

# Youth Partnership

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



**European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy**

**15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of Correspondents**

**Regional youth knowledge forum on youth research in South-East Europe**

**Pool of European Youth Researchers**

**9<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting**

**Novi Sad, 18-20 June 2019**

**Concept note and draft agenda**

***Venue***

***Hotel Park***

***Novosadskog Sajma 35 21000 Novi Sad (Serbia)***

## Background

The team of the partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth will organise on 18-20 June, in Novi Sad (Serbia) three events:

- The Annual Meeting of the correspondents of the **European Knowledge Centre on Youth Policy (EKCYC)**, on 18 June;
- A **regional 'Youth Knowledge Forum'** focusing on youth research in South-East Europe, gathering up to 70 researchers, policy makers and practitioners from the region to reflect on the current situation of youth research in the region, and how to support its further developments as well as a stronger knowledge-based youth policy and youth work, on 19 June;
- The Annual Meeting of the Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR), on 20 June.

EKCYP is an on-line database intended to provide the youth sector with a single access point to reliable knowledge and information about young people's situation across Europe. EKCYP aims at enhancing knowledge transfers between the fields of research, policy and practice through the collection and dissemination of information about youth policy, research and practice in Europe and beyond. Linked to EKCYP is a network of national correspondents, who are youth policy specialists responsible for collecting national data.

PEYR is a unique initiative on the European level and it represents a contribution of both the Council of Europe and the European Commission to evidence based policy-making in the field of youth. PEYR consists of 35 researchers and experts from across Europe who possess a wide range of expertise in different policy areas connected to youth. PEYR is used by both the European Commission and the Council of Europe, but is also open to any other interested stakeholder as a source of expertise and knowledge on youth. Besides providing expertise on demand, PEYR members also meet once a year to discuss broader issues connected to youth research and provide input to policy initiatives of the two partner institutions.

We chose Novi Sad as a venue for these events to acknowledge the significant role that Serbian policy-makers, researchers and practitioners play in the region in advancing youth policy, youth work and youth research. A number of knowledgeable and reliable actors in the youth field are based in Serbia and in Novi Sad. Moreover, Novi Sad was recognised as European Youth Capital for 2019, a title awarded by the European Youth Forum, designed to empower young people, boost youth participation and strengthen European identity.

In addition to the EKCYP and PEYR annual meetings, we will organise a joint meeting of the two groups, to take the form of a forum on youth knowledge in South-East Europe, gathering researchers, policy makers and practitioners from the region to reflect on the current situation of youth research in the region, and how to support its further developments as well as a stronger knowledge-based youth policy and youth work. The youth knowledge forum will be held on one day, also in view of strengthening synergies between both networks. It will aim at discussing youth research priorities in the region.

## EKCYP 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

### Under the 2019 Work Plan, EKCYP objectives include:

- knowledge on youth work, contributing to building up the knowledge base presented in the online platform dedicated to youth work, within EKCYP (ahead of the 3rd European Youth Work Convention and as an implementation of the CoE CM Recommendation on youth work as well as EU Council Conclusions on quality of youth work), namely continuing the publication of youth work country sheets, updates from CDEJ and from EKCYP correspondents
- collecting and analysing data on youth policy evaluation models and contribution to “Insights” on the topic, as agreed at the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. It is hoped that a first analysis of the data collected will be brought to the annual meeting.
- research on professions involved in youth work, building on the results of the 2017-2018 research on education of youth workers
- continuing to collect data on Youth Wiki thematic chapter on chapter 5: participation. It is foreseen to develop chapters on four countries not part of Erasmus+ programme, selected through an open call; disseminate information on EU Youth Wiki platform to correspondents and youth sector stakeholders at large
- analytical paper on strengthening youth research in SEE
- contribution to other work plan objectives that require knowledge gathering on topics such as digitalisation and social inclusion, European citizenship, youth political participation.

EKCYP are convened for the annual meeting to take stock of the contribution to these themes and of the results in 2018 as well as to identify themes for further research. The annual meeting will also include a session on strengthening peer cooperation and support among EKCYP correspondents, based on the decisions taken in the 14<sup>th</sup> Annual meeting. The work of the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and the implementation of the work of EKCYP is being coordinated and led by the support group.

### Reference documents on EKCYP contributions in 2017-2018:

[Reports of past annual meetings \(including 2017\)](#)

[Research results on education of youth workers](#)

[Contributions to Youth Wiki from non-programme countries](#) and [Youth Wiki](#)

[Youth Work Country Sheets](#)

[Insights on Youth Policy Governance](#)

17 June 14:00 - 17:30	Meeting of the EKCYP core support group
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18 June 14:30 - 17:30	Meeting of the PEYR core support group
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18 June 9:00 - 17:30	15 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of EKCYP Correspondents
9:00 – 10:00	Opening of the meeting by Ms Marta Mędlińska, EU-CoE youth partnership EKCYP contributions in 2018 work plan Contributions from EU-CoE youth partnership team and the EKCYP support team
10:00 – 10:30	<b>First results of data gathering on youth policy evaluation</b> Presentation and discussion of the findings and presentation of the results
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Break</b>
11:00 – 12:30	<b>Contributions related to youth policy</b> Discussion of the first findings and, if available, further analysis of case studies Suggestions for shaping the insights issue focused on youth policy evaluation
12:30 – 13:00	<b>Contributions related to youth policy</b> Knowledge gathering on other topics – exchange on the results, challenges, findings
13:00 – 14:30	<b>Lunch</b>
14:30 – 16:00	<b>Contributions related to youth work</b> Update and discussion on further building the knowledge database
16:00 – 16:30	<b>Break</b>
16:30 – 18:00	<b>Strengthening peer support and cooperation within EKCYP – follow up on 2018 agreements</b>  <b>Ideas for 2019-2020</b>  <b>Wrapping up on main decisions, evaluation and closing the meeting</b>
	<b>Dinner at hotel Park</b>

## Joint PEYR-EKCYP Meeting

### A Regional Youth Knowledge Forum on youth research in South-East Europe

#### Background

Providing support to knowledge-based youth policy and practice and to the development of a strong youth research infrastructure across the countries that are signatories of the [European Cultural Convention](#) are among the aims of the EU-Council of Europe youth partnership, especially within specific objective 'Better Knowledge' of its 2019 work plan.

On the occasion of the joint EKCYP and PEYR meeting of 2018, which also provided a forum for the development of youth research in Eastern Europe and Caucasus, participants highlighted the **need to promote investment in research** in their countries.

The engagement of the EU-Council of Europe youth partnership in South-East Europe is long-lasting, and concretised itself, in recent years, in a number of activities aiming at strengthening knowledge, policy and practice of and with youth in the region, particularly on the topics of youth participation, social inclusion, and youth work, to name but a few.

Youth research in South-East Europe has a long tradition, and it stems from, and is supported by, many EU programmes, private and public donors and foundations, active at transnational and national level. However, there are no regional unified perspectives, approaches or strategies, especially since **youth policy, youth work and youth research proper are grounded on scattered basis**, promoted by various actors, and there not exists a common youth research platform across the region. However, the reality of the cooperation between youth research and other actors, and notably youth workers and policy makers, varies from country to country and is yet to be fully mapped and comprehended.

Moreover, in 2019 the EU-Council of Europe youth partnership will publish a document 'Youth research: the Essentials': this document purports a **more effective and open dialogue among researchers, policy makers, practitioners and young people**, and for establishing opportunities and platforms for jointly advancing common and respective agendas in a knowledge-based perspective. This dialogue must take the form of a '**Knowledge Translation**':

*'Over the last decades, there has been increasing international research attention on how to reduce the evidence-practice and policy gap. One of the most used, referenced and researched approaches to bridge this gap is Knowledge Translation (KT) or Knowledge Integration (KI), often described in more than 20 other terms. Independently of naming, KT is an umbrella of tools and activities to move research evidences into the hands of people and organisations that can put them into practical use to generate impact. Knowledge translation aims to get the right information, to the right people, at the right time, and in the most effective way to ensure that policies, programmes and practice are informed by the best available evidence. It is a solution to increase the relevance, applicability and impact of research in all fields'<sup>1</sup>.*

By leveraging on the knowledge of the reality of youth work and youth policy in South-East Europe acquired across the years; on the competences of communication and research experts, of policy makers, practitioners, researchers from the region and beyond, and on its network of experts, the EU-Council of Europe youth partnership wishes to contribute to strengthening the dialogue among different actors involved in youth research in South-East Europe (SEE) through a **one-day regional youth knowledge forum** aiming at

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<sup>1</sup> Maria-Paola de Salvo, Easytelling, <https://www.easytelling.com.br/home-en> accessed 21/02/2019

- Taking stock of the reality of youth policy and youth work practice in SEE and reflect on how youth research, and the EU-Council of Europe youth partnership can have a supportive role for the actors involved in the region;
- Understating the reality of youth research in the region, and country by country, including actors, resources, strategies, and challenges;
- Fostering effective communication among main actors in the youth field in South-East Europe by looking at recent developments in communicating youth research, and notably at Knowledge Translation (KT), or Knowledge Integration (KI) techniques;
- Providing policy-makers, researchers and practitioners from the region with a unique opportunity for dialogue, refining common vocabulary and language, while networking knowledge, needs, and resources;
- Identifying possible projects and express recommendations for supporting research on and with youth in SEE;
- Taking forward the common projects of EKCYP and PEYR for 2019, and notably the study on social inclusion of young people and digitalisation, the expert reflection on youth policy evaluation, and the research on youth work professions, education and training, on the job support;
- Engagement of EKCYP and PEYR with the online Perspectives on youth.

### **Participants**

Up to 70, from the following categories:

- Correspondents of the European Knowledge Centre on Youth Policy;
- Members of the Pool of European Youth Researchers;
- Policy makers from South-East Europe responsible for youth matters, at local and national level;
- Representatives of bodies and organisations responsible for youth work, youth policy at national and regional level;
- Youth research providers from the region, including Universities and research centres.

19 June	<b>Joint EKCYP-PEYR Meeting</b> <b>Regional Youth Knowledge Forum on youth research in South-East Europe</b>
9:00 – 10:30	<p><b>Opening words</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Tobias Flessenkemper, Council of Europe, Head of Office, Belgrade</li> <li>• Mr Đuro Blanuša, Secretary General, Regional Youth Cooperation Office</li> <li>• Ms Marta Mędzińska, Coordinator, EU-Council of Europe youth partnership</li> <li>• European Commission, TBC</li> </ul> <p><b>Research on youth in SEE – Presentation of mapping</b>  The reality of youth research in the region</p> <p>Starting from the reality of the region, thinking of research on youth in its determinants and current state, its challenges, in order to broaden reflections on the reality of youth research in Europe as a whole.</p> <p><b>Presentation of some actors from the region</b>  How is research on youth done concretely in the region? What are the needs of practice, policy and research? How do or should these needs and actors converge on concrete activities and projects? We will look at these dilemmas with</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Jelena Stojanovic, NAPOR and Ms Vanja Kalaba (TBC), CZOR, as <u>research users</u>: towards a national pool of researchers? Opportunities and needs: revision of youth law, creation of a law on volunteerism: the need of research to inform strategy and programming;</li> <li>- Ms Jelena Mitrovic, KOMS, as <u>civil society research producer</u>: participatory youth research and knowledge-based projects initiated by youth organisations and the national youth council: a civil society perspective;</li> <li>- Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung (FES) (TBC), as <u>research funder</u>: Shell Studies in Germany and SEE: a case study of an international research project;</li> <li>- Mr Marko Kovačić, Institute for Social Research in Zagreb, as an <u>academic research producer</u>: a unique case in the region; data, research; policy; international and institutional cooperation, including within EKCYP and PEYR;</li> <li>- Ms Bojana Bulatović, RYCO, a <u>research user</u>: need analysis and how to use evidence gathered to improve the mobility mechanisms and opportunity.</li> </ul>
10:30 – 11:00	<b>Break</b>

11:00 – 12:30	<p><b>Reflections groups</b> How to strengthen youth research, in the region, bringing together existing actors, needs, resources and communication tools, also considering Knowledge Translation concepts?</p> <p><b>Actors' perspective – the European Youth Capital case study: how a knowledge-based project initiated by youth organisations, policy makers, and practitioners</b> How research questions, aiming at bringing about change, helped shaping a European project, and how an evidence-based ongoing assessment, and final evaluation, will help strengthening the youth sector, through better and more targeted policy and practice, for the concrete benefit of young people, in Novi Sad and in Serbia.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Ms Valentina Antic, OPENS ;</li> <li>- Ms Lana Pasic, Pool of European Youth Researchers (author of the European study on the European Youth Capital);</li> </ul>
12:30 – 14:00	<b>Lunch</b>
14:00 – 16:00	<p><b>Knowledge Translation (KT)</b> What is knowledge translation? Why is it important? How to design research projects, from inception to reporting, in view of their concrete application and usage, in plain and clear language that can be understood and used by the general public. The importance to set and apply an appropriate communication strategy and tools as embedded within research projects for a more effective dialogue of policy, practice and research. Includes some interactive individual and group activities that build on concepts illustrated in the presentation. How research, policy and practice can better communicate and strengthen each other: international case studies and communication strategies, in region and beyond: <b>Maria Paola de Salvo, EasyTelling.</b></p> <p><b>Group work</b> on obstacles and opportunities relating to KT</p> <p><b>Report back to plenary:</b> sharing reflections and plenary discussion</p> <p><b>Drawing recommendations on effective youth research and Knowledge Translation and cooperation in SEE region and beyond</b></p> <p><b>Conclusion of the discussions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Mr Ivan Hramada, Vice Chair, Steering Committee on Youth of the Council of Europe</li> <li>- Mr Matej Manevski, Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe</li> <li>- Ms Marta Mędzińska, Coordinator, EU-Council of Europe youth partnership</li> </ul>
16:00 – 16:30	<b>Break</b>
16:30 – 18:00	<p><b>Follow up on EKYP and PEYR common projects:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Study on social inclusion and digitalisation;</li> <li>- Expert work on youth policy evaluation;</li> <li>- Research on youth work professions, education and training, on the job support;</li> <li>- Perspectives on youth;</li> <li>- Youth Knowledge Forum 2020.</li> </ul> <p><b>Closing of the joint meeting</b></p>
19:00	<b>Transfers from hotel to dinner at restaurant Piknik - <a href="http://www.piknik.rs">http://www.piknik.rs</a></b>



## PEYR 9th Annual Meeting

Under the 2019 work plan, the **expected outcomes** of the work of PEYR are

- Contribution to elaborating the content of activities of the EU-Council of Europe youth partnership
- Analytical papers based on Youth Wiki and EKCYP data
- Reflection in thematic working groups on trends in the lives of young people, in the frame of priority themes
- Research contribution to the EU Youth Dialogue, towards a new era of policy governance
- Contribution to the 'youth policy support measures' of the Council of Europe, as needed
- Furthering youth research in EECA countries, as a follow-up to the joint meeting of 2018, and reinforcing youth research in SEE, propose as a venue of the EKCYP and PEYR 2019 meetings
- Promotion of "Essentials of Youth Research"
- Contribute to the EKCYP.

More specifically, groups of researchers, gathered in working groups, will work on knowledge development of specific themes, pertinent to the work of the two partner institutions and of the EU-CoE youth partnership; cutting-edge, new, or under-developed areas of youth research are particularly considered, to avoid duplication in other areas of youth research and bridge gaps.

The annual meeting offers a forum for sharing and building up knowledge, coordinating the group's work and connecting PEYR to other experts and researchers from selected areas. To better understand the reality of youth research in the neighbouring regions of the EU, the annual meeting of PEYR will take place in South-East Europe.

20 June 2019	9 <sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of PEYR
9:00 – 10:45	<p><b>Opening of the meeting</b></p> <p><b>Developments with regard to youth research</b> within the two partner institutions and in the youth partnership’s programme.</p> <p><u>Objectives:</u> PEYR members understand this year’s work plan; PEYR have a chance to identify which part of the work plan they would like to be involved in; PEYR to understand the broad picture of youth research in Europe.</p>
10:45 – 11:15	<b>Break</b>
11:15 – 13:00	<p><b>Areas of interest and research of PEYR members:</b></p> <p><u>Objectives:</u> PEYR members are familiar with each other’s work, exchanged ideas, and identified opportunities for collaboration.</p>
13:00 – 14:30	<b>Lunch</b>
14:30 – 16:00	<p><b>Working Groups</b></p> <p><u>Objectives:</u> to explore and develop the main thematic clusters of the EU-Council of Europe youth partnership.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Monitoring and evaluation of youth policy</li> <li>• Social inclusion, with special attention to digitalisation</li> <li>• Youth work</li> <li>• Citizenship and participation</li> </ul>
16:00 – 16:30	<b>Break</b>
16:30 – 18:00	<p><b>Current areas and foreseeable trends of youth research.</b> Mapping of topics, methodologies, resources and networks that can be accessed through PEYR members, to broaden the scope and the perspectives on youth research.</p> <p><u>Objectives:</u> to reflect on areas of research and identify trends and to create a list of ideas for 2020 workplan of the EU-CoE youth partnership concerning youth research.</p> <p>Closing and evaluation.</p>

## List of participants

### EKCYP

1	Narmin Aslanbayova
2	Orjan BERGAN
3	Rūta Brazienė
4	Eleftheria CHRISTOFOROU
5	Miroslava Dujičová
6	Letty DARWISH
7	Tiina EKMAN
8	Tomaz DEZELAN
9	Ian FARRUGIA
10	Tomislav GAJTANOSKI
11	Ana GARCIA
12	Marie GILLES
13	Jasmin JASAREVIC
14	Kartlos Karumidze
15	Tomi KIILAKOSKI
16	Susanne KLINZING
17	Marko KOVACIC
18	Irina LONEAN
19	Zdeňka MAŠKOVA
20	James O'DONOVAN
21	Anna OSTRIKOVA
22	Marija Petronijevic
23	Jehona ROKA VARFI
24	Marine SARGSYAN
25	Andrei SALIKAU
26	Marti TARU (also PEYR)
27	Mariana TURCAN
28	Jason ZAMMIT

### PEYR

1	Cristina BACALSO
2	Ondřej BÁRTA
3	Olena CHERNYKH
4	Nuala CONNOLLY
5	Valentina CUZZOCREA
6	Tomaz DEZELAN
7	Marina GALSTYAN
8	Justina GARBAUSKAITE-JAKIMOVSKA
9	Alena IGNATOVITCH
10	Karla MALM

11	Dan MOXON
12	Lana PASIC
13	Sladjana PETKOVIC
14	Gary POLLOCK
15	Dunja POTOČNIK
16	Sandra ROE
17	Ozgehan SENYUVA
18	Dragan STANOJEVIC
19	Marti TARU (also EKCYP)
20	Smiljka TOMANOVIĆ
21	Laden YURTTAGÜLER AKKUŞ
22	Manfred ZENTNER

**Regional Youth Knowledge Forum  
(in addition to EKCYP correspondents and PEYR)**

1	Maria Paola DE SALVO	Expert, EasyTelling
2	Djuro BLANUSA	Secretary-General, Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO)
3	Žana BOGUNOVIC	Tempus Foundation
4	Tobias FLESSENKEMPER	Head of Office, Council of Europe, Belgrade
5	Ivan HROMADA	Vice-chair Steering Committee on Youth (CDEJ), Council of Europe
6	Petar KEČMAN	Tempus Foundation
7	Blazhen MALESKI	Researcher
8	Dragan MIHAJLOVIC	Rapporteur - Researcher
9	Sonja MITTER	SALTO South-East Europe Resource Centre
10	Daniel BRIGGS	Expert
11	Bojana BULATOVIĆ	Programme Officer, Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO)
12	Matej MANEVSKI	Advisory Council on Youth, Council of Europe

**EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership**

1	Marta MEDLINSKA
2	Tanya BASARAB
3	Davide CAPECCHI
4	Mojca KODELA-LESEMANN