

# "Youth for Peace - 100 Years After World War I, 100 Ideas for Peace"

International Youth Meeting, 14-18 November in Berlin

#### Background

On the occasion of the commemoration of the centenary of the end of the World War I (1914-1918), 500 young people from Germany, France, the European Union as well as accession countries and countries in its eastern and southern neighborhood will gather in Berlin for an international youth meeting from November 14<sup>th</sup> to 18<sup>th</sup> 2018.

Following previous youth events on Hartmannswillerkopf in the French Vosges (2014) and in Verdun (2016), the large youth meeting taking place in Berlin in November 2018 presents the opportunity to move beyond the Franco-German perspective and discuss the lessons of peace learned as a result of World War I from a European and transnational viewpoint. The meeting will culminate in an event on November 18<sup>th</sup> during which the results of the workshops and concrete ideas for peace will be presented to and discussed with high-ranking political decision-makers.

### **Objectives**

The objectives of the youth meeting are to facilitate intercultural dialogue as well as reflection on the events that occurred at the end of World War I 100 years ago from several perspectives and the impact these events had on the countries involved and their societies to date. The topics "the Transition from War to Peace" and "Peace in Europe" will be at the forefront of the meeting, but the future of the European continent and the future relationship with the societies in its eastern and southern neighborhood will also be a focus. For this purpose, the DFJW and its partners offer tools for peace education, memory work, and intercultural learning to participating young people, who will work together in workshops related to the overarching topic of peace in and around Europe in addition to peace education and creativity exercises.

At the end of the meeting, the participants will present their commonly developed ideas. Summarizing the wishes and suggestions of these 500 young people for a peaceful future in and around Europe, these ideas will be presented to and discussed with high-ranking political representatives during a closing ceremony.

#### **Participants**

The group of participants will consist of 400 young adults between the ages of 18 and 22 and 100 school-age students (the "100 Peace Ambassadors") between the ages of 15 and 16. The latter will be selected via a school initiative by the Institut francais d'Allemagne (IFA). Efforts will be made to include participants from diverse social backgrounds. The working language will be Eng-



lish, but linguistic diversity among participants is highly valued. For this purpose, "language animation" exercises have been planned to encourage language acquisition and strengthen the meeting's intercultural dimension.

The goal is to ensure as much social and geographical diversity among the 500 participants as possible. Participants will be recruited from formal and nonformal educational institutions using various methods: 400 young people will be recruited using an open, decentralized announcement by the DJFW and its network of partners. This network consists of the bilateral German youth organizations and other partner organizations in Germany, France, and Europe. Participants can apply directly using the application form available online at the DFJW website. Participants must be between the ages of 18 and 22. More information can be found here: https://www.fgyo.org/youth-for-peace.html

The 100 "Peace Ambassadors" will be selected via a school initiative held by the IFA aimed at schools teaching German in France and French in Germany (see also Network AEFE, ZFA, Campus AEFE/ZFA, Label France Education). The target group is secondary school students (in both general education and vocational schools) between the ages of 15 and 16. More information can be found here: https://www.institutfrancais.de/bildung/100-botschafter-fuer-den-frieden

## **Project Partners**

The international youth meeting "Youth for Peace – 100 Years After World War I, 100 Ideas for Peace" stands under the patronage of the German Federal Foreign Office and the *Mission du Centenaire de la Première Guerre mondiale (MdC)* and is realized by the Franco-German Youth Office (FYGO) in close cooperation with the Institut Français d'Allemagne / French Embassy in Berlin, the *Volksbund Deutsche Kriegsgräberfürsoge e.V. (VDK)* and the *Office National des Anciens Combattants et Victimes de Guerre (ONACVG)*.

Additional partners of the event are: Deutsch-Polnisches Jugendwerk (DPJW-PNWM), Koordinierungszentrum Deutsch-Tschechischer Jugendaustausch (Tandem), International Youth Service of the Federal Republic of Germany (IJAB), Jugend für Europa (JfE), Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO), Stiftung Deutsch-Russischer Jugendaustausch (DRJA), Koordinierungszentrum Deutsch-Israelischer Jugendaustausch (ConAct), UK German Connection, Deutsch-Türkische Jugendbrücke, Deutsch-Baltisches Jugendwerk (DBJW), Körber-Stiftung, and Arbeit und Leben, et al.

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