

QUESTIONNAIRE

“VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES”

LITHUANIA



YouthPartnership
Council of Europe
European Commission



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1. Existing types of voluntary activities in the country for young people.

At the moment the *program of children and youth public spirit, morality and voluntary activities stimulation* is being framed, in which one of the tools is to make out the types of voluntary activities

2. Which kind of voluntary service exist and how many young people engage in them per year, in totals and by gender.

On national level the voluntary activities are not legally regulated, the same situation is with voluntary service. But still there exists different forms of voluntary services in Lithuania. Most of them are based on international voluntary service (Red Cross, Caritas, Saltes, EVS and etc.). The others are organized for different types of activities, such as psychological help (Youth Psychological Aid Centre), the prevention of various forms of dependence (Kaunas Youth Narcology Centre) and etc.

3. Financial and legal status of voluntary activities

At the moment voluntary activities are not defined in legal acts. But the program of children and youth public spirit, morality and voluntary activities stimulation is being framed, in which there are predicted to examine the legal basis of voluntary activities and to create new ones, which will state the status of voluntary activities, etc.

4. Main actors of voluntary activities of young people on national, regional and local level in your country

Youth organisation of volunteer activities “Austeja’s friends”, Rudininku 8, LT-01135 Vilnius, Tel./Fax.: 8 5 2611 710, e-mail: info@austeja.eu, website: www.austeja.eu.

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Youth Psychological Aid Centre, Rasų str. 20, LT-11351 Vilnius, Tel. +370 5 231 3437, Fax. +370 5 231 3439, e-mail: info@jppc.lt, website: www.jppc.lt.

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European Voluntary Service Association „Saltes“, Juozapavičiaus str. 10a, LT-09311 Vilnius, Tel./Fax. +370 5 2728 292, e-mail: info@saltes.net, website: www.saltes.net.

Lithuanian caritas, Aukštaičių str. 10, LT-44147 Kaunas, Tel. (8 37) 205 427, e-mail: caritas@lcn.lt, website: www.caritas.lt.

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Youth Voluntary Activities Center „Deineta“, Savanorių ave. 16-7, LT-44253 Kaunas, Tel. +370 37 404 055, Fax. +370 37 203 446, e-mail: csa@kaunas.omnitel.net, website: www.deineta.lt.

Kaunas Youth Narcology Centre, Eivenių str. 4, off. 426, LT-50009 Kaunas, Tel. +370 615 33048, e-mail: anija_aaa@yahoo.com, website: www.jaunimo.centras.lt.

5. What is the social protection of young volunteers in your country and are voluntary activities compatible with social benefits?

There is no social protection for volunteers rights now in the country.

6. What Programmes and plans are there in your country on volunteering?

The *program* of children and youth public spirit, morality and voluntary activities stimulation is being framed at the moment.

7. Does a strategy or specific measures for the development of voluntary activities of young people exist in your country?

In the programme of youth policy development in municipalities, which was approved in August of 2007, one of the tools is to create and implement the conception of open youth spaces and centres. The Department of Youth Affairs under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour is organizing program for getting finance for the work of such centers and also the centers get support of techniques for their work. While getting support youth centers are able to attract more and more young people and to get them involved in different type of activities, which might lead to voluntary activities development.

Also there are many types of programs for youth, youth organizations and organizations working with youth. While getting finance for such activities, young people become more involved in youth organizations activities. That promotes to become volunteers and to work for society more and more.

8. Please, describe which obstacles to volunteering of young people do still exist in your country and which measures are taken to remove them?

Lithuania lacks volunteer-friendly environment: the legislation does not provide proper regulation of voluntary activities, there are no favorable economic conditions for the development of volunteer activities, the public opinion concerning volunteer activities is not favorable, the public lacks information about opportunities and modes of volunteer activities and how these opportunities can be used.

The *program of children and youth public spirit, morality and voluntary activities stimulation* is being framed at the moment. This program will solve many problems related to voluntary activities.

9. How are voluntary activities of young people promoted in your country, particularly among young people with fewer opportunities?

10. Explain how (by which means) voluntary activities of young people are recognised in your country.

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11. Which co-operations, networks and exchange programmes do exist in your country for supporting voluntary activities of young people?

The Agency of International Youth Cooperation administrates the implementation of EU Youth in Action Programme in Lithuania. Action 2 of the Program provides an opportunity for young people aged 18-30 to participate in voluntary service in a project implemented in some European countries. Projects of sending young volunteers to

another country and accepting volunteers from another country in Lithuania are supported.

12. Do collective volunteering projects exist in your country?

No

13. Which recent survey or research has been carried out on the topic of voluntary activities?

The most recent survey was held in March of 2007. This survey was orientated to youth and its situation in Lithuania. A part of this survey was about the voluntary activities in the country. Young people were asked to give information about their attitude.