

# Youth Partnership

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



## Youth perspective and youth mainstreaming

**Research, analysis and development of recommendations for the partner institutions**

*Online expert meeting to guide the research*

**12 March (09:30-12:00)**

The 2024-2025 workplan of the Youth Partnership foresees under the youth policy pillar further development of research, analysis and recommendations for partner institutions on youth perspective/mainstreaming youth. To start this process, a first online meeting will be held, to launch a study of national approaches to implementing the youth check/youth tests and mainstreaming youth in other policies, initiating the development of a Youth Knowledge Book on the topic. The meeting will be organised on the 12 March 2024 and will collect expectations on the objectives, focus, methodologies, potential contributions, and other relevant guidance for the research approaches for further developments of the youth perspective and youth mainstreaming on local, national, and European levels.

## Rationale

Youth mainstreaming and the youth perspective have become increasingly central on the youth policy agenda of both the European Commission (notably through [the European Year of Youth legacy communication](#)) and the Council of Europe (as stated in [the Reykjavik declaration of the heads of states](#)). Initiatives such as an EU Youth test or impact assessment, and of integrating a youth perspective for the follow up of the Council of Europe 4<sup>th</sup> Heads of State Summit, are discussed by the partner institutions as well between youth organisations and member states.

While including young people and their voices in policymaking has long been a central priority of the youth sector, a systematic overview of practices and programs on local, national and European levels is needed. Several research initiatives will be launched, starting with this online expert meeting.

The expert meeting will gather experiences, resources and ideas to guide the research on youth perspective and youth mainstreaming in policy making. The meeting is expected to give a better understanding of the opportunities, challenges and impact of youth-centred policy development, identify national or local standards, as well as those adopted by international organisations in their practices, including their relevance, strength and related challenges. By adopting an initial multi-level approach, lessons from local, national and international perspectives are expected to inspire new synergies and potentially bring added benefits to the future development of knowledge on the thematic.

### Purpose and expected outcomes

The expert meeting aims to explore cross-sectoral and thematic experiences of youth mainstreaming and youth perspective in policy, as a starting ground for launching additional research on the topic, looking at

- a) Mapping local and national approaches to youth mainstreaming, youth tests, youth checks and youth perspective initiatives;
- b) Analysing international organisations' approaches to youth perspective and youth mainstreaming (including, UN, OSCE, European Commission and the Council of Europe)
- c) Defining the topics to be explored in a Youth Knowledge Book on the topic.

Connections will be made to internal processes to the Council of Europe and the European Commission.

#### *Expected outcomes of the online meeting:*

- Share existing initiatives and good practices of including a youth perspective and mainstreaming in policy development processes;
- Based on the existing initiatives at local, national and international level, guide the research team on the focus, objectives, methodology and resources related to the topic;
- Identify critical points to cover in the study on local and national practices, the study of international organisations' approaches and themes to address in the youth knowledge book;
- Identify available research and other knowledge resources on this topic;
- Identify gaps and examine potential routes of exploration for further strengthening of youth mainstreaming and youth perspective;
- Collect ideas for developing supporting materials, audiovisual materials and other resources on the topic;
- Connect actors working on this topic from local, national and European perspectives for continued relations.

## Target group

The meeting will involve around 15-20 participants including researchers, policymakers, international organisations implementing approaches in policy development, youth organisations and their representatives, other actors with experience of local, national, or international level youth mainstreaming/including a youth perspective in policy development.

## Dates and venue

The first expert meeting will take place online on March 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024, at 09:30-12:00

## Support materials on youth perspective and youth mainstreaming

The Youth Partnership has developed research on cross-sectoral youth policy, as well as published several books in the series History of Youth Work in Europe, focusing on youth work and education, youth work and social work, and other cross-sectoral aspects.

### *Publications*

[Country information: youth work and youth policy](#)

[Youth policy essentials](#) (2019)

YKB #21 [Needles in haystacks: Finding a way forward for cross-sectoral youth policy](#) (2017)

YKB #28 [About time! A reference manual for youth policy from a European perspective](#) (2021)

[T-kit 15: Participatory youth policy](#) (2023)

[Insight into youth policy governance](#) (2018)

[Insights into youth policy evaluation](#) (2020)

[Life is cross-sectional. Why shouldn't youth policy be?](#) (2014)

[Perspectives on youth participation \(analytical paper\)](#) (2020)

[Youth policy evaluation review](#) (2020)

### *Key documents*

[Council of Europe Reykjavik Declaration: United around our values](#) (2023)

[EU youth strategy 2019-2027](#)

[European Year of Youth Legacy](#) (2024)

*Visuals*

[Cross-sectoral policy](#)

[Key questions for research and policy](#)

[Youth clock dynamics](#)

[Youth policy core principles](#)

[Youth policy evaluation](#)

[Youth policy: reflections on essentials](#)