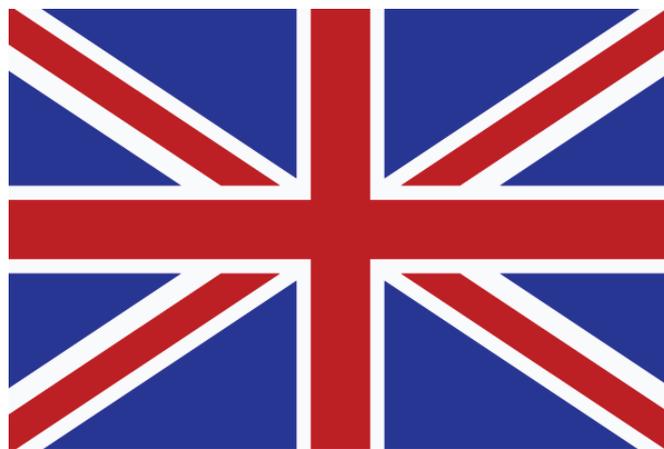




YouthPartnership

QUESTIONNAIRE
“BETTER UNDERSTANDING
OF YOUTH”
UNITED KINGDOM



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Council of Europe
European Commission



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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 (give names of universities that have such departments + name of department and of person in charge of the department. Precise themes of research this year).

Many university social policy departments cover youth issues. There are around 40 universities offering youth work training in the UK, and many of these offer 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/index.jsp>); Centre for Youth Work Studies, University of Strathclyde (Prof David Wallace - <http://www.strath.ac.uk/Departments/CommunEdu/research/youthstudies.html>); Centre for Children and Youth Northampton University (Prof Hugh Matthews - <http://www2.northampton.ac.uk/socialsciences/sshome/c-c-y/about-the-centre>); Durham University Community and Youth Work (Tony Jeffs) Brunel University Centre for Youth Work Studies (Dr Simon Bradford - <http://www.brunel.ac.uk/research/centres/cyws>); Sheffield University Centre for the Study of Childhood and Youth (Prof Allison James - <http://www.cscy.group.shef.ac.uk/>); Loughborough University Centre for Child and Family Research (Prof Harriet Ward - <http://www.lboro.ac.uk/research/ccfr/>); Institute of Education Department of Quantitative Social Science (Dr Leon Feinstein) and Centre for Longitudinal Studies (<http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/text.asp?section=000100010002>). Bedfordshire University Child and Family Welfare Research Unit (Dr Ravi Kohli - <http://www.beds.ac.uk/research/iasr/cfw>); Swansea University Centre for Child Research (Dr Angela Fawcett - <http://www.swan.ac.uk/research/centresandinstitutes/CentreforChildResearch/>).

1.2 Statistic offices that collect statistics on youth

National Statistics Office (<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>) collects and publishes official statistics about the UK. It offers free access to data produced by the Office for National Statistics, government departments and devolved administrations, including statistics on youth. Its annual compilation of statistics, *Social Trends* (<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/StatBase/Product.asp?vlnk=5748>), had children and young people as its theme in 2007.

Devolved administrations: Northern Ireland Research and Statistics Agency (<http://www.nisra.gov.uk/>); General Register Office for Scotland – Statistics (<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/statistics/index.html>)

1.3 Major public and semi-public bodies dealing with youth issues (included public companies) (give name and mandate and themes of research this year)

Various central government departments commission or carry out research in their areas of interest, including research relating to young people. They include: Department for Children, Schools and Families (DCSF) (<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/research/>) ; Department for Innovation, Universities and Skills (<http://www.dius.gov.uk/>) , the Home Office (<http://www.homeoffice.gov.uk/rds/>) ; the Cabinet Office (http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/third_sector/Research_and_statistics) ; Economic and Social Research Council (<http://www.esrc.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/index.aspx>) (leading UK research body for social sciences, including youth issues). Local Government Analysis and Research (research and analytic function supporting the Local Government Association and partner bodies) (<http://www.lgar.local.gov.uk/lgv/core/page.do?pageld=1>) .

1.4 NGOs dealing with youth issues (state major youth NGO's undertaking research on young people or having practical knowledge on needs and expectations of young people)

National Youth Agency (<http://www.nya.org.uk/>) ; The Prince's Trust (<http://www.princes-trust.org.uk/>) ; YWCA (<http://www.ywca.org.uk/>) (research into issues affecting young women); British Youth Council (<http://www.byc.org.uk/>) ; National Council for Voluntary Youth Services (<http://www.ncvys.org.uk/>) ; Youth Access (<http://www.youthaccess.org.uk/>) ; 4Children (<http://www.4children.org.uk/>) ; NIACE (National Institute for Adult Continuing Education) (<http://www.niace.org.uk/>) – includes focus on young adults aged 16-25; UK Youth Parliament (<http://www.ukyp.org.uk/>) .

1.5 Youth researchers or experts (give names, institution/employer and specific field of competence)

There are a considerable numbers of researchers working in academic institutions, government departments and private companies.

1.6 Private companies dealing with youth issues (give names and type of youth research they undertake)

National Foundation for Educational Research (<http://www.nfer.ac.uk/index.cfm>) independent educational research institution

Ipsos MORI has a specialist Youth, Children and Families research team (<http://www.ipsos-mori.com/researchspecialisms/publicaffairs/socialresearchinstitute/education.ashx>) - includes regular Youth Omnibus.

BMRB Social Research (<http://www.bmr.co.uk/?id=1136>) – research areas include young people.

Joseph Rowntree Foundation (<http://www.jrf.org.uk/>) – range of research, much of it focusing on young people.

Trust for the Study of Adolescence (<http://www.studyofadolescence.org.uk/>) – research and practice development

The National Centre for Social Research (<http://www.natcen.ac.uk>) (NatCen) includes research into youth issues.

NFP Synergy (<http://www.nfpsynergy.net/>) - regular youth engagement monitor (young people aged 11 to 25)

Scottish Centre for Social Research (http://www.natcen.ac.uk/syps/docs/carrying_out.htm) – annual survey of Young Peo

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

None

3 Funding for research on youth (name funding possibilities and approximate amount in euros)

The [Economic and Social Research Council](http://www.esrc.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/index.aspx) (<http://www.esrc.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/index.aspx>) is the main source of funding for social science research. It provides a total of £38m (€53m) each year to support training and development of social scientists throughout their careers. It funds 31 research centres and groups, 22 research programmes and priority networks and 15 research resources.

Other bodies funding research into youth issues including the Department for Children, Schools and Families, the Local Government Association, The National Lottery, Carnegie and trusts such as Joseph Rowntree Foundation and Hamlyn.

3.1 International funding for carrying out activities aimed at youth research

Several UK universities are members of the Worldwide Universities Network (<http://www.wun.ac.uk/>) which supports members to develop joint projects and bid for external research funding on a range of topics including a 'childhood, youth and families' strand.

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

No information available.

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

Various government departments fund research into youth issues.

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

Academics; non-university based research organisations; NGOs.

4 Paper publications on the youth field

4.1 Statistics of books on the youth field (published by who, how regularly, contents: same core topics or different issues)

Joseph Rowntree Foundation (<http://www.jrf.org.uk/>) - regular research reports on different aspects of youth issues.

Department for Children, Schools and Families (<http://www.dcsf.gov.uk/research>) publishes research reports on different topics each month.

The [NYA' s research programme](#) commissions and publishes research relating to young people and youth services. It also publishes a quarterly electronic newsletter bringing together information on research concerning young people.

Academic books published regularly. Commercial publishers include Russell House, Ashgate Publishing, Taylor and Francis. Many universities have their own publishing houses.

4.2 Regular Youth reports (name of report and publisher, how regularly are such reports published, contents: same core topics or different issues)

DCSF manages 'Next Steps' (<http://www.esds.ac.uk/longitudinal/access/lsype/L5545.asp>) , a longitudinal study of young people in England. The research was started in 2004, and datasets are published online each year. The next datasets (from research carried out in 2005-06) are due to be published early in 2008. Centre for Longitudinal Studies

(<http://www.cls.ioe.ac.uk/text.asp?section=000100010002>) manages the British Cohort Study (based on individuals born in 1970), which has been used by a wide range of researchers.

4.3 Journals and reviews on youth research (name of journals/reviews, publishers, how regularly published, contents: same core topics or different issues)

Youth and Policy (NYA, quarterly) - critical study of youth affairs, youth policy and youth work. *Journal of Adolescence* (Elsevier, six issues p.a) - international, cross-disciplinary journal (UK editor). *Journal of Youth Studies* (Routledge, quarterly) - international scholarly journal. *Scottish Youth Issues Journal* (University of Strathclyde, two issues p.a.).

Forum 21: *European Journal on Youth Policy*

http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/Resources/Forum_21/forum_en.asp – European project carried out jointly by INJEP, France; IJAB, Germany; and the National Youth Agency, UK. Some research journals on specific issues, e.g. Health Education Journal, Youth Justice.

5 IT dissemination of knowledge in the youth field

5.1 Databases (details, links and how regularly are they updated)

Datasets from Longitudinal Study of Young People in England are available online to users whose institutions are registered with the Athens Authentication Service <http://www.athensams.net/>. British Cohort Study data is available free from the UK Data Archive (<http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/>), administered by the Economic and Social Data Service (ESDS), University of Essex.

5.2 Web-Portals

UK Data Archive - <http://www.data-archive.ac.uk/> -(largest collection of digital data in social sciences and humanities in UK). SOSIG (<http://www.sosig.ac.uk/>) – Social Science Information Gateway – free access to web resources for education and research, selected by subject specialists;

Economic and Social Research Council (<http://www.regard.ac.uk/ESRCInfoCentre/index.aspx>)– social sciences research information.

All in English.

5.3 Statistics, reports, journals, reviews or other publications available on the internet (give links)

Census data (carried out every 10 years, most recent is 2001) is available online for England and Wales (<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/census/default.asp>) , Scotland (<http://www.gro-scotland.gov.uk/census/censushm/scotcen/index.html>) and Northern Ireland (<http://www.nisranew.nisra.gov.uk/census/Start.html>).

National Statistics office (<http://www.statistics.gov.uk/>) : provides free access to data produced by the Office for National Statistics, government departments and devolved administrations.

6 Methods and tools developed for keeping knowledge updated and coherent (to avoid gaps, overlaps, waste of resources - highlight if these are new this year)

Department for Children, Schools and Families research programme (<http://www.dfes.gov.uk/research/>)

Children's Services Research Group (<http://www.csrg.org.uk/>)

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

Mostly peer review.

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 (i.e. youth researchers networks - especially for young researchers - seminars)

Network for Research on Children, Young People and Families

(http://www.nspcc.org.uk/inform/research/childresearchnetwork/childresearchnetwork_wda48289.html)

- brings together researchers to share ideas and information and support mutual learning, though regular seminars.

Children's Services Research Group (<http://www.csrg.org.uk/>): brings together those involved in policy, planning and research in local authorities.

Children and Young People's Research Network (<http://www.link-wales.org.uk/index.php?page=home>)

– aims to increase the quality and quantity of research about children and young people across Wales.

The National Youth Agency has recently established a Young Researchers' Network (<http://www.nya.org.uk/Templates/internal.asp?NodeID=95998>) which aims to support young people's

active participation in quality research (outside of academic institutions) that facilitates their voice and influences policy and practice.

Youth Study mailing list - YOUTH-STUDY@JISCMAIL.AC.UK

8.2 Supporting their mobility (For example making use of existing EU programmes?)

No information available

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

No information available

8.4 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 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

Many organized by universities and researchers

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

No such network.

9.3 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

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. 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, ...).

Strategic Forum for Research in Education in UK is currently setting up a network, through broadening its focus from formal education to the whole Children and Young People's Services agenda.

10 Other networks in the youth field

10.1 Transnational networks

No information available

10.2 Networks specific to certain actors (University networks on youth issues, researcher's networks on youth issues, policy makers/governments networks on youth issues, NGO's networks on youth issues, other networks in the youth field)

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>)

Open University Childhood and Youth Studies Research Group

(http://www.open.ac.uk/cys/p5_1.shtml)

NYA research programme advisory group.

10.3 Organization and promotion of interdisciplinary dialogue for example between university departments and governmental departments (e.g. seminars, working groups, common advisory structures ...)

No information available