



BUDAPEST 2005
7TH CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN
MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUTH



7th Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth

Budapest, Hungary
23-24 September 2005

“Human dignity and social cohesion:
youth policy responses to violence”

**Resolution on the priorities of the Council of Europe’s
youth sector for 2006-2008**

Having regard to Resolution (2003) 7 of the Committee of Ministers on the Youth Policy of the Council of Europe, and the conclusions of the 6th Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth, held in Thessaloniki on 7-9 November 2002;

Taking into account the developments since the Thessaloniki Conference, and the new challenges that Europe and young people in particular have to meet;

Taking into consideration the achievements of the Council of Europe's youth sector between 2003 and 2005 as regards human rights education, youth participation and democratic citizenship, peace and intercultural learning and youth policy development;

Bearing in mind the Action Plan adopted by the Summit of Heads of State and Government held in Warsaw (Poland) on 16-17 May 2005, as well as the outcomes of the Youth Summit organised in parallel;

Bearing in mind the importance the Council of Europe attaches to partnership between governments and youth organisations and networks in drawing up and implementing its youth policy;

Bearing in mind the objectives of the Council of Europe's youth sector, namely:

- To help young people to find ways of meeting both the challenges facing them and their own aspirations;
- To encourage young people to be actors in the process of bringing about a closer European unity based on the principles and values of pluralist democracy, human rights and the rule of law;
- To empower young people, through non-formal education/learning and participation methods, to play an active role in the strengthening of civil society in Europe;
- To promote and support the development of youth policies in Europe;

We, European Ministers responsible for youth, meeting in Budapest on 23-24 September 2005, declare that the following should be regarded as priority fields of the youth sector for the next three years:

1. HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON

- YOUTH PROMOTING GLOBAL SOLIDARITY AND THE PEACEFUL TRANSFORMATION OF CONFLICT;
- YOUTH PROMOTING INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE, INTER-RELIGIOUS CO-OPERATION AND RESPECT FOR CULTURAL DIFFERENCE;
- DEVELOPING NETWORKS OF TRAINERS AND MULTIPLIERS IN HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION WITH YOUNG PEOPLE ;
- SUPPORTING AND PROMOTING GOOD PRACTICE IN HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE AT THE LOCAL LEVEL ;

- SUPPORTING THE RECOGNITION OF HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION AND INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE IN FORMAL AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION.

2. YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON:

- PROMOTING AND SUSTAINING THE ROLE OF YOUTH ORGANISATIONS IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRATIC PARTICIPATION;
- PROMOTING CITIZENSHIP EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION OF AND BY YOUNG PEOPLE;
- PROMOTING ACCESS OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO DECISION-MAKING.

3. SOCIAL COHESION AND INCLUSION OF YOUNG PEOPLE, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON:

- FACILITATING THE ACCESS OF YOUNG PEOPLE TO WORKING LIFE AND TO SOCIAL RIGHTS;
- YOUTH WORK AND POLICY RESPONSES TO VIOLENCE;

4. YOUTH POLICY DEVELOPMENT, WITH SPECIAL EMPHASIS ON:

- DEVELOPING AND PROMOTING STANDARDS FOR YOUTH POLICIES, IN CONNECTION WITH CHILD POLICIES IN THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND ITS MEMBER STATES;
- FOSTERING THE RECOGNITION OF YOUTH WORK AND NON-FORMAL EDUCATION COMPETENCES IN THE MEMBER STATES;
- DEVELOPING AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE ON THE SITUATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE;
- SUPPORTING THE QUALITY AND SUSTAINABILITY OF EUROPEAN YOUTH WORK TRAINING AND POLICY.

In this context, we attach great importance to the implementation of the 2006-2007 European Youth Campaign on Diversity, Human Rights and Participation, conceived in the spirit of the 1995 Campaign "All different-all equal", as decided as part of the Action Plan adopted by the Heads of State and Government during their third Summit in Warsaw, on 16-17 May 2005. We shall undertake all necessary efforts to support the implementation of the Campaign at European, national and local levels.

The overall programme of the youth sector should be implemented bearing in mind the importance that the youth dimension is better taken into consideration in other activity sectors of the Council of Europe. This implies in particular:

- the participation of representatives of the statutory bodies of the youth sector in a number of steering committees and other working structures of the Council of Europe;
- the consultation of the Advisory Council on Youth by the Committee of Ministers or by subordinated intergovernmental committees, regarding legal texts which have a specific impact on young people;
- the active co-operation of the youth sector with other sectors of the Council of Europe and its participation in the multidisciplinary programmes of the Organisation.

In implementing its priorities, the youth sector, with the involvement of its relevant statutory bodies, should also strengthen its co-operation with other international organisations (e.g. UNESCO, UNICEF, World Bank) and, in particular, with the European Union, through agreements. Such co-operation should focus on training of youth leaders and youth workers, research in the youth field and information and documentation, and Euro-Mediterranean Co-operation.