

QUESTIONNAIRE

“BETTER KNOWLEDGE

ON YOUTH”

ITALY



YouthPartnership
Council of Europe
European Commission



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

1.1 Specific youth departments in universities dealing with youth issues

The Centre for the study of the youth condition and the organisation of the educational and counselling bodies is a network of 9 universities (<http://www.georienta.it/>):

- University of Catania
- University of L'Aquila
- University of Lecce
- University of Modena
- University of Napoli "Federico II"
- University of Pavia
- University of Siena
- University of Torino
- University of Udine

University of Chieti "G. D'Annunzio" (Psycho-analytic Laboratory of study and research on young people – General Directors Proff. Gambi and Ferro).

University of Rome "La Sapienza" (Department of Sociology and Communication): Monitoring Centre "MediaMonitor Minori" (General Director: Prof. Mario Morcellini)

University of Calabria (Department of Sociology and Political Sciences): Research Centre for the youth disease (President: Prof. Pietro Fantozzi)
<http://www.sociologia.unical.it>

University of Rome "La Sapienza" - Faculty of Statistical Sciences (Prof. Antonio Golini)
<http://w3.uniroma1.it/scidemo/dsdfont.htm>

1.2 Statistic offices that collect statistics on youth

- Istituto nazionale di statistica (ISTAT) (www.istat.it);
- Istituto per lo sviluppo della formazione dei lavoratori (ISFOL) (www.isfol.it)
- Centro Studi sulle politiche giovanili del CNEL; (www.portalecnel.it)
- Centro Nazionale di Documentazione e analisi per l'infanzia e l'adolescenza (<http://www.minori.it/index.htm>);

- Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche (CNR) – Institute for research on population and social policies (www.cnr.it/istituti/Istituti_eng.html)
- University of Rome “La Sapienza” - Faculty of Statistical Sciences (<http://w3.uniroma1.it/scidemo/dsdfront.htm>)

1.3 Major public and semi-public bodies dealing with youth research, public companies included

- **Ministry of Youth (Department of Youth)**

After political elections in April 2008, the structure of the Ministry for Youth Policies and Sports was modified, as it became Ministry of Youth, meanwhile a new Office for Sports was set up in the Prime Minister's Office.

Under Prime Ministerial Decree (DPCM) of 13 June 2008 the “policy-making functions and the coordination of all initiatives, including legislation and regulation, on matters relating to Youth were delegated to the Minister without portfolio of youth – Mrs Giorgia Meloni.

- **Forum Nazionale dei Giovani** (www.forumnazionalegiovani.it)

The Forum was instituted with the Law n. 311 of 30 December 2004. It is the unique national network of youth Italian organisations that represents over 3,5 million youths. The Forum Nazionale dei Giovani is a candidate-member of European Youth Forum (YFJ).

- **Associazione Nazionale Comuni d'Italia** (www.anci.it)

ANCI is the system of representation of Italian Municipalities and Metropolitan cities. ANCI gives particular attention to youth policies at a local level.

- **Informagiovani** (www.informagiovani.it)

Youth Information Centres (Informagiovani)

1.4 NGOs dealing with youth issues

- FORUM NAZIONALE GIOVANI (<http://www.forumnazionalegiovani.com>)
- INFORMAGIOVANI (<http://www.informagiovani.it>)
- Eurodesk (www.eurodesk.it)
- Rete GAI - Associazione per il Circuito dei Giovani Artisti Italiani (<http://gai.informadove.it>)
- Centro Turistico Giovanile (www.ctg.it)

- Erasmus Student Network (www.esn.it)
- Servizio Civile Internazionale (www.sci-italia.it)
- MO.DA.VI. Onlus (www.modavi.it)
- AMESCI (www.amesci.org)
- Movimento Giovanile Missionario (MGM) (www.mgmoperemissionarie.com/)
- AFSAI - Associazione per la Formazione, gli Scambi e le Attività Interculturali (www.afsai.it)
- AGESCI (www.agesci.org)
- C.N.G.E.I (www.cngei.it)
- Unione Italiana Sport per Tutti (UISP) (www.uisp.it)
- Associazione Giovani Italiani nel mondo (www.giovaninelmondo.com)
- Coordinamento Nazionale Comunità di Accoglienza (www.cnca.it)
- Federazione Italiana Comunità Terapeutiche (www.fict.it).

1.5 Youth researchers or experts

There are a large number of researchers and experts working on the youth field in Italy and for that reason it's not possible to list them all. For any further information you can contact the National EKCYC correspondent Mrs Stefania Rota (s.rota@governo.it).

1.6 Private companies dealing with youth research

- AlmaLaurea (www.alma laurea.it)
- Istituto IARD (www.istitutoiard.it)
- CENSIS (www.censis.it)
- EURISPES (www.eurispes.it)
- Vedogiovane (www.vedogiovane.it)
- Doxa (www.doxa.it)
- Youth Marketing Forum (<http://www.iir-italy.it/youth>)
- Istituto Vilfredo Pareto (www.istitutopareto.org).

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

Information unavailable

3 Funding for research on youth

3.1 International funding for carrying out activities aimed at youth research

Italy takes part in many international researches on transversal topics regarding young people's life, such as health, education, drugs and alcohol addiction, social inclusion and employment.

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

The 7th Framework Programme (2007-2013) funds the development of Research in Europe, in particular researches and studies on young people could be financed through the Cooperation Programme (one of its theme is socio-economic sciences and the humanities).

<http://europa.eu/scadplus/leg/en/lvb/i23022.htm>

<http://www.apre.it/ricerca-europea/VII PQ/Cooperazione/SSU/Default.htm>

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

Public national funding is mainly provided by:

- The Department of Youth (www.gioventu.it);
- The Ministry of Education, University and Research (www.pubblica.istruzione.it/mpi/pubblicazioni/);
- The Ministry of Labour, Health and Social policies (www.lavoro.gov.it/Lavoro/md/StudiStatistiche);
- The National Institute of Statistics (www.istat.it).

The National Operational Programme "Research and Competitiveness " for 2007-2013 aims at enhancing research and innovation in the South of Italy, supporting scientific and technological development in companies, strengthening centres of excellence and human resources in the areas of research, science and technology.

<http://www.ponricerca.it/Public/PonRicerca/F1736/F1736.aspx>

Moreover, public funding, for carrying out activities aimed at acquiring a better knowledge and understanding of youth, is provided locally mainly by the Regional authorities.

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

Specific information on national research public funding can be found in the Research National Register in which all the public and private research organisations must register (<http://www.anagrafenazionale.ricerche.net/arianna/contentpages/default.aspx>).

4 Paper publications on the youth field

4.1 Statistics of books published on the youth field for the current year

In September 2008 the first National Report on youth conditions was published by the Minister of Youth. This Report was elaborated by the University of Rome “La Sapienza” Faculty of Statistical Sciences (<http://w3.uniroma1.it/scidemo/dsdfont.htm>).

This Report provides a detailed, overall look on the youth condition in Italy (national, regional and, if possible, provincial and municipal levels), mainly focusing on demographic aspects, labour and economic conditions, mobility, social aspects (housing, lifestyles, participation to civil society and politics), health, immigration and emigration. The data source is the Italian National Institute of Statistics and data come from public registers and sample surveys, based on very large and representative samples. This Report will be available in a short time also in the Ministry of Youth's website (www.gioventu.it).

In 2008 the Gallup Organization published a report on the results of a survey on young Italians, committed by the Italian National Agency for the Youth in Action Programme. The report provides an analysis of the priorities of young Italians compared to those of young people coming from other EU countries and their attitudes towards some topic such as politics, religion and money. (www.agenziagiovani.it).

In November 2008 the Ministry of Youth committed to the Vilfredo Pareto Institute an opinion poll on young people and Europe, in particular on the young people's attitudes towards their participation to the next European election. The opinion poll was carried out through telephonic interviews, with the support of C.A.T.I., to a sample of 1,000 young people.

The Study Centre of the National Youth Forum (<http://www.forumnazionalegiovani.com>), together with the Study Centre on Youth policies of the CNEL, published three reports: The access of young people to credit and consumption; The Europe that we want; The active participation of the young people.

4.2 Regular youth reports

Statistics on different aspects of young people's life have been developed during the last years, in particular regarding demographic aspects and transversal topics such as leisure time, family, living conditions, poverty, health, justice, labour and vocational training, education, immigration, use of drugs, cigarettes and alcohol.

- The National Institute of Statistics (Istat) (www.istat.it) publishes every year an Annual Report on the situation of Italy, which represents the main tool of analysis on economic, demographic and social aspects of our country. Moreover, Istat publishes regularly the results of surveys on different topics of interest for youth policies (education, leisure time, participation to civil society, family, living conditions, poverty, health, justice, labour and vocational training and so on). The Italian Statistical Yearbook summarises the results of the main surveys conducted by Istat and other National Statistical System bodies.
- Ministry of Education, University and Research publishes every year a Report on the situation of public schools, statistics about primary, secondary and high schools, universities. In 2008 the Ministry published the results of some researches and studies on foreign students, early school leavers and of the project "Ascolto" (www.pubblica.istruzione.it/mpi/pubblicazioni/).
- Ministry of Labour, Health and Social policies publishes every year a Report on the situation of employment and labour policies (www.lavoro.gov.it/Lavoro/md/StudiStatistiche). Interesting analysis on the labour market situation of young people and their vocational training opportunities can be found in the Annual Isfol Report (www.isfol.it).
- The National Office against the racial discrimination (Ufficio nazionale contro le discriminazioni razziali – UNAR) publishes every year a Report on the activity carried out against the racial discrimination and a Report to the Parliament on the effective application of the equal treatment principle and on the efficacy of the protection mechanisms in Italy (www.pariopportunita.gov.it).

4.3 Journals and reviews on youth research

- Quaderni del Centro Nazionale di Documentazione e analisi per l'infanzia e l'adolescenza (<http://www.minori.it/>)
- TV e Minori: Rivista bimestrale ad iniziativa del Comitato di autoregolamentazione TV e minori
- Materiali sulla condizione giovanile : \periodico del Centro di documentazione dell'Osservatorio permanente sulla condizione giovanile della Regione del Veneto

5 IT dissemination of knowledge in the youth field

5.1 Web-Portals and online databases on a better understanding of youth (for portals on youth information see the questionnaire on Information 1.6)

<http://www.gioventu.it/>;

The website of the Department of Youth provides information on activities, call for proposals, reports and events regarding young people. The language of the website is Italian.

<http://www.pubblica.istruzione.it/mpi/pubblicazioni/>

It's the Ministry of Education, University and Research website providing information on activities, researches, publications regarding students and the educational system. The language of the website is in Italian.

[http://www.lavoro.gov.it/Lavoro/md/Studi Statistiche](http://www.lavoro.gov.it/Lavoro/md/Studi%20Statistiche)

The Ministry of Labour, Health and Social policies web site provides information on activities, researches, publications regarding youth employment.

<http://www.gioventuinazione.it/>;

The language of the website is in Italian. The website provides information on the EU Youth in Action Programme.

<http://www.forumnazionalegiovani.com>

The language of the website is in Italian. The website provides information on activities, news, events and reports regarding young people.

<http://www.istat.it>

In its website the National Institute of Statistics publishes general information on activities and events, press releases, data and information on researches, international standard glossaries and classifications. It's possible to download free data and publications and access to many thematic databanks. The website has also an English version that is currently not as complete as the Italian one.

For other statistic offices' websites see point 1.2.

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

Information not available.

6. Methods and approaches for gaining a better understanding and knowledge of youth and for keeping it up to date

Methods used to gain a greater understanding and knowledge in the youth field are the following ones:

- Participation to European statistics such as Eurostat, Eurobarometer, EMCDDA Standard tables and questionnaires. Topic: youth, population, political participation, attitudes towards the European Union, drugs addiction.
- Longitudinal studies: used regularly for certain topics, such as healthy, family, childhood, Developmental Psychopathology.
- Sample Surveys: used regularly for some topics such as education, use of alcohol and drugs by young people, lifestyles and health behaviour, use of the Internet, cultural activities, sports and leisure time.
- Youth opinion polls: used mainly for behaviours of the consumers.

7. Quality assurance strategies and tools regarding knowledge in the field of youth used in the country

There are many tools used to ensure quality of researches and statistics such as: selection of a representative sample in the survey; expertise, training and supervision of the interviewer, user friendly language in the questionnaires, reduction of the lack of

answers through ad hoc interventions, use of corrective methods to reduce the effects of incomplete or wrong answers, use of methods to estimate the effects of incomplete or wrong answers, check of the double counting, validation of data through their congruence, comparing them with other surveys/sources and historical series data.

8. Promotion and support to youth researchers and other actors, who work towards a better knowledge of youth, and their generational renewal

Support of mobility and exchange of experience and practice of young researchers are some of the actions taken to improve the research, mainly by promoting the participation to the EU programmes implemented in Italy, such as Leonardo da Vinci, Youth in Action, Erasmus. Detailed information and links on these Eu Programmes can be found in the Portal on Learning Opportunities throughout the European Space PLOTEUS (<http://www.europa.eu./ploteus>). It aims to help students, job seekers, workers, parents, guidance counsellors and teachers to find out information about studying in Europe.

There are other EU programmes promoting researchers' exchanges, even if not only regarding the youth theme (see <http://www.eurodesk.org>)

Moreover training and mobility of the youth researchers can be encouraged through "the People Programme" of the EU 7th Framework Programme (2007-2013).

There is a PhD studentship every year since 1984, financed by the Ministry of University and Research (MIUR).

One year ago the Ministry for Youth Policies concluded an agreement with the Italian banking system under a Protocol of Understanding with the Italian Banking Association (ABI), aiming at "facilitating and supporting the advancement of young people", by identifying streamlined and simplified procedures and access to loans for education and training, in the form of:

- student loans (of up to €3,000) for students aged between 18 and 30 to pay university taxes or to participate to the EU programme Erasmus or to a post-university course or to buy a portable PC.

This Protocol should be seen as the first result of co-operation with ABI, which will be further pursued in order to extend these facilities to other areas, including the provision of support for creativity, territorial mobility, and young entrepreneurs and link their releases to a criteria of meritocracy.

It is important to increase the territorial mobility of young Italian students, mainly within Italy. From the 2007 Budget Law tax benefits in this regard have been provided, offering a 19% deduction of rental costs, up to a maximum of €2,633, incurred by students (or their families) to take higher education courses outside their municipality of residence – that is, for degree courses at Universities in a municipality other than their own and at least at 100 km distance, and at all events in a different Province, provided that the apartment is in the same municipality as the University or a bordering municipality.

9. Networking and support of networking

9.1 Seminars and working groups for a better knowledge and understanding of youth – please, list them and give information on who is participating, how often they take place and what is the follow-up?

Information unavailable

9.2 Is there a permanent national network for a greater knowledge and understanding of youth linking all actors in the field (policy makers, researchers, young people and their organisations, NGOs)?

A permanent network doesn't yet exist, but there are many informal contacts with researchers, public officers, operators and representatives of young people.

There is the intention to make this informal network a permanent working group, coordinated by the Department of Youth with the main aim to analyse the existing data, identify common standards (regarding age group, time break, etc.) and indicators. This network will support the development both of the youth knowledge and of the specific analyses carried out by the different institution involved.

9.3 Networks on youth issues specific to certain actors (university networks, researchers' networks, policy makers'/governmental networks, NGO's networks, other networks in the youth field)

PORTALE DEI GIOVANI (<http://www.portaledegiovani.it/>)

NGO's networks on youth issues

FORUM NAZIONALE GIOVANI (<http://www.forumnazionalegiovani.it/home>)

Erasmus Student Network (www.esn.it)

Rete GAI (Giovani artisti italiani)(<http://gai.informadove.it/>).

9.4 What transnational networks with relevance for national networks are there (if any)?

Italy is member of many transnational networks, among them:

- The European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA) is an international not-for-profit association based in Luxembourg. It was established on 17 April 1986 in Madrid.
- The network “ReferNet” is a structured, decentralised, networked system of collection and dissemination of information and provides:
 - Documentation and dissemination.
This includes collecting information and updating online databases and information services. It involves raising awareness and disseminating results of Cedefop activities. It also supports promotional activities, such as conferences, fairs, exhibitions and seminars;
 - Collecting and analysing information.
This consists of providing up-to-date information on vocational education and training systems, as well as analysing pertinent themes;
 - Research.
ReferNet contributes to developing of a common approach to research. Through common exchanges, it provides greater transparency, synergy and dissemination of national and European vocational education and training research (ERO database).
ReferNet comprises a national consortium in each Member State made up of organizations representing vocational education and training institutions.
The coordinator of the national consortium is ISFOL (www.isfol.it).
- The EURES Network that through the European Commission portal (<http://ec.europa.eu/eures>) helps young people to find information on jobs and learning opportunities throughout Europe. This network is coordinated nationally by the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social Affairs.
- The REITOX network, the European Information Network on Drugs and Drug Addiction (www.emcdda.europa.eu), coordinated by the EMCCDA and based on National focal points (NFPs) set up in the 27 EU Member States, in Norway and

in the candidate countries. The Italian National Focal Point is located in the Prime Minister's Office- National Department for Drugs Policies (www.governo.it).

- The International Research Universities Network (IRUN) is an international network of broad-based research universities. The universities participating in the Network are well known for the international quality of their research and education, and are strongly motivated to improve that quality even further. The aim of IRUN is to further improve the quality of research and teaching at the universities involved. Within the Network, the exchange of researchers, lecturers and students will be encouraged and facilitated (<http://www.irun.eu/>).

9.5 Describe the organisation and the ways of promoting interdisciplinary dialogue on youth issues (e.g. seminars, working groups, common advisory structures ...)

Many activities are promoted at the national and local level to develop the interdisciplinary dialogue on youth issues. At the national level there are many contacts and working groups between the Department of Youth and other Ministries in charge of transversal topic such as: the Ministry of Education, University and Research, the Ministry of Labour, Health and Social policies, the Ministry of Interior, the Department of Family and so on. In some cases they are partners of common projects: such as the national project on healthy lifestyles (Department of Youth and Ministry of Labour, Health and Social policies); the national project to reduce the use of alcohol and road accidents amongst young people (Department of Youth and Ministry of Interior); the organisation of the next international Junior G8 that will be held in July 2009 (Department of Youth, Ministry of Education, University and Research and Department of Civil Defence).