

Young Elected Officials Academy 1st Edition

*CEMR and PLATFORMA initiative for young, locally elected, politicians
14-16 October; online*

Registration [link](#) – deadline Wednesday 9 October
Please, note that registration is mandatory to attend the Academy

About CEMR

The **Council of European Municipalities and Regions** is Europe's first and broadest association of Local and Regional Governments. We are unique, being the only organisation that encompasses 60 national associations of Local and Regional Governments spanning over 41 European countries. Through them, we bring together more than 110,000 governments across all tiers of governance – local, intermediate, and regional. Additionally, as the European section of the global organisation United Cities and Local Governments (UCLG), we champion European Local and Regional Governments on the world stage.

We are dedicated to fostering peaceful, inclusive, just, and resilient territories and communities. To achieve this, we work in close cooperation with our member associations to empower Local and Regional Governments and their leaders on the ground. Our approach revolves around the belief that local leaders are best placed to identify and shape solutions to the most complex challenges of our time.

We believe that nothing can be achieved without strong and empowered Local and Regional Governments, whether to decarbonise our territories, combat inequalities or navigate new health crises. Therefore, it is essential that they are provided with effective financial means and competencies to drive the transformation of their territories hand in hand with local communities, and that they are structurally involved in designing European and national policies and given the opportunity to influence global and international dialogues.

Our **vision** is to ensure that all Local and Regional governments—from rural areas and islands to large cities—are well-equipped to lead the sustainable transition of their territories and communities and tackle global challenges.

We do this by joining efforts with our member associations to unlock the power of multilevel governance. Together we boost efforts toward European and international cooperation, leveraging the unparalleled strength of our [membership](#), which comprises more than [one million locally elected politicians](#) from all over Europe.

About PLATFORMA

PLATFORMA is the pan-European coalition of towns and regions – and their national, EU and global associations – active in city-to-city and region-to-region development cooperation. We are a hub of expertise on European local and regional governments' international action, and aim at

boosting European local and regional governments' contribution to EU development cooperation policies and international frameworks.

Our Vision

We believe in a world where no one and no place is left behind, where citizens have ownership, confidence and trust in the policies implemented in their town and region.

Our Mission

- Shaping EU development policy and international agendas

Together with our partners, we defend the role of towns and regions in EU development policies and international fora.

- Raising awareness

We promote international cooperation between cities and regions across the world and boost capacity-building with our peers.

- Providing a forum for collective intelligence

We facilitate knowledge exchange, peer-learning and experimentation of innovative approaches between towns and regions and their associations.

YEOC - The Young Elected Officials Committee

The **Young Elected Officials Committee (YEOC)** is committed to empowering young leaders, fostering innovation, and ensuring that the voices of the younger generation are heard and valued in the corridors of power. Join us in our journey to make a lasting impact on local and regional governance across Europe.

Introducing the Young Elected Officials Committee (YEOC)

The Young Elected Officials Committee (YEOC) is a dynamic and forward-thinking body dedicated to empowering young leaders in local and regional governance. As a vital part of PLATFORMA, the pan-European coalition of local and regional governments and their national and subnational associations working on decentralized development cooperation, and the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR), YEOC is uniquely positioned to influence and innovate in the sphere of public service.

Mission and Vision

The mission of YEOC is to nurture and support the next generation of local and regional leaders under the age of 40. Through targeted initiatives, YEOC aims to enhance leadership capabilities, foster effective governance, and promote sustainable development. Our vision is to create a vibrant network of young politicians who are equipped to address contemporary challenges with innovative solutions and a fresh perspective.

Objectives

YEOC's objectives are centred around five key areas:

- *Leadership Development*: Providing young elected officials with training and resources to strengthen their leadership skills, including strategic thinking, public speaking, and negotiation.
- *Knowledge Exchange*: Facilitating the sharing of best practices, innovative solutions, and successful case studies through regular meetings, webinars, and publications.
- *Youth Engagement*: Encouraging greater participation of young people in political processes and decision-making to ensure their voices are heard and their needs addressed.

- Policy Impact: Developing and advocating for policies that reflect the interests and priorities of young constituents, contributing to more inclusive and responsive governance.
- Networking: Building robust networks among young elected officials, mentors, and experts to foster collaboration, support, and collective action.

Membership

Membership in YEOC is open to elected officials under the age of 40 who are serving in local or regional government. Members are selected through a nomination process that ensures geographic diversity and representation of various levels of government.

Activities and Initiatives

YEOC organizes a range of activities designed to fulfill its mission and objectives:

- Regular Meetings: Held quarterly, with additional sessions as needed, to discuss key issues, share insights, and plan initiatives.
- Training Programs: Workshops and seminars on leadership, governance, and policy-making.
- Knowledge Sharing: Newsletters, webinars, and an online platform for sharing best practices and innovative solutions.
- Policy & Advocacy: Development of position papers and policy recommendations on issues relevant to young elected officials.
- Networking Events: Opportunities for members to connect with peers, mentors, and experts. And participate in relevant EU and international fora.

Join Us

We invite young elected officials and stakeholders to join us in our mission to shape the future of local and regional governance. Together, we can drive positive change and create a more inclusive and sustainable Europe.

For more information about YEOC, its activities, and membership, please contact Francesco Pala, Adviser - Young Elected and Partners Engagement (francesco.pala@ccre-cemr.org).

The Young Elected Officials Academy

Introduction

The "Young Elected Officials Academy" aims to empower young political leaders at the local level by providing them with the necessary skills, knowledge, and networks to be effective in their roles. The academy will focus on leadership development, governance best practices, policy formulation, and community engagement. By investing in young politicians, the academy seeks to foster a new generation of leaders who are equipped to tackle local challenges and drive sustainable development in their communities.

Objectives

- Leadership Development: Equip young politicians with the skills needed to lead effectively, including strategic thinking, public speaking, negotiation, and conflict resolution.
- Governance and Policy Training: Provide comprehensive training on governance, public administration, policy formulation, and legislative processes.
- Multi Stakeholder Engagement: Foster skills in community organizing, stakeholder engagement, and participatory governance to ensure that elected officials can effectively represent and respond to their constituents and properly engage with non-governmental stakeholders such as media, academia and civil society.

- Networking and Mentorship: Create opportunities for young politicians to connect with peers, experienced politicians, and experts in various fields, facilitating knowledge exchange and mentorship.

Target Audience

- YEOC Members
- PLATFORMA partners and the young politicians (under 40) from their membership base
- CEMR members and the young politicians (under 40) from their membership base
- International & Youth officers from PLATFORMA partners and CEMR members
- Aspiring young leaders who are active in local politics and community organizations.

Expected Outcomes

- Enhanced Leadership Skills: Graduates will demonstrate improved leadership abilities and be better equipped to handle the complexities of local governance.
- Increased Knowledge and Competence: Participants will have a deeper understanding of governance processes, policy formulation, and public administration.
- Stronger Community Engagement: Young politicians will be more effective in engaging with their communities and addressing local issues.
- Robust Networks: A strong network of young leaders, mentors, and experts will be established, fostering continuous learning and collaboration.