



Statsforvalteren i Troms og Finnmark

County Governor of Troms and Finnmark

European Youth forum
Rue de l'Industrie, 10
1000 Brussels
Belgium

Tromsø, December 13, 2022

Letter of support for Tromsø's candidature for European Youth Capital

We, The County Governor of Troms and Finnmark, wish by this letter to express our support for the city of Tromsø's candidature for European Youth Capital (EYC) 2026.

The County Governor of Troms and Finnmark is the chief representative of the King and Government in the county. We work to ensure that the decisions, objectives, and guidelines of the parliament (*Storting*) and Government are implemented correctly. Further, we work for the benefit and best interests of the county and implement necessary initiatives according to local and regional needs, in close dialogue and cooperation with our local and regional partners.

Our two overarching strategic goals are:

1. Come together for children and youths: good conditions for upbringing and good prospects
2. Strengthen communication with municipalities: stronger, safer, and more sustainable municipalities

The strategic goals are based on what we see as the most important foundations for a good life and future in Troms and Finnmark

Consequently, the County Governor of Troms and Finnmark has established a unique child and youth initiative, with a focus on good conditions for growing up, and good prospects for all children and young people in the region. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) is the basis of this initiative. Although the UNCRC has a strong legal position in Norway, we see the need to enhance its practical use, specifically article 12 on children's right to participation.

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In this regard the initiative from Tromsø, focusing on how to increase youth participation and young citizenship both locally and regionally, is at the core of what we aim to achieve. The need to explore this further and learn from each other is essential to further improve youth participation throughout the region.

We would be interested in cooperating with Tromsø on several issues:

- Youth participation in the municipalities through youth councils
- How to work with the UN sustainability goals on a local basis, focusing on youth participation
- Inclusive youth participation –focusing on indigenous and minority youth groups
- Creative methods to enhance participation for all young people, and how to ensure a diversity of young voices

We greatly appreciate this opportunity to be part of Tromsø's candidature for EYC 2026 and we look forward to further cooperation

Yours sincerely

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This document is electronic approved