

Q&A

Reinventing Democracy in the Digital Era

(Middle Eastern Structured Dialogue Workshop, 14-20 May 2017, Nicosia, CYPRUS)

Future Worlds Center invites 20 young people from the Middle East to participate in the Middle Eastern workshop of a global project funded by UNDEF that aims to reinvent a new system of governance by proposing new and innovative ideas for actions.

The results/products of the workshop will be included in e-books and the Manifesto for the 21st Century Democracy.

All expenses covered.

CLICK HERE TO APPLY: <http://applications.reinventdemocracy.info/participant/>

APPLICATION FORM

1. SHADOW PARTICIPANTS

A) What are shadow participants committed to do?

At the regional workshop in Cyprus, all the participants will generate ideas for innovative actions to reinvent the democratic system of governance. The most important ideas from all the regional workshops will be included in e-books and in the Manifesto for the 21st Century Democracy.

The Shadow Participants will have to check the ideas and vote for them based on feasibility, desirability and probability. They will be guided by the Core Participant who selected them.

This will be done online, near July.

B) What if I cannot find all 10 shadow participants?

It is crucial to find 10 shadow participants. If you do not manage to meet this requirement by the application deadline but you are certain that you will manage to secure the missing number of shadow participants within the next few days, do apply and let us know that you are working towards it.

C) Will shadow participants be acknowledged in any way?

A certificate of contribution will be given upon request.

An online profile page will be created, including their bio and acknowledging their work.

D) Are shadow participants required to meet specific profile criteria?

No, apart from meeting the age frame of 18-30. They can be nationals of countries other than yours or even be nationals of a country belonging to a different region than yours.



2. CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS, OTHER YOUTH NGOs OR OTHER INITIATIVES & NATIONAL MEDIA

A) What exactly are they committed to?

The organisations/initiatives must be willing to engage with you, helping you to disseminate the results of the project in any way.

National media must be willing to disseminate the results of the project (present it, write about it etc).

B) What if I cannot secure the support of all 3 organisations/initiatives and national media?

It is crucial for us to disseminate the project outcomes. One way to do that is through the collaboration of each participant with affiliated organizations and national media. If you are lacking the support of 1-2 organisations and/or national media, but you are certain that you can find them within the next few days, do apply and let us know that you are working towards it.

3. VIDEO

A) What if I am experiencing problems with the video?

Please let us know at a.andreou@futureworldscenter.org

PARTICIPANT PROFILE

1. I do not meet all the requirements (background and experience) – can I still apply?

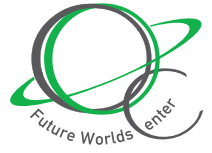
It is important to be coming from an NGO or informal groups or formal education, non-formal education & administrative bodies working with the youth (employee, volunteer/intern or representative).

If you are not but you believe that you have strong reasons to be considered as a participant (e.g. you have other ways to be in a position to understand the concept of the project and to be able to contribute to it), please let us know.

If you are a national of a MENA (Middle East and North Africa) country but your country is not mentioned in the Call for Participants and you want to apply, please let us know.

2. I am over 30 years old. Can I still apply?

If you are slightly over 30 years old and you believe that you have strong reasons to be considered, please let us know.



3. The project aims to encourage young people worldwide to propose innovative ideas and concrete actions for reinventing Democracy. Do participants need to have specific academic/working background?

No. We believe that people working with/engaged in civil society organizations and youth might be more suited to the project but we also do believe that anyone can contribute to changes in democracy as long as they are genuinely interested.

4. The participants, apart from contributing with ideas, will be encouraged and supported to create and implement regional action plans, to collectively author e-books and a Manifesto for the 21st Century Democracy and to film short videos explaining their ideas. Will they be guided and supported?

Of course. During the meeting in our workshop and after that.

5. What are the selection criteria?

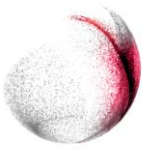
The selection criteria are the following:

#	Criterion	Weight (%)
1	Gender	20
2	Age: young people 18 – 30 years old	15
3	Anti-discrimination criteria	10
4	Years of relevant experience or/and prior relevant activities	10
5	Potential for organizing follow-up activities	10
6	Belonging to associations with wide networks	5
7	Communication skills	5
8	Reliability / Commitment	5
9	Country of origin / nationality	5
10	Availability of sponsors	10
11	Uninterrupted access to social networking	5

MISCALLENIOUS

1. WORKSHOP AGENDA

The participants are expected to arrive in Cyprus and stay at The Classic Hotel on the 14th of May. Ideally, they will attend the dinner which will be offered. The workshop will be taking place at the hotel between Monday the 15th and Friday the 19th of May. Participants will depart on the 20th of May.



The indicative agenda is as follows:

The workshop will be running from 9-19:30 every day.

First session: 9:00-11:00 / Coffee break: 11:00-11:30

Second session: 11:30-13:30 / Lunch: 13:30-14:30

Third session: 14:30-17:00 with a coffee break in the middle.

Dinner: 19:30

There is a possibility of an excursion day.

2. ACCOMMODATION

The participants will be accommodated at The Classic Hotel in the centre of Nicosia. They will be sharing their room with 1 participant of the same gender. There is provision for single rooms if practical / cultural reasons require so.

3. AIRPORT TRANSPORTATION TO/FROM THE VENUE

There is a good private transportation from the airport to Nicosia and vice-versa. If you are arriving/leaving during times with limited service, we will arrange alternative transportation means.

4. CAN I ARRIVE/LEAVE EARLIER/LATER?

Yes but the airfare that we will reimburse is subject to the airfare of the lowest price available. If you want to arrive to Cyprus earlier or leave later than the suggested dates and the airfare is more expensive, we will refund the lowest fare corresponding to the initial dates (14th and 20th of May). Please email us for clarifications.

We will not cover accommodation/food for dates before/after the period of 14-19 May.

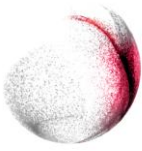
FINANCIALS

1. REIMBURSEMENT

Accommodation and food: Provided

Airfare: Participants are required to pay their tickets (the cheapest flights available). They will be reimbursed in cash during the workshop. They will be asked to choose the currency they prefer to be reimbursed, shortly before the workshop. They will have the possibility to be reimbursed through a bank installment.

Please note that the project aspires to engage young people from around the world, including people with limited opportunities. Participants and their sending organisations are expected to contribute towards flight expenses **IF** they are able to (fully or partly). However, financial assistance (up to \$268) will be offered to those not able to cover their airfare expenses.



ABOUT THE PROJECT

1. Apart from the Middle Eastern Initiative, are there initiatives for other regions?

Reinventing Democracy in the Digital Era is a two-year project with a key objective to increase youth participation in democratic governance by empowering young people **worldwide** to invent and propose new, innovative and concrete actions **in 5 regional workshops**. In 2016 we implemented the European, African and American workshops. In 2017 we will be implementing the Middle Eastern and the Asian workshops.

More information

For more information please contact the project coordinator at

a.andreou@futureworldscenter.org

and visit our website at: <http://reinventdemocracy.info>