

# The European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy

Key priorities for youth policies answers on  
**Voluntary Activities**



Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth policy, youth research and youth work.

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## **DENMARK, 2005**

### **1 Statistics**

#### **1.1 Different types of voluntary activities that exist for young people**

	Voluntary activities	Voluntary service	Civic service
<b>Exists?</b>	Yes	Yes	Yes

#### **1.2 Number of young people who engage in voluntary activities**

<b>Total Number</b>	273583 <i>persons</i>
<b>Total Female</b>	N.A. <i>persons</i>
<b>Total Male</b>	N.A. <i>persons</i>

#### **1.3 Number of young people who engage in voluntary service**

<b>Total Number</b>	559 <i>persons</i>
<b>Total Female</b>	N.A. <i>persons</i>
<b>Total Male</b>	N.A. <i>persons</i>

#### **1.4 Number of young people who engage in voluntary service abroad (excluding European Voluntary Service)**

<b>Total Number</b>	332 <i>persons</i>
<b>Total Female</b>	N.A. <i>persons</i>
<b>Total Male</b>	N.A. <i>persons</i>

#### **1.5 Number of young people who engage in national voluntary civic service**

<b>Total Number</b>	3447 <i>persons</i>
<b>Total Female</b>	0 <i>persons</i>
<b>Total Male</b>	3447 <i>persons</i>

##### **1.5.1 Number of young people who carry out their service period abroad**

<b>Total Number</b>	N.A. <i>persons</i>
<b>Total Female</b>	N.A. <i>persons</i>
<b>Total Male</b>	N.A. <i>persons</i>

### 1.5.2 Is the national voluntary civic service open to young people from outside the country?

Yes **No**

### 1.5.3 If yes, number of young people from outside the country participating in your national voluntary civic service

Total Number	N.A. <i>persons</i>
Total Female	N.A. <i>persons</i>
Total Male	N.A. <i>persons</i>

### 1.6 Clarification of the statistics used

1999 calculation on voluntary activities on the basis of: Inger Koch-Nielsen & Jakob Dalsgaard Clausen: Værdierne i det frivillige arbejde (The Values in the Voluntary Work), In Peter Gundelach (ed.): Danskernes værdier 1980-1990 (Values of the Danes 1980-1990, Hans Reitzels Forlag, Copenhagen 2002).

## 2 Range of voluntary activities

No answers available

## 3 Finance

### 3.1 Amount of finance that is annually available for voluntary activities and allocation of this finance

**Total** : 17,000,000

Explanation

The approx. 17.000.000 euro is distributed by DUF from the state lottery funds, and from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Integration.

### 3.2 Sources of finance

N.A.

## 4 Main Actors

No answers available

## 5 Legal basis/legislation for voluntary activities in general and for young people in particular



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### **5.1 Legal status of volunteers**

The Act on work related injuries (January 1, 2004) covers all injuries that have occurred during work for someone else whether paid or unpaid.

### **5.2 Taxation/tax exemptions for volunteers and volunteer organisations**

Voluntary social organisations receive a range of indirect grants via various forms of tax privileges including the right to receive tax-exempt gifts, which are deductible against the donor's personal income, tax-exempt legacies as well as special rules on VAT exemption). Voluntary individuals can receive indirect grants via tax-exempt reimbursement from the voluntary association for activities on behalf of the association in the form of phone calls, transport, conveyance, clothes for work and the laundry of it.

### **5.3 Existence of social protection of volunteers**

The Act on work related injuries (January 1, 2004) covers all injuries that have occurred during work for someone else whether paid or unpaid.

### **5.4 Legal situation of unemployed young people participating in voluntary activities**

The unemployed participants are instructed to seek paid work by law.

## **6 Programmes**

No answers available

## **7 Relationship between different types of voluntary services**

### **7.1 Relationship between military service, civilian service, civic service and voluntary service**

It is possible to serve one's civic or military service at a voluntary organisation.

### **7.2 Perspectives for the creation of a voluntary civic service in countries where it does not exist**

The civic service works as a military service.

## **8 Development of voluntary activities, including standards/instruments aiming at securing and enhancing quality in voluntary activities**



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### 8.1 Recent (this year) developments in the area of voluntary activities

N.A.

### 8.2 What are the trends concerning the range of voluntary activities?

**Increasing** Decreasing **Stable**

Explanation

In general the range of Danish voluntary activity is very high and stabile, but most organisations are experiencing problems in recruiting the young people.

### 8.3 Description of quality standards used in voluntary activities

N.A.

### 8.4 Description of measures to improve the quality of voluntary activities for young people

The Danish Youth Council is an umbrella organisation for more than 70 organisations working with children and young people at both national and global level. DUF supports it's member organisations financially and work to strengthen the participation and democratic involvement of young people in the society. The organisation does arrange and plan training aimed at improving the quality and management of voluntary activities run by young people.

## 9 Removing obstacles to young people's voluntary engagement

No answers available

## 10 Promotion of voluntary activities for young people

No answers available

## 11 Recognition of voluntary activities of young people

No answers available

## 12 Co-operations and networks, exchange of volunteers, transnational and international cooperation

No answers available

## 13 Studies & Surveys

### 13.1 Recent surveys or research on the topic of voluntary activities

Jens Christian Nielsen, Andy Højholdt og Birgitte Simonsen has recently carried out a study in



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youth and participation, concluding with the book: Ungdom og foreningsliv. Demokrati - Fællesskab # Læreprocesser, Published on Roskilde Universitetsforlag. ISBN: 87-7867-282-1.



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