

Youth Partnership

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



COUNTRY SHEET ON YOUTH POLICY IN BELARUS



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TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Context and principles of national youth policy	2
1.1 Context of national youth policy	2
1.2. Principles of national youth policy	5
2. Statistics on young people	7
3. Actors and Structures	9
3.1 Public authorities	9
3.1.1 National public authorities	9
3.1.2 Regional public authorities with competencies in the youth field	11
3.1.3 Local public authorities with competencies in the youth field	11
3.2 Youth welfare services (comprising public and/or non-public actors)	11
3.3 Non-public actors/structures & youth services with competencies in the youth field	13
3.3.1 Youth Councils	14
3.3.2 Youth NGOs	16
3.4 National network(s) for knowledge on youth linking all actors in the field (policy makers, researchers, young people and their organisations, NGOs)?	16
4. Legislation	17
5. National Policy Programmes on youth	19
6. Budget / Public expenditure allocated to youth	20
7. European Dimension of youth policy	21
7.1 Council of Europe	21
7.2 European Union	21
7.2.1 Implementation of the Youth in Action programme	22
7.2.2 Follow up of the EU Youth Strategy (2010 – 2018) on the national level	22
8. Further sources of information on youth policy in Belarus	23

1. Context and Principles of National Youth Policy

1.1 Context of youth policy

The youth is a strategic social resource of the country, and the country's youth policy is an integral part of state policy of social, economic, cultural and national development of the Republic of Belarus. Its implementation is one of the most important trends in the Belarusian society development.

The strategic document in the field of the state youth policy is Law of the Republic of Belarus No. 65-Z as of December 7th, 2009 “On the Foundations of State Youth Policy”. The law aims to define the objectives, principles and main directions of the state youth policy as an important element of state policy in the field of social, economic and cultural development of the Republic of Belarus.

The state youth policy, in accordance with Law of the Republic of Belarus No. 65-Z as of December 7th, 2009 “On Foundations of State Youth Policy”, is defined as the system of social, economic, political, organisational, legal and other activities aimed at supporting young citizens (hereinafter, if otherwise not defined in the Law, referred to as “youth”) and undertaken by the state to ensure social formation and development of the youth, ultimate implementation of their potential for the sake of society as a whole (Article 1).

Young citizens are defined as the nationals of the Republic of Belarus, foreign nationals or stateless persons permanently residing in the Republic of Belarus, aged between fourteen and thirty-one (Article 1). A young family is a family in which both or one of the spouses (in the parent single-parent family) are under the age of thirty-one (Article 1).

The objectives of the state youth policy are the following:

- comprehensive upbringing of young people, contribution to ethical, moral and physical development;
- creation of conditions for free and effective participation of young people in the political, social, economic and cultural development of our society;
- social, financial, legal and other types of support to young people;
- youth empowerment in the choice of way of life (Article 3).

The subjects of the state youth policy, in accordance with Law of Republic of Belarus No. 65-Z as of December 7th, 2009 “On Foundations of State Youth Policy” are the following: youth; young families; youth's associations; state bodies and other organizations, participation within their competence in the realization of the state youth policy (Article 5).

Youth policy is the policy aimed at resolving relevant problems of young people, which is implemented by state, regional and local authorities as well as youth organisations and other civil society structures.

Some of the great achievements in the work with young people in the Republic of Belarus include the following: the well-developed legal and regulatory frameworks covering all spheres of young people's life; support of efficient youth initiatives and projects; implementation of the state programmes providing support to talented and gifted youth; assistance to young specialists in employment and the guaranteed first job placement; assistance to young families, wide involvement of student youth in research activities.

The findings of sociological surveys show that young people prioritise the values that constitute the essence of human life, guarantee their life, personal happiness and welfare related issues: family (86.4%), health (80.3%), love (61.8%), good friends (60.7%), material wealth (51.2%); then career-related values follow: career and business success are important to 43.8% of respondents, an interesting profession - to 35.0%. Educational values also rank high in the value hierarchy: realisation of their potential (32.1%), good education (25.0%), and intellect (19.2%) (Source: D. Rothman (2013) Scientific and guidelines on the formation of lifestyle Belarusian youth based on the results of sociological research in the framework of research work “Complex analysis of the conditions and way of life of the Belarusian youth: diagnostics, the dynamics of change, path optimization: on the scientific research report. Belarusian State University. Minsk, 2014).

Findings of the survey demonstrate that today's youth generation generally makes the right choice regarding life values. Modern young people value the desire for full self-realisation and a decent life in society.

Reports on the youth in the Republic of Belarus are drafted annually in accordance with the Law of the Republic of Belarus No. 65-Z as of December 7th, 2009 “On Foundations of State Youth Policy” (Article 23). The National Report “On

the situation of the youth in the Republic of Belarus in 2015” is prepared by the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus.

The mission of the report is to inform public at large about the situation in the Youth field in the Republic of Belarus. The report presents contemporary statistical and sociological data on a wide range of issues. The main chapters of the report are the following: demographic characteristics of Belarusian youth, health of young generation, education and science in young people's lives, socio-economic situation of young people, criminality among young people and youth in social and political processes (Source: On the situation of youth in the Republic of Belarus 2015. National report / Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus. Minsk, 2016).

In accordance with the Law of Republic of Belarus No. 65-Z as of December 7th, 2009 “On Foundations of State Youth Policy”, currently the state youth policy is implemented in the following priority areas:

- citizenship and patriotic education of young people;
- promotion of healthy lifestyle;
- state support to young families;
- assistance in exercising the young people's right to work;
- state support to gifted and talented youth;
- assistance in exercising the young people's right to association;
- support of development and implementation of socially significant youth initiatives;
- international youth co-operation.

One of the objectives of the state youth policy is to improve the system of training and re-training of youth specialists as well as leaders of youth and children's public associations. Within its competence, the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus implements the youth human resources policy aimed at their training, re-training and professional development for their further work in the field of the state youth policy.

Since 2008 the Department of Youth Policy and Socio-Cultural Communications of the state education institution “National Institute for Higher Education” has been providing re-training courses for university graduates, who receive a re-training diploma with a qualification of “Youth Specialist”.

The Republic of Belarus has a well-established practice of public discussions of important youth issues involving all state youth policy stakeholders, including the following: young people, youth public associations, state authorities and other organisations that, within their competence, take part in implementation of the state youth policy. Since 2014 the open dialogue "Traditions and the Future of the Belarusian Youth" has been taking place. The objective of the open dialogue is to help young people shape an active citizenship view, provide the youth with opportunities to declare their life prospects, realise the role of youth movement in the country's development and formation of the new generation's world outlook, and strengthen the public awareness of the young people's image as an active part of community.

The President of the Republic of Belarus Aleksandr Lukashenko signed on October 16, 2014 the decree № 495 declaring 2015 as the Year of Youth. The document was adopted with the objective to develop creative, academic and professional potential of young people, ensure their active participation in implementing socio-economic reforms in Belarus, and mould patriotism and civil responsibility in young people.

In the framework of the Year of Youth the First Republican Forum of Youth Specialists was held in 2015. The goal of the Forum was to identify and present best practices and innovative technologies in youth-related activities. The Republican Forum of Youth from Rural Areas as well as other significant events (forums, conferences, round table discussions) on youth issues were carried out. The city of Baranovichi was assigned as the Youth Capital-2016 in Belarus.

1.2 Principles of state youth policy

In accordance with Law of Republic of Belarus No. 65-Z as of December 7, 2009 "On Foundations of State Youth Policy" (Article 4), state youth policy is founded on the following principles:

- protecting rights and legitimate interests of the youth;
- combining state and public interests as well as individual rights and freedoms in formation and implementation of the state youth policy;
- providing the youth with legal and socio-economic guarantees, which compensate the limitations in their social status due to their age;

- scientific relevance and complexity;
- transparency and publicity;
- encouraging the youth to participate directly in formation and implementation of the state youth policy;
- giving priority to competitive tools when implementing programmes in the field of state youth policy;
- interdepartmental interaction.

2. Statistics on Young People

As of January 1st, 2016 the number and percentage of young people in total population: aged from 15 to 29 : 1, 813, 559 - 19.09 %.

Male: 930, 705 - 51.31%; female: 882, 854 - 48.69%.

Percentage of young people in total population:

Age	Male and female	Male	Female
15-19	457, 158	234, 755	222, 403
20-24	593, 534	304, 771	288, 763
25-29	762, 867	391, 179	371, 688

Source: National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus, as of January 1st, 2016, <http://www.belstat.gov.by/ofitsialnaya-statistika/solialnaya-sfera/demografiya-2/metodologiya-otvetstvennye-za-informatsionnoe-s-2/index-4991/>

According to the National Statistical Committee of the Republic of Belarus, the urbanization process is continuing in the country, and it involves all groups of population, including young people. The majority of young people (84.1%) live in towns and cities, while 15.9% of the youth live in the rural areas.

It should be noted, that over a long period of time the migration flows of young people are directed from rural to urban. This is due to the development of industry and services in cities. Young people move to the city for further education and employment. However, for 2015 in all the regions of the country (the exception for the city of Minsk) negative migration balance was recorded.

In 2015 the Departments for labor, employment and social protection have registered 61,800 young people aged from 16 to 30 as the unemployed. This is 0.33 % of the overall unemployment rate. Youth unemployment period in 2015 was 1.6 months (in all age groups of the unemployed - 1.9 months) (Source: On the situation of

youth in the Republic of Belarus 2015. National report / Office for Youth Affairs of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus. Minsk, 2016).

Total enrollment ratio in secondary education is 104,8 %. Total enrollment ratio in tertiary education amounts to 95.5 % (Source: The education system of the Republic of Belarus in the figures. Analytical edition / The Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus. Information and Analytical Center of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus. Minsk, 2016. – www.edu.gov.by/doc-3956473)

3. Actors and Structure

3.1 State Authorities

3.1.1 National public authorities

The ministry responsible for youth issues:

The Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus, www.edu.gov.by

Minister: Mr. Mikhail Zhuravkov, in office from December 2014 till present time.

Office for Youth Affairs of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus,
www.edu.gov.by/page-3111

Official group in social networks:

www.facebook.com/groups/340055876111436/

Basic objectives of the Office for Youth Affairs:

- ensuring implementation of state youth policy, creating ultimate socio-economic, organisational and legal conditions for development of state youth policy;
- setting up conditions to develop creative initiative, to make young people more socially and politically active;
- ensuring that state authorities are coordinated on issues of state youth policy;
- supporting talented youth, programmes of youth and children's public associations, student self-governance;
- cooperating with republican youth and children's public associations on issues of state youth policy implementation;
- contributing to development of international relations in the field of youth policy, cooperation with international organisations on issues related to governance as well as facilitation of international exchanges;
- improving citizenship and patriotic, moral education of young people, prevention of asocial behaviour in young people;
- assisting to the youth employment system development, improvement of activities of student work teams;
- enabling activities of the Council of Youth Affairs in the member-states of the Commonwealth of Independent States.

The number of specialists working in the Office for Youth Affairs of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus: 6.

Responsible Person for Youth Affairs in the Ministry:

Mr. Viktor Yakzhik, Deputy Minister of Education of the Republic of Belarus.

Contact person in the Office for Youth Affairs in the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus in the field of the European Youth Policy: Head of the Office for Youth Affairs in the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus, Mrs. Natalya Pshenichnaya, udm_mo@mail.ru

K. Marx street, 40

Minsk, 220030 Republic of Belarus

Phone: +375 17 222 37 38, fax: +375 17 327 64 56

Other national state authorities directly involved in youth policy

Other ministries:

All 24 ministries of the Republic of Belarus take part in implementation of the state youth policy within their competence. The following ministries are involved in cross-sectoral cooperation to a larger extent:

- Ministry of Culture, www.kultura.by
- Ministry of Health, www.minzdrav.by
- Ministry of Sports and Tourism, www.mst.by
- Ministry of Labour and Social Security, www.mintrud.gov.by
- Ministry of Foreign Affairs, www.mfa.gov.by
- Ministry of Information, www.mininform.by
- Ministry of Internal Affairs, www.mvd.gov.by
- Ministry of Economy, www.economy.gov.by
- Ministry of Justice, www.minjust.by
- Ministry of Communications and Informatization, www.mpt.gov.by
- Parliamentary commission for youth issues:
- Committee for Health, Physical Training, Family and Youth Policy, www.house.gov.by/ru/deputies-ru/viewCommittee/komissija-po-komissija-po-komissija-po-zdravooxraneniju-fizicheskoj-kulture-semejnoj-i-molodezhnoj-politike-19/
- Competence issues:
 1. Marriage and family legislation

2. Health legislation
3. Youth policy issues
4. Physical training and sports legislation
5. Tourism legislation

3.1.2 Regional public authorities with competencies in the youth field

- Regional structure of youth authorities consists of the Central Offices of Ideology, Culture and Youth Affairs in regional executive committees:
- Brest Regional Executive Committee: www.brest-region.gov.by
- Vitebsk Regional Executive Committee: www.vitebsk-region.gov.by
- Gomel Regional Executive Committee: www.gomel-region.gov.by
- Grodno Regional Executive Committee: www.region.grodno.by
- Minsk City Executive Committee: www.minsk.gov.by
- Minsk Regional Executive Committee: www.minsk-region.gov.by
- Mogilev Regional Executive Committee: www.mogilev-region.gov.by

3.1.3 Local public authorities with competencies in the youth field

The structure of regional and city executive committees includes offices (departments) of ideology, culture and youth affairs. Offices (departments) of ideology, culture and youth affairs in the executive committees conduct the youth state policy, taking into account the peculiarities and characteristics of social and economic development of regions and cities as well as regulate, manage and control youth policy, and provide for financial and housing activities of subordinate institutions.

On the basis of Resolution of the Ministry of Labour and Social Security of the Republic of Belarus No. 42 as of 30.03.2006 “On Amendments to Issue 1 and Amendments to Issue 27 of the Uniform Qualification Directory of Job Positions, the position "Youth Specialist" was introduced in a number of enterprises and organisations. As of January 1, 2015, the Republic of Belarus had 1, 285 specialists working with youth at enterprises, organisations, institutions and agencies.

3.2 Youth welfare services (comprising public and/or non public actors)

Currently the main directions of social protection and support of the Belarusian youth include support to young families; social protection of student

youth; providing guarantees to obtain in-demand professional knowledge and skills, with a view of further successful labour socialization; enabling employment of underage and young specialists; providing assistance in solving housing issues; comprehensive social support of talented and gifted students; social protection of young people with disabilities, etc.

17 teen-friendly centres supported by UNICEF have been set up in the country on the basis of children's polyclinics, where teenagers can get integral medical and psychosocial aid in the field of reproductive health and prevention of harmful habits.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Health, a project on improving teen health is being implemented, covering the following activities:

- developing the relevant National Strategy and Action Plan;
- expanding the national network of teen-friendly centres;
- creating and using the national certification system for teen-friendly service;
- widening the access to medical and social services for teens at risk;
- improving professional skills of health specialists working with teenagers;
- organising informational and educational campaigns aimed at promoting healthy lifestyles;
- improving the system for monitoring and evaluating the quality of services related to teen health.

For more information see: www.unicef.by/unicef-v-belarusi/priority-v-strane/9.html

Student self-governance bodies, student union committees, youth public associations, social and psychological services, and departments for youth affairs make a considerable contribution to social support and protection of student youth.

Talented and gifted student youth receive comprehensive social support from the Special Fund of the President of the Republic of Belarus for the Social Support of Gifted Students and the Special Fund of the President of the Republic of Belarus for the Support of the Talented Youth. The Fund has been functioning for two decades. So far, over 33 thousand awards have been given to students, teachers and researchers who made a special contribution to development of gifted students' abilities. The Fund has provided financial support to the best 112 intellectual and creative

associations of students, who received public recognition for their promising developments and achievements.

The Republic of Belarus organises events, including academic competitions, allowing to find talented and gifted youth; work with such youth is constantly monitored, and registers of talented and gifted youth are compiled. Support is provided to socially vulnerable youth groups in territorial social service centres (148 centres in total). These institutions pay much attention to orphans and children deprived of parental care, who came out of orphanages, children's homes or other education institutions. They are advised on all types of social support, and control is ensured for exercising their legitimate rights, social guarantees and benefits stipulated by the legislation.

Regional support centres for youth entrepreneurship have been put into operation. For example, in Minsk it is the Communal Unitary Enterprise "Youth Social Service" that is registered as a small business incubator, www.mcc.by. The National Centre of Legal Information of the Republic of Belarus gave young people and youth specialists access to legal information databases within the framework of the Law for Youth Initiative, www.pravo.by.

Youth public associations play an important role in providing social support to young people. BRUY (Belarusian Republican Youth Union), the largest public youth association in the country, implements socially significant projects and programmes. Student work teams and volunteer groups actively contribute to citizenship and patriotic education.

The Belarusian Association of UNESCO Clubs, the League of Youth Voluntary Service, the Belarusian Association of Parents with Many Children, the Belarusian Association of Assistance to Children and Young People with Disabilities provide social support in various fields.

3.3 Non-public actors/structures & youth services with competencies in the youth field

The system for additional education of children and young people aimed at ensuring their personal development, formation and development of their creativity, meeting their individual needs for intellectual, moral and physical improvement, socialisation, arranging their leisure activities, helping them in their career choice

functions in the Republic of Belarus (Article 228 of the Code of Education of the Republic of Belarus 243-3 as of January 13th, 2011). As of December 1st, 2015, the country has 305 institutions of additional education for children and youth; 392.9 thousand young people are engaged in 30.3 thousand hobby groups and clubs.

The republican institutions of additional education of children and youth are represented by the following institutions of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus:

- National centre of art creativity of children and the youth, www.nchtdm.by;
- Republican Center of Ecology and Local Lore Studies, www.rctkum.by/;
- Republican Center of Innovation and Technical Creativity, www.rcitt.by/;
- Educational Institution "National Children's educational health-improving center "Zubrenok", www.zubronok.by.

There are 24 institutions of additional education of children and young people in Minsk. They are the following: Minsk State Palace of Children and Youth, «Minsk State Tourism Ecology Center of Children and Youth», «Minsk City Centre of Sport and Physical Education of Studying Youth»; 12 multi disciplinary district institutions of additional education of children and youth; 9 district physical culture and sports centers.

In all regions of the Republic of Belarus successfully operates a network of institutions of additional education of children and youth. For more information, please visit the appropriate section of the official website of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus, <http://www.edu.gov.by/page-23971>

3.3.1 Youth councils

Belarusian Committee of Youth Organisations (BKMO). BKMO is a republican union with the objective to create conditions for the most complete exercise of rights and legitimate interests of BKMO member organisations, supporting the development of civil society in the Republic of Belarus based on patriotic and moral values of the Belarusian nation. BKMO is an umbrella organisation that includes some children's and youth public associations in the Republic of Belarus.

Republican Youth Council at the Minister of Education of the Republic of Belarus. This public organisation introduces and reviews proposals to improve legislation and shape normative legal frameworks for youth policy in the Republic of

Belarus, discusses relevant issues and problems of young people, develops recommendations aimed at increasing the efficiency of state youth policy decisions, and facilitates cooperation between various organisations and state structures working with the youth. The Council includes representatives of state authorities, public associations and unions, young teachers and scholars, researchers as well as pupils and students.

Public Republican Student Council at the Minister of Education,
www.vk.com/studsovetmo, studsovetmo@gmail.com

The Council includes representatives of all 51 higher education institutions of the country. The main objective of the Council is to provide support to competent specialists seeking for efficient solutions to problems in the education system by creating necessary conditions for a broad public dialogue involving young people. Competencies of the Council include issues of student self-governance.

Council of Young Scientists of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus, www.smu-nanb.com

Currently the Council of Young Scientists of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus unites over 2, 100 young scientists from the system of the Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus, including 250 candidates of sciences (PhD-equivalent) and approximately 600 postgraduate and graduate students. The main activities of the Council include the following: submitting proposals to the administration of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus to improve housing conditions for young scientists of the Academy of Sciences; carrying out competitions of research works among young scientists of Belarus; compiling lists of materials and equipment required by young scientists for conducting their research; organising workshops and meetings of young scientists with participation of members of the Presidium of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus; helping young scientists to publish monographs and take part in international conferences and symposia; helping young scientists participate in the cultural, sports and other public events held by the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus.

Development of youth parliamentarianism:

All regions of the Republic of Belarus have established Youth Parliaments, Houses, Councils – student or youth self-governance bodies supported by local authorities. The Parliaments are formed from among the representatives of children's

and youth public organisations, general secondary schools or higher education institutions, children's and youth self-governance bodies established in education institutions.

Youth Parliaments, Houses and Councils develop proposals on major directions of state youth policy in the regions that take into account student youth and analyse relevant student challenges; seek for ways of resolution, helping state bodies to set up favourable conditions to engage students into socially significant spheres of life; the councils also have the right to introduce proposals on draft laws and other legal acts as well as other documents related to youth policy, and adopt recommendations within their competence.

3.3.2 Youth NGOs

Modern public youth movement can be viewed as a demonopolised one, working within a range of areas (civil and patriotic, professional, creative, sport, environmental, charitable areas, etc.) and implementing many different forms and mechanisms within their programmes and projects. As of January 1st, 2016, there are 308 youth public associations, including 28 children's public associations registered in the country. There is the Republican Register of Youth and Children's Associations receiving state support.

3.4 National network(s) for knowledge on youth linking all actors in the field (policy makers, researchers, young people and their organisations, NGOs)

- National Institute for Higher Education, www.nihe.bsu.by
- Sociology Institute of the National Academy of Sciences of the Republic of Belarus, www.socio.bas-net.by/
- Centre for Sociological and Political Research, the Belarusian State University, www.cspr.bsu.by
- Education and Research Centre of Systematic Studies of Youth Problems, the Faculty of Economics, the Belarusian State University, www.bsu.by/main.aspx?guid=4621

4. Legislation

In accordance with the Constitution of the Republic of Belarus, young people are guaranteed the right to moral and physical development. The government creates necessary conditions for free and effective participation of young people in political, social, economic and cultural development (Article 32).

The main normative legal acts regulating state youth policy are as follows:

- Law of the Republic of Belarus No. 65-Z as of December 7, 2009 “On Foundations Of State Youth Policy”. *The law aims at defining objectives, principles and main directions of state youth policy as an important component of state policy regarding social, economic and cultural development of the Republic of Belarus;*
 - Law of the Republic of Belarus No. 305-Z as of November 9, 1999 “On State Support to Youth and Children's Public Associations in the Republic of Belarus”;
 - Code of Education of the Republic of Belarus No. 243-Z as of January 13, 2011;
 - Labour Code of the Republic of Belarus No. 296-Z as of July 26, 1999. *Chapter 20. Specificity of Youth Labour;*
 - Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 18 as of January 12, 1996 “On Special Fund of the President of Republic of Belarus for Support of Talented Youth”;
 - Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 19 as of January 12, 1996 “On Special Fund of the President of Republic of Belarus for Social Support of Gifted Pupils and Students”;
 - Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 273 as of June 14, 2007 “On Pay Increase to Individual Categories of Young Specialists”;
 - Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 199 as of April 26, 2010 “On Some Issues of Developing, Record-Keeping and Using the Databank of Gifted and Talented Youth”;
 - Decree of the President of the Republic of Belarus No. 181 as of April 16, 2012 “On Organising the Activities of Student Work Teams in the Territory of the Republic of Belarus”;

- Resolution of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Belarus No. 958 as of June 23, 2010 “On Approval of the Regulations on the Procedure of Organising and Financing the Temporary Employment for the Youth Studying in Education Institutions in Extracurricular Time”;
- Decision of the Council of the Heads of the Member-States of the Commonwealth of Independent States as of December 10, 2010 “On the Strategy of International Youth Cooperation between the Member States of the Commonwealth of Independent States till 2020”
- Agreement signed by the CIS Member States on Cooperation in the field of Youth-Focused Activities (adopted on November 6, 2005 at the Meeting of the Council of Heads of the CIS Member-States held in Moscow);
- Resolution of the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus No. 82 as of June 15, 2015 “On the Concept of Continuing Education of Children and Student Youth”;

5. National Policy Programmes on youth

“Youth Policy” sub-programme within the “Education and Youth Policy” state programme for 2016-2020 has been adopted.

Sub-programme objectives are the following:

- to form active citizenship and patriotism in young people, involve them in public activities;
- to take additional actions to help young people form a positive attitude towards traditional family values and responsible parenthood, sensible attitude to health, prevention of negative phenomena in youth;
- to increase efficiency of carrier promotion and choice as well as employment of young people in extracurricular time (time out of their primary workplace), to support entrepreneurship initiatives; to develop volunteering and student work team movement;
- to support socially significant and public initiatives of young people, school and university student self-governance bodies, to encourage children's and youth public associations' activities.

The Action Plan for implementing the “Youth Policy” sub-programme within the “Education and Youth Policy” state programme for 2016-2020 has been developed and passed.

6. Budget/ Public expenditure allocated to youth

At the national level:

The Ministry of Education: 1, 448, 789, 000 non-redenominated Belarusian rubles (BYR)

At the regional level:

5, 523, 694, 000 non-redenominated Belarusian rubles (BYR).

State youth policy gets additional funding from programmes supporting young specialists, young families and families with many children, talented and gifted youth, temporary employment of young people, etc.

7. European Dimension of youth policy

7.1 Council of Europe

Council of Europe Information Point in the Republic of Belarus: www.coe.bsu.by

Belarus is represented by a national delegate in the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) and the Joint Council on Youth of the Council of Europe.

National correspondent of the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy; Associate Professor of the Youth Policy and Social and Cultural Communications at the Department of the National Institute for Higher Education, Candidate of Cultural Studies, Associate Professor Andrey Salikau (salikau@mail.ru).

Belarus has taken part in the No Hate Speech Movement since 2013. Darya Miron is Acting National Coordinator for the No Hate Speech Movement of the Council of Europe, www.vk.com/nohateby, www.facebook.com/groups/984453674910399. Partner organization: the National Institute for Higher Education, www.nihe.bsu.by

Experts from the Republic of Belarus took part in the work of consultative groups to prepare recommendations for the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on Youth in Fields of Education and Socialisation (European Youth Centre in Strasbourg, 7-9 December 2015).

Experts from the Republic of Belarus made a study visit to the Council of Europe Youth Department, the European Youth Center in Strasbourg (France) (25-30 October 2015). The visit of youth leaders and official representatives was focused on introducing Belarusian experts to the principles and approaches employed in the Council of Europe to implement youth policy at the European level. The visit was organised by the Council of Europe Youth Department in cooperation with the Ministry of Education of the Republic of Belarus and the Information Point of the Council of Europe in Minsk.

7.2 European Union

European Union Information Centre in Belarus: www.ced.bsu.by

Belarus takes part in the EU-funded project "Youth Policy Support in the Eastern Partnership Region", EPYRU, www.eapyouth.eu/

Belarus takes part in the Eastern Partnership Platform 4 "Meeting on Contacts between people".

7.2.1 Implementation of the Youth in Action program/Erasmus +

Erasmus+ programme office in the Republic of Belarus, www.erasmus-plus.belarus.unibel.by

A number of youth public associations, education institutions and organisations take part in mobility programmes for young people and youth specialists; projects of the European Voluntary Service (EVS), https://europa.eu/youth/volunteering/evs-organisation_en

Belarus does not take part in the European Network of Information Services (EURODESK)

7.2.2 Follow up of the EU Youth Strategy (2010 – 2018) on the national level

(non-applicable)

8. Further sources of information on youth policy in Belarus

- Official website of the President of the Republic of Belarus, www.president.gov.by
- Official website of the Republic of Belarus, www.belarus.by
- Belarusian National Educational Internet Portal, www.eduby
- Belarus. Facts, www.belarusfacts.by
- Belarusian Telegraph Agency, www.belta.by
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