



PARTNERSHIP

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

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Youth Partnership

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and the Council of Europe in the field of youth



EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE



Background

The Council of Europe and European Commission have developed close co-operation in the youth field since 1998.

Today this co-operation mainly relates to:

- participation and citizenship,
- social inclusion with a focus on young people in vulnerable situations,
- recognition and quality of youth work.

Special attention is paid to the geographical scope of activities and to the dissemination and publication of results.

The close cooperation, involvement and participation of youth workers, youth researchers and policy-makers are essential to a successful EU-CoE youth partnership.

The co-operation is based on the principle of balanced involvement of the European Commission and the Council of Europe in terms of political priorities, management, funding and visibility.

The current partnership agreement between the two institutions started at the beginning of 2014 and will run until the end of 2016.

Objectives

The partnership has two specific objectives:

- “Better knowledge on youth” – by having a “think tank” function to establish a clear picture of current and upcoming challenges, including the economic crisis and access to the labour market, and to identify trends in participation for all young people, based on evidence, analysis and input from within the youth sector and beyond;
- “Promotion of youth work” – advocacy regarding the contribution of youth work to youth participation and social inclusion, including innovative practices, partnerships, outreach, learning mobility and recognition of youth work;



and two horizontal ones:

■ “Co-operation with a regional focus” – to promote young people’s participation and social inclusion through peer learning and capacity building in specific European and neighbourhood regions: Eastern Europe and the Caucasus, South-East Europe (Western Balkans) and South Mediterranean;

■ “Communication and information” – to disseminate the results of activities to a wide audience.

Target group and beneficiaries

The activities of the EU-CoE youth partnership address youth workers, youth leaders, youth researchers, trainers, youth experts and youth policy players in both partners’ member states. Intended final beneficiaries are, of course, young people themselves.

The EU-CoE youth partnership team

EU-CoE youth partnership activities are carried out by a team of eight staff members, who are responsible for the co-ordination, quality and visibility of activities. The staff of the partnership work in Strasbourg and in Brussels.

Co-operation partners

Activities are implemented in co-operation with other organisations with relevant experience in the field, such as the National Agencies of the European Commission’s Erasmus+; Youth in Action Programme, SALTO Resource Centres, Ministries responsible for youth issues in the participating countries, research bodies and institutes, the European Youth Forum and youth NGOs.

Activities

The main activities revolve around the facilitation of dialogue among policy, research and practice through thematic research seminars, workshops, symposia and networking meetings leading to enhanced co-operation, knowledge and exchanges of good practice.

Publications and online presence

To maximise the impact of the EU-CoE youth partnership, the results of its work are disseminated via the EU-CoE youth partnership website, social media and publications:

■ Coyote magazine presenting topics of actuality and relevance to the European youth field, in particular youth work. It has been published since 1999.



■ Training Kits (T-kits), practical manuals on a variety of topics that are relevant in particular for youth workers and trainers. The kits have been published since 2000.

■ Youth Knowledge Books share conceptual reflections stemming from youth research, as well as youth policy and youth work practice; the series started in 2004 and currently also includes Perspectives on Youth, a forward-looking series which seeks out new trends that impact young people in Europe and beyond.

■ The website of the partnership was revamped in 2014 and features a number of interactive tools. Open calls are regularly presented and a calendar, including information relevant to the European youth field, is constantly updated.

You can find the partnership website at the address:
<http://youth-partnership-eu.coe.int>

■ Social media:

Facebook: EU-CoE youth partnership

Twitter: @eucoeyouth

European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy (EKCY)

The EKCY is an on-line platform intended to provide the European youth sector with knowledge and information about the situation of young people across Europe. Since 2008, it has formed an integral part of the EU-CoE youth partnership website.

Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR)

The mission of the Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR) is to contribute to an informed European policy discourse in the field of youth. PEYR consists of 25 researchers from across Europe who possess a wide range of expertise in different policy areas connected to youth.



The European Platform on Learning Mobility (EPLM)

The mission of the European Platform on Learning Mobility (EPLM) is to engage in the improvement, knowledge, visibility and recognition of learning mobility in the youth field. The EPLM is an open participatory space for exchange and co-operation between various multipliers in the youth field. The EU-CoE youth partnership began co-ordinating the EPLM in 2014.

Thematic priorities

Participation

Youth participation is one of the key priorities for the work of the youth partnership for the years 2014-2016. Information on the activities in the field of youth participation and their results are available on the EU-CoE youth partnership website: <http://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/youth-partnership/citizenship-participation-and-information>

Social inclusion

Social inclusion of young people in vulnerable situations is another thematic priority of the current EU-CoE youth partnership agreement. The main strand related to this priority is to broaden knowledge about the barriers to social inclusion for young people in vulnerable situations and on ways to abolish or go beyond them.

Information is available at:

<http://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/youth-partnership/mapping-on-barriers-to-social-inclusion>

Promotion of youth work

Quality and recognition of youth work and non-formal learning/education has been regularly on the agenda of European youth work since 2000. Since 2011, the EU-CoE youth partnership has played a monitoring role for activities at European level.

See this and more information at:

<http://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/youth-partnership/compendium>

<http://pjp-eu.coe.int/en/web/youth-partnership/mapping>

Overall goal

Synergy between the activities of the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the youth field:

- Activities linked to the values and priorities of and adding value to political objectives of both institutions;
- Complementarity of activities of the two institutions in the youth field, avoiding overlaps;
- Synergies between the two institutions' commitments in the youth field, bringing together their individual strengths, allowing for the use of common sources and results.

EU-CoE youth partnership

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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 47 member states, 28 of which are members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.

www.coe.int

The European Union is a unique economic and political partnership between 28 democratic European countries. Its aims are peace, prosperity and freedom for its 500 million citizens – in a fairer, safer world. To make things happen, EU countries set up bodies to run the EU and adopt its legislation. The main ones are the European Parliament (representing the people of Europe), the Council of the European Union (representing national governments) and the European Commission (representing the common EU interest).

<http://europa.eu>



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