

# EUROPE

# LAB #6

## Decolonial Encounters

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**APPLY UNTIL JULY 2ND [HERE!](#)**

Every year, the platform [Europe Lab](#) brings together young people from over 30 European countries, unlocking opportunities for dialogue and common learning. Participants work on cross-sector topics, share best practices, network, develop partnerships and start common international initiatives. Over the last five years, our community has grown to include young activists, cultural practitioners, researchers, artists, NGO and media representatives, (social) entrepreneurs and representatives of many more sectors.

In keeping with our focus on historical memory, Europe Lab has been focused on the topic of **Decolonial Encounters** since 2020, with three international teams already working on concrete projects around (de)colonial history, theory and practice. Under the heading of decolonial encounters, we understand reflections in art, science and (civil) society on colonial entanglement in the present and past. Together, we want to find creative solutions to overcome eurocentrism, racism and to foster spaces for dialogue and equal rights.

During the **kick-off on July 15th 2021**, 25 participants from various European regions and backgrounds will get the chance to gain knowledge on coloniality and decoloniality as key terms in the current social and political debates. What processes does colonialism historically refer to and where are colonial relations still visible in the present? The keynote speech will be delivered by **Madina Tlostanova**, distinguished scholar in the field of Post-Soviet epistemologies, Art History and Decolonial Feminisms.

After this topical introduction and discussion, Europe Lab participants will work in smaller groups on further thematic lines such as gender and colonisation; colonial traces in the urban space; Post-Soviet countries and decolonial perspectives; cultural symbols. There will also be room for practical tasks “off the screen”.

In August and September participants will get the opportunity to develop international projects and initiatives as a spin-off of the Lab. In **Summer 2022**, participants will present the outcomes of this year’s online sessions at a **physical Europe Lab held in Amsterdam and Assen (Netherlands)**.

## WHO CAN APPLY?

Europe Lab welcomes participants from a wide variety of backgrounds such as academia, politics, media, activism, grassroots organisations, NGOs, business, urban development and architecture, environmental activism, social entrepreneurship, the arts and the cultural sector.

The programme is open to young people from the EU, Russia and other European countries (including EaP countries, Balkan countries, Turkey etc.) in their 20s and 30s, and with a certain experience in the professional field or experience developing their own projects.

Some previous experience with decolonial theory and/or practice is preferred but not required, as the Lab will feature learning opportunities around the topic of Decolonial Encounters. Alumni of former Europe Lab editions are cordially invited to apply again.

## WHAT WILL WE DO?

For its sixth edition, “Europe Lab” is adapting its format in order to provide all participants equal opportunities to engage, discuss and organise.

The first step of Europe Lab #6 will be an online Kick-Off Day on **July 15th, 2021**. This first gathering will allow participants to learn from speakers and experts about the continued relevance of decoloniality in the broad European context. Participants will also have the opportunity to meet one another and start discussing important topics in tandems, in preparation for a **two-months mentoring period (in August and September)** to develop their own initiatives.

Europe Lab participants will be offered **mini-grants in Autumn 2021** in order to implement their projects, and will have the opportunity to present their results to all participants during the in-person Lab that will take place in **summer 2022 in Assen and Amsterdam**, in the Netherlands.

## APPLICATION

You will find a shortcut to the application form [here](#).

The deadline for applications is **02.07.2021 (midnight CET)**, and selected participants will be contacted by 5 July, 2021.

## EVENTS

Introducing Europe Lab #6 - Networking Event (online): 9 July, 16:00 CEST

Decolonial Encounters - Kick-Off Day (online): 15 July, 9.30 - 16.00 CEST

Project mentoring period (online): August-September 2021

Project pitches (online): September 2021

Mini-grants attributions: Autumn 2021

Project implementation and continued mentoring: Autumn 2021 - July 2022

Europe Lab in the Netherlands (offline): Late Spring/Summer 2022

## COVID-19

As we all know, we cannot predict the evolution of the ongoing COVID-19 crisis. Therefore, we cannot as of yet exclude the possibility of changing the format of the offline events planned for the coming year. The Europe Lab team will try its best to ensure all participants a fulfilling experience, regardless of the circumstances.

## CONTACTS:

[europelab@eu-russia-csf.org](mailto:europelab@eu-russia-csf.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/europelab2020/>

[https://www.instagram.com/eu\\_russia\\_csf/](https://www.instagram.com/eu_russia_csf/)

Europe Lab #6 is organised by the EU-Russia Civil Society Forum in cooperation with Dialogue in Progress (Assen), Tropen Museum (Amsterdam), the Institute for a Greater Europe and Stichting CAAT Projects. It is funded by the European Union and the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

