified by **April 15th 2016**.
3. Following this, an invoice will be sent for a 20%, non-refundable deposit (€450), which is payable by **May 11th 2016**. If payment is not received by this date, your place will be given to someone on the waiting list.
4. The full tuition payment must be received by **June 7th 2016**. Your place on the Academy is only secured when the deposit payment has been received.

Cancellation

After submission of the application and acceptance onto the Academy, the following conditions will be applied in the event of cancellation:

- » Cancellation by 16th June 2016: 60% of participation fee (excluding the deposit) returned, minus international bank transfer costs;
- » Cancellation by 30th June 2016: 40% of participation fee returned (excluding the deposit), minus international bank transfer costs;
- » Cancellation by 14th July 2016: 20% of participation fee returned (excluding the deposit), minus international bank transfer costs;
- » After the 15th July 2016 there will be no refund available.

Withdrawal from the course must be submitted by email.

In the event that the Academy is cancelled by Youth Policy Labs, full fees and the deposit will be returned. However, no other liabilities (e.g. visa fees or travel costs) will be reimbursed.

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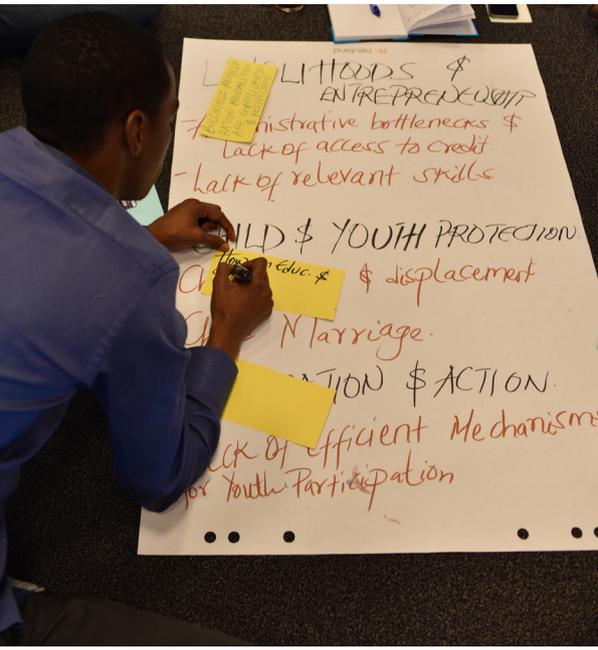
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The First Global Forum on Youth Policies, held in October 2014 in Baku, Azerbaijan, and a Youth Policy Labs seminar held in Berlin, Germany, in 2015
 Photos by Dilaver Najafov and Youth Policy Labs





Our Global Young Researchers Lab,
held in Berlin, Germany, 2015

Photo by Youth Policy Labs



For more information contact Alex Farrow at alex@youthpolicy.org.

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