

## **Code of Ethics of the EYM Movement**

### **Preamble**

The EYM Movement bases its actions on trust in human beings, their dignity and their ability to contribute freely to the development of the community. We believe that every individual should be able to chart their own course in life without arbitrary obstacles and in a social context characterised by equal opportunities and the rejection of any discrimination based on origin, culture, language, religious or philosophical beliefs, gender, personal identity, sexual orientation, age, economic conditions or state of health.

Personal freedom and human dignity are the basis of peaceful coexistence, prosperity and civil progress. A just society is one that guarantees everyone the opportunity to participate and fulfil themselves without exclusion.

The EYM Movement recognises the right of everyone to freedom of expression, protection of their private life, physical and moral integrity, freedom of conscience and the possibility to adhere to their own beliefs, in accordance with the law and European democratic principles.

We believe that public institutions should provide the conditions and tools for every citizen to actively participate in decisions that affect their lives. Decisions should be taken as close as possible to the community concerned, through open, verifiable and accountable processes.

The quality of public life is based on rational debate, respect for facts, freedom of information, pluralism of opinion and mutual tolerance. The EYM Movement promotes these values as a response to all forms of closed-mindedness, extremism and authoritarianism.

We support the defence of democracy and fundamental freedoms wherever they are threatened, in Europe and beyond, by promoting cooperation between peoples and international solidarity.

Particular attention is paid to the role of the younger generation: the EYM Movement promotes youth participation, dialogue between different age groups and an equitable distribution of opportunities over time, so that progress does not penalise future generations.

We also recognise the central value of accessible and lifelong education as an essential tool for addressing social, economic and technological change and for promoting informed citizenship.

### **Principles of conduct for members**

Anyone holding a position or responsibility within the EYM Movement is required to maintain public conduct based on fairness, balance and respect. All behaviour must preserve the credibility, reliability and authority of the organisation.

Political and associative action must always be inspired by transparency, loyalty, consistency and a sense of responsibility. The positions taken must be compatible with the decisions shared in the deliberative bodies and respectful of institutional roles.

Members recognise democratic constitutional principles and fundamental rights charters as the primary reference point for their public activities, which are oriented towards the common good, social justice and inclusive coexistence.

Pluralism is considered a resource. Democratic debate is the standard method for reaching collective decisions. Differences of opinion should not be grounds for exclusion but rather opportunities for mutual growth.

The EYM Movement promotes the secular nature of institutions and the autonomy of politics with respect to any ideological or religious imposition.

### **Transparency and participation**

Decision-making processes must be understandable, justified and accessible to members. The organisation encourages the active involvement of members and supporters, avoiding the formation of crystallised positions or exclusionary dynamics.

Internal responsibilities are assigned on the basis of competence, commitment, ability and personal merit, discouraging opportunistic or transformative practices.

Every position must be exercised in the collective interest and not for personal gain. Any conflicts of interest must be declared and managed transparently.

### **Quality of public debate**

In internal and external discussions, the EYM Movement requires respectful language aimed at mutual understanding. Political debate must be based on arguments, verifiable data and good faith, avoiding simplifications or personalisation of the conflict.

Offensive, intimidating or discriminatory behaviour is incompatible with membership. Political criticism is legitimate when it concerns ideas, choices and public responsibilities; it is not legitimate when it aims to undermine personal dignity or delegitimise the interlocutor.

Pluralism of opinion is considered a normal condition of democratic life. Divergent views and minorities must be able to express themselves freely, contributing to the formation of more informed decisions. Dissent is not a divisive element, but a tool for clarification and collective maturation.

Responsible behaviour is also required in the use of the media and digital platforms. Members are required to distinguish between personal opinions and the official positions of the Movement and to avoid the deliberate dissemination of false, manipulated or unverified information.

### **Legality and responsibility**

Members shall operate in compliance with the law and internal regulations, acting fairly and in good faith. Political activity must be carried out with a sense of responsibility towards the community and an awareness of the consequences of one's actions.

Every representative function entails a duty of sobriety, transparency and consistency. Public or organisational resources must be used exclusively for institutional purposes, avoiding direct or indirect personal gain.

The EYM Movement promotes a culture of legality based not only on formal compliance with the rules but also on behaviour that is ethically consistent with its stated values.

Any violations of this code are assessed by the competent bodies according to clear procedures, ensuring the right to a fair hearing and proportionality in decisions.

### **Inclusion and respect for people**

The EYM Movement promotes an open and pluralistic society in which cultural, social and personal differences are seen as a resource. Mutual listening is considered an integral part of political action.

Each member is required to maintain attitudes that respect the dignity of others. Expressions of hatred, derision or contempt are incompatible with membership of the Movement, particularly when expressed in public or digital contexts.

Particular attention is paid to online behaviour: personal responsibility remains even in virtual spaces, and the use of social media must contribute to civil discourse and not to polarisation.

### **Campaigns and representation**

Candidates and representatives of the EYM Movement conduct public activities and election campaigns in a fair and honest manner, recognising the equal dignity of political opponents and voters.

Communication must be clear and understandable, avoiding unrealistic promises or deliberately misleading messages. Consensus must be sought through proposals and arguments, not through personal delegitimisation.

Public action must be consistent with the organisation's values and its commitments to citizens.

### **Conclusion**

This Code of Ethics represents a concrete and shared commitment. It is not only a disciplinary reference, but also a guideline for the daily behaviour of its members.

Adherence to the EYM Movement implies a willingness to apply these principles in political practice, in community life and in relations with the community, in the awareness that the credibility of a common project depends first and foremost on the example set by those who represent it.