

QUESTIONNAIRE

“BETTER UNDERSTANDING ON YOUTH”

ESTONIA



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

1.1 Specific youth departments in universities dealing with youth issues

No specific youth departments in universities

1.2 Statistic offices that collect statistics on youth

Statistics Estonia (www.stat.ee) collects various statistical information on population, and also on young people.

Andmevara (www.andmevara.ee) is a company which collects residence information, information on citizenship and other aspects of people residing in Estonia, also on young people.

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

Research on youth-related issues is concentrated in Universities and related research institutions; refer to section 1.5 for details

1.4 NGOs dealing with youth issues

Non-profit, non-governmental organisation Estonian Youth Institute www.eni.ee focuses on advancing youth research in Estonia and transferring knowledge to society.

In 2008, the main research focus will be on evaluation of youth work. First, evaluation of activities of Youth in Action NA, with emphasise on key competences will start. Second, a research program aimed at evaluation of youth work at national level and in local governments will start. Third, a monitoring study of youth living conditions in Estonia (Youth Monitor) will start. Fourth, the EYI continues carrying out short-term research projects in various youth related areas.

Researchers at universities and research institutions continue carrying out academic as well as applied research projects according to their areas of expertise (refer to question 1.5).

1.5 Youth researchers or experts

- Andu Rämmer, Agnes Alvela, Rein Murakas, Tartu University – values, youth sociology, youth work
- Airi-Alina Allaste, Tallinn University – lifestyles, subcultures, drugs

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- Judith Strömpl, Tartu University – school violence, trafficking
- Anne Tiko, Tallinn University – deviant behaviour
- Anna Markina, Tartu University – deviant behaviour, juvenile delinquency
- Marika Veisson, Tiit Kuurme, Leida Talts, Tallinn University – child research, pre-school child care institutions and elementary school, school and identity, academic achievement
- Priit Reiska, Tallinn University – academic achievement, interdisciplinary teaching methods
- Ellu Saar, Marge Unt, Rein Vöormann, Jelena Helemäe, Tallinn University – education and labor market, transition from school to work
- Väino Rajangu, Tallinn University of Technology – education and labor market, vocational training, transition from school to work
- Marti Taru, Anu Toots, Tallinn University – participation and civic education
- Mare Ainsaar, Tartu University – demographics, reproductive behaviour
- Avo Trumm, Dagmar Kutsar, Tartu University – child and youth poverty, young families
- Urve Venesaar, Juhan Teder, Tallinn University of Technology – entrepreneurship, entrepreneurship education
- Tõnis Mets, Made Torokoff, Tartu University – entrepreneurship, entrepreneurship education
- Veronika Kalmus, Margit Keller, Triin Vihalemm, Andra Siibak, Tartu University – youth and new media, information society
- Eve Kikas, Tiia Tulviste, Tartu University – developmental psychology, family and peer socialisation, socialisation in elementary school
- Toomas Veidebaum, Maarike Harro, Tartu University, National Institute for Health Development – health behaviour of children and young people
- Vahur Ööpik, Toivo Jürimäe Tartu University – physical activism of youth, training methods of competitive athletes
- Jüri Allik, Anu Realo, Helle Pullmann, Tartu University – intelligence and academic capabilities of children, collectivism-individualism orientations in cross-national perspective
- Jaanus Harro, Tartu University – health behaviour, determinants and background of risk behaviour

- Liilia Lõhmus, Aire Trummal, National Institute of Health Development – sexual risk behaviour, HIV/AIDS
- Tiina Talvik, Helle Karro, Sulev Haldre, Tartu University – health and determinants of (chronic) diseases among youth, sexual and reproductive behaviour of youth, substance misuse
- Raivo Vetik, Gerli Nimmerfeldt, Tallinn University – ethnic identity, integration of young immigrants in mainstream society, multiculturalism; youth activism and patterns of free time spending

The list includes leaders of research groups; there are many more researchers involved in youth-related research projects.

1.6 Private companies dealing with youth issues

Hansapank (<http://www.hansagroup.com/eng/>), which is the largest commercial bank in Estonia, has instituted youth bank and youth debit card (www.npk.ee). The bank runs a competition of youth projects – Tähed särama – and offers funding to selected projects. The competition was started in 2001 and by the end of 2007, more than 250 projects had received over 383 470 EUR (6 000 000 EEK). The bank supports also other youth initiatives.

SEB Ühispank (<http://www.seb.ee/index/1301>), the second largest bank, and Hansapank do run intensive student study loan campaigns.

Although the banks did not report they carry out research on youth, a look from outside would suggest the contrary; the banks probably do have a good overview and understanding of youth in Estonia, and also good understanding of global youth trends.

Public opinion research companies carry out research projects on commercial basis. Even though they do carry out youth related projects, the companies can not release information about the projects.

2 Legal basis or guidelines for activities leading to a better knowledge and understanding of youth

National Youth Work Strategy 2006-2013. While this is not a legal document, it sets forth basic goals and guidelines in the field and is recognised by main actors in the youth field.

3 Funding for research on youth

3.1 International funding for carrying out activities aimed at youth research

No information

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

Participation of Estonian representative at correspondent meetings of the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy (EKCYP), at seminars organised in relation to the EKCYP, at meeting of network of youth researchers (organised by the Partnership on Youth between the Council of Europe and the European Commission) and at meeting of European Network on Youth Knowledge (EuNYK). Total funding approximately 3 500 to 4 000 EUR/yr.

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

From national budget: 38 347 EUR (600 000 EEK) for the period January-April in 2008.

Youth field related research projects are also funded from national budget; exact amount not known.

Investments into better understanding of youth by private companies not known.

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

- Tartu University
- Tallinn University
- National Institute for Health Development

4 Paper publications on the youth field

4.1 Statistics of books on the youth field

On youth issues, mainly research reports or conference proceedings are published. There is no regularity of publications neither is there certain predetermined selection of themes or issues. Recent publications include:

- Loone Ots (ed.) 2008 School as Developmental Environment and Students' Coping: Aspects of Estonian School Today, Tallinn

- Marti Taru (ed.) 2008 Noorte aktiivsus: päri- ja pahupool (Youth Activism: Right Side, Wrong Side), Tallinn
- Anna Markina, Beata Sahverdov-Žarkovski 2007 Eesti alaealiste hälbiv käitumine (Delinquent Behavior of Estonian Teenagers), Tallinn
- Judit Strömpl, Marju Selg, Kadri Soo, Beata Sahverdov-Žarkovski 2007 Eesti teismeliste vägivallatõlgendused (Interpretations of violence among Estonian teenagers), Tallinn
- Liilia Lõhmus, Aire Trummal 2007 HIV-I temaatikaga seotud teadmised, hoiakud ja käitumine Eesti noorte hulgas (HIV Related knowledge, attitudes and behaviour amongst Estonian youth), Tallinn
- Ilona-Evelyn Rannala (ed.) 2007 Noortest ja noorusest täna (Youth and Young Life today), Tallinn
- Anu Toots, Tõnu Idnurm, Maria Seveljova 2006 Noorte kodanikukultuur muutuvast ühiskonnas (Youth Civic Culture in a Changing Society), Tallinn

4.2 Regular Youth reports

No regular youth reports are published

4.3 Journals and reviews on youth research

No journals or reviews on youth are published

Articles on youth research are published in various journals and newspapers ranging from field-specific publications at community and national level to peer-reviewed (social) scientific journals with international spread

5 IT dissemination of knowledge in the youth field

5.1 Databases

- Database of youth researchers and youth research projects.
- The database contains description of youth research projects, leaders of the projects
- Language: Estonian
- Content: research reports, researchers, contact details
- Accessibility: freely accessible
- Provider: Estonian Youth Institute
- Location: www.eni.ee

5.2 Web-Portals

www.eni.ee

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

Statistical Office of Estonia, <http://www.stat.ee/files/koolinurk/>, the most recent data come from 2005.

Estonian Youth Institute, www.eni.ee

5.4 Methods and approaches for gaining a better understanding and knowledge of youth

Researchers use a variety of methods for accomplishing their research goals. These range from qualitative to quantitative data collection and analysis methods: in-depth interviews, focus-group interviews, face-to-face structured survey interviews, internet surveys, analysis of documents and reports, analysis of mass media content, quantitative analysis of survey data.

6 Methods and tools developed for keeping knowledge updated and coherent

An absolute majority of youth related research projects are carried out on initiatives of individual researchers, youth research is beyond centralised control.

The EYI database of youth-related research in Estonia is updated annually and also statistical data on youth in Estonia is updated annually.

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

The main method for ensuring and assessing quality of knowledge in the youth field is peer review of youth-related research proposals and interim and final reports within the general system of funding of (social-scientific) research.

Additionally, quality is assessed and improved within networks of collaboration, consisting of researchers from different institutions, within the framework of cross-institutional research projects and activities, seminars with participants from different institutions.

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

8.1 Facilitating the exchange of experience and practice

There are no specific measures designed for increasing involvement of young researchers in youth research. Supervision of bachelor, master and doctoral papers by experienced researchers and involvement of young researchers in youth related projects are the main, traditional and general methods of pulling new people into youth research.

At thematic seminars and meetings organised by Estonian Youth Institute, also students are welcome to participate.

The EYI organises also competition of youth-focused bachelor, master and doctoral-level research papers.

8.2 Supporting their mobility

Does not exist; depends directly on individuals' activism.

8.3 Improving their skills (language, cultural ...)

Does not exist; depends directly on individuals' activism.

8.4 Funding for PhDs and support of students in this field

No special funding for students in youth field; depends directly on individuals' activism

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

9.1 Seminars, working groups for a better knowledge and understanding of youth

Thematic seminars which bring together researchers from different institutions.

9.2 Names and contacts for permanent national network for a greater knowledge and understanding of youth linking all actors in the field

Estonian Youth Institute, www.eni.ee,

Marti Taru, managing director, marti.taru@eni.ee, info@eni.ee

9.3 If a national youth knowledge network in the youth field exists

No such steady network exists.

9.4 If no permanent youth knowledge network exists on the national level, please report if there are there any attempts to set up such a network.

Estonian Youth Institute undertakes efforts to develop such network. Thematic seminars with participants from research organisations, youth organisations, youth work organisations and policy organisations are organised. Also information is distributed via e-mail lists.

10 Other networks in the youth field

10.1 Transnational networks

Researchers being part of European Sociological Association 'Youth and Generation' network and other thematic networks that may have youth issues and themes as a part of their professional activities.

10.2 Networks specific to certain actors

No such networks except working groups established for realising goals of research projects.

10.3 Organisation and promotion of interdisciplinary dialogue for example between university departments and governmental departments

Seminars, consultation meetings, communication between academic and professional experts and civil servants.