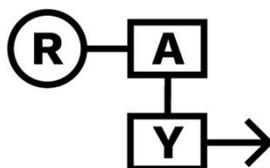




EUROPEAN UNION



Research-based  
analysis of European  
youth programmes

# RAY LEARN CONFERENCE

17-19 November 2025

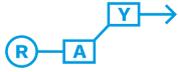
Budapest

## FINAL INFORMATION FOR PARTICIPANTS

15 OCTOBER 2025

**Erasmus+**  
Enriching lives, opening minds.





Dear participant of the RAY LEARN Conference,

Herewith we are sending you final information for the conference, updates and reminders, including the final programme, how to prepare for our networking activities, support programme and optional registration to a guided tour, background material, organisational and logistical details as well as other useful and important information.

The RAY LEARN Conference is co-hosted by the National Agencies of the European Youth Programmes from Finland (host), Belgium (Flemish Community), France, Italy, Lithuania, Malta, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Sweden (co-hosts). The RAY Network Coordination at the Finnish National Agency leads and coordinates the preparation process and the implementation of the seminar in cooperation with the RAY transnational research team as well as the facilitation team.

## 1. PROGRAMME-RELATED INFORMATION

### 1.1. FINAL PROGRAMME (NEW!)

You can find the final programme overview enclosed. Please note, due to logistical changes, the conference will start on 17 November at 16:00 CET (instead of initially communicated at 15:30 CET).

### 1.2. SUPPORT PROGRAMME (NEW!)

- We are inviting you to an optional walking tour on the Buda side on 17 November, the arrival day, before the programme start. **You can sign up for the tour here: [Registration Optional Walking Tour | RAY](#)**. It is organised with the support of Behind Budapest. This group specializes in walking tours that avoid the usual tourist spots, offering instead a glimpse of the city from a local's perspective. The guided tour will depart from the EYCB at 13:30 local time and return to the EYCB with a duration of approximately two hours. If you're interested, please sign up by 31 October.
- On 18 and 19 November, we are organising a dinner-out in different areas of Budapest.
- Before we head to dinner on 19 November, we have a common activity with a social touch in town. This is a surprise for now 😊

### 1.3. NETWORKING MOMENTS - HOW TO PREPARE (NEW!)

During the conference we plan to create multiple networking opportunities. To start with that in a structured way **we kindly ask you to fill in your profile at the following Padlet: [RAY LEARN Conference wall](#)**. Of course, only if you feel comfortable with it. Throughout the programme we will be coming back to it and using it, so do make sure you put relevant information in (not necessarily too long, but rather succinct and inviting to discover more through direct conversation) 😊. The information we ask you to share is about you and your role, your organisation/institution and organizational learning practices/tools you use.

Additionally, do feel free to bring any specific tools that you would want to share with others (if helpful to support you talking about them), however have in mind that we do not envisage specific tool-fare, but rather networking moments.

### 1.4. BACKGROUND MATERIAL (NEW!)

We will share, learn and exchange together at the conference. No need to prepare anything specific before arrival. In case you want to get familiar with the work of the RAY network and/or



want to refresh your memory on the European youth programmes, please check out the following links which can support you with your preparation:

- RAY Network and its activities: [www.researchyouth.net](http://www.researchyouth.net), [www.researchyouth.net/news/](http://www.researchyouth.net/news/)
- In case you want to remind yourselves about specifics of the European youth programmes, please check out the following links:
  - >> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0817&from=EN> <sup>1</sup>
  - >> [Erasmus+ programme](#)
  - >> [Erasmus+ Programme Guide](#)
  - >> <https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:32021R0888&from=EN> <sup>2</sup>
  - >> [European Solidarity Corps](#)
  - >> [European Solidarity Corps Guide](#)

## 2. CONFERENCE MODALITIES

### 2.1. ARRIVAL AND DEPARTURE (*REMINDER*)

The RAY LEARN Conference will start on 17 November at 16:00 local time (CET), with an optional lunch from 13:00-14:30. We advise you to arrive a bit earlier in order to complete the check-in and registration process, getting acquainted with other participants or to just have a smooth and relaxing arrival. The programme will end on the 19 November by 16:30 local time (CET). After the conference, we invite to a common evening programme and a dinner in town.

### 2.2. VENUE AND ACCOMMODATION (*REMINDER*)

The RAY LEARN conference will be held in The European Youth Centre of Budapest. This is also where participants will be staying overnight.

European Youth Centre Budapest

Zivatar utca 1-3, 1024 Budapest

[www.coe.int/en/web/youth/eyc-budapest](http://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/eyc-budapest)

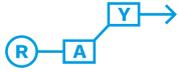
#### ACCOMMODATION:

- We will organise the accommodation for all participants. We have reserved single rooms (unless otherwise agreed) for you according to the information you have indicated in the registration form or communicated otherwise.
- Please note: If, in an exceptional case, you need to cancel on short notice due to sickness or another kind of force majeure, we need to be informed about it immediately due to logistical and organisational demands. Cancellation costs may apply.

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<sup>1</sup> REGULATION (EU) 2021/817 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 20 May 2021 establishing Erasmus+: the Union Programme for education and training, youth and sport and repealing Regulation (EU) No 1288/2013

<sup>2</sup> REGULATION (EU) 2021/888 OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL of 20 May 2021 establishing the European Solidarity Corps Programme and repealing Regulations (EU) 2018/1475 and (EU) No 375/2014



## 2.3. RELATED COSTS (REMINDER)

As a rule, the hosting National Agencies cover the central costs for the conference as well as board and lodging for their own beneficiaries.

As a reminder to National Agencies: The Finnish National Agency will pre-pay all costs and will issue respective invoices after the conferences to the NAs including the contribution to the central expenses and costs for all participants from the respective country.<sup>3</sup>

## 2.4. SAFETY, ACCESSIBILITY AND SUSTAINABILITY (REMINDER)

In our activities, we support the principle of safer space, where no one is discriminated or bullied because of their background or person. We want you to respect the same principle.

In the RAY Network, we follow a Code of Conduct to ensure a welcoming and inclusive environment for everyone involved in the network and its activities. More information [HERE](#).

Our activities are accessible for people with disabilities. If you need a support person, accessible room and transport or supporting tools, we will provide it for you. Please let us know about your needs as soon as possible.

We take sustainability in consideration where we can. We advise you to use environment-friendly means of transport whenever possible. We also encourage you to contact your own National Agency to find out how they support low emission travelling to activities abroad.

# 3. DIRECTIONS (NEW!)

## 3.1. FROM THE AIRPORT (BUDAPEST FERENC LISZT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT)

### By public transport

There are two different options to get to EYCB with public transport:

- Rapid bus 100E to Deák Ferenc tér metro station: The bus has a special price, as it is a direct connection to the city centre. It departs frequently, the price is 2500 HUF. From Deák Ferenc tér you can plan your visit by using Google Maps or BKK route planner to the EYCB (Zivatar utca 1-3. Budapest). Route planner: <https://go.bkk.hu/>
- Regular bus service 200E to the nearest metro station: The bus takes you to the nearest metro station of Kőbánya-Kispest. From there you can travel directly to Nyugati railway station. From there you need to change to bus 91 or 291 and get off at Zivatar street. This way you will get uphill and will need to walk only 2-5 minutes to the center.

There's often a suggestion on Google Maps to change to a train connection at the nearby train station. While the connection is technically valid, it can be complicated, and the English passenger information services are often poorly maintained. We recommend not using the trains, as there are frequent disruptions on the suburban rail lines, which can significantly delay your arrival at the venue.

### By taxi or private shuttle services

Uber, Bolt are both available in Hungary. There is also a Hungarian company called Főtaxi offering taxi services. **All of these services are licensed taxis in Budapest.** Please always check the vehicle's doors to see the sticker.

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<sup>3</sup> A. Financial contribution to the central costs: as agreed and included in the RAY research contract 2025. B. Costs per participant (board and lodging for three nights) is approximately 350 €.



Főtaxi has a kiosk, where you need to order the taxi, the kiosk is located in the inner curve at 2A or 2B terminal (directly at the entrance). Uber and Bolt can be used through the PhoneApps, but then you need to wait for them at the outer waiting zone.

Be careful when ordering the taxis, to indicate which terminal you are at.

#### Minibud

There's also a minibus (van) service. In the arrivals area, near the baggage claim, there are kiosks where you can get information from the Minibud guides. Minibud groups passengers who are travelling to nearby destinations, so people going to similar parts of the city usually travel together. <https://www.minibud.hu/en>

**We advise you to use public transport if possible and share taxis if it's the only convenient means of travel.**

### 3.2. FROM THE BUDAPEST-KELETI TRAIN STATION

Take the Metro M2 (in direction: Déli pályaudvar) until Batthyány tér H. Change to the bus 11 until Füge utca. From there it takes four minutes to the EYCB.

Alternatively, you can also take the Metro M2 until Széll Kálmán tér, and walk uphill to the EYCB for about a kilometer.

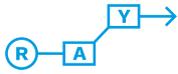
#### **TICKETS FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

Single tickets are valid for a single uninterrupted trip without transfer and cost 500 HUF. It is very important to validate your ticket before starting your trip or immediately after boarding before the vehicle departs. There are also other options for tickets, so we advise you to plan your trip in advance: <https://bkk.hu/en/>

## 4. SOME FREETIME IDEAS (NEW!)

EYCB is located on the uphill on the Buda side of the city. It means there are many nice spots around the centre, which provide a great place to see the Pest side alongside the Danube River.

- One interesting by walking approximately in 15 minutes, you can get to 'Gül Baba Tomb' which opens daily from 10:00-18:00 and offers a nice view over the city. Maybe you can



check it out during your lunch break if you wish. <https://maps.app.goo.gl/5KikYgeaUkjddngn6>

- Another walking distance recommendation is specifically for the evening, when the lights are turned on and buildings get a nice, special atmosphere. Walk to the Batthyány square on foot which is around 20-25 minutes, and you'd see the Parliament house in night lights, which is definitely a selfie spot for most tourists.  
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/tD3zb29Bj4aqjngB9>
- If you are into running and jogging, we recommend you the Margaret-island on the Danube, which has a rubberised running track of 5,3 kilometers.  
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/i15TGKw2CDsKG1VU6>
- If you want to hang out with other participants and see the city from a rooftop bar, then our recommendation is Leo Bar, which is a bit further by walking about 30 minutes. Plan your visit and check the bar: <https://www.leobudapest.hu/en>
- One of the most popular activities in Hungarian culture, and something many people in Budapest enjoy during their leisure time, is visiting thermal baths. The closest bath to the EYCB is the Saint Lukács Bath, which is open daily from 07:00 to 19:00, and on Tuesdays until 22:00. Remember to bring your swimsuit and slippers when you visit! When going to a thermal bath, it's not necessary (or even recommended) to stay for too long. If you have about two hours total, including time to change and dry your hair, that's perfectly enough. This is because thermal water is also medicinal water, and you shouldn't stay in one pool for more than 20 minutes at a time. We usually take short breaks between pools and move from one to another—it's all part of the experience. :) <https://en.lukacsfurdo.hu/>
- For Christmas lovers, there will be a recommendation for a Christmas market that is organized more in line with the values of community and local autonomy, rather than profit-making. At the time of writing this info pack, the exact opening dates and times have not yet been announced.

#### AT EYCB

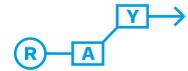
- EYCB has different services available for all guests who stay there. The tap water is drinkable everywhere, but there are also some water fountains in the building. Bring your own bottle and take care of hydration.
- If you anyway packed your slippers and swimsuit it's great as there's a sauna in the basement of the building. You'd need to ask at the reception in advance.
- There's a smaller gym located near the sauna, which might be interesting to you.
- There's also a laundry room with ironing option at the basement for your convenience.
- There are different musical instruments on the 4th Floor.

To find out more about all the other services: <https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/facilities-and-services>

## 5. OTHER USEFUL INFORMATION (NEW!)

### 5.1. TIME ZONE

Budapest is in the Central European time zone (CET), at the time of the conference, the Central European Wintertime applies.



## 5.2. WEATHER

Autumn season in Budapest varies a lot. We usually can enjoy sunny day for few hours during the day, but the temperature can drop rapidly. It is also often the rainy month, so come prepared. Check it out: <https://www.met.hu/en/idojaras/>

## 5.3. CURRENCY

The Hungarian currency is Hungarian Forints. The official rates are about 390-410 Hungarian Forints (HUF) for 1 EUR.

## 5.4. MONEY EXCHANGE

In case you need cash for the minibus shuttle / taxi, you can change money in the arrival hall; you can consult the map of Budapest airport to locate the Exchange Office / ATMs. You may find it more advisable to withdraw money from the ATMs, as the exchange rate at the Exchange Office may not be very favourable.

## 5.5. ELECTRICITY

Hungary has the 220 Volt 2 pin electricity plus (like in mainland Europe) - bring adaptors if needed (and your chargers for mobile phones, cameras etc.).

## 5.6. SOME PHRASES IN HUNGARIAN

Hello - Szia! Sziasztok! ('See-ah! See-ah-stock!')

Thank you - Köszönöm ('Keu-seu-neum')

You're welcome - Szívesen ('See-ve-shen')

One water / pálinka / beer / wine please - Kérek egy vizet / pálinkát / sört / bort ('Care-ek edge whee-zet / pah-link-cat / shirt / bore-t')

Find out more: <https://theculturetrip.com/europe/hungary/articles/11-essential-hungarian-phrases-you-need-to-know>

## 6. WHAT'S NEXT

SEE YOU IN BUDAPEST!

If you need any further information in the meantime or in case of questions, please contact Susanne Karppinen, [susanne.karppinen@oph.fi](mailto:susanne.karppinen@oph.fi) (second contact: Carmen Teubl-Kiviniemi, [carmen.teubl-kiviniemi@oph.fi](mailto:carmen.teubl-kiviniemi@oph.fi)).

**In case of an emergency, you can reach us here:** Tiina (RAY), +358 295 331 401 (from 16-20 November).

## WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO WELCOMING YOU TO THE CONFERENCE!

Warm wishes,

RAY Network Coordination, on behalf of the hosting and co-hosting National Agencies, RAY transnational research team as well as the facilitation team