

## Youth Partnership

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Partnership between the European Commission  
and the Council of Europe in the field of youth



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# INFORMATION SHEET

## BETTER KNOWLEDGE OF YOUTH

### Austria



Last updated: January 2013

By: Manfred Zentner

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## 1. Promotion of and support of youth research

Youth research is seen as an important input for evidence based policy in various fields not only in the area of youth policy but also for the shaping of support measures for young people entering the labour market or on the attitudes towards environmental issues. Therefore applied youth research is carried out in Austria on behalf of various stakeholders in the political arena. It is furthermore the conviction of the department for youth policy in the Federal Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth that applied and pure youth research is needed and knowledge on youth is central for everybody working with and for young people.

Nevertheless no promotion strategy, programme nor measures for youth research exist in Austria. Youth research is either commissioned by the public or single research projects are funded by different agencies and / or foundations.

## 2. Legal basis for an evidence-based approach to youth policy

Following the decision of the parliament from September, 28<sup>th</sup> 1998, the youth department of the Federal Ministry in charge of youth issues (Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth – [www.bmwfj.gv.at](http://www.bmwfj.gv.at)) is required to provide a report on the situation of youth each period of legislation. The last report – the 6th report on the situation of youth in Austria – was presented to the parliament in 2011. The report consisted of two parts: the first one is a scientific view on different issues concerning youth; the second one is dealing with the view of youth work on the Austrian youth.

Furthermore, the Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth collects the opinions and attitudes of young Austrians two to three times a year with the youth monitor (*Jugendmonitor*). For this purpose, in every wave of the survey a representative sample of 800 young Austrians between 14 and 24 years is interviewed. Each wave is focusing on a main topic:

- March 2010: Future expectations of young people, personal career aspirations, mobility, economy, participation, youth protection
- May / June 2010: Attitudes towards the future and economic crisis, requirements for entry level, new media (especially social networks, blogs, and computer games)
- October / November 2010: Attitudes towards the future and economic crisis, focus on "economic / investment / personal budget"
- May 2011: family
- October 2011: Attitudes and opinions of young people on pensions

- April 2012: Opinions and attitudes of young people about investments
- July 2012: Opinions and attitudes of young people to employment, education, job search and job mobility
- August 2012: Opinions and attitudes of young people about business and labor

Since youth fall in the agenda of the provinces, evidence as base for the youth policy is collected also on regional level. Therefore, parallel to nationwide research, the provinces are conducting their own studies. In some of the *Bundesländer* surveys are also carried out on a regular basis.

More and more communities are commissioning research on the living condition of young people to root their local youth policy and youth work approaches on evidence and facts holding for the special situation in the municipality.

### **3. Structures and actors that play a role in gaining a better knowledge of young people**

Due to the federal structure of Austria not only national organisations but also regional ones are interested in gaining knowledge on young people. On the national level the Federal Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth, the Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture and the Federal Ministry of Science and Research are the main actors for gaining better knowledge on youth. On regional level the provinces are interested to gain knowledge on youth.

These political institutions are working together with research institutions like universities, colleges, semi-public and private companies, NGOs as well as with private associations. It is planned to make a list of the main actors of youth research accessible on the webpage of the Federal Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth [www.bmwfj.gv.at](http://www.bmwfj.gv.at).

In Austria the tradition of youth research goes back to the 1960ies, when the Austrian Institute for Youth Research was founded.

#### **3.1. Specific youth departments in universities dealing with youth issues**

In all universities youth is one topic of research in different departments, but at no university a department exists, dealing exclusively with youth research. Examples – among many others – for departments dealing with youth research:

University of Graz; Institute of Sociology; Manfred Prischinig;

University of Graz; Institute of Educational Sciences; Arno Heimgartner

University of Innsbruck; Institute of Educational Sciences; Lynne Chisholm;

University of Innsbruck; Department of Teacher Education and School Research; Ilse Schrittester;

University of Klagenfurt; Institute of Educational Sciences; Gerald Knapp;  
University of Klagenfurt; Institute of Educational Sciences; Stephan Sting;  
Donau-Universität Krems; Department Migration and Globalisation, Gudrun Biffli;  
Donau-Universität Krems: Plattform Politische Kommunikation; Peter Filzmaier  
University of Linz; Department of Empirical Sociological Research; Johann Bacher;  
University of Linz; Institute of Criminal Science; Alois Birklbauer  
University of Vienna; Institute of Sociology; Sighard Neckel;  
University of Vienna; Institute of Sociology; Rudolf Richter;  
University of Vienna; Institute of Sociology; Wolfgang Dür  
University of Vienna; Sigmund Freud University Vienna; Eva Dreher  
Vienna University of Economics and Business Administration; Institute for International Marketing  
and Management

### **3.2. Statistical offices that collect statistics on youth**

Statistik Austria; Guglgasse 13, 1110 Vienna <http://www.statistik.at/> Vienna Institute for  
Demography, Wohllebengasse 12-14, 6th floor, 1040 Vienna, <http://www.oeaw.ac.at/vid/>  
Austrian Institute for Family Studies, Grillparzerstraße 7/9, A-1010 Vienna,  
<http://www.oif.ac.at/englisch.asp>  
AMS – Labour market service, <http://www.ams.at/>

### **3.3. Major public and semi-public bodies dealing with youth research, public companies included**

Austrian Academy of Science, Dr. Ignaz Seipel-Platz 2, 1010 Vienna  
<http://www.oeaw.ac.at/english/home.html>  
Gesundheit Österreich GmbH, Stubenring 6, 1010 Vienna, Themes: health, drugs  
[http://www.oebig.at/welcome-to-gesundheit-osterreich-gmbh?set\\_language=en&cl=en](http://www.oebig.at/welcome-to-gesundheit-osterreich-gmbh?set_language=en&cl=en)  
Institute for Advanced Studies, Stumpergasse 51, 1060 Vienna; Themes: employment,  
qualification <http://www.ihs.ac.at/>  
European Centre, Berggasse 17, 1090 Vienna <http://www.gleichechancen.at/htm/orga/euzewo.htm>  
Austrian Institute for Family Studies, Grillparzerstraße 7/9, 1010 Vienna,  
<http://www.oif.ac.at/englisch.asp>  
Austrian Institute of Economic Research, Arsenal, Objekt 20, 1030 Vienna, Themes: labour  
market, economy <http://www.wifo.ac.at/www/jsp/index.jsp?&language=2&fid=23842>

The Federation of Austrian Industry, Schwarzenbergplatz 4, 1031 Vienna, Themes: labour market, economy, <http://www.iv-net.at/bm50>

Austrian Federal Economic Chamber, Themes: labour market, economy, <http://wko.at/awo/chamberinfo.htm>

Institute for the Sociology of Law and Criminology, Museumsstrasse 5/12, 1070 Wien, Themes: Law, Criminology, <http://www.irks.at/en/research/>

Arbeiterkammer, [www.arbeiterkammer.at](http://www.arbeiterkammer.at)

### **3.4. NGOs dealing with youth issues**

Many youth organisations are conducting research for their own purpose (for example to develop appropriate offers) and for gaining knowledge on youth in general. The Austrian National Youth Council (BJV) is as an umbrella organisation of youth NGOs a main actor of research and as carrier organisation of the Austrian Youth research Institute a main actor of youth research. Beside that the umbrella organisation of open youth work – KOJE is also a main actor of gaining knowledge on young people.

Examples:

Austrian National Youth Council (BJV) Liechtensteinstraße 57/2, 1090 Vienna

<http://www.jugendvertretung.at/>

Catholic Youth, Johannesgasse 16, 1010 Vienna <http://www.kath-jugend.at/>

Austrian Alpine Society, Wilhelm-Greif-Straße 15, A-6010 Innsbruck,

<http://www.alpenverein.at/jugend/>

Austrian Youth Red Cross, Wiedner Hauptstraße 32, 1040 Wien [www.jugendrotkreuz.at](http://www.jugendrotkreuz.at)

jugendinfo.cc, Lilienbrunnngasse 18/2/42, 1020 Vienna [www.jugendinfo.cc](http://www.jugendinfo.cc)

safer internet, [www.saferinternet.at](http://www.saferinternet.at),

### **3.5. Youth researchers or experts**

Due to the fact that the number of researchers dealing with youth issues is very large and any list could only be incomplete and since no ranking should be induced no detailed list is provided. You find contact details for the researchers on the web-pages of most of the institutes mentioned.

### **3.6. Private companies dealing with youth research**

Since many social research institutes and most market research institutes are doing some studies on youth a complete list would be too large. We name only some that deal mainly with youth issues.

Private associations:

Austrian Institute for Research on Vocational Training, Biberstraße 5/6, 1010 Vienna, vocational training <http://www.oeibf.at/TCgi/TCgi.cgi?target=home>

IBW - Institute for research on qualifications and training; Rainergasse 38, 1050; Vienna; education, training <http://www.ibw.at/>

jugendkultur.at – Institute for Youth Culture Research, Alserbachstrasse 18/7.OG, 1090 Vienna, Themes of research: employment, education, values, participation, youth work, evaluation youth work, media, youth cultures <http://www.jugendkultur.at/>

Private companies:

Institute for Social Research and Analysis – SORA; Linke Wienzeile 256, 1150 Vienna; topics of research: market research, politics, participation <http://www.sora.at/en/start.asp>

tfactory; Alserbachstraße 18 1090 Vienna topics of research: market research, media, lifestyle <http://www.tfactory.com/>

GfK Austria - Ungargasse 37, 1030 Vienna; topics of research: market research, lifestyle, participation <http://www.gfk.at/index.en.html>

Integral Markt und Meinungsforschung – Mohsgasse 3, 1030 Vienna; topics: market research, Sinus Milieu

### **3.7. Knowledge networks supporting youth policy**

The development group for the the new Austrian Youth Strategy and the National Working Group Youth (established for the implementation of the structured dialogue in Austria) are the two main networks to support youth policy development,

The development group for the youth strategy is chaired by the Federal Ministry for Economy, Families and Youth, Department youth policy. The National Working Group for the structured Dialogue is chaired by the Austrian Youth Council.

In both networks representatives of youth policy, youth work (youth NGOs, open youth work, youth information) and youth research are meeting and find a platform for exchange.

### **3.8. Transnational networks with relevance for national networks?**

Many Austrian researchers are involved in international networks, like the partnership networks EKCYP and PEYR, but also international professional networks are of importance (e.g.: ESA, ISA) and of project related networks (REY). The European network for open youth work (POYWE) is founded 2013 with the participation of the bOJA, the Austrian network of open youth work.

## **4. Promotion and support to youth researchers and other actors who work towards a better knowledge of youth**

On irregular basis efforts for the establishment of a national youth researcher's network are carried out on behalf of the Federal Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth or on behalf of the Bundesländer. For 2013 a collection of youth related research conducted in Austria is planned to provide another input for that development.

Support of the International Youth Researchers Network (meetings: 2006 in Vienna, 2008 in Buenos Aires, 2010 Vienna).

- support of mobility and skills improvement of youth researchers

Austria is Partner in many exchange programmes for researchers to which also youth researchers can apply. Examples for the Institutions engaged in exchange of researchers: Austrian Academy of Science, Forschungsförderungsfond, Institute for Advanced Studies, etc.

## **5. Paper publications on the youth field**

### **5.1. Data collections which provide updated statistics on youth**

Statistical Handbook, Statistik Austria; annually, statistical data on population

Statistical Pocketbook, Federal Ministry of Education, Arts and Culture; annually, schools and education

Report on the Social Situation of Students; Federal Ministry of Science and Research

Report on the Situation on the Labour Market; AMS; annually

### **5.2. Regular youth reports**

On national level

Every legislation period the Ministry in Charge for youth issues has to present a Report on the Situation of Youth in Austria to the government and the parliament. The topics of the reports are different. The last report consisted of two parts: the first one is a scientific view on different issues which concern youth, the second one is dealing with a view of youth workers on the austrian youth. Every ten years a Report on Families is issued by the Austrian Institute for Family Studies, containing also the situation of youth inside the families.

On regional level

Youth reports are issued in Upper Austria and in Lower Austria on a regular basis, in Tyrol, Vorarlberg, Styria and Burgenland on an irregular basis.



### **5.3. Journals and reviews on youth research**

Schriftenreihe Jugendforschung (Publication series youth research) of the Federal Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth; different topics.

## **6. IT dissemination of knowledge in the youth field**

### **Web-Portals and online databases on a better understanding of youth**

At the research section of the homepage of the Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth (<http://www.bmwfj.gv.at>) a collection of recent research on youth conducted on behalf of the ministry is available. Here also the Reports on the Situation of Youth in Austria (no. 4, 5 and 6) can be downloaded. Furthermore a report on the International network on youth research conference in Vienna including the papers of the meeting is available.

### **6.1. Statistics, reports, journals, reviews or other publications available on the internet**

The Austrian Ministry of Economy, Family and Youth offers the possibility to download recent and older studies and information on <http://www.bmwfj.gv.at/cms/site/bestellservice.html>

In the provinces regional reports can be downloaded (at least some press-releases):

Lower Austria: <http://www.jugend-ok.at/?p=1392>

Upper Austria: <http://jugendarbeit.ooe-jugend.at/infos/jugendstudien.html>

Tyrol: <http://www.tirol.gv.at/themen/gesellschaft-und-soziales/jugend/jugendreferat/>

The institute that primarily do youth research, jugendkultur.at (<http://www.jugendkultur.at/>), provide information on youth on their web page. Both pages allow downloads of internal research results. Furthermore newsletters exist from jugendkultur.at, ibw, Sora and other organisations that do research.

On the web pages of the Universities and semi-public research bodies and private research institutes some of the data can be downloaded.