

QUESTIONNAIRE "INFORMATION" ESTONIA



YouthPartnership Council of Europe European Commission





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1 Information services

1.1 Legal framework of the youth information service

In Estonia, the provision of information to and counseling of young people is regulated by the Youth Work Act, which obliges county governors to organize provision of information to and counseling of young people in the county.

The Estonian Youth Work Strategy 2006-2013 stipulates providing information about and for young people as well as youth counseling to be areas of youth work.

1.2 Youth information points at national and regional level

1.2.1 Number of youth information points at national level

No national level information points as the function of providing information is carried out at regional and local levels.

1.2.2 Number of youth information points at regional level:

20

1.3 Please list the specialized areas covered by youth information in your country.

- Youth activism and participation
- Youth hobby education and hobby activities
- Leisure time spending opportunities
- Various camps
- Youth and independence
- Environment and sustainable development
- Personal finance, money
- Relationships
- Health
- Financial support, grants
- Secure society
- Working, career guidance
- Volunteering
- Going abroad
- Studies, study guidance
- Society and citizen
- Discover Europe

1.4 Youth portals:

1.4.1 Number of national youth portals:

- Noorte Infoportaal (Youth Information Portal), <u>www.nip.ee</u> has the most thorough coverage of themes relevant to young people.
- Eurodesk, <u>www.eurodesk.ee</u>, provides information on opportunities to go abroad for studying, working or leisure.
- Euro26, <u>www.euro26.ee</u>, is a portal providing information on opportunities associated with being a member of the EURO<26 system and owning the Euro26 card.
- Rajaleidja (Pathfinder), <u>www.rajaleidja.ee</u>, is a portal focusing on career counseling. It contains a section which provides information to young people
 (http://www.rajaleidja.ee/index.php?id=10194) by providing information on study and work opportunities.
- National agency of the program Youth in Action maintains a portal
 (<u>euroopa.noored.ee</u>) which offers information mainly on activities and opportunities
 associated with the program. The program supports mostly youth projects but also
 applications from other age groups are welcomed, under certain conditions. The
 agency also runs a website on non-formal learning <u>www.mitteformaalne.ee</u>; though
 the portal might be of interest and useful to young people, it is targeted rather to
 youth workers than to young people.

1.4.2 Number of regional youth portals

Each county level information and counseling centre has its own webpage.

In addition to county counseling centers, many local governments run websites that offer information to young people in a special section. The sections focus on opportunities for spending free time. Additionally also many youth work organizations as well as schools run websites that offer information to young people.

2 Access for young people

2.1 Number of young people using the information services

In 2006, the services offered by county level information and counseling centers were used by 25 707 young people. The centers also do record the number of young people who either face-to-face, by phone or via email have contacted information center(s). In 2008, around 10 000 contacts were recorded.

2.2 Is there any mobile information service?

No mobile information services

3 Ensuring quality of information

3.1 Please list the places (training centres, universities, etc.) where you can get training and knowledge on youth information

There are none.

3.2 What are the quality standards applied in youth information in your country (e.g. ISO 9000 Series, ERYICA charter, national standards etc.)

Youth information and counseling centers use principles of European Youth Information and Counseling Agency ERYICA principles

3.3 What existing monitoring systems are there on quality of information dissemination?

Specialists of county information and counseling centers act pursuant to uniform principles. The centers provide services to all age groups, sharing information and counseling students and young job-seekers. Young people are informed using active notification and counseling methods.

The county information gathered by employees of the centers on the basis of a uniform information form will be pooled to a centralized information system and a database to be launched. Analysis of annual reports was accomplished by Ministry of Research and Education until 2007 and is accomplished by Estonia Youth Work Centre starting from 2008.

4 Participation of young people in information:

How are young people participating in the provision and dissemination of information?

Representatives of young people from youth societies can make proposals on content and method of information service. There are no special arrangements for channelling activism of young people in information provision and dissemination.

List the existing legal provisions and structures to enable participation of young people in the provision and dissemination of youth information

There are no legal provisions focusing specially on participation of young people in the provision and dissemination of youth information. Youth participation in provision of information is regulated by National Youth Work Strategy 2006-2013 which stipulates that youth work, including providing information to young people and offering counselling service to them,

- a) should be performed for youth and with youth by involving them in making decisions about youth work,
- b) proceeds from the needs, interests and wishes of youth and
- c) is grounded on the participation and free will of youth.