

The European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy

Key priorities for youth policies answers on
Better Understanding of Youth



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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ICELAND, 2006

1 Structures and actors that play a role in gaining a greater understanding and knowledge of young people

1.1 Departments in universities dealing with youth issues

University of Iceland Reykjavik University Teachers University University of Akureyri

1.2 Major public and semi-public bodies dealing with youth issues

1.2.1 National public and semi-public bodies dealing with youth issues

Ministry of Education National organizations of municipalities State Church

1.2.2 Local public and semi-public bodies dealing with youth issues

Municipalities: Youth and Leisure Services Educational bodies

1.3 NGOs dealing with youth issues

LÆF www.youth.is

1.4 Statistic offices that collect statistics on youth

Statistics Iceland www.hagstofa.is

1.5 Youth researchers or experts

Reykjavik University, Dr. Inga Dora Sigfusdottir. ICSRA, Jon Sigfússon and Gisli Arni Eggertsson. University of Iceland, Dept of Social Studies. Thorolfur Thorlindsson. Teachers University, Ingvar Sigurgeirsson and Gestur Gudmundsson University of Akureyri, Kjartan Olafsson.

1.6 Private companies dealing with youth issues

Icelandic Centre for Social Research and Analysis. Specialized in Youth Research.

1.7 Others dealing with youth issues

N.A.

1.8 New structures and actors that have been set up this year

N.A.

2 Legal basis



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2.1 Legal basis or guidelines facilitating activities leading to a better understanding of youth

N.I.

2.2 New Developments that have taken place this year?

N.I.

3 Funding for carrying out activities aimed at acquiring a better understanding of youth

3.1 International funding for carrying out activities aimed at acquiring a better knowledge of youth

Rannsoknarrad Islands

3.2 EU funding for carrying out activities aimed at acquiring a better knowledge and understanding of youth

N.A.

3.3 National funding for carrying out activities aimed at acquiring a better knowledge and understanding of youth

3.3.1 Public national funding

N.A.

3.3.2 Private national funding

Several major companies fox example banks, insurance companies, pharmasutical companies e.t.c.

3.4 Other funding

N.A.

3.5 Actor(s)/structure(s) mainly receiving funding

Scholars Researchers Research Bodies

3.6 New developments that have taken place this year

N.A.

4 Paper publications disseminating knowledge about the



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youth field

4.1 Figures for paper publications disseminating knowledge about the youth field

N.I.

4.2 Regular youth reports

Icelandic Centre for Social Research and Analysis Ministry of Education Reykjavik University
University of Iceland Teachers University

4.3 Journals that publish youth research

N.I.

4.4 Reviews on youth research

N.I.

4.5 Other publications

N.I.

4.6 What new support has been developed this year?

N.A.

5 IT dissemination of knowledge in the youth field

5.1 Databases

N.I.

5.2 Portals

www.menntagatt.is

5.3 Statistics, reports, journals, reviews or other publications available on the internet

Websites of Municipalities Example: www.reykjavik.is www.akureyri.is www.samband.is

5.4 What new tools have been developed this year?

N.I.

6 Methods and approaches for gaining a greater



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understanding and knowledge of youth

6.1 Quantative Methods

	used	frequency	themes
European tools (Eurostat, Eurobarometer)	No	N.A. <i>per year</i>	N.A.
Youth Opinion polls	No	N.A. <i>per year</i>	N.A.
Comparative studies	Yes	every 4th <i>per year</i>	ESPAD
Longitudinal studies	Yes	every 3rd <i>per year</i>	Media
Questionnaires	No	N.A. <i>per year</i>	N.A.
Evaluation research	No	N.A. <i>per year</i>	N.A.

6.2 Qualitative methods

	used	frequency	themes
Ethnography	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Participant observation	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Interviews	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Discourse analysis	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Grounded theory	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Evaluation research	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Action research	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Questionnaires	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Comparative studies	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Longitudinal studies	No	- <i>per year</i>	-

6.3 The use of combining methods/ Triangulation

	used	frequency	themes
Action research	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Evaluation research	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Questionnaires	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Comparative studies	No	- <i>per year</i>	-
Longitudinal studies	No	- <i>per year</i>	-

6.4 Questioning youth organisations and NGOs (especially to collect practical

knowledge)

N.I.

6.5 Innovative methods used in the collection of youth knowledge

N.I.

6.6 New methods that have been developed this year

N.I.

7 Methods developed for keeping knowledge updated and coherent

N.A.

8 Methods for ensuring and assessing quality of knowledge in the youth field

8.1 Existing Methods

	used	How it is implemented
Peer reviews	Yes	Questionnaires
Expert analysts	Yes	Questionnaires
Indicators	Yes	Questionnaires
Training of youth researchers	Yes	Seminars
Other	Yes	Questionnaires

8.2 This year's developments of quality assessment in the youth research field.

N.I.

9 Promotion of youth researchers and their generational renewal and other actors who work towards a better knowledge of youth

9.1 Facilitating the exchange of experience and practice

The main channels of knowledge and information on youth are based on research done by 4 universities in Iceland and research centres connected to them: University of Akureyri The Research Centre of the University of Akureyri <http://www.unak.is> Iceland University of Education



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<http://www.khi.is> University of Iceland <http://www.hi.is> The Research Liaison Office of the University of Iceland <http://www.rthj.hi.is> Reykjavik University <http://www.ru.is> Icelandic Center for Social Research and Analysis. <http://www.rannsoknir.is> The Icelandic Center for Social Research and Analysis has in last years built up a database on youth in Iceland and is the largest contributor to local and national authorities in this field. All major municipalities in the country and the Ministry of Education have contracted the centre for regular update of information on youth affaires.

9.2 Supporting their mobility

Iceland participates through the EES treaty in European Parliaments FP6 and the upcoming Seventh Framework Programme (FP7) in several research programmes as well as in the Leonardo and Socrates programmes. (See Rannís # The Icelandic Centre for Research Information on Iceland <http://www.rannis.is>) On Nordic level <http://www.norden.org> the NYRI and the NordForsk programmes are part of cooperation in youth research.

9.3 Improving their skills

NI

9.4 Funding for PhDs and support of students in this field

NI

9.5 New schemes that have been developed this year

In 2005/2006 the University of Iceland, the Reykjavik University and the Icelandic Center for Social Research and Analysis in collaboration with ECAD (www.ecad.net) and others launched the Youth in Europe drug prevention programme(www.youthineurope.org). The programme involves youth researchers in several european cities.

10 Comparing results

10.1 Methods to exploit and compare results of activities carried out for a better knowledge and understanding of youth

NI

10.2 Methods that have been developed this year?

NI

11 Methods to ensure exchanges and dialogue between all actors in the youth field

No answers available



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12 Transsectoral dialogue

12.1 Organisation and promotion of transsectoral dialogue for example between university departments and governmental departments (e.g. seminars, working groups, common advisory structures#)

NI

12.2 New developments planned this year.

NI



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