

IDENTIFIER TOOL



You want to advocate for youth work recognition and development, but are you unsure what exactly should be the focus of your advocacy? The following questions will help you determine and narrow down the focus of your advocacy process.

For more reflection questions and action points refer to: [A thinking and action kit!](#)

ADVOCACY FOCUS IDENTIFIER

Questions to determine the focus of advocacy	YES	NO
Is there national/regional legislation related to youth work? If yes, does it need improvement?		
Is there a quality assurance system for youth work practice? If yes, is it sufficient? <i>Additionally: If the quality assurance system is not sufficient, what is missing?</i>		
Is there a competence framework for youth work? If yes, is this framework adequate? <i>Additionally: If the framework is not adequate, what aspects are missing?</i>		
Is vocational education available for youth workers? If yes, does it require improvements? <i>Additionally: If changes are needed, what specifically should be addressed?</i>		
Is tertiary or higher education available for youth workers? Does this education align with a competence framework?		
Are non-formal learning opportunities for youth workers provided by public authorities? If yes, are these opportunities accessible to everyone?		
Do youth workers have a sustainable and identifiable career path? Are youth workers adequately compensated?		

Note: Even if you respond **YES**, please keep asking yourself sub-questions: Is it good enough? *Is advocacy for this focus the right way to ensure youth work development and recognition in my country/region/community? What else can we do in regards to that?*



If you have a lot of **NO** answers, you need to choose **one or two areas**. The following questions may help you with that: look internally and externally before making a final decision, and take a strategic step-by-step approach in a long-term advocacy process.

Youth Partnership

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



EUROPEAN UNION



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



You have determined the focus of your advocacy, but are you still unsure where to start with it? The following questions will help you orient yourself within your context and determine your starting point for the advocacy process.

For more reflection questions and action points refer to [A thinking and action kit!](#)

ADVOCACY STARTING-POINT IDENTIFIER

Questions to determine your starting point	YES	NO
Is there an association or community for youth workers and youth work practitioners? <i>Note: You may want to look into the potential for joining forces for advocacy.</i>		
Are there European initiatives related to the identified focus of your advocacy for youth work development and recognition? <i>Note: You may use them to support your advocacy efforts at the national, regional or local level.</i>		
Are there current initiatives aiming to change national, regional or local policies affecting youth work? <i>Note: You may look into the potential for using and influencing those processes.</i>		
Are there initiatives to modify broader policies at the national, regional or local level that might impact youth work? <i>Note: You may look into the potential for using and influencing those processes.</i>		
Are there ongoing trends or shifts in power at the national, regional or local level (e.g. elections or leadership changes)? <i>Note: You may need to time your advocacy efforts in relation to the likelihood of positive/negative impact of such developments.</i>		
Do you have sufficient capacity to address the identified issues? If yes, which areas are you most equipped to handle? <i>Note: You may need to involve other actors to utilise missing expertise and resources for your advocacy effort.</i>		
Do you have public support for your efforts? If yes, how much support do you have, and for what specific initiatives? <i>Note: You may need to focus on communication about youth work to build public support first.</i>		
Do you have adequate data to advocate effectively on these issues? If not, are you able to collect the necessary data? <i>Note: You may need to focus on research for data collection first.</i>		