

YES 2020 - Let's go!

Dear exchange student,

We are very happy to invite you to the Young Europeans' Seminar (YES) 2020!

It is the biggest YFU event in 2020 and it will take place on **22 - 26 June 2020 in Werbellinsee**, Germany (north of Berlin). This event is a special opportunity for you to top off your exchange experience and to meet many young people. The campsite is beautifully situated near a lake called Werbellinsee. We hope to see you there!

What is the YES 2020?

The Young Europeans' Seminar (YES) aims to contribute to the development of young global citizens through learning and volunteering together in a spirit of international friendship.

YES is a yearly massive intercultural get-together for over 400 YFU exchange students at the end of their school year, all put together by a team of over 100 YFU volunteers. The YES is a unique opportunity to reunite with old friends from all over Europe and make new ones, creating a bridge between the exchange year and the return home. It's a fun learning experience where students explore what it means to be a citizen of the world through diverse interactive learning activities. The international team of volunteers creates a unique spirit and an amazingly motivational experience for everyone at the YES.

The topic of the YES 2020 is “Interconnected”.

Our lives have never in history been as interconnected as they are now. Our actions influence each other's lives from the other side of the world.

This is why, during the YES 2020, we will focus on a few key questions surrounding our increasing global interdependency: what can we do to address global challenges on a daily basis? How can empowered youth drive the action towards fighting our **climate crisis**? In what ways is **migration** changing, and staying the same, as a result of a more connected world? How can we ensure that **equality** is a reality for all in our global community?



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All these questions, and more, we will tackle in a variety of interactive ways at the YES! Together, by taking collective responsibility for shaping the world around us. Because in the end it's not about "you". It's not about "them". It's about all of us - **interconnected.**



YES 2020- Location and Program

As you have already read above, the seminar will take place from **Monday, 22 June to Friday, 26 June 2020 in Werbellinsee, Germany.** Through a variety of educational and free-time activities, the YES 2020 will give participants a unique chance to unleash their potential as global citizens and become advocates of peace in its various dimensions.

During the week, you will attend exciting **Workshops** which will tackle the Theme, enrich your perspective and encourage you to get active in your community! At the same time, you will have **National Sessions**, where you the other exchange students from your home country can share experiences and prepare for the grand arrival back home

Plenaries will be held each day as a start in the morning and as a final event in the evening. During each Plenary, all the participants will gather in the plenary hall and will experience the YES 2020 together!

Whenever you have spare time at the YES 2020, you will have the opportunity to join **Free Time Activities**. These activities can be playing soccer, painting, swimming in the lake, playing volleyball, dancing, taking pictures/ videos, and a lot more. Let us surprise you!

You can also chill out and chat with friends at the **YES Lounge**. In the evenings we will invite you to the YES Lounge to relax and listen to music. On the last night, we will all gather for the awesome **YES Party** with fantastic DJs!

Follow us on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/yfuyes/>) and Instagram (@yfuyes) to see the latest updates!. See the YES 2019 Aftermovie here! (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QGcaq9E9TnA&t=81s>)

How do I sign up for the YES 2020?

If you wish to participate in the YES 2020, you have to sign up at your host country's YFU organization.

You need to respond to your national office before: **February 14th 2020**. After you have signed up, the YES team will contact you via e-mail and provide you with more information on the program. You will then be asked to register for the YES 2020. With this registration, you will also be asked to sign up for the workshops that you are most interested in.

If you **do not have regular access to e-mail and Internet**, and therefore cannot use this for the registration, please let us know. We will then send you all information and registration forms by postal service.

To sign up for the event as a whole is voluntary! However, the YES is an important part of your exchange program and – with very few exceptions – all European exchange students and even students from other parts of the world participate in the YES.

When you sign up for the YES 2020, you commit to the following:

- You must attend the full program of the event. This means that you have to actively participate in all of the offered sessions and that you may not leave the camp ground during the seminar.
- You also have to comply with all rules of the camp, which include, for example, restrictions on the consumption of alcohol, as you will still be on YFU program. Even though the YES takes place at the end of the stay, serious violation of the rules can still cause an early return.
- You are responsible for making sure that you have the necessary documents to enter Germany (passport, visa – check with YFU in your host country!)
- Food, accommodation and transportation are included and will be arranged by YFU. Travel to the YES is arranged by your host country. When you leave from the YES, you will go straight to your home country – the return travel is arranged by YFU in your home country.

The only thing you need is money for snacks and drinks. Please remember to exchange your money to Euro (if necessary) before the seminar. Unfortunately, there is no ATM (money machine) on the campsite.

We are looking forward to meeting you at the YES 2020!