



Application Process / Young Leaders Programme

Calling All Young Leaders

Welcome to the online application process for the **YOUNG LEADERS** programme at European Development Days 2016!

We are looking for 16 extraordinary young people ages 21-26, from across the world with proven commitment and community engagement to represent the powerful impact that youth have in the development field. The winners will be 'movers and shakers' in their communities and countries who are helping to solve the universal challenges outlined in the EDD programme.

Debate with Global Development Actors

As a **YOUNG LEADER**, you will speak in the auditorium panel discussions along with key political leaders, and have the opportunity to present your story to the audience, engaging with the delegations of governments and international organisations. On top of speaking in the highest-level debates at the forum, you will have the opportunity of participating in brainstorming sessions and other lab debates to help shape the development policies and practice for the 2030 Agenda.

Prior and during the forum, the **YOUNG LEADERS** will have the opportunity to visit the EU institutions, meet relevant development policy-makers, participate in workshops and present practices from their regions.

How to apply

In order to apply for the **YOUNG LEADERS** programme, please submit your application by 23.59 CET 18 March 2016. Application forms are available by clicking the **APPLY NOW** button on the Young Leaders page. You will first need to create a profile on the website and tick the box 'I want to apply for the Young Leaders Programme' when creating your profile. Late applications will not be accepted.

You will be applying as a speaker's role for one of the EDD 2016 auditorium sessions, according to the topic of the panel. To complete the form, you must select the EDD topic that you wish to speak about. You must feel comfortable and knowledgeable about the topic of your choice and it must relate closely to your interests and expertise.

Do explore the [15 EDD 2016 topics](#) in the 'About EDD 2016' page of the website.

The application process will involve three key stages.

1. A "**profile**" stage, where you will be asked to fill in personal details and submit a Curriculum Vitae detailing your skills, with special emphasis on leadership and public speaking skills. You will be required to present yourself and your engagement, in a short **2min video** and explain why you are a good representative for your chosen topic.
2. A "**leadership**" stage, where you will be asked to state which group or organisation you will be representing during EDD 2016. It is important to demonstrate that you will be speaking in representation of other youth or civil society organisations. You will be asked for an reference letter from someone who can testify that you are a qualified leader.

3. An “**involvement**” stage, where should give up to two examples of active commitment to a cause related to your topic of choice. Your involvement can include a variety of different activities, such as building a project, conducting research, or volunteering for a cause related to the topic of your choice. You will be required to include key achievements, a project background description and a description of your role in the project. You should outline leadership skills, commitment to the relevant topic, and future plans or ambitions in the field of the chosen topic. You will also be able to upload up to 3 supporting files for each project.

Eligibility

- Applicants must be between 21 and 26.
- Applications are open to young adults from all around the world, without restriction of nationality.
- Applications must be submitted in one of the following official European Commission languages: **English / French / Spanish / German / Portuguese**. The candidate must be able to speak clearly and comprehensively in one of these languages, as well as have a good spoken level of either English or French.
- Applicants must be able to travel to and participate in EDD 2016 in Brussels on 15th and 16th of June 2016.

Evaluation Criteria

We will evaluate your application based on three criteria:

- **40%** Your knowledge of your chosen topic and the relevance of your active engagement. We encourage candidates to show how their activities have had an impact on the community.
- **30%** Your role as a legitimate representative of an organisation, other youth or community, and your leadership experience or potential.
- **30%** Your public speaking skills and ability to speak at a high-level panel.

Get Started!

You will find the application form on [your personal dashboard](#) of the European Development Days website.

Note that you will be required to create a profile on the website before starting the application. Do not forget to tick the box ‘I want to apply for the Young Leaders Programme’ when you create your profile. Do not forget that you should submit a completed form before Wednesday 18th March 2015.

Should you require any additional information or assistance, please contact youth@eudevdays.eu

We wish you the best of luck in the application, and we are very much looking forward to reviewing your proposal!