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PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN ERYICA AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Joint Co-ordinating Committee 28th meeting

Strasbourg, 18 October 2017 (14:30-16:00)
EYCS, Room 5.1

Report

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

The meeting was opened by Florian Cescon, Head of Youth Policy Division. The participants of the meeting included:

- Natalja Turenne (administrator in charge of co-operation with ERYICA),
- Eva Reina (ERYICA's Director),
- Jan Vanhee (CDEJ member from Belgium),
- Natalia Radchuk (CDEJ member from Ukraine),
- Karolis Zemaitis (CCJ, National Youth Council of Lithuania).

Gordana Berjan and Marina Filaretova excused themselves due to prior professional commitments.

The agenda was adopted as it appears in Appendix I to this report.

2. Recent developments within ERYICA

ERYICA's Director informed the Committee that ERYICA's annual report 2016 was now available. She mentioned that ERYICA had started working on a **new strategy** for the coming six years (2018-2023) as the current one was coming to an end in December 2017. The next strategic plan would thus last twice as long, but with a thorough mid-term evaluation after 3 years of implementation. The process comprised several steps, including contributions from ERYICA's General Assembly and ERYICA's Governing Board. The Council of Europe Secretariat was of the opinion that this would bring stability to planning of the programme of activities in the framework of the partnership between the Council of Europe and ERYICA.

The new strategy will address four strategic directions:

- **Research, trends and innovation**, with a particular focus on new trends and technologies popular among young people, research-based practices, peer-to-peer youth information, and youth media and information literacy;
- **Capacity building** of youth information workers through the ERYICA training system and the DOYIT eLearning platform;



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- **Quality and youth information ethics**, including revising and merging the European Youth Information Charter and the Principles of Online Youth Information to meet the needs of the youth of today;
- **Cooperation and policy advocacy**, ensuring that ERYICA network is **visible** and **represents the interests of its members in national and international policy making**, as well as seeking new opportunities for collaboration at international and European level, while maintaining those that already exist.

Communication and PR, using the new communication strategy to reach out to more youth information workers and stakeholders across Europe, would be a transversal priority.

ERYICA's Director also mentioned a **survey** ERYICA conducted together with EYCA and Eurodesk on "**Identifying the needs of youth (information) workers**". This consultation aimed at identifying the needs of youth (information) workers around Europe in order to improve and increase the resources available to them. It was the result of collaboration between two Erasmus+ projects. The project also involved a training session for youth workers from the three networks and a best practice publication on innovative methods to reach out to young people. Also in the framework of the memorandum of understanding signed by ERYICA, EYCA and Eurodesk in 2016, the three networks drafted a common position paper on the importance of including youth information and mobility in youth strategies. The three networks also invited their members (based in member states of the Council of Europe) to translate this survey into national languages.

ERYICA continued its **capacity-building- and quality-aimed training system** for youth information workers and youth workers. The trainings' objectives were:

- to improve and maintain a high quality of youth information all across its network, and
- to help its members reach and maintain a high level of professionalism.

The system is continuously broadening, while existing modules are constantly revised, keeping an eye on new trends of the youth information field and the different situations in member countries, including turning some of the modules into eLearning format. Regular trainings are conducted in national languages, and soon there will be ERYICA trainings taking place online (DOYIT project).

Next year, ERYICA will update its main policy document, the European Youth Information Charter (adopted in Bratislava, Slovakia, in 2004), and merge it with the Principles of Online Youth Information. This will take place in the framework of its strategic direction in the fields of ethical youth work and quality youth information. ERYICA will also put the emphasis on better media and information literacy skills for young people. ERYICA's Director underlined that this was not only a European concern. UNESCO was organising a Global Media and Information Literacy Week (MIL) 2017 (24 October – 1 November 2017, Jamaica), and special emphasis would be placed on youth. ERYICA has been invited by UNESCO to present how youth information and counselling can support young people's critical thinking and MIL skills at this conference. UNESCO tried to combine this event with the Youth Agenda and its Global Youth Forum taking place in Paris at the same time (25-26 October 2017).

ERYICA's Director also mentioned joint co-operation between EYCA, ERYICA and Eurodesk and a good practice collection they jointly published "Engage. Inform. Empower". ERYICA had also published its own good practice collection "SHeryica – Good practice in youth information".



3. Implementation of the grant agreement 2017

The Secretariat informed the Committee that the implementation of the 2017 programme of activities was in line with the grant agreement 2017. It was agreed that, on the one hand, due to certain financial constraints the Council of Europe was facing, and, on the other hand, in line with the copyright policy of the grant agreement, ERYICA would be in charge of the layout, graphic line, proofreading and possibly printing of the manual on the prevention of violent youth radicalisation. This ERYICA publication would acknowledge the support of the Council of Europe and include the standard disclaimer.

4. Preparation of the draft grant agreement 2018 (priorities, activities, publications)

ERYICA's Director shortly presented a draft proposal for co-operation activities 2018 in the framework of the next grant agreement. The draft proposal appears in Appendix II to this report. It concerned a number of activities for Ukraine, partly based on the youth policy assistance measures which the Youth Department organised in Ukraine in May 2017. The Ukrainian representative underlined that the proposed activities were fully in line with the priorities of youth policy development of the Ukrainian Ministry for Youth and Sport and could also accompany the on-going trainings for youth workers organised by the Ministry.

The Secretariat, in its turn, was satisfied of the transversality and coherence of the proposed programme with the Youth Department priorities and activities, including assistance measures on youth policy development to member states. The Ukrainian representative mentioned that the Ministry for Youth and Sport could contribute to this programme of activities by translating some educational materials into Ukrainian and providing some support on the spot.

ERYICA's Director also mentioned the possibility to involve Ukraine in a survey on youth information needs that the Agency will launch in November 2017 in cooperation with Abo Akademi University in Finland in the framework of an Erasmus+ project. ERYICA and the Ukrainian representative will be in touch in the coming days to discuss this possibility and to update the concept note. The final version of the concept note will be sent back to the Secretariat and to the meeting participants.

The actual implementation of the programme of activities could be decided with the Ukrainian, Council of Europe and ERYICA partners at the kick-up meeting in early 2018. The CCJ representative added that it would be judicious to include representatives of the local and regional levels from Ukraine. Also, EYCA, ERYICA and Eurodesk could bring their expertise on service provision to young people, as well as on how to efficiently run large networks in view of the work by the Ministry for Youth and Sport to create a network of national youth centres and an association who would be responsible for co-ordination.

5. Any other business

The Secretariat suggested that future agendas of the CDEJ meetings contain a sub-item on co-operation with ERYICA under "Implementation of the intergovernmental programme of activities". The budget covering the grant agreement between the Council of Europe and ERYICA being within the remit of the CDEJ, this would allow sharing information and results of this co-operation with all CDEJ members. Such a proposal could be implemented already at the CDEJ meeting in March 2018. It was so agreed.



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It was suggested that, in line with previous regional events organised by ERYICA (2008 and 2011) in Eastern Europe, Caucasus and Western Balkans, future activities could be implemented in order to further strengthen youth information in these regions. This could be considered for the programme of activities in 2019, if appropriate.

6. Date and place of the next meeting

The Committee agreed that its next meeting would take place in October 2018 in Strasbourg, in the framework of the statutory meetings of the youth sector.

APPENDIX I

PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT BETWEEN ERYICA AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Joint Co-ordinating Committee

28th meeting

Strasbourg, 18 October 2017

Agenda

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda
2. Recent developments within ERYICA
3. Implementation of the grant agreement 2017
4. Preparation of the draft grant agreement 2018 (priorities, activities, publications)
5. Any other business
6. Date and place of the next meeting – in the framework of the Spring meeting of the statutory bodies in Budapest



APPENDIX II

Draft Project proposal in the framework of the Grant Agreement between the Council of Europe and ERYICA in 2018

1. Seminar on Youth Information and Counselling in Ukraine

In May 2017, an expert from the ERYICA network (Kerstin Giebel, IJAB) attended the International Forum “From initiatives into action” (29/05/2017 – 01/06/2017) in Chernigov, Ukraine, invited as a speaker by the Council of Europe. 120 participants from all over the country attended this event, and many demonstrated great enthusiasm for receiving further details about existing practices in youth information in Europe and how to gain support from ERYICA.

Many participants, including the Ukrainian Ministry responsible for youth, wished to be updated about the youth sector activities in other countries and at the European level (funding programmes, tools, training opportunities and resources). Kerstin identified some lacks and obstacles:

- Many of them do not know about existing European funding programmes and cooperating frameworks for non-formal education, i.e. Erasmus+, European Youth Foundation;
- Handouts, brochures, websites, and information from the NGOs are often in Ukrainian (or Russian) language, which may be an obstacle to their visibility and collaboration with peer organisations in other countries and at the European level; and
- There is little or no distinction between different kinds of youth services (i.e. volunteer youth work activities, professional youth work services, youth information work, youth counselling) and no structure or national coordination for the different youth services and activities conducted across the country.

In this context and in the framework of its partnership with the Council of Europe, ERYICA would like to support the youth work sector in Ukraine and the Ministry responsible for youth in their efforts to provide quality youth services in the country. In particular ERYICA will provide expertise and assistance to raise awareness about the importance of making youth information and counselling services available to young people and to support them in taking the first steps in the design and development of these services.

The specific aims of this project being to:

- Support the development of youth information services in Ukraine by providing expertise, resources, training and good practice examples from the ERYICA network;
- Boost the enhancement of youth policy and youth work in Ukraine and Council of Europe recommendations (namely CM/Rec(2017)4 on youth work, CM/Rec(2016)7 on young people’s access to rights and CM/Rec(90)7 and CM/Rec(2010)8 on youth information and counselling), by gathering targeted participants in a seminar on youth information and counselling and by allowing them to discuss and share issues, solutions, strategies and good practices with each other and with European peers; and



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- Facilitate networking amongst stakeholders of the youth sector in Ukraine, with the aim of enabling them to become part of the countries that provide youth information and counselling services and by supporting them to reach quality standards of youth information in Europe.

To attain these aims, the proposed activities under the partnership between ERYICA and the Council of Europe in 2018 involve:

- A Kick-off meeting including ERYICA representatives, the Ukrainian Ministry responsible for youth, Council of Europe representatives, and Ukrainian youth organisations, other Ukrainian stakeholders at the national level;

- A National seminar on youth information and counselling gathering targeted Ukrainian participants and experienced youth information workers and experts from the ERYICA network;

- Some sessions of the YIntro training of ERYICA delivered by one or two Russian-speaking trainers of the ERYICA trainers' pool;

- The translation or partial translation of the Compendium on National Youth Information and Counselling Structures into Russian/Ukrainian; and

- Dissemination activities to promote other publications edited by ERYICA and the Council of Europe under their partnership; namely those available in Russian (Info Rights Kit and Youth Information Starters' Kit).

In the past, ERYICA organised two similar activities successful activities. The most recent took place in 2015, when ERYICA, with the support of the Council of Europe, organised a seminar in Georgia to support the development of youth information and counselling in the Eastern Europe and Caucasus (EECA) region. This event in turn was organised after a successful project on youth information and counselling in the Western Balkans (2008) that created a core of regional cooperation in the youth information field. Both of these events were highly successful, as several countries attempted to start or stabilise generalist youth information work and continued these efforts in closer cooperation with European peers and stakeholders.

2. Dissemination activities for the manual Liaisons

In the course of 2016 and 2017, ERYICA and its French-speaking members have been concentrating on creating a manual for youth information workers, youth workers and educators. The manual, entitled 'LIAISONS - Manuel pour la prévention de l'extrémisme violent à travers l'information jeunesse' aims to define educational tools and information resources able to support the target group in addressing the above-mentioned project objectives.

The proposed activities under the partnership between ERYICA and the Council of Europe in 2018 will also involve the promotion and dissemination of the manual LIAISONS throughout Europe, especially after it is translated into English. Some examples of events where the manual may be promoted (more will be added to this list as information on other relevant events becomes available and the possibilities to take part are explored):

ERYICA General Assembly and other events of ERYICA;
European Youth Card Association (EYCA) General Assembly;
Eurodesk General Assemblies;
Multiplier events of the 3 networks listed above;



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Events organised at local, regional and national level organised by ERYICA members and stakeholders;

ERYICA youth ambassador events;

Relevant events organised by the European Youth Forum;

Relevant events organised by National Youth Council;

The European Youth Event (EYE), 1-2 June 2018, Strasbourg, France;

Final conference of the No Hate Speech Movement and other events taking place at the national level in the framework of the NHSM;

Relevant events organised by the Council of Europe;

The University on Youth and Development (UYD) of the North-South Centre;

Mediterranean University on Youth and Global Citizenship (North-South Centre);

Events organised by the European Commission and/or the EU-CoE youth partnership;

Events organised by UNESCO;

The Global Week on Media and Information Literacy and GAPMIL events;

Relevant events organised by the Commonwealth Secretariat in the field of youth;

Related events organised by the European Association of Youth Clubs;

Relevant events organised by Ministries at national or regional level;

Relevant events organised by National Agencies;

Relevant events organised by other stakeholders, such as the European Forum for Urban Security or the European Social Network; and

Any other relevant events that come up over the course of the year.

In order to achieve a wider promotion of LIAISONS, a number of meetings will take place between the ERYICA staff, ERYICA representatives, governmental representatives from the Council of Europe member states, youth organisations, and organisations interested in youth information and youth radicalisation issues.

ERYICA will also use its wide-reaching online presence to disseminate the manual, through social media channels (such as Twitter, Facebook, Instagram), emails, the ERYICA website and newsletter, as well as publications such as the ERYICA annual report, which is also diffused online. Such a wide array of channels will permit to reach a large audience of stakeholders from all over Europe.