

# Youth Partnership

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



## REPORT OF 2021 ANNUAL EKCYP-PEYR MEETING

**European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy –  
17th Annual Meeting of Correspondents**

**Pool of European Youth Researchers – 11th Annual Meeting**

Online, 17-18 November 2021  
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Disclaimer: The opinions expressed in this work, commissioned by the European Union–Council of Europe youth partnership, are the responsibility of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the official policy of either of the partner institutions, their member states or the organisations co-operating with them.

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## Introduction

The partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth (EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership) organised an annual meeting of its two networks – the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy and the Pool of European Youth Researchers – on 17 and 18 November 2021.

The [European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy](#) (EKCYP) is an online database which serves as a single access point to reliable knowledge and information about young people's lives, youth research, youth policy and youth work practice across Europe. The data collection is supported by a network of EKCYP correspondents covering the member states party to the European Cultural Convention. The correspondents are nominated by country representatives in the European Steering Committee on Youth (CDEJ).

The [Pool of European Youth Researchers](#) (PEYR) consists of 35 researchers and experts from across Europe who have a diversity of expertise in different policy, practice and research areas connected to youth. Researchers contribute to development of better knowledge about the lives, needs, aspirations and experiences of young people in Europe, by drafting research, surveys, analytical papers, policy briefs, studies and other publications of the EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership. The two-day meeting focused on the current state of affairs and 2021 activities of the Youth Partnership, the 2022-2023 workplan, and a thematic discussion about ongoing research projects.

The continuation of the Covid-19 pandemic throughout 2021 highly impacted the young people and the youth sector. The EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership concentrated research efforts in documenting and analysing the impact, both immediate and long-term, by conducting surveys and developing studies, policy briefs and audio-visual materials. This report summarises discussions and key findings of the annual EKCYP-PEYR meeting. The main takeaways from the virtual encounter are:

- 2021 was a successful year, with a special emphasis on capturing comprehensively the impact of Covid-19 at European level, in the two geographic priority regions (Eastern Europe and South Caucasus and South-East Europe), as well as on a range of topics, from youth work, youth organisations, digitalisations, mental health, youth in rural areas and access to services.
- The Youth Partnership will move to two-year workplans, which is an important aspect for the quality assurance process.
- In 2022-2023, research will cover emerging topics such as climate change, mental health, employment, digitalisation and artificial intelligence (AI) and precariousness as well as core themes for youth policy including participation, transitions and social inclusion.

- Research produced by the Youth Partnership has successfully informed policies at European level. This is an important momentum for research acknowledgment, and for evidence-informed policy making.

## REVIEW OF 2021 WORKPLAN RESULTS

The annual meeting began with highlights of the 2021 work, focusing primarily on the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic and restrictions on the work of the partnership, and on research (see [Annex 2](#) for the full presentation).

Throughout 2021, the EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership covered topics such as youth work, youth policy evaluation, participation, young people in rural areas, digitalisation, well-being, Covid-19, climate change, etc. Content produced included research materials (studies, briefings, reports, analytical papers) and accompanying communication in multimedia formats (illustrations, webinars, videos and podcasts). The aim was to increase outreach and usage and translate the knowledge produced into formats accessible by a wide variety of audiences.

Some of the key highlights and figures of 2021 were:

- 36 papers and publications;
- 24 videos and webinars;
- 14 podcasts;
- 2nd edition of the MOOC on Youth Work Essentials;
- 16 experts meeting related to the projects, studies, and research;
- 4 meetings to consult key partners and experts on the workplan 2022-23.

**YOUTH RESEARCH** during 2021 focused on:

- Access to rights and shrinking space for youth participation
- Climate change and sustainability
- Young people in rural areas
- Social inclusion and digitalisation
- Digital youth work
- Housing
- Youth-wiki contributions and updates
- Covid-19 impact

During 2021 these products have been developed within **YOUTH POLICY:**

- Analysis of European Youth Strategies
- New Youth Policy Manual
- Editorial Work on a Participatory Youth Policy Toolkit
- Youth Political Participation Study
- Youth Policy Evaluation Elibrary

During 2021 these products have been developed within **YOUTH WORK:**

- Updated MOOC on Essentials of Youth Work
- Work on Visible Value – Recognition of Youth Work Library
- Research on Covid-19 and Learning Mobility
- Study on Youth Work in South-Eastern Europe
- Analysis of European Youth Work Policy Goals
- Publication of two editions of COYOTE Magazine

## PARALLEL WORKING GROUPS

### 2021: Main themes (first round)

Following virtual informal interactions between EKCYP and PEYR and the presentation from the partnership on the current state of affairs, the meeting explored in parallel thematic working groups' projects and themes addressed in 2021. All discussions and additional resources were recorded in the [Padlet](#).

The first working groups focused on the following:

- [youth, sustainability, and climate change](#) (facilitated by Neringa Tumenaite and Marzena Ples);
- [young people in rural areas](#) (facilitated by Ruta Braziene);
- [digitalisation and youth social inclusion](#) (facilitated by Dan Moxon and Dunja Potocnik);
- [visible value](#) library on recognition of youth work (facilitated by Nick Paddison).

#### Group 1: [Youth Sustainability and Climate Change](#)

In 2021, the Youth Partnership's research on climate change and sustainability focused on the production of a sustainability checklist, which was launched in October 2021.

Main points raised during the workshop:

- tackling issues of mental health and taking a serious stance on depression of young people, caused by the failure of adults in tackling climate issues;
- the need to raise a theoretical and critical debate on the impact that liberal economy has on youth sustainability and climate change.

Further research gaps to be explored should focus on:

- recognising the gap between youth activism and policy responses.

#### Group 2: [Young people in rural areas](#)

The Youth Partnership's research on young people in rural areas identified some of the main challenges and needs and mapped policy responses to the impact of Covid-19.

The discussion focused on the following points:

1. Research presented resonates with realities across Europe.
2. Covid-19 impacted on vulnerable groups more severely, including youth in rural areas.
3. The problem of applied research can be tackled by looking at young people not as a homogeneous group – this will help develop more targeted policies.
4. The discrepancy between local policies and the inclusion of youth.

5. Migration of youth from rural to urban areas.
6. Young people should not be treated as a homogeneous group, which would help the development of more targeted policies.
7. The issue of transportation and limited access to services was also tackled in connection with digital connections and services.
8. Adequate infrastructure and quality of broadband remain a challenge.

### Group 3: [Digitalisation and youth social inclusion](#)

The discussion focused on the promotion of the existing research on this topic, including the study, Youth Knowledge book and analytical papers, current research projects and future needs.

The main areas of discussion centred on the following issues:

- the need to bring this topic closer to the national and local level;
- digital skills of youth workers;
- budgetary issues of funding digital youth work;
- mapping of online mental health support for young people exploring the concept of virtual communities.

Participants identified several topics for further research and exploration in this area:

- media literacy and financial literacy for children and young people;
- the role of information disorder and fake news and its impact on youth participation;
- political socialisation of young people via social media and digital platforms and different tools. How can digitalisation be used to promote youth participation and inclusion?

Another important point would be to compare the level of youth digital participation in the local, national and European dimensions.

### Group 4: [Visible Value – library of resources on recognition of youth work](#)

The group provided input for further development of the Visible Value II – library of resources on recognition of youth work:

1. They concluded that recognition has many layers.
2. It is often considered in light of the funding criteria or the current crisis, rather than the principles and values of youth work.
3. National recognition of youth work also remains a challenge.

The group proposed the following next steps:

- organising a campaign focusing on Recognition Stories from the Community of Practice, aiming to advocate and help the latter;

- examining the role of media in youth work

## 2021: Main themes (second round)

The second round of parallel working groups explored the following topics:

- [Youth policy manual](#) (facilitated by Max Frasn and Zara Lachyan);
- [Youth participation and shrinking space](#) (facilitated by Anna Lavizzari and Cristina Bacalso);
- [Youth policy evaluation](#) (facilitated by Irina Lonean, Marti Taru and Guy Redig);
- [Youth Wiki contributions](#) (facilitated by Sladjana Petkovic and Alena Ignatovich).

### Group 1: [Youth Policy Manual](#)

The New Youth Policy Manual, launched in October 2021, serves as a new reference for the youth sector.

The group discussions followed these lines:

- the manual is very well structured;
- an important consideration would be a regional analysis on what works and what are the region-specific challenges;
- dissemination and outreach, including the readership and use of the manual, for example through the number of downloads;
- the manual should be disseminated through the formal educational institutions focusing on youth work, social work, youth policy topics, youth engagement, etc.;
- the training kit on participatory youth policy, which is currently in development, should focus on quality assurance of processes.

### Group 2: [Youth Participation and Shrinking Space](#)

The presenters shared existing research of the Youth Partnership on youth political participation, followed by a brief reflection from participants regarding the impact of the pandemic on young people's engagement.

Some of the topics tackled through the discussion were:

- a need to focus on the toll of youth participation on young people, in terms of their time, commitment, energy, balancing activism with school, work, family, etc. and not only to youth political participation as a phenomenon;
- analysis of political socialisation that happens in online spaces, mostly in the communications sphere of young people.

The following research gaps were identified in this area:

- the need to take a critical stance regarding the impact of Covid-19 on shrinking public space for the youth, in light of protests that took place during 2020 and 2021, such as youth protests in Poland or Black Lives Matter protests;
- when considering this topic, it is crucial also to consider the other part of youth participation – adults, teachers and youth workers and their readiness and openness to support youth engagement;
- the normalisation of populism and its effects on youth participation, democracy education and/or youth work;
- how do we validate the impact of youth participation? There is a need to do more on impact measurement of participation initiatives, tools, frameworks, indicators etc., that can be used to evaluate youth participation projects;
- in existing research there is a lack of visibility of generational lens on participation;
- different levels of shrinking spaces must be taken into consideration. On the one hand there is the individual level: spaces for young people; and on the other the structural level: space that youth work has to develop its own work (e.g., decrease in funding, radicalisation etc.);
- going back to the critical stance towards liberal economies, there is a need to deepen the understanding of the impact of the hegemonic ideology on the shrinkage of the civic spaces.

### Group 3: [Youth Policy Evaluation](#)

In 2021, the Youth Partnership continued working on youth policy monitoring and evaluation. The project focused on collecting resources for an e-library of evaluation in the youth sector, providing information and access to youth policies and practices, on the effectiveness of those interventions and the potential of the interventions to be sustainable and replicated.

1. One of the biggest concerns for the library are the language barriers. There is an issue with availability, since most evaluation reports are in national languages. Using automated translation has been a proposed solution to this matter.
2. Participants agreed that the best way to organise the evaluation reports and studies in the e-library is by thematic area.
3. The main incentive to use the library is the application of the results through policy reviews and implementations.

### Group 4: [Youth Wiki](#)

The Youth Partnership has been contributing to the EU Youth Wiki, by commissioning chapters on Erasmus+ partner countries from Europe.

Some of the main issues identified were:

- the need for more visibility and promotion;
- concerns how to create ownership of information and use it for policy making.

Ideas and proposals raised included:

- organising seminars/webinars with regional actors focusing on youth on this matter;
- communicating Youth Wiki contributions with the research community, especially with the one from Erasmus+ partner countries;
- explore the possibility to include the youth work chapters of the partner countries on the Youth Wiki website to better link this fruitful information to the actual Youth Wiki;
- the current reports rely on official data/statements from officials when those data/statements contradict the reality on the ground, often pointed out as a limitation by field research;
- the knowledge collected can be a powerful advocacy tool (for example, pointing to countries that they are lagging with implementation of some youth reforms).

Future steps proposed include working on a unified methodology; adding a section with brief info for a particular country (for example, legislation framework with links of the laws, etc.); establishing a tool to write for the editors (or the contributor) in case there are new developments relevant for the chapter.

### **Cross-cutting issues**

A general and overarching concern raised during the thematic workshops relates to the language of all research and knowledge products. The English-centric environment is a disadvantage for researchers with different mother tongues. It also raises the question of availability of research in different European languages, and the need for translation of resources.

Please check [Annex 2](#) for the full Padlet results.

### **2022-2023 DRAFT WORKPLAN**

During the second day of the meeting, the draft workplan 2022-23 was presented by the partnership, which was finalised in December 2021. Two symposia are proposed:

- 2022: Symposium: Young people's transitions in times of protracted uncertainty and the role of youth policy in supporting them;
- 2023: European community of practice meeting on the implementation of the European Youth Work Agenda.

In her presentation, Clotilde Talleu focused on the main pillars of the partnership's work in the next two years. See [Annex 2](#) for the full presentation.

## **YOUTH RESEARCH**

- Continue working with PEYR and EKCYP
- Research on impact and learning from Covid-19 for the youth sector
- Research on young people's participation and social inclusion
- Research on digitalisation, artificial intelligence (AI) and young people
- Perspectives on Youth

## **YOUTH POLICY**

- Further development of the e-library on policy evaluation and promotion of the new youth policy manual
- Capacity building project – Shaping Youth Policy

## **YOUTH WORK**

- Contribution to the European Youth Work Agenda
- European Platform on Learning Mobility (EPLM)

## **COMMUNICATING RESEARCH AND KNOWLEDGE PRODUCED**

- MOOCs on Youth Work, Youth Policy and Youth Research
- Youth Knowledge Books
- Handbooks & Training Kits
- Coyote Magazine

The presentation was followed by a discussion focusing on the correlation of the Youth Partnership's workplan with the European Year of Youth in 2022 and researchers' contribution to the design and implementation of the workplan and specific activities.

At the beginning of 2022, meetings are planned with PEYR, PEYR AG and EKCYP to map members' interest in contributing to the different projects.

### **INPUTS FROM PARTNER INSTITUTIONS**

As the research of the partnership provides evidence to inform policy making of the two partner institutions, during the meeting, representatives from Council of Europe and the European Union presented their future priorities in this regard and the expectations of research contributions from the Youth Partnership and EKCYP-PEYR networks.

Antje Rothmund, Head of Youth Department, Council of Europe during her intervention focused on the main initiatives and priorities of the Council of Europe regarding youth, connected to the topics of revitalising plural democracy, access to rights and youth work. To this purpose the Council of Europe has established the Advisory Council on Youth, as well as two European Youth

Centres, in Strasbourg and Budapest respectively, which are often laboratories for new approaches to youth work.

During 2021, the centres were not fully booked due to Covid-19, but the Council of Europe is working towards having the necessary sanitary conditions in place to host more physical activities. These are highly important for young people and youth work, since the latter is not based only on learning, but also on contact, interaction, and face-to-face activities. Empirical observations are important and online activities cannot capture the full picture. Belonging to a community of values and ownership can't be achieved online.

Second, the European Youth Foundation exclusively funds youth-led activities and it is important for youth participation. Lastly, the EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership was established more than 20 years ago together with the European Commission, within which both PEYR and ECKYP are hosted.

Mrs Rothermund announced that the partnership is going towards a two-year workplan, which is important for stability, continuity and quality assurance.

Focusing on next year's highlights within the Council of Europe, Mrs Rothermund explained that:

- The Council of Europe Youth Department is launching a campaign "Youth for Democracy/Democracy for Youth", which is a six-month programme with events and online campaigns in the member states. The main event is planned to take place in June 2022 and to be followed by events in member states on the topics of democracy, youth participation and digital participation.
- The ambition remains to enlarge the common work with the EU in the partnership within youth work and the youth work agenda. The Council of Europe is working to prepare the main pillars of the youth programme for the years to come. The content is influenced by the European Youth Work Convention, but also by standards developed by both organisations.
- It is time to deal with the healing process and mitigation of damages done by the pandemic and to this purpose the background research that youth partnership has done has helped the department in organising political support, which is important to their work.
- The role of PEYR and ECKYP for next year will remain extremely important, as there is a greater demand for research to inform policy making. The importance of research is acknowledged in political circles. However, there is a need to present research findings in more accessible ways for policy makers through summaries and conclusions.

With regard to the European Commission, Babis Papaioannou, Policy Officer at Youth Unit B3, DG EAC presented the priorities and upcoming plans of the Commission in the field of youth. The main priorities for the Commission 2021-2027 will be Inclusion and Diversity, Participation, Green, and Digital Agendas. The main priorities for 2022 will focus on:

- the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy, including understanding of the pandemic’s consequences and the recovery;
- Conference on the Future of Europe in May 2022 (youth is one of the 10 debate priorities);
- European Youth Work Agenda (the sub-group on youth work met on 23-24 November 2021) – the topic of qualification and recognition of youth work is included as a priority in the workplan 2022-2023;
- 2022 European Year of Youth – the Covid-19 pandemic had an unprecedented and uneven impact on education, employment and mental health of the young people. Yet, young people showed resilience and an intergenerational solidarity. Thus, there is a need to ensure that young people are prioritised in the recovery process. The plan is to include national, regional and local levels in the activities for the year, and ensure strong involvement of youth organisations and young people themselves.

During the discussions Cristina Bacalso, PEYR, asked how the flagship European project will be highlighted into the European Year of Youth, as well as how non-EU countries will be tied to 2022 activities. As explained by Mr Papaioannou, the activities will be organised on three levels. The first is the EU level, and the National Co-ordinators. The second level is at the European Commission with flagship events. The third level consists of events with partner institutions and organisations, such as the Council of Europe, OECD, UNESCO etc. “For us it is not just one year, but we want to create the basis for a legacy and promoting youth policy”, stated Mr Papaioannou.

## COVID-19 KNOWLEDGE HUB – PARALLEL WORKING SESSIONS

Covid-19 related research and products were an integral part of the Youth Partnership’s work in 2020 and 2021. In order to present the findings of the research and gather feedback on the ongoing research, the last part of the meeting was dedicated to the [Covid-19 Knowledge Hub](#).

Parallel discussions and presentations took place in the following working groups, and details are also available in [the Padlet](#):

- [Access to youth services](#) (facilitated by Dunja Potocnik and Rouzzana Ivanian);
- [Health, mental health, and well-being](#) (facilitated by Sladjana Petkovic and Ivana Boskovic);
- [Digitalisation, and digital youth work](#) (facilitated by Alicja Pawluczuk);
- [Covid-19 impact in the regions](#) (facilitated by Lutjona Lula and Maria-Carmen Pantea);
- [Covid-19, youth spaces and participation](#) (facilitated by Tomaz Dezelan);
- [Covid-19 and youth transitions](#) (facilitated by Ewa Krzaklewska and Frank Tillmann).

Group 1: [Access to Youth Services](#)

The group discussions focused mainly on the Covid-19 impact on young people's access to youth services. Some of the most significant challenges to providing youth services during pandemics were identified:

- digital divide
- regional differences
- online fatigue
- young people's capacity to engage in meaningful digital actions
- youth in rural areas and their digital skills
- privacy
- changed landscape of volunteering and the issue of youth work recognition during pandemics.

As for future improvements of research and remaining gaps, the following aspects were mentioned:

- explore provision of the services from the youth associations and their outreach to young people;
- differences regarding the ways of accessing services covering different areas of life;
- how is Covid-19 impacting youth organisations (in terms of internal functioning, differences in size and type of organisation and their coping mechanisms)?

#### Group 2: [Health, mental health, and well-being](#)

The group focused on the Youth Partnership's survey to EKCYP and PEYR on health, mental health and well-being.

Some of the points that should be included in the future exploration of this topic are:

- the gender aspects of Covid-19 impact on mental health;
- the impact of Covid-19 on specific categories of young people, such as young people with disabilities, young migrants, and refugees. Covid-19 exposed some existing problems and an issue of intersectionality. The impact on young immigrants is significant and also relates to a language barrier;
- the mid- and long-term impact in specific areas of mental health and well-being;
- vaccination hesitancy and mental health among younger groups of young people;
- analysing the relationships of young people and their family/parents and their impact on young people's mental health and well-being;
- the importance of psychological resources (coping mechanisms, resilience, adaptive strategies);
- mapping main factors contributing to deterioration of mental health, be it employment, education, etc.

### Group 3: [Digitalisation and digital youth work](#)

The group discussions focused on the ongoing research on the limits of digital youth work.

Some of the following issues were identified in the discussion:

- lack of access, devices and internet;
- lack of mental health support;
- negative impacts of digital technologies on young people (e.g. mental health, obesity);
- most of the tools are commercial tools – what about free digital tools?
- digital youth work excludes vulnerable communities;
- digital youth work has its limitations when it comes to digital participation;
- the aspect of generational divide is relevant;
- some physical activities cannot be done digitally;
- lack of physical spaces to use digital devices.

### Group 4: [Covid-19 impact in the regions](#)

Preliminary findings of the two research papers on Covid-19 impact in Eastern and South- Eastern Europe were presented in this session.

The following future research needs and knowledge gaps were identified in both regions:

- Analysing the mission drift of youth organisations, based on their size. Large NGOs often have more stable funding and are more resilient while grass-roots NGOs that work with youth directly are generally small.
- Local grass-roots organisations are key actors for reaching vulnerable groups. At the start of the pandemic, the organisations that acted quickly became more visible in the communities and this was a silver lining for them. Larger organisations are more resilient (all the Covid funding got diverted to them and small NGOs cannot cope with the complex funding processes). The small NGOs are often treated as subsidiaries by large organisations.
- As youth work is necessarily connected with peace building in the Western Balkans, the Covid-19 restrictions have directly affected the activities of the peace building youth organisations (for example, most of them can be organised only with physical presence, the donor priorities have shifted, etc.).

### Group 5: [Covid-19, youth spaces and participation](#)

The Youth Partnership has initiated research on the impact of Covid-19 on young people's participation and the youth spaces. The survey launched within this project looks at the young people's participation, access to information and right to assembly.

The study will be mainly based on the survey findings. The potential follow-up qualitative data collection will be done in 2022.

Group discussions focused on:

- capturing the importance and comparative aspect of pre- versus post-pandemic settings;
- a need to take a critical look at the idea that the situation before the pandemic was “normal” – many of the problems that we observed during the pandemic are not new;
- Covid-19 distracted from the real problems of democracy/society;
- post Covid-19 context can be an opportunity to address pre-existing problems;
- Covid-19 created new opportunities for participation at various levels – it would be important to explore the level of adaptation youth NGOs had to make in terms of participation in decision making (local, national level).

#### Group 6: [Covid-19 and youth transitions](#)

Editorial work on the [Youth Knowledge Book](#) on youth transitions within the context of the Covid-19 pandemic is currently underway. The presentation included the update on the research topics included in the book, the effects of classical transitions, the processes of exclusion and support measures and schemes, the role of youth work and the consequences for young people in becoming independent.

Covid-19 related lockdowns caused some of the following issues at the national level:

- problems in mental health
- losing competences of social interaction
- prolonged transitions
- difficulties of moving into their own housing
- two realities: online and physical
- increasingly uncertain job situations.

Young people’s educational transition was significantly affected, raising some of the following concerns:

- Covid-19 interrupted important identity and networking processes in education;
- young people’s learning mobility opportunities were negatively affected;
- there is an online fatigue among young people;
- there is a risk that mobility will lose attractiveness because of uncertainty;
- more research should be conducted on the effects of family background on young people’s upper secondary education or academic career.

The following recommendations were made to youth policy makers:

- there is a need for more support before (resources) and after (sustainability) mobility experiences;



This sets a good momentum for the Youth Partnership to engage with and promote the priorities of the two institutions.

The final workplan for 2022-2023 shall be finalised in December 2021, and meetings with two networks – EKCYP and PEYR – are planned in early 2022, in order to launch the work on new and continuing activities.

## ANNEX 1: AGENDA

### Day 1 – 17 November 2021

09:30 Welcome words and presentation of the agenda

09:40 Review of 2021 workplan results

10:05 EKCYP and PEYR – brief intro

10:10 EKCYP-PEYR meet and mingle in groups

- Getting to know each other
- My contributions to the activities of the Youth Partnership in 2021

10:40 Mini-break

10:45 Highlighted themes in 2021 – round 1 (parallel working groups)

- Youth, sustainability and climate change
- Young people in rural areas
- Digitalisation and youth social inclusion
- Visible value in youth work

11:30 Break

11:45 Highlighted themes in 2021 – round 2 (parallel working groups)

- Youth policy manual
- Youth participation and shrinking space
- Youth policy evaluation
- Youth Wiki

12:30 Plenary – reflections and sharing

12:45 End of the day

Day 2 – 18 November 2021

09:30 Welcome and introduction to 2022-23 workplan

10:00 Input from partner institutions on their future priorities and expectations of research contributions from the Youth Partnership and EKCYP-PEYR networks

11:00 Break

11:15 Covid-19 Knowledge Hub

11:30 Breakout groups on Covid-19 themes – new research

- Youth services
- Health, mental health, and well-being
- Digitalisation and digital youth work
- Covid-19 impact in the regions
- Covid-19, youth spaces and participation
- Covid-19 and youth transitions

12:30 Plenary – reflections and sharing

12:50 Evaluation and closing – where to next?

13:00 End of the meeting

## ANNEX 2: RESOURCES

Padlet DAY 1: [https://padlet.com/youth\\_partnership\\_eu\\_Council\\_of\\_Europe/u7y5vhwb99111ud2](https://padlet.com/youth_partnership_eu_Council_of_Europe/u7y5vhwb99111ud2)

EU-COE youth partnership • 13 • 24d  
EKCYP-PEYR annual meeting 2021  
Day 1: Discussions, notes and research papers on 2021 research projects

Welcome to EKCYP-PEYR annual meeting!  
EKCYP-PEYR Annual meeting 17-18 November 2021  
Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/882925277751>

Youth, sustainability and climate change  
Finish best practice (result of the Barometer to be out soon): <https://www.youthresearch.eu/research-projects/youth-barometer>

Young people in rural areas  
Rural policies ignore youth and youth policies ignore young people in rural areas.  
In Austria like in several other countries, initiatives for young people in rural areas is a responsibility of regional level  
Young people in rural areas, and especially in remote rural areas, the quality of services offered to young people is not sufficient enough. From interviews with policy-makers it is often the case that they do not want to invest in quality services for young people in rural areas because they leave those areas.  
One important point is to look at young people not as a homogeneous group – this will help develop more targeted policies.

Digitalisation and youth social inclusion  
The workstream so far  
Study on Social Resources, Digitalisation and Young People  
What are you working on in this area?  
Dan Meese 23d  
I am working on a research project in cooperation with University of Malta developing digital environment to create a youth social network, which can be effective action for enhancing social networks.  
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Visible value – library on recognition of youth work  
Recognition Definitions Expanded  
National Situations on Recognition  
Recognition Stories from the Community of Practice  
Inspiring Recognition Practices and Tools

Youth Policy Manual  
The contribution the manual can offer?  
EU-COE youth partnership 23d  
The manual is very well structured and covers the right issues for the sector, not too focused, it would be most interesting to see on a regional level - the part on what works and what are the challenges.  
Zara Lavrenko 23d  
I will be happy to see the manual and will receive copies of the printed version at the end of the year.

Youth participation and shrinking space  
Horizon call: Future of democracy and civic participation  
What is interesting for you in evaluations of youth policies or projects? (methodology, findings, smth. else)  
What would motivate you to share evaluation reports and studies on youth policies or projects?  
How would you like to see evaluation reports and studies organised in the e-library?  
Where to look for evaluation reports and studies on youth policies or projects?  
Burning topics

Youth wiki  
Do you have any experience developing Youth Wiki thematic chapters? Please, share your experience on the topics explored.  
What are the possible ways to promote Youth Wiki thematic reports in the regions' future?  
What are the strengths and limitations of this kind of source of information?

Anything else you would like to share regarding any of the topics...  
Different languages  
We are still working in English, English-centric environments. There's quite a disadvantage for researchers with different mother languages. Also, we miss the opportunity to produce and make available knowledge in other European languages. Other disadvantages do exist. Shall I start thinking about standard translation services for broader production?

Padlet DAY 2: [https://padlet.com/youth\\_partnership\\_eu\\_Council\\_of\\_Europe/ymyoogr8cy409ye](https://padlet.com/youth_partnership_eu_Council_of_Europe/ymyoogr8cy409ye)

EU-COE youth partnership • 13 • 24d  
EKCYP-PEYR annual meeting 2021 - Day 2  
Day 2: Discussions, notes, and research papers on ongoing Covid-19 research

Welcome to EKCYP-PEYR annual meeting - Day 2  
EKCYP-PEYR Annual meeting 17-18 November 2021  
Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/882925277751>

Covid-19 and access to youth services  
Please, write something about your insights into changes to access to youth services during pandemics?  
What are the most significant challenges to providing youth services during pandemics?  
Anonymous 23d  
digital divide  
Anonymous 23d  
regional differences  
Anonymous 23d  
zoom fatigue  
Anonymous 23d  
YP capacity to engage in meaningful digital actions  
Anonymous 23d  
rural YP - are there real possibilities?  
Anonymous 23d  
privacy when accessing digital youth services

Covid-19 impact on youth spaces and participation  
Introduction  
Tomaz introduced the upcoming survey to youth organisations no covid-19 and youth spaces; the survey will look at the right to access to info, right to assembly and participation;  
Quant vs qual  
The study will be mainly based on the survey findings, and qualitative data will be gained through open-ended questions  
Pre vs post pandemic settings

Covid-19 impact in the regions (SEE and EECA)  
need to reflect on the mission drift - a gap not only in the region but in the large understanding of youth organisations (large resilient NGOs and small grassroots NGOs).  
Local grassroots organisations are necessary, they are key players especially if we want to reach vulnerable groups - some that acted quickly became more visible in the communities and this was a silver lining for them. Larger organisations are more resilient (all the covid funding got diverted to them and small NGOs cannot cope with the complex funding

Covid-19 and youth transitions  
Content of contributions  
Fields of youth studies covered:  
- effects of classical transitions  
- Processes of exclusion and support measures and schemes, the role of youth work  
- Consequences for young people in getting independent  
An overall topic are the challenges for youth policy  
Problematic insights on the national level  
- Problems in mental health  
- losing competences of social interaction  
- prolonged transitions  
- difficulties of moving into their own flat  
- two realities: online and physical  
- increasingly uncertain job

Covid-19 impact on health, mental health and wellbeing  
Gender aspect of the COVID-19 impact on mental health.  
Recent study from Athens to look at. Dora's contribution - looking fwd to the link.  
Mette Ranta 23d  
Young women are especially affected and concerned (this has been noted also before the pandemic).

Covid-19, digitalisation and digital youth work  
Q1: How do we move forward?  
Q2: What are the limits of digital youth work?  
Anonymous 23d  
lack of devices and internet  
Anonymous 23d  
mental health lack of support  
Anonymous 23d  
negative impact of digital

Presentation of 2021 state of affairs:

[www.canva.com/design/DAEvUUgdSUE/8NftIJ9AoZiyZi279K7rw/view](http://www.canva.com/design/DAEvUUgdSUE/8NftIJ9AoZiyZi279K7rw/view)

Presentation of draft workplan 2022-2023:

[www.canva.com/design/DAEWEGXGZU/Hysm7RGYfdCd\\_rTf0Wlwg/view?utm\\_content=DAEWEGXGZU&utm\\_campaign=designshare&utm\\_medium=link&utm\\_source=sharebutton](http://www.canva.com/design/DAEWEGXGZU/Hysm7RGYfdCd_rTf0Wlwg/view?utm_content=DAEWEGXGZU&utm_campaign=designshare&utm_medium=link&utm_source=sharebutton)

Meeting evaluation = results:

[www.mentimeter.com/s/86330ff2afc7c02506954154b6dc703d/e819cf902e72](http://www.mentimeter.com/s/86330ff2afc7c02506954154b6dc703d/e819cf902e72)