Youth Together for Arctic Futures

Funded by the European Union

Arctic Youth Dialogue: Call for Participants

May 11-15, 2024 in Brussels, Belgium

Are you passionate about the Arctic and its unique challenges and opportunities? Do you want to engage in meaningful discussions with fellow youth from across Europe and the Arctic? If so, we invite you to apply for the Arctic Youth Dialogue!

About the Arctic Youth Dialogue:
The Arctic Youth Dialogue is a platform aimed at fostering dialogue, understanding, and cooperation among young people interested in the Arctic region. This dialogue will provide an opportunity for 32 young individuals from diverse backgrounds from Europe and the Arctic states to exchange ideas, perspectives, and experiences on Arctic-related topics. The first Arctic Youth Dialogue follows the theme: The power of youth?! - Youth involvement and youth co-decision making in the Arctic and Europe. The outcomes of the workshops will be shared with the public during the EU-Arctic Youth Dialogue in conjunction with the EU Arctic Forum and the Indigenous Peoples' Dialogue. The Arctic Youth Dialogue is part of the Youth Together for Arctic Futures project.

Objectives:

- To provide a platform for young people to discuss Arctic issues, especially in the context of climate and environmental policies
- To empower European and Arctic youth to become active participants in shaping the future of the Arctic region
- To foster cross-cultural understanding and collaboration among young European and Arctic inhabitants, including Indigenous Peoples

Who Can Apply:
We are looking for motivated individuals with an interest in the Arctic, youth engagement, and tackling the climate and nature crisis that are between the ages of 18 and 35, who live in Europe or one of the Arctic states. We encourage people of all backgrounds, ethnicities, genders and abilities to apply. Participants must be able to participate in discussions and activities in English.

How to Apply:
To apply for the Arctic Youth Dialogue, please fill in the application form by 02.04.2024. In the form, you will be asked to submit either a written text (maximum 300 words) or an audio recording (maximum 2 minutes) explaining why you want to participate in the dialogue. Your submission should demonstrate your background; your interest in the Arctic, youth engagement, and tackling the climate and nature crisis; and your commitment to actively participate in the Arctic Youth Dialogue.

Selection Process:
Applications will be reviewed by a selection committee composed of representatives from relevant organisations. The selection process aims to include a diverse group of youth participants, representing various forms of diversity including gender, geography, background, and more.

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Program Overview:
Participants selected for the Arctic Youth Dialogue will join in on a 5-day interactive experience in Brussels, Belgium involving workshop sessions and participation in the EU Arctic Forum, EU Indigenous Peoples' Dialogue and the EU Arctic Youth Dialogue. Participants are expected to take part in a 1,5-hour online training in the lead up to the AYD, prepare for the workshops and contribute actively to sessions. After the event, participants will complete a short post-event evaluation. Participants will have the opportunity to join an online alumni-gathering after the meeting and will be invited to shape and contribute to the next Arctic Youth Dialogue in 2025.

Workshop Sessions (May 11-13, 2024):
From May 11th to May 13th, participants will engage in workshop sessions alongside their peers, totaling 32 participants. These sessions will offer a platform for collaborative learning, discussion and brainstorming. Participants will have the opportunity to delve into various topics related to the Arctic, with a focus on integrating youth perspectives into climate and biodiversity policy-making. Among other activities, participants will work together to prepare policy recommendations aimed at addressing key challenges facing the Arctic region, discuss these recommendations with policy-makers and present at the EU-Arctic Youth Dialogue.

Key Events (May 14-15, 2024):
On May 14th and May 15th, participants will attend the EU Arctic Forum and the Indigenous Peoples' Dialogue, an event jointly organised by the European Commission and the European External Action Service. The events will include keynote addresses and panel sessions on international cooperation, sustainable and inclusive economic development in the Arctic, human and societal matters, addressing the risks and challenges posed by climate change, Arctic partnerships, research, innovation and Arctic knowledge. In addition, this year the first **EU-Arctic Youth Dialogues** will take place in the afternoon of 15 May, back-to-back with the EU Arctic Forum and Indigenous Peoples' Dialogue.

Commitment:
We expect participants to fully commit to the program, including preparation activities, as well as actively participating in all scheduled activities from the morning of May 11th to the evening of May 15 in Brussels, Belgium.

Logistics:
The event is free of charge. Participants' travel and meals will be arranged and covered for the duration of the Arctic Youth Dialogue program. We cover accommodation for the nights of May 10-16. We will do our best to accommodate any support needs participants may have. Please indicate any barriers you may face to participate in the application form.

Join us for an unforgettable journey of learning, collaboration, and empowerment at the Arctic Youth Dialogue in Brussels!

Contact Information:
For any questions or further information, please contact Sissa Palmquist (sissa.palmquist@wwf.se) or Ronja Wedegärtner (ronja.wedegartner@wwf.se).