

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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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

Many social policy departments in universities throughout the UK cover youth issues. There are over 30 universities offering youth worker training, and many of these offer youth research opportunities. Specialist research centres include De Montfort University Youth Affairs Unit (Malcolm Payne and Mary Tyler) - <http://www.dmu.ac.uk/faculties/hls/research/youthaffairsunit/youthaffairs.jsp>. Centre for Youth Work Studies, University of Strathclyde (Prof David Wallace) - <http://www.strath.ac.uk/Departments/CommunEdu/research/youthstudies.html>. University of Northampton (Prof Hugh Matthews) - http://www.northampton.ac.uk/business_research_children.php. Brunel (Prof Judith Harwin) - <http://www.brunel.ac.uk/about/acad/health/healthres/researchareas/ccfr/> Sheffield (Alan France) - Centre for the Study of Childhood and Youth <http://www.shef.ac.uk/cscy/> Luton University Child and Family Welfare Research Unit (Prof David Berridge) - <http://www.luton.ac.uk/departments/appliedsocialstudies/research/childandfamily>. Loughborough University Centre for Child and Family Research (Prof Harriet Ward) - <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/research/ccfr/> Centre for Child Research - www.swansea.ac.uk University of Edinburgh, Child and Youth Studies Network - <http://www.hss.ed.ac.uk/kt/child.htm> University of Teeside Youth Research Group - <http://www.tees.ac.uk/depts/socialfutures/youth.cfm>

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

Various central government departments commission or carry out research in their areas of interest. They include: Department for Education and Skills - <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/> Home Office - <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/> Department of Health - <http://www.dh.gov.uk/PublicationsAndStatistics/fs/en> Department for Communities and Local Government- www.dclg.gov.uk Social Exclusion Task Force - www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/social_exclusion/ Scottish Executive - <http://www.scottishexecutive.gov.uk/Topics/Research>. The Executive commissions the Scottish Centre for Social Research to undertake a Survey of Young People (16-24) in Scotland - http://www.natcen.ac.uk/syps/docs/carrying_out.htm Northern Ireland Executive - <http://www.northernireland.gov.uk/> National Assembly for Wales - <http://www.wales.gov.uk/subiresearch/index-e.htm> National Foundation for Educational Research # independent educational research institution - <http://www.nfer.ac.uk/index.cfm> Economic and Social Research Council - leading UK research body for social sciences, including youth issues -



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<http://www.esrc.ac.uk> NIACE (National Institute for Adult Continuing Education -
<http://www.niace.org.uk/projects/Default.htm>

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

Many local authorities have research departments which will undertake research relating to youth issues.

1.3 NGOs dealing with youth issues

Carnegie Young People Initiative # <http://www.carnegieuktrust.org.uk/cypi/home> National Youth Agency - <http://www.nya.org.uk> Save the Children - <http://www.savethechildren.org.uk> The Prince#s Trust - <http://www.princes-trust.org.uk/> YWCA - <http://www.ywca.org.uk> National Council for Voluntary Youth Services - <http://www.ncvys.org.uk/> British Youth Council - <http://www.byc.org.uk> Youth Action Network - <http://www.youth-action.org.uk/>

1.4 Statistic offices that collect statistics on youth

National Statistics Office # national statistical agency. It does not have a specific focus on youth, but includes data on youth issues # www.statistics.gov.uk/

1.5 Youth researchers or experts

Considerable numbers of researchers working in academic institutions and government departments.

1.6 Private companies dealing with youth issues

The MORI Social Research Institute has a specialist Youth, Children and Families research team www.mori.com/ Joseph Rowntree Foundation # supports a wide range of research, much of it focusing on young people - www.jrf.org.uk/ Trust for the Study of Adolescence # undertakes research and practice development - www.studyofadolescence.org.uk/ The National Centre for Social Research (NatCen) is the largest independent social research institute in Britain. It does not have a specific focus on young people, but includes research into youth issues - <http://www.natcen.ac.uk/> NFP Synergy - undertakes regular youth engagement monitor - survey of young people aged 11 to 25 - <http://www.nfpsynergy.net>

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

None

2.2 New Developments that have taken place this year?

N/A

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

Several UK universities are carrying out research as partners in the World University Network.

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

Potential to bid for funding under European programmes, e.g. European Commission's Youth Programme.

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

N/A

3.4 Other funding

N/A

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

Academics Non-university based research organisations. NGOs.

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

Joseph Rowntree Foundation - regular research reports on different aspects of youth issues - mostly available on website as well as in published format - <http://www.jrf.org.uk/> Department for Education and Skills publishes research reports at the end of each month - <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/research> Home Office research reports published frequently - <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/> The NYA also publishes a quarterly electronic newsletter outlining recent research reports and news relevant to young people. <http://www.nya.org.uk/Templates/internal.asp?NodeID=93709>

4.3 Journals that publish youth research

Youth and Policy (quarterly, NYA) - critical study of youth affairs, youth policy and youth work. Journal of Adolescence (Academic Press, six issues p.a.) - international, broad based, cross-disciplinary journal that addresses issues of professional and academic importance concerning development between puberty and the attainment of adult status within society. Journal of Youth Studies (Routledge, quarterly) - international scholarly journal devoted to a theoretical and empirical understanding of young people's experiences and life contexts. Children and Society (National Children's Bureau, 5 issues p.a.) - informs all those who work with and for children about significant developments and research findings. Scottish Youth Issues Journal (University of Strathclyde, two issues p.a.) - forum for reflection on policy and practice and for dissemination of research on issues affecting young people. Forum 21: European Journal on Youth Policy # European project carried out jointly by INJEP, France; IJAB, Germany; and the National Youth Agency, UK. Some issue specific research journals also publish youth research, e.g. Health Education Journal, Youth Justice

4.4 Reviews on youth research

None

4.5 Other publications

N/A

4.6 What new support has been developed this year?

N/A

5 IT dissemination of knowledge in the youth field



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5.1 Databases

N/I

5.2 Portals

UK Data Archive - <http://www.data-archive.ac.uk> SOSIG - Social Science Information Gateway - <http://www.sosig.ac.uk/> Economic and Social Research Council - Society Today <http://www.regard.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/index.aspx>

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

Department for Education and Skills research gateway - <http://www.dfes.gov.uk/research/>.
Published research updated monthly. Youth study mailing list YOUTH-STUDY@JISCMail.AC.UK
Home Office - <http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/>

5.4 What new tools have been developed this year?

N/A

6 Methods and approaches for gaining a greater understanding and knowledge of youth

No answers available

7 Methods developed for keeping knowledge updated and coherent

No answers available

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

No answers available

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

Youth Study mailing list - YOUTH-STUDY@JISCMail.AC.UK Network for Research on Children, Young People and Families - aims to bring together academic, professional and practitioner



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researchers involved in research on children, young people and families to promote the sharing of ideas and information and create an environment that will support mutual learning.

http://www.nspcc.org.uk/inform/research/ChildResearchNetwork/Home_ifega29754.html

9.2 Supporting their mobility

N/I

9.3 Improving their skills

N/I

9.4 Funding for PhDs and support of students in this field

Funding for PhD students in this field comes primarily from the Economic and Social Research Council.

9.5 New schemes that have been developed this year

N/A

10 Comparing results

No answers available

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

No answers available

12 Transsectoral dialogue

No answers available