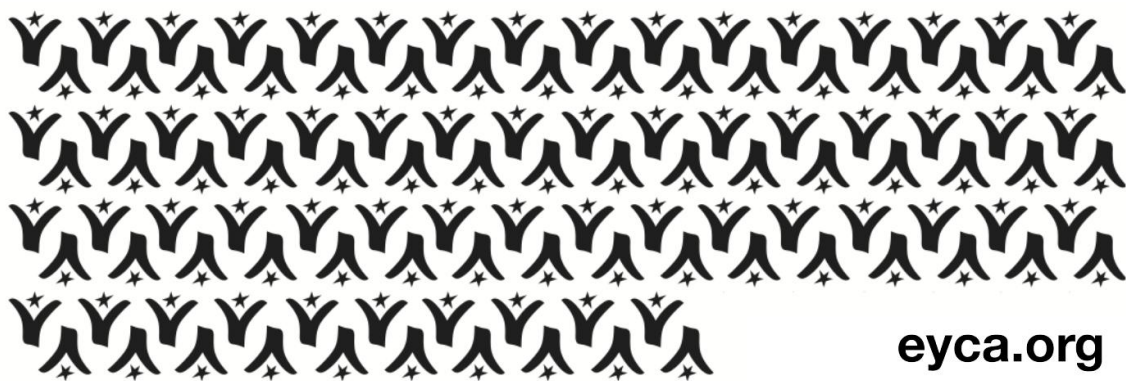




# **PARTIAL AGREEMENT & THE EUROPEAN YOUTH CARD: 30 YEARS IMPLEMENTING YOUTH POLICIES**

**Seminar Report**



**Date:** 28 September 2016 | Participants arrived on 27<sup>th</sup> and left on 29<sup>th</sup> September

**Location:** Sitges, Spain

## Introduction

The seminar entitled '30 years implementing youth policies' was part of the 2016 programme of activities of the EYCA - Council of Europe Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card. The seminar was organised in response to an interest voiced by a number of states not yet party to the Partial Agreement to learn more about it, as well as about the youth card and its implementation. Therefore, the profile of participants was mainly:

- Representatives of Governments working to develop and implement national youth policies and being interested to connect it with the European dimension;
- Representatives of the Council of Europe and Advisory Council on Youth;
- EYCA Board members;
- Representatives of EYCA member organisations;
- Local public authorities of Sitges and youth workers who work directly with the European Youth Card.

From a methodological perspective, the seminar combined a variety of formal and non-formal, as well as very practical ways of learning, networking and understanding the potential of the European Youth Card:

- Formal meetings with representatives of local public authorities;
- Presentations of models of developing the European Youth Card in various countries and how it is used as a tool to implement policies and provide services to young people;
- Practical visit at the local Youth Centre in Sitges to discuss with youth workers and understand directly how to implement the card at local level.

## Organisers

- Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card of the Council of Europe
- European Youth Card Association (EYCA)

## Cooperating Partners

- Agència Catalana de la Joventut - EYCA member organisation in Catalonia, Spain
- Generalitat de Catalunya, Spain
- Municipality of Sitges, Barcelona

Carnet Jove de Catalunya is one of the most successful youth card organisations in Spain and in Europe. More than half a million young people in Catalonia have the European Youth Card and access to all the services that are associated with it.

The Catalan government uses this program as a tool to implement different youth policies and to communicate with young people, bringing an important social dimension to the development of the card.

This is a very good example of how local, regional or national governments can use the European Youth Card to promote their programs and to empower young people.

## Seminar programme

DAY 1 - 27 SEPTEMBER 2016	
20.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting in hotel lobby followed by dinner outside the hotel</li> </ul>
DAY 2 - 28 SEPTEMBER 2016	
09.15	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meeting in hotel lobby</li> </ul>
09.30 – 10.15	<p><b>Welcome address by hosting authorities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr. Miquel Forn, Mayor of the city of Sitges</li> <li>Jarkko Lehtikoinen, EYCA President</li> <li>Natajla Turenne, Council of Europe</li> <li>Ms. Dolors Bassa, Minister of Employment, Social Affairs and Families, Catalan Government</li> </ul>
Introduction to the Partial Agreement	
10.30 – 11.15	<p>The Partial Agreement and its role in the implementation of youth policies in member states</p> <p>Questions and answers</p>
11.15 - 11.30	Coffee break
Good practice examples	
11.30 – 13.00	<p>The European Youth Card and effective youth policies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Carnet Jove, Catalonia, Spain   The social role of the Youth Card</li> <li>Young Scot, Scotland, UK   The Youth Card as a tool to implement youth policies</li> <li>Movijovem, Portugal   The Youth Card promoting mobility</li> <li>Diákkedvezmény, Hungary   The educational role of the Youth Card</li> </ul> <p>Questions and answers</p>
13.00 – 14.00	Lunch
Youth Cards & other aspects of youth policy	
14.00 – 18.00	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Visit to a youth information centre related to the Youth Card</li> <li>Practical use of the Youth Card to involve young people in youth policies</li> <li>Recap and closing of the seminar.</li> </ul>

18.00 – 19.15	Return to hotel and free time
21.00	Dinner
<b>DAY 3 - 29 SEPTEMBER 2016</b>	
Cultural programme and departures	

## Summary of the presentations

### Agencia Catalana de la Joventut (Spain)

- The European Youth Card is used as a tool by the local government and youth centres to implement and develop local youth policies;
- The youth sector is a competence delegated at regional level, therefore each community in Spain is responsible for developing youth laws and strategies;
- The Youth Law of Catalonia (2010) recognises the essential role of youth workers and it's a result of consultations with young people;
- **550.000** cardholders in 2016 and 3.553 companies collaborate with the Youth Card offering more that 8.117 benefits;
- 49.488 cardholders participate in different calls, registered in the Get Connected program (to stimulate youth employment).

See full presentation at [LINK](#).

### Cartao Jovem – MOVIOJEM (Portugal)

- Mission – To promote youth mobility with a social, educational and cultural scope
- Manages the European Youth Card and youth hostels
- The main goal is to promote mobility and access to products and services in leisure, culture, entertainment, sports, new technologies, among others, with a non-exclusivity logic and in special conditions to cardholders, aged 12 to 30.
- In Portugal there are 166.000 cardholders that benefit from almost 8.000 discounts and benefits, together with the all the benefits of the European Youth Card across Europe.

See full presentation at [LINK](#).

Link to the promotional video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hHaTsyLOMc8>

### Diakkedvezmeny - HOOK (Hungary)

- 1.3 million students in Hungary receive the European Youth Card for free
- Educational Authority of Hungary is the EYCA member organisation, implementing the programme with the support of HÖÖK, the national student organisation
- The goal is to build the youth card into a tool that supports and educates young people in various areas:
  - Developing their financial skills
  - Becoming more mobile and internationally involved
  - Being an active member of their community
- This is achieved by building a forward-looking, sustainable and transparent structure.
- A free card: equal opportunities for all students

See full presentation at [LINK](#).

### Young Scot (Scotland, United Kingdom)

- Young Scot is the national youth information and citizenship charity for Scotland.
- Providing young people aged 11-26 with information, ideas and access to opportunities – to support them to reach their full potential as they grow up and face transitions.
- 620.000 cardholders
- The card offers benefits and represents a tool in: smart-travel, digital public services, building safer communities, developing the young workforce, co-production and community empowerment.

See full presentation at [LINK](#).

During the second part of the day, guests and participants had the chance to visit the local Youth Centre in Sitges and to interact with the youth workers that provide the European Youth Card. Participants were offered a presentation on how the Youth Card is used to:

- **inform** young people about various community opportunities they have in the area like leisure, art, volunteering, studies, mobility, etc.;
- **identify** those young people who are at risk of becoming marginalised, because of school or family issues. Youth workers take the opportunity to actually develop a trust relationship with them and keep them engaged citizens and offer professional counselling;
- **attract** young people to spend their free time at the youth centre and build social, civic skills while preventing at risk behaviours such as juvenile delinquency, drug dependency and promoting a healthy lifestyle.

As a conclusion, the seminar offered the space for government representatives and participants to explore various ways in which the European Youth Card can be used as a tool to empower young people to grow into autonomous, self-confident, responsible and active citizens, with access to community services, mobility and participation opportunities.

## List of participants

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