## Youth Partnership

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





# COUNTRY SHEET

## ON YOUTH POLICY

## IN SWEDEN



Last updated: 2020-04-17 By: Tiina Ekman

Disclaimer: The content of this document, commissioned by the EU-CoE youth partnership, is the sole responsibility of the author and does not necessarily reflect the opinion of either of the partner institutions (the European Union and the Council of Europe).

## Contents

1. Context and principles of national youth policy in Sweden1	
1.1 Context of national youth policy1	
1.2. Principles of national youth policy	
1.2.1 Youth Policy Bill	
1.2.2 Youth perspective	
2. Statistics on young people4	
3. Actors and Structures5	
3.1 Public authorities5	
3.1.1 National public authorities with competencies in the youth field	
3.1.2 Regional public authorities with competencies in the youth field	
3.1.3 Local public authorities with competencies in the youth field	
3.2 Youth welfare services9	
3.3 Non-public actors/structures and youth services with competencies in the youth field 9	
3.3.1 Youth Councils	
3.3.2 Youth NGOs9	
3.4 National networks for knowledge on youth linking all actors in the field (policy makers, researcher young people and their organisations, NGOs)	ſS,
3.4.1 The Youth Policy Council10	
4. Legislation	
5. National Policy Programmes and Action Plans on Youth12	
5.1 Young people without secondary education	
5.2 Young people who neither work nor study	
6. Budget / Public expenditure allocated to youth13	
6.1 National level13	
6.2 Regional level13	
7. European Dimension of youth policy14	
7.1 Council of Europe youth sector strategy and programmes14	
7.2 European Union youth strategy and programmes14	
8. Further sources of information on youth policy in Sweden	

## 1. Context and principles of national youth policy in Sweden

## 1.1 Context of national youth policy

#### *The target group for youth policy is young people aged 13–25.*

Young people in Sweden have in many respects good living conditions, according to the youth policy monitoring system. The monitoring system is based on indicators of young people's living conditions, on annual thematic in-depth analyses on young people's living conditions and on periodic studies on young people's attitudes and values. Myndigheten för ungdoms- och civilsamhällesfrågor, <u>MUCF</u> (the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society) is responsible for the youth policy follow-up. The main themes for the Swedish youth policy according to the Government's priorities expressed in the budget proposal for 2018 are still valid in spring 2020:

- transition from school to work and society, mainly relating to employment, education and housing,
- young people's power and participation, and
- young people's leisure time, organizing and well-being.

National statistics on young people's living conditions are published on www.ungidag.se. The statistics are based on indicators, aiming to create an overall picture of young people's living conditions over time, and the figures are shown by gender, by age group and by Swedish/foreign background. Some indicators can even be broken down to municipal level. All data in this article has been downloaded from <u>www.ungidag.se</u>, unless another source has been specified.

#### Education

Swedish upper secondary schools provide education free of charge to all pupils who have completed compulsory schooling. Some of the contemporary challenges are:

- The share of learners who do not complete compulsory school, and therefore are not are <u>not eligible for a national upper secondary school programme</u>, increased between 2011 and 2018 from 12% to 18%. The main reason for this is the strongly increased immigration in 2015 and 2016. I many cases the youngsters started their schooling in lower secondary level but failed to directly gain access to upper secondary level education. In 2018, the situation has turned for the better, the share of learners who were not eligible for a national upper secondary school programme had decreased to 16%.
- Young foreign-born tend to have a more problematic situation compared to those born in Sweden. While 90% of young people born in Sweden were <u>eligible for</u> <u>upper secondary education</u>, the corresponding share among immigrant youth was 55% in 2018.
- Among learners, girls achieve better in all school subjects compared to boys. The share <u>eligible for tertial education</u> in 2018 was 81 % among girls and 66% among boys. The gap between those born in Sweden and foreign-born is somewhat smaller when it comes to eligibility for tertial education compared with upper secondary education. The share in 2018 was 74% (born in Sweden) compared to 64% (foreign-born).

#### Employment

The Government has made extensive efforts in the field of education and to get young people into work. Many young people still find it difficult to enter the labour market, although the unemployment rate among youth has declined since the economic crisis in 2008. Young people who lack secondary education, are foreign-born or have reduced ability to work are in greatest risk of long-term unemployment.

- About 6.8% of young people aged 16–24 <u>neither worked nor studied</u> (NEET) in 2017. The share has been stable since 2010.
- The share of <u>unemployed young people</u> (15-24) was 8.9% of the labour force in 2019, a decrease of almost 10 percentage units compared to 2011.
- The share of unemployed foreign-born young people (15-24) was 24% of the labour force, compared to 6% among those born in Sweden 2019.

#### Housing

Young people face increasing difficulties to find their own housing.

- 79% of the municipalities had a deficit of housing for young people in 2019. That is an increase of 17 percentage points compared to 2014 when 62% of the municipalities reported of housing deficit, according to the National Board of Housing, Building and Planning (<u>Boverket</u>).
- 43.8% of young people aged 20-24 still <u>lived with their parents</u> 2017. The share was 37.2% in 2009.

#### Participation

There is a positive trend concerning young people's participation in the representative democracy.

- <u>Voter turnout</u> among young voters has increased in the last three elections. Among 18– 24-year-olds, 86% voted in the national parliamentary election 2018, compared to 90% among 30-64-year-olds.
- Youth remain underrepresented in decision making bodies, the share of young people aged 18-24 among those <u>elected in municipal elections</u> has remained between 2% and 3% between the 2002 and 2018 elections.

#### Well-being

Young people's own assessment of their general health and self-rated mental ill-being has not changed to any significant extent since 2010. While most of them consider that their health status in general is good, almost one of three witness of having some concerns with their mental well-being.

- In 2018, 79% of young people aged 16-24 assessed <u>their general health as being</u> <u>good</u>. That is a decrease compared to 2010 (85%). The share who assessed their general health as being good was smaller among girls than among boys, 74% compared to 84%. The difference between the sexes has been stable over time.
- In 2017, 35% of young people aged 16-24 suffered of symptoms such as <u>uneasiness, anguish or anxiety</u>. The share was bigger among girls than among boys in 2017, 45% compared to 26%. For both sexes, the proportion has increased between 2009 and 2017.

### **1.2.** Principles of national youth policy

The Swedish youth policy is multidisciplinary and deals with issues in areas such as education, employment, private economy, housing, health, participation, culture and leisure. The scope of the Swedish youth policy is more or less unchanged since 2004.

In addition to these areas, there are issues that the youth policy follow-up system has identified to deserve a particular attention. These issues are often linked to human rights, including gender equality, the rights of national and ethnic minorities, the rights of young LGBT-people and young people's sexual and reproductive rights.

#### **1.2.1 Youth Policy Bill**

The Swedish parliament (Riksdag) adopted the Governments proposal for a renewed youth policy "With youth in focus – a policy for good living conditions, power and influence" in June 2014. The target group is young people 13-25 years.

The national youth policy goal is:

"All young people should have access to good living conditions, power to shape their own lives and influence over the development of the society".

This goal concerns all government decisions and contributions concerning youth. The policy consists of a long-term orientation as well as an action programme for the period 2014-2017 containing 40 different actions. The action programme was based on three main areas: transition from school to work, influence and mental well-being. A renewed action programme is planned to be introduced in 2020.

#### 1.2.2 Youth perspective

According to the Government Bill, all government decisions and actions that affect young people between 13 and 25 should have a youth perspective. A youth perspective is based on the human rights and states that young people are to be seen and treated as a diverse group of individuals with different backgrounds and different conditions. It also states that young people's independency is to be supported and that all young people should have the possibility of influence and participation.

## 2. Statistics on young people

All figures in this section are based on statistics from <u>statistikdatabasen.scb.se</u>. The global population in Sweden 31 December 2019 was 10 328 000.

Number and percentage of young people (15-29) in global population:

Young people (15-29) in global population, 2019				
Number	Percentage			
1 896 304	18.4%			

Number and percentage of young people (15-29) by gender in global population 2019:

Young people (15-29) by gender in global population	Number	% of global population
Young women	909 623	8.8%
Young men	986 681	9.6%
Total	1 896 304	18.4%

Number and percentage of young people (15-29) with different nationality 2019:

Young people (15-29) with different nationality	Number	% of global population	% of young population (15-29)
Young women	106 034	1,0%	5,6%
Young men	135 268	1,3%	7,1%
Total	241 302	2,3%	12,7%

## 3. Actors and Structures

#### 3.1 Public authorities

#### 3.1.1 National public authorities with competencies in the youth field

The <u>Ministry of Culture</u> is in charge of youth policy. The responsible minister is Ms. Amanda Lind, Minister for Culture and Democracy, with responsibility for sport. The duration of the mandate is January 2019 - September 2022.

#### Youth Department in the Ministry

The <u>Division for Civil Society and National Minorities</u> is placed under the Ministry Culture. The Ministry of Culture is responsible for preparing the parts of the central government budget for issues concerning culture, democracy, media, the national minorities, and the language and culture of the Sami people. The Ministry is also responsible for sport, youth policy and issues concerning civil society, faith communities, and burial and cremation services.

Director responsible for Youth in the Ministry is Ms. Helene Öberg. Contact person in the youth department competent for European youth policy is Mr. Tobias Adolfsson.

Within the youth field, the main task for the Division for Civil Society and National Minorities is to coordinate and develop youth policy issues, including youth policy objectives and follow-up of youth policy. The division is also responsible for the conditions and development of youth organisations, as well as youth research and statistics on young people's living conditions. In addition, it is responsible for international cooperation on youth policy issues. The division is also responsible for the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society.

#### The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society

Myndigheten för ungdoms- och civilsamhällesfrågor, <u>MUCF</u> (the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society) shall ensure that the objectives of youth policy are achieved by:

- presenting, gathering and disseminating knowledge,
- contributing to the coordination of government efforts concerning youth policy,
- cooperating with government authorities, municipalities, regions and civil society organisations, and
- distributing state grants to civil society organisations.

(SFS 2018:1425, Ordinance for the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society)

The Government has given the agency specific tasks concerning the implementation of youth policy:

- contributing to the establishment of young people in working life and society, and
- ensuring that young people have access to meaningful and developing leisure activities.

MUCF is also national agency for Erasmus+ Youth and Solidarity Corps, as well as national correspondent for Youth Wiki and Ekcyp.

MUCF is located in Växjö, in the south of Sweden. MUCF has approximately 75 employees.

#### **Other Ministries**

Several ministries are responsible for policy areas that concern young people, such as work, education, health, housing, culture, etc. Implementation of government policies is delegated to one or more government agencies within each policy area. For more detailed description of the different policy areas please refer to the <u>Government's website</u>.

#### **Other government agencies**

In this section some examples of government agencies that are relevant to youth policies are presented. For more complete information please refer to the Government's website.

#### The National Board of Health and Welfare

The Public Health Agency of Sweden (Folkhälsomyndigheten) has a national responsibility for public health issues and works to ensure good public health. The agency also works to ensure that the population is protected against communicable diseases and other health threats.

The Public Health Agency of Sweden has the task of disseminating scientifically based knowledge to promote health and prevent disease and injury. The agency monitors the health status continuously to ensure the early detection of changes in the population. The Agency compiles, analyses and disseminates knowledge to support health promotion and preventive health work, in areas such as mental health, sexual health and lifestyle. They are also the national coordinating agency for suicide prevention.

The agency is responsible for coordinated monitoring within alcohol, narcotics, doping and tobacco and compiles, analyses and disseminates knowledge in order to prevent related illness. The agency also has corresponding responsibility for gambling.

The Public Health Agency of Sweden is actively engaged in public health work within organisations including the EU and the WHO. The agency is a national focal point for these organisations, in areas such as the protection and management of international health threats. Through cooperation with other stakeholders, the agency also contributes to the implementation of Sweden's policy for global development.

#### The Ombudsman for Children

The Ombudsman for Children (<u>Barnombudsmannen</u>) is a government agency under the Ministry of Health and Social Affairs, tasked with representing children regarding their rights and interests. The Ombudsman for Children monitors how the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) is complied with in society and pushes for its implementation in Sweden's municipalities, regions and government agencies. The Ombudsman for Children shall, by law, provide information and build opinion on issues relevant to children's rights and interests.

The Ombudsman for Children holds regular dialogues with children, particularly those in vulnerable situations, for obtaining knowledge of their conditions and their opinions on relevant issues. Panels of experts, including children, are tied to the Ombudsman for Children for varying amounts of time.

The Ombudsman for Children has legal powers for requesting information but has no regulatory powers. The Ombudsman for Children may not interfere in individual cases but does have a duty of notification. The Ombudsman for Children shall immediately submit a report to the Social Welfare Board if it becomes aware that a child is abused at home or is otherwise aware that the Board needs to intervene to protect a child.

The Ombudsman has around twenty-five employees.

#### The Swedish National Agency for Education

The National Agency for Education (<u>Skolverket</u>) is the central administrative authority for the public school system, publicly organised preschooling, school-age childcare and for adult education. The National Agency for Education also ensures that Swedish education maintains a good standard of quality, by offering national schools development programmes and in-service training of the staff. The agency also distributes grants and arranges head-teacher training programmes.

The agency's task includes securing the national supply of competence and help young people establish a foothold on the labour market. They support education providers, employers and other organisations in their efforts to improve the quality of upper-secondary vocational education.

In addition, the National Agency for Education has the task of disseminating information about the latest education research. As part of this endeavour, the agency functions as a national reference centre providing information about vocational education in Sweden, other EU-countries and countries in the EEA.

#### The Swedish Public Employment Service

The Swedish Public employment service (<u>Arbetsförmedlingen</u>) is a government agency under the Ministry of Employment, responsible for matching between jobseekers and employers. A special priority is given to jobseekers facing extra challenges in finding employment.

The Public employment service's assignment also includes checking that the employers who receive employment support comply with the existing regulations. They collaborate with other European public employment services and the European Network of Public Employment Services (PES network). The aim is to improve the efficiency and capacity of the employment services, thereby contributing to increasing employment in the EU. Digitization, long-term unemployment, integration of newly arrived migrants and employer contacts are examples of issues that are addressed in the network.

The Swedish Public employment service is also a member of the World Association of Public Employment Services, WAPES, an international public employment agency. The purpose WAPES is to promote information exchange on labour market, migration and education.

#### Parliament commission in charge of youth issues

In the Parliament (<u>Riksdagen</u>) it is the parliamentary committees that prepare all decisions. The composition of political representatives in each committee reflects the parliament as a whole. After a committee has presented its proposal the members of the parliament adopt a position. Youth issues are prepared in different committees depending on the specific issue.

Parliament commission in charge of youth issues is The Committee on Cultural Affairs (Kulturskottet). The Committee prepares matters concerning culture, education and popular adult education, youth activities, international cultural cooperation and sport and leisure activities.

The committee of Education (Utbildningsutskottet) prepares matters concerning pre-school and school system, higher education and research and study.

The committee of Health and Welfare (Socialutskottet) prepares matters concerning care and welfare services for children and young people except for pre-school activities and care services for schoolchildren.

The Committee on the Labour market (Arbetsmarknadsutskottet) prepares matters concerning labour market, and working life including labour law. The Committee also considers matters concerning integration and discrimination and equality between women and men.

#### 3.1.2 Regional public authorities with competencies in the youth field

#### Regions

Sweden has <u>21 regions</u> with competences in fields relevant for youth. They have a considerable degree of autonomy and have independent powers of taxation. The main tasks of the regions are health care and public transports.

#### **County administrative boards**

In every county in Sweden there is a county administrative board (länsstyrelse). This board is a government agency that represents the Parliament (Riksdagen) and Government in the county. The commission of a county administrative board is to work towards sustainable development in the county. A county administrative board is responsible for ensuring that decisions from parliament and the Government are implemented in the county and for coordinating government activities.

With regard to the county's development, the board shall safeguard and work for the interests of both individuals and society. Their work includes, among other things, regional growth, infrastructure planning, sustainable community planning and housing, energy and climate, cultural environment, environmental and public health and integration. Gender equality and supervision of the social service sector are also among issues related to youth that the county administrative board are responsible for.

#### 3.1.3 Local public authorities with competencies in the youth field

Sweden has 290 municipalities with local governments. The local authorities have a considerable degree of autonomy and largely finance their own activities, as they have the right of taxation. The municipalities are responsible (partly in some policy areas) for youth policy issues such as schools, employment and training, health care, social care and services, culture and leisure.

Many decisions that concern young people are taken at municipal level. Youth policy goals established by the Parliament (Riksdagen) are obligatory for the central government but only advisory for the municipalities. Youth policy in municipalities can, if the municipalities wish so, start from the national objectives but the way it is executed in practice is shaped on the basis of local conditions.

The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society (Myndigheten för ungdoms- och civilsamhällesfrågor, MUCF) supports municipalities in the development of local youth policy, with a special focus on young people not in education, employment or training (neet) and on ensuring that young people have access to meaningful and developing leisure activities.

The agency also provides funds for local youth projects and provides knowledge on the conditions of young people.

For more information please refer to:

- The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society, <u>MUCF</u> (Myndigheten för ungdoms- och civilsamhällesfrågor)

- The Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (Sveriges Kommuner och Regioner, <u>SKR</u>)

### 3.2 Youth welfare services

Young people have access to the general public welfare system, meaning that they should be treated on equal terms with others, for example when it comes to local social service offices and local health centres. The health care system is run by the Swedish counties, so the services may differ between different counties. Dental care and health care are free of charge for young people under 20 (in some counties also for older youth). Contraceptives are free of charge for young people up to 21-25 (depending on county).

There are certain services that are targeted more specifically at young people. One example is Youth Guidance Centres (Ungdomsmottagningar) which are local services where young people may seek advice and care on questions related to physical, mental and sexual health.

Youth Guidance Centres are even accessible at the Internet, via <u>umo.se</u>. A part of umo.se is <u>Youmo.se</u>, a site for young migrants from 13 to 20 years of age. Youmo.se provides information in Arabic, Dari, English, Somali, Swedish and Tigrinya about body, sex and health. Youmo.se even provides information on gender equality, human rights and how to improve mental well-being. Responsible for Youth Guidance Centres and Youmo.se are regions.

## **3.3** Non-public actors/structures and youth services with competencies in the youth field

#### **3.3.1 Youth Councils**

The Swedish Association of Youth Councils (<u>Sveriges Ungdomsråd</u>) is an umbrella organisation for about 50 different local youth councils that work for democratic youth influence in municipalities and local districts. The organisation is a network that acts as intermediary between local youth councils that are members of the organisation. The focus is on developing the skills of its members. The Swedish Association of Youth Councils is politically and religiously independent and welcomes all young people who want to get involved, as long as they want to be part of an inclusive and democratic organisation.

The municipalities (290 in total) are responsible for a broad range of policy areas concerning young people. Structures for young people's participation and influence, such as youth councils, youth forums, youth delegations or youth parliaments exist in many of the municipalities. These structures are settings for dialogue between young people and municipal decision makers, but how they are organized and which themes they focus on varies from municipality to municipality.

Some of them promote their own questions, others have an advisory function to politicians and civil servants, some act as a formal referral body and some might have all or several of these functions.

A survey from 2019 revealed that less than a half, 47%, of the Swedish municipalities have a youth council (MUCF 2019). The number has been declining, as an earlier study from 2010 showed that 63% of the municipalities had some sort of platform for youth participation (Ungdomsstyrelsen 2010).

#### 3.3.2 Youth NGOs

The National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations, <u>LSU</u> (Sveriges Ungdomsorganisationer), is a coordinating body for 83 independent Swedish youth organisations. It aims at constituting a forum for matters of common interest in youth

organisations and providing a network for national as well as international organisations dealing with youth cooperation. The chairperson of LSU is Ms. Rosaline Marbinah.

In Sweden, before the Government takes up a position on the recommendations of a commission of inquiry, its report is referred for consideration to relevant bodies. These referral bodies may be central government agencies, special interest groups, local government authorities or other bodies whose activities may be affected by the proposals. LSU is customarily appointed as a referral body for proposals affecting young people. As the proposals are public documents, anyone can make comments, whether or not they have formally been designated as a referral body. If a number of referral bodies respond unfavourably to the recommendations, the Government may try to find an alternative solution.

LSU appoints youth representatives to international high-level meetings and committees, primarily within the UN and the EU. In order to become a youth representative, one must be between 18-25 years and be nominated by one of the LSU's member organisations and then appointed by the LSU board. A large part of the assignment is about communication and to make the political processes more transparent and easily accessible for those who want to know more. At present, LSU has representatives in:

- The Nordic Committee for Children and Young People
- The European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ)
- European Economic and Social Committee
- The EU Commission's structured dialogue
- The Swedish National Commission for UNESCO
- UN Climate Change summit, COP
- UN High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development
- UN General Assembly.

## 3.4 National networks for knowledge on youth linking all actors in the field (policy makers, researchers, young people and their organisations, NGOs)

So far, no attempts have been taken in order to start a general national network that link all the actors in the field. The Youth Policy Council is a government initiative that is relevant to mention though.

#### **3.4.1 The Youth Policy Council**

The Minister in charge of youth policy convenes a Youth policy council a few times a year since 2008. The Council serves as a forum for discussion and consultation on current national and international issues in youth policy.

The Youth policy council consists of representatives of youth organisations that are based on interests, politics, religion, ethnicity, sexuality or functionality, as well as experts working with young people. In addition, representatives of government authorities and the research community are involved in the Council.

## 4. Legislation

Sweden does not have specific youth legislation apart from the legislation regulating governmental funding for youth organisations. Matters regarding youth are integrated in other areas of legislation and age criteria apply in different ways to e.g. crime legislation, social services, health care, compulsory care and compulsory schooling.

There are though pieces of legislation which address the needs and rights of young. Relevant legislation includes:

- Act concerning support and service for persons with certain functional impairments (Lagen om stöd och service till vissa funktionshindrade, LSS)
- Aliens act (Utlänningslagen)
- Care of young persons act (Lag med särskilda bestämmelser om vård av unga)
- Education act (Skollagen)
- Higher education act (Högskolelag)
- Parents code (Föräldrabalken)
- Social services act (Socialtjänstlagen)

The age of majority in Sweden is 18 and the age for criminal responsibility is 15. The Convention of the Rights of the Child serves as a basis for legislation concerning children up to 18 years.

### 5. National Policy Programmes and Action Plans on Youth

Sweden decided on a renewed youth policy with youth in focus – a policy for good living conditions, power and influence in June 2014. The overall goal is that "all young people aged 13-25 should have access to good living conditions, power to shape their own lives and influence over the development of the society".

In November 2015, the Government presented a strategy for young people who neither work nor study (Vägar framåt - strategi för unga som varken arbetar eller studerar), for young people who neither work nor study.

In spring 2019, the Ministry of Culture, responsible for youth, has announced that a renewed youth policy action plan will be presented in autumn 2020.

#### 5.1 Young people without secondary education

A specific target group in the youth policy bill from 2014 was young people 16-20 who are not in education and have not completed secondary school or equivalent education. Their situation is discussed in the Bill, and in 2015 the Government made following amendments in the Education Act.

Since 2015, the responsibility that municipalities already had - to stay informed about the situation of young people aged 16-20 who are not in education and have not completed secondary school or equivalent education – even includes appropriate individual measures. The measures should primarily aim to motivate individuals to begin or complete upper secondary education. The municipality must also document their efforts appropriately and maintain a register of young people, according to the proposal.

#### **5.2** Young people who neither work nor study

In November 2015, the Government presented a strategy for young people who neither work nor study, *Vägar framåt - strategi för unga som varken arbetar eller studerar* (Ways forward - a strategy for young people who neither work nor study). The strategy presents measures the Government has taken or will take in the years 2015-2018, for young people who neither work nor study. The actions aim to improve opportunities for these young people to get established in working and social life. Increased collaboration between stakeholders, increased knowledge of young people who neither work nor study and efforts targeted directly to young people are some of the ways the Government introduced in the Strategy.

## 6. Budget / Public expenditure allocated to youth

### 6.1 National level

Of the year 2019 central <u>government budget</u> for the youth policy area, 23.5 million euros (243 million Swedish kronor) were deposited as a state grant to youth organisations and 7.4 million euros (77 million Swedish kronor, of which 35 million Swedish kronor are for special contributions within the youth policy field and 42 million Swedish kronor are for administrative expenditures and duties according to the ordinance) for the disposal of the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society.

Besides that, the situation of young people is affected by a wide range of policy areas in the government's budget, such as education, employment, culture, health, social care and services etc.

### 6.2 Regional level

There is no information available on public expenditure allocated to at regional och municipal level.

## 7. European Dimension of youth policy

#### 7.1 Council of Europe youth sector strategy and programmes

As regards to the implementation of the Council of Europe activities, the concrete implementation is done through the activities of the National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations, LSU, who are represented in the Council of Europe Steering Group.

The government is responsible for the implementation of the resolutions or other agreements that have been adopted at the ministerial conferences. The implementation process takes place through assignments to the government authorities.

Sweden does not provide financial support for the European Youth Foundation.

#### 7.2 European Union youth strategy and programmes

The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society, <u>MUCF</u>, is the national agency for the Erasmus+ Youth in Action and the Solidarity Corps programmes in Sweden. The Agency is even in charge for Eurodesk.

The Swedish Government takes part in all follow-up-activities that are initiated by the European Commission. Moreover, the Government monitors the national youth policy that is well in line with the EU Youth Strategy. Therefore, there has been no need for a special national monitoring of the EU Youth Strategy.

## 8. Further sources of information on youth policy in Sweden

General information about Sweden is provided at https://sweden.se/. The website is an official source for facts about Sweden It is publicly funded and produced, developed, maintained and operated by the Swedish Institute (SI). SI is a public agency that promotes interest and confidence in Sweden around the world. SI seeks to establish cooperation with other countries through strategic communication and exchange in the fields of culture, education, science and business.

General information on Swedish youth policy is provided by the <u>Youth Wiki</u>, the online platform presenting information on European countries' youth policies.

## 9. References

#### Legal documents

Proposition 2013/14:191 [Government Bill 2013/14:191]. *Med fokus på unga – en politik för goda levnadsvillkor, makt och inflytande* [With youth in focus – a policy for good living conditions, power and influence].

Regeringens skrivelse 2009/10:53 [Government Communication 2009/10:53]. En strategi för *ungdomspolitiken* [A strategy for youth policy].

Regeringens budgetproposition för 2019 [Budget Bill for 2019]. Utgiftsområde 17, Kultur, medier, trossamfund och fritid [Expenditure area 17, Culture, media, faith communities and leisure].

SFS 2010:800 Skollagen [Education Act]

SFS 2018:1425 Förordning med instruktion för Myndigheten för ungdoms- och civilsamhällesfrågor [Ordinance for the Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society].

#### Data and statistics

www.statistikdatabasen.scb.se A web site for official statistics, provided by Statistics Sweden. Stockholm: Statistiska Centralbyrån, SCB.

www.ungidag.se A web portal for national youth policy indicators. Växjö: Myndigheten för ungdoms- och civilsamhällesfrågor.

#### Studies, reports and academic publications

Myndigheten för ungdoms- och civilsamhällesfrågor [The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society], 2019a. *Fokus 2019. Ungas möjligheter till inflytande på lokal nivå* [Focus 2019 Youth participation at local level]. Växjö: Myndigheten för ungdoms- och civilsamhällesfrågor.

Ungdomsstyrelsen [The National Board for Youth Affairs] 2010. *Fokus 10 – En analys om unga och inflytande*. [Fokus 10 - An analysis of youth influence]. Växjö: Myndigheten för ungdoms- och civilsamhällesfrågor)