



DJS/LTTC ENTER Sem/2010/NLB/1

Strasbourg, 17 September 2010



Access to Social Rights for Young People from Disadvantaged Neighbourhoods

An inter-sectoral project of the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe for the development of youth work and youth policy responses to exclusion, discrimination and violence affecting young people in multicultural disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

Expert Seminar

YOUTH POLICY APPROACHES FOR ACCESS TO SOCIAL RIGHTS OF YOUNG PEOPLE FROM DISADVANTAGED NEIGHBOURHOODS

1-3 December 2010
European Youth Centre Strasbourg

SEMINAR PRESENTATION DRAFT PROGRAMME

The ENTER! Project

Within its work priority “Social Cohesion and Inclusion of Young People”, the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe initiated a two years project to share experiences and develop innovative and effective youth work and youth policy responses to exclusion, discrimination and violence affecting young people in multicultural disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

The project, run with the support of the Flemish Agency of Foreign Affairs, draws on the experience of the Council of Europe youth sector in developing non-formal learning and training of youth workers in order to explore ways of responding to challenges faced by young people and youth work institutions.

The project is being developed with the following objectives in mind:

- To address situations of conflict and exclusion of young people living in multicultural environments through non-formal education and youth work projects;
- To develop conceptual and practical means of translating intercultural dialogue into the realities of youth work;
- To explore and identify means for innovative youth work projects with young people at risk of exclusion and violence;
- To initiate, support and evaluate thirty-five innovative pilot projects with a high multiplier effect across Europe;
- To address situations of exclusion, conflict and violence affecting young people through partnerships between youth work, youth policy and local authorities;
- To consolidate results of the “All different – all equal” European youth campaign in relation to diversity, participation and human rights.

One core element of the ENTER! project is a long-term training course for youth workers/leaders working in disadvantaged neighbourhoods with young people who face difficulties in exercising their social human rights. The course aims at developing their skills and competences in setting up projects for inclusion and in sharing them with colleagues across Europe. The projects of the participants should serve as a basis for a policy recommendations on the access of young people to social rights.

In addition to the training course and its support measures, the project includes seminars and meetings in 2010 and 2011 aimed at complementing the work done with youth workers by deepening specific issues and themes and especially connecting the course and the project with the other priorities of the youth policy agenda of the Council of Europe.

Within this context, the Directorate of Youth and Sport is organising an expert seminar on youth policy approaches for access to social rights of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods in cooperation with the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and the Directorate of Social Cohesion.

The framework of the meeting

The youth policy of the Council of Europe aims at “...providing young people, i.e. girls and boys, young women and men, with equal opportunities and experience which enable them to develop knowledge, skills and competencies to play a full part in all aspects of society”¹.

The Council of Europe has always given particular attention to the specific situations and challenges affecting young people with fewer opportunities, growing up in disadvantaged neighbourhoods or facing greater obstacles to participation and enjoyment of their social rights.

The mechanisms to support policies for the social inclusion and integration of young people put into place by the Council of Europe include training programmes for youth workers, youth policy recommendations and guidelines for social inclusion, educational resources for participation and the support by the European Youth Foundation to pilot projects carried out by young people. The recognition and promotion of youth work and non-formal learning in Europe are also part of this effort. Non-formal education has proven to be an efficient approach when working with young people in disadvantaged neighbourhoods, through its learner centred dimension and the fact that it also addresses young people outside of the formal school curricula. Although its recognition remains problematic, non-formal education enables youth workers to address young people’s daily realities and to develop their skills, attitudes and knowledge on the basis of their own experiences. Non-formal education is close to what in some countries is referred to as “éducation populaire”, aiming at giving everyone an access to learning and education and taking into account the individual needs of a person.

Other measures and mechanisms include the Solidarity Fund for Youth Mobility and the work with the (revised) Charter for Youth Participation at Local and Regional Level of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. The European Youth Centres in Budapest and in Strasbourg have often pioneered innovative intercultural education training concepts for youth workers and for youth leaders. The partnerships with the European Commission in the field of youth, with ERYICA (European Youth Information and Counselling Agency) and the Partial Agreement on the Youth Card are additional instruments that increase our potential for action and for impacting on young people through those who work with young people.

Furthermore, the “All Different – All Equal” European youth campaigns – against Racism, Antisemitism, Xenophobia and Intolerance and for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation – have provided many good examples of good practice and results achieved when governmental and non-governmental youth actors co-operate towards common goals.

Today, however, this is not enough to reverse the feelings that social exclusion is inevitable and that the exposure of young people to it is unavoidable.

The Enter! project on the access to social rights for young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods was set up in response to the growing concern and attention of the European Steering Group on Youth (CDEJ) and the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ), the governmental and non-governmental partners of the youth

¹ Committee of Ministers Resolution CM/Res(2008)23 on the youth policy of the Council of Europe

sector of the Council of Europe, to matters of social cohesion and inclusion of young people. It is these committees that set up Social Inclusion of Young People as a work priority for the Council of Europe, including:

- responses to the exclusion and marginalisation of young people, and measures to facilitate their access to social rights;
- non-formal education as a means of facilitating young people's social inclusion;
- addressing the social inclusion of young migrants, refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons;
- the role of youth work and youth policy in promoting intergenerational dialogue and solidarity.

The experiences provided by the Long Term Training Course and the insights provided by the seminars will serve as a basis for policy recommendations and guidelines to be prepared in 2010 and finalised in 2011. Finally, the involvement of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods in the project is foreseen in a large-scale event – the Enter! Youth Congress – through which young people from across Europe will meet and provide input to and feedback on the policy recommendations. The congress is planned as an opportunity for young people to develop their intercultural skills and to plan or initiate their own activities. The Enter! Youth Congress is to take place in Strasbourg in the autumn of 2011.

In 2011, an experts group is to be composed to prepare and finalise the policy guidelines and prepare a draft recommendation and explanatory Memorandum by the Committee of Ministers on access to social rights of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

The meeting on youth policy responses is developed in close cooperation with the Congress of Local Authorities of the Council of Europe and the Directorate for Social Cohesion of the Council of Europe and should serve as an example of cross-sectorial cooperation between three bodies active in the field of ensuring access to social rights.

Why this meeting?

This expert seminar follows five meetings within the ENTER project addressing issues related to access to social rights of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

Earlier this year, a seminar on youth information and counselling and an expert meeting on new ways of participation took place in Budapest. Later on, a seminar was dedicated to gender equality and finally, the Directorate of Social Cohesion of the Council of Europe organised a conference on social mobility of young people. The seminars brought together youth workers and practitioners, researchers and policy makers in the respective fields of expertise. Youth workers taking part in the Long Term Training Course on access to social rights for young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods also took part in the meetings.

The seminars produced concrete recommendations on the access to social rights in order to contribute to the work on drafting guidelines and policy recommendations as a result of the ENTER! project.

This expert seminar should take the recommendations of the ENTER! seminars as a starting point to explore how to integrate them into a policy document to the Committee of Ministers on the access to social rights for young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

The outcomes of this meeting will be taken up by an expert group which will prepare a draft recommendation by the Committee of Ministers on the access to social rights of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

Aim and objectives

The seminar aims at identifying, reviewing and prioritising main issues and proposals to be taken up for a policy recommendation by the Committee of Ministers to the Member States and other areas of youth policy on social inclusion and access to social Rights for young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods.

The objectives of the seminar are:

- To review the results of the ENTER! seminars and the Long Term training Course (LTTC) and extract the main outcomes to be integrated into a policy document;
- To take stock of the work of the Directorate of Social Cohesion and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities in relation to access to social rights of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods;
- To discuss amongst practitioners, researchers and policy makers the priority issues and areas of intervention of youth policy on access to social rights for young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods;
- To identify ways of linking the experience of the Council of Europe in the field of Human Rights and Social Rights to a policy document and an explanatory memorandum on the access to social rights for young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods;
- To provide some input to the conceptual and practical development of the ENTER! project on access to social rights of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods;
- To propose ways through which youth policy and youth work can further contribute to access to social rights of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods ;
- To further develop cross-sectorial cooperation between the Congress, DGIII and the DYS.

Format and Methodology

The seminar will bring together 25 participants (policy makers, youth representatives, researchers and youth workers working in multicultural disadvantaged neighbourhoods) for three days.

The meeting is designed as a mutual learning situation, where participants can exchange their experiences and built upon previous results for a common identification of the main priorities to be taken to a policy level.

The programme of the meeting will provide space for individual as well as group reflection and debate, encourage exchange of best practices, theoretical inputs and will help to create the theoretical and practical framework for further work on a policy document.

Working Language

The working languages will be English and French.

Participants

The seminar will bring together youth workers and social workers, active members of youth organisations, as well as at young people not being part of youth organisations, youth researchers and policy makers, involved in theoretical or practical work in disadvantaged multicultural neighbourhoods. Particular attention will be given to participants in previous ENTER activities as well as to local authorities to ensure that the results of all seminars are fed into the reflection on youth policy priorities.

All applicants must:

- be able to work in English and/or French
- be committed to attend the full duration of the meeting

Arrival and departure

The expert meeting will start on the 1st December at 9.30am and finish on 3rd December at 1pm.

Financial and practical conditions of participation

Travel expenses

Travel expenses and visa fees (on presentation of the relevant receipts) are reimbursed according to the rules of the Directorate of Youth and Sport. Only participants who have attended the entire meeting can be reimbursed. Payments will be made either by bank transfer after the course, or at the end of the seminar in cash in Euros.

Accommodation

Board and lodging are provided and paid for by the Directorate of Youth and Sport at the European Youth Centre Strasbourg.

Programme

A draft programme of the meeting can be found below. Please be aware that this programme is a draft which could still be changed until the meeting.

Wednesday, 1st December

- 08:00 *Breakfast*
- 09:30 Welcome and opening of the meeting
- 10:00 Introduction to the seminar, ENTER! and the organizing bodies (Directorate of Youth and Sport, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Directorate of Social Cohesion)
- 11:00 *Coffee break*
- 11:30 Access to Social Rights, Social Cohesion and Youth Policy: Expert input by **Mary Daly**, *Queen's University, Belfast* (tbc)
Discussion: Where to put the emphasis for a policy recommendation?
- 13:00 *Lunch*
- 14:30 Youth policy and disadvantaged neighbourhoods: Expert input by **Howard Williamson**, *University of Glamorgan* (tbc)
Discussion: policies, realities, challenges and shortcomings
- 16:00 *Coffee break*
- 16:30 Working groups on: "How should youth work/ youth policy respond?"
- 18:30 Reception offered by the Director of Youth and Sport, Ralph-René Weingärtner
- 19:30 Dinner

Thursday, 2nd December

- 08:00 *Breakfast*
- 09:30 The role of local youth policies/authorities in access to social rights
Presentation of the Congress resolution on the integration of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods by **Véronique Moreira**, *Rapporteur of the resolution* (tbc)
- 11:00 *Coffee Break*
- 11:30 Practice sharing on concrete examples of working in a neighbourhood with youth work and youth policy (example of the city of Mulhouse?)
- 13:00 *Lunch*
- 14:30 How to make a policy recommendation useful and applicable by **Régis Brillat**, *Directorate of Human Rights and Legal Affairs, Social Charter* (tbc)
- 16:00 *Coffee break*
- 16:30 Working groups on the contents of the recommendation and explanatory memorandum:

- Identify the contents based on the results of previous ENTER! Seminars
- Thematic working groups

19:00 *Dinner in town*

Friday, 3rd December

08:00 *Breakfast*

09:30 Presentation of results and conclusions from the working groups

11:00 *Coffee break*

11:30 Where do we go from here? Next steps in the project

12:00 Conclusions by the general rapporteur

12:45 Evaluation

13:00 Closing of the seminar

Registration procedure

People interested in attending should send back the following registration form to Jackie Lubelli: jackie.lubelli@coe.int

All registrations should be sent latest on **Sunday 17th October 2010.**
Confirmation of acceptance will be communicated by 25th October.

Youth Policy Approaches for access to social rights of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods

1. First name		
Surname		
Sex: <input type="checkbox"/> Male <input type="checkbox"/> Female	Age:	Nationality:
Country of Residence:		
2. Working languages (<i>please tick <u>all</u> of the languages in which you are able to work</i>):		
<input type="checkbox"/> English	<input type="checkbox"/> French	
3. Contacts – Please note all correspondence will be sent to this address – please ensure it is complete.		
Postal address(street, number, city, postal code, country):		
Telephone:	Fax: -	
Mobile telephone:	e-mail:	
4. Have you any special needs or requirements (e.g. dietary, disability, etc.)		
5. Visas		
Will you need a visa for Strasbourg? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If yes, please indicate:		
Date of birth:	Passport No.:	Issued at:
Place of birth:	Date of expiry:	Place:
6. Which of the following best describes your function/role/profession		
<input type="checkbox"/> youth worker	<input type="checkbox"/> youth representative	
<input type="checkbox"/> policy maker	<input type="checkbox"/> local/regional authority	
<input type="checkbox"/> other (<i>Please specify</i>):	<input type="checkbox"/> researcher	
7. Please briefly describe your experience in relation to disadvantaged neighbourhoods, youth work and youth policy:		
8. Why would you like to attend?		
9. In which ways would you like to contribute to the seminar and its programme?		

10. Have you participated in another activity within the ENTER! Project.

If yes, please precise which one:

- ☐ I am a participant in the LTTC
- ☐ Seminar on new ways of participation in multicultural youth work (Budapest, 14-18 June)
- ☐ Seminar on youth information and counseling (Budapest, 14-18 June)
- ☐ Seminar on Gender Equality in youth work (Strasbourg, 24-26 June 2010)
- ☐ Conference on Social Mobility organised by DGIII (Strasbourg, 30 June-1st July)

7. I am available to attend the full duration of the meeting

☐ Yes ☐ No

Please send the form back to Jackie Lubelli: Jackie.Lubelli@coe.int

Deadline for registration: **Sunday 17th October 2010**