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EUOPARC Federation Call for the selection of a Youth Representative

Terms of Reference for the selection of a EUOPARC Youth Representative

Background: purpose of Youth Representative

EUOPARC committed to putting youth at the heart of our work following the IUCN World Parks Congress in 2014. Building on years of previous work with the Junior Ranger programme and the emergence of the Youth + programme, a Youth Representative role was set in 2015 and a representative elected by EUOPARC youth constituency in 2016.

With the approval of the **EUOPARC Youth Manifesto**, EUOPARC took a renewed commitment to lead the network by example on youth relevant matters. The mandate of the representative was renewed till 2021 to respond appropriately to the call made by young people from Protected Areas across Europe.

With the approval of the new **EUOPARC strategy to 2030** and the election of a new Council in October 2021, EUOPARC is now seeking to better integrate the views of youth in the governance of the organisation and to further inspire Protected Areas to do it as well. The EUOPARC Council has therefore agreed in October 2021 to **assign one of the coopted seats available in the council, to a suitable Youth candidate.**

EUOPARC Youth Representative role and function:

The Youth Representative, once officially coopted by the Council, will:

- Become in all respects a coopted member of the EUOPARC Council, with same rights, duties and responsibilities - other than voting;
- Remain in office for the entire duration of the Council mandate (till October 2024);
- Contribute to the work of the Council, assisting and advising on how to oversee the work of the EUOPARC Federation;
- Bring extra insight to Council on youth related matters, relevant for the work of Protected Areas;
- Support the Directorate, as necessary, on the development of programs and initiatives for young people related initiatives and provide regular reports to the Council.
- Represent the EUOPARC Federation, where appropriate, in dialogue and exchange with youth organisations and networks at European level.
- The youth representative – as with all council members - should be accountable for efforts to provide constructive advice on Council work and Federation strategy and priorities.
- The Youth representative should, where possible, identify evidence and solutions and examples from European Protected Areas and agencies of youth engagement, whilst taking into account the wider needs, issues and views of young people on all aspects of Federation work.
- The specific work areas where the Youth representative could contribute will be set out in the annual workplan created by the Directorate.
- Contribute to communicate and connect with young people from across Protected Areas, engaging within and outside of the Federation regarding the involvement of young people from Protected Areas.

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- Assist EUROPARC to increase involvement of young people in its decision-making and in the work of Protected Areas.
- The Youth representative should commit to contribute and attend regular online meetings (about 8 per year) and two annual live meetings of the EUROPARC Council. A provisional meeting schedule will be agreed in advance. This schedule can be varied throughout the year. This availability must be evidenced in the candidature of the youth representative.
- There could also be opportunities to attend conferences/seminars and to represent EUROPARC in external events.

EUROPARC support:

EUROPARC will put in place a mentoring programme to support and assist the young person in their role. Travel and accommodation costs will be covered by EUROPARC. No other expenses or honorarium can be paid.

Terms of Appointment for the selection of a EUROPARC Youth Representative

Eligibility: essential skills, knowledge and experience required for the position:

- Be between 18 and 30 years of age (at the time of application).
- At least one of the followings:
 - ⇒ Have undertaken relevant and regular professional - or volunteer – work to support youth engagement in Protected Areas;
 - ⇒ Be, or have been, engaged in the Youth Manifesto, or part of a Junior Ranger or Youth+ programme - or equivalent - in a Protected Area member of the EUROPARC Federation.
 - ⇒ Have attended EUROPARC international events and initiatives for youth and Junior Rangers.

Being employed in a Protected Area is not essential but would be considered as an added value.

- Have the support of a Protected Area member of the EUROPARC Federation.
- Share EUROPARC's mission, vision and values and have strong motivation to contribute to achieve the objectives of the Federation.
- Good communication skills and fluency in English are essential requirements. Knowledge of any other European language is welcome.
- Commitment to regularly attend online (1 per month) and live meetings (2 per year) of the Council over the course of the mandate.

Application and selection process

- Applications shall be submitted by **Friday 17th of December 13:00 PM CET** by filling out and signing [this form](#) and sending it through email to esther.bossink@europarc.org.
- Please also add **your CV** as an annex.
- Applications will be assessed by a jury composed of representatives from EUROPARC Council and Directorate. **Short listed candidates will be interviewed online in January.** Final decision is expected in February.

For clarifications, please contact Esther Bossink - EUROPARC Communication Officer:
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