



Memorandum of Commitment between ECYC Member Organisations

The Memorandum of Commitment is a statement of agreement between ECYC members which is a commitment by all parties as to how we cooperate. It should be understood as positive encouragement for active participation in ECYC. It gives members the opportunity to challenge each other in the spirit of constructive criticism.

ECYC Vision

ECYC aims to empower young people through open youth work and non-formal learning in order to promote democratic and civil society and to encourage young people to be actively involved in their communities.

Purpose and aims

The purpose of ECYC is to work cooperatively so that young people across Europe have access to quality open youth work opportunities.

ECYC aims to:

- Promote understanding of open youth work and the active involvement by young people in their communities.
- Promote exchange and sharing of knowledge between open youth work organisations.
- Develop a body of knowledge on open youth work, including new ideas, information and research.
- Promote and facilitate the professional development of paid and volunteer youth workers.
- Promote the contribution to society of non-governmental open youth work organisations.

What is ECYC?

ECYC is a European network of youth work organisations that practice and promote Open Youth Work and Non-formal Learning. ECYC has at its heart the supporting of youth clubs and other forms of neighbourhood youth work. Getting young people involved is one of the leading principles of open youth work as delivered by ECYC members. ECYC also aims to promote intercultural learning among the young people involved in its activities.

The core services of ECYC:

1. Supporting ECYC members to develop an international awareness and function.
2. Contributing to the development of professional youth workers and volunteers, especially using international exchange and intercultural learning as development tools.
3. Supporting ECYC members to develop practical networking opportunities.
4. Representing common viewpoints on youth policy to international fora, these viewpoints representing the values of ECYC and its members.

Working with member organisations to lobby on issues of common concern or at the request of individual members on both international and national level.

5. Sharing of ideas between Members and acting as a clearing-house of ideas from external groupings, e.g. EU institutions; Council of Europe etc.
6. Acting as a communication channel, providing Members with up-to-date information regarding funding sources and regulations within the EU; Council of Europe and other international agencies.

Membership in ECYC offers the following:

As a **full** member of ECYC, the organisation is eligible to:

- Priority in access to all services offered by ECYC
- Nominate people to the ECYC Bureau
- Vote at the General Assembly on such matters as the Bureau elections, ECYC policies and the future plans of ECYC
- Participate in network meetings and sub-committees of ECYC
- Be given priority to host meetings and other events such as seminars, conferences etc
- Be given priority to be a partner in or coordinate ECYC projects
- Be given priority to send people to different ECYC activities such as seminars
- Pay the fully discounted participation fee (one third of the full rate) to events such as seminars (subject to funding rules)
- Nominate people to represent ECYC externally

As a **candidate** member of ECYC, the organisation is eligible to:

- Become a full member of ECYC subject to investigation by the Bureau and approval at the General Assembly
- Attend the General Assembly and comment on matters such as ECYC policies and the future plans of ECYC
- Participate in network meetings and sub-committees of ECYC
- Pay the discounted participation fee (two thirds of the full rate) to events such as seminars (subject to funding rules)
- Be given 2nd priority to send people to ECYC educational events such as seminars
- Be given 2nd priority to host events
- Be given 2nd priority to be a partner in or coordinate ECYC projects

As an **observer** member of ECYC, the organisation is eligible to:

- Participate in network meetings and sub-committees of ECYC
- Pay full participation fee to events such as seminars (subject to funding rules)
- Be given 3rd priority to send people to ECYC educational events such as seminars
- Be given 3rd priority to host events

ECYC undertakes to:

- a) Consult with members on their needs and aspirations, in so far as they are relevant to ECYC and international work.
- b) Provide accurate and timely information at least quarterly to members.
- c) Encourage members to network on areas of common interest, and provide opportunities for this when appropriate.
- d) Support member organisations to provide international opportunities for young people and youth workers.
- e) Develop appropriate resources on themes and issues of relevance to ECYC members.
- f) Prepare and present a bi-annual work plan for consideration at the ECYC General Assembly. The work plan will focus on agreed strategic priorities and will outline the key stages of implementation and provide projected costs.
- g) Distribute the agenda and the working papers for all meetings at least one month in advance. This will be designed to facilitate consultation within member organisations and to enable them to adopt positions on matters for decision in advance of such meetings.

Membership fees

Membership fees shall be calculated on an annual basis. Fees shall be determined according to a sliding scale which is related to the Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) of the country in which a member organisation is based.

The PPP index to be used will be that as published by the World Bank. The latest index which is available on 1 February each year shall be used to calculate the fees for that year.

The Bureau shall be responsible for the calculation of membership fees and will make this available to all member organisations on request.

To work towards the purpose and aims of ECYC

(name of member organisation), as a **full member** of ECYC, undertakes to:

1. Pay the full membership fee within two months of the invoice being issued.
2. Be represented at all General Assemblies with adequate preparation by an informed delegate/delegation who can speak, vote and put forward a position on behalf of their organisation.
3. Participate actively in network meetings and sub-committees of ECYC.
4. Contribute information to assist in the development of ECYC's work.
5. Provide ECYC with regular reports and updates of activities.
6. Provide an international link person at an operation level.
7. Ensure that participants are properly prepared for seminars or other activities i.e. briefed regarding their sending organisation, ECYC, the activity itself; and that any preparatory work is completed. Members should also ensure that there is appropriate follow-up (e.g. reports, sharing of ideas, dissemination of key outcomes etc).
8. Aim towards organising at least one international event, project or network activity on behalf of ECYC once every three years involving at least three other member countries as participants.
9. Participate in at least one international event, project or network activity each year within the framework of ECYC.
10. Take responsibility for its role and the completion of any tasks or activities, where a member organisation consents or commits to become involved in a network initiative. In this regard the member will be accountable to other member organisations in the network.
11. Mention ECYC membership in all relevant publications, reports and contacts at local and national level, in order to increase the profile of ECYC and to highlight the benefits of membership.
12. Provide constructive assistance to the Bureau and ECYC staff to support them to fulfil their responsibilities.

To work towards the purpose and aims of ECYC

(name of member organisation), as a **candidate member** of ECYC, undertakes to:

1. Participate fully in the process to become a full member of ECYC.
2. Pay the candidate membership fee within two months of the invoice being issued. This fee shall be two-thirds of the full membership fee.
3. Be represented at all General Assemblies with adequate preparation by an informed delegate/delegation who can speak and put forward a position on behalf of their organisation.
4. Participate actively in network meetings and sub-committees of ECYC.
5. Contribute information to assist in the development of ECYC's work.
6. Provide ECYC with regular reports and updates of activities.
7. Provide an international link person at an operation level.
8. Ensure that participants are properly prepared for seminars or other activities i.e. briefed regarding their sending organisation, ECYC, the activity itself; and that any preparatory work is completed. Members should also ensure that there is appropriate follow-up (e.g. reports, sharing of ideas, dissemination of key outcomes etc).
9. Participate in at least one international event, project or network activity each year within the framework of ECYC.
10. Take responsibility for its role and the completion of any tasks or activities, where a member organisation consents or commits to become involved in a network initiative. In this regard the member will be accountable to other member organisations in the network.
11. To mention ECYC membership in all relevant publications, reports and contacts at local and national level, in order to increase the profile of ECYC and to highlight the benefits of membership.
12. Provide constructive assistance to the Bureau and ECYC staff to support them to fulfil their responsibilities.

To work towards the purpose and aims of ECYC _____

(name of member organisation), as a **observer member** of ECYC, undertakes to:

1. Pay the observer membership fee within two months of the invoice being issued. This fee shall be one-third of the full membership fee.
2. Participate actively in network meetings and sub-committees of ECYC.
3. Contribute information to assist in the development of ECYC's work.
4. Provide ECYC with regular reports and updates of activities.
5. Provide an international link person at an operation level.
6. Ensure that participants are properly prepared for seminars or other activities i.e. briefed regarding their sending organisation, ECYC, the activity itself; and that any preparatory work is completed. Members should also ensure that there is appropriate follow-up (e.g. reports, sharing of ideas, dissemination of key outcomes etc).
7. Participate in at least one international event, project or network activity each year within the framework of ECYC.
8. Take responsibility for its role and the completion of any tasks or activities, where a member organisation consents or commits to become involved in a network initiative. In this regard the member will be accountable to other member organisations in the network.
9. Mention ECYC membership in all relevant publications, reports and contacts at local and national level, in order to increase the profile of ECYC and to highlight the benefits of membership.
10. Provide constructive assistance to the Bureau and ECYC staff to support them to fulfil their responsibilities.

As adopted at the ECYC General Assembly 1992, Vienna and revised at the ECYC Executive 1999, Gothenburg, at the Executive Committee meeting in Agia Napa in October 2005 and Yerevan, October 2009, and the General Assembly June 2012, Aalborg.