

QUESTIONNAIRE
“BETTER UNDERSTANDING
ON YOUTH”
SLOVAK REPUBLIC



Table of contents

1 Structures and actors that play a role in gaining a greater understanding and knowledge of young people.....	3
2-Legal basis or guidelines for activities leading to a better knowledge and understanding of youth.....	5
3 Funding for research on youth.....	5
4 Paper publications on the youth field.....	6
5 IT dissemination of knowledge in the youth field	7
6.Methods and approaches for gaining a better understanding and knowledge of youth	7
7 Methods and tools developed for keeping knowledge updated and coherent	7
8 Methods and tools for ensuring and assessing quality of knowledge in the youth field	8
9 Promotion of youth researchers and their generational renewal and their actors who work towards a better knowledge of youth	8
10 Methods and tools to ensure exchanges and dialogue between all actors in the youth field.....	8
11 Other networks in the youth field.....	9

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

Faculties of Pedagogy at different Universities have the most capacities aimed at research in the field of children and youth. Nevertheless, research on didactics and theory of education is followed, other aspects are less present.

University of Konstantin Philosopher Nitra, Faculty of social sciences, Department of applied psychology

University of Pavol Jozef Šafárik Prešov, Faculty of Natural sciences, Department of human sciences
Comenius University, Faculty of Pedagogy, Department of human studies

1.2 Statistic offices that collect statistics on youth

Statistical office of the Slovak Republic, www.statistics.sk

Institute of information and predomination of education, www.uips.sk

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

Institutions under the auspices of the Ministry of Education :

- VÚDPaP: www.vudpap.sk , complex research on psychological growth of children, social pathology.
- Institute of information and predermination of education, www.uips.sk
- ŠPÚ: www.statpedu.sk , State Pedagogic Institute – international researches (mainly e IEA and OECD studies, as f.e. PISA)
- ŠIOV: siov.sk , three pillars: 1.) education and research, 2.) coordination of projects and publication, 3.) international cooperation and creativity of youth
- IUVENTA: www.iuventa.sk , Slovak Institute of Youth – research, projects, training, grants

Slovakia possesses of specialised research units working under Slovak Academy of Sciences (see www.sav.sk), which work on different research tasks contributing to better understanding of social conditions of young people:

- Department of Sociology

- Department of Politology
- Department of Experimental Psychology
- Department of Etnology
- Department of Prognosis

The youth related studies are done on non-regular basis also within different other Ministries:

The most frequent are:

- International centre for family research
- Institute at Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family
- Institute for public opinion research at Slovak Statistical Office

1.4 NGOs dealing with youth issues

- Youth Council of Slovakia (2000, 2007): www.mladez.sk
- eRKO: www.erko.sk
- YMCA: www.ymca.sk
- Scouting: www.scouting.sk
- DOMKA: www.domka.sk
- ZIPCeM: zipcem.icm.sk
- Red Cross: www.redcross.sk
- Union of towns and villages: www.zmos.sk

1.5 Youth researchers or experts

Experts:

- Ladislav Macháček – youth sociology
- Emília Kratochvílová – pedagogy of leisure time
- Peter Ondrejko – social pathology
- Rastislav Bednárík – labour, employment
- Karol Čukan – young people and army

Questionnaire on Better Understanding on Youth– Slovak Republic

Young researchers:

- Kristína Janíková (University of Trnava) – prevention, aspects of social pathology (kristina.janikova@gmail.com)
- Marianna Pétiová (UIPŠ) – social pathology
- Alžbeta Gregorová – Brozmanová (Matej Bell University, Banská Bystrica) – voluntarism (agregorova@pdf.umb.sk)
- Elena Krieglerová – Gállová (EVO) – multiculturalism and intolerance.

1.6 Private companies dealing with youth issues

- IVO s.r.o.: www.ivo.sk, independent centre for analysis of public policies
- FOCUS: www.focus-research.sk , collection of socially-related issues
- SPACE: www.nspace.sk , centre for analysis of social policy, projects, training, conferences, researches, information
- GFK: www.gfk.com , youth researches (life style, Act on Youth)

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

There is no special law covering youth related research. Act on science and industry covers the basis for research activities.

Ministry of Education will be responsible for creation of the research platform following the new Act on Youth.

3 Funding for research on youth

3.1 International funding for carrying out activities aimed at youth research

N/A

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

- 7th framework programme for research (DG Research)

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

- Agency for science and research
- Grant programmes of Ministry of Education and Slovak Academy of Sciences: KEGA and VEGA
- IUVENTA – publishes open calls usually related to the topics of participation, non-formal learning.
- Open Society Institute (Soros) – development of third sector
- Educational donation of Jan Hus – publishing of publications

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

N/A

4 Paper publications on the youth field

4.1 Statistics of books on the youth field

Reports on youth are not regular and there is limited number of available documents, listed in next sections.

4.2 Regular Youth reports

Two complex reports:

- 2001 in relation to adoption of 1st official state conception towards children and youth
- 2005 National Youth Policy Review in the frame of Council of Europe reports.

Reports for European Commission are prepared regularly on topics such as participation, youth information, voluntarism and youth research.

4.3 Journals and reviews on youth research

Youth and Society – Slovak journal for state policy and youth work, published 4 times a year, published by Ministry of Education and UIPŠ in Bratislava

ZOOM – magazine for youth workers, published jointly by IUVENTA and Youth Council of Slovakia

5 IT dissemination of knowledge in the youth field

5.1 Databases

Only public findings of Statistical Office of the SR, not primarily oriented on youth.

5.2 Web-Portals

www.vyskummladeze.sk; Portal summarizing all available research works in the field of youth.

www.syrs.org, Web page of the Slovak Youth Research Society gathering all researchers from the field,

www.uips.sk Web page of the Institute of information and predermination of education

www.iuventa.sk Web page of the Slovak Youth Institute responsible for implementation of the state youth policy

www.icm.sk Web portal of the all Information centres for youth

www.mladez.sk Web portal of the Youth Council of Slovakia

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

www.dobrovolnictvo.sk

Web page is designed for all those interested in the voluntary activities in general. Updated information, services and contacts for voluntary activities and organisations can be found here.

6. Methods and approaches for gaining a better understanding and knowledge of youth

University researches, including Works of students.

Empiric researches – quantitative and qualitative methods

Analysis by youth organisations or other entities

7 Methods and tools developed for keeping knowledge updated and coherent

IUVENTA is administrating the web portal on youth research – www.vyskummladeze.sk, which keeps all the researches and promotes them.

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

The quality is kept by the standards especially in system of Universities, where scientific tools and methods are used ensuring the representative opinion on the different topics.

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

9.1 Facilitating the exchange of experience and practice

Young researches are specially supported in presenting their outcomes in the frame of Slovak Academy of Sciences.

IUVENTA started the cooperation with young researchers in order to give them impetus for their work in the youth field.

9.2 Supporting their mobility

Student mobility inside EU is supported by different programmes - SAIA (National stipendium programme) , SAIAC – National Agency for life-long learning

Specific grant schemes in Germany, UK, France.

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

N/A

9.4 Funding for PhDs and support of students in this field

Association of PhD students was established (<http://www.ads.sk/>) to articulate their social-economical problems and to enhance their legislative support. Some Universities have its own grant schemes for supporting talented students. As for example Comenius University in Bratislava gives financial support for research and these amounts are sometimes higher then grants by KEGA or VEGA.

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

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

IUVENTA in cooperation with Slovak youth research association has built up a network of youth research experts. The task of the network will be initiation of research works at universities and

research departments in order to develop better understanding of youth as a basis for conception work at state level and also regional level.

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

It is not build up officially.

10.3 If a national youth knowledge network in the youth field exists, explain its structure and the way it works. Also describe your role in the national network.

N/A

10.4 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. Explain how this could be done. What is your strategy to set up a permanent national network linking all actors (i.e. setting up a working group on the issue, organising exchange of good practice on the issue, developing the network taking as starting point national correspondents for knowledge centre, creating a virtual national community linking actors, ...).

Coordination of work and starting the dialogue between youth organisations, policy makers and researches is facilitated by IUVENTA. There is further work needed to establish a solid base for the cooperation and to define the aims and reasons for existing of such a network.

11 Other networks in the youth field

11.1 Transnational networks

- Slovak experts cooperate with ESA – European sociological association, one of its section is Research Network 30- Youth & Generations, www.youthgeneration.org)
- ISA – International sociology association and its RC 35 –research committee Sociology of Youth
- In the frame of European Union, Slovak experts are active in big research projects such as UP2YOUTH – Youth as aspect of change - 30 experts from more than 15 Member states.

11.2 Networks specific to certain actors

N/A

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

Ad-hoc seminars are organised by IUVENTA where different institutions and experts participate – young people, youth organisations, politicians and researchers.