



Strengthening Political Youth Organisations

+ International Youth Conference

16 July – 28 July 2023

Gummersbach, Germany

Abstract

Do young people lack interest in politics? Or do we mimic outdated styles in our youth organisations? In this fast-paced era, a crucial need is to understand the main characteristics of a successful political youth organisation. While this may vary from country to country, there are things that we can agree on as the pillars of successful youth participation. Political youth organisations are the first contact point for many citizens entering the political arena. Thus, these organisations play a significant role in shaping and equipping youth with the needed skills and knowledge to become future leaders. This 12-days seminar will be an extensive exchange among political youth organisations leaders from around the globe on the essential aspects to consider when running youth organisations. We will tackle strategic planning, political education, communication, organisational structure, and much more. The seminar will be filled with talks with experts, working groups, heated discussions, and an excursion to Berlin, including participating in FNF's **International Youth Conference**, where you have the chance to develop ideas and network with like-minded youth from Germany and Europe.

TOPICS

- The Values of Political Youth Work
- The Strategy of Political Youth Work
- The Structure of Political Youth Work
- The Organisation of Political Youth Work
- The Communication of Political Youth Work

TARGET GROUP

Young representatives of liberal political youth organisations. Participants should be active members of these organisations (activists, board members or leaders on local, regional or (inter-)national level) and have knowledge about their organisation and at least some experiences with political work. Participants should be interested in the subject from a personal, practical and political point of view rather than from an observing or academic perspective. Youth organisations can but need not be affiliated to a political party.

METHODOLOGY

The Seminar will have a mix of training methodologies, from experts' input to group work, debates, excursions and self-reflections. Be prepared to have an active role in the seminar! This style depends on the expertise of the participants and the shared knowledge among them.

OBJECTIVES

- To analyse and critique the current styles and structures of youth organisations.
- To explore ways of making our political youth organisations more fit for the current political climate and more attractive for youth.
- To identify the key elements of successful political youth organisations and develop strategies for implementing them in different contexts and cultures.
- To provide a platform for political youth organisation leaders to exchange experiences, ideas, and best practices and learn from each other's successes and challenges.

Facilitators



Petra Franke

Petra Franke became involved with politics at the early age of 15. Over twenty years of political commitment in different positions at the local and regional level give her a profound practical experience. By profession, she is a political scientist and facilitator; her areas of work are liberal values, policy development, strategic planning and campaigning. She currently works for the parliamentary group of the FDP in the state parliament of North Rhine-Westphalia as a Strategic Consultant.



Hussam Erhayel

The Executive Director of the International Federation of Liberal Youth and former Jordan Projects Coordinator at the Friedrich-Naumann Foundation for Freedom. Graduated from the German Jordanian University and currently studying Public Administration at the Hertie School in Berlin. Through his 9+ years of work experience in Political Education, Erhayel designed, lead, and co-facilitated several seminars and conferences, including seminars on Networking, NGO management and the Foundations of the Open Society at the International Academy for Leadership (IAF).

The Foundation

We, the Friedrich Naumann Foundation for Freedom, promote individual liberty, free and open societies and free markets in Germany and throughout the world. To us freedom is the guiding principle in policy making. We believe that free and open societies are the only societies that allow human beings to decide for themselves what is best, to develop their full potential and to pursue their dreams. This is what we mean when we claim to value human dignity. And it is freedom that produces prosperity. Together with our counterparts – who all share a similar set of values – we support initiatives in Germany and abroad that serve to enhance respect for the rule of law, private property and human rights, that foster tolerance and that strengthen economic freedom rights and democracy.

The programs of the Foundation's International Academy for Leadership (IAF) form an integral part of our international work and offer Liberals from all parts of the world opportunities to engage in dialogue, an exchange of ideas, networking and cooperation. We aim to inspire.

Venue: **International Academy for Leadership (IAF)**
Theodor-Heuss-Straße 26
51645 Gummersbach
Germany

Language: English

Registration: 21 April 2023

Registration fee: 260.00 €



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