

The Civic Roundtable

July 2017
Council of Europe
Strasbourg

The recent increase in the arrival of refugees has been taking place against a background of controversial discussions about immigration and integration policies in Europe. Refugees and asylum seekers face increasing difficulties accessing and integrating into recipient societies, and there is often a lack of capacity and support to cater for their varied needs.

Initiated in 2016, the Civic Roundtable is a pan-European programme for young leaders on the state of European and global governance. In light of the current relevance of the issue, the 2017 edition will have as its central theme the question of **refugees**, including their arrival and **prospective integration** into recipient societies. The Roundtable will look into the matter from different national perspectives of the countries of the participants as well as from a European perspective.

Organised by the **Council of Europe** in close cooperation with the **Association of Schools of Political Studies**, the Roundtable will consist of about 30 fellows, who will meet in **Strasbourg** in **early July 2017**. Here, they will have the chance to discuss issues related to the challenges and opportunities of migration, the legal system of host countries with regard to immigration and asylum, and possible ways to engage in dialogue and integration at local and other level of governance.

The working language of the Roundtable will be **English**.

The fellows will be identified in cooperation with the Council of Europe Schools of Political Studies and other partner institutions throughout Europe. This year's profile includes young leaders in their thirties who have **experience or a strong interest in the issues of refugees, migration and integration**. All efforts will be made to ensure that the cohort of fellows is balanced in terms of gender, geography and politics.