

YOUNG MEDITERRANEAN LEADERS INITIATIVE

2012 CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

Since 2010, there has been a wave of unrest in the Arab countries in the Mediterranean region. The so-called 'Arab Spring' has been rooted in social malaise and in particular in the frustrations of young people about their economic prospects, lack of democracy and the limited opportunities for young citizens to actively engage in social, economic and political development. The revolts underlined the need for a new vision for the public policies which respond to the economic, social and individual needs, and a new concept of governance which ensured the active participation of stakeholders in defining and managing public policies.

On the one hand, the region is typified by rapid demographic development with over 30% of the population under 30. In parallel, the formal engagement and participation by young people in political process is negligible. Policy making processes are highly centralised which distances policy making from the individuals and societies which it is supposed to affect. In general, the governance structures do not include consultative mechanisms through which young people can share their vision and actively contribute to national or local policy processes. There is a need, therefore to create mechanisms through the voice of young people can be heard by policy makers, first and foremost in the field of public management, but also over time in other policy areas in which young people can become protagonists in the development of the region, such as entrepreneurship, education and training.

In this context, the *Young Mediterranean Leaders initiative* has been launched in 2012, on the proposal of the ETF¹, and with the support of EGPA², and the College of Europe³.

The initiative targets young people with a scientific background and interest in public policy in order to provide them with opportunities to contribute to policy development and to reinforce their potential to become future policy leaders.

These opportunities⁴ are expected to include a clearly defined and timebound role or task within a specified policy exercise⁵ organised by ETF in his/her country of origin. In addition, Young Mediterranean Leaders may also be offered opportunities for short internships in EU Universities including study visits to policy making institutions at EU and Member States

¹ The European Training Foundation (ETF) is the EU agency tasked with supporting human capital development in partner countries surrounding the EU, including the Arab States selected for this initiative: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian territory, and Tunisia.

² The European Group for Public Administration (EGPA) is a Regional Group of the International Institute of Administrative Sciences (IIAS), in charge with IMPGT (Public Management and Territorial Governance Institute - Aix-Marseille University) of the MED : Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue on Public Management.

³ The College of Europe was the world's first university institute of postgraduate studies and training in European affairs providing high quality postgraduate European study programmes at campuses in Belgium and Poland to students from across Europe.

⁴ The opportunities are for learning and development purposes, and as such are un-salaried, although direct costs of travel, accommodation etc. are normally recognised.

⁵ In particular, the involvement in ETF activities is expected to focus on the Torino process, through which stakeholders, including representatives of youth collaborate on an assessment of national vocational and training policy. This process is organized in each of ETF's partner countries, including the Arab States.

level. Finally, laureates will be invited to participate to the ETF Torino Process conference in May 2013 in Torino, as well as to the MED6 in September 2013.

The initiative takes place in the context of the 5th Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue on Public Management organised by EGPA.

CANDIDATE PROFILE

Candidates must be aged between 25 to 40 years old, national of one of the eligible Arab States in southern and eastern countries of the Mediterranean and fluent in French or English.

For the purposes of this call, the Arab countries in the Mediterranean region comprise those Arab States which are engaged in the European Neighbourhood Policy and ETF partner countries: Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Morocco, Occupied Palestinian territory, and Tunisia. Given the specific current context, Syria is not included.

Candidates must be engaged in high level studies (such as, PhD, Post-graduate, last year of Master degree or National School of Administration...) and/or civil servants, working in public management bodies in national or regional administrations.

Candidates should show a great interest for getting involved in public policy decisions, specifically in the fields of Public Management, Education and Training. Work experience or background in the fields of education, training and employment would be considered an asset.

SELECTION PROCESS

Deadline for submission: 2nd of July, 2012

- **First phase of selection**

Candidate must send to francoise.esteve@univ-amu.fr :

- a detailed Curriculum Vitae
- a motivation letter presenting their profile, career projects and interest for public policy decision making
- a recommendation letter from their institution
- the *candidature file* to be found at the end of the document

The YML committee will select up to 2 candidates per country listed above, based on the quality of their profile, and on their potential to become future leaders in their country and to contribute to shaping the future of the Mediterranean region.

- **Second phase of selection**

Candidates selected at the first stage will be invited to participate to the 5th Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue on Public Management and The Regional Conference of the European Training Foundation, organized in Jordan, in September 2012 (see call for paper for more information on the event).

During the conference, candidates will be asked:

- For PhD students, to present their dissertation at the PhD workshop on the 25th of September.
- For post-graduate students, to present their dissertation or master thesis at the main conference on the 26th and 27th of September.
- For those already involved in professional life, to present their job and activities during the main conference on the 26th and 27th of September.

Based on the quality of their presentation and paper, and on their active participation during the conference, the YML committee will select up to 8 “young Mediterranean leaders” to take part in ETF activities and internships in the EU.

- **Launch and announcement of results**

The 2012 Young Mediterranean Leaders Initiative will be formally announced during the opening session of the Conference on the 27th of September in Jordan. All candidates selected for the first stage will receive a certificate attesting their selection.

Based on the conclusions of the YML Committee, the outcomes of the second phase will be announced by the YML Committee by end 2012, by when, based on the background and interests of the selected candidates a programme of suitable involvement in ETF activities and internships have been agreed and confirmed.

YML Selection Committee

Geert BOUCKAERT, EGPA, Professor Catholic University of Leuven, Belgium
Robert FOUCHET, EGPA, Professor, Director of IMPGT, Aix Marseille University, France
Céline DU BOYS, EGPA, Professor, IMPGT- Aix Marseille University, France
Peter GREENWOOD, ETF, Head of Evidence Based Policy Making Department, Italy
College of Europe

Contacts

Françoise ESTEVE

Institut de Management Public et Gouvernance
Territoriale
21, rue Gaston de Saporta
F- 13 100 AIX EN PROVENCE (France)
Tel: + 33 4.42.170.589
Fax: + 33 4.42.170.588
E-mail: francoise.esteve@univ-amu.fr

Fabienne MARON

European Group for Public Administration
c/o IISA
rue Defacqz 1, box 11
BE-1000 Brussels, Belgium
Tel: + 32-2-536.08.84
Fax: +32-2-537.97.02
E-mail: f.maron@iias-iisa.org

Peter GREENWOOD

European Training Fundation
Villa Gualino
Viale Settimio Severo 65,
I - 10133 Torino
Tel: +39.011. 630.22.67
Fax: +39.011. 630.22.00
E-mail: Peter.Greenwood@etf.europa.eu

CANDIDATURE FILE

First Name:
Family Name:

Date of Birth:
Nationality:

Address:
Telephone:
E-mail:

Actual position:

Study Path:

Year	Degree	Institution – Country

Languages:

Language	Level
English	
French	
Other :	

Have you sent a proposition to the 5th Euro-Mediterranean Dialogue on Public Management?