

# 7th Cycle of EU Youth Dialogue

## Participatory Visual Methods Guidance

### Introduction

This document contains instructions for using (participatory) visual methods for the 7th Cycle of EU Youth Dialogue. The visual methods will make significant contribution to increasing the level and quality of information on young people's views and perceptions and be able to portray the diversity of youth voices involved in the Dialogue.

Visual methods aim to directly involve young people in the research process to produce qualitative data which serves as a snapshot of young people's realities and also as a promotional material, to motivate other young people to become engaged in the process of the Youth Dialogue.

Your working group can use video methods as a tool to capture young people's views in order to inform what is written in your working group report.

Some of the results of the visual methods might also be used at the EU Youth Conferences in Finland and Croatia and throughout the 7th Cycle of EU Youth Dialogue by the European Youth Forum in order to promote the Youth Dialogue and showcase the findings using youth-friendly methodologies. Young people using visual methodologies in the Youth Dialogue can also see the work of other young people across Europe by following the common hashtags. Photos and footage are shared by participants themselves with a wider online community through selected platforms to raise awareness of the EU Youth Dialogue, to present young people's voices and stories on selected subthemes and as tools to inspire other young people to become involved in the process.

### What are visual methods?

Participatory visual methods are a qualitative methodology which uses visual images and technologies such as video, film, photography, art, drawing and sculpture in qualitative social research to produce and represent knowledge. The participants generate visual data in order to present their views and perspectives on a particular topic or a theme. We propose two methodologies for visual methods- PhotoVoice and Video Story/ participatory video.

### PhotoVoice

PhotoVoice or participatory photography is a qualitative method of community-based participation used to document and reflect the reality of young people's lives. Participants express their points of view, their lived experience and/or their community by photographing

scenes that reflect dialogue subtheme. PhotoVoice promotes youth activism and mobilisation, dialogue and inclusion.

## VideoStory and Participatory Videos

Young people can also use their mobile phones, cameras or video equipment in order to submit their opinions on a specific subtheme.

### Video Story

Young people can produce their own video on a subtheme of their choice, by telling their stories and presenting their issues on camera, filming their environment or conducting interviews with other young people or other stakeholders.

### Participatory group video

Participatory video is a form of participatory media in which a group makes their own film. Participatory video brings together a group of young people to explore issues, voice concerns or just be creative and tell their stories. The participatory process can be very empowering, enabling a group or community to take their own action to solve their own problems, and also to communicate their needs and ideas to decision-makers and/or other groups and communities. Participants work in small groups (around 10 participants) meeting repeatedly over a couple of days to identify and film their messages regarding a subtheme or a question.

#### Process of producing a participatory video:

- Participants with the help of a facilitator learn how to use video equipment or their mobile phones through games and exercises
- Facilitators help groups to identify and analyse the subtheme (e.g. Life in rural areas) using various methods e.g. brainstorming, Open Space Technology, social mapping, action research
- Young people create a scenario for the video
- Short videos and messages are directed and filmed and edited by the participants with the help of facilitator.

We recommend that these videos are 1-3 minutes in duration or shorter.

## How to use visual methods as part of Youth Dialogue

National Working Groups can engage young people through social media platforms and promote the outputs of visual methodologies via Facebook, Twitter or Instagram. Young people are encouraged to use their mobile phones or cameras in order to produce visual materials - photos and videos - which describe the subtheme.

### Working group process of gathering data using PhotoStory or participatory video methodology:

- National Working Groups launch a photo/video story competition on the subthemes related to the Youth Dialogue.
- Young people are asked to use their camera or a mobile phone to produce an image (one photo, selfie or a collection of photographs collated into one photo) or a video on a given theme. Please pay attention to data protection and consent section below to ensure that submission of photos and videos is done with full consent of young people.
- Photographs and videos are submitted using a selected online platform e.g. Instagram, Facebook groups, Twitter or other youth online portals using a #hashtag on a specific subtheme (see subthemes, questions and hashtags below).
- A small competition prize can be given to give incentive to young people to participate in the Youth Dialogue, although this is not compulsory.
- At the end of the competition, National Working Groups should view the photographs which have been posted and spending time analysing the messages they contain. The findings of this should be included in the National Working Group reporting tool.
- National Working Groups should make a selection of 5-10 photos and 1-2 videos to be sent to the European Youth Forum. It is necessary to obtain written consent for these selected materials to be shared at the European Youth Portal. Please see Annex I for the example of a Consent Form.

## Analysing visual methods, reporting and submitting data

Before launching a photo competition, all working groups should think about how they will analyse and use the findings and messages from the visual methodologies.

At the end of the process, working groups should take the time to view the photos and videos that have been collected (focusing just on the ones hashtagged to their own country). The photographs and videos can be interpreted through discussions in small and large groups by the national working groups or in discussion with groups of young people.

Reviewing and looking at the photos and videos can help identifying discourses and narratives amongst young people, main issues and priorities of young people, recommendations from

young people and any narratives relating to minority groups. The results of this should be included in your working group report.

## Submitting photos to the European Youth Forum for wider publicity

As well as conducting their own analysis National Working Groups can make a selection of 5-10 photos and 1-2 videos, to be shared with the European Youth Forum. Selected photos and videos might be used at the EU Youth Conferences in Finland and Croatia and throughout the 7th Cycle of EU Youth Dialogue by the European Youth Forum and shared at the European Youth Portal.

This will enable some of the most interesting results of the visual methodologies to be published as part of the Youth Dialogue.

If you intend to do this, you must gain consent from anyone within the photos and videos for the photos/videos to be shared with the European Youth Forum and for the European Youth Forum to use them for wider publicity. An example consent form is in Appendix 1.

## Subthemes/topics for visual research

The visual research methods will be used for the three research subthemes of Youth Dialogue, corresponding to three Youth Goals.

For each of the subthemes, there is a topic/question for use with visual methods. You are free to translate and re-formulate the questions in order to fit your local context, however, the questions should still reflect the three main subthemes of the Youth Dialogue. For a more detailed description of the subthemes see the guiding questions:

1. Youth Goal 7 - Quality Employment for All

Suggested question: What does the future of work look like for the young people of today?

2. Youth Goal 8 Quality Learning - Subtheme: Quality Youth Work for All

Suggested question: What can youth work do for you?

3. Youth Goal 6 Moving Rural Youth Forward - Subtheme: Opportunities for Rural Youth

Suggested question: Rural Areas for You(th)?

## Hashtags

The following hashtags should be used for each of the subthemes when submitting the photos/videos. Regardless of the language in which Dialogue is conducted the hashtags should be in English. You are free to add additional hashtags in your language if you wish to do so.

**Youth Goal Number 7 - Quality Employment for All**  
**#FutureWork # EUYouthDialogue #(add name of your country)**

**Youth Goal Number 8 Quality Learning - Subtheme: Quality Youth Work for all**  
**#YouthWork # EUYouthDialogue #(add name of your country)**

**Youth Goal Number 6 Moving Rural Youth Forward - Subtheme: Opportunities for Rural Youth**  
**#RuralYouth # EUYouthDialogue #(add name of your country)**

**IYNGOS should also use the hashtag #EuropeanVoices**

## Data protection and consent

At all times a specific organisation within your working group must remain responsible for the visual data with regard to GDPR and data protection, privacy notices and participant consent (including parental/guardian consent). Before initiating a use of visual methods based on these questions your working group should agree which organisation within the working group is responsible for managing the social media platforms to which photos and videos are submitted. In most cases if you are encouraging someone to post a photograph or video on a social media platform, the social media platform itself is responsible for the data.

The organisation conducting the Youth Dialogue will have a duty to ensure that all local, national and European laws are followed especially with regard to GDPR. It is up to this organisation to design any necessary privacy and consent notices, clear explanation in the call for photographs and videos on how visual data and information will be used, what their rights are under GDPR, and ensure these are visible to and well understood by the young people taking part in the Youth Dialogue.

**IMPORTANT!** The visual methodologies will make the person creating the materials and the ones in the photos/videos easily identifiable, particularly in their own communities and on social networks.

When launching a call for photos and videos, we recommend to highlight that when young people post photos and videos publicly on a social media platform they will be available on the selected social media pages for others to see.

## Consent for sharing selected photos and videos with the European Youth Forum

In cases of selected photos and videos which will be shared with the European Youth Forum, the organisation conducting the Youth Dialogue will need to obtain a written consent from young people before submitting this material to the Youth Forum. An example of the consent form can be found in Annex I. Young people taking part in the Dialogue need to read, understand and agree to participate in this process and that the photos and videos they have

submitted may be used in the EU Youth Conferences and by the European Youth Forum for publicity purposes. You should take into account the fact that many people participating in the EU Youth Dialogue may be under 18, in which case parental consent might be needed.

## Additional resources and guides for participatory visual methodologies

PhotoVoice: <https://photovoice.org/>

Participatory Video: <https://insightshare.org/>

A Guide to Conducting PhotoVoice with Youth:  
<https://www.pathwaysrtc.pdx.edu/pdf/proj5-photovoice.pdf>

A Practical Guide to PhotoVoice:  
[http://www.pwhce.ca/photovoice/pdf/Photovoice\\_Manual.pdf](http://www.pwhce.ca/photovoice/pdf/Photovoice_Manual.pdf)

Facilitator's Toolkit for a Photovoice Project:  
<https://www.wpunj.edu/uppc/images/UPinPC+Photovoice+Facilitator+Toolkit+Final.pdf>

The process of participatory video:  
<https://www.transformativestory.org/what-are-the-methods-for-transformative-storytelling/collective-storytelling-through-participatory-video/the-process-of-participatory-video/>

Lights, Camera, Social Action: Using Video to Engage Youth and Stakeholders:  
[https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/sites/default/files/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/ta/experience\\_expertise\\_fleitman.pdf](https://www.hhs.gov/ash/oah/sites/default/files/ash/oah/oah-initiatives/ta/experience_expertise_fleitman.pdf)

# Appendix 1 Informed Consent Form

## **Informed consent form for EU Youth Dialogue Visual Methods Submission**

Thank you for participating in the EU Youth Dialogue process. (Name of the organisation conducting the Youth Dialogue activity) would like to share the visual material (photo/video) you have submitted with the European Youth Forum.

If you agree to sharing this information, your visual material (photo/video) will be shared with the European Youth Forum who will use it for publicity purposes to promote the EU Youth Dialogue process and share opinions and views of young people with a wider public. This may include posting it on websites such as the EU Youth Portal and presentation at the EU Youth Conferences.

Your consent in this process is completely voluntary. You may choose not to share the submitted material, if you do not wish to do so. Choosing to participate or not will not affect your future treatment in any way. There will be no immediate or direct benefit (financial or otherwise) to you agreeing to share this material with the (Name of the organisation conducting the Youth Dialogue) and the European Youth Forum. However, your consent will contribute to share the views and voices of young people in the EU Youth Dialogue.

### **Who to contact?**

If you have any questions you may ask them now or later, via the following contacts (add contact details of person supporting youth dialogue in your working group).

### **Certificate of Consent**

I consent to giving right to (...organisation conducting EU Youth Dialogue), to share my photograph / video with the European Youth Forum. I understand that the European Youth Forum will use this photo/video for publicity purposes as part of the 7th Cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue.

I have read the information above, or it has been read to me. I have had the opportunity to ask questions about it and any questions that I have asked have been answered to my satisfaction.

I consent voluntarily to participating.

Print name

Signature

Date

\*In case of a minor, written consent should be given by a parent/legal guardian.