

**Call for Applications**

**Application Deadline: August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2016**

**2<sup>nd</sup> FES European Autumn Academy**

**(Re-) Designing Europe – Visions for a Democratic and more  
Equal Europe through Youth Empowerment**

*19-25 September 2016, Berlin and Joachimsthal (Germany)*

**DESCRIPTON**

The European Union is drifting apart. Despite of an overall good economic situation, not all regions benefit from growth. In fact, many European countries, particularly those in the South, are in a vicious circle of debt, unemployment, and emigration. The resulting consequences are especially painful for the young generation, as they are often barred from accessing the labour market even with high levels of education.

Against the backdrop of the precarious situation and disadvantages young people are facing in Europe today the FES European Autumn Academy will look at the following questions: How can we keep Europe together? What values do we stand for? And how can we overcome inequalities?

In a first step, emphasis will be put on disparities in the fields of education and employment. Secondly, we will investigate how inequalities affect democracy in Europe, taken into account the rise of populist parties and the increasing nationalism and racism across the EU Member States.

Thirdly, the current situation of the newly arriving young refugees and asylum seekers and their necessary integration will be discussed. Finally, the Academy will look at and discuss good practices across Europe, where young people have been mobilised and engaged themselves in the democratic process.

The FES Autumn Academy's aim is to develop solutions from the perspective of young people through dialogue between practitioners, researchers and policy-makers. Therefore, the first part of the Academy, which takes place in Berlin, will include study trips and discussions with experts from politics, research and civil society.

Building upon these information, participants will be debating and proposing their individual approach to combat inequalities by developing their own project ideas during a "Think Lab". This Lab will take place outside Berlin in Joachimsthal, a small town in Brandenburg, idyllically located at Lake Werbellinsee. To guide this creative process, the Design Thinking Methodology will be applied.

At the end of the FES European Autumn Academy, a jury consisting of representatives from several FES departments will choose one of these project ideas which will be supported subsequently by the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung.

## APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

The 2nd FES European Autumn Academy is designed for students of European Studies, Social and Political Sciences and Economics as well as young civil society actors. Students of other disciplines are welcome to apply in case they show a special interest in the topic and program of the Autumn Academy.

Eligible applicants include **students from the 28 EU Member States** who are **aged 18-30** and able to communicate professionally in **English**. Please submit your CV in English and fill in the application form at [www.fes.autumnacademy.org/application-form](http://www.fes.autumnacademy.org/application-form).

## IN A NUTSHELL

**Where?** Berlin and Joachimsthal

**When?** 19 – 25 September 2016

**Who?** 25 students from 28 EU Member States, aged 18-30

**How?** Fill in the [application form](#) and upload your CV. Deadline for Application: 1 August 2016.

**Questions?** Write to [hello@fes.autumnacademy.org](mailto:hello@fes.autumnacademy.org)

**The Friedrich Ebert Stiftung (FES) will cover all expenses including accommodation and travel costs.**

## CONTACT

Ms. Yvonne Lehmann  
Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung  
Forum Politik und Gesellschaft  
Hiroshimastraße 17  
10785 Berlin  
Phone: 0049/ 30/ 269 35-7315

In case of questions concerning the application process, organization and logistics,

please get in touch via [hello@fes.autumnacademy.org](mailto:hello@fes.autumnacademy.org)

The project is accompanied by the Berlin-based NGO [Demokratie & Dialog e.V.](#)