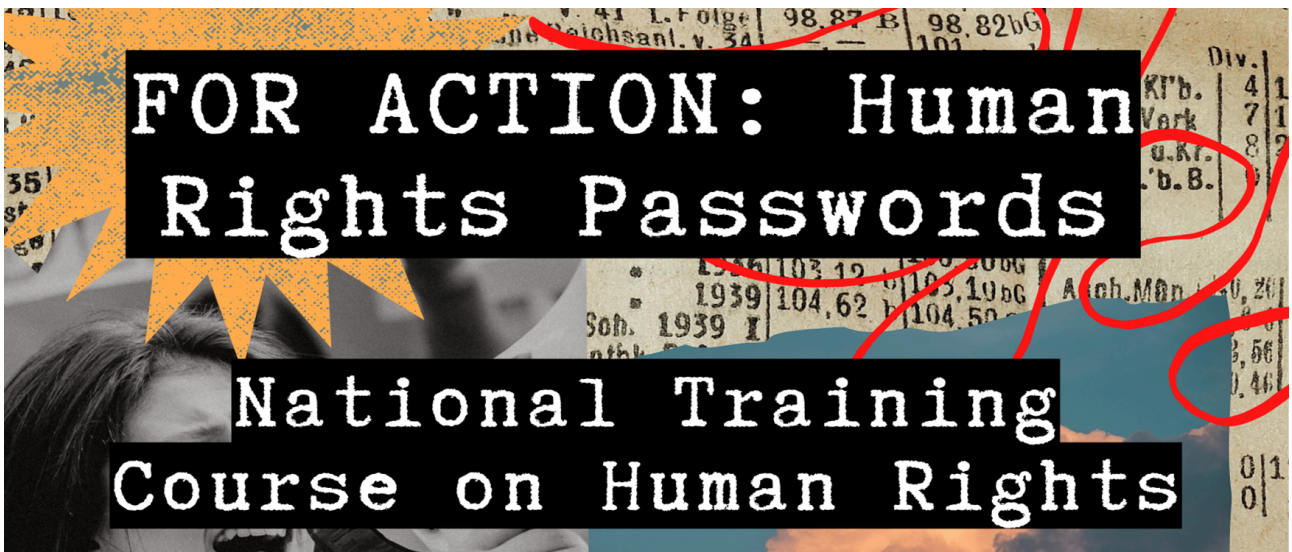




London, 30<sup>th</sup> July 2025



**London Borough of Newham's Youth Empowerment Service**

**United Kingdom**

**27 – 31 October 2025**

**Call for participants**

Deadline: 12th September 2025



## Human Rights Passwords

The Council of Europe was founded in London in May 1949, and to this day, the Council of Europe continues its long-standing commitment to human rights education with young people by supporting a new series of national training courses. These activities are part of a strategic effort to promote education for democratic citizenship and human rights (EDC/HRE) across Europe, in line with the Council's core mission to uphold human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. The 2025 Compass programme responds to priorities set out in the *Roadmap for Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education with Young People (2024–2028)* and the Council of Europe's Youth Sector Strategy 2030, focusing on supporting key multipliers, strengthening national networks, and ensuring quality in non-formal human rights education. This training course is organised in cooperation with the Youth Department of the Council of Europe within the Youth for Democracy programme.

In this context, [AICEM](#) and the [London Borough of Newham's Youth Empowerment Service](#) are proud to partner with the Council of Europe's Youth Department to deliver a Compass training course in London in 2025. This five-day course will bring together youth workers, educators, community leaders, and activists to build their capacities as human rights educators. With a focus on non-formal learning and practical tools, the training aims to develop participants' knowledge, skills, and commitment to human rights, while contributing to stronger national frameworks and communities of practice in the UK.

## Council of Europe

The Council of Europe has 46 member states (including the United Kingdom) that work on issues of democracy, human rights, and the rule of law. From the Congress of The Hague in 1948 throughout its history, youth organisations and young people have played a crucial role in safeguarding the values of this organisation.

A key element of the Council of Europe's work is human rights education and has several charters and recommendations aimed at supporting young people in accessing and understanding their human rights, including [the Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education](#).

The Youth Department of the Council of Europe has published several manuals and toolkits to support human rights education with young people, including [Compass](#), the manual for human rights education with young people.

"Human rights passwords" will explore the human rights frameworks that affect young people and give them the tools to promote human rights and human rights education in their local communities.

## Aims and objectives of the training course

This training course aims to contribute to the Council of Europe's strategic priorities for 2025 by strengthening the role of young people in promoting human rights and democratic citizenship, and demonstrates its relevance today by:

- Promoting human rights (HR) among young people (18 – 25) living in the UK and

exploring ways young people can use both offline and online tools to exercise and defend democratic rights and use them to engage and influence political decisions related to Human Rights (HR) and Human Rights Education (HRE).

- Empowering youth workers and actors working with youth, particularly young migrants, refugees, and asylum seekers, by providing them with tools and methodologies on HRE. This support enables participants to implement concrete actions through their organisations and new projects, while also positively influencing local authorities on the importance of HRE.
- Participants will also have the opportunity to engage with and reflect on an art exhibition on Human Rights, designed by refugees and asylum seekers. Together with these individuals and the community, they will share aspirations and proposals for local actions and initiatives to advocate for refugees' and asylum seekers' rights across the UK. This initiative will be held in the Youth Empowerment Service of the London Borough of Newham and will host several local, national, and international representatives.

### **Objectives of the event**

1. To strengthen participants' understanding of key concepts of human rights and human rights education and their ability to put them into practice with young people in a diverse society, including relevant mechanisms and instruments (charters, declarations, conventions).
2. To develop essential competencies, skills and attitudes to act as multipliers and advocates working with human rights education in non-formal learning settings, including familiarising participants with the approaches of the Compass manual.
3. To raise awareness about the main dilemmas Human Rights advocates, educators, and activists face in today's world: conflicts, the rise of the far-right, fake news and disinformation
4. To develop a skill set to protect and promote our cultural, social economic rights.
5. The training aims to strengthen the informal network of human rights educators and advocates in the UK, which was informally established during last year's edition of the national training course *Human Rights Password*, organised in partnership with AICEM, London Borough of Newham's Youth Empowerment Service, and the Youth Department of the Council of Europe.

### **Programme and outcomes**

The youth event will bring together 25 representatives of local, regional, national youth councils, parliament, youth organisations, and youth work professionals for a 5-day programme using participatory approaches characteristic of non-formal education and youth work. A human rights art exhibition will be featured during the programme with the support of [WeRestart](#).

### **Why the London Borough of Newham's Youth Empowerment Service?**

Partnering with the London Borough of Newham for the 2025 Compass training course reflects a

shared commitment to advancing youth empowerment and human rights education in one of the most vibrant and diverse areas of the UK. Newham Council has established a strong focus on supporting young people through its *Youth Empowerment Service*, *Early Help Strategy*, and *Young People's Charter*, with particular attention to safeguarding, inclusive participation, and tackling exploitation, inequality, and mental health challenges. By hosting this training, the borough reinforces its dedication to equipping young people with the tools to become active citizens, challenge discrimination, and contribute to shaping their communities.

Newham's demographic diversity, history of regeneration, and socio-economic challenges make it a powerful location for this initiative. The Compass training course offers a strategic opportunity to deepen local efforts around human rights education, especially for youth affected by structural barriers, migration, and exclusion. Through this collaboration, Newham Council is helping foster a culture of human rights at the community level, strengthening partnerships between institutions, civil society, and youth, and creating long-term impact by supporting the next generation of human rights educators and advocates.

## Profile of participants

The youth event is primarily designed to bring together participants who are either:

- a) representatives of a local, regional, national youth council or national organisations of a similar scope
- b) representatives of youth organisations,
- c) young activists, facilitators and leaders active in human rights and democracy projects or campaigns or education
- d) UK youth delegates to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities.
- e) teachers, University students, civil servants and government representatives with an interest and/or responsibilities in areas directly linked with the theme of this training course
- f) Ideally, we seek candidates from diverse backgrounds, prioritising inclusion. We welcome applications from migrants, asylum seekers, refugees, young people not in education/employment/training, disabled and/or SEN young people, LGBTQIA+ young people, care-experienced young people, and young people from Global Majority communities.

### Participants must:

- be in a position to multiply and follow up on the conclusions of the training
- be a resident or inhabitant of the United Kingdom, and specifically be a resident of the London Borough of Newham
- 20% of places will be reserved for young people living in neighbouring boroughs.
- be aged between 18-25 years (exception can be made if explained)
- be able to work autonomously in English (if sign language or additional interpretation is required, please get in touch with the organisers before applying)
- be available for the entire duration of the training

## Application procedure and selection of participants

All candidates must duly complete the online application form via this [Link](#)  
The deadline for submitting applications is **Friday, 12th September at 1 pm**

The partners will select up to 25 participants based on the above profile, ensuring a balance between genders, age, diverse experiences, backgrounds, organisations, institutions, and projects. A waiting list may be established. **Candidates will be informed by 20th September 2025 whether their application has been accepted or rejected, and if they have been put on the waiting list.**

The Council of Europe welcomes applications from all candidates who fulfil the specific profile of the activities, irrespective of gender, disability, marital or parental status, racial, ethnic or social origin, colour, religion, belief or sexual orientation.

## Practical and financial conditions

### Board and lodging

- The organisers will provide lunch and coffee breaks for participants

The Compass regional training course "Human Rights Passwords" will take place in spaces operated by the London Borough of Newham's Youth Empowerment Service, primarily **Stratford Youth at the Source**, Stratford Shopping Centre, Theatre Square, London E15 1BX, from 27 October to 31 October 2025;

## Travel

- Travel expenses will be reimbursed by bank transfer after the activity. Only the participants who attend the entire event can be reimbursed.
- Participants are expected to arrive at the venue on 27th October and depart on 31st October 2025.

## Questions

If you have any questions about this activity, please contact us at [ilaria.esposito@aicem.it](mailto:ilaria.esposito@aicem.it)

## DRAFT PROGRAMME

Monday, 27 October 2025

Arrivals

	27th October	28th October	29th October	30th October	31 October
<b>9.30</b>	Welcome and opening  Getting to know each other	Mapping Exercise:  Young people have access to rights	Responses: Human Rights Education and Education for Democratic Citizenship	Practice: Group delivery	Follow up
<b>Break</b>					
<b>11.30</b>	Brief overview of NFE and youth work concepts	Identities and human rights  Explore intersectionality and levels of discrimination	Am I an HR practitioner?  reflective practice	Practice: Group delivery	Evaluation  Closing
<b>Lunch break</b>					
<b>2 pm</b>	Council of Europe  HR: values and principles	Reflection on human rights conflicts and dilemmas in today's world: conflicts, rise of far-right, fake news & disinformation	Practice:  Intro to session outline structure.  Plan and deliver a session for your group.	Feedback on group delivery	departure
<b>Break</b>					

<b>3.45</b>	Human Rights History European Convention on Human Rights and Political, social and economic context of Europe and UK	Human Rights in practice Participants receive a Copy of Compass and Compasito	Practice continues	Reflections on ideas and partnership generation at local level	
<b>Dinner</b>					
<b>Evening</b>	Reflection walk Human Rights Exhibition	free evening	Free evening: participants need to prepare to deliver activities on day 4	intercultural evening hosted by a local youth group	