



Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



AER Summer Academy 2024
Fostering Youth Participation and Inclusion
through Culture
Hosted by Nordland fylkeskommune
Bodø, Nordland, Norway | 12-16 August 2024



Monday 12 August

Arrival of the participants and check-in at the hotel

Arrival airport: Bodø airport

Hotel: Radisson Blu Hotel Bodø, Storgata 2, 8006 Bodø, Norway

18:30 -
19:30

Meeting of the Summer Academy Organising Committee (SAOC)

Venue: Radisson Blu Hotel Bodø

For members of the SAOC only

20:00 -
22:00

Evening reception

Welcome to the Summer Academy 2024 in the European Capital of Culture

Venue: Radisson Blu Hotel Bodø



AER
Assembly of European Regions



Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE

CLIMBING THE LADDER

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Welcome speeches:

- **Kari Anne Bøkestad Andreassen**, President of the AER Summer Academy, County Councillor in Nordland fylkeskommune
- **Kassandra Petsa**, Vice-President of the Youth Regional Network, County Councillor in Nordland fylkeskommune

Tuesday 13 August

DAY 1 OF ACTIVITIES

Conference and workshops venue: Radisson Blu Hotel Bodø

08:30 -
09:00

Registrations at the welcome desk

Radisson Blu Hotel Bodø

09:00 -
11:00

Opening Plenary (part 1)

Panel discussion

Fostering Youth Participation and Inclusion through Culture

Culture, and the protection of cultural and linguistic minorities and diversity, is essential to nurturing democracy. As asserted in the 2022 AER Statement **“Making Culture a Strategic Resource for Europe and its Regions”**, culture fosters societal wellbeing and human values, while generating added value for the economic ecosystem. In a pan-European network like the AER, the importance of building a resilient community which thrives and learns from each other through its cultural richness and practices is an inherent part of the Summer Academy.

As a transnational model of youth engagement studied in the context of the Erasmus+ project **“Climbing the Ladder: Fostering a**



AER
Assembly of European Regions



Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE

CLIMBING
THE LADDER

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Culture of Youth Engagement”, the Summer Academy 2024 addresses the focal question of how to avail the potential of culture to foster youth participation. The Northern European venue of Bodø, European Capital of Culture 2024, sets the scene for intertwining this theme with the topics of access to culture and the importance of preserving and valuing linguistic and cultural diversity.

The availability, accessibility and inclusivity of cultural opportunities serve the purpose of both including youth in policy-making, while retaining and attracting youth, therefore addressing both youth participation and the issue of brain drain and depopulation in rural regions of Europe.

By bringing together the outlooks of the participating regions, institutional representatives, youth delegates, cultural stakeholders and local communities, this panel discussion will identify regional best practices, needs and challenges, related to youth impact in policy-making through culture, and to the accessibility and inclusiveness of culture in our societies.

Toastmaster: **Kari Anne Bøkestad Andreassen**, President of the AER Summer Academy, County Councillor in Nordland fylkeskommune.

Keynote speeches:

- **Eivind Holst**, Mayor of Nordland County Council
- **Linda Helén Haukland**, AER Vice-President for Employment, Education and Skills
- **Kine Olsen**, Senior Advisor, United Nations Association of Norway (FN-Sambandet)
- **André Wallann Larsen**, Director of [Bodø2024 - European Capital of Culture](#)

Short break (10 minutes)

Panel discussion & Q&A with the audience:

- **Tanya Hristova**, Chair of the European Committee of the Regions' Commission for Social Policy, Education, Employment,



AER
Assembly of European Regions



Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE

CLIMBING
THE LADDER

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



	<p>Research and Culture</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anna Ramkovic, Youth delegate for Latvia, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe • Nathaniel Holan Larsen, County Councillor in Nordland County Council, Sámi Pathfinders alumni • Norbert Nagy, President of the Youth Regional Network, Advisor to the Vice-President of Sălaj County Council • Gianluca Rossino, Project Manager, 'Climbing The Ladder', DYPALL Network • Amanda Jenssen, Youth Advisory Board, Nordland County Council <p><u>Moderator:</u> Florian Wunsch, Participant in the Young Elected Politicians' programme of the European Committee of the Regions</p>
<p>11:00 - 11:30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Coffee Break</p>
<p>11:30 - 12:45</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Opening Plenary (part 2) Regional and youth cultures on stage</p> <p>Presentation of NORDTING by Amund Sjølie Sveen NORDTING is a mobile people's assembly for the North. NORDTING debates issues of power and money, ownership of natural resources, art and identity, separatism and populism, centre and periphery.</p> <p>SAOC on stage - Pitch your workshop Facilitated by Kari Anne Bøkestad Andreassen, President of the AER Summer Academy, County Councillor in Nordland fylkeskommune</p> <p>Regions from the Summer Academy Organising Committee (SAOC) will each have three minutes to present one initiative from their region. An occasion for them to pitch their upcoming workshops, which will showcase specific initiatives or projects from their regions, revolving around the topics of youth participation through culture.</p>



AER
Assembly of European Regions



Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE

CLIMBING
THE LADDER

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



<p>13:00 - 14:00</p>	<p>Buffet Lunch at Radisson Blu Hotel</p>			
<p>14:00 - 15:30</p>	<p>Parallel workshops</p> <table border="1" data-bbox="300 507 2121 1452"> <tr> <td data-bbox="300 507 1211 1452"> <p>AER / YRN Workshop on Mental Health “Sustaining youth mental health and preventing mental ill-health”</p> <p>Mental health is often defined negatively by the lack of wellbeing, but this workshop will also focus the attention on what are the policies and practices that support good mental health.</p> <p>The workshop will include presentations from Primorje-Gorski Kotar (HR), the Youth Regional Network, and Odesa Oblast (UA). The AER Working Group on Mental Health brings policymakers and youth representatives together to learn from each other to improve regional policies and practices on mental health. The YRN Committee on Mental Health gathers young people for them to share their experience in the field of mental health, collect their recommendations, and provide them with a safe space to address the topic.</p> <p>The workshop will explore practices and share experiences on sustaining youth mental health and preventing ill-mental health, in particular psychological distress and suicidality. The participants will have the opportunity to input in the discussion, through Q&A,</p> </td> <td data-bbox="1211 507 2121 1452"> <p>Workshop - Østfold fylkeskommune (Norway) The Blikkåpner project and Galleri F15</p> <p>Østfold county, in participation with Gallery F15 and their project "Blikkåpner" (The Eye Openers), offers a practical workshop based on their experiences from the development of a participant-based Anger Art Project, carried out in 2023. The project was run and exhibited as part of the Momentum Biennial - "Together as to Gather" curated by the art-collective Tenthaus.</p> <p>This workshop will demonstrate their creative methods of participation and involvement through different exercises. With the use of props or artefacts in the process, the focus is shifted from the individual to the community, and the participants' contributions become part of a common aesthetic experience that is created here and now.</p> <p><u>Facilitated by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Østfold fylkeskommune • Marthe Næstby, Gallery F15 </td> </tr> </table>		<p>AER / YRN Workshop on Mental Health “Sustaining youth mental health and preventing mental ill-health”</p> <p>Mental health is often defined negatively by the lack of wellbeing, but this workshop will also focus the attention on what are the policies and practices that support good mental health.</p> <p>The workshop will include presentations from Primorje-Gorski Kotar (HR), the Youth Regional Network, and Odesa Oblast (UA). The AER Working Group on Mental Health brings policymakers and youth representatives together to learn from each other to improve regional policies and practices on mental health. The YRN Committee on Mental Health gathers young people for them to share their experience in the field of mental health, collect their recommendations, and provide them with a safe space to address the topic.</p> <p>The workshop will explore practices and share experiences on sustaining youth mental health and preventing ill-mental health, in particular psychological distress and suicidality. The participants will have the opportunity to input in the discussion, through Q&A,</p>	<p>Workshop - Østfold fylkeskommune (Norway) The Blikkåpner project and Galleri F15</p> <p>Østfold county, in participation with Gallery F15 and their project "Blikkåpner" (The Eye Openers), offers a practical workshop based on their experiences from the development of a participant-based Anger Art Project, carried out in 2023. The project was run and exhibited as part of the Momentum Biennial - "Together as to Gather" curated by the art-collective Tenthaus.</p> <p>This workshop will demonstrate their creative methods of participation and involvement through different exercises. With the use of props or artefacts in the process, the focus is shifted from the individual to the community, and the participants' contributions become part of a common aesthetic experience that is created here and now.</p> <p><u>Facilitated by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Østfold fylkeskommune • Marthe Næstby, Gallery F15
<p>AER / YRN Workshop on Mental Health “Sustaining youth mental health and preventing mental ill-health”</p> <p>Mental health is often defined negatively by the lack of wellbeing, but this workshop will also focus the attention on what are the policies and practices that support good mental health.</p> <p>The workshop will include presentations from Primorje-Gorski Kotar (HR), the Youth Regional Network, and Odesa Oblast (UA). The AER Working Group on Mental Health brings policymakers and youth representatives together to learn from each other to improve regional policies and practices on mental health. The YRN Committee on Mental Health gathers young people for them to share their experience in the field of mental health, collect their recommendations, and provide them with a safe space to address the topic.</p> <p>The workshop will explore practices and share experiences on sustaining youth mental health and preventing ill-mental health, in particular psychological distress and suicidality. The participants will have the opportunity to input in the discussion, through Q&A,</p>	<p>Workshop - Østfold fylkeskommune (Norway) The Blikkåpner project and Galleri F15</p> <p>Østfold county, in participation with Gallery F15 and their project "Blikkåpner" (The Eye Openers), offers a practical workshop based on their experiences from the development of a participant-based Anger Art Project, carried out in 2023. The project was run and exhibited as part of the Momentum Biennial - "Together as to Gather" curated by the art-collective Tenthaus.</p> <p>This workshop will demonstrate their creative methods of participation and involvement through different exercises. With the use of props or artefacts in the process, the focus is shifted from the individual to the community, and the participants' contributions become part of a common aesthetic experience that is created here and now.</p> <p><u>Facilitated by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Østfold fylkeskommune • Marthe Næstby, Gallery F15 			



AER
Assembly of European Regions



Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE

CLIMBING
THE LADDER

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



	<p>discussion groups, and a conclusive feedback moment.</p> <p><u>Facilitators and speakers:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Norbert Nagy, YRN President, Sălaj County • Mathilde Colarte, YRN Chair for Youth Participation • Ana Štefančić Modrić, Primorje-Gorski Kotar County, AER Working Group on Mental Health • Oleksandr Syvak, Strateg Ukraine, Odesa, AER Working Group on Mental Health 	
<p>15.30 - 18.00</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cultural activities programme Organised by Nordland fylkeskommune</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>5 activities offered:</u> Peacepainting Den kulturelle skolesekken Keiservarden Bodø city walk Saltstraumen*</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Details: https://www.nfk.no/aer-summer-academy/cultural-activity-programme/</i></p> <p><i>* Please note that the Saltstraumen activity will likely last longer</i></p>	
<p>19.30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Dinner at the Radisson Blu Hotel Bodø</p>	

Wednesday 14 August

DAY 2 OF ACTIVITIES

Conference and workshops venue: Radisson Blu Hotel Bodø

08:30 -
09:00

Registrations at the welcome desk

Radisson Blu Hotel Bodø

Parallel workshops

Workshop - Agència Catalana de la Joventut & Sala d'Art Jove (Catalonia, Spain)
“Inventing recipes to be (together)”

Facilitated by:

- **Eva Paià**, Co-Director Sala d'Art Jove
- **Agnès Essontí Luque**, Artist

09:00 -
10:30

This workshop is designed to create critical conversations and reflections around what it means to be in the same space and time, despite our diverse histories. By creating specific experiences with the attendees, the facilitators will share ideas of art, creation and education from Catalonia: a Mediterranean, multicultural and multifaceted region that interweaves multiple cultural narratives.

The first part will be dedicated to sharing the model of Sala d'Art Jove, a space that runs a series of experimental processes for young artists and curators, and interrelates artistic practices, education and

Workshop - Maramures County Council (Romania)
“Art Therapy”

Facilitated by:

- **Angela Kolozsvari**, Clinical psychologist

The workshop will focus on Art Therapy and the benefit of plastic art, music and dance in treating different types of psychological problems. The spectrum of application of art therapy is quite wide, starting from depression, anxiety, and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) or autism to degenerative diseases.

Art therapy removes depression, balances the person with behavioural and mental disorders, helps treat addictions and can slow down the manifestation of degenerative diseases. All this is complemented by the state of well-being and the increase in the mental quality of life.

Over the years, the individual office of clinical psychology and psychotherapy Angela Kolozsvari developed several activities of Art Therapy, mainly focusing on children and youths.



AER
Assembly of European Regions



Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE

CLIMBING
THE LADDER

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



	<p>cultural production. SAJ challenges hegemonic practices by opening a safe space for other ways of doing and being in the world.</p> <p>The second part will invite the participants to experience a moment of collective action intended to demonstrate both the artist’s own practice and show how food functions as a form of cultural heritage bringing people together through collective sharing.</p> <p>Inventing recipes to be (together) does not only inspire knowledge production, participation, and dialogue, but it also fosters inclusive practices that are at the core of what it means to be human.</p>	<p>In the first part of the workshop, a theoretical presentation of Art Therapy will be performed, followed by a practical part, where participants will be invited to dive into this special kind of therapy and leash their creativity.</p>
<p>10:30 - 11:00</p>	<p>Coffee Break</p>	
<p>11:00 - 12:30</p>	<p>Parallel workshops</p>	
	<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop - Nordland fylkeskommune “The Narvik War and Peace Centre”</p> <p>The Narvik War and Peace Centre works to build peace through knowledge of war. It is a non-profit foundation that researches, documents and disseminates on issues related to war and conflict. Theri story starts with the German attack on Narvik in 1940, the battle of Narvik and the occupation that followed. The Centre also has a particular focus on the rules of war, international humanitarian law, and human rights.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop - Donegal County Council (Ireland) “Intercultural integration and the EU-Belong project”</p> <p>The workshop aims to discuss and develop implementation of strategies for intercultural integration, leveraging projects, and partnerships. It particularly focuses on Donegal County Council’s involvement in the EU-Belong project, “An intercultural approach to migrant integration in European Regions”, a project co-funded by the EU’s AMIF Programme. This workshop will serve as a platform for sharing knowledge, fostering collaboration, and driving forward the agenda of creating inclusive and integrated communities.</p>

	<p>The Narvik War and Peace Centre was founded through a merger of the Nordland Red Cross War Memorial Museum (est. 1964) and Nordnorsk fredssenter (est. 1990). They are the northernmost of seven Norwegian peace and human rights centres funded by the Norwegian Ministry of Education.</p> <p>Facilitated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Joakim Evjen, Narvik War and Peace Centre ● Alf B. Jensen, Narvik War and Peace Centre 	<p>The workshop will go through an overview of Donegal’s initiatives in integration, including the EU-Belong Project, and will introduce the participants to what intercultural integration means and entails. The participants will then be divided in smaller groups to brainstorm solutions for integration implementation, guided with the “Five Ws” (who, what, where, when, how). The workshop will then conclude on the summary of key takeaways, and on the future steps and commitments for enhancing intercultural integration.</p> <p>Facilitated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Christina O’Donnell, EU-Belong Project Manager, Social Inclusion Unit, Donegal County Council ● Peter McNelis, Donegal Youth Council 
<p>12:30 - 14:00</p>	<p>Buffet Lunch at Radisson Blu Hotel</p>	
<p>14:30 - 23:00</p>	<p>Cultural activities programme - Study Visit at Kjerringøy Including dinner and transportation Organised by Nordland fylkeskommune</p> <p>Details: https://www.nfk.no/aer-summer-academy/cultural-activity-programme/ <i>Remember to bring outdoor / comfortable clothing</i></p>	



Thursday 15 August

DAY 3 OF ACTIVITIES

Conference and workshops venue: Radisson Blu Hotel Bodø

<p>08:30 - 09:00</p>	<p>Registrations at the welcome desk <i>Radisson Blu Hotel Bodø</i></p>			
<p>09:00 - 10:30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Parallel workshops</p> <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 10px; vertical-align: top;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Workshop - Údarás na Gaeltachta / Muintearas (Ireland) “Cuisle na Gaeltachta / The Pulse of the Gaeltacht”</p> <p><u>Facilitated by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elaine Scahill, CEO Muintearas ● Cathal Ó Curráin, Youth delegate <p>The workshop will provide an overview and insight into youth participation through Culture in the Gaeltacht - the Irish language speaking region in Ireland.</p> </td> <td style="width: 50%; padding: 10px; vertical-align: top;"> <p style="text-align: center;">Workshop - Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (Serbia) “Student participation in politics and decision-making processes”</p> <p><u>Facilitated by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ivana Macak, President of the Students’ Parliament at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad ● Sandra Stojković, Secretary General, Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina <p>The workshop will share best practices on youth inclusion in decision-making, especially through the example of the Students’ Parliament of the University of Novi Sad, and how this body allows students to be represented, to exercise their rights and to be included in (political) decision-making, at local and regional level.</p> </td> </tr> </table>		<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop - Údarás na Gaeltachta / Muintearas (Ireland) “Cuisle na Gaeltachta / The Pulse of the Gaeltacht”</p> <p><u>Facilitated by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elaine Scahill, CEO Muintearas ● Cathal Ó Curráin, Youth delegate <p>The workshop will provide an overview and insight into youth participation through Culture in the Gaeltacht - the Irish language speaking region in Ireland.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop - Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (Serbia) “Student participation in politics and decision-making processes”</p> <p><u>Facilitated by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ivana Macak, President of the Students’ Parliament at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad ● Sandra Stojković, Secretary General, Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina <p>The workshop will share best practices on youth inclusion in decision-making, especially through the example of the Students’ Parliament of the University of Novi Sad, and how this body allows students to be represented, to exercise their rights and to be included in (political) decision-making, at local and regional level.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop - Údarás na Gaeltachta / Muintearas (Ireland) “Cuisle na Gaeltachta / The Pulse of the Gaeltacht”</p> <p><u>Facilitated by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Elaine Scahill, CEO Muintearas ● Cathal Ó Curráin, Youth delegate <p>The workshop will provide an overview and insight into youth participation through Culture in the Gaeltacht - the Irish language speaking region in Ireland.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop - Autonomous Province of Vojvodina (Serbia) “Student participation in politics and decision-making processes”</p> <p><u>Facilitated by:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ivana Macak, President of the Students’ Parliament at the Faculty of Philosophy in Novi Sad ● Sandra Stojković, Secretary General, Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina <p>The workshop will share best practices on youth inclusion in decision-making, especially through the example of the Students’ Parliament of the University of Novi Sad, and how this body allows students to be represented, to exercise their rights and to be included in (political) decision-making, at local and regional level.</p>			
<p>10:30 -</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Coffee Break</p>			



AER
Assembly of European Regions



Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE

CLIMBING
THE LADDER

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



11:00		
11:00 - 12:30	Parallel workshops	
	<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop - Kanton Zürich In collaboration with the Zürich Youth Parliament “Democratic Culture in the Canton of Zurich”</p> <p>The workshop will address the topic of growing up in a democracy with abundant direct democratic instruments, with the particular case study of the Zürich Youth Parliament, and how they include people who are not able to participate in the regular political process (for example, foreigners).</p> <p>Facilitated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Gianluca Coccitti, Co-Vice-President, Zürich Youth Parliament ● Moritz Elsner, Zürich Youth Parliament 	<p style="text-align: center;">Workshop - Sámi Pathfinders and Sámi University College</p> <p>Facilitated by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Nathaniel Holan Larsen, County Councillor in Nordland County Council ● Sámi Pathfinders <p>“The Sámi people historically inhabited the area known as Sápmi, spanning Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Russia. While rooted in tradition, their contemporary presence extends far beyond their ancestral lands, with Sámi communities thriving worldwide. Today, the Sámi history and traditions are visible in the city life, and you can find it in both music, art, handcrafts, literature, and in the everyday topics in the communities.”</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Learn more about the Sámi people and culture:</i> https://visitbodo.com/en/topic/sami-culture-and-history/</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Learn more about the Sámi Pathfinders:</i> https://www.instagram.com/samiskevevisere/ https://samiskevevisere.no/en/about-sami-pathfinders/</p>
12:30 - 14:00	Buffet Lunch at Radisson Blu Hotel	



AER
Assembly of European Regions



Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE

CLIMBING
THE LADDER

Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



<p>14:00 - 17:00</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Cultural activities programme Organised by Nordland fylkeskommune</p> <p><u>4 activities offered:</u> Peacepainting Bodø city walk (includes street art walk) Keiservarden Norwegian Aviation Museum</p> <p>Details: https://www.nfk.no/aer-summer-academy/cultural-activity-programme/</p>
<p>18:30</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Closing Evening, Farewell Dinner & Cultural showcase Including the MYFER Award Ceremony for the Most Youth-Friendly European Region</p> <p><i>Venue: Bådin brewery - Craft from the Arctic</i> <i>Address: Tolder Holmers vei 6, 8003 Bodø</i></p> <p><i>Participants meet at 18:30 in front of the Radisson Blu Hotel, where a marching band will be playing. We will walk all together from the hotel to the brewery where the closing evening will take place. Participants are encouraged to bring their national / regional flags to the parade!</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>The MYFER Award Ceremony will be facilitated by the Youth Regional Network.</i></p> <p><i>The closing evening will include a farewell dinner at a brewery and a cultural showcase, including traditional dancing and music from Nordland, the Sámi community, and the Gaeltacht.</i></p>

Friday 16 August



Nordland
FYLKESKOMMUNE



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



Departures of the participants throughout the day

We hope to welcome you again in Bodø in the future!

See you at the AER Summer Academy in 2026!