

**HUMAN RIGHTS,
DEMOCRACY
AND THE RULE OF LAW**

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

**DROITS DE L'HOMME,
DÉMOCRATIE
ET ÉTAT DE DROIT**

The Council of Europe Youth Sector

Co-management, youth policy, resources

Directorate General of Democracy (“DGI”)



Directorate of Democratic Participation



The Youth Department

- **Developing coherent and effective youth policies;**
- **Providing funding and educational support for youth activities;**
- **Training and education for multipliers.**

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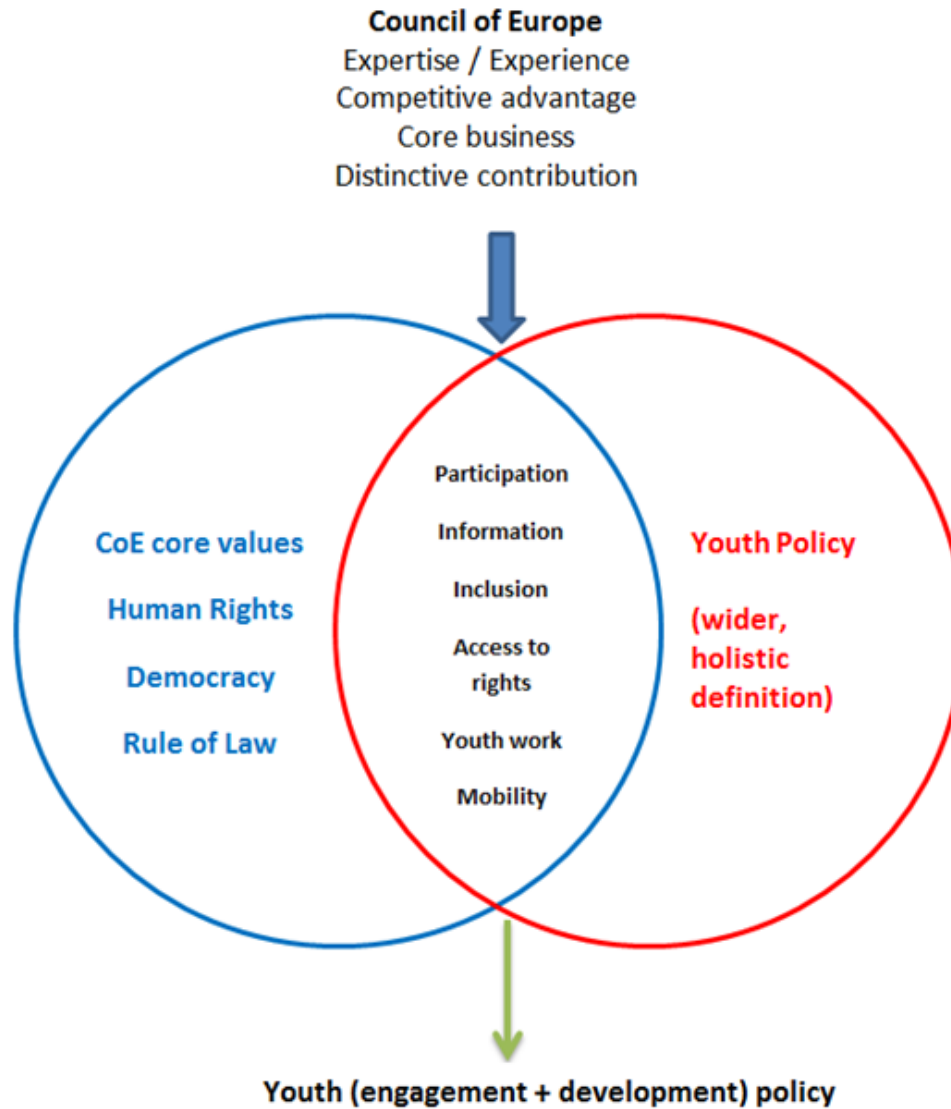
Council of Europe's youth policy

Aim and scope

Overall aim of the Council of Europe's youth policy

- democracy, human rights and the rule of law through non formal education, youth policy and practice.
- young European citizens advocating human rights and participating fully in democratic life.
- developing inclusive and peaceful societies with “agents of change”





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Council of Europe youth sector

Main instruments

Main Council of Europe's youth policy **instruments**

- **Co-management**
- European Youth Centres Strasbourg and Budapest
- **European Youth Foundation**
- Partnership with European Commission
- Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility
- Intergovernmental co-operation and assistance to member States

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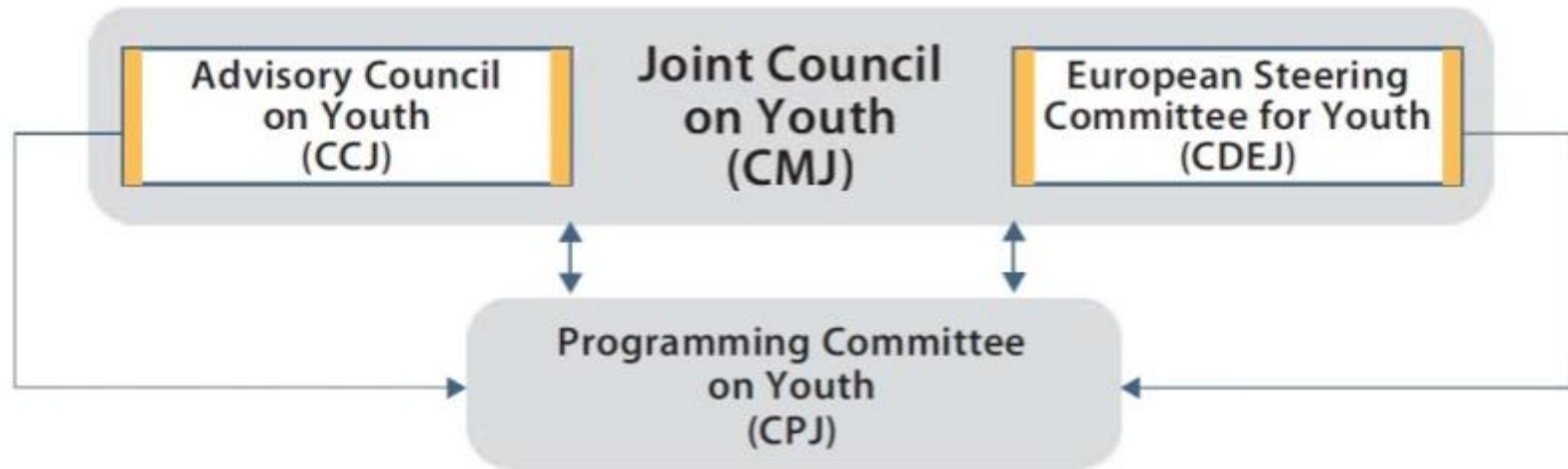


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Co-management

Co-management structure



- ✓ Bronze Winner of the World Future Policy Award 2019
- ✓ Recognised as one of the “world’s best policies to empower young people”

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Developing youth policy

Three priorities:

- **Access to rights**
- **Youth participation and youth work**
- **Peaceful and inclusive societies**

The example of the shrinking space for youth civil society:

- Advisory Council on Youth brings issue to the CMJ
- CMJ organises a thematic debate and decides to organise a consultative meeting
- Main partners and stakeholders conclude a CM recommendation is required
- CMJ sets up a drafting group to work on a CM rec
- Draft CM rec adopted by CMJ
- Draft sent to CM for adoption

Committee of Ministers' Recommendations: "soft law"



✓ Roadmaps for implementation (specific to youth field)

Recent recommendations



Youth work
CM/Rec(2017)4



Access to rights
CM/Rec(2016)7



Access to Social Rights for Young People

Enter!
CM/Rec(2015)3

European Youth Foundation

Financial and educational support for European youth activities

- ✓ International activities
- ✓ Annual work plans
- ✓ Structural grants
- ✓ Pilot activities

EYF

european youth foundation
fonds européen pour la jeunesse



National youth policy reviews



Manuals and handbooks



History and background knowledge



Activity and project reports



Adopted texts and recommendations



Youth partnership publications



<https://www.coe.int/en/web/youth/resources>

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Council of Europe youth sector strategy 2030



Main framework and roadmap for the next decade

Parameters for the new strategy

- ✓ general policy orientations
- ✓ based on the Council of Europe's core values (democracy, human rights, rule of law) and standards
- ✓ addressing policy gaps (challenges facing young people in Europe)
- ✓ support the Council of Europe in developing appropriate responses to new trends and challenges (e.g. climate change, artificial intelligence)

**Intergovernmental
co-operation**
*at pan-European level
on the development and
implementation of youth
policy, based on Council
of Europe standards*

**NO
HATE**

**Assistance to
member States, in
particular through
youth policy advisory
missions and other
multilateral and bilateral
support measures**

Our vision

- ▶ The youth sector aims at “enabling young people across Europe to actively **uphold, defend, promote and benefit from the Council of Europe’s core values** (human rights, democracy and the rule of law)”

Our principles

- ▶ mutual respect
- ▶ trust
- ▶ inclusiveness
- ▶ sustained commitment participation
- ▶ equity
- ▶ transparency
- ▶ collaboration



Youth sector strategy 2030

Our missions

- ▶ **Broadening youth participation**
... so that young people are participating meaningfully in decision-making at all levels, on the basis of a broad social and political consensus in support of participatory governance and accountability.
- ▶ **Strengthening young people's access to rights**
... so that young people and all forms of youth civil society can rely on an enabling environment for the full exercise of all their human rights and freedoms, including concrete policies, mechanisms and resources.
- ▶ **Deepening youth knowledge**
... so that young people's democratic engagement is supported by communities of practice that are producing knowledge and expertise.



Our priorities

- ▶ **Revitalising pluralistic democracy**
- ▶ **Young people's access to rights**
- ▶ **Living together in peaceful and inclusive societies**
- ▶ **Youth work**

Our instruments

- ▶ Co-managed statutory bodies
- ▶ European Youth Centres Strasbourg and Budapest
- ▶ European Youth Foundation
- ▶ Partnership with the European Commission in the youth field

Council of Europe Conseil de l'Europe

47 Member States États membres



Thank you for your attention



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