

INTERNATIONAL YOUTH EVENT | 23 OCTOBER 2023 | JOENSUU, FINLAND

BACKGROUND

Finland holds the chairmanship of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council till October 2023. Ahead of its upcoming chairmanship of the Barents Regional Council between 2023-2025, North Karelia is currently leading the regional work of Barents in "Friends of the Future Presidency of North Karelia" format. People-to-people contact is the essence of the Barents Cooperation and youth is a priority theme in both the national and regional level cooperation.

Generation Barents event creates a space for young people to meet, discuss, reflect, and get to know each other, which will undoubtedly contribute to making the Barents Region more attractive and vibrant.

DESCRIPTION

On 23 October 2023, BRYC (Barents Regional Youth Council), together with the Regional Council of North Karelia, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Finland, the Nordland County Council and the Norwegian and International Barents Secretariats, is hosting an international youth event titled "Generation Barents". The event will be held in Joensuu, Finland, back-to-back with the Barents Euro-Arctic Council (Friends of the Presidency) meeting held on 24 October in Joensuu.

The event aims to create a platform for youth in the High North. The topics of the event are various aspects of Barents cooperation, working life and entrepreneurship, student exchange possibilities, and attractiveness factors of the Barents region. We welcome students, members of youth councils and youth organizations, young entrepreneurs, and other interested youths (in the age group 15-30) to network, discuss and develop awareness around building the future of the Barents Region.

Participation includes admission to the seminar, lunch, and joint dinner with live music.

Please note that there is a limited number of slots, so we encourage everyone to register as soon as possible. Registration is open until 5 October 2023. [Registration link].

TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

The event's organizers will provide a shared bus transfer from Tornio via Oulu and Kajaani to Joensuu and back (Tornio-Joensuu on 22 October and Joensuu-Tornio on 24 October). Subject to a separate confirmation, there may be a transportation between Norway (Evenes or Bodø) and Tornio. Please note that there is a limited number of slots.

Youth from Barents regions (outside North Karelia) may apply for hotel accommodation in Joensuu to be covered by the event. Please note that there is a limited number of slots.

Contact person: Tiina Moisala, Regional Development Expert, Regional Council of North Karelia E-mail: tiina.moisala@pohjois-karjala.fi, Phone: +358 40 702 1575

Contact person regarding the bus: Eilen Zakariassen, Adviser, International Office, Nordland County Council. E-mail: eilzak@nfk.no, Phone: +47 97776794