

Perspective on Youth Work Developments

BULGARIA FACT SHEET

The 3rd European Youth Work Convention (EYWC) plays a key role in launching the implementation of the European Youth Work Agenda (EYWA) as a strategic framework for further developing and strengthening youth work practice and policies in Europe. The goal of this fact sheet is to provide basic information about the perspective on youth work developments in a specific country. All information has been gathered from national contact points, reports or country sheets and profiles available online. The purpose of this fact sheet is to stimulate discussion before, at and after the 3rd EYWC among the members of the national delegations. This information is a suggestion only and a starting point for further development by the delegation when planning actions for implementation of the EYWA.

FACTS

Youth work as a recognised occupation: YES

Legislative framework for youth work: YES

Main youth work actors: (ministries, youth NGOs, municipalities etc.)

- Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, State office for Youth
- youth organisations.

Highlights with regard to youth work development:

Bulgaria has very good administrative and legal support to youth work. Youth work is mentioned and elaborated in the National Youth Strategy (2010-2020) and the Youth Act. The Youth Act gives a definition of Youth worker, the required qualifications for the position and the main tasks of a youth worker. The Youth Act also stipulates that the national programs on youth should include activities in support of the development and specialised training of the youth workers.

STRENGTHS & SUCCESSES	CHALLENGES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Very good administrative regulation of youth work;• National funding schemes for youth organisations;	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Insufficiently developed digital youth work;• at local levels there is a need for mobile youth work but it is not adequately developed;• The promotion of youth centres and other youth spaces as facilities for access to youth work is recognised as a challenge.

SUPPORT NEEDED

- Exchange of good practices and access to research, knowledge and expertise on youth work is needed;
- Seminars, peer learning or other appropriate forms of formal and informal cooperation involving stakeholders from different areas of policy, including young people from different geographic and cultural backgrounds, to explore opportunities for cross-sectoral and inter-regional cooperation and access to services would be welcomed.

GREATEST NEED FOR FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF YOUTH WORK IN THE NEXT THREE YEARS

Supporting further development of quality youth work;

Supporting the ability of youth work to tackle emerging challenges and innovate its practices.

ADDITIONAL SOURCES

Youth wiki youth work chapter: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/en/content/youthwiki/10-youth-work-bulgaria>

EKCYP country sheet on youth work: https://pjp-eu.coe.int/documents/42128013/47262610/YW-Country-sheet-Bulgaria_2019.pdf/254f621f-9764-f77d-6e06-db648bbfcb47