



**UK YOUNG  
AMBASSADORS  
TO THE  
EUROPEAN  
YOUTH FORUM  
APPLICATION  
PACK**



# About the British Youth Council

The British Youth Council is the National Youth Council of the UK. A youth-led charity, we empower young people aged 25 and under to influence and inform the decisions that affect their lives. We support young people to get involved in their communities and democracy locally, nationally and internationally, making a difference as volunteers, campaigners, decision-makers and leaders.



We are young people - and our charity aims to help other young people, whatever their background or barriers they face, to make the world a better place for us all.

## Our vision

A world in which every young person is empowered to create social and political change.

## Our mission

As the national youth council of the UK, the British Youth Council brings young people together to find their voice and use it to improve the lives of young people. We work with others to amplify young people's voices to create an environment in which young people views are valued, sought and acted upon.

## Our values

Youth led – young people are agents of change and will always be at the forefront of our work. As a youth-led charity, young people are our leadership through our governance structures. They lead and shape our work, and we support them to define their own action for change. We champion youth leadership across all sections of society, evidencing the benefits of engaging young people in decision making and delivery and supporting that to happen.

Collaborative – we actively seek to collaborate with others to make positive change happen. We seek to work with relevant partners to add value to our campaigns and activity, and to be more creative in our approach to making change happen with and for young people. And we recognise the skills, knowledge and experience of young



people, volunteers, staff and partners, and strive to achieve more by maximising the opportunities that collaboration provides.

Inclusive – we respect and value diversity and act in a way that includes all. We ensure that all our activities are inclusive, recognising the needs of young people across different communities, and bring young people and partners together to learn from each other.

### **Serving our membership**

The British Youth Council is made up of almost 200 member organisations who support our common vision for young people. Members elect our board, determine our policies and prioritise our campaigns. They also act as the link between the British Youth Council and millions of individuals within our member organisations.

[www.byc.org.uk/members](http://www.byc.org.uk/members)

### **Youth-led networks**

The British Youth Council runs a number of youth-led networks and programmes - including the UK Youth Parliament, NHS Youth Forum, and Youth Select Committee - which encourage young people to get involved in democracy and campaign to bring about change. [www.byc.org.uk/programmes](http://www.byc.org.uk/programmes)

### **Campaigning and consulting**

The British Youth Council seeks to represent the views of young people and our members to stakeholders and decision makers at a local, national and international level. This work is based on our manifesto, which outlines our beliefs and aspirations. [www.byc.org.uk/campaigns](http://www.byc.org.uk/campaigns)

### **Training and recognition**

Our training programmes empower young people with the skills, knowledge and confidence to bring about change. We also recognise young people who have made a significant contribution to their community through our high-profile award schemes. [www.byc.org.uk/training](http://www.byc.org.uk/training)

### **International**

Through our international youth participation young people learn about global issues and connect and share with other young people around the world. They are able to take part in discussions and influence decisions made at an international level.

[www.byc.org.uk/international](http://www.byc.org.uk/international)

# About the UK Young Ambassadors

UK Young Ambassadors is a programme in place to give young people from the UK a voice and influence in international decision-making and to campaign for change on local, national and international levels. The Young Ambassador programme is open to any young person (18-25) from across the UK (England, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales). The UKYA programme is divided in 3 main strands:

- Two UK Young Ambassadors overseeing our work within the Commonwealth Youth Forum
- Two UK Young Ambassadors overseeing our work within the European Youth Forum
- Four UK young Ambassador (each representing one of the nations in the UK) overseeing our work within the EU Youth Dialogue

The UK Young Ambassadors for the European Youth Forum and the Commonwealth Youth Forum are elected by our member organisations, while the UK Young Ambassadors for the EU Youth Dialogue are selected.

# About the European Youth Forum



*The vision of the European Youth Forum is to be the voice of young people in Europe, where young people are equal citizens and are encouraged and supported to achieve their fullest potential as global citizens.*



The European Youth Forum is the platform of youth organisations in Europe. They represent over 100 youth organisations, which bring together tens of millions of young people from all over Europe.

The Youth Forum works to empower young people to participate actively in society to improve their own lives by representing and advocating their needs and interest and those of their organisations. In the current uncertain political and social context that affects young people, they can be powerful catalysts for positive change and contributors of innovative solutions to Europe's challenges.

To overcome the challenges faced by young people, the European Youth Forum has three main goals:

- Greater youth participation
- Stronger youth organisations
- Increased youth autonomy and inclusion

With these goals in mind, the Youth Forum will continue our advocacy work to become an agenda-setter on youth affairs, empower member organisations to maximise the impact of their expertise and enforce a rights-based approach in all that we do.

More info about the European Youth Forum can be found [here](#).

## About the role

**We are now looking for 1 UK Young Ambassador, who identifies as male or non-binary to join the UK Young Ambassador team, to specifically lead on representation to the European Youth Forum.**

The term is for 3 years and runs from 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019 - 5th September 2022.

### Who can stand?

Any young person who is **part of a BYC [membership organisation](#)**, and aged 18 to 25 on the 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019, is able to stand as a UK Young Ambassador to the European Youth Forum.

You must be able to commit to the full 3 year term, be able to attend an induction in October (online or in person) and be prepared to work on the occasional weekend. You must also fulfil the requirements below:

### Requirements:

- Be part of a BYC member organisation.
- Aged 18 to 25 on 1<sup>st</sup> September 2019.



- Enthusiastic, motivated and committed to supporting UK young people's voice in Europe.
- Committed to design and deliver a campaign, responding to young people's needs and concerns arising from the European Youth Forum.
- Be/have been active in your local community.
- Have an interest in youth issues/current affairs.
- Have an interest in European decision-making and campaigns, and a willingness to learn more.
- Have good listening, communication and interpersonal skills.
- You do not need experience in similar projects but should be interested in learning about and getting experience in international participation.
- Able to commit to an average of 3 hours per week. The workload will vary and weekend and evening work will be necessary from time to time.
- Able to attend the induction meeting (date TBA) in September.
- Commitment to youth participation and the values of the BYC.
- Able to obtain a passport and travel internationally.
- Able to travel independently within the UK and overseas.
- Resident in the UK for the duration of the term.
- Not holding another officially elected BYC position, e.g. PG group, Trustee, etc.
- Willing to sign up to the BYC code of conduct.
- Willing to give consent for images and video to be used and shared.

### **What will I be expected to do?**

*UK Young Ambassadors for the European Youth Forum will:*

- Be involved in **research and consultation** with young people across the UK to gather their views, including workshops, focus groups and online research, whenever appropriate.
- **Inform and influence** European policy making through attending the European Youth Forum Council of Members Meetings (COMEM) as well as representing the BYC at BICC meetings which is the congregation of national youth councils in the region.
- Assist with the rest of the UKYA team on an 18 month campaign on local, national and European levels.
- **Raise awareness** of European campaigns, policies and actions through reports, blogs, podcasts, websites and social networks.
- **Represent** UK young people at European events and to **UK decision makers**.
- Receive training on research, campaigning and advocacy, media and communications, influencing and European decision-making.
- Be responsible for **communications and social media** for the project.
- **Feedback** to the BYC, their organisations and youth organisations and networks.
- **Work as a team** with other UK Young Ambassadors to lead the development and delivery of the project across the country and within your organisation.



- Be an active **part of a European network**, to share information, ideas and actions.
- Get **recognition** for your work.

The work will be UK based but there will be a requirement for European travel. The workload of the UK Young Ambassadors varies but it can be quite intensive at times. Please consider your other commitments and how much time you can realistically give to this before you can apply.

This is an unpaid, voluntary position but travel, food and other associated costs (including childcare and accommodation for overnight stays) and expenses will be covered by the project.

### **What is the timetable for the selection process?**

Deadline for applications – Monday 8<sup>th</sup> July 09:00 am

Candidates informed whether they've proceeded to interview – 19<sup>th</sup> July

Interviews taking place over phone – week commencing 22<sup>nd</sup> July

Candidates informed whether they'll proceed to ACM – by the 2<sup>nd</sup> of August

Candidates statements for election need to be submitted (more info available for this once the selection is done) – 12<sup>th</sup> of August

If you need any further information, do not hesitate to get in touch: [international@byc.org.uk](mailto:international@byc.org.uk)