

16.08.2022

Dear representatives,

I am Eda Kayadibinlioglu, a trainer and researcher specializing in cooperatives and Social and Solidarity Economy (SSE) at the Youth Deal Cooperative. Since 2016, I have been working for civil society organizations, and since 2017, I am a member of the Youth Deal Cooperative. Herewith, I express my interest in contributing to the work of the Executive Committee of the ICA YC as a member-at-large.

I apply for this post for four major reasons. First, cooperatives and youth employment are relevant to my areas of concentration. At the Youth Deal Cooperative, I took part in the projects which focus on NEETs and young people's engagement with cooperatives. Additionally, I took part in the "Assessment on the impact of pandemic on youth employment in Turkey focusing on the refugees" commissioned by ILO Ankara mobilizing my analysis, drafting, and reporting skills. Those experiences gave me the perspective to youth's challenges to work integration and organizing under cooperatives. With these data and experiences in the field, I will make a meaningful contribution to alternative models to youth employment through cooperatives. Second, my work at Youth Deal Cooperative equipped me with specific research and coordination expertise in cooperative ecosystem. I have been providing data-driven advisory support services (implementing surveys, drafting questionnaires, facilitating meetings) to cooperative ecosystem. In this regard, the last four years I have facilitated many good practices meetings among national-international cooperatives, so those meetings triggered significant improvements for newly established youth-led cooperatives and future cooperators. ICA YC is in the best position to facilitate peer exchange globally. Third, I have seen the results of the Replication Project (including in Turkey) – a promising tool for the new youth action plan. I am eager to work for developing sustainable multi-country support and financing schemes for youth-led cooperative development. Lastly, generational turnover in cooperatives is one of the common issues for young cooperators. I would be glad to concentrate on mainstreaming youth in the global cooperative establishment as part of the ICA YC.

I aim to contribute to the Executive Committee through my field and research experiences, eagerness for engaging with international cooperatives' ecosystem and providing national inputs to the ICA YC.

I thank the representatives for their consideration.

Sincerely,
Eda Kayadibinlioglu