

The European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy

Key priorities for youth policies answers on
Participation



Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth policy, youth research and youth work.

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ESTONIA, 2005

1 Structures of participation at the local, regional or national level

1.1 Youth parliaments

1.1.1 Local youth parliaments

In several municipalities are youth parliaments, they could be named as councils or parliaments. There is no clear model for parliament, so called parliaments are in different cities: Tallinn, Paide, Narva, Kuressaare, Pärnu, Valga, Jõhvi, Viljandi. The NGO called "Tegusad Eesti noored" (Estonian Active Youth; www.tn.ee) has been devoted to launch the youth parliament idea.

1.1.2 Regional youth parliaments

There are no youth parliaments in regional level.

1.1.3 National youth parliament

Estonian Youth Policy Council works as national youth parliament. There are representatives from: - 6 representatives of Estonian National Youth Council; - 1 representative of Estonian Youth Work Centre; - 2 representatives of the Estonian Youth Councillors Assosiation; - 1 representative of the Estonian National Agency for Youth programme; - 1 representative of the Ministry of Education and Research. Contact person is Mr Ardo Rohtla.

1.2 Youth councils

1.2.1 Local youth councils

There is no existing overview of local youth councils because there is no obligation for creating them and they have no clearly defined purpose. Therefore if local youth council is created it passes soon. Today there are actively operating following local youth councils: Youth Council in Jõgeva Municipality; Mr Karmo Kurvits (leader); Youth Council in Kuressaare; Mrs Tiina Luks (counsellor).

1.2.2 Regional youth councils

There are no youth councils in regional level.

1.2.3 National youth councils

There is Estonian National Youth Council with 44 associations, which are partners for the Ministry of Education and Research in many different activities. The Council was established in 2002. Contact person- Kristel Kadak is leader of the council (enl@enl.ee).



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1.3 Others structures of participation

The Students# Council is an advisory body for the Minister of Education and Research comprising representatives of Estonian School Student Council Union and Federation of Estonian Student Unions. There are discussed important issues in education. Estonian School Student Councils Union was founded in 1998 as a non-governmental politically independent organisation based on students# active voice.

2 Percentage of young people who are members of

No answers available

3 Existing actions/support, of national or regional scope, to promote the participation of young people in local life and follow-up mechanisms

No answers available

4 Do some of the existing or planned actions aim at certain specific groups of young people?

yes ~~no~~

If yes, what groups?

The non-Estonian-speaking young persons are a special target group in the Intergation Programme. The young persons, who belong to risk groups, are a special target group in the National Action Plan for Social Inclusion 2004-2006. This action plan is prepared by the Ministry of Social Affairs.

5 The vote

5.1 Obligatory?

~~yes~~ no

5.2 Age of the right to vote

From 18 years old

5.3 The right to vote

The right to vote shall belong to every Estonian citizen who has attained the age of eighteen. An Estonian citizen who has been declared mentally incompetent by a court of law shall not have the right to vote. In the election of the local government council, all persons who have reached the age of eighteen years and who reside permanently on the territory of that local government unit shall have the right to vote, in accordance with conditions determined by law. So he or she has to be



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resident in the territory of local government and has not been divested of his or her legal capacity by a court.

5.4 Age of eligibility to be a candidate

From 18/21 years old

5.5 Eligibility to be a candidate

The candidate could be person who has a right to vote and she or he could be candidate in local elections if she or he has attained 18 years of age by election day and for a Parliament the candidate must have attained 21 years of age.

6 The elections

6.1 Number of young people voting between the ages of 18 (or the age of the right to vote) and 30

N/A persons

6.2 Number of young people between the ages of 18 (or the age of the right to vote) and 30 registered on the lists of voters

N/A persons

6.3 Indicators of participation related to European polls

6.3.1 In European elections, the percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote who are registered from the ages of 13 to 30.

N/A %

6.3.2 In European elections, the percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote registered, by age groups

18-21	22-25	26-30
<i>N/A %</i>	<i>N/A %</i>	<i>N/A %</i>

6.3.3 In European elections, the percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote registered, by gender

female	male
<i>N/A %</i>	<i>N/A %</i>

female	male
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6.3.4 In European elections, the percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote registered, by rural-urban

rural	urban
N/A %	N/A %

6.3.5 In European elections, the percentage of young people's participation in relation to the total population to vote

N/A %

6.4 National indicators of participation in the polls

6.4.1 National elections, percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote registered

N/A %

6.4.2 National elections, percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote registered, by age groups

18-21	22-25	26-30
N/A %	N/A %	N/A %

6.4.3 National elections, percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote registered, by gender

female	male
N/A %	N/A %

6.4.4 National elections, percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote registered, by rural-urban

rural	urban
N/A %	N/A %

6.4.5 National elections, young people as a percentage of participation in the total population to vote

N/A %



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6.5 Regional and local indicators of participation in the polls

6.5.1 Regional and local elections, percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote registered

N/A %

6.5.2 Regional and local elections, percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote registered, by age groups

18-21	22-25	26-30
N/A %	N/A %	N/A %

6.5.3 Regional and local elections, percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote registered, by gender

female	male
N/A %	N/A %

6.5.4 Regional and local elections, percentage of young voters in relation to the number of young people in age to vote registered, by rural-urban

rural	urban
N/A %	N/A %

6.5.5 In regional and local elections the percentage of young people participation in relation to the total population to vote

N/A %

6.6 Number of young people (under the age of 30) who are member of the national parliament.

9 *persons*

6.6.1 Number of young people elected (under the age of 30) at the national level, by gender

female	male
3 <i>persons</i>	6 <i>persons</i>

6.7 Enter the number of young people (under the age of 30) who are member of regional parliaments or are hold the position of a regional minister.

N/A *persons*

6.7.1 Number of young people elected (under the age of 30) at the regional, level by gender

female	male
N/A <i>persons</i>	N/A <i>persons</i>

6.8 Number of young people elected (under the age of 30) at the local level

176 *persons*

6.8.1 Number of young people elected (under the age of 30) at the local level, by gender

female	male
35 <i>persons</i>	141 <i>persons</i>

7 Existing actions/support, of national or regional scope, to promote the participation in the system of representative democracy and follow-up mechanisms

No answers available

8 Do some of the existing or planned actions aim at specific groups of young people?

No answers available

9 Learning to participate

No answers available