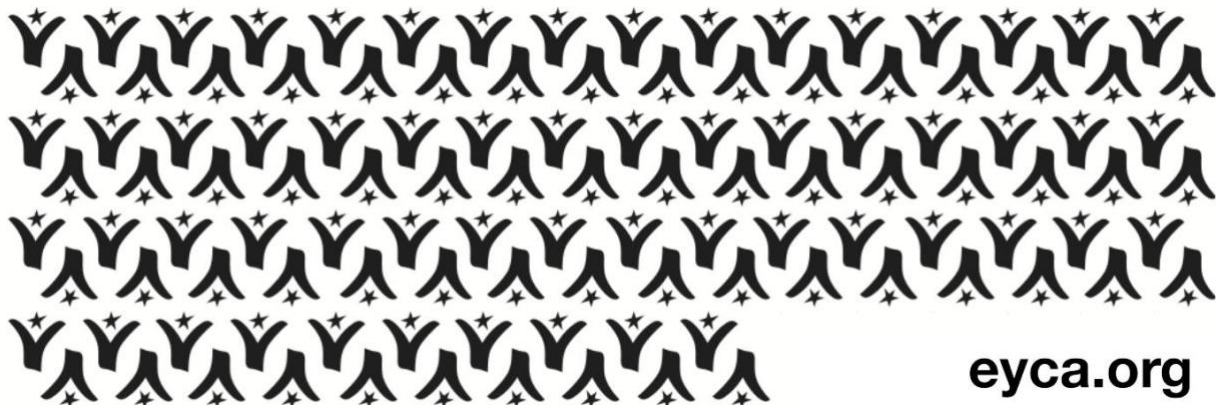


## Partial Agreement Seminar: *'Youth as promoters of sustainability: the EYC as a tool to reinforce sustainable mobility'*

29 November – 1<sup>st</sup> December 2023  
Vitoria Gasteiz, Basque Country, Spain

Seminar of the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card and the European Youth Card Association (EYCA)

CONCEPT AND DRAFT PROGRAMME



## Introduction

Sustainability is a topic with multiple meanings and the young generation is one of its strongest promoters. From sustainable traveling, to sustainable fashion and being more aware of their behavior as consumers, young people are demanding companies and brands to be environmentally aware, while keeping political representatives accountable for their positions on protecting the Planet.

EYCA has as a core mission to encourage youth mobility, as a means to break cultural barriers, empower youth as global citizens and promote human rights sensitivity. The EYC in itself is a tool that offers access to different benefits young people need during their journey: from transport to accommodation, leisure and cultural experiences. We strive to remain sustainable and relevant for young people, as one of the reliable stakeholders in the European youth field.

The seminar offers a space for debate, update and participation of decision makers, young people, youth workers and private sector around the topic of sustainability.

Objectives of the event:

- 1) Create synergies between public sector, youth card organisations, NGOs, young people and companies to advance sustainability in youth mobility;
- 2) Offer a unique space for members of the PA on Youth Mobility to build stronger partnerships with the European Youth Card organisations in their countries;
- 3) Identify concrete ways to use the EYC as a means to provide young people with green and digital services in smart cities (and beyond).

## About the organizers

**The Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card** exists since 1991 and is a programme of the Council of Europe<sup>1</sup> aimed at developing the youth card scheme, particularly at European level, in the best interests of young people with a view to facilitating their mobility as well as access to the various goods and services necessary for their personal and cultural development.

**The European Youth Card Association (EYCA)** groups over 35 youth card organisations all over Europe and is the Partial Agreement's statutory partner. EYCA's vision is a Europe where all young people are mobile and active (socially, culturally, educationally and economically). EYCA's mission to reach this objective consists in delivering quality youth card services and in contributing to a better policy on youth mobility and active citizenship. Today, over six million youth cardholders benefit from youth card opportunities.

**Government of Euskadi, General Secretariat for Social Transition and Agenda 2023 – Youth Direction** is the host of the event and the public institution responsible for youth policies, youth agenda and youth emancipation in the Basque Region of Spain. The institution provides young people with the free European Youth Card, facilitating their transition to economic independence and social inclusion.

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<sup>1</sup> The Council of Europe is the leading Pan-European international organisation promoting inclusive, human-rights based youth policies.

## Practical information

All participation related costs are covered by the organisers, as it followed:

Accommodation and food will be provided by the **Government of Euskadi** in single rooms in a three stars hotel close to the venue meeting.

International travel related costs are reimbursed by EYCA, through the PA on Youth Mobility, upon receiving the travel documents. Reimbursement will be done in maximum three weeks after attending the seminar.

## Transport

The participants are responsible for arranging their own travel possibly in a most economical way. More information about the local transport will be offered at a later state.

EYCA will reimburse international travel costs upon receiving the justificative documents, **up to 400 euros/person** and the tickets need to be booked at least 15 days in advance before travelling.

- Request for reimbursement (to be sent to all attendees)
- E-ticket/ invoice / train/bus tickets clearly showing the paid amount
- Traveling by car: 0.40 Euros/km, upon receiving the gas receipt

The participants' travel to and from the event as well as their stay during the study visit will be covered by the Council of Europe insurance.

The organisers do not offer a pre-booked ticket.

## Visa

Those participants who need visa to travel to Spain are requested to fill in Appendix III and send a scanned copy of their passport. Please note that the organisers will assist with obtaining a visa for the selected participants.

## Confirmation

Please express your interest in participating in this event **by latest 22nd of October** by filling in the online application form [available at this link](#).

If you require visa, please fill in the form '*Visa application information*' at the end of this document and attach a passport copy, sending it to [youthmobility@coe.int](mailto:youthmobility@coe.int) within the same deadline.

All selected participants will be contacted by 1<sup>st</sup> November the latest and will have to book their travel in maximum one week after being selected.

## Contact

Regarding participation and visa issues: [youthmobility@coe.int](mailto:youthmobility@coe.int)

Regarding practical arrangements: Corina Pirvulescu, EYCA: [corina.pirvulescu@eyca.org](mailto:corina.pirvulescu@eyca.org)

## DRAFT PROGRAMME

DAY 0   Wednesday 29 <sup>th</sup> November	
Until 20.00	Arrival of participants and dinner
DAY 1   Thursday 30 <sup>nd</sup> November	
09.15 – 10.00	<p><b>Welcome</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basque Country Regional Government representative</li> <li>• Council of Europe</li> <li>• EYCA Board</li> <li>• EYCA Director</li> </ul>
10.00 – 10.30	<p><b>Aim and objectives of this seminar</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• mapping the audience</li> <li>• expectations</li> <li>• brief presentation of EYC scheme and PA on Youth Mobility</li> </ul>
10.30 – 11.15	<p><b>Keynote speaker on sustainability: Between policy compromises and greenwashing. Youth pushing the Green Agenda.</b></p>
11.15 – 11.45	Coffee break
11.45 -13.30	<p><b>Good practices from EYCA members (TBC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government of Euskadi - Spain</li> <li>• National Youth Council of Czech Republic</li> <li>• SLOAM – Slovenia</li> </ul> <p>Questions and Answers session</p>
13.30 – 15.00	<b>Lunch break</b>
15.00 – 17.00	<p><b>Field visit: stakeholders working together for sustainability in Vitoria Gasteiz</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local public administration</li> <li>• European Green Capital</li> <li>• NGO working on sustainability</li> <li>• Industry representative (someone in hospitality sector)</li> </ul>
17.30 – 18.00	Debrief of the day at a sustainable cafeteria
18.00 – 19.00	<b>Guided tour in the city</b>
20.30 – 22.30	Dinner in the city in a traditional restaurant

<b>DAY 2   1<sup>st</sup> December</b>	
9.30 -10.00	Welcome back and recap of the previous day
10.00 – 11.00	<p><b>Cities’ challenges in their race to Net Zero</b></p> <p><i><b>Presentations from networks of cities (examples) – all TBC</b></i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Eurocities</li> <li>• Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)</li> <li>• NetZero Cities project</li> </ul>
11.00 – 11.30	Coffee break
11.30 – 13.00	<p><b>Untapping the potential of EYC in achieving sustainable cities. Working groups on:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nudging behaviours of young citizens (ex. of rewards system with EYC)</li> <li>• Culture as a vector to promote sustainability &amp; EYC role</li> <li>• Promoting sustainable mobility of youth</li> </ul> <p>Presentation of results</p>
13.00 – 14.00	<p><b>Good practices from EYCA members (TBC)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MOVIOJovem – Portugal</li> <li>• CCAA Valencia – European Green Capital 2024</li> </ul> <p>Closing session</p>
14.00 – 15.30	Lunch break and departures

## VISA APPLICATION INFORMATION

Do you need a visa?

No

Yes

If yes, please fill in the following information (as spelled out in your passport) and **attach a copy of your passport:**

First name	
Last name	
Date of birth	
Passport number	
Time and place of issue	
Valid till	
Place where you will apply for a multiple Schengen visa	
Place of studying/ work and your position	
Address of the educational establishment/ employer	

**DEADLINE – 22 OCTOBER 2023**

**ALL APPLICATIONS SHOULD BE SENT TO**  
[youthmobility@coe.int](mailto:youthmobility@coe.int)