

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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SLOVENIA, 2005

1 Statistics

1.1 Different types of voluntary activities that exist for young people

	Voluntary activities	Voluntary service	Civic service
Exists?	Yes	Yes	No

1.2 Number of young people who engage in voluntary activities

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

1.3 Number of young people who engage in voluntary service

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

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

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

1.5 Number of young people who engage in 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>

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

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

The numerical estimates will be available at the end of the project 'Facilitating voluntary work of youth' (in autumn 2005). At the time nobody keeps the records.

2 Range of voluntary activities

2.1 Voluntary activities engaged in by young people and approximate number of people involved

	Exists?	Number
a. Community activity	Yes	N/A
b. Participation/self-governance	Yes	N/A
c. Emergency response	Yes	N/A
d. Community peacekeeping	No	0
e. Social assistance	Yes	N/A
f. Personal assistance	Yes	N/A
g. Children and youth	Yes	N/A
h. Environment	Yes	N/A
i. Human rights, advocacy and politics	Yes	N/A
j. Economic justice	No	0
k. Development aid	Yes	N/A
l. Humanitarian aid	Yes	N/A
m. Religious volunteering	Yes	N/A
n. Education	Yes	N/A
o. Arts/culture	Yes	N/A

	Exists?	Number
p. Sports	Yes	N/A
q. Recreation	Yes	N/A

Other voluntary activities
health care, drug abuse prevention

3 Finance

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

Total : N/A

Explanation

We have different sources, but no national voluntary services. It is impossible to estimate how many funds is annually available for voluntary activities due to the fact that the sources of funding are greatly dispersed.

3.2 Sources of finance

Ministries, Public offices, Municipals, EU Youth programme the national social care programme, concessions for social care programmes of the non-government (and private) sector granted by the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs, tenders for co-financing of youth projects and projects for youth and children put out by the Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth, tax concessions for charity and welfare contributions, local communities' funds (municipality budgets), the YOUTH Programme, foundation for financing of welfare and disabled persons organizations (FIHO) from the National Lottery funds, membership fees, donations from profit-making sector, sponsorships Although donations and sponsorships do exist, they cannot be seen as a regular source of funding. Being more or less exceptions, they do not represent long-term commitments

4 Main Actors

4.1 Main actors of voluntary activities of young people

Governmental actors

Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs Ministry of Education and Sports, Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth Sanja Vraber, Head of the Office, Sanja.Vraber@gov.si The National Education Institute, Alenka Čas, Adviser for Voluntary Work Poljanska 28 1000 Ljubljana Slovenia Tel.: + 386 1 300 51 00 Fax: + 386 1 300 51 99 www.zrss.si

Non governmental actors

Slovene Philanthropy, Association for promotion of voluntary work. Anica Mikus Kos. Poljanska cesta 12, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia Tel: 386 14 30 12 88 Fax: 386 14 30 12 89 E-Mail: info@filantropija.org Internet: <http://www.filantropija.org> The objective of the Slovene Philanthropy



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is to encourage and spread volunteering and other charity work in the social field by developing programmes of voluntary work. PIC: Legal-information centre for NGOs Povsetova 37, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia Tel: + 386 1 521 18 88 Fax: + 386 1 540 19 13 E-mail: pic@pic.si Internet: <http://www.pic.si/en/index.php> Their activities are aimed at contributing to improve the situation of nongovernmental organisations in Slovenia. CNVOS. Centre for information service, co-operation and development of NGOs Povsetova 37, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia Tel: +386 1 542 14 22 Fax: +386 1 542 14 24 E-mail: cnvos@mail.ljudmila.org Internet: <http://www.cnvos.si> Contact person: Borut Osonkar, acting director, Borut@sk-branik.si MOVIT Trg Mladinskih delovnih brigad 12 1000 Ljubljana Tel.: 01/4265-269, faks: 01/4268-558 E-mail: program.mladina@mladina.movit.si Splet: <http://mladina.movit.si> Youth Guild Rakovnik 6 tel: 01 427 71 40 Association for promotion of prevention and voluntary work Metelkova 6, 1000 Ljubljana tel: +386 1 438 52 50 fax: +386 1 432 33 83 Internet: <http://www.kud-fp.si/~ecolab/pp/> E-mail: gorana.flaker@guest.arnes.si Youth Information and Counselling Centre of Slovenia Zavod MISSS, Kunaverjeva 2, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenija | E-mail: info@misss.org | Telefon: +386 1 510 16 75 | Fax: +386 1 510 16 70 National Youth Council of Slovenia Address: Linhartova 13, 1000 Ljubljana Phone: +386 (0)1 430 12 09 Fax: +386 (0)1 433 85 07 Email: info@mss.si, Internet: <http://www.mss.si/index.php?id=106> Voluntariat - SCI Slovenia Resljeva 20, SI-1000 Ljubljana Tel: 01 2391 625 (ali 2391 620) Faks: 01 2391 626 E-mail: placement@zavod-voluntariat

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

5.1 Legal status of volunteers

There is no legislation for volunteering in Slovenia. Proposal of the Law of voluntarism is prepared and waiting for the proceeding in the Parliament. Consequentially, there is no social or health protection for volunteers that such a status could provide. However, all people legally resident (permanently or temporarily) in Slovenia (family members, students, unemployed, employed and retired persons) enjoy health insurance (at least the basic rights covered by the so-called #obligatory health insurance#).

5.2 Taxation/tax exemptions for volunteers and volunteer organisations

200.000,00 SIT (apr. 830 EUR) pro year is allowed to be paid without tax for the volunteers. That is the only exemption for the volunteer organisations. There is no exemption for volunteers. Tax legislation foresees the following situations which may also be applied to performance of voluntary work: - income tax concessions for legal entities in case of donations to non-profit humanitarian and related organizations (not necessarily linked to voluntary work), - the right to reimbursement of work-related expenses to a limited amount (travel expenses, per diem, refunds of accommodation expenses on presentation of due receipts) for persons performing work for a legal entity, though not employed by it). There are no specific laws that would regulate non-profit non-governmental organizations; their tax obligations are determined in the same way as those of other legal entities.



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5.3 Existence of social protection of volunteers

There is no special social protection for volunteers on the national base. There is no social or health protection for volunteers that such a status could provide. However, all people legally resident (permanently or temporarily) in Slovenia (family members, students, unemployed, employed and retired persons) enjoy health insurance (at least the basic rights covered by the so-called #obligatory health insurance#). Performance of voluntary activities or voluntary service does not give volunteers the rights arising from pension and disability insurance (as is the case of the employed), unemployment insurance, parent care insurance, work accident insurance and professional disease insurance.

5.4 Legal situation of unemployed young people participating in voluntary activities

The legal status of volunteers as a general legal status is not regulated. Consequentially, there is no social or health protection for volunteers that such a status could provide. However, all people legally resident (permanently or temporarily) in Slovenia (family members, students, unemployed, employed and retired persons) enjoy health insurance (at least the basic rights covered by the so-called #obligatory health insurance#).

6 Programmes

6.1 Programmes and plans on volunteering (national, regional, local)

Building an effective network of volunteer organisations in Slovenia on www.prostovoljstvo.org, monitoring, promotion of voluntary activities on national level, Law on volunteering as a base for further benefits for volunteers.

7 Relationship between different types of voluntary services

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

Slovene military service existed till the year 2003 and also included the possibilities for civilian services as obligatory voluntary work. With professionalisation of the military the current arrangement allowing for alternative (civilian) services to the mandatory military service has stopped being an option. Since then the army has become professional and no more volunteers are sent to civic services in this way. The new manner of fulfilling membership of the armed forces foresees the possibility of voluntary training and subsequent incorporation of these members into the army reserve forces, yet against pecuniary compensation. There is no voluntary civic service.

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

At the time no.



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

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

Establishing www.prostovoljstvo.org as a place for introduction of volunteer organisations and their programs, for exchange of good practices, and other instruments to enhance quality and to reach some standards for voluntary activities in Slovenia.

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

Increasing ~~Decreasing~~ **Stable**

Explanation

Voluntary activities have been decreasing in last forty years, but there are some indicators of increasing again.

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

Training for young volunteers and training managing young people's voluntary activities # organized by Slovene philanthropy, Mladinski svet Slovenije, Movit NA Mladina and other NGOs

9 Removing obstacles to young people's voluntary engagement

9.1 The facilitation of young people's voluntary engagement

In the middle school - Gimnasium, there is social voluntary work included as a subject on a student's choice. Some propaganda for the university students has been done in previous years. National festival of young volunteers lasts one week in the april each year and is very well represented in the media. Good practices with the exchange of volunteers in the EVS spread among NGOs and young individuals.

9.2 Recent (this year) measures to remove obstacles to young people's volunteering

The preparation of the law on voluntarism. The discussions in which the actors in the field of voluntary work and voluntary service are currently engaged are mainly directed towards achieving

a general recognition of the volunteer's status and establishment of an obligatory practice applicable to all volunteers (e.g. issuing of certificates of participation in voluntary work).

9.3 Existing obstacles

Major obstacles 1) to the development and efficiency of the voluntary service: - undefined and legally unrecognized status of the volunteer - problems with residence permits - taxation restrictions - majority of NGOs are based totally on volunteers, therefore the continuity of their programmes is in question. 2) to volunteer participation: - lack of awareness of the importance of voluntary activities or voluntary service in fulfilment of one's own goals (voluntary work is not involved in the curriculum of all middle schools, therefore not all the students have the opportunity for the experiential learning) - lack of tradition in long-term involvement in voluntary work - The volunteers have no social security. Any volunteer's pocket money is taxed as payment.

10 Promotion of voluntary activities for young people

No answers available

11 Recognition of voluntary activities of young people

11.1 Initiatives for recognition 'good practices'

Examples of formal recognition of voluntary activities: - voluntary activities as optional school subjects - national programmes designed to incorporate voluntary work as part of the activities The most socially recognised are the activities and organizations in the field of rescue and protection service (the Fire Brigade Association of Slovenia), their reputation being especially high in smaller communities and rural areas. In the programme of Slovene Philanthropy: Activities for spreading volunteering in Slovenia, there are some activities planning how to support voluntary activities of young people.

11.2 Measures of societal recognition

National Congress of volunteering in Slovenia once in two years, Festival of young volunteers, special awards in organisations of Slovene Philanthropy; one of the few good practices is also the action #Volunteer of the Year# of the National Youth Council of Slovenia.

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

12.1 Networks who promote voluntary activities of young people

Newly established Slovenian network www.prostovoljstvo.org, presents 250 volunteer organisations, Slovene Philanthropy is member of CEV and IAVE



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12.2 Exchange of information, experience and good practices

Cooperations between Schools, Faculties, Student Clubs and NGOs.

12.3 Exchange for young volunteers: at all levels (transnational, national, regional, between communities)

MOVIT Institute ('MOVIT NA MLADINA'), the National agency of the YOUTH programme Trg Mladinskih delovnih brigad 12 1000 Ljubljana Janez SKULJ, Director Tel.: 01/4265-269, faks: 01/4268-558 E-pošta: program.mladina@mladina.movit.si <http://mladina.movit.si> Voluntariat - SCI Slovenia Resljeva 20, SI-1000 Ljubljana Tel: 01 2391 625 (ali 2391 620) Faks: 01 2391 626 E-mail: placement@zavod-voluntariat.si Internet: <http://www.zavod-voluntariat.si/> Association for promotion of prevention and voluntary work Metelkova 6, 1000 Ljubljana tel: +386 1 438 52 50, +386 1 438 52 55 fax: +386 1 432 33 83 Internet: <http://www.kud-fp.si/~ecolab/pp/> E-mail: gorana.flaker@guest.arnes.si Slovene Philanthropy, Association for promotion of voluntary work. Contact person: Anica Mikus Kos Poljanska cesta 12, 1000 Ljubljana, Slovenia Tel: 386 14 30 12 88 Fax: 386 14 30 12 89 E-Mail: info@filantropija.org Internet: <http://www.filantropija.org>

12.4 Collective volunteering projects

12.4.1 Collective volunteering projects (where large numbers of volunteers jointly assist in cultural or sporting events, or where they help in humanitarian/natural disaster situations)

Description of projects (including future projects)

The Slovene Philanthropy is planning a collective national project on the event of Festival of young volunteers in April 2006.

Details of programme/project

Contact: Slovene Philanthropy, Poljanska 12, 1000 Ljubljana T: + 386 1 430 12 88 E: info@filantropija.org www.filantropija.org www.prostovoljstvo.org

12.4.2 Possibilities for involvement of international volunteers in these projects

Yes, the Slovene Philanthropy will try to involve international volunteers as well.

12.5 International solidarity volunteer service

12.5.1 International solidarity voluntary service in the EU and the world (e.g. in human/natural disaster situations, civil protection, humanitarian aid, development assistance, capacity-building etc.)

Slovene Philanthropy, Humanitas, Karitas, Red Cross, Service Civil International, International Jesuit Service, Amnesty International

Details of programme/project



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Humanitarian aid, development assistance, capacity building e.g. The Slovene Philanthropy: a considerable part of their work takes place in countries affected by armed conflicts, in countries originating from former Yugoslavia and other countries in South East Europe. With its activities the Slovene Philanthropy has been contributing to peace and stability.

12.5.2 Major NGOs and/or NGO platforms active in the field of international solidarity service in non-EU countries

Slovenian Global Action platform

12.5.3 The degree of involvement of the government/state institutions in supporting international solidarity service in non-EU countries

So far, there is a dialogue between platform and Ministry for Foreign affairs.

13 Studies & Surveys

13.1 Recent surveys or research on the topic of voluntary activities

"Spodbujanje prostovoljnega dela z mladimi" (Facilitating voluntary work of youth) - CRP -project supported by the national research programme in the year 2004 and 2005. Research on volunteering in Secondary Schools by The National Education Institute



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