



Invitation

2011-09-05

European Youth Parliament (EYP) Sweden

Invitation to the national selection process of the European Youth Parliament 2011/2012

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Letter from the President

Dear Principal, Dear Teacher,

Would You like to **encourage your students** to speak their mind and engage in discussion? Would You like to **innovate** and add a broader perspective to **Your teaching**?

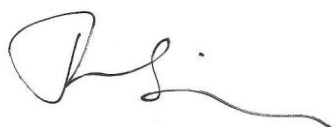
The European Youth Parliament (EYP) Sweden (EUP Sverige) offers You the opportunity to **create a more attractive European and Civics education** for Your students. Many of the students who have participated in our activities have developed an interest for these kinds of questions and continued their engagement. We want more students to experience this!

Every year, EYP Sweden organises a National Selection to which all of Sweden's Upper Secondary Schools are invited to apply. This year we have **improved the selection process** for the National Session, read more about this below.

At the National Session, the schools which will be **representing Sweden abroad** at other similar sessions will be selected. Last year we gave more than half of the participating schools the chance to participate in sessions abroad!

A National Session is a three day long conference. It is constructed around the unique methodology of the EYP; teambuilding, committee work and general assembly.

To apply, go to www.eup.se/apply and let us know you are interested by filling out the form at the **latest by Friday, September 30th**. For more information about the National Selection or what EYP is and what we do, please visit the homepage www.eup.se or contact info@eup.se.



Therese Sivertsson
President
EYP Sweden

Introduction to the EYP

The EYP Sweden represents a non-partisan and independent educational project, driven voluntarily by students and teachers that support its activities.

The EYP encourages independent thinking and socio-political initiative in young people and facilitates the learning of crucial social and professional skills. Since its inauguration, many tens of thousands of young people have taken part in regional, national and international sessions, formed friendships and made international contacts across and beyond borders.

Today the EYP is one of the largest European platforms for political debate, intercultural encounters, political educational work and the exchange of ideas among young people in Europe. The EYP consists of a network of 35 European associations and organisations in which thousands of young people are active in a voluntary capacity.

Read more about the organisation at www.eup.se or www.eyp.org.

Important dates of the national selection process 2011/2012

Date	Event	Brief explanatory note	More info in
2011			
Monday, Aug. 8	Application period opens, apply online at www.eup.se/apply	Invitation sent to all Swedish high schools Apply early - first come, first served!	"Invitation to National Selection Process"
Friday, Sep 30	Application period closes After a school has applied, it should go on to select its delegation		"Welcome Pack – the National Selection Process"
Friday, Nov 11	Confirmation period closes, confirm online at www.eup.se/confirm	Teachers confirm their schools' participation in the national selection process and submit names of delegates	"Detailed invitation to the Regional Session"
Friday, Nov 18	Individual registration of delegates closes, register online at www.eup.se/register	Students and teachers register for the Regional Session individually, travel details input by responsible teacher/student	
Monday, Nov 21	Committee allocation announced via email to all participants		
Fri-Sunday, Dec 16-18	Pre-meetings organised by the EYP's local committees	Delegates' participation optional Teachers' participation kindly discarded	See section in "Detailed invitation to the Regional Session"
2012			
Sat-Sunday, Jan 14-15	Regional Sessions RS West & North, RS South and RS East	Program starts early morning Saturday and ends 6pm Sunday evening, book travels accordingly	
Tuesday, Jan 17	Announcement of selected schools for the National Session on www.eup.se and via email to all participants		"Detailed invitation to the National Session" alt. "Presentation of EYP's Local Com.s"
Friday, Jan 20	Individual registration of delegates closes, register online at www.eup.se/register	Students and teachers register for the National Session individually, travel details input by responsible teacher	
Monday, Jan 21	Committee allocation announced via email to all participants		
Fri-Sunday, Feb 3-5	National Session – Stockholm 2012	Program starts early morning Friday and ends 6pm Sunday evening, book travel accordingly	
Tuesday, Feb 7	Announcement of selected schools for International Sessions on www.eup.se and via email to all participants	Istanbul, Turkey (spring 2012) or Amsterdam, The Netherlands (autumn 2012)	"Presentation of EYP's Local Com.s"

The EYP's new national selection process of 2011/2012

The purpose of the national selection process is to involve Swedish students in the Europe-wide activities of the EYP. Every week approximately 100 young Europeans meet in one of the 32 countries that host EYP activities to debate politics and exchange ideas. To represent the EYP Sweden at such an event, you should have gone through the national selection process. Last year more than 70% of all students that attended the National Session were invited to such an event.

This school year the EYP's national selection process will be restructured in order to involve more students and schools in the activities. For schools that are familiar with the EYP programme, the two major changes are that there will be 1) no EYP essay competition and that 2) the pre-selection for the National Session will be done through Regional Sessions. Each school will be able to select its delegation based on its own methods, with ideas and support provided by the EYP.

This document describes the national selection process 2011/2012 of the EYP. For more general information about why more than 20,000 young people choose to get involved with EYP every year, please refer to either the national website, www.eup.se or the pan-European one at www.eyp.org.

The elements of the national selection process

All students at the EYP are called delegates, and each group of delegates (from a school or country) is called a delegation. The national selection process takes place between delegations from different schools. The process consists of four major elements.

1. Application

All Swedish high schools are invited to apply to the national selection process. All that is required is a teacher that assumes the responsibility to organise the selection of the school's delegation. The application form to the national selection process of 2011/2012 can be located at www.eup.se/apply. To be valid, the application should be submitted by a teacher, with the consent of the school's principal, no later than September 30, 2011.

The EYP encourages all schools to send in their applications as soon as possible, since participation at the Regional Sessions will be granted on a first come, first served basis.

Do note that a small participation fee is collected by the EYP when the school takes part in an event. The application is seen as a binding commitment for the school to grant this fee should they be selected to an event. The amount of the participation fee is listed below. Also, note that schools with long travel distances will be eligible for travel aid to get to the events, see below for more information.

After the school has applied to the national selection process, a welcome pack will be sent to the school with detailed information about the next steps of the process.

2. Selection of students to form the school's delegation

There will be four students participating from each school at the national selection process. It is at the teacher's discretion to decide what selection methodology to employ to select the four students that will form the school's delegation, plus 1-2 substitutes. The aim should be to select delegates that will bring a lot of energy, inspiration and openness to the discussions at the EYP. The criteria for evaluating delegates at EYP sessions could be used as an inspiration for the teacher's selection. Key criteria include strong drive, creativity, good factual knowledge and willingness to cooperate, as well as strong communication skills. These criteria will be described at more length in the welcome pack that the school will receive after having applied.

EYP is offering to help teachers in deciding what selection methodology to employ. In the following, three different approaches are described. More material about each methodology can be found in the welcome pack.

A. Teacher organises a debate contest at the school for all interested students

All students that would like to be a delegate at the EYP are invited to take part in a mini debate on a given topic. The teacher moderates the debate and the students that perform well according to the EYP specific criteria are selected to form the school's delegation.

B. Teacher organises an essay competition for all interested students

All students that would like to be a delegate at the EYP are invited to write an essay on a given topic. The teacher collects all essays and marks them according to EYP specific criteria. The top four essay authors are selected to form the school's delegation.

C. EYP sends a group of members that organises a mini-session

In order to relieve the teacher from as much additional work as possible, the EYP offers to send a group of members to the school to organise a mini-session at the school in a time of 2-4 hours. The mini-session will be a good way to prepare new students to what a session is like. The school will have to provide an assembly hall, 10-50 participating students and potentially some travel aid to the EYP members. The teacher will get a recommendation on which students should be selected as delegates. The teacher will then have the final word about which students are selected to form the school's delegation. Note that not only the selected delegates will learn from the EYP through this selection process, but all of the students taking part in the mini-session will experience a part of it.

3. The Regional Sessions

In total 60 schools will be selected to take part in the Regional Sessions of the EYP. These will be selected on a first come, first served basis for each of the three regions, defined in the following and with full definitions in the back of this document.

- A. Regional Session Gothenburg and North of Sweden (RS West & North in short)
- B. Regional Session South of Sweden (RS South in short)
- C. Regional Session Stockholm and Uppsala (RS East in short)

The Regional Sessions will take place the 14-15 of January 2012, from Saturday morning to Sunday evening, and include all traditional elements of an EYP session, see welcome pack that the school will receive after having applied for more information.

An EYP jury will be present during the Regional Session with the main purpose of assessing the delegations based on the same criteria as described in element 2 above.

4. The National Session

The top eight delegations of each Regional Session will be invited to the National Session that will take place in the weekend 3-5 of February 2012, from Friday morning to Sunday evening.

An EYP jury will be present during the National Session to assess the delegations based on similar criteria as in the Regional Session. The top four delegations from the National Session will be selected to represent the EYP Sweden at the International Sessions in Istanbul, Turkey (spring 2012) or in Amsterdam, The Netherlands (autumn 2012).

Additionally, the top four delegates outside of the top four delegations will be invited to represent EYP at one of the two International Sessions.

All other delegations at the National Session will be ranked based on their performance and invited to participate in other international events organised by EYP all around Europe throughout the year of 2012, both as full delegations and as individual delegates.

Teachers' involvement

EYP is grateful that so many teachers are so dedicated to their work and students that they are willing to perform the small amount of additional work that comes with being an EYP teacher. To ensure that as many teachers as possible should be willing to help their students to join the organisation, the EYP would like to stress that if there is anything that can be done to aid a teacher in the preparations, do not hesitate to let us know.

The EYP is aware that by introducing Regional Sessions in the national selection process, we make it difficult for teachers to be able to take part in all activities. Primarily so since the Regional Sessions and the National Session take place only with three weeks in between. As a result, the EYP is flexible with having teachers participating in the Regional Sessions. Should the students receive written parental authorization to go to the Regional Session without an accompanying adult, the EYP accepts this. Should the teacher want to come, she or he is of course invited, but it is not a pre-requisite.

For the National Session, the EYP requires that a teacher accompanies the delegation.

Participation fees

Participation fees will be charged for each event that the school is selected to participate in. The fee covers all accommodation and subsistence for the delegation and is subsidised through grants from EYP friendly supporters. To enable the participation of students on an equal basis, all schools that have to travel more than 100 km to each event will be eligible to receive travel aid from the EYP. More details below.

- Regional Session (total 1,000-1,500 SEK for 2 days, 1 night, for 4 students and 1 teacher)
 - 200 SEK/student
 - 0 SEK/teacher not going to the session (see above)
 - 200 SEK/teacher sleeping at home
 - 300 SEK/teacher sleeping at EYP's accommodation, double room
 - 700 SEK/teacher sleeping at EYP's accommodation, single room
- National Session (total 1,900-2,800 SEK for 3 days, 2 nights, for 4 students and 1 teacher)
 - 400 SEK/student
 - 300 SEK/teacher sleeping at home
 - 500 SEK/teacher sleeping at EYP's accommodation, double room
 - 1,200 SEK/teacher sleeping at EYP's accommodation, single room

Travel aid

To enable the participation of students on an equal basis, all schools that have to travel more than 100 km to each event will be eligible to receive travel aid from the EYP. The travel aid will be paid out after the event has taken place, provided that clear copies of all receipts for all persons are sent to the EYP's treasurer at EUP Sverige, c/o Gustaf Danielsson, Norrstigen 10, 181 31 Lidingö, no later than two weeks after the event was concluded.

The amount of aid that is given is described in the following:

Distance school-accommodation	Travel aid/person (incl. teacher)
<100 km	0 SEK
100-250 km	200 SEK
250-400 km	300 SEK
>400 km	400 SEK

Contact details

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Regional Sessions geographical distribution

RS West & North. Gothenburg – schools from

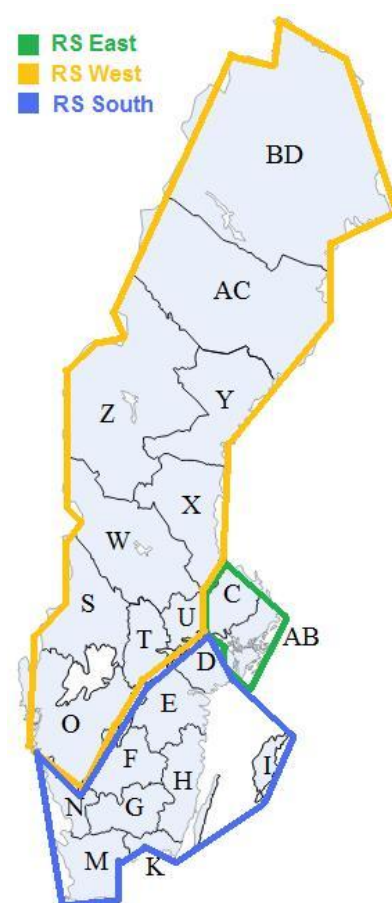
- Dalarnas,
- Gävleborgs,
- Jämtlands,
- Norrbottens,
- Värmlands,
- Västerbottens,
- Västernorrlands,
- Västmanlands,
- Västra Götelands
- and Örebro län

RS South. Lund – schools from

- Blekinge,
- Gotlands,
- Hallands,
- Kalmar,
- Kronobergs,
- Jönköpings,
- Skåne,
- Södermanlands
- and Östergötlands län

RS East. Stockholm – schools from

- Stockholms
- and Uppsala län.



Go to www.eup.se/apply to sign up for the EYP's national selection process 2011/2012!