

YOUTH LEADER EXCHANGE PROGRAM

FROM INSIGHTS TO ACTION

Learning from the democratic challenges and opportunities facing young people in Denmark and Ukraine

The Youth Leader Exchange Program is an activity in the Ukrainian-Danish Youth House in Kyiv, facilitated by the Danish Youth Council (DUF)

UKRAINIAN
DANISH



WHY A YOUTH LEADER EXCHANGE PROGRAM?



THE PURPOSE

In the past years, democracy as a form of governance and a form of life, has been under heavy pressure. In Ukraine, corruption has been widespread and conflict in the East has put the future of an entire generation in jeopardy. In Denmark, the disbelief of people in power is alarmingly high and fake news and hate speech online have put new question marks on freedom of speech.

It's been difficult times for democracy. However, the good news is that despite these very different and very difficult challenges, young people in both countries are at the forefront of tackling these issues. Be it in scout organizations, theater groups or among student activists,

the youth in Denmark and Ukraine provide a long list of best-case examples about projects and initiatives that strengthen democracy both locally and globally. It is these examples that we want to exchange and to learn from - to provide insights and inspiration for a new generation of young democrats.

WHAT CAN YOU EXPECT TO LEARN?

By participating in the Program, you will get a unique insight into the two countries of Ukraine and Denmark. You will get the tools and guidance to get ready to act on some of the key democratic issues of our time. And importantly, you will get to have fun and learn together with youth leaders from the civil society and cultural scene in the two countries.



WHAT WILL THE PROGRAM LOOK LIKE?

We are preparing two 10-day trips (1 in Denmark and 1 in Ukraine), which will challenge you on your understanding of democracy and inspire you to take action for better, more democratic societies. On the trips, we want to show you and up to 50 other participants, the many different ways that young people in Denmark and Ukraine work with the democratic challenges of our time.



MEET YOUNG LEADERS AND DEMOCRATIC ACTIVISTS

We will meet and discuss with young people in power - both youth politicians in parliaments and civil society activists from large grass roots movements.



EXPERIENCE YOUTH ACTIVITIES ACROSS CIVIL SOCIETY AND CULTURE SCENE

We will take part in some of the different types of activities that young people organize in DK and UA to address democratic challenges. From debate classes to rap-workshops and roleplaying exercises.



GET TOOLS TO BUILD YOUR OWN PROJECTS AND PARTNERSHIPS

We will prepare you to start your own projects and partnership and show you the different ways that the Ukrainian-Danish Youth House can support you - from early idea to action plan

THE BASIC PRACTICALITIES



QUESTIONS & ANSWERS

What is the Youth Leader Exchange Program?

Up to 50 young Ukrainians and Danes will be visiting each others countries on two 10-day long trips. That means, approx. 25 young Ukrainians will visit Denmark and 25 young Danes will visit Ukraine.

How does the Program connect to the Ukrainian-Danish Youth House?

The Youth Leader Program is an activity under the Ukrainian-Danish Youth House, facilitated by the Danish Youth Council. For that reason, we will use the Youth House as our physical/virtual base and can support participants developing projects and partnerships beyond the end of the Exchange Program.

How much will it cost?

For the selected participants, transport, accommodation and food during the Program will be paid for. However, we expect you to contribute by taking active part in the Program and to seek new partnerships and projects with your Ukrainian and Danish counterparts.

When will it take place?

We are hoping for the two trips to be conducted between september and december 2021 with specific dates announced on our website. However, we are monitoring the covid-19 situation closely and will only conduct the program, if the regulations of authorities in Denmark and Ukraine permit it safe to travel and to meet. Accordingly, postponement may occur.

WHO CAN APPLY? AND HOW TO DO IT?

Are you curious to take part? Then check that you live up to criteria below and **submit your application via www.theyouthhouse.org** when we open for applications.

Please note that participants will be selected in pairs. That means, two people from the same youth organization or group must hand in 1 application and that we will be evaluating the two participants together.

CRITERIA FOR PARTICIPANTS

Age

The participants should age between 18-30 years of age.

Language

The Program will be in English only, so the participants should speak and write English at a level to take active part in the Program.

Membership of a youth group or organization

The participants must be active members of a youth group or youth organization in either Denmark or Ukraine. Applications must be submitted in pair of two persons from that organization or group.

Interest in projects between DK & UA

The youth organization or group that the participants represent should have an interest in pursuing partnerships across the two countries – either seeking to start up new projects or strengthening existing partnerships.

Youth leadership

The participants should have taken some form of leadership in their youth organization or group. Youth leadership can be understood broadly. For example, it can mean both having taken leadership by initiating new projects in a youth group or it could be by having had a formal leadership position in a youth organization.

WE LOOK FORWARD TO BE HEARING FROM YOU!