INFORMATION SHEET

PARTICIPATION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

SLOVENIA

Last updated: 1st September 2011

By: Andraž Zgonc
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1. Youth participation in SLOVENIA

Give an overview on participation of young people (13 – 30) in your country on the national and regional level (in federal states) answering the following questions:

- Are there official national/regional recommendations (policies) establishing the right of young people to participate in society?
  
  no

- If so: how is the concept of youth participation defined?

- What are the measures envisaged to promote different forms of participation on local, regional and national level?
  
  No measures exists.

- Do any of the above mentioned measures target specific groups? (please tick)

  □ females
  □ males
  □ migrants
  □ young people with fewer opportunities
  □ young people in specific regions
  □ minorities (which):
  □ certain age groups within the age range 13-30(which):
  □ other:
2. Youth participation in representative democracy in Slovenia

Please describe the rules of representative democracy related to young people answering the questions below:

- Is voting compulsory in your country? Y/N N

- What is the legal minimum age to vote in elections?

| European: | 18 | National: | 18 | Regional: | 18 | local | 18 |

- What are the legal requirements for voting in local, regional, national and European elections?

* Local: residence, permanent permit for live/work, citizenship is not obligatory
* National: citizenship
* European: citizenship

- What are the legal requirements for being a candidate in elections? Age 18 and citizenship

2.1. Participation in elections

Please give the percentage of young voters (young people who are allowed to vote below 30 years old) on European (for EU-countries only) and national level. If detailed data on young people is not available please provide the general turnout of all voters and describe the young voter’s participation.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Participation in European elections in % of people with the right to vote</th>
<th>Participation in national elections in % of people with the right to vote</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>% of total population</td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 – 30 year olds</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 – 19 year olds</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 – 24 year olds</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 – 30 year olds</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 If applicable

2 If applicable
Research Youth 2010 in Slovenia showed that 62% of young voters vote at the elections for National Assembly in 2008. However, it is important to underline this is not official or statistical data, it is made on a sample of 1200 respondents.³

2.2. Young people elected into representative bodies

Please provide the number (in total and by gender) of young people under the age of 30 who are members of the national parliament. Please provide the total number of parliamentarians on national level.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>MP ≥ 30</th>
<th>All MP</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Men</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>78</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Total    | 3       | 90     | 100 %

3. Youth participation in civil society

3.1 Membership in NGOs

Please give the percentage of young people aged 13 to 30 (if possible in total and gender) who are members in non-governmental organisations (including political and youth NGOs) and if possible for youth NGOs. Please provide the same data for political parties as well. For comparison, please provide the same data for the whole population.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>NGOs, including political NGOs and youth NGOs</th>
<th>Youth NGOs</th>
<th>Political parties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>female</td>
<td>male</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>% of total population</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 – 30 year olds</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16 – 19 year olds</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20 – 24 year olds</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 – 30 year olds</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>N/A</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.2 Youth participation structures on local, regional or national level

Please give a picture of how young people can/do participate in formally recognized ways in civic society/policy in your country by answering to the following questions:

which types of youth participation structures exist in your country and which group of young people these structure do represent

National Youth Council of Slovenia, it is representative body of the national youth organisations, established by the Youth Council Act. Youth in Slovenia are people aged 15-29 which is defined by the Act on Public interest in the Youth sector.

National youth organisations, those are for example scouts, youth associations of political parties. The standards for national youth organisations are connected with the age of their leaders and members and are defined in the Act on Public interest in Youth sector.
Local Youth Councils, defined by the Youth Council Act, approximately 40 Local Youth Councils exist (210 municipalities in Slovenia). They are consisted from the different local youth organisations (youth associations of political parties, young firemans, culture associations, etc).

Student organisation of Slovenia, it is the representative body of all students in Slovenia, consisted from the student representatives of Slovenian universities.

Student councils of University of Ljubljana/Maribor/Primorska.

*what is the degree of participation to decision making allowed by these structures (please fill in the table below)*:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>type of youth participation structure</th>
<th>% of local structures</th>
<th>% of regional structures</th>
<th>% of national structures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Youth Council of Slovenia</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>no</td>
<td>14, all national youth organisations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Share of power no</td>
<td>Consultation no</td>
<td>Information no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consultation no</td>
<td>Consultation /</td>
<td>Information /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information no</td>
<td>Share of power /</td>
<td>Share of power /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Share of power /</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>type of youth participation structure</th>
<th>% of local structures</th>
<th>% of regional structures</th>
<th>% of national structures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>National Youth organisations</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Share of power no</td>
<td>Consultation no</td>
<td>Information no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consultation no</td>
<td>Consultation /</td>
<td>Information /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information no</td>
<td>Share of power /</td>
<td>Share of power /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Share of power /</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>type of youth participation structure</th>
<th>% of local structures</th>
<th>% of regional structures</th>
<th>% of national structures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Local Youth Councils</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Share of power no</td>
<td>Consultation yes</td>
<td>Information yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Consultation yes</td>
<td>Consultation /</td>
<td>Information /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Information yes</td>
<td>Share of power /</td>
<td>Share of power /</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Share of power /</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Information sheet ‘Participation of young people’
Slovenia
- 6 -
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>type of youth participation structure</th>
<th>% of local structures</th>
<th>% of regional structures</th>
<th>% of national structures</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Student organisation of Slovenia</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td>/</td>
<td>/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Share of power N/A</td>
<td>Consultation N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Information N/A</td>
<td>Consultation Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Share of power consult</td>
<td>Information yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Information no</td>
<td>Consultation yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Information yes</td>
<td>Information yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student Councils of University of Ljubljana/Maribor/Primorska</td>
<td>100%</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Share of power N/A</td>
<td>Consultation N/A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Information N/A</td>
<td>Consultation Information</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Share of power consult</td>
<td>Information no</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Information no</td>
<td>Consultation yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Information yes</td>
<td>Information yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
4. Learning to participate

4.1 The formal education system

*Please describe existing mechanisms within the system of formal education aiming at developing and deepening learning to participate in your country.*

No such mechanism exists.

*Are there teacher trainings programmes at the national and/or regional level on this topic?*

No teacher trainings programmes exists yet, however some similar projects financed by European Social Fund are planned.

4.2 Non formal education

*Please describe five to ten existing examples of actions/programmes/activities at national or regional level, outside the formal education system, aiming at developing and deepening learning to participate in your country.*

1. The Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth financially supports (through public tender, published every year) programmes and projects, proposed and organised by NGO-s, national youth organisations, local youth councils and youth centres. Part of most of the programmes and projects is youth participation.

2. European Social Fund is financing the project of Establishing and developing of local youth policies. It is run by Local Youth Council of Ajdovščina. The goal is to establish or/and empower the role of youth and youth structures in municipalities. Help to identify local youth councils as key youth actors in municipalities.

3. Active citizenship – it is a project financed by the European Social Fund and run by Institution PIP (Law, Informations, Help). The goal is to empower the role of youth in public affairs through education and training, help to connect policy makers, youth organisations and experts. The project is also focused on youth with less opportunities.

4. Sensitize the public for youth topics is the project financed by the European Social Fund and run by National Youth Council of Slovenia. The goal is to promote youth and youth organisations as a public group which wants to be involved in public affairs.

5. Most of the National Youth organisations runs similar projects, especially the youth associations of the political parties.
5. Youth information in Slovenia

5.1 The structure of youth information

Please describe how youth information is organised in your country answering the following questions.

- Do youth information points / centres exist? Y/N

- Does youth information coordinated at the national level exist? Y/N

- Does youth information coordinated at the regional level exist? Y/N. If yes, where?

- Is youth information in your country member of any European network (ERYICA, EYCA, Eurodesk)? If yes, name the network.

Youth information and counselling center of Slovenia is member of ERYICA and EURODESK.

5.2. The youth information services

Please provide the percentage of municipalities with a youth information point/centre.

N/A

Is there an online national youth information system? Y/N. If yes, please provide the links to the relevant webpage(s), state if the portal provides youth information only on a specific topic.


Are there any online regional youth information systems? Y/N. If yes, please provide the links to the relevant webpage(s), state if the portal provides youth information only on a specific topic.

Please describe existing national or regional (federal states) print publications for information of young people in your country (e.g. magazines, folders/brochures).

No specific brochures or magazines exists, however most of NGO and youth organisations prepares magazines which includes informations for young people. For example brochures issued by National Youth Council etc.
5.3. Topics of youth information

In relation to the structures of youth information you mentioned above, what are the main contents of information delivered to young people?

- [ ] career guidance
- [ ] studies and scholarships
- [ ] jobs and training
- [ ] general health matters
- [ ] relationships and sexuality
- [ ] social security benefits
- [ ] rights of young people
- [ ] consumer rights
- [ ] European opportunities for young people
- [ ] youth activities and exchanges
- [ ] Other (please explain)

5.4. Young people’s involvement in youth information

How do young people participate in the national/regional system of youth information?

For example, in some of the youth organisations they prepare and run projects in which they are gathering informations, disseminate and counsel, however there is no general system of how young people participate in the system of youth information.
6. Informal ways of young people’s participation

Please describe informal ways used by young people to make their voices heard in society in your country.

In some cases they prepare petitions, they were trying to gain a support of politicians for or against political issues or reforms, they use internet, for example FB support/against groups, etc.

Please describe alternative ways of youth participation connected to the use of online technologies answering the following questions:

Latest Slovenian research on youth shows young people are interested in politics and public affairs, but they want to use alternative ways of participation, like e-elections, etc.

Top down approach (e.g. online consultations): in which occasion?

Drafts of legislation prepared by Slovenian government must be published on internet and anyone is allowed to comment and make a suggestions how to improve or change the drafts. This public proposals are not binding for the government, but the government must respond to them.

Bottom up approach (e.g. organised actions through social networks and the internet): in which occasion?

There were several actions, but without important impact on politicians.
7. Sources of information

http://www.dvk.gov.si/
http://www.misss.org/
http://www.eurodesk.si/
Research Youth 2010,
Internal material of the Office of Youth