

Participation in Youth Work

Expert seminar - exchange of expertises

Koper, Slovenia, 20 - 22 May 2025

INFOKIT



Hello,

Are you interested in new methodologies of participation?
Do you implement some meaningful participatory practices and would like to multiply them?

If your response is yes, this is an event for you. It would be a pleasure to have you on board with us as part of this expert seminar on participation designed especially for youth workers like yourselves. We will embark on a journey of sharing, learning, and growing together to strengthen our collective impact on the lives of young people.

The primary aim of this seminar is to exchange experiences, methodologies, and activities that have proven effective in engaging youth participation. By learning from one another, we hope to foster an environment of mutual inspiration and innovation.





This seminar is designed not only to facilitate knowledge transfer but also to build a network of experts, where collaboration and mutual support on participation can flourish. Together, we'll develop new approaches to youth work that respond to today's challenges and opportunities.

The seminar will be implemented in non formal education methodologies, that acquire active participation, explorative and experiential learning and will bring you concrete results.



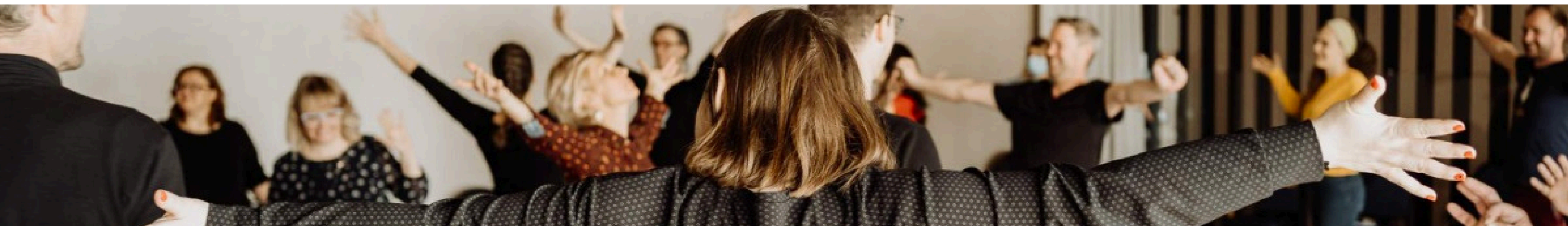


ABOUT PiNA - The hosting organisation

PiNA is an association, established in 1998 at the initiative of the Open Society Institute, which has been promoting socially responsible practices and strengthening the culture of dialogue for over 20 years. Since its establishment, PiNA has served as a point for meeting, providing information, exchange, connection and collaboration in the field of societal challenges. In 1998, PiNA was the first internet café in Slovenia, and by 2016, it has operated as a multimedia and youth centre, member of Slovenia's Europe Direct information centres, partner in the Eurodesk Regional Information Point network, a hub for NGOs of the Coastal-Karst Region and an organisation operating in the public interest in the field of youth.

PiNA's activities are supported by programmes, such as European territorial cooperation, Erasmus+, Europe for Citizens, European Social Fund and Norwegian Financial Mechanism, and are being developed, some even presented in the association's 240 m² premises in the heart of Koper. The premises consist of office space, event facilities, a conference room, a room for meetings, a kitchen and a library.

Learn more at www.pina.si.





Trainer of the activity will be the Head of education at PiNA - Maja Drobne

Maja Drobne is an expert in active citizenship, youth policy, and innovative educational methodologies, with extensive experience in developing and implementing participatory learning tools. She works as the Head of Education at the Association PiNA and as an Expert associate at the University of Ljubljana's Faculty of Social Sciences, focusing on youth policy, civic engagement, and youth work. Her work is dedicated to strengthening democratic participation and social innovation through formal and non-formal education. She has developed didactical tools such as action cards to explain the EU Youth Strategy and LEGO Serious Play-based activities for systems thinking and policy exploration, which facilitate interactive and reflective learning processes. As a certified LEGO Serious Play trainer, she incorporates creative methodologies to enhance critical thinking and problem-solving in educational settings. As a member of the MOVIT National Agency's Pool of trainers, she contributes to the professional development of educators and youth workers across Europe. Her expertise is in designing and implementing interdisciplinary educational frameworks that bridge the fields of formal and non formal education and is assuring inclusive and participatory learning environments. Through her work, she advances civic literacy, democratic engagement, and cross-sector collaboration, equipping individuals and organizations with the tools necessary for sustainable social impact.





Trainer of the activity will be Vid Sever

Vid is a social pedagogue and trainer with over ten years of experience in the field of youth work. His primary focus is youth participation, but he is also active in project coordination, the development and implementation of non-formal methodologies, and facilitating workshops for young people, youth workers, and adults.

The current topics of his work include raising awareness of the values and institutions of the European Union through the high-school program of Active citizenship, using game-based learning to promote critical thinking regarding the spreading of web-based misinformation, and promoting the active participation of young people in their local environment by empowering them via tools and funding to achieve concrete goals (event creation and promotion, shaping and organizing youth spaces).





ABOUT THE EXPERT SEMINAR

DATES:

20. - 22. 5. 2025

LOCATION:

Koper, Slovenia

Aim of the seminar: exchange experiences, methodologies, and activities on participation among youth workers to increase active involvement of young people and improve the quality of youth work.

Participants profile:

- youth workers,
- representatives of youth organisations,
- experts in youth work, interested in the field of Participation,
- at least 21 years old,
- resident of an EU member state or associated country.

We will accept 15 participants.





ABOUT THE EXPERT SEMINAR

Qualitative learning goals:

- Provide youth workers with tools and strategies to involve young people in decision-making and community activities.
- Share innovative methods to make youth participation more effective, inclusive, and responsive.
- Create opportunities for youth workers to exchange experiences, insights, and best practices.
- Build stronger connections among youth workers to encourage collaboration and idea sharing.
- Promote creativity and innovation to address challenges and develop effective solutions in youth work.
- Help youth workers improve key skills like facilitation, communication, and program design for meaningfully engage young people in different processes.

Language:

Official training language will be English.





TIMETABLE

Time	Day 1	Day 2	Day 3
09:00 - 9:30	Welcome	Morning warm-up	Morning warm-up
9:30 - 11:00	Getting to know each other and organisations we work for	Youth as active citizens - how to meaningfully engage them? What about inclusion? PiNA presenting different practices	Presentation and testing methodologies (session 2)
11:00 - 11:30	Coffee break	Coffee break	Coffee break
11:30 - 13:00	Basis - what are current policy trends, Strategy for Youth 2019-2027, European Youth work agenda	Presentation and testing methodologies (session 1)	Future innovation - can we on the basis of what we shared, develop something new?
13:00 - 15:00	Lunch	Lunch	Lunch
15:00 - 17:00	Exploring different participation models - let's share!	Visit to a local good practice	Conclusion of the seminar and evaluation
17:00 - 17:30	Reflection and daily wrap-up	Reflection and daily wrap-up	Reflection and daily wrap-up





WHICH COSTS ARE COVERED

- Accommodation in a hostel
- Food (3 meals and 2 coffee breaks per day)
- Reimbursement of the travel costs
(the amount will be calculated based on the travel distance of the participant)

Distance	Standard travel	Green travel
From 10 to 99 km	23 EUR	
From 100 to 499 km	180 EUR	210 EUR
From 500 to 1,999 km	275 EUR	320 EUR
From 2,000 to 2,999 km	360 EUR	410 EUR



ACCOMMODATION

You'll be accommodated in the [Dependance Vodišek](#)
([web page](#) and [location](#))
in the city center of Koper.

We'll reserve twin rooms (rooms with 2 single beds).

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CHECK IN

in the nearby [Hotel Capris Capodistira!!](#) >> [location](#)
(5 min walking distance from Dependance Vodišek)





BREAKFAST

**Breakfast buffet will be available every morning
in the [Hotel Capris Capodistria](#)
(5 minutes of walking distance from the dependance)**

FOOD and DRINK

**Snacks, fruits and lunch will be provided in PiNA's premises.
Dinner will be organised in one of the local restaurants.
Coffee, tea and juice will be available during the whole day.**



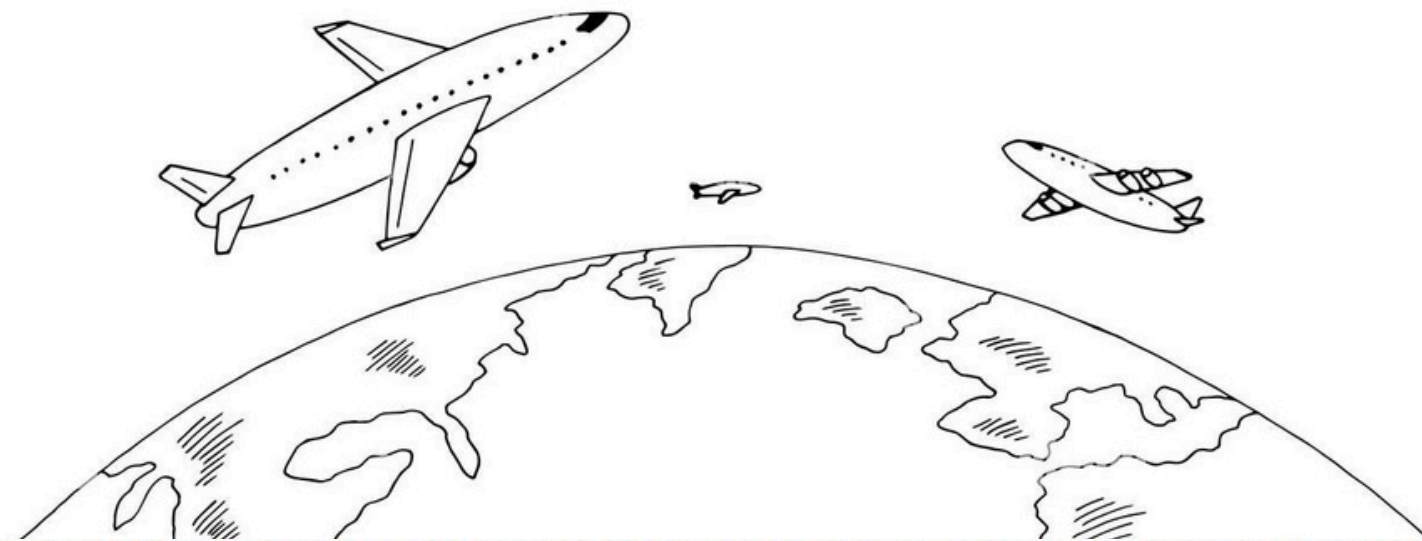
TRAVEL

We suggest you use the airports [Trieste](#), [Venice Marco Polo](#) or [Treviso](#) (Italy), [Wien](#) (Austria) or [Ljubljana](#) (Slovenia) as an option.

You will need to travel from the airport to Koper by [bus or train](#). Another (usually the best) option is [GoOpti](#), a low cost shuttle bus, which takes you directly from the airport to the hotel or our premises in Koper

If you are willing to travel, using transports which are “greener” (not flying), please contact us.

Reimbursement of the travel costs will only be done upon the full attendance in the Erasmus+ activity and presentation of original tickets with boarding passes and receipt/invoices. You will have to send us the original tickets and boarding passes proving your trip back home from Slovenia to your country. We will be able to reimburse you after we will receive all the documents (invoices and boarding passes).





WHAT ABOUT THE INSURANCE ABROAD?

Each participant is responsible to arrange his/her own health and travel insurance for their stay in Slovenia in addition to the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC)

If you don't already have insurance abroad, we recommend applying for European Health Insurance Card which is a free card that gives you access to medically necessary, state-provided healthcare during a temporary stay in any of the 27 EU countries (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland or the United Kingdom under the same conditions and at the same cost (free in some countries) as people insured in that country). The benefits covered include, for example, benefits provided in conjunction with chronic or existing illnesses as well as in conjunction with pregnancy and childbirth.



ABOUT SLOVENIA

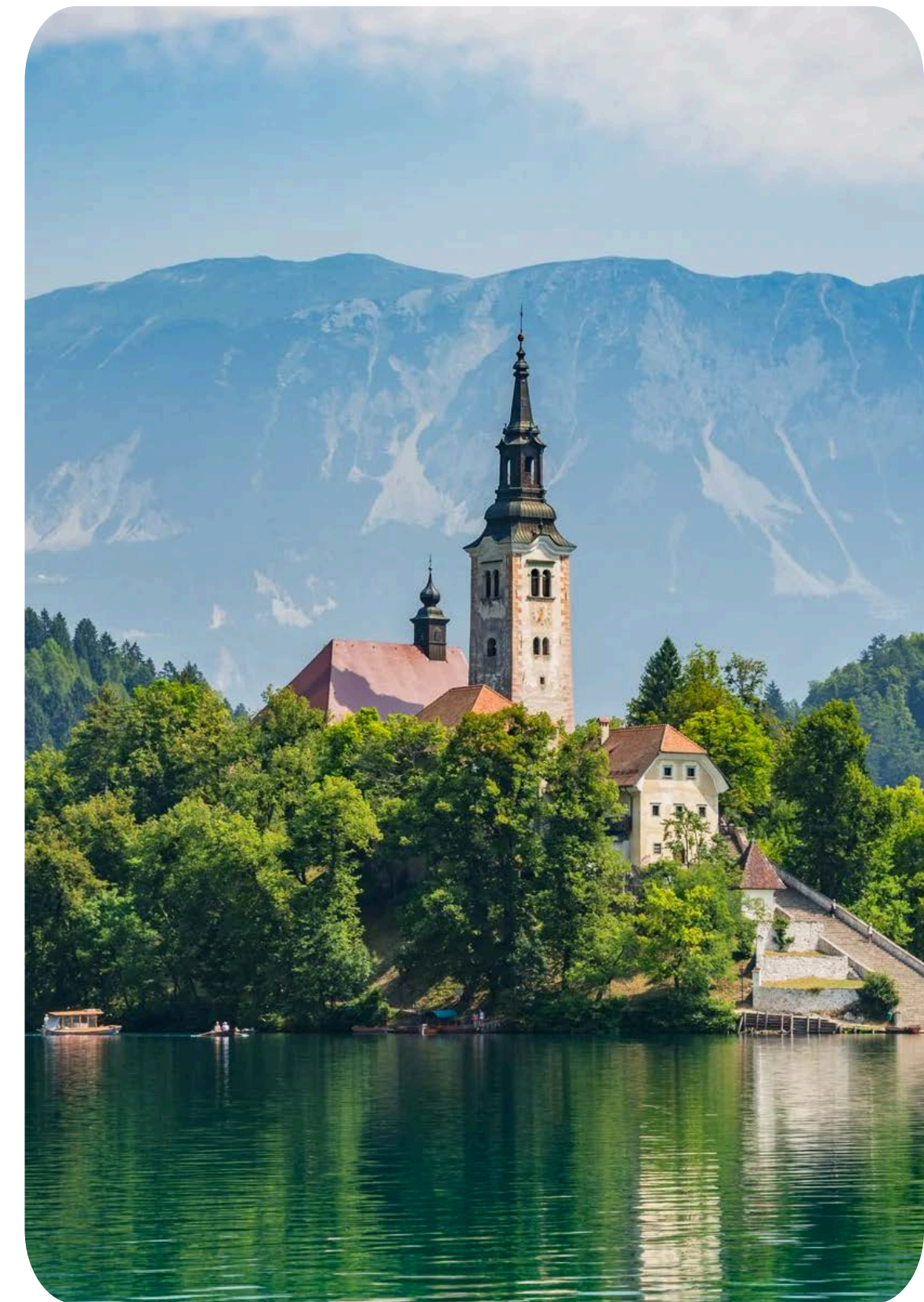
Capital City: Ljubljana

Official Language: Slovenian

Population: 2,061,085

Slovenia is a **green**, **creative** and **innovative** country; it is a full member of the European Union while remaining fully capable of retaining its own identity. Is on the 38th place in Europe regarding the size of the country. You would need around 3 hours of driving to come from wherever you are to wherever you want to go. Our neighbouring countries are Hungary, Croatia, Austria and Italy. Slovenia lies at the intersection of the Alps, the Mediterranean, the Pannonian Plain and the Dinaric Alps. The great diversity of the Slovenian landscape is matched by its well-preserved natural environment; more than half of Slovenia is forested and over one-third of its territory is included in the Natura 2000 network. Slovenians are known as a kind but can be a bit reserved like Alpine people, open like Mediterraneans or good-hearted like Pannonians. Since there are not that many of us, we often joke that in Slovenia everyone knows each other. One of the things we are proud of is our landscape. You can swim in the sea, stand on the peak in the Julian Alps, explore caves, swim in lakes, observe our agricultural areas, get lost in the forests or visit spa centres within one day.

We are the only country in the world that has love in its name: sLOVEnia. We are a young country (got independent in 1991) with our own language, culture and history.





APPLICATION DEADLINE

Fill in the online [application form](#) at the latest by the [20th April 2025](#).

The training course is supported by the Erasmus+ program, within the action Mobility projects for youth workers.

If you have any additional questions you can contact terminal@pina.si.



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the European Union

piNa



REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA IZOBRAŽEVANJE,
ZNANOST IN ŠPORT

URAD REPUBLIKE SLOVENIJE ZA MLADINO

