

# 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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## **GREECE, 2006**

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

#### **1.1 Youth parliaments**

##### **1.1.1 Local youth parliaments**

N/A

##### **1.1.2 Regional youth parliaments**

N/A

##### **1.1.3 National youth parliament**

The Youth Parliament: The Youth Parliament is an educational programme initiated by the Greek Parliament and organized on an annual basis with the cooperation of the Ministries of Education of Greece and Cyprus. Pupils from Greece from all levels and types of Lyceum # upper level of secondary education # (public, private, day time schools, evening schools, ecclesiastical, etc), from the Technical Schools of the country and from Greek schools abroad are able to participate in this programme following an intra-school selection procedure. The programme is also open to pupils from Cyprus, and in particular, to pupils from the A and B grade of the Lyceums and Technical schools of Cyprus. The Youth Parliament consists of 362 members (312 from Greece, 25 from Cyprus and 25 from Greek schools abroad). The main aim of the programme is to cultivate a positive attitude towards civic participation and democratic structures. Contact: Through the website of the Youth Parliament ([www.vouliefivon.gr](http://www.vouliefivon.gr)) one can contact the President of the Greek Parliament or the Committee of the Youth Parliament using the appropriate electronic forms.

#### **1.2 Youth councils**

##### **1.2.1 Local youth councils**

Municipal Youth Councils: The Municipal Youth Councils are constituted within Municipalities and promote youth participation at the local level. They are composed of committees of representatives from secondary schools, local volunteer organizations, athletic and cultural organizations, operating within the boundaries of the Municipality. They record and attend to the needs of youth in the local society, make assessments and introduce proposals and petitions to the Municipal Council. They develop and put forward their own proposals regarding issues such as culture, work, drug-addiction, sports, education, voluntary work, racism and xenophobia, vocational orientation, ecology, peace, equality and access to information.

##### **1.2.2 Regional youth councils**



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Prefectural Youth Councils: The Prefectural Youth Councils are constituted within Prefectures and promote youth participation at the regional level. Their role is consultative regarding youth issues.

### 1.2.3 National youth councils

The National Youth Council, ESYN, was established in July 1998 as a #platform# of NGYOs and is an independent, non-governmental, non-profit federation of Greek youth organizations. Today, 42 NGYOs constitute the National Youth Council (4 political party NGYOs, and a large number of non political ones), representing the vast majority of #organized# young people. The National Youth Council is the official representative of Greek youth abroad and the main interlocutor of the Hellenic Government on youth issues at the national level. It participates in the Inter-Ministerial Committee for Youth, in the Organizational Committee for the Youth Parliament, while it is a member of the European Youth Forum, the Mediterranean Youth Forum, the UNESCO Youth Council, the relevant U.N. Youth Bodies, etc. Contact: Tel. & Fax: +30 210 2512742 e-mail: secretariat@esyn.gr

### 1.3 Others structures of participation

N/A

## 2 Percentage of young people who are members of

### 2.1 Percentage of young people in global population n(100%)who are members of a political party

9.1 %

#### 2.1.1 Percentage of young people in global population who are members of a political party (by age groups)

13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24	25-27	28-30
N/A %	N/A %	N/A %	N/A %	N/A %	N/A %

#### 2.1.2 Percentage of young people in global population who are members of a political party (by gender)

female	male
N/A %	N/A %

#### 2.1.3 Percentage of young people who are members of a political party in global population by rural-urban



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rural	urban
N/A %	N/A %

## 2.2 Percentage of young people who are members of a trade union from the ages of 13 and 30 in global population

2.3 %

### 2.2.1 Percentage of young people who are members of a trade union in global population by age groups

13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24	25-27	28-30
N/A %	N/A %	N/A %	N/A %	N/A %	N/A %

### 2.2.2 Percentage of young people in global population who are members of a trade union (by gender)

female	male
N/A %	N/A %

### 2.2.3 Percentage of young people who are members of a trade union in global population by rural-urban.

rural	urban
N/A %	N/A %

## 2.3 Percentage of young people who are members of a youth organisation from the ages of 13 and 30 in global population

3.1 %

### 2.3.1 Percentage of young people who are members of a youth organisation in global population by age group

13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24	25-27	28-30
N/A %	N/A %	N/A %	N/A %	N/A %	N/A %

### 2.3.2 Percentage of young people who are members of a youth organisation in global population by gender

female	male
N/A %	N/A %

### 2.3.3 Percentage of young people who are members of a youth organisation in global population (by rural-urban)

rural	urban
N/A %	N/A %

### 2.3.4 What type of youth organisations are people involved in

This category is not made up from youth organisations with varied general activities. There are other categories for these activities: 11.2% of young people participate in cultural organisations, 19.8% in athletic organisations, 2.8% in religious organisations, 4.7% in voluntary organisations and 2.6% in other organisations.

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

N/A

### 3.1 Legal actions to support the structures for participation of young people in local life

For the further development of the institution of Municipal and Prefectural Youth Councils, the General Secretariat for Youth is promoting their institutionalization and their legal recognition according to the principles of the European Charter for youth participation in local life.

### 3.2 Financial actions to support the various structures for youth political and NGO participation

-One of the main political goals of the General Secretariat for Youth is to support the various structures for youth political and NGO participation. More specifically, with an open invitation to the public, interested organizations and groups are regularly invited to submit their proposals for any kind of youth activities. After an evaluation of these proposals, a great number of plans proposed by and addressed to young people are being financed throughout Greece. -Similar procedures of financing organisations and youth initiatives are in place in other Ministries and governmental agencies.

### 3.3 Other initiatives planned in the short term

N/A



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

yes no

If yes, what groups?

N/A

## 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

All Greek citizens are entitled to vote provided: -They are aged over 18. -They are registered in an electoral roll of some municipality or community in Greece. -They have not been deprived of their voting rights. The following persons are not entitled to vote: -Persons who pursuant to the provisions of the Hellenic Civil Code have been fully deprived of their right to exercise their civil rights on their own. -All those persons so deprived by virtue of an irrevocable criminal sentence for one of the crimes cited in the Penal and Military Penal Code for such time as that deprivation persists. In particular, according to the Greek Constitution, Article 51, #the law cannot abridge the right to vote except in cases where a minimum age has not been attained or in cases of legal incapacity or as a result of irrevocable criminal conviction for certain felonies#.

### 5.4 Age of eligibility to be a candidate

*From 25 years old*

### 5.5 Eligibility to be a candidate

According to Article 55 of the Greek Constitution, #to be elected as a Member of Parliament, one must be a Greek citizen, have the legal capacity to vote and have attained the age of twenty-five years on the day of the election#.

## 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*



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## 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

1775163 *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
N/A %	N/A %	N/A %

#### 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
N/A %	N/A %

#### 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 %

## 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 %



female	male
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**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.**

1 *persons*

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

female	male
1 <i>persons</i>	0 <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.**

163 *persons*

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

female	male
60 <i>persons</i>	103 <i>persons</i>

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

N/A *persons*

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



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

N/A

### 7.1 Actions that have been undertaken this year

N/A

### 7.2 Other initiatives planned in the short term

N/A

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

yes no

Specific target groups of young people aimed at by existing or planned actions

N/A

## 9 Learning to participate

### 9.1 Existing actions within the systems of formal education aiming at developing and deepening learning to participate

Civic education modules are linked with cross-curricular activities and subject-specific themes at primary and upper secondary educational levels, with emphasis on democratic citizenship, introduction to law and political institutions, ancient Greek literature, history of the social sciences, European civilisation and its roots, and sociology.

#### 9.1.1 Mechanisms of participation at school

The main mechanism of participation at school is the institution of Student Councils.

#### 9.1.2 Learning of citizenship

Citizenship education in elementary and secondary schools as part of national curriculum. To give some examples, the module #European Civilisation and its Roots#, taught at the first grade of secondary education (upper level), examines the history and evolution of Europe and its distinct social and political formations. Moreover, at the second grade of secondary education (upper level), there exists a module under the title #Introduction to Law and Political Institutions#, which



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brings together the disciplines of law and political science, focusing on the nature of politics and the role of political science, the theory and practice of active citizenship, elements of democratic government, the legal and political system of the European Union, the Greek political and judicial system, etc. In addition, at the third grade of lower level secondary education, students engage themselves in the study of forms of citizenship, the democratic process and the Constitution, etc.

### **9.1.3 Other actions within the systems of formal education aiming at developing and deepening learning to participate**

A series of events, organised by the Ministry of National Education and Religious Affairs, have taken place or are about to take place in order to foster and support the active and continuous participation of schools and other educational institutions in initiatives linked with the development of democratic citizenship.

## **9.2 Fields of actions and/or support # (national or regional scope, outside the formal education context) which aim at promoting learning to participate amongst young people**

N/A

### **9.2.1 Nature of this support**

N/A

### **9.2.2 Concerned sector of activities: company, associations and NGOs, training bodies, municipalities, medias**

N/A

### **9.2.3 Among these actions (question 9.2.1 and 9.2.2), actions that have been undertaken this year**

N/A

### **9.2.4 Other initiatives planned in the short term**

N/A

## **9.3 Are there specific target groups of young people aimed at by existing or planned actions?**

**yes** no

The specific target groups

N/A