

Training on Political Ideology and Theory for Political Activists

Place: Kyiv

Dates: 18th February - 21st February 2021

Invitation

We would hereby like to invite interested activists and other individuals to apply for the upcoming training event “Training on Political Ideology and Theory for Political Activists” organized by Capacity 4 Democracy and the IFLRY Belarus and Ukraine Programme.

We would like to extend our gratitude to Democraten 66 of the Netherlands as the main sponsor for this training.

Information on the Topic and Methodology

Knowledge about political ideologies and theory is a mostly invisible but important factor in political day-to-day work. This knowledge and the adoption of basic principals in the form of a political program belong to the foundation of modern political- parties and youth organizations as well as other organizations in civil society.

Unfortunately, knowledge of these important fundamentals is still low among young political activists in Ukraine. Therefore the “Training on Political Ideology and Theory for Political Activists” is primarily aiming at educating Ukrainians active in political work in the programmatical and theoretical basics of political activism. The main focus will be on liberal ideology, but the participants shall also be given concise information about other political ideologies and how they compare to Liberalism. The training will also give a detailed overview over the fundamentals of “liberal democracy” as a model of organizing state and society as this is strongly affiliated with the roots of Liberalism.

Secondly the training will also provide activists from different liberal- and democratic organizations as well as individual activists with the possibility to exchange their views on ideology and political work as well as to prove their social skills by working and interacting with each other.

In terms of methodology the event is following a strong participatory approach by stimulating creative thinking and creativity of the participants’ rather than concentrating on didactic lecturing. To facilitate this approach the training will include group-sessions with textual work. The participants will be asked to study different text-excerpts by political thinkers and discuss the essentials of the excerpts in their groups. In conclusion the groups should come up with concise presentations of these essentials in the plenum to compare and discuss their findings with other participants. These group-sessions will be framed by several lectures, trainings and panels on the subject. The lecturers and trainers will give brief input on the different subjects and enable the participants to understand basic models and ideas that are essential for the success of the group sessions.

Due to the pandemic-situation the event will be organized in a hybrid format, meaning that international trainers will join the event partly by video-conference.

Accommodation

Accommodation for participants and the conference will be at Old Town Trio Hotel in Vilnius.

Cityhotel Kyiv

56A, B. Khmelnytskogo Str.
Kyiv 01030, Ukraine

Tel.: +370 5 216 1696

Web: <http://www.cityhotel.ua>

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Information about Application

To apply for the event please fill out the online Nomination Form:

<https://tinyurl.com/y488akuk>

Deadline for applications is the 4th of February! Participants will be notified on the 5th of February.

Please also make sure that you have answered the questions concerning your motivation.

The following points will be considered in the process of choosing participants:

- The event is limited to 18 participants.
- In the selection the organizers will spend special attention to activists with a regional background.
- The event is primarily for activists without much experience in the mentioned topic.
- An understanding knowledge of English is a plus but not a prerequisite to attend the event.

We will select the participants on a rolling base! If you apply early your chances to be selected are increased.

Rules of Participation

The following rules are set for participation in the event:

- There is a participation fee of 350 UAH per participant.
- Organizers will cover full accommodation, conference material and food during the event.
- We will ask you to present a valid travel-booking or prepayment of the fee to confirm your participation.
- Please only apply, if you are planning to attend the event.
- Participants are expected to attend the session in full. Exceptions can only be made based on an agreement reached before the beginning of the event.

Special Advice concerning the COVID19-Pandemic

The organizers will provide intensive measures to reduce risk of exposure. This includes adequate distances in the conference room, single rooms in the hotel upon request and a venue with a professional hygienic concept. We also advise that participants will be requested to wear adequate masks in the conference-room and the public areas of the venue. However the organizers can't accept liability or responsibility for damages, injuries or exposure to the virus.

We are looking forward to your applications! If you have any questions you can contact the organizers at any time (events@capacity4democracy.org) at any time.

With warm regards,



Daniel George
(Capacity 4 Democracy)



Damien Storimans
(IFLRY Belarus and Ukraine Programme)



**CAPACITY
DEMOCRACY 4**

IFLRY Belarus and Ukraine Programme

Draft Program

“Training on Political Ideology and Theory for Political Activists”

Thursday

Until 15:00h	Arrival of Participants, Check-In
16:30h	Welcoming Addresses, Introduction to the Program and Working Methodology
17:00h	Name-Games, Formation of Working Groups
17:30h	Lecture: Political Ideologies in the 21 st Century. A Comparison
18:30h	Training: Freedom as a principle - Values and Goals of Liberal Politics
20:00h	Dinner
21:00h	Study Time

Friday

Until 08:30h	Breakfast
09:00h	Lecture: The struggle of Liberal Ideology in Practice – A History of Liberalism
10:30h	Rule of Law / Liberal Democracy, Power Sharing / Equality, Pluralism, Toleration – Working Groups with Textual Work

Group 1: Rule of Law – Aristotle, John Lock, Friedrich August von Hayek

Group 2: Liberal Democracy – John Stuart Mill, Alexis de Tocqueville, Baron de Montesquieu

Group 3: Equality, Pluralism, Toleration – John Rawls, Robert Nozick, Ralph Dahrendorf

12:00h Coffee Break

12:15h Presentation of Results

13:00h Lunch

14:00h Lecture: Karl Popper – the open Society and its Enemies

15:00h Property Rights / Competition, Market Economy / Rational Choice – Working Groups with Textual Work

Group 1: Property Rights – Frédéric Bastiat

Group 2: Competition, Market Economy – Adam Smith

Group 3: Rational Choice – Milton Friedman

17:00h Coffee Break

17:15h Presentation of Results

18:00h Training: Liberalisms – Different Perceptions of Liberal Ideology today

19:00h Dinner

Saturday

Until 08:30h Breakfast

09:00h Critics of Liberalism: Conservatism / Communism, Socialism / Communitarianism – Working Groups with Textual Work

Group 1: Conservatism – Irving Kristol, Carl Schmitt, Theodore Dalrymple

Group 2: Communism, Socialism – Karl Marx, V. I. Lenin, Anthony Giddens

Group 3: Communitarianism – Charles Taylor, Michael Walzer, Benjamin Barber

10:00h Field Trip

12:30h Continuation of Working Groups

13:30h Lunch

14:30h Presentation of Results

15:15h	Coffee Break
15:30h	Training: Liberalism in Practice: Examples from Liberal Politicians
17:30h	Training: Campaigning for Liberty – Ideology in Political Campaigns
18:30h	Coffee Break
18:45h	Active for Liberal Ideas: Capacity 4 Democracy and IFLRY
19:30h	Q & A Session and Preparation of last Training Day
20:00h	Dinner

Sunday

Until 09:30h	Breakfast
10:00h	Plenum Discussion: Our Goals, Our Values
11:00h	Evaluation of the Event, Final Discussion and Farewell
12:00h	Lunch
13:00h	Departure of Participants