

Contributors  
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**Adriana Armenta** participated in several activities of UNOY, among which the UNOY's Campaign designing the flyers' images, the project "Empoderate, Ya" (a program for the prevention of violence in the families). She took part in the coordination of the training for the Ixtepec Municipality (indigenous Totonaca Community). She has also participated for 5 years in the evaluation and following-up of the reports of her organisation's prevention activities.

**Iris Bawidamann** is working as Educational Advisor for the Council of Europe's Directorate of Youth and Sport, based in the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg. Within her work she is mainly focusing on participation and youth policy development. Her professional background is youth and social work. She has been active for several local, national and European NGOs and was also working in the youth department of a municipality and in an international university office.

**Marco Boaria** works as Project Development Officer and Youth Expert for the Association of the Local Democracy Agencies, an International non-governmental organization based in Strasbourg and founded in 1999 as an initiative of the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities. He has a 10-year experience in the field of youth at the international level, working as trainer (co-operating with different European youth training agencies), project coordinator and supervisor. In the last 3 years, he has been specialising in local democracy, active citizenship and participation issues, cooperating with local authorities and civil society organisations in Europe.

**Thilo Boeck** is a senior research fellow based in the Centre for Social Action at De Montfort University, Leicester. He worked in Youth and Community Development in Peru, Germany and the UK, which has influenced his strong commitment to participative and transformative research. Currently he is the academic lead on several participatory research projects with young people, exploring volunteering, social capital and community cohesion.

**CandyCactus** is an artist juggling with several things as slow life, a small ecological footprint and the beauty of the moment. Living consequently as a nomad she is after life beyond the books. CandyCactus stayed with communities that are in disadvantaged positions for different reasons – Gypsies in Romania, Kurdish in Turkey, Arabs in Israel and recently with Muslims in Georgia.

**Klavdija Cernilogar** is the Head of the Policy Development and Advocacy Department at the European Youth Forum (YFJ), which has supporting and promoting youth work and reaching out to young people among its continuous and overarching aims. Klavdija was previously professionally involved with the Council of Europe, and has then followed both the Council of Europe and the Partnership on Youth from the YFJ perspective, as the Council of Europe Relations Coordinator.

**Federica Demicheli** is a free lance trainer and social worker in the field of Youth Policy and Euromed.

**Finn Yrjar Denstad** is Senior Advisor in the Department of Youth Policy in the Ministry of Children and Equality in Norway. He has a background from the Norwegian Youth Council (1995-2000) and the European Youth Forum, Belgium (2000-2002) and served as Youth Programme Manager of the OSCE (Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe) Mission to Bosnia-Herzegovina during 2002-2004. As a freelance consultant, he has been involved in the development of national youth strategies in Moldova, Armenia, Montenegro and Serbia. Denstad holds a M.A. in Political Science from Purdue University, USA (1995).

**Rolf Gollob** and **Wiltrud Weidinger** are Co-Heads of the institute "International Projects in Education" (IPE) of the Zurich University of Teacher Education. Next to various projects in EDC/HRE across South East Europe, IPE and the Council of Europe are in the process of publishing a series of volumes about EDC/HRE for teachers.

**Delme Harries** is originally from Puncteston in west Wales. He joined Llysyfran Young Farmers Club at the age of 11 and over the years held every office in his club, he represented the Federation on the National Council, chaired numerous county committees, and was also chairman of Wales Young Farmers Clubs. Delme has also represented the YFC at European level, and is the current Chairman of Rural Youth Europe. He has worked for the NFU and NFU Mutual for 20 years and is currently working at the NFU Mutual Head Office in Stratford upon Avon.

**Andreas Karsten** is co-founder of Frankly Speaking, a small non-profit agency in the area of education and learning devoted to supporting the capacity development of organisations and individuals. He works at the crossroads of research, policy and practice and is currently fascinated by topics such as European citizenship, youth participation, and e-learning. He lives in Berlin.

**Jutta Koenig-Georgiades** is working since June 2007 for the Youth Policy Unit of Directorate Education and Culture of the European Commission. She is responsible for the development of the structured dialogue between the EU institutions and young people in the EU Member States. Before joining the Youth Policy Unit, she has been working for six years in the Youth Programme Unit of the same DG developing and implementing the YOUTH Programme and the Youth in Action Programme. She is of German nationality, living in Belgium since 1993 and working for the European Commission since 1996.

**Fatima Laanan** is currently the coordinator of SALTO-YOUTH Participation Resource Centre, based in Brussels in the "Bureau International Jeunesse" (National Agency of the Youth in Action Programme in the French Speaking Community of Belgium). She defines herself as a "pure product" of the youth field, as she has been involved in it since she was 8 years old, first as a participant of a youth club located in Brussels and later while she was 17 as a deputy president of the youth centre "Jeunesse Maghrebine" based in a less privileged area of the Capital of Europe. She has been working at Bureau International Jeunesse since 1997, where she was successively in charge of the European Voluntary Service, the coordinator of the training and cooperation plan of the National Agency and of the cooperation with the neighboring countries, such as the EuroMed cooperation. Her motto is "don't let your dream going to waste".

**Romina Matei**, aged 22 from Romania, is graduated in journalism and works as a youth project coordinator in the Intercultural Institute Timisoara, a national NGO which deals with cultural diversity, intercultural learning and active youth participation. She is a Board Member of the international youth network "Youth Express Network", being in the Board since one year and having the position of the secretary. Romina is a strong promoter of non-formal education in the formal education system and of active participation seen as a tool for fighting against social exclusion.

**Denis Morel**, coming from Bretagne, France, works for Luciole NGO which aims to promote active participation of inhabitants in social life, particularly of young adults and intercultural and human rights education through 3 ways to act: coaching, training, project designing. Active participation of young adults in their local community became one of the main aims of his work today, in all part of the daily life (social, political, economical). The target groups of this work are all actors of education from local to European level: children, young, teachers and trainers, teachers of teachers and trainers of trainers, youth workers, civil society, local authorities.

**Agnieszka Pawlik**, born in Poland, currently lives in Scotland. She works as a trainer, a consultant and a project manager for NGOs, public institutions and businesses in the field of non-formal education, youth and European issues. In the year of 2000 she was a co-founder of Semper Avanti association, and then led the association for 7 years until 2007. She is specialised in youth participation, local community development, youth policy and volunteer management. One of her favourite tools is Open Space Technology. Agnieszka holds a MSc degree in political science. She used to be an elected member of the Wroclawski County Council. In her free time she plays flute and dances, or observes bright life paths of young leaders she conceived in her life.

**Diogo Pinto** is the Secretary General of the European Youth Forum since 2005. Having been involved in youth organisations, both as volunteer and professionally, for the last 15 years of his life, he has been National Director of Intercultura – AFS Portugal, the world leader of international learning and students' exchanges. At the national level, he has also led the Portuguese National Youth Council, being elected President in 1995, while he participated in the creation process of the present European Youth Forum. He has also been Project Officer for the Portuguese Presidency of the European Union as the liaison person between the European Youth Forum and the Portuguese National Youth Council. He holds a Bachelor degree in Sociology.

**Nathalie Rossini** is a sociologist in charge of Studies and Training with ANACEJ (Association Nationale des Conseils d'Enfants et de Jeunes).

**Bernard Roudet** is a sociologist. He has been working since 1991 as a Research Officer at the National Institute for Youth and Community Education (INJEP), based in Marly-le-Roi in France. He also teaches youth sociology at the University of Paris X – Nanterre. Specialised in youth values and youth participation, he is the editor or the author of numerous publications in the field of youth sociology.

**João Salviano** is responsible for the management of Human Resources and for securing the implementation of the objectives of APYN (Alcohol Policy Youth Network). He is also in charge of lobbying and fundraising on behalf of APYN. João is a former Bureau Member of the European Youth Forum (2005/2006), where he was responsible for United Nations, Global Youth Cooperation and Health. He is a student of European Studies in the University of Oporto.

**Darren Sharpe** is a Visual Sociologist and co-ordinator of the Young Researcher Network at the National Youth Agency. Based in Nottingham, in the UK, he has lectured in the social sciences at Nottingham Trent University and Loughborough University as well as being active in participatory research. Darren's work combines theory and practice with a specific focus on children and vulnerable adults.

**Hans-Joachim Schild** has been living in Strasbourg since summer 2005 and works as manager of the Youth-Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe. Previously Hans-Joachim lived and worked in Brussels for the Youth Policy Unit in DG Education and Culture of the European Commission; amongst other topics he was responsible for the relationship of the youth sector to «lifelong learning», specifically for the whole subject of recognition of non-formal and informal learning. In this period he was involved in drafting and implementing the White Paper on Youth.

**Marie Schneider** has a diploma in pedagogy at the University of Trier. She has been, since June 2007, assistant at the University where she works on doctoral thesis about migration types and their different lifestyles in Luxemburg. Main interest fields: (Trans)migration and social work, international social work.

**Bettina Schwarzmayr** was, until the end of 2008, the President of the European Youth Forum, a platform of 97 youth organisations across Europe that promotes the interests of young people towards the European Union, the Council of Europe and the United Nations.

**Lillian Solheim** is the Advocacy Coordinator at United Network of Young Peacebuilders. She is originally from Norway but is currently living in the Netherlands. Lillian has an MA in International Relations and Peacebuilding from the University of Kent and experience from various international organisations and non-governmental organisations.

**Mark Taylor** is a freelance trainer and consultant currently based in Strasbourg. He was recently elected as chair person of the UNIQUE network. He has worked on projects throughout Europe for a wide range of organisations, institutions, agencies and businesses. Major areas of work include: intercultural learning, international team work, human rights education and campaigning, training for trainers, and developing concepts and practice for the recognition of non-formal learning. A founding member of the Coyote magazine editorial team, he is still waiting to meet Spiffy!

**Helmut Willems** is professor doctor at the University of Luxemburg, sociologist and vice-director of the research unit INSIDE (Integrative Research Unit on Social and Individual Development). His main research areas are: sociology of children, youth, generation, school and violence, political sociology; conflict and mediation research.