

## Youth Partnership

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



EUROPEAN UNION

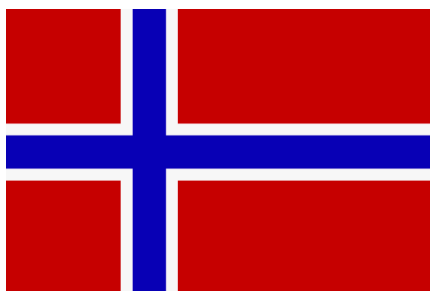


COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
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# Information sheet

## YOUTH AND THE WORLD

### Norway



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# 1. Implementation of a new field of action: “Youth and the World”

**How is the field of action “Youth and the World” of the current EU youth strategy transposed in your country?**

Reviewing the archive of beneficiaries for “Youth and the World” (Action 3.2) from 2009-2012, <http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth>, Norway hasn't received any project funding for this action. At the Norwegian “Youth in Action” website [www.aktivungdom.eu](http://www.aktivungdom.eu), states ‘national priorities’ for year 2010 as “projects involving partners from Barents-region (Finland, Norway, Russia, and Sweden)”, for year 2012 as “projects involving partners from Barents-region (Finland, Norway, Russia, and Sweden)... and southern European countries”.

## 2. Awareness raising on Global issues

### 2.1. Promotion of Global Education

**Is there any national/regional policy document which lays the legal basis for the promotion of Global Education?**

In 1995 governmental report on the government-appointed Commission on North-South Issues and Development Assistance, titled “Norway’s South-policy for a world in changing”, <http://www.regjeringen.no/Rpub/NOU/19951995/005/PDFA/NOU199519950005000DDDPDFA.pdf> it states (as translated by RORG-network [www.rorg.no](http://www.rorg.no) which is a group of NGOs doing development education in Norway): *Norway is a co-responsible actor in a global society where poverty, unjust distribution, pollution and the use of resources are challenges for a common responsibility. A development that will ensure welfare and human dignity for all will increasingly have to be managed within global democratic structures. Information and awareness-raising is important to induce changes, but also to create acceptance of such changes. The information work shall contribute to providing broad layers of the Norwegian society with knowledge of and insights into the global challenges facing us.*

**How is Global Education promoted?**

As it is stated in Global Education Network Europe (GENE) peer review report “Global Education in Norway” <http://www.gene.eu> (page 9) : *There is much good work taking place in Global Education in Norway and strong spirit of volunteerism, strong NGO and civil society involvement in Global Education and strong cross-party political support for global development issues.* Through strong political and institutional commitment by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs [www.dep.no](http://www.dep.no), Norwegian

Agency for Developmental Cooperation (NORAD) [www.norad.no](http://www.norad.no) , Norway promotes global education by putting in strong and long-term financial supports.

### **What are the most tackled aspects of Global Education?**

As it is stated in the 1995 government report “Norway’s South-policy for a world in changing”:

*We have to acknowledge that we are in a process of global change that will require critical engagement and a search for new insights and new solutions. Information and awareness raising thus have to be understood in a broader perspective aiming at stimulating active popular participation in these processes of change. It has to be a main goal for information and awareness raising to prepare a political will within broad layers of the population for the consequences required by global sustainable development.*

### **What are the main stakeholders in the field of Global Education?**

Financed by NORAD,

- *RORG-network* [www.rorg.no](http://www.rorg.no), a group of Norwegian NGOs engaged in development education. The RORGs represent a wide diversity of Norwegian civil society, ranging from adult education associations of political parties, broad social movements like national women's´ and youth networks, as well as the church of Norway, the national confederation of trade unions and others, to internationally oriented organisations engaged in development aid, linking and twinning and international solidarity.
- *Norwegian United Nations Association (UNA)* <http://www.fn.no/Om-oss/UNA-Norway> , an independent organisation with 65 nation-wide member organisations, almost 1,000 schools and kindergartens, 100 local councils and counties, and nearly 150 libraries are currently members of the UNA Regional Offices network. It aims to promote a general interest and launch debate on key international issues, to promote a keener understanding of the motivations and dynamics behind international politics, to encourage positive attitudes towards solidarity and commitment to international cooperation, and to forge a societal consensus on the fact that peaceful solutions do exist.
- *Norwegian People’s Aid (Norsk Folkehjelp)* [www.npaid.org](http://www.npaid.org) , an independent organisation active in long-term development cooperation with the global southern countries.
- *Norwegian Church Aid (Kirkens Nødhjelp)* <http://www.kirkensnødhjelp.no> , works for a just world through long-term aid for development, emergency preparedness and response and advocates democracy and human rights.
- *The Norwegian Red Cross (Røde Kors)* [www.rodekors.no](http://www.rodekors.no)
- *Save the Children Norway (redd barna)* [www.reddbarna.no](http://www.reddbarna.no) .

**Is there any report/survey available on Global education and young people in your country?  
If yes what is its focus of research and what are the main outcomes?**

According to a survey conducted by Statistics Norway (2010), nine out of ten Norwegians are positive to the Norwegian cooperation with developing countries [http://www.ssb.no/english/subjects/00/01/30/uhjelphold\\_en](http://www.ssb.no/english/subjects/00/01/30/uhjelphold_en), but knowledge of development cooperation and Norway's development partners is not widespread as most people surveyed do not know any of the countries Norway is involved in development cooperation with (GENE peer review report "Global Education in Norway" page 23-24, [www.rorg.no/noop/file.php?id=2285](http://www.rorg.no/noop/file.php?id=2285) ).

## **2.2. Young people and sustainable development**

**What are the most relevant initiatives/projects at regional/national level encouraging green patterns of consumption and production with young people?**

**Is there any report/survey investigating the awareness of environmental issues among young people in your country? If so what are the main outcomes?**

Environment education is a permanent part of curriculum in compulsory education in Norway since 1971 when the Programme for Environmental Education (Miljølæreprosjektet) was implemented. International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA) Civic Education Study in 2000 finds that, higher than their counterparts of neighboring countries (Denmark and Sweden), 15% Norwegian adolescents (age 15) are members of environmental organisations and 67% of them have learned how to protect the environment in school (Amnå, Ekman and Almgren 2007).

A repeated public opinion survey ("Norsk Monitor") during the 1980s to 1990s in Norway shows that, although young people are more worried than older adults about environmental issues, they are less willing to make sacrifices and take part in activities to protect the physical environment and less likely to support organisations working for environmental protection (Hellevik 2001). In 2002 national youth survey (ages 13-19).

A youth survey among 15,000 young people between ages 13-19 in Oslo in 2010 shows that over 60% of young people consider 'protecting the environment against pollution' is the most important goal of the society and about a quarter of them believe they will experience environment disasters

influencing the whole world in their lifetime (“Young in Oslo 2012”, NOVA Notat 7/2012, [http://www.nova.no/asset/6066/1/6066\\_1.pdf](http://www.nova.no/asset/6066/1/6066_1.pdf) , in Norwegian only).

**Is there any report/survey investigating the civic engagement related to environment issues among young people in your country? What are the main outcomes?**

There are about 1.5% of the 4483 civic organisations in Norway are with a name of environmental organisation. However, it is said majority of the civic organisations in Norway are either working together always or working together on certain issues (Gulbrandsen & Ødegård 2011) and young people in Norway are above the average of the population when it comes to their civic engagement in political, humanitarian and environmental issues (Aars et al 2011). A youth survey (Moshuus 2009) shows that 90% of Norwegian youth between ages 13-30 have been involved in civic organisations where 65% of them between ages 13-18 and 69% of them between ages 19-30 in Norway hold the opinion that environment is the most challenging issue and the most influential factor facing young people today and in coming 10 years. 51% of youth ages 13-18 and 62% of those ages 19-30 consider ‘protecting environment against all forms of pollution’ to be the most important goal for social development.

### **2.3. Young people and human rights**

**Is there any report/survey investigating the civic engagement related to global human rights issues among young people in your country? What are the main outcomes?**

In 2009, a national youth survey on young people’s involvement in civic organisations shows that 19% (23% in 1998) of the population between ages 16-67 are a member of political, humanitarian and environmental organisations where 45% (33% in 1998) are young people between ages 16-29 (Aars et al. 2011).

## **3. Cooperation with third countries in the field of youth**

### **3.1. Agreements and areas of cooperation**

**Are there any bilateral or supranational agreements with countries / regions outside Europe in the field of youth?**

Norway participates the European Youth in Action programme which entails 33 participant countries. As Norway is not a member of EU, all international projects shall include partners from an EU member country. At the Norwegian “Youth in Action” website [www.aktivungdom.eu](http://www.aktivungdom.eu) , states ‘national priorities’ for year 2010, 2011 and 2012 as “projects involving partners from Barents-

region (Finland, Norway, Russia, and Sweden). Norway is also participating in part of the education programme Erasmus.

### **Cooperation in the field of youth policy and /or youth research**

Norwegian Research Council has bilateral agreements of research cooperation with Canada, China, India, Japan, Russia, South Africa and USA on a range of research fields including social sciences. <http://www.forskningsradet.no>

### **Support to the development of youth work on other continents**

The Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) [www.norad.no](http://www.norad.no) working together with Norwegian Refugee Council (NRC) [www.nrc.no](http://www.nrc.no) , Save the Children Norway [www.reddbarna.no](http://www.reddbarna.no) , Norwegian People's Aid [www.npaid.org](http://www.npaid.org) , Norwegian Church Aid [www.kirkensnodhjelp.no](http://www.kirkensnodhjelp.no), Unicef, support youth groups and youth organisations in African, Asian, and South American countries.

## **3.2. Support measures for young people**

**What are the opportunities offered to young people to explore and enhance global understanding by going abroad such as volunteering and youth exchange programmes)?**

Action 2 of Youth in Action Programme enables about 100 Norwegian young people each year travel abroad for volunteering work, according to the interim evaluation of the Norwegian implementation of YiA programme (2007-2009).

**Promotion of youth entrepreneurship and employment opportunities with regions/countries outside of Europe**

For example, the Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD) [www.norad.no](http://www.norad.no) finances the Youth Education Pack (YEP) project (2006-2010) of the Norwegian Refugee Council offers young people between ages 16-24 one year fulltime vocational training.

## **4. Participation of young people and youth organisations in policy making on global issues**

**Have young people and youth organisations been given political and financial support to be individually or collectively involved in the policy regarding dialogue and cooperation on regional and global issues? How?**

For example, the Norwegian Youth Council (LNU) [www.lnu.no](http://www.lnu.no) is nominating a youth representative as a member of the Norwegian official delegation to the UN General Assembly, as well as to UN conferences. This underlines that young people have the rights and can influence issues that concern them as it states in a report published in 2012 titled "Addressing the world" (På verdens talarstol) [http://www.lnu.no/sitefiles/1/dokumenter/rapporter/2012/Addressingtheworld\(english\).pdf](http://www.lnu.no/sitefiles/1/dokumenter/rapporter/2012/Addressingtheworld(english).pdf) .

**Is there any report/survey investigating young people's participation in campaigns regarding global climate change/global warming, development aid or human rights? What are the main outcomes?**

In 2002, a national youth survey on young people of ages 13-19 shows that 36.8% of this age group have taken part in campaign for a cause, 19.5% of this age group have participated in a political rally or demonstration ([http://www.nova.no/asset/2375/1/2375\\_1.pdf](http://www.nova.no/asset/2375/1/2375_1.pdf) ).

Using data of social surveys conducted before and after July 22<sup>nd</sup> 2011 terrorist attack, research find that about 50% young people over the country have participated in the "Rose Trains" mourning for the 22/7 victims while 33% of the whole population have participated it. And after 22/7, there is significant increase of young people (ages 16-24) who will vote in parliamentary elections (Wollebæk et al. 2011).

**Is there any report/survey investigating young people's participation in non-governmental organisations active in the domains of global climate change/global warming, development aid or human rights? What are the main outcomes?**

In 2009, a national youth survey on young people's involvement in civic organisations shows that 19% (23% in 1998) of the population between ages 16-67 are members of political, humanitarian and environmental organisations where 45% (33% in 1998) are young people between ages 16-29 (Aars et al. 2011).



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