

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

NETWORK OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Organised by:

DYPALL
NETWORK

EDYN
European Democracy Youth Network



AER
Assembly of European Regions

Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE

SQLearn
e-learning experts



Supported by:

CLIMBING
THE LADDER


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ABOUT THE PROJECT

The **Climbing the Ladder (CL-YE)** project addresses the need for effective and meaningful structures, mechanisms and spaces for the active engagement of young people in policy-making and decision-making processes, at local, regional, national and European levels. It is coordinated by DYPALL Network in cooperation with the following partners: Europiamo ETS (Italy), Nordland County Council (Norway), SQ Learn (Greece), European Democracy Youth Network (Slovakia), YEPP Europe (Germany) and the Assembly of European Regions (France).

You can explore the project website at [this link](#).

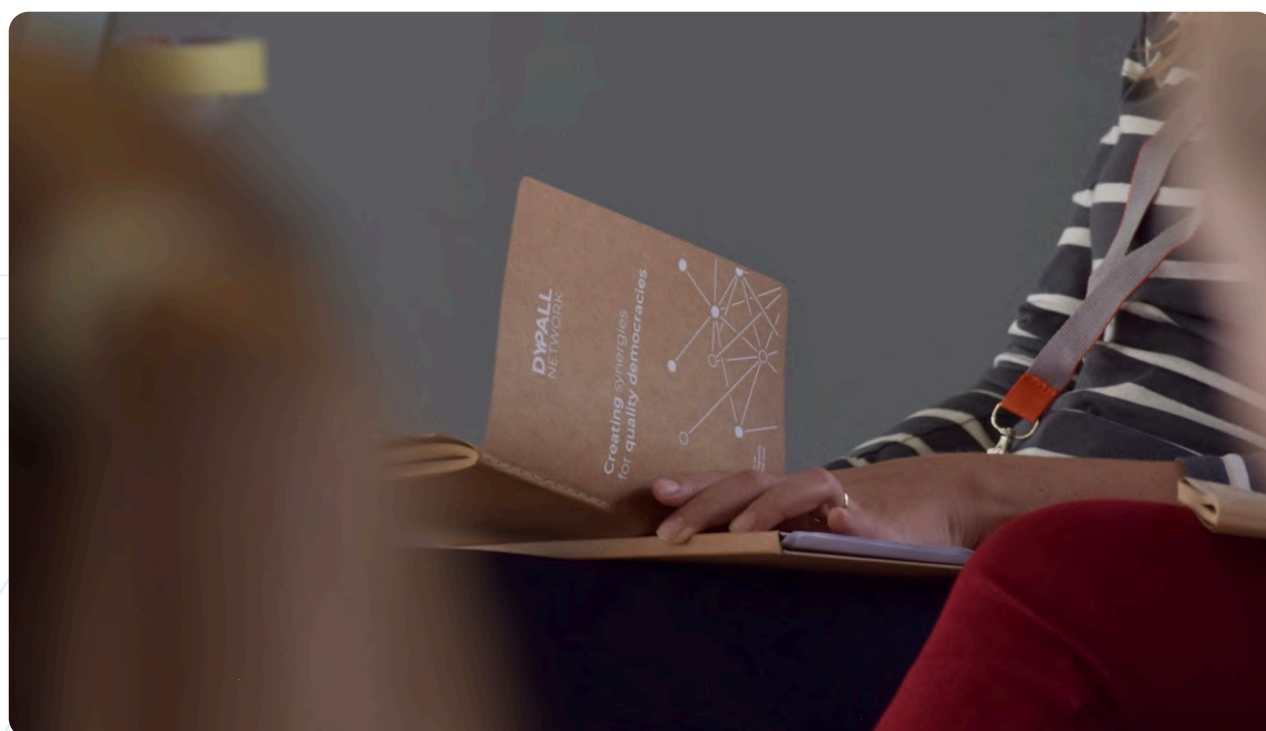
ABOUT THE COORDINATORS OF THE NETWORK

This process will be led by DYPALL Network and the European *Democracy Youth Network within the Climbing the Ladder - Fostering a culture of youth engagement* project.

DYPALL Network (Developing Youth Participation at the Local Level) is a European platform of civil society organisations, local authorities and research institutions that focus on youth participation in decision-making processes at the local level. We stand for active and meaningful involvement of young people in local democracies through cooperation with local authorities and we provide the space and the resources for capacity building and exchange of good practices among our members.

The **European Democracy Youth Network (EDYN)** is a network of over 820 young political and civil society leaders from 23 countries, committed to strengthening democracy across Europe and beyond. It fosters cross-partisan collaboration, provides leadership development opportunities, and supports initiatives that promote democratic resilience, youth participation, and civic engagement. Through capacity-building programs, mentorship, and advocacy efforts, EDYN empowers young changemakers to drive positive political and social change in their communities.

For more information



ABOUT THE NETWORK OF ELECTED OFFICIALS

Take this opportunity to be part of a unique Network of Local and Regional policymakers

Are you an elected official at the local or regional level, committed to engaging young people in policy-making? Are you interested in connecting with like-minded policymakers from across Europe? We invite you to apply for the **Informal Network of Elected Officials**, an initiative designed to foster exchange, collaboration, and policy innovation in the field of youth engagement.

Through this initiative, we will create an informal yet impactful network of around 30 elected officials from different European countries, who share a strong commitment to inclusive governance and youth participation in decision-making processes. This network will be part of the “Climbing the Ladder: Fostering a Culture of Youth Engagement” (CL-YE) project.

Why should you join?

By joining this informal network, you will:

- Connect and collaborate with fellow policymakers across Europe.
- Share best practices and innovative approaches to youth engagement in policy-making.
- Gain early access to key project deliverables, including a draft version of a digital platform designed to enhance youth participation.
- Participate in high-level discussions on shaping inclusive policies at the local and regional levels.

Key activities planned:

- **Online preparatory webinar (May 2025):** an interactive session to introduce the network, outline key objectives, and begin discussions on youth engagement strategies.
- **In-person high-level meeting in Strasbourg (June 2025):** a dynamic event offering a platform for knowledge exchange, networking, and the dissemination of project deliverables.
- **Optional follow-up online meeting (September 2025):** a space to discuss the next steps, deepen connections, and explore opportunities for continued collaboration.
- **Ongoing digital networking space:** a dedicated platform for participants to stay connected, share insights, and collaborate beyond the events.

PROFILE OF PARTICIPANTS

We are looking for elected officials at the local and regional levels who meet the following criteria:

- Hold an elected position in a municipal, provincial, or regional public administration within Europe.
- Demonstrate a commitment to youth engagement in policy-making.
- Show interest in exchanging best practices and collaborating with peers from other European countries.
- Are available to attend both the online preparatory webinar and the in-person meeting in Strasbourg.

IMPORTANT: participants must be from one of the Member States of the European Union or countries associated to the Erasmus+ programme (North Macedonia, Serbia, Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, Türkiye).

THE HIGH-LEVEL MEETING IN STRASBOURG

The general aim of this high-level meeting is to establish an Informal Network of Elected Officials (at local and regional levels, in public administrations).

Key objectives of the meeting:

- To provide a space for networking, exchange of experiences and exploration of key challenges and opportunities connected to being an elected official, striving for youth engagement in policy-making;
- To present and promote the main deliverables of the project “Climbing the Ladder of Youth Engagement,” including the digital platform currently being developed to guide practitioners and policymakers in establishing mechanisms for young people's engagement.

Methodology:

Activities will be based on non-formal education principles, stimulating active participation and creating a safe space for expression and exchange of views. We will combine a mix of group work, plenary discussions, interactive presentations, study visits at relevant institutions in Strasbourg and reflection moments to harvest the main outcomes of the three working days.



PRACTICAL INFORMATION FOR THE EVENT IN STRASBOURG

The activity will take place in Strasbourg (France).

- Arrival day is 3rd June 2025 (preferably by 5 pm, but not mandatory).
- Departure day is 6th June 2025 (anytime).
- Travelling a maximum of 2 days before or 2 days after the designated travel dates is allowed. Travel tickets for lengthier travels will not be eligible for reimbursement.
- In the case of arriving earlier or departing after the designated travel days please note that the organisers will not cover the cost of your stay for the extra days.
- Flight tickets shall be bought only after confirmation from the organisers. Travel expenses to and from the venue will be reimbursed up to a maximum per country/per participant (including all travel costs from the participant's home to the venue) depending on the distance:
 - 100 – 499 km: 180 EUR
 - 500 – 1999 km: 275 EUR
 - 2000 – 2999 km: 360 EUR
 - 3000 – 3999 km: 530 EUR
- Reimbursement will be done via bank transfer after the activity (within 2 months).
- Accommodation and meals will be provided by the organisers. Please note that the accommodation will be provided in single rooms.
- There is no participation fee.



APPLICATION PROCEDURE

To apply for participation in this activity please fill in the online application form:

<https://forms.gle/hWYcNCcSq8sBbhrZ8>

The deadline for applying is 04th March 2025 by 23.59 CET.

FUNDING

The Climbing the Ladder project project is organised by DYPALL Network within Climbing the Ladder - fostering a culture of youth engagement project, co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union (KA3, European Youth Together).

For more information: <https://erasmus-plus.ec.europa.eu/programme-guide/part-b/key-action-3/youth-together>

CONTACTS

In case you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact Samantha Wright at samantha.wright@dypall.com





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