

Youth Partnership

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



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

8th Meeting of Correspondents to the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy

18-19 October 2012,
Bureau Internationale de la Jeunesse (BIJ)

Report

Agenda and Participants' list see Annex 1 and 2

I. Opening

The meeting was opened by Finn Denstad (European Commission) and Marta Medlinska (EU-CoE youth partnership)

II. Updates from the two institutions on recent developments in the field of better knowledge of youth and youth policy

European Commission:

Finn Denstad updated the participants on recent activities of the European Commission, starting with the recently released European Youth report. The 2nd European Youth report consists of three following documents:

- The official Commission Communication on the EU Youth Report and two staff working papers on
- the results of the first cycle of the OMC in the youth field (2010-2012)
- the status of the situation of young people in the European Union

The status report was drafted by the Executive Agency EACEA and relies on data provided by Euro Stat as well as EKCYP data delivered by national EKCYP correspondents to the EU-CoE youth partnership. Among other issues, the report highlights that youth employment will remain high on the EU agenda. For the coming years, the EU Youth Strategy should focus on the consequences of the current crisis on young people. This means a stronger emphasis on social inclusion and health & well-being.

As a second point, Finn Denstad mentioned that a [proposal for an EU Council recommendation on validation of non-formal and informal learning](#) will contribute to enhance their recognition as well as youth work.

Also relevant with regard to the provision of knowledge and information in the youth field is the development by the European Commission of a new web portal to improve communication in the field of youth and allowing for stronger participation of users.

Last but not least, he mentioned two studies that are currently run by the European Commission:

- The first is on youth participation and has been commissioned to the London School of Economics; it is expected to be released before the end of this year. It should contribute to give an orientation to the future work of the youth policy sector
- Related to the second study, on the value of youth work in the EU, a contractor has just been selected (GHK consulting); the results of this study should be ready in spring 2013.

Council of Europe

In the absence of Ulrich Bunjes, Marta Medlinska presented the news from this institution.

First of all she reported on a change of staff in the youth department: Ulrich Bunjes, the head of this department has left and is currently replaced by Ms. Tina Mulcahy as acting Head of Department.

She informed that the CoE youth sector continues to work under the priorities set by Agenda 2020.

In the field of youth policy development, the last national youth policy review on Belgium will be published soon and currently such review is being prepared on Ukraine.

Shortly, the 9th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for youth will be held in St. Petersburg (23rd to 25th of September). Overarching theme of the conference is the topic of youth access to rights in Europe.

Also related to youth policy, Marta informed on a Long Term Training Course on participatory youth policy organised in cooperation with the Turkish authorities.

III. Tour de table (correspondents' background, state of play of their provision of knowledge to the EKCYP, issues for discussion)

Given the significant number of new correspondents who took part in a meeting of correspondents for the first time (correspondents or representatives from UK, Montenegro, Iceland and Finland), a presentation round was held, focusing on the institutional background of correspondents and the status of their knowledge provision to EKCYP.

Besides specific developments in the different countries, a common trend regarding the enhanced need for transfer of knowledge on youth policy making can be observed in a number of countries. This need is reflected by the set up of trainings for youth policy development (Sweden), the development of a course on the translation of research into policy (Slovak Republic) or the growing interest in EKCYP country sheets among national authorities (Austria).

Finn Denstad commented that this was a positive development, influenced by positive examples in some Member States. Marta Medlinska added that also the EU-CoE youth partnership is developing a training course on participatory and knowledge based youth policy making. An exchange on the different ways of conveying youth policy could be of mutual benefit. Ms Medlinska shared also that during the recent EU Youth Conference held by the Cyprus Presidency the importance of knowledge for (youth) policy making was stressed.

IV. Updates on EU-CoE youth partnership developments since the last meeting

Hanjo Schild and Philipp Boetzelen gave an update on the EU-CoE youth partnership (see the draft progress report attached). Concerning developments related to the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy, Philipp mentioned the following activities since the last meeting:

- Summary reports on country information templates (Participation and Volunteering)

- Mapping study on national knowledge networks in 10 CoE MS
- Thematic chapter on youth and violence
- Publication of a booklet on EKCYP “EKCYP insights”
- Update of the glossary
- Cooperation activities such as the “7th Conférence jeunesse et Sociétés”, to be documented on EKCYP

As an ongoing task he mentioned the development of a renewed EU-CoE youth partnership web portal which has been delayed due to administrative obstacles which were to be solved between the Council of Europe and the European Commission. The new web portal can be expected in late spring 2013.

Regarding the timeline for current EKCYP contributions, the deadline for the information templates on Youth in the world and Better Knowledge on youth is the 4th of November 2012. Depending on the availability of national contributions, the finalisation of the summary report is envisaged for early 2013. The templates for collection of information in 2013 should be disseminated in spring (March 2013). Given the consequences of the present economical crisis and the priority of the upcoming trio of EU-Presidencies, the topic of next year’s country contribution will most probably be related to social inclusion of young people, including various sub-topics.



'rogress_Report_I
AG_2012 (6).d...



EKCYP update and
outlook.ppt

V. Mapping report on national knowledge networks in 10 EU and CoE MS (Presentation by Robert Thomson, Pool of European Youth Researchers)

Robert Thomson presented a mapping study on national knowledge networks commissioned to him by the EU-CoE youth partnership secretariat in December 2011 (see presentation attached). The following results of the mapping were mentioned:

- the knowledge based approach to youth policy making is explicitly recognised in the countries that were part of the mapping
- networks of all three actors (youth policy, youth research, youth work) have been created in half of the countries reviewed
- youth participation is more advanced than involvement of youth work practice (structured dialogue)
- the link between research and policy is the strongest (influence of youth work practice rather modest)

As possible gaps he sees that:

- Participation and consultation do not necessarily correspond to co-decision (this applies to youth itself and actors in the youth field)
- institutionalised links do not guarantee sustainable knowledge transfer (and vice versa!)

As a result it can be said that the institutional architecture of the national knowledge transfer is not yet very reliable; however, a more detailed consultation of national correspondents would

be necessary to exclude mere coincidence and to get further evidence of the ways the knowledge transfer works in a specific national environment. A potential follow up study could gather further evidence on the use of data (“what data are used by whom and for what purpose”).

In relation to an element he came across during the mapping of national knowledge networks Robert mentioned a cause for potential concern:

In his view, there is a risk that key figures (numbers, targets) rather than values determine policy and programmes as hard statistics tend to be turned into targets by high-level policy makers. In such a scenario, the “magic triangle” becomes a pyramid as data generation moves in to place above the other angles of the triangle.

Roberts’s presentation was followed by a vivid discussion. Many participants confirmed the tendency perceived by Robert with regard to a (sometimes misleading) “supremacy” of statistical data over qualitative knowledge. However, it was also argued that statistics were in any case never objective and generated data would give results according to the research question posed in the beginning. Hence, statistics could also be used by other parts of the triangle. Regarding a question on the potential (use) of practical knowledge from youth work practice, Robert said that the mapping did not produce in-depth information on this aspect and he recommended that this question should be studied in a follow up research.

VI. Session for presentations of projects according to proposals by EKCYC correspondents

There was a great interest of correspondents to use this space for presenting their projects and/or national developments. Following cancellation of the speaker from EURYDICE there was sufficient time available for all the presentations listed below:

- Youth Policy in Azerbaijan (Lala Rzayeva)



YP_Az.pdf (2 MB)

- Research projects from the 7th European Framework Programme:
 - o Prevention of Alcohol Abuse Among Youngsters in Europe AAA-PREVENT (Nicole Vettenburg)



AAA_EKCYP19sept1
2.ppt

- o MYPLACE - Memory, Youth, Political Legacy And Civic Engagement (Marti Taru)
- www.youthpolicy.org - Global community and knowledge base on youth policy (Robert Thomson)
- Request for information related to a project on learning mobility (Susanne Klinzing)
- Development of an integrated national youth policy in Lithuania (Valda Karnickaite)

- 1st national survey on [attitudes of young people in Malta](#) (Jason Zammit)



Mirrors and windows
2.ppsx

VII. Sharing ideas and options with regard to the further development and the future of the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy (in working groups)

The future development of EKCYP was discussed related to the two aspects of knowledge provision on country specific information (i) and on thematic information (ii).

Regarding enhancement of EKCYP country information the following proposals were made /discussed:

- Use online questionnaires instead of electronic files when gathering country information from national correspondents
- Make available country information in the national language online when a version in the national language exists
- Improve/further specify indications related to information required in the respective thematic templates
- If possible, further adapt the EKCYP cycle of information gathering to national reporting on youth (allow for inclusion of end of the year reports)
- Highlight relevant points of the summary report on thematic country information on the website and/or make available the abstracts of the summary reports
- Allow for different ways of providing information (e.g. mind maps in addition to text)
- Consider providing a newsletter on interesting policy developments on the national level
- In addition to official country information, allow for shadow reports by youth NGOs
- Improve the overall usability of the website

Concerning EKCYP thematic information, the following points were made:

- Change the presentation as it is now (provider orientated) into a user focused presentation; the use of cloud search will indicate the most prominent themes searched by the users.
- Potential new topics of the thematic information section could be poverty, family, autonomy, housing, environment, migration, sexuality
- Review and, where applicable, update already existing thematic information
- Consider how information chapters tackling European issues could be translated into national information chapters

From side of the partnership it was confirmed that most of the proposed elements would be of common interest for EKCYP and would be pursued. Some of them had already been planned (online questionnaires, user comments on country information etc.) but were delayed due to the postponement of the website development.

VIII. Closing

In his closing words Philipp Boetzelen thanked the participants for their contributions and the enriching discussions. He expressed his hope, that the new web-portal would contribute to advance knowledge provision of EKCYP and ease the tasks of correspondents. At that stage it is expected to have the new web-portal running before the summer 2013.

ANNEX 1

AGENDA

Tuesday, 18th of September

14:00 Opening of the meeting by Finn Denstad (European Commission) and Marta Medlinska (EU-CoE youth partnership)

14:10 Updates from the two institutions on recent developments in the field of better knowledge of youth and youth policy: Finn Denstad (European Commission) and Marta Medlinska (EU-CoE youth partnership)

15:00 Update on EU-CoE youth partnership developments since the last meeting (Philipp Boetzelen and Hanjo Schild, EU-CoE youth partnership)

15:30 Coffee/tea break

16:00 Tour de table (Update from EKCYP correspondents on individual situations) - Presentations and questions

18:00 End of today's session

19.30 Dinner out

Wednesday, 19th of September

09:15 Mapping report on national knowledge networks in 10 EU MS (Presentation by Robert Thomson, Pool of European Youth researchers) - Presentation and discussion

10:15 Session for presentations of projects according to proposals by EKCYP correspondents

10:45 Coffee/tea break

11:15 Eurypedia - The European Encyclopedia on National Education Systems (NN EACEA, tbc) - Presentation and discussion

12:30 Lunch buffet

14:00 Sharing ideas and options with regard to the further development and the future of the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy (in working groups)

Coffee/tea break

17:00 Report from working groups

17:30 Closing

Optional:

17:45 Question and answer session for new correspondents

ANNEX 2

PARTICIPANTS' LIST

AUSTRIA

Mr Manfred ZENTNER
Institut für Jugendkulturforschung und
Kulturvermittlung
Alserbachstraße 18
AT - 1090 Vienna
mzentner@jugendkultur.at

AZERBAIJAN

Mr Farhad HAJIYEV
Youth Foundation under the Ministry of
Youth and Sport
4, Olimpia str.
AZ - 1072 Baku
farhadhajiyeve@yahoo.com

BELGIUM

Ms Anne SWALÛE
Observatoire de l'Enfance, de la Jeunesse
et de l'Aide à la Jeunesse
Rue du Commerce, 68A
B - 1040 Bruxelles
Anne.Swalue@cfwb.be

BULGARIA

Mr Petyo KANEV
Ministry of Education, Youth and Science
2A Dondukov Blvd
BG - 1000 Sofia
p_kanev1984@yahoo.com

FINLAND

Ms Heidi ENBACKA
Finnish Youth Research Society
Asemapaallikonkatu 1
FIN - 00520 Helsinki
Heidi.Enbacka@nuorisotutkimus.fi

GEORGIA

Ms Ana SABAKHTARISHVILI
Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs
76 b Vazha Pshavela Street
GE - 0108 Tbilisi
asabakhtarishvili@cync.ge

AZERBAIJAN

Ms Lala RZAYEVA
Youth Foundation under the Ministry of
Youth and Sport
4, Olimpia str.
AZ - 1072 Baku
rzayeva_l@yahoo.com

BELGIUM

Ms Nicole VETTENBURG
University of Ghent
Department of Social Welfare Studies
H. Dunantlaan 2
B - 9000 Gent
nicole.vettenburg@ugent.be

BELGIUM

Mr Michel VANDEKEERE
Observatoire de l'Enfance, de la
Jeunesse et de l'Aide à la Jeunesse
Rue d'Ougrée
B - 65 4031 Angleur
Michel.vandekerere@cfwb.be

ESTONIA

Mr Marti TARU
Tallinn University
Uus-Sadama 5 U-605
EE - 10120 Tallinn
marti.taru@gmail.com
marti@iiss.ee

FRANCE

Ms Solange FOURCOUX
Mission coopération européenne et
internationale jeunesse vie associative
Direction de la jeunesse, de l'Education
populaire et de la vie associative
95, avenue de France
F - 75650 PARIS CEDEX 13
solange.fourcoux@jeunesse-sports.gouv.fr

GERMANY

Ms Suzanne KLINZING
Fachstelle für Internationale
Jugendarbeit der Bundesrepublik
Deutschland e.V.
Godesbergerallee 142-148
DE - 53175 Bonn
klinzing@ijab.de

ICELAND

Mr Jón PALSSON
Icelandic Youth Association
Súluhöfði 16
IS - 270 Mosfellsbær
suluhofdi16@gmail.com

LITHUANIA

Ms Vlada KARNICKAITE
Department of Youth Affairs under the
Ministry of Social Security
and Labour of Republic of Lithuania
Fabijoniskiu 2-153
LT - 07109 Vilnius
00 37 06 18 35 960
valda.karnickaite@jrd.lt

MALTA

Mr Jason ZAMMIT
Aġenzija Żgħażaġh
Annex to Casa Leoni
St Joseph High Road
MT - St Venera SVR 1012
jason.a.zammit@gov.mt

NORWAY

Ms Lihong HUANG
NOVA - Norwegian Social Research
Postbox 3223 Elisenberg
N - 0208 Oslo
lihong.huang@nova.no

ROMANIA

Mr Sorin MITULESCU
Institute of Educational Sciences
Stirbei Voda 37, sect 6
RO - 010102 Bucharest
sorin_mit@yahoo.com

SLOVENIA

Ms Barbara ZUPAN
Office of RS for Youth
Masarykova 16
SI - 1000 Ljubljana
Tel.: 01 400 57 94
barbarazupan@gov.si

SWEDEN

Ms Idah KLINT
The Swedish National Board for Youth
Affairs
Box 17 801
SE - 118 94 STOCKHOLM
idah.klint@ungdomsstyrelsen.se

IRELAND

Mr Maurice DEVLIN
Centre for Youth Research and
Development
National University of Ireland, Maynooth
County Kildare
maurice.devlin@nuim.ie

LUXEMBOURG

Ms Marianne MILMEISTER
Université du Luxembourg
Centre d'études sur la situation des
jeunes (CESIJE)
BP 2
LU - 7201 Walferdange
marianne.milmeister@uni.lu

MONTENEGRO

Ms Bojana BULATOVIĆ
Ministry for Education and Sport
Youth department
Vaka Durovica bb
81000 Podgorica
www.infomladi.me

POLAND

Ms Ewa KRZAKLEWSKA
Ministry of National Education
Youth and Non-Governmental
Organizations Department
al. J.Ch. Szucha 25
PL - 00-918 Warszawa
ewa.krzaklewska@uj.edu.pl

SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Ms Jana MIHALIKOVA
IUVENTA - Slovak Youth Institute
Budkova 2
SK - 811 04 Bratislava 1
jana.mihalikova@iuventa.sk

SPAIN

Mr Bruno DEL MAZO DE UNAMUNO
Instituto de la Juventud
C/ José Ortega y Gasset 71
SP - 28006 Madrid
Tlf. (+34) 91.363.76.47
delmazoub@injuve.es

**THE FORMER YUGOSLAV
REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

Mr. Aleksandar KIRKOVSKI
YCS YMCA
Sava Kovacevich 47/3-18
MK - 1000 Skopje
akirkovski@yahoo.com

UNITED KINGDOM
Mr Simon SMITH
International Education Division
Level 2 Sanctuary Buildings
Great Smith Street
London SW1P BT
simon.smith@education.gsi.gov.uk
Tel 020 7340 8264 (ext 308264)

UKRAINE
Ms Anna PIKHOTA
Kharkivska street, 172a, #47
UA - 02091 Kyiv
+38 097 94 321 71
anna.pikhota@gmail.com

INSTITUTIONAL REPRESENTATIVES:

EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Directorate General for Education and
Culture
Directorate D-Youth, Sport and Relations
with the Citizen
Unit 1 Youth Policy Unit
B-1049 Brussels
http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.htm

Mr Finn Y DENSTAD
MADO 20/022
Tel: +32-2-29 66 587
Finn.Denstad@ec.europa.eu

**SECRETARIAT OF THE PARTNERSHIP
BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION
AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE IN THE
FIELD OF YOUTH**
Directorate of Youth and Sport
F-67075 Strasbourg Cedex

Mr Hans-Joachim SCHILD
AGORA - B6.22.V
Tel: +33.390.21 56 31
joachim.schild@partnership-eu.coe.int

Mr Philipp BOETZELEN
philipp.boetzelen@gmx.de

Mr Srd KISEVIC
srd.kisevic@partnership-eu.coe.int

Ms Marta MEDLINSKA
marta.medlinska@partnership-eu.coe.int

EXPERTS :

Mr Robert THOMSON
Box 50
CH - 3718 Kandersteg
Tel.: +41 79 791 1294
RobertThomson@hotmail.com