

Youth Partnership

Partnership between the European Commission
and the Council of Europe in the field of youth



EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

EU-CoE youth partnership

Pool of European Youth Researchers

Annual Meeting 2015

Draft Report

Budapest, 13-14; 16 September 2015

Venue: European Youth Centre Budapest, Hungary

Programme

The meeting partially overlapped with the annual meeting of EKCYP correspondents.

Sun 13/09/15	
14:00 – 15:45	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opening of the meeting by the youth partnership team; - Presentation of participants; - Update on youth partnership work programme; - Needs, expectations from collaboration;
15:45 – 16:15	Break
16:15 – 18:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Review of expectations expressed in the previous meeting, Malta 2014; - Cooperation with other networks; - Evaluation of working methods and collaboration with youth partnership team;
Mon 14/09/15	
9:30 – 11:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Outlook at relevant trends and youth policy areas;
11:00 – 11:15	Break
11:15 – 13:00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update on respective areas of expertise and research; - Outlook at future cooperation among PEYR members and with the youth partnership.
Wed 16/09/15 14:30 – 16:00	<p>Joint Meeting PEYR - EKCYP</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Opening of the joint meeting by the team of the youth partnership; - Introduction by Partner Institutions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Ms Antje Rothmund, Council of Europe; o Ms Karin Lopatta-Loibl, European Commission. - Who's who: presentation of participants; - Update on youth partnership's work plan; - Youth Wiki initiative and interaction with EKCYP; - Synergies and interaction between PEYR and EKCYP; <p>Future activities and possible contributions from EKCYP correspondents and PEYR.</p>

Agendas

PEYR and EKCY (jointly or separately)

- Opening of the joint meeting by the team of the youth partnership;
- Introduction by Partner Institutions:
 - o Ms Antje Rothmund, Council of Europe;
 - o Ms Karin Lopatta-Loibl, European Commission;
- Who's who: presentation of participants;
- Update on youth partnership's work plan;
- Youth Wiki initiative and interaction with EKCY;
- Synergies and interaction between PEYR and EKCY;
- Future activities and possible contributions from correspondents and PEYR members;
- Review of expectations expressed in the previous meeting, Malta 2014, especially in the fields of
 - o Recognition and promotion of youth work;
 - o Participation;
 - o Social inclusion and barriers;
 - o Learning mobility;
 - o Cross-sectorial youth policy;
 - o Peer learning activities;
 - o Visibility and recognition of PEYR and EKCY
- Evaluation of working methods and collaboration with youth partnership team;
- Review of expectations expressed in the previous meeting, Malta 2014;
- Outlook at future cooperation among PEYR members and with the youth partnership.
- Next opportunities of cooperation.

PEYR only

- Update on respective areas of expertise and research;
- Cooperation with other networks and groups;
- Outlook at relevant trends and youth policy areas.

Participants

Pool of European Youth Researchers

1. Mr. Manfred ZENTNER
2. Ms. Siyka KOVACHEVA
3. Mr. David HAYRAPETYAN
4. Ms. Dunja POTOČNIK
5. Mr. Marti TARU
6. Ms. Sofia LAINE
7. M. Laurent LARDEUX
8. Ms. Beatrix NIEMEYER
9. M. Bence SAGVARI
10. Ms. Barbara Giovanna BELLO
11. Ms. Valentina CUZZOCREA
12. Mr. Charles BERG
13. Ms. Lihong HUANG
14. Ms. Ewa KRZAKLEWSKA
15. Ms. Magda NICO
16. Ms. Adina Marina CALAFATEANU
17. Ms. Maria-Carmen PANTEA
18. Ms. Sladjana PETKOVIC
19. Ms. Smiljka TOMANOVIC
20. Mr. Robert THOMSON
21. Ms. Elisabeth-Jane MILNE

Partner Institutions

(on 14 September)

- Ms. Antje Rothmund, Council of Europe
- Ms. Karin Lopatta-Loibl, European Commission

EU-CoE youth partnership

1. Mr. Davide Capecchi
2. Mr. Hanjo Schild
3. Mr. Philipp Boetzelen
4. Ms. Viktoria Karpatska

The profiles of PEYR members can be found here: <http://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/youth-partnership/peyr-members>

Contact details of PEYR members can be found here: <http://pjp-eu.coe.int/documents/1017981/1663776/PEYR+2015-09.pdf/geb1c06-ofe3-4a2f-9560-2d93cb295f1f>

Proceedings

The Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR) met for their annual meeting at the European Youth Centre Budapest on 13-14 and 16 September 2015.

The meeting was chaired by Davide Capecchi, member of the team of the partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth.

After an update on the current work plan of the EU-CoE youth partnership, and an overview of the future draft work programme, the members of PEYR reviewed the expectations of the previous annual meeting, which took place in Malta in November 2014. This review was an occasion for reflecting on current and possible future areas of work, as well as for providing feedback on working methods in view of their improvements.

The participation of PEYR in the work of the youth partnership is well appreciated and visible, and this became especially remarkable during the 2nd European Youth Work Convention.

The meeting finished with a joint session with the correspondents of the European Knowledge Centre on Youth Policy, where representatives of both institutions addressed the participants on their priorities and interaction with researchers. This joint meeting was chaired by Davide Capecchi, member of the team of the partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth with support from Hanjo Schild and Tanya Basarab.

Updates on the priorities and key developments on youth policy in the Council of Europe and the European Commission (joint session).

Antje Rothmund presented the priorities of the Council of Europe in the field of youth and reaffirmed strong commitment to the youth partnership with the European Commission.

She referred to the newly restructured Youth Department, where most research undertaken under the youth policy division is done in the youth partnership through PEYR and EKCYP. CoE is also changing its youth policy review framework to ensure a more agile and dynamic service to Member States. Hence, Youth Department has reviewed its youth policy assistance package, including several measures:

Rapid response service (a country working on a special subject asks a quick question/request – for example, seeking a youth law including participative structures... and through the communication there is peer support offered, including good practice or taking it to another level of advisory missions.)

- a. Intending to set up peer to peer coaching system between member states
- b. Youth policy advisory missions (specific requests by a Member State on a national strategy or some other specific request). An expert team would advise the country without the obligation of conducting a review.
- c. Youth policy review – an option for those countries seeking such work.

There was a brief discussion of how PEYR and researchers in general can support this new approach of the Council of Europe Youth Department on youth policy.

Ms. Karin Lopatta-Loibl presented updates from the European Commission. She thanked the researchers of PEYR for their contribution to the Seminar in Malta, to the 2nd European Youth Convention and to the Symposium on Youth Participation in a Digitalized World.

Ms. Lopatta-Loibl also presented the new *EU Youth Report 2015*, launched on 15 September, reporting on the 8 priority areas of the EU Youth Strategy. The main message of the report was that more needs to be done for the social inclusion of young people in the EU. The Report includes detailed information on the targets set and is also accompanied by a draft joint report between the European Commission and the Council of the EU and two staff working documents. You can find more details here: http://ec.europa.eu/youth/policy/implementation/report_en.htm

Presentation of the YOUTH WIKI Tool of the European Commission and discussion in EKCYP on complementarity

Ms. Lopatta-Loibl made a short update on the YOUTH WIKI Tool that the European Commission is launching. The person in charge of the tool in the Youth Unit is Mr. Joachim Fronia.

The YOUTH WIKI Tool is an online comprehensive tool that will be regularly updated with information about youth policies and the situation of young people in different countries in Europe. The aim is to produce comparable information by EU Member States and by theme. The tool should improve knowledge and evidence supporting policy development. It would support youth policy activities in the 8 specific areas of the EU Youth Strategy – it should be simple and include information for the EU Youth report. It should give a general overview of youth policies in different Member States – its structure to be discussed between the Managing Agency and the YOUTH WIKI correspondents in the different countries. The European Commission is to make a proposal and partners to decide on the content.

The YOUTH WIKI Tool should include a description of the policy framework, organization and funding of activities, main actors, specific initiatives, main indicators covering the 8 specific areas of the EU Youth Strategy. Participants in the YOUTH WIKI Tool are programme countries of the youth chapter of Erasmus+ Programme, including 28 EU Member States + Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway, FYROM and Turkey. Erasmus partner countries could be involved at a later stage. EACEA should be managing the implementation of the YOUTH WIKI implementation and maintenance. It is aimed to be a model tool to support the work of all those concerned. Budget: Euro 555 000 – 650.000 envisaged for 2016. YOUTH WIKI started in early 2015 and it is foreseen that the first two chapters would be completed by the end of April 2016 while information uploaded before would be updated at the same time.

State of play: A Concept Paper was produced by the EC. 25 of 33 participating countries nominated correspondents so far. A restricted call was sent out to nominated correspondents. EACEA is developing a guide for the content. Chapters 1+2 – general overview on policy situation in different countries and voluntary activities are aimed to be finished by the end of April 2016 and a public launch is intended for early 2016. A web platform is being developed by EACEA – EC informing regularly the Youth Working Party of EU, Erasmus+ Programming Committee and EURYDICE Network which set up something similar in the field of education.

PEYR Annual Meeting

It is summarized here below a summary of the discussions raised during the meeting, clustered around three topics: needs and expectations, future working directions as well as evaluation of working methods; themes for further cooperation within the EU-CoE youth partnership work programme; and areas of research and work within PEYR.

Needs, expectations, ideas for further work and working methods

- Mapping of existing research on youth in different countries for the past 30 years;
- A Europe-wide report on the state of youth policy in different countries;
- More presence at institutional events, such as the Joint Council on Youth of the Council of Europe, where two representatives could be present; the youth partnership team to share the agendas of these meetings with PEYR, so that representation of PEYR can be done on the basis of competences, interests and areas of research, and possibly extended to the bodies for co-management;
- Division of PEYR in satellites on the basis of interest and areas of research, also to facilitate more work in teams within PEYR members, and to collectively respond to calls;
- More time to respond to calls: the youth partnership team to share with PEYR in advance the expected contributions as early as possible in the year, so that work can be planned ahead and calls answered timely;
- Youth partnership team to timely share information on the involvement of members of PEYR are involved in different work processes;
- In short, the youth partnership could play a role of information broker: among PEYR, circulating information among its members, between PEYR and policy makers, between PEYR and two partner institutions, and between PEYR and the youth partnership;
- PEYR to be more proactive in agenda setting at European level, by taking leadership in creating an encyclopedia of youth studies;

Themes

- "Retraditionalisation" of young people;
- Family transitions (family formation and housing transitions), intimacy and sexuality;
- Cooperation with the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control;
- Social inclusion and exclusion: labour market, under-employment, migration, gender (in)equality, vulnerable groups, refugees, single parents
- Learning mobility: migration, assessment of costs and opportunities of mobility;
- Radicalisation and reaction to right-wing movements;
- Innovative forms of participation, including digital participation;
- Youth transitions and the role of youth work;
- Participative youth research.

Competences and areas of interest and research of current PEYR

- Gender equality;
- Youth in transition, also between education (training) and work, and toward family life;
- Social inclusion;
- Learning mobility;
- Participatory youth research;

- Youth, migration and family;
- Youth entrepreneurship;
- Higher education and new needs of young people, vocational training;
- Youth participation, also in relation to the refugees crises, and suburban youth;
- Citizenship engagement and education;
- Human rights education;
- Youth work and national, transnational youth legislation;
- Young people of second generation with migrant background and social inclusion;
- Political engagement, especially in South-Mediterranean region;
- Social mobility trajectories and the effects of crises on families and young people;
- Different forms of family life and social exclusion;
- Cross-sectorial youth policy, especially in the Baltic countries;
- Multilingualism;
- Youth employment, youth guarantee and its impact on employability;
- Visual activism;
- LGBT matters and youth work, especially in Africa;
- Critical participation in local, national and European public life.

The youth partnership would ensure that personal profiles of PEYR members be constantly updated online.

A group of PEYR members made themselves available to take an active role in the preparation (e.g. framing) and realization (e.g. presentations) of the possible event of the EU-CoE youth partnership on inequalities in Europe, presumably to take part in 2016, if included in the final work plan.

While it was clear the need for saving money and travel costs by combining the annual meeting of PEYR with the Symposium on youth participation in the digital age and with the annual meeting of EKCYP correspondents, PEYR members suggested that their next annual meeting could last for at least two days, to enable a smoother exchange of ideas and ensure more results, also in view of the end of the term evaluation and the projection into a new term. They also suggested that it be detached from other meetings.