

## Follow-up to the 18<sup>th</sup> Informal ASEM Seminar on “Human Rights and Prevention of Violent Extremism” held on 5–8 November 2018 in Yogyakarta, Indonesia

The [Asia-Europe Foundation \(ASEF\)](#) is pleased to invite you to apply for a 3.5-day training with public outreach on *Human Rights and Prevention of Violent Extremism (PVE)* that will take place on **17–20 September 2019** in **New Delhi, India**. The training is part of the [Informal ASEM Seminar on Human Rights](#) Series, which aims to promote better mutual understanding and co-operation on human rights issues in Asia and Europe.

### Background

The Informal Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM) Seminar on Human Rights promotes mutual understanding and co-operation between Asia and Europe in the area of political dialogue, particularly on human rights issues, and encourages an open and non-confrontational debate between representatives of civil society organisations and officials from all ASEM Partners. The Seminar series is co-organised by the Asia-Europe Foundation (ASEF), the Raoul Wallenberg Institute, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Development of France, the Department of the Foreign Affairs of the Philippines, the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the People’s Republic of China.

In 2017, the co-organisers introduced a capacity-building component on human rights to support the Seminar’s overall objective of promoting mutual understanding and cooperation on human rights issues in ASEM. Capacity-building will be delivered via an annual human rights training, related to the Seminar theme.

### Objectives

The objectives of the training are to increase participants’ knowledge on human rights and PVE in the context of Asia and Europe, as well as to enhance their capacity to develop measures to prevent violent extremism with respect for human rights.

Through the training, participants will:

- Learn means to implement the *UN Secretary-General’s Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism* across regional, national and community levels
- Gain theoretical and practical learning on how to apply a human rights-based approach to preventing violent extremism
- Improve understanding of human rights in the context of ASEM/Asia-Europe relations

### Target Audience

The training is targeted to the following:

- About 20–25 participants of early to mid-level practitioners (3–10 years relevant work experience) from across the ASEM Partners:
  - ASEM government ministries (such as Ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice or Education)
  - National and regional human rights institutions
  - Civil society organisations working on human rights, peace, security and/or with young people;
  - Educators working in the field of human rights and/or PVE



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## Training Organisations

**Associazione Italiana di Cooperazione Europa Mondo (AICEM)** is a non-profit youth organisation, with its head office in Italy.

AICEM is composed of more than 40 active volunteers whose main aim is promoting participatory forms of cooperation, which benefit from collaboration and partnerships between the civil society and local, national, European and International organisations, to implement processes of development that respect cultural diversity while preserving local peculiarities. In order to achieve its objectives, AICEM has based its work on (1) local, national and international cooperation, (2) trainings and education, (3) intercultural dialogue and exchange, by promoting activities related to four macro-areas: sustainable development; health, sport and healthy lifestyles; human rights; citizenship and participation; and integration and social inclusion.

AICEM has pursued its objectives by promoting the implementation of educational projects based on Non- Formal Education Methodologies both at the local and international level. In Italy, volunteers are active in 5 regions. At the international level, AICEM is member of ADYNE, the African diaspora network in Europe, permanent member of the Alcohol Policy Youth Network (APYN), member of the European Youth Foundation, No Hate Speech Movement Campaign, and has served as the official Italian translator of Bookmark manual. AICEM is also supporting the work of strand 3 of SDG Watch Europe a EU-level, cross-sectoral CSO alliance of NGOs with the goal to hold governments to account for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

**International Coalition of Peacebuilders (ICP)** is an informal coalition of peacebuilders, trainers, facilitators, consultants, experts and educators from around the world coming together to further their common goal and mission of promoting peace, non-violence, sustainability and human rights. As experts in their respective fields, they have had the opportunity to collaborate on multiple projects in various roles. Believing in the power of collaboration and mutual benefits, the members actively engage with each other to provide the best experience to the stakeholders they work with.

Members of ICP are conscious practitioners of nonviolence not only in the professional arena of work, but also strive to live the same values of respect for the dignity of life and human rights in their daily lives. They practice various forms of self-reflection and continuous learning that allows them to actively challenge themselves, question their assumptions and practice their work with integrity.

ASEF has engaged AICEM and ICP to conduct this training.



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### Public Outreach Event

A panel discussion on the topic, “*The Role of Human Rights Education in the Prevention of Violent Extremism*” for half a day will be organised on 17 September 2019 to open the training.

#### Rationale of the Topic:

It is universally accepted that education is the best source of social mobility, equality, and empowerment, both at the individual and collective levels; and also as a precondition for a healthy democratic society. Human Rights Education, particularly, is important to develop awareness of how to translate human rights into social and political reality, as an essential aspect to prevent violent extremism.

This topic for the public outreach event is also to serve as an inroad to creating a connection to the ASEM’s upcoming 19<sup>th</sup> Seminar on “*Human Rights Education & Training*”, initiating a deeper interest by various crucial stakeholders to play a core role in the programmes that ASEM will organise towards the same.

#### Aims and Objectives:

- To enable a common understanding of the basics of Human Rights Education (HRE), its scope and applications in various sectors and dimensions of life.
- To enable insight into the impact that HRE can have on preventing violent extremism
- To expose the audience to approaches and practices of HRE and the potential of their application in schools and colleges
- To gain practical ideas and strategies to prevent and counter violent extremism in the participants’ relevant contexts

### Training Methodology

The 3-day residential training is based on a simple, yet powerful framework called Connect-Challenge Change framework, originally developed by Think Global, a UK based education charity.<sup>1</sup>

**Connect:** This phase is about enabling a platform to bring young people together with their peers who share similar passions and concerns. The training organisation then supports them to make links between personal, local, regional and global issues.

**Challenge:** This is where participants are encouraged to challenge their existing ideas, views and beliefs to gain a more critical understanding of the world around them, and to challenge social injustices as well as inequalities.

**Change:** The final part of this framework supports the participants to thoroughly plan and take action to bring about change at local, national, regional and/ or global levels towards creating a culture of peace and non-violence.

**Celebrate:** In addition to the above three, a ‘celebrate’ phase is included. Here, towards the end of the programme, learnings, reflections and the growth of each participant is celebrated in

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<sup>1</sup> Connect Challenge Change framework, available at <https://think-global.org.uk/our-work/for-youth-workers/connect-challenge-change/>, last visited on May 14, 2019.



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contributing towards making the training programme more value-creative through their active engagement.

The training programme will be developed using the principles of the following methodologies:

- a) Human Rights Education (HRE) Methodology
- b) Non-Formal Education (NFE) Methodology

Details of the methodology and programme will be shared with selected participants prior to the training.

### Resource Persons

A team of Asian and European trainers, facilitators, experts and project managers with a mission to empower youth as actors in sustainable peace and conflict transformation through capacity development, advocacy and providing support spaces for cultivating a culture of peace will be conducting the training. They have been working together for over 10 years in pairs and triads on several national and international projects on youth peacebuilding and preventive violent extremism in Asia, Europe and the rest of the world. Thus, the team has an extensive track record in non-formal education, project management and shaping international policy.

### Eligibility

- Working professionals preferably between 3-10 years of work experience in the field of peace, security, human rights, education or other relevant areas and/or with young people, with an intermediate-level understanding of concepts and implementation around preventing violent extremism
- Engaged in, or responsible for, their organisation's current or planned work in implementing the *UN Secretary-General's Plan of Action on Preventing Violent Extremism* (Participants do not need to have immediate or direct experience working on human rights and PVE, but there needs to be a demonstrated commitment to do so in the near future.)
- High proficiency in spoken and written English
- Be available to attend the full duration of the 3.5-days of training and public outreach event
- Willing to initiate a project emerging from the training/enhance a programme they are currently working on with learnings from the training; and attend a check-in/peer learning meeting online (with the trainer and specified peers) post the training

### Cost of Participation

The co-organisers will cover:

- Airfare on point-to-point economy class to travel to/from New Delhi, through reimbursement for international participants
- 4 nights of accommodation at the training venue with check-in on 16 September and check-out on 20 September for international participants
- Meals and refreshments during the training programme
- All additional costs to be borne by participants directly, including extra nights of hotel stay
- No registration fee for the public outreach event on 17 September 2019



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## How to Apply

Please complete the online application form [here](#) by **Friday, 9 August 2019, 23:59 (Singapore time)**. In the online application, participants are requested to upload a letter of organisational endorsement or nomination letter, explaining how the applicant's participation in the training fits into the organisation's priorities and activities.

Should you have any queries, please contact:

- Ms Armi AARNI, Project Manager for the Human Rights Seminar Series, Governance & Economy Department
- Ms Trishia P. Octaviano, Project Executive, Governance & Economy Department, ASEF  
E: [humanrights.seminar@asef.org](mailto:humanrights.seminar@asef.org)

## Partners



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