



Strasbourg, 16 December 2019

CC-ERYICA(2019)PV 30

**PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT
BETWEEN ERYICA AND THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

Joint Co-ordinating Committee

30th meeting

Strasbourg, 16 October 2019 (14:00-15:30)
EYCS, Room 5.1

REPORT

1. Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

Present at the current meeting:

ERYICA was represented by Eva Reina (Director), Imre Simon Development Manager) and Patrick J Burke (ERYICA Vice-president and CEO Youth Work Ireland);

CDEJ was represented by Miriam Teuma (CDEJ Chair, CEO Maltese Youth Agency, Ministry of Education and Employment) and Katrin Olt (Youth Affairs Department, Ministry of Education and Research of Estonia);

CCJ was represented by Patricia dos Santos Goncalves;

the secretariat: Natalja Turenne and Florian Cescon, Youth Policy Division.

The meeting was opened by the secretariat and agenda was adopted as it appears in document [CC-ERYICA\(2019\)OJ 30](#).

2. Recent developments within ERYICA

ERYICA representatives updated the Joint Coordination Committee (JCC) on several developments within ERYICA in particular three current activities/projects:

One concerned a common training event organised by ERYICA, EYCA and Eurodesk for their members to improve or gain skills and knowledge about different ways of reaching out to young people (25-29 November 2019 in Palma de Majorca, Spain). The training would address the needs of youth service structures in optimising the promotion and attractiveness of their services among young people and establishing efficient **digital communication and outreach tools**.

The second project was an innovative youth information service design and outreach 2021 (**DESYIGN**). It was a long-term project financed by Erasmus+KA2 from March 2019 to February 2021. Project partners were multiple.¹The aim was to **rethink how services were designed** and to create service design tools and resources to allow youth workers and youth information workers to better address needs and to reach out to a maximum number of young people, especially those at risk of social exclusion. This project used service design methodologies and desk research. The service design was approached from the needs and requirements of users who would take part in searching for solutions together with providers and other stakeholders.

The project would aim at creating:

1. **a toolkit** on service design for youth information provision, aiming to reach out to more young people, including quality indicators and measures;
2. **an online course**, to be implemented into the ERYICA training system, based on the toolkit;
3. **innovative youth information design pilots** that would test the resources developed at different stages and help re-think youth information provision using service design methods, which can be used as good practice examples for youth information services across Europe.

The third project “Future youth information toolbox” running from September 2017 ended in April 2019. It gathered 9 partners from 8 different countries² who worked together to increase the quality and outreach of youth information services. This was done by creating and applying user-friendly youth information methods identified by evidence-based research and piloted at local level. The project produced a **manual** “Future foresight in youth information”; a **report** “Future Youth Information and Counselling: Building on Information Trends and Needs” and a peer-to-peer training course on youth information. It also developed three practical tools to support young people in making informed decisions regarding employment, mobility and media and information choices.

3. Implementation of the grant agreement 2019

The main project supported by the Council of Europe grant agreement 2019 was the development of the European Youth Information Quality Label over two years (2019-2020).

It should be recalled that the ERYICA General Assembly approved in April 2018 (Cascais, Portugal) a new European Youth Information Charter and ERYICA Strategic Plan for 2018-2023. Both documents highlighted the challenges faced by young people when it comes to addressing the overload of information and the need of ensuring the quality and visibility of YIC services. The Strategy underlined the necessity of creating **a European Youth Information Quality Label** (EYIQL) easily recognisable by young people, based on their needs and on the principles of the (revised) European Youth Information Charter. The inspiration for this Quality Label originated in the Council of Europe Quality Label for the Youth Centres.

¹ ERYICA (Luxembourg), Youth Work Ireland (Ireland), Koordinaatti (Finland), Agence Nationale pour l'Information des Jeunes (Luxembourg), Dirección General de Juventud y Deportes de Madrid (Spain), ProMo Cymru (Wales), Aġenzija Żgħażaġh (Malta), Institut Valencià de la Joventut (Spain), Åbo Akademi University (Finland).

² Creativitas (Lithuania), ERYICA (Luxembourg), Åbo Akademi University (Finland), Youth Work Ireland (Ireland), European Peer Training Organisation (EPTO) (Belgium), Jugend- und Familienstiftung des Landes Berlin (Germany), Bundesnetzwerk Österreichische Jugendinfos (Austria), Labdaros ir Paramos Fondas "Jauniems" (Lithuania), National Youth Council of Latvia (Latvia).

In this context in the framework of the partnership with the Council of Europe, ERYICA had been working on the development of a European Youth Information Quality Label throughout 2019 and would continue into 2020, designed for and with young people and linked to a set of quality assessment criteria, mechanisms and tools. A Working Group had been set up to work on the label and M Patrick J Burke was part of it. ERYICA Director stressed that this work was a key project not only for ERYICA as an association and its individual members, but also for all youth information providers across Europe independently if they are part of the ERYICA network or not.

The first year of the planned two-year process had produced promising outcomes, including a self-assessment tool, and found answers to the major questions regarding the management and sustainability of the Label. An Open Dialogue Day with stakeholders and a desk research supported the process. The Working Group proposed a management structure for the Label, which included a youth review, a youth information mapping exercise and the designation of a task force. The Label would be piloted in the course of 2020.

In the following exchange of views, the secretariat expressed its satisfaction with the level and quality of co-operation between the Council of Europe youth sector and ERYICA. This was only natural given that youth information was one of the six core issues of the Council of Europe youth sector's self-assessment tool on youth policy development, as well as other standards like the Committee of Ministers Recommendations to member states in the field of youth policy.

In this context the Head of the Youth Policy Division praised the complementarity between the work programme of ERYICA and of the youth sector of the Council of Europe in the field of youth policy. He highlighted the successful intergovernmental co-operation with the Ministry of Youth and Sport of Ukraine which started in previous years through the grant agreements between ERYICA and the Council of Europe.

As regards Quality Labels of the two organisations, he underlined the need for synergy between them as well as the need of managing expectations as regards the Youth Information Quality Label, including devoting the necessary resources and capacities to this project at present and in the long run.

4. Preparation of the draft grant agreement 2020 (priorities, activities, publications)

CC-ERYICA(2019)1

The Joint Co-ordination Committee went through the concept note as it is presented in the reference document, found it perfectly acceptable and recommended to include it as the narrative part of the grant agreement 2020 as such. The content of the concept note concerned essentially but not exclusively the European Youth Information Quality Label (see item 3 above).

5. Any other business

The CCJ representative was interested in ERYICA's Youth Panel, ERYICA Director gave a few explanations on the reason and way to establish it, on its functioning and role. The idea to establish a Youth Panel for the label related to the Youth Ambassadors' Pool that ERYICA had been creating for several years already. ERYICA was developing a framework aiming to involve Youth Ambassadors in different activities and processes of the organisation in a structured way; their involvement in this project would be a good ground to pilot the framework. The experience of EYCA, a close partner, who had done so following a recommendation of young people taking

part in the Partial Agreement's on Youth Mobility activities was an inspiring example of how to successfully involve young people in different processes.

6. Date and place of the next meeting – during the statutory meetings in Strasbourg (12-14 October 2020).