



The Secretary General

Ref: CG/SG/JH/ao C(2012)20

Strasbourg, 11 June 2012

Dear Member of the Committee,

The Enter! Project on access to social rights for young people was launched in 2010 by the Council of Europe Youth Department, and the Current Affairs Committee has been receiving regular information about its implementation. The aim of the 2 year project was to develop youth policy responses to exclusion, discrimination and violence affecting young people in multicultural disadvantaged neighbourhoods. The Congress has been cooperating extensively with the Youth Department, indeed was represented at most of the Project's activities, and contributed to the writing of a policy recommendation on access to social rights which is currently being examined by the Committee of Ministers.

Following a thorough evaluation of the first part, the project is now entering a second phase. The aim of the 2012-2014 Enter! Project is to promote inclusion and the access to social rights of young people, in particular those exposed to social exclusion, discrimination and violence.

One of the main conclusions of the first phase of this project was the important role local and regional authorities' youth policies play in helping young people access their social human rights. As such, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities is a major stakeholder in the continuation of this project, as the representative of local and regional authorities from across the Council of Europe space.

An important aspect of this next phase will be a long-term training course (LTTC) for youth workers and leaders working with young people who experience difficulties in accessing their social human rights. The LTTC aims to empower youth workers and leaders to develop and implement social rights-oriented projects that create synergies with local/regional authorities and other institutions. You will find enclosed a draft outline of the course (DDCY/YD/EnterPM(2012)1).

Call for applications for an Enter! Seminar to the Members of the Current Affairs Committee of the Congress In order for the LTTC to meet the expectations of the Enter! Project, a preparatory seminar will be organised from 18 to 20 September 2012 in Strasbourg to define the LTTC's aims and approach, to plan its programme, and to associate strategic partners with the process as early as possible. The role of local/regional authorities in the design of the LTTC is crucial, as the very impact of the project depends on the partnership between civil society and local and regional authorities.

As a major stakeholder, the Congress is invited to nominate a number of members to take part in this preparatory seminar, about which you will find more detailed information in the enclosed presentation (DDCY/YD/EnterPM(2012)2). The Council of Europe Youth Department and the Congress will cover travel and subsistence expenses for up to 5 Congress members.

If you have responsibility for youth and/or social affairs, are available to take part in the entire seminar (arrival on 17 September in the evening, departure on 20 September in the afternoon) and are interested in making your contribution to the seminar, please complete and return to us (joanne.hunting@coe.int) the enclosed questionnaire by **29 June 2012** at the latest. We will let you know by 20 July 2012 whether your participation in the seminar is confirmed.

If you require further information on the ENTER! Project and this seminar, please contact Joanne Hunting, co-Secretary to the Current Affairs Committee (tel: +33 3 88 41 31 61).

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Andreas Kiefer