

COUNTRY SHEET ON YOUTH POLICY RUSSIA



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YouthPartnership Council of Europe European Commission





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Context of national youth policy

The youth policy in Russia is currently of great priority of the Government of the Russian Federation and enjoys its particular attention. The new Ministry of Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy of the Russian Federation was established in May 2008. The current year 2009 was announced as the Year of Youth in Russia. There is a gradual integration of youth policy into the national long-term development strategies thus reducing the gap which appeared in youth policy development after early 90's.

The key priorities for the youth policy development in Russia are defined by the Ministry of Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy of the Russian Federation. The newly established authority comprises the youth policy making processes across the country, defines goals and tasks for youth policy development at local and regional levels, supports international co-operation in the sphere of youth and its comprehensive development and recognition at national level, co-ordinates cross-sectoral co-operation between other national stakeholders implementing activities on children and youth.

During 2009 normative and legal base for the youth policy will be developed to create an appropriate resource base and needed infrastructure.

There are particular priorities defined by the Ministry for the youth policy development in a short-term perspective:

- to put young people's needs into the national strategic agenda
- to improve national legislation on youth
- to reinforce the youth field resource base
- to elaborate standards to implement and co-ordinate youth policy at local and regional levels
- to improve and extend co-operation with children and youth non-governmental organisations
- to develop mechanisms of international co-operation in the youth field
- to encourage and support the development of voluntary activities in the youth field.

Each of the priorities mentioned above implies a set of policy measures to be implemented on local, regional and national level.

1. Statistics on young people

The total number of population of the Russian Federation by the beginning of 2007 came to 142.2 million people, where:

- 103.8 millions (or 73% of total population) urban population
- 38.4 millions (or 27% of total population) rural population

The share of young people at the age of 14-30¹ at the beginning of 2008 came to 38.048.949 million people or 26.8% of total population.

The gender distribution across the 14-30 age group of young people at the beginning of 2008 was as follows (in millions of people and percentage of total population):

Males - 19,215,836 (50.50%)

Females - 18,833,113 (49.50%)

The distribution of young people aged 14-30 by the type of settlement at the beginning of 2008 was as follows (in millions of people and percentage of total population of young people):

Cities (centers of the subjects of the Russian Federation, this figure includes Moscow and cities – centres of regions and capitals of Republics of the Russian Federation)– 14,098,446 (37.5%)

Cities except centres of the subjects of the Russian Federation (with a number of population from 500 thousands of people and more) – 4,038,112 (10.61%)

Cities except centres of the subjects of the Russian Federation (with a number of population from 100 to 499.9 thousands of people) – 495,161 (1.30%)

2. Actors and Structures

2.1 Public authorities

2.1.1 National public authorities:

Ministry in charge of youth

Ministry of Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy of the Russian Federation

Established in May 2008.

Minister: Mr. Vitaly Mutko

Deputy Minister responsible for youth policy: Mr. Oleg Rozhnov

Duration of mandate corresponds with a period of the Government structure set up.

Youth Department in the Ministry

Department on Youth Policy and Public Relations

- Main tasks of the Youth department

The Department on Youth Policy and Public Relations comes to the RF Ministry of Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy structure. The Department provides the state policy and legal regulations development in the youth area, co-ordinates international co-operation and

¹ As defined within the Strategy of the State Youth Policy in the Russian Federation 2006-2016 adopted upon decision of the Government of the Russian Federation December 18th 2006 No1760-r. National statistics covers specified age groups of young people including: 10-14; 15-19; 20-24; 25-29. The aggregated numbers of young people aged 14-30 presented were calculated by the Ministry of Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy of the Russian Federation on the basis of data officially provided by the Federal State Statistics Service (*Rosstat*).

multilateral co-operation between key stakeholders in the field of youth on a national level; administrates activities on youth policy development on local, regional, national and international level. The Department is authorised to intensify the international co-operation between Russia and other countries in the youth area providing the legal and normative base for the development of the international agreements on co-operation in the youth field. Russia has signed intergovernmental agreements with Germany, Italy, Finland, France, Luxemburg, Moroco, Poland, Japan, Armenia, Belarus, Georgia. Co-operation in the field of youth policy is currently enhancing with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the People's Republic of China, Lithuania. The Department presents national youth policymaking process on the international level by strengthening the linkages between Russia and international organisations and institutions such as the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), the Council of Europe (CoE), the Shanghai Co-operation Organisation (SCO), the European Union (EU), the Council of the Barents Euro-Arctic Region (CBER), the Cooperation with Baltic Sea Region, and others.

- Number of people who work in this ministry in the youth department

 The number of people working in the Ministry's Department on Youth Policy and Public Relations amounts to 7 persons.
- Director responsible for Youth in the Ministry
 Deputy Minister responsible for youth policy: Mr Oleg Rozhnov
 Head of Department on Youth Policy and Public Relations: Mr Boris Gusev
- Contact person in the youth department competent for European youth policy
 Deputy Head of the Department on Tourism and International Co-operation: Mr Roman
 Alexandrov

Other national public bodies who are directly involved in youth policies

Federal Agency on Youth Policy

Head: Mr Vasily Yakemenko

Duration of mandate corresponds to the period of the Government structure set up.

Parliament commission in charge of youth issues

<u>The Commission on Youth and Sport of the Council of the Federation of the Federal</u>
Assembly of the Russian Federation

Chair: Mr Vladimir Zhidkich

The State Duma Committee on Youth

Chair: Mr Pavel Tarakanov

- Role and competence

The State Duma Committee on Youth is fulfilling the legislative regulation of young people's rights and legitimate interests.

2.1.2 Regional public authorities with competencies in the youth field

There are 83 subjects (constituent entities) of the Russian Federation which constitute a particular regional public authorities structure with correspondent competencies and mandate on youth policy development and implementation on a regional level.

The youth policy-making process at regional level is provided by the regional authorities (authorised ministries, special committees or agencies). The regional authorities established are accountable to the Federal public authorities in charge of youth.

For example:

The Republic of Tatarstan established the <u>Ministry of the Republic of Tatarstan on Youth,</u>
<u>Sports and Tourism</u> in the structure of the regional authorities executive bodies.

The Republic of Adygeya had established the <u>Committee of the Republic of Adygeya on Youth</u> in 1992 and had re-established it in 2007 upon the adjustments made to the structure of the regional authorities executive bodies.

The Astrakhan Region established the <u>Agency on Youth of the Astrakhan Region</u> in the structure of the regional authorities executive bodies

The <u>detailed information</u> on regional authorities responsible for youth across other 80 constituent entities of the Russian Federation is presented on the Ministry of Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy web page.

2.1.3 Local public authorities with competencies in the youth field

The structure and principles of functioning of the local public authorities in Russian Federation are defined by the <u>Federal Law № 131-FZ on "Common Principles of Organisation of Local Government in Russian Federation"</u> adopted on 6 October 2003.

The local public authorities are bodies elected by citizens and (or) established by the representative body of the municipal entity and authorised to address the issues of local development in accordance with the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the principles and norms of the international and national legislation and other legal and normative acts adopted at national, regional (constituent entities of the Russian Federation) and local levels.

The relationship between local and national/regional authorities are determined by the same Federal Law and assumes legal accountability of the local public authorities to the federal and regional government bodies.

The youth issues are integrated and essential part of the local authorities mandate. They constitute the scope of the local public authorities' competencies to be implemented on a

local level along with other issues of social and economic development of the municipal (local) entity.

Different forms of local administration engagement to the youth policy implementation can be found across the country. The main are the following:

- the funding and co-funding of the youth policy activities at local and inter-local levels;
- the provision of support to the youth and children non-governmental organisations founded at local level:
- the provision of support and development of the system of youth self-government within the local administration structures;
- the encouragement of co-operation between local and regional public authorities to address the youth policy issues at local as well as regional levels;
- the organisation and holding of the thematic conferences and meetings aimed at benchmarking experiences and sharing good practices on a youth policy development and implementation between different (neighboring) municipal entities and providing support to this policy field development at local level;
- the development of a comprehensive system of institutions to address young people's needs at local level e.g. the teen-age clubs, the youth multi-field centres, the centres for young people's and children's social adaptation and psychological help and etc.

2.2 Youth welfare services (comprising public and/or non public actors)

There is no comprehensive approach to provide youth welfare services in Russia. Issues on youth welfare are assigned to different public authorities as well as provided by a range of non-public actors ensuring social protection for young people across country on local and regional level.

The Ministry of Healthcare and Social Development of the Russian Federation is one of the public institutions providing the state policy on social welfare and protection for different social categories and groups of population including particular groups of young people. The policy measures implemented by the ministry and its structural departments within the ministry's mandate in the sphere of social welfare and protection are stipulated by age and social status of the population groups covered by the national social protection system. The later are: employed/unemployed population, families with children under difficult socioeconomic conditions, women and children, elderly people, veterans and members of their families, disabled people and members of their families, retired officers and members of their families, citizens injured as a consequence of natural and/or technological catastrophies, terrorist attacks and other emergency situations and members of their families. Within each group of population mentioned above and enjoyed public social

protection under the structure of the national social protection system the different age groups of young people possess social protection can be extracted.

For example the Federal Law Nº125-FZ on the "Mandatory Social Insurance from the Job-Related Accidences and Occupational Diseases" adopted on 24 July 1998 contemplates the mandatory social protection to citizens injured from the job-related accidents and occupational diseases and members of their families including children under the age of 18 included and students under the age of 23 included before to graduate the on-campus (intramural) higher education programmes. The completion of this legal instrument is implemented by the Social Insurance Fund of the Russian Federation.

The Department of the State Policy in Childcare, Additional Education and Social Protection of Children of the Ministry of Education and Science of the Russian Federation elaborates state policy and provides normative and legal regulation in the sphere of childcare; additional education of children; education of handicapped children and children with childhood disabilities, social integration of devianted groups of children guardianship and trusteeship of children; safety provision for students; prevention of antisocial behaviour and deviant activities of teenagers as well as social protection and social welfare provision for students and other children.

The provision of social protection to other groups of young people covered by the social guarantees of those social groups mentioned above is also regulated by the national legislation including the Constitution of the Russian Federation, the Civil Code of the Russian Federation, the Labour Code of the Russian Federation, as well as normative and legal base developed for the sphere of education including higher education, social protection of orphans and other vulnerable groups of population and etc.

The social protection of young people on a local level is provided by the District Services of the Social Protection of Population or Centres for the Social Protection (Sobesy) established in each municipal entities across the country. These institutions are founded by and accountable to the local government administration.

A non-governmental sector provided services of social protection and support to different groups and categories of population including young people also presented.

For example:

"The Association of Youth Organisations of Invalids" (Assotsiatsia Molodezhnyh Invalidnyh Organizatsiy, AMIO) an interregional non-governmental organisation founded in 1991 to provide support for young disabled people in education, employment, social integration, intellectual and physical development. The Association unites 10 regional youth invalid organisations.

<u>"The Russian Association of the Trade Unions of Students"</u> an all-Russian professional association of students founded in 1991 to provide the base for the students' constitutional rights implementation to available and high quality professional education, to develop and strengthen students' trade union movement. The Association unites more then 1.2 million students in 328 higher education institutions from 67 subjects of the Russian Federation.

2.3 Non-public actors/structures & youth services with competencies in the youth field

2.3.1 Youth councils

The National Youth Council of Russia was founded on 10 January 1992 on the initiative of 8 non-governmental organisations. The foundation of National Youth Council was supported by the Russian Federation President's Decree №1075 "On immediate actions on development of youth policy in the Russian Federation ", dated 16 September 1992. The National Youth Council was registered in the Ministry of Justice of the Russian Federation (Register-certificate №1195) on 21 August 1992. A statute was reregistered on 8 September 1997. The status of the organisation is all-Russian.

Nowadays the National Youth Council unites 41 all-Russian and inter-regional organisations and 32 Regional youth councils (Roundtables) as its members. Therefore the National Youth Council of Russia is the most representative structure of youth and children non-governmental organisations in Russia. It is recognized both by the national state authorities and by international structures: Council of Europe, UNO, INGOs – European Youth Forum, World Assembly of Youth, etc.

The National Youth Council of Russia serves as a system of co-ordination and consultation for youth and children organisations. The main aim of the National Youth Council is to support and co-ordinate activities of Russian youth and children's organisations in order to encourage protection and realisation of their interests as well as rights of children and youth. Main directions of activities are defined in the Council's priorities set for the period 2008-2011 and included:

- 1. Thematic programmes and projects development and implementation.
- 2. Russia's youth and children movement support and encouragement.
- 3. International youth co-operation development.

In accordance to set priorities a number of activities are planned for the implementation during the period 2008-2011.

- 1. Thematic programmes and projects development and implementation comprises following activities on:
- 1.1.1. Enhancing the public recognition of young people actively engaged in social life and processes and rising significance of their activities for the overall society development through the establishment of a National Youth Reward "Russia's Future" and the National Educational Programme "An Intellectual and Creative Potential of Russia";
- 1.1.2. Developing programmes of non-formal educational for young people including the Programme on youth civil education and Thematic camps for national youth and children organisations.
- 1.1.3. Launching the all-Russian national campaign "Century Anniversary of the Children Movement (Young Scouts) in Russia"
- 1.1.4. Launching the all-Russian national campaign "All different All Equal"
- 1.1.5. Launching the Programme on Youth Self-government development in Russia
- 1.1.6. Other pilot programmes and projects for different areas of social development such as environmental education, youth and children sports and culture, youth entrepreneurship, healthcare and etc.
- 2. Russia's youth and children movement support provision is implemented on the basis of required normative and rule-making activities, as well as an expert, scientific and methodic assistance, and also includes:
- 2.1.1. Organisation of the training courses for staff working with young people;
- 2.1.2. Organisation and enhancement of the informational support and co-operation between national youth and children organisations;
- 2.1.3. Support and improvement the youth and children organisations structural development;
- 2.1.4. Improvement the social partnership and resource provision;
- 2.1.5. Support the positive image and public opinion rising on youth policy provision on a national and international level.
- 3. Task for development of international co-operation in the field of youth comprises following activities on:
- 3.1.1. Rising the effectiveness and efficiency of co-operation with intergovernmental and international structures, institutions and organisations including arrangements on strengthening co-operation with UN institutions those with competencies in a youth and childcare field, European Youth Forum, CoE Directorate of Youth and Sport, European Union.
- 3.1.2. Strengthening bilateral co-operation with partner countries including Germany, Finland, Italy, countries of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

3.1.3. Multilateral co-operation development including further in-depth partnership development with the Council of the Barents Euro-Arctic Region, within the framework of the co-operation with Baltic Sea Region and the Shanghai Co-operation Organisation.

The National Youth Council is a full member of the European Youth Forum – a pan-European platform for National Youth Councils and International non-governmental youth organisations in Europe. It has the observer status in World Assembly of Youth.

The highest decision-making body of National Youth Council of Russia is a Conference, which is held once in three year. In between Conferences the Board of NYCR runs the overall management. The Board meets no less than twice a year. For efficient work of NYCR the Presidium of the Board is elected which meets no less than 4 times a year.

The Chairman of NYCR is Alexander Sokolov, elected in June 2008 (sokolov@youthrussia.ru).

Some NYCR members:

The Russian Union of Youth

Chair (The First Secretary): Mr Andrey Platonov (ruy@ruy.ru)

The all-Russian Non-Governmental Organisation "Children and Youth Social Initiatives"

Chair: Mr Sergey Titerskiy

The Youth Council of Lawyers of the Russian Federation

Chairs: Mr Dmitry Zamyshlyaev, Ms Olga Fedoskova (msu@ibb.ru)

The League of Young Journalists of Russia

Chair: Mr Alexandr Shkolnik

The Organisation of Young Guides and Scouts of Russia

Chair: Mr Roman Alexandrov

2.3.2 Youth NGOs

The all-Russian non-governmental organisation "Molodaya Gvardia Edynoy Rossii"

<u>The International Union of Children Non-Governmental Organisations "The Union of Pioneer Organisations – The Federation of Children Organisations"</u>

Chair: Mrs Elena Chepurnych

Centre for the Youth Parliamentarianism Development in Russia

Chair: Mrs Larisa Pastukhova

The majority of youth NGO's established in Russia are regionally presented. Each subject of the Russian Federation forms its own list of registered regional youth NGO's.

2.4 Other structures

Expert groups, permanent networks etc.

The Department of Sociology of Youth of the Social and Political Processes Research

Institute of the Russian Academy of Science.

Chair: Dr Julia Zubok

3. Legislation

Articles of the constitution concerning youth explicitly

There are no articles referred explicitly to youth within the Constitution of the Russian

Federation.

Implicitly the youth issues can be defined by the following articles:

Section 1 Chapter 1 Article 2 and Article 17 define the human beings, its rights and

freedoms as a supreme value and the recognition, maintenance and protection of rights and

freedoms of citizens as a key responsibility of the government.

Section 1 Chapter 1 Article 7 defines the Russian Federation as a social welfare state

which policy is aimed to provide a conditions for the merit life and freedom for human beings

development.

Section 1 Chapter 1 Article 30 Part 1 provides a right to each citizen to create

associations and unions to be able to present and to protect their interests including trade

unions. The freedom of activities of created associations and unions are guaranteed by the

government.

Section 1 Chapter 1 Article 39 guarantees the social protection to each citizen in occasion

of old age, disability, loss of breadwinner(A head of a family provided resources for life

(mostly money but often social status, social respect, social advantages for the family and

its members as well)), childcare and other cases foreseen by federal legislation, and

encourages the voluntary social insurance and additional forms of social protection

development as well as philanthropy.

Section 1 Chapter 1 Article 43 guarantees the right and availability of education to each

citizen.

Section 1 Chapter 1 Article 60 defines the possibility of each citizen to exercise rights and

obligations completely and independently upon reaching the age of 18.

National legislation on youth

The Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation Decree №5090-1 "On the Key Priorities for

the Youth Policy in Russian Federation" dated 3 June 1993.

Federal Law №98-FZ "On State Support Provision to the Youth and Children Non-

Governmental Organisations" dated 28 June 1995 and amended 22 August 2004 (Federal Law №122-FZ 22.08.2004).

<u>Federal Law №82-FZ "On Non-Governmental Organisations"</u> dated 19 May 1995 and amended 23 July 2007.

<u>Federal Law №7-FZ "On Non-for-Profit Organisations"</u> dated 12 January 1996 and amended 24 July 2008.

<u>Federal Law №184-FZ "On Common Principles of Organisation of the Legislative and Executive Bodies of the Subjects (constituent entities) of the Russian Federation"</u> dated 6 October 1999 and amended 25 November 2008.

<u>Federal Law № 131-FZ on "Common Principles of Organisation of Local Government in Russian Federation"</u> dated 6 October 2003 and amended 3 December 2008.

Federal Law №199-FZ "On amendments to the particular legislation of the Russian Federation in accordance with improvements to the separation of responsibilities" dated 31 December 2005 and amended 3 December 2008.

Regional and local legislation on youth

75 out of 83 subjects of the Russian Federation have adopted regional legislation on youth nowadays.

4. National Programmes on youth

Russia had set up a national programme on youth early 2009 within the <u>Action Plan for 2009</u> Year of Youth. The 2009 Year of Youth had been announced September 18th 2008. The Organising Committee as well as key events for the forthcoming period had been elaborated and confirmed December 24th 2008. The Action Plan for the 2009 Year of Youth thus includes a range of practical steps to implement the national youth policy development in short-term perspective but still future-oriented.

The 2009 Year of Youth Action Plan consists of seven essential parts to be implemented during the 2009 period. The responsibility for the Action Plan implementation is shared by different national stakeholders including the RF Ministry for Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy, RF Ministry of Education and Science along with the federal and regional executive bodies and national youth NGOs and other non-public institutions.

Part I concerns the Opening Organisational Events aimed to mark the beginning of the Year of Youth in Russian Federation and implies to the Organisational Committee special meetings, the 2009 Year of Youth logo development, the all-Russian call for projects and programmes to be realised by regional authorities and national NGOs in the youth field

within the framework of the Strategy of the State Youth Policy in Russian Federation 2006-2016.

Part II concerns the young people engagement in social practices, rising their awareness on existing and potential opportunities for self-development and self-education, the support provision for the young people scientific, creative and entrepreneurial activities.

Part III concerns special support provision to talented, self-motivated and ambitious young people who possess a high level of leadership skills.

Events and activities come to the Part IV aimed to address the needs of young people in patriotic education and learning, to promote and rise their awareness on healthy lifestyle, to encourage the mass sports development and their equal provision for young people, to contribute the nurturing of legal, cultural and moral values among young people, to provide support to socially vulnerable groups of young people.

Part V is intended to strengthening the normative and analytical and evidence-based provision for work with young people.

Part VI concerns the development of international co-operation in the youth field.

Part VII provides events on informational support provision of the 2009 Year of Youth in Russian Federation.

Action plans i.e. official strategies

The Strategy of the State Youth Policy in Russian Federation 2006-2016 adopted upon decision of the Government of the Russian Federation No 1760-r on December 18th 2006 provides the concept and vision for the national youth policy development in coming decade and aimed to support young people participation including in current and future national priority programmes and projects.

The Strategy defines the age range for "young people" as between 14 and 30 years old; its regulations are spread on young people including socially vulnerable groups of young people as well as young families.

The Strategy defines its main goals as to develop and fulfil the potential of young people according to country's needs and interests.

The Strategy sets out a range of priorities for the national youth policy development and implementation, including:

- young people engagement in social practice and rising their awareness on possible opportunities for development;
- young people creativity development and support;
- vulnerable groups of young people social integration.

The Strategy comprises a range of national programmes and activities in the framework of set priorities such as:

"The Russian Information Network – New View" focuses on the development of a comprehensive information system and a social explanatory programmes on the full range of issues impacting on the life of youth in society; development of information and consultation assistance for young people; development the youth information projects and programmes; dissemination of values of Russian society among young people with social advertising; development special projects to compensate for lack of opportunities of youth in rural and remote areas with respect to the search, use and dissemination of current information.

"The Russian Volunteer" aims to encourage the development of voluntary activities in the youth field, provide support to public organisations and youth associations, provide informational assistance in forming the data base on needs and opportunities for young people's voluntary activities at regional, national and international level, to motivate young people to be more engaged in voluntary activities in the field of sport, tourism and leasure inside the country and abroad.

"Career" aims to integrate young people to different forms of youth occupation and vocational oriented activities; to provide assistance in planning and making a successful career for young people on the labour market; to launch programmes for the development of social skills for young people needed for the labour market career.

"Young Family of Russia" aims at strengthening the family as social institution, to promote family values and responsible parenthood among young people as well social adaptation through targeted support activities such as family values advocacy, starting opportunities improvement for young families, family-oriented activities implementation for orphans and children left by their families, housing assistance provision for young families and others.

"Team" aims to develop youth leadership skills and competencies and encourage youth integration and participation in local governance and local public authorities initiatives, research and projects activities.

"Your success is in your hands" aims to define and support talented young people and promote the products of their innovative activities through the youth entrepreneurship and young people economic activity, young people encouragement for their research activities valuable for national future development, young people engagement in the international innovative projects in the field of education, science, culture and technology and others.

"A Step Towards" aims to provide support for the young people's social integration especially for the socially vulnerable groups of young people through their social, economic, cultural engagement, development and mainstreaming the tolerance values among society and others.

The Ministry of Sport, Tourism and Youth Policy of the Russian Federation is currently supporting the realisation of the Federal Targeted Programme "Affordable Homes for Young

Families" (2005-2015) and aims to provide financial and organisational mechanisms to establish equal and affordable conditions for young families to possess homes, develop a normative basis for the programme's successful and effective implementation.

5. Budget / Public expenditure allocated to youth

National level

The amount of public expenditures allocated to youth according to the Law on State Budget for 2009 period is come to 2 804 586 thousands rubles, including expenditures on (in thousand of rubles):

Federal Agency on Youth – 467.431.0

Federal issues - 57.431.0

Other federal issues - 57.431.0

Management and administration in the sphere of set responsibilities – 57.431.0

Central Office functionalities - 57.382.06

Public authorities' functionalities - 57.382.06

Tax on assets of organisations and land tax – 48.4

Public authorities' functionalities - 48.4

Education - 410 000.0

Youth Policy and Children Healthcare - 410 000.0

Organisational and Pedagogical Work with Youth - 410 000.0

Youth Activities - 410 000.0

Public authorities' functionalities - 410 000.0

6. European Dimension of youth policy

The European dimension of youth policy in Russia is predicated upon co-operation with the Council of Europe, the European Commission and the European Youth Forum, key international partners for Russia in the youth field. The co-operation of the Russian Federation in the youth field with key partner European institutions defines with particular goals, methods and instruments of co-operation.

6.1 Council of Europe programmes or activities implemented in an important way for youth purposes (including funding schemes of the European Youth Foundation)

Once started in early 90's the co-operation between Russia and the Council of Europe had evolved significantly shaping and influencing youth policy on a national level. A new

Framework programme for co-operation between Russian Federation and the Council of Europe in the youth policy field for the period 2009-2011 was signed in Spring 2009.

During the 2006-2008 working period of co-operation several results had been achieved as well as meaningful joint events had been held.

2006 – The International Meeting of Young People of Europe "All Equal – All Different", September 2006, St.Petersburg, Russia.

2006-2007 - the CoE Campaign "All Different - All Equal".

2008 - present - the All-Russian Campaign "All Different - All Equal".

2008 – International Youth Forum "Intercultural Dialog and its Religious Dimension", 30 November - 4 December, Kazan, Republic of Tatarstan.

6.2 European Union programmes

Please also refer to European action in the field of youth information (national website of Eurodesk)

The EU-Russia Partnership and Co-operation Agreement was signed in 1994.

The ongoing EU-Russia co-operation is based on 4 specific policy areas covering Economic Issues and the Environment; Freedom, Security and Justice; External Security; and Research and Education, including Cultural Aspects, defined and recognised at the St. Petersburg Summit in May 2003 in EU-Russia Common Spaces Road Map signed by the President of the Russian Federation Vladimir Putin, the Prime-Minister of Luxemburg Jean-Claude Juncker, the President of the Commission of the European Comminities José Manuel Barroso and the First European Union High Representative for the Common Foreign and Security Policy Javier Solana on 10 May 2005. The common programme for cooperation on middle-term perspective as well as an action plan on its realisation have been defined to develop co-operation and succeed in the benchmarking and best practices sharing in the fields of education, culture and youth.

The most stable policy area of co-operation between EU and Russia is traditionally the fourth space of Road Map included the youth policy.

A new impetus for the EU-Russia co-operation development in the youth field was given recently in 2006-2007 when the special meetings between the Department of the State Policy in Education, Training and Social Protection of Children of the RF Ministry of Education and Science and the EU Directorate for Youth, Sport and Citizenship were held. The national authorities had agreed to develop and strengthen the EU-Russia co-operation in the youth field. A special intergovernmental working group had been established as follow up with the regular meetings scheduled yearly.

Russia is a partner country for the EU Programmes "Youth" (2000-2006) and "Youth in Action" (2007-2013) currently participating in Action 2 (The European Volunteer Service)

and Action 3 (Youth in the World). Having not established the national resource centre Russia takes part in EU Youth in Action Programme through the SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus Youth Programme Resource Centre (SALTO EECA).

7. Forthcoming events/conferences

2009 is announced as the Year of Youth in Russia. <u>The list of planned events</u> was agreed early 2009.

7.1 Current developments/plans with regard to national legislation/guidelinesThe Federal Law on State Youth Policy is currently under project.

7.2 Current developments/plans with regard to European youth policy priorities

Please mention important events in the youth field, especially those linked to the four Open Method of Co-ordination key priorities and give the dates foreseen.