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EUROPEAN STEERING COMMITTEE FOR YOUTH (CDEJ)

Table on recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies

Tableau sur les développements récents dans la mise en œuvre nationale des politiques de jeunesse

**Please feel free to share your country's good practices in the
implementation of recent Committee of Ministers' recommendations in the
field of youth**

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Country	Update on recent developments in national implementation of policies <i>(new national laws, initiatives, etc)</i>
Albania/ Albanie	<p data-bbox="300 264 528 293">Updated May 2019</p> <p data-bbox="300 324 1520 423">With the new formatting of the Government in Albania, youth policies passed to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, where for the first time in Albania, a Deputy Minister was appointed for Youth Affairs.</p> <p data-bbox="300 454 1520 521">Regarding the implementation of youth policies, we are currently working with the National Action Plan for Youth 2015-2020. This plan consists of six main objectives, such as:</p> <ul data-bbox="347 553 1458 808" style="list-style-type: none"> • Encouraging and participation of young people in democratic decision-making processes; • Encouraging youth employment through effective labour market policies; • Health, Sport and the Environment; • Youth Education; • Social Protection, • Culture and Volunteering, • Creation of the Youth Corps. <p data-bbox="300 846 464 875">YOUTH LAW</p> <p data-bbox="300 884 1520 1122">The purpose of this Draft-Law is to determine the role and responsibilities of public institutions at central and local level, regarding youth protection and empowerment, by proposing and establishing new structures at the municipal level, dedicated to addressing youth issues. In the framework of addressing all public and non-public actors, as actors with a very important role in addressing youth issues, the Draft-Law introduces the concept of the youth network, which includes, not only institutions and organizations, but young people as well. Their co-operation is expected to be accomplished through active, systematic, transparent, continuous and long-term interaction.</p> <p data-bbox="300 1131 1520 1229">The draft law was drafted by the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, with the contribution of representatives of line ministries, representatives of various youth organizations and civil society, with the support and assistance of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and the Olof Palme Center.</p> <p data-bbox="300 1261 1520 1359">During the drafting of the draft law, public consultations were held in 12 counties of the country, according to the provisions of Law no. 146/2014 "On Notification and Public Consultation". The law was published on 15.11.2018, on the public consultation website and there were no comments.</p> <p data-bbox="300 1391 1520 1458">The draft law was published on the official website of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth on 07.11.2018.</p> <p data-bbox="300 1489 512 1518">STUDENT CARD</p> <p data-bbox="300 1527 1520 1697">The Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth is in the process of preparing the Student Card, which is included in the Law on Higher Education. The Council of Ministers' Draft-Decision "On the categories of services provided by state entities, which are obtained through the use of the student card", is intended to provide some categories of service with reduced cost or free services to be provided for the students by the state institutions.</p> <p data-bbox="300 1706 1520 1774">Benefit of these services will be for the students, who hold the student card as a unique document to receive reduced or zero rate services.</p> <p data-bbox="300 1783 1414 1812">This draft decision aims at facilitating the lives of students through provision of these services.</p> <p data-bbox="300 1821 1520 1919">The categories of services provided by the state entities will be in the fields of: arts and culture, health and social protection, education, sports and youth, transport, tourism and the environment, economy, finance, employment and training, local public services and defense.</p> <ul data-bbox="300 1951 1520 2083" style="list-style-type: none"> • Services provided by the state institutions in the field of art and culture will be through access to: libraries, museums, archaeological parks, cultural heritage sites and cultural monuments, art galleries, theater access, cinemas, cultural centers, the Center for Opening and Dialogue (COD) and activities in public squares.

- Services in the field of Health and Social Protection will be related to the provision of health insurance.
- Services in the field of Education, Sports and Youth will be through access to youth centers as well as access to and use of sports fields.
- Services in the field of Transport will be through provision of urban public transport.
- Services in the field of Tourism and Environment will consist of visits to historic places or facilities, access to zoos.
- Services in the field of Economy, Finance, Employment and Training will consist of vocational training courses.
- Local public services.
- Services in the field of defense will comprise training or qualification in higher military courses, schools or universities within the country, as well as services related to transportation, accommodation, food and healthcare expenses for the active military being educated, qualified or trained in a foreign country.

YOUTHCENTERS

Intense work has been done to provide tangible services to young people. Currently in Albania there are three Youth Centers (in Tirana, Vlorë and Korçë). In each of these Centers, programs and continuous training, such as: career counseling, capacity building, public speaking training, leadership, etc., have been offered and continue to be offered cyclically. In 2019 there are also three new youth centers under construction in Lushnjë, Elbasan and Laç, which will add activities for more young people all over the country.

RYCO

Cross-border cooperation with neighboring countries and the Balkans in general Albanian government has a priority for creating stability and peace in the region and achieving common objectives for integration into the European Union. It is worth mentioning the last initiative from Berlin Process, where 6 Western Balkan Countries: Albania, Montenegro, Macedonia, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia during the Paris summit have signed an agreement for the establishment of the Regional Cooperation Office for Youth, which is headquartered in Tirana, Albania. The mission of this office is to support activities that promote peoples' reconciliation, as well as programs for diversity, intercultural exchange, regional mobility, citizen participation and the promotion of democratic values.

Year 2019 will be marked with implementing three regional projects supported by the United Nations Peace Building Fund, the European Union and the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The projects aim to raise capacities of RYCO, but also of secondary schools and youth organizations. They will foster reconciliation, support new youth exchanges and develop volunteerism in the region. The total budget for the three projects is over € 3,000,000.

PRACTICES

The National Program on Public Administration Practices, approved by DCM No. 395, dated 29.04.2015, aims at providing a qualifying experience for newly graduated young people and developing their professional skills in recognizing public administration. This program is already being developed annually.

The purpose of the National Labor Law Program is to gain a qualifying experience that influences the development of professional skills of young people and practical skills in acquaintance with the public administrative system. This program envisages the execution of work practices at the state administration at the central and domestic level and other public institutions for young professionals. The program aims to involve participants in an integrated work experience and interaction with career professionals at the public administration, with the intention of gaining a qualifying experience that influences the development of their professional and practical skills in acquaintance with the public administrative system. The applicants' age: Young people aged 21-26 years, holding a first cycle study program "Bachelor" degree. The program lasts three months and at the end, all participants are provided with a certificate from the Department of Public Administration, recognized as work experience. Meanwhile, every year about 200 of the most prominent practitioners are selected by the

	<p>institutions, where they have completed their internships to benefit a one-year employment contract with permanent employment opportunity thereafter. The selection of interns is carried out by each participating institution on the basis of performance evaluation, grade point average and title of study, corresponding to the profile of the job position.</p> <p>“NO HATE SPEECH” CAMPAIGN</p> <p>To date, a number of activities have been organized in Albania, and the national committee of this initiative has been set up, composed of the youth organizations, which have operated under a regulation.</p> <p>During 2018, the campaign has been inactive and a re-formatting of the committee is foreseen. Meanwhile, it is necessary to translate the materials of this campaign, such as: “BOOKMARKS” and “YES WE CAN”.</p> <p>This campaign in Albania has found financial support by UNFPA, Olof Palme Center and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Foundation.</p> <p>PRESENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH IN ALBANIA</p> <p>The Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, in cooperation with the European Youth Foundation, hosted the training on “Presentation of the European Foundation for Youth”, which took place in the premises of Hotel Bleart, Durres, from March 25th to March 27th, 2019. The training was attended by 34 young representatives from various youth organizations from all over the country, three representatives from EYF, who were the trainers of this event, as well as, two representatives from Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and National Youth Service, who took care of the organization and the well-being of all training.</p>
Andorra/ Andorre	<p>Updated October 2020</p> <p>Avec la formation du nouveau gouvernement en 2019, les affaires de jeunesse font partie du Ministère des Affaires Sociales, Logement et Jeunesse du Gouvernement d'Andorre, gérées par l'Aire de la Participation et la Promotion de la Jeunesse et du Bénévolat. La structure de coordination entre les niveaux local et national a été aussi renouvelée pour améliorer la communication entre les institutions publiques et le secteur associatif.</p> <p>Dans ce nouveau cadre politique et institutionnel, les politiques de jeunesse ont été incluses dans l'agenda « Horitzó 2023 » qui développe les priorités du gouvernement pour les prochaines années. Dans notre secteur, le but est d'améliorer les conditions de vie, d'émancipation et d'épanouissement des jeunes, tout en assurant la protection des jeunes mineurs, la participation dans une société plurale et l'accès aux droits fondamentaux.</p> <p>Pour ce fait, plusieurs mesures ont déjà été mises en place :</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Participation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. L'étude nationale <i>Moviment Jove</i> (Mouvement Jeune) qui a été réalisé en 2019 avec la participation de près d'un 10% des jeunes du pays a permis de renouveler les priorités des politiques nationales et locales et d'engager les administrations publiques à donner une réponse pour chacune des propositions des jeunes. b. Le Conseil National de la Jeunesse de l'Andorre (FNJA) a commencé son propre étude pour renouveler son organisation interne et garantir l'achèvement de sa mission de représenter les jeunes et protéger ses intérêts devant les administrations publiques et la société générale. c. Le gouvernement est en train de réviser les conditions pour promouvoir l'associationnisme et le support aux projets des jeunes. 2. Information <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Le guide national des ressources de jeunesse sera complètement digitalisé avec une nouvelle structure qui permettra aux jeunes et travailleurs de jeunesse un accès plus agile et naturel aux moyens tels que les bourses d'étude, les aides et les services déjà existants mais parfois méconnus.

	<p>b. La réforme du guide des ressources entraîne aussi une reformulation du guide des formations. Le Centre d'Orientation Éducative et Professionnelle, géré par le Gouvernement, doit réviser ainsi sa mission et les méthodes pour s'adapter aux conditions et besoins actuels.</p> <p>3. Qualité de vie</p> <p>a. Le programme des aides au logement est en marche pour permettre l'émancipation des jeunes, notamment avec des aides à la caution et au loyer.</p> <p>b. Il est prévu de renforcer le plan national contre les addictions (PNCD) avec des nouvelles approches dans les prochaines années.</p> <p>c. En 2021 le transport public offrira à tous les jeunes de 12 à 18 ans un abonnement annuel à un prix très réduit. Le but est d'augmenter graduellement l'âge et de diminuer le prix pour réduire les émissions et promouvoir une mobilité durable.</p> <p>4. Emploi</p> <p>a. Des collaborations transfrontalières à travers les programmes Interreg - POCTEFA offrent aux jeunes de l'Andorre des nouvelles opportunités pour travailler dans les régions françaises et espagnoles voisines grâce à des offres de travail spécifiques et le support d'un réseau dédié à cette mobilité (Projet Trampoline) https://fr.reseau-trampoline.eu/</p> <p>b. À travers la loi pour l'égalité et la non-discrimination adoptée en 2019, le gouvernement prépare un programme de soutien à l'emploi des secteurs de la population plus défavorisés (notamment les jeunes de moins de 25 ans)</p> <p>c. Pour les jeunes adolescents en risque d'exclusion, le gouvernement andorran travaille sur un programme de formation socioprofessionnelle pour renforcer l'intégration des jeunes d'entre 16 et 25 ans qui sont déjà sous la supervision du département des affaires sociales. Ce service est adapté aux besoins de chaque jeune et offre une alternative au plan de l'amélioration de l'employabilité déjà existant, le <i>Focus 16-20</i>.</p> <p>5. Protection sociale</p> <p>a. La publication de la loi du droit de l'enfant et l'adolescent en 2019 a permis de consolider la protection des mineurs et de soutenir une nouvelle réglementation qui est en plein développement.</p> <p>b. Des nouveaux protocoles vont être mis en place pour améliorer la capacité d'action des services sociaux en cas de mauvais traitements ou abus sexuel du mineur.</p> <p>c. Désormais, certains services de protection et aide au mineur peuvent être prolongés jusqu'à l'âge de 21 ans pour assurer l'intégration des jeunes sous la tutelle de l'état.</p>
Armenia/ Arménie	<p>Updated February 2021</p> <p>State Youth Policy Situation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia began to organize development works of the new Strategy for the State Youth Policy of the Republic of Armenia 2021-2025. <p>For the development of the Strategy will be taken into account the report and the recommendations contained therein of the Council of Europe youth policy advisory mission to Armenia from 16-18 July, 2019.</p> <p><i>In the framework of the state youth policy a number of important projects will be implemented in Armenia in 2021.</i></p> <p>Especially:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> "Youth Capital of the Republic of Armenia of the year" project <p>As a result of competition in 2019 Kapan was declared the youth capital of the Republic of Armenia in 2020. It was planned to implement many local, regional and republican events in Kapan in 2020. Due to the Covid-19 the events were rescheduled to 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Coordination of events dedicated to the International Youth Day by the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of the Republic of Armenia

	<p>The Ministry coordinates the events and projects dedicated to the day by state, local and international organizations, young people, youth NGOs and other NGOs.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of "Training for youth non-governmental organizations" project <p>The project's goal is to promote the activities of youth NGOs operating in Armenia and develop the capacities and skills of non-governmental organizations.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implementation of "Youth Workers Training" project <p>The project's goal is to strengthen capacities of specialists involved in youth work, work with young people and work aimed at solving youth problems .</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The "No Hate Speech" movement, it continues in Armenia through volunteers and NGOs.
Austria/ Autriche	<p>Updated February 2022</p> <p>With the new federal government, responsibility for youth policy has been transferred to the Federal Chancellery.</p> <p>Education/Training until 18:</p> <p>The goal of "Education/Training until 18" is that each young person completes secondary education (upper secondary school, VET school or an (supra-company) apprenticeship) until the age of 18. In this regard, the number of dropouts as well as NEETs shall be decreased significantly. The law contributes to more equal opportunities due to the fact that more counselling by youth coaches and training opportunities especially for disadvantaged youth are currently provided. If young people under 18 leave their education without a certificate, they can get support tailored to their needs. https://ausbildungbis18.at/en/</p> <p>Competence Framework for Youth Workers:</p> <p>The Competence Framework for Youth Work makes competences of youth workers visible and comparable. For people in and outside the field, the framework makes clear what people, who are active in youth work, do and what quality standards they have. It stimulates the development of key competences, which benefit children and young people, and motivates the increase of quality of the range of education. People inside the working field are encouraged to engage in networking, co-operations, development and mutual recognition of education. In Austria, the aufZAQ Competence Framework is regarded as the binding standard for trainings of youth workers. Download in EN: https://www.aufzaq.at/wp-content/uploads/aufZAQ_Competence_Framework.pdf</p> <p>Further information about the Competence Framework for Youth Workers [only in German available] www.kompetenzrahmen.at</p> <p>In December 2020, the first non-formal courses from educational providers in extracurricular child and youth work were assigned to the National Qualifications Framework at levels III and IV. https://www.qualifikationsregister.at/en/nqr-register/nqr-zuordnungen/</p> <p>Austrian Youth Strategy</p> <p>The Austrian Youth Strategy, coordinated by the Federal Chancellery, is a process designed to strengthen and develop youth policy throughout Austria. The goal of this strategy is to bring together policies and measures for young people, to make them systematic and to optimise their effectiveness.</p> <p>Four fields of action are important for the Austrian Youth Strategy:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Learning and Employment 2. Participation and Initiative 3. Quality of Life and a Spirit of Cooperation 4. Media and Information <p>The Federal Chancellery considers itself the impetus behind this initiative. The implementation of these measures is the task and responsibility of those involved in shaping policy and it must be supported by a broad youth policy consensus.</p>

	<p>As part of the Austrian Youth Strategy, each federal ministry developed and defined one or more national "youth objective(s)" within its own sphere of competence. The youth objectives defined by the federal ministries can unite the existing, build on the existing, integrate new aspects, take current phenomena as a starting point or combine them. Regardless of how visionary, comprehensive or focused the youth objective is formulated, it should express the ministry's efforts to improve conditions for young people in Austria.</p> <p>The development of new youth goals and measures is an ongoing process. This will be implemented in a coordination round between all federal ministries.</p> <p>At the same time existing youth aspects are identified in national action plans and strategies in order to create an overview of activities in the various federal ministries that goes beyond the definition of youth objectives. This is an ongoing process to emphasize youth-related aspects in national strategies and action plans.</p> <p>It is important for the Federal Chancellery that the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027 (https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=OJ:C:2018:456:FULL&from=EN); and the European Youth Goals (www.youthgoals.eu/) were implemented appropriate. The 11 European Youth Goals are considered in the process of the Austrian Youth Strategy in three ways:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In a first step, all federal ministries were informed about the Youth Goals • Each defined national youth objective is and will be assigned to a European Youth Goal • The measures, which contribute to the national youth objectives also are assigned to the European Youth Goals. <p>The Federal Government took up the further implementation of the Austrian Youth Strategy, as well as the commitment to the European Youth Goals within its government programme 2020-2024.</p> <p>Youth participation</p> <p>During the development of the Austrian Youth Strategy, youth participation has played and will continue to play a central role. Youth participation is also one of the 4 fields of action of the Austrian Youth Strategy.</p> <p>A core criterion of the Austrian Youth Strategy is the active inclusion of young people. Outcomes of existing participation processes with young people (for example the EU youth dialogue, European Youth Goals) will be taken into account.</p> <p>To take into account the views of young people in the youth objectives of the Austrian Youth Strategy and to receive new impulses and suggestions, the youth objectives of the respective federal ministries were reflected in groups of young people ("Reality Check"). Discussion and exchange of ideas with young people were the main focus, not the representativeness. Reality Checks are continued when defining measures. Therefore, the federal ministries also have the possibility to reflect the measures with organisations that have expertise with young peoples' needs (e.g. national youth council, youth organisations, open youth work, youth information, etc.). Another possibility when defining measures are to draw on youth-related surveys and research to take into account the different life realities of young people. Nevertheless, the Federal Chancellery encourages furthermore all ministries to participation processes with young people.</p> <p>No Hate Speech</p> <p>The National Committee "No Hate Speech", which was founded in 2016, continues its work in Austria. Meanwhile more than 30 different organisations and institutions are actively taking part in the committee to focus measures against hate speech. The committee published a "No Hate Speech Media Package" which is updated regularly. The digital list includes online platforms, workshop offerings and advice on available printed materials such as flyers, guides, brochures and manuals.</p> <p>For further information and activities (e.g. promotion video, YouTube channel) please see www.nohatespeech.at</p>
Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan	<p>Updated October 2022</p> <p>State Youth Policy:</p>

In Azerbaijan, youth policy is considered as one of the strategic directions of state policy with the strong support of the government.

Law on Youth Policy:

In the accordance with the Law of the Republic of Azerbaijan on "Youth Policy" adopted in 2002 (subsequently amended in 2017 and 2019), young people are persons aged 14-29 years old. The Law defines the goals, principles, main directions, and legal bases of the youth policy, which regulate the relations in this sphere and coordinate the interaction of institutions related to youth work.

The main goals set out in this document are to create conditions for the physical, mental and spiritual development of young people, to assist in the realization of their skills and competencies, to solve their economic and social problems and to guarantee the protection of their rights.

The Ministry of Youth and Sport:

To ensure the implementation of youth policy, in 1994, the Ministry of Youth, Sports and Tourism of the Republic of Azerbaijan was established as a central state body. Since 2006, it has been transformed into the Ministry of Youth and Sports.

The Ministry implements this policy through the preparation and realization of regulations and state youth programs in cooperation with relevant institutions (other public and private stakeholders or youth NGOs), supports youth initiatives, organizes both national and international level events, finances the projects of youth NGOs, promotes the participation of Azerbaijani youth in international youth events (volunteer and youth exchange programs, etc.) in order to expand and develop international relations and cooperation among young people.

Youth Development Strategy of Azerbaijan for 2015-2025

Creating the right roadmap to ensure the intellectual, physical and spiritual development of young people and their active participation in the socio-economic, social and political life of the country is one of the priorities that the state focuses on.

In this regard, the State programs "Azerbaijani youth in (2005-2009), (2011-2015), (2017-2021)" were implemented and followed up by the development of the Youth Development Strategy for 2015-2025. As a result, the document of "Development Strategy of Azerbaijani youth in 2015-2025" was approved by the Order of the President of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

As can be seen, in general, the visions of Youth Development Strategy (2015-25) and the State programs are to achieve the effective implementation of youth policy in Azerbaijan, to promote the active participation of young people in all spheres of society and to support young people's creative and innovative potential.

In particular, the Strategy is aimed at developing of young people and improvement of their potential meeting modern requirements, and has 32 goals, for the implementation of which not only the Ministry of Youth and Sport, but also other stakeholders - public organizations, the business sector and other government bodies are responsible. Within the framework of the Strategy, Azerbaijani youth are mainly united into 17 social groups.

Among the objectives of the Strategy, international cooperation occupies a special place. In this direction, coordinating the activities of Azerbaijani youth living or studying abroad, creating conditions for youth participation in international exchange and volunteer services, developing relations and networks with youth of foreign countries, expanding the borders of intercultural dialogue, friendship and peace, and expanding the ranks of young friends of Azerbaijan are defined as tasks to be achieved.

More than 20 normative-legal documents (laws, governmental programs, etc.) regulating a youth policy both directed to development and protection of the rights of young citizens have been adopted since 1994.

Within the framework of the last State Program "Azerbaijani Youth" covering the years 2017-2021, activities such as health protection of young people, youth employment, and entrepreneurship activities,

awareness-raising activities on human rights and gender equality, development of volunteering and revealing the creative potential of young people were implemented.

Some examples of youth events:

- The information session on the new youth campaign of the Council of Europe "Democracy here, Democracy now" was held on April 26, 2022, in Baku, Azerbaijan by the National Council of Youth Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan in partnership with the Ministry of Youth and Sports. This was the first information session held among member states of the Council of Europe.

According to the program, representatives of the Council of Europe Youth Department, and the Ministry of Youth and Sports, a member of the European Steering Committee for Youth from Azerbaijan and, a member of the Trainers Pool (TP) of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe, the chair of the National Youth Council and a member of the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth spoke about the new youth campaign and its importance, the opportunities for participation and possible activities within the campaign, as well as the need to prepare a national action plan for the active involvement of young people in the campaign.

In the second part of the information session, group work took place with the participation of the moderator and youth, and as a result of discussions and consultations, a draft action plan was prepared for implementation within the framework of the campaign.

- In September 2022, a 3-day seminar called "Networking in non-formal education for youth workers and trainers" was held. The opening of the seminar was attended by the deputy minister of Youth and Sports, the head of the Baku office of the Council of Europe, the executive director of the Youth Foundation of the Republic of Azerbaijan, the executive of the program of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe, members of the Trainers Pool of the Council of Europe.

The main goal of the seminar was to review the situation regarding the quality and accessibility of non-formal education and training activities in Azerbaijan. The seminar also reviewed the approaches that form the basis of youth work and non-formal education in the Council of Europe, and informed the participants about general ethical and professional standards related to non-formal education.

- In December 2022, within the framework of the event "Resources for strengthening youth work in Azerbaijan", a presentation of important publications of the Council of Europe in the field of youth work, translated into Azerbaijani, took place in Baku.

The event was also aimed at reviewing the activities carried out in 2021 (see below).

In the framework of the Action Plan of the Council of Europe for Azerbaijan for 2018-2021, a special program of bilateral cooperation was implemented between the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the Youth Department of the Council of Europe. As part of joint cooperation, in 2021, training courses on human rights and education of democratic citizenship were held for young leaders and activists in the regions, online seminars for employees of youth houses and centres working with youth and the projects of youth organizations were supported. In addition, a number of documents and publications of the Council of Europe in the field of youth work have been translated and published into Azerbaijani.

The following publications were presented:

- "Land of Dignity" a game for learning social rights with young people through human rights education
- Youth Sector Strategy 2030
- Council of Europe Youth Portfolio

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Quality Label for Council of Europe Youth Centres - Quality Label for Council of Europe Youth Centres. The role, value and impact of youth centres. - Serious approach - Have your say - Compass Handbook on Human Rights Education with Youth Participation (updated 2020) <p>The presentation was attended by senior officials of state institutions of Azerbaijan and the Council of Europe, deputies of the parliament of Azerbaijan, representatives of young leaders and youth organizations.</p> <p>Young Ambassadors on SDG</p> <p>In 2021, 17 new Young SDG Ambassadors were selected for the period 2021-2023. The initiative of Young Ambassadors for Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) was launched within the framework of the project "Creating new platforms for supporting the active participation of young people in global political discussions" jointly implemented by the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the United Nations Development Program in Azerbaijan since May 1, 2018. SDGs Young Ambassadors are selected for a two-year term, and for the first time in Azerbaijan, they were selected in 2018.</p> <p>During 2018-2020, 17 Young Ambassadors contributed to the promotion of the Sustainable Development Goals on a voluntary basis, to encourage the participation of young people in achieving the SDGs, to inform society about the steps taken at the local, national and international levels, and to implement initiatives related to SDGs in the country. As a result of their activities, hundreds of young people in Azerbaijan have learned about the SDGs and taken action to achieve the global goals.</p>
Belgium/ Belgique	<p>Updated March 2022</p> <p>UPDATE YOUTH POLICY DEVELOPMENTS FLEMISH COMMUNITY OF BELGIUM</p> <p>(dd. 25 September 2020 – a document with more detailed information is available on demand)</p> <p>I. FLEMISH YOUTH AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS POLICY PLAN</p> <p>Coordination and consultation</p> <p>With the decision of the Flemish Government of 7 September 2018, the Flemish Government aims at a concrete youth and children's rights policy plan with a strong coordination role of the Flemish Minister for Youth;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> + horizontal consultation within the framework of the reflection group on youth and children's rights policy; a network of contact points for youth and children's rights policy within eleven Flemish policy areas. + vertical consultation by the Flemish ministers within their domain; <p>NEW CONCEPT: ACTION-ORIENTED PLAN</p> <p>Limited number of cross-policy themes!</p> <p>In 2018, the Flemish Government decided to turn the Flemish Youth and Children's Rights Policy Plan into an action-oriented plan. We want to elaborate a limited number of complex, cross-policy themes per coalition period in an action-oriented and project-based manner, and to set aside an annual budget for this purpose. From 2021 onwards, all of the actions within the five priorities will be operationalised.</p> <p><u>The five priority objectives</u></p> <p>1. Well-being and positive identity development</p> <p>Children and young people need to feel good about themselves, wherever they are. More and more young people are coming under pressure. In addition, suicide is one of the main causes of death among young people. Violence at school, stress, pressure to perform, transgressive behavior, questions about diversity and gender ... it causes more and more young people to have</p>

a hard time. A study by De Ambrassade shows that 38% of the surveyed young people between 14 and 25 years of age do not feel good about themselves. The Flemish government wants to give children and young people the necessary resilience to deal with these challenges. One of the ways this is being accomplished is by adopting a coordinated approach with regard to (cyber)bullying. In collaboration with various partners, a platform on (cyber)bullying is being built. The Flemish government is investing an amount of 140 000 euros a year into the development of this digital platform. The goal is to have a policy advisory platform that is accessible to diverse audiences, including children and young people, by 2024.

Regarding youth work and resilience, continued support will be given to the anti-racism and discrimination network. In 2018-2019, the network was launched and a toolbox of general guiding principles was put together. In 2021, work on these tools will continue in order to address polarization, provide guidance and training to youth organisations, amplify the voices of children and young people and address racism in a digital online manner. The goal is to increase the number of available practical handholds and the level of expertise in the field of youth work by 2022.

2. Healthy and livable neighborhoods

The Flemish government wants to focus on healthy and livable neighborhoods for children and young people. Young people are very involved in the climate challenges and the future of the planet. These challenges start locally: every child and young person has the right to grow up in a healthy environment. In addition, our children and young people have to grow up in good and healthy neighborhoods: with quality housing, sufficient 'hanging space', access to relaxation, accessibility, ... It is important that the voice of children and young people is included in the design and planning of our public spaces.

Public spaces are being made friendlier to children and young people by involving them in the design of their neighborhoods. Research has been set up to find good practices for the participation of children and youngsters.

A second action within this priority is the commitment to the multifunctional use of infrastructure with specific attention to the youth work sector. For instance, a project call for the multifunctional and shared use of youth infrastructure (including playgrounds and public spaces) is launched in September. Cf. Relaunch

3. Engagement in society through voluntary commitment

The Flemish government wants to ensure that children and young people can actively contribute to society. The government wants to encourage them to become involved voluntarily. Children and young people must be given time and space to get involved in society. The strength of the voice of children and young people plays an important role. This voluntary commitment must be recognized and appreciated.

Red tape can put a damper on the engagement of young people. That is why the Flemish government is committing to solution based strategies through a coordinated approach in order to identify instances of red tape and other barriers. The goal is to share good practices for addressing red tape and barriers in the voluntary engagement of children and young people with other local governments.

Research was launched to identify regulitis and to find good practices for local governments to avoid it. A testing ground is prepared to support social entrepreneurship in and by youthwork. It will be launched in April 2022. For the recognition of competences of young volunteers we are making an overview of good practices.

4. Leisure activities for all

The Flemish government wants all children and young people to enjoy their leisure time to the full. To this end, an integrated leisure policy is being pursued. This means that all children and young people must have access to a quality leisure offer. There are still too many obstacles. Children in reception centres, children with disabilities or children in poverty: for example, a quarter of socio-economically disadvantaged young people have never been members of a sports club. The Flemish government wants to address this with an inclusive and diverse leisure policy.

One of the ways this is being realised is the development of an awareness campaign specifically aimed towards children and young people with disabilities in out-of-school child care and leisure settings. The goal of this campaign is to provide answers to the real needs among children and young people with disabilities. The campaign will take place in the first quarter of 2022.

5. Media literacy

	<p>The Flemish government wants to strengthen children and young people as critical thinking and media-wise citizens. Children and young people need to build resilience, develop (digital) skills and have a wide range of opportunities to be informed, active and creative with all forms of online and offline media. They need to be familiar with terms such as fake-news, sexting, privacy, ... in order to find their way in a safe and informed way in an increasingly international and digital world. In order to help realise all of this, the Flemish government is improving the media literacy training of professional Youth Workers. Specifically, the Media Coach Training of the Knowledge Center for Media Literacy is set to be expanded by changing the relevant themes and methodologies to the youth sector. This will result in more professional youth workers who can coach their colleagues on media literacy and digital skills.</p> <p>The action journalism by children and young people aims to empower them as recipients, users and co-creators of media. This will be achieved by creating a network for youth journalism organisations, making an inventory of youth journalism activities in the field of Flemish youth work and setting up journalistic trajectories for children and young people. A learning network on digital youth work is active. It is based on research and its recommendations made in 2021.</p> <p>II. GENERATION RESILIENCE</p> <p>Generation Resilience is an action plan aimed at socially vulnerable children and young people in times of Covid-19. The plan is part of the broader policy vision for children and young people of the Flemish Government. The 4.5 million euro action plan came about after intense consultation with the broad sector and the many actors in the field. It contains six levers to better support vulnerable children and young people in times of Covid-19 and offer them perspective.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local offerings of entertainment and information packages as well as digital material, all tailored to the needs of children and young people • Restart of youth work in youth services • Temporary support and assistance in specific problem situations in the leisure context • E-inclusion • Support for national and supra-local youth work • Project call "Connecting vulnerable children and youth to the neighborhood and the outside world" <p>In the planning of the relaunch after Covid-19, a budget of another 3 million euro was reserved for socially vulnerable children and young people. With this money 29 projects were supported to reinforce resilience. 30 million euro was reserved for youth infrastructure, of which 7,7 million euro will be used for the projects of local youth organizations and local governments in 2021 and 2022. There are 3 foci: 1. Durable and quality basic provisions; 2. Safe and accessible meeting places; 3. Youth friendly design of neighborhoods' and play areas. Participation of the young people in the project was a criterium for subsidization.</p> <p>Updated October 2018</p> <p>La Communauté française de Bruxelles poursuit la mise en œuvre du Mouvement contre le discours de Haine. Le Mouvement est actif en ligne et très engagé dans les contre-discours. Un cours en ligne a été créé, permettant aux Jeunes et aux travailleurs de Jeunesse de se former à comprendre et analyser les discours de haine. Des Jeunes belges francophones ont participé à une formation organisée au Mexique en juillet 18. La coordinatrice du Mouvement est active tant au niveau national qu'au niveau européen.</p> <p>Le BIJ a organisé une visite d'étude sur la participation des jeunes au niveau local avec des représentants de 12 pays européens en juin 18.</p>
Bosnia and Herzegovina/ Bosnie-Herzégovine	<p>Updated March 2022</p> <p>On July 4, 2016, Bosnia and Herzegovina signed the Agreement on the Establishment of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (hereinafter: RYCO) on the Western Balkans Summit in Paris. After the first RYCO open call for proposals (from 16 October till 15 November 2017) six projects from B&H received funds for the implementation of their projects. The total amount of funds allocated for projects in B&H was 151.504,47 euros.</p>

After the second RYCO open call (from 3 December till 25 January 2019) seven projects from B&H received funds for the implementation of their projects. The total amount of funds allocated for projects in B&H was 152.623,09 euros. The beneficiaries are civil society organizations and high schools.

The third RYCO open call for proposals (from 28 August till 15 October 2019) was aimed at supporting and empowering high schools to carry out activities in the areas of regional youth cooperation, mobility and youth exchange, strengthen their capacities and create a favourable environment for regional youth cooperation. The specific objectives of the third RYCO open call were reconciliation, intercultural dialogue and youth learning and participation. After this open call, three projects from B&H received funds for the implementation of their projects. The total amount of funds allocated for projects in B&H was 52.694,61 euros.

The RYCO's fourth Open Call for project proposals was published on August 31, 2020, and the deadline for submission of applications was October 12, 2020. The conditions for applying to the RYCO's fourth Open Call were that project proposals need to be based on a partnership with at least one partner from six Western Balkan countries. The total funding for the call was 330,000 euros. This Open Call was a kind of attempt to support civil society and youth cooperation in the region in the context of the Covid-19 pandemic. Although, its publication was originally planned for the beginning of the summer of 2020, the chronology and nature of the Call itself were very much adapted to the extraordinary events of the global pandemic. The projects of two civil society organizations from Bosnia and Herzegovina were funded under the RYCO's fourth Open Call in the amount of EUR 59,788,10.

In September 2021 the RYCO launched its new programme for school exchanges in WB6 – Superschools with the objectives to support the peacebuilding and reconciliation processes and intercultural learning and dialogue among schools, students and their communities. The programme is part of a multi donor project “Western Balkans School Exchange Scheme” co-financed by the European Union and the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ) and implemented by Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ) together with the Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO). The project contributes to the overall objective of increasing skills and knowledge of young people in the Western Balkans by enhancing education systems and promoting cooperation in the region, through establishing a regional school exchange scheme.

The European Youth Card Association has a new member in Bosnia and Herzegovina. PRONI Center for Youth Development is a non-political organisation founded with the purpose of organising and implementing education in the field of social work with young people.

It was founded in 1998 with 30 active youth clubs across the country and 16 full time employees in the 5 different cities and offices. PRONI works very close to the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

European Youth Card program in Bosnia and Herzegovina started on International Youth Day and in 40 days of active program they issued 1000+ youth cards which are free until the end of the year, they have 40+ discounts in Bosnia, 2 educations in Niš Serbia, Neum Bosnia, 15+ free workshops in 10+ cities and they have 15000+ visits on their site www.omladinskakartica.ba.

One of the leading telecoms in Bosnia and Herzegovina supported European Youth Card program in Bosnia and Herzegovina. There are currently over 60 discount providers in Bosnia and Herzegovina and 2300 registered card users.

The Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina adopted the Declaration on Youth Policies and Programs (Lisbon + 21 Declaration) and instructed the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina to establish a Working Group to draft a roadmap with recommendations to implement the measures defined in the Declaration, in cooperation with the competent ministries of the entities and cantons, the Department of *Expert and Administrative Affairs* of the Government of the Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Youth Council of the Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina, the Youth Council of Republika Srpska and the Youth Council of the Brcko District of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

	<p>With the technical support of UNFPA in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in cooperation with experts hired by UNFPA, the activities to develop a roadmap with recommendations to implement the measures defined in the Declaration are in progress. In the forthcoming period, it is planned, in cooperation with UNDP in Bosnia and Herzegovina, to implement activities related to the implementation of Resolution CM/Res (2020)2 on the Council of Europe Strategy for the Youth Sector 2030, in terms of drafting certain guidelines to implement the Resolution in Bosnia and Herzegovina.</p> <p>Ministry of Family, Youth and Sports of the Government of Republika Srpska, responsible for youth issues but primarily for their organization and conditions solving the issues important to young people, initiated the procedure to adopt the Fourth Youth Policy „The Youth Policy of Republika Srpska 2022-2026“.</p> <p>Based on the previous experience in the implementation of the three youth policies (2006-2010, 2010-2015 and 2016-2020), the Ministry decided to insert the results that would improve the youth position and that we would jointly, as a society, strive for while preparing the fourth document of the Youth Policy. This means that the ministries, as in the past, would realize independent projects targeted at young people, but also there would be the greater opportunity and methodology for joint projects contributing to the realization of the same goal within the jurisdiction of several ministries. This will increase the effects and use available human and financial resources. Also, the funds allocated to civil society organizations and individuals by ministries both, in accordance with the Action Plan will be used for the implementation of the Youth Policy of Republika Srpska in a more proper way, and the priorities of the ministries primarily focused on the final result in this particular issue of the youth position.</p> <p>Vision of the Youth Policy of Republika Srpska in last document: the youth, as an equal and active partner in the Republika Srpska's institutions, live in secure social environment of equal possibilities, encouraging them to realize their potential. This Vision of the Youth Policy of Republika Srpska for 2015-2020 was realized in 5 priority fields: Employment, Active involvement, Healthy lifestyles, Excellence and Leisure time.</p> <p>This Fourth strategic document will also include these priority fields with focus on economic policies such as youth retention and housing policy, as well as active youth participation, healthy lifestyles, etc.</p> <p>In line with the Youth Policy of the Sarajevo Canton 2019-2023, the Ministry of Science, Higher Education and Youth of Sarajevo Canton co-financed youth projects in 2021 in the amount of BAM 100,000.00, PHD scholarships for 24 winners of the University of Sarajevo "Golden Badge" in the amount of BAM 116,000.00, of which 23 award winners belong to the youth population. The Ministry in 2021 also co-financed science projects with the project holders being young scientists/researchers in the total amount of BAM 450,000.00.</p>
Bulgaria/ Bulgarie	<p>Updated December 2022</p> <p>The main strategic objective of the Bulgarian national youth policy is to improve young people's quality of life and to establish conditions for the success of every young person by developing sustainable mechanisms for investing in youth as an important social capital and for mobilizing young people's potential for the development of the country and the EU. The Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Bulgaria works for the promotion of European values such as solidarity, democracy and equality.</p> <p>The Youth Act provides the legal framework for the implementation of the national youth policy. It has not been subject to major amendments since 2012 even though a number of documents analyzing the condition of the national youth policy pointed out the need to update the national youth legislation. At the same time, the national youth policy faces a couple of challenges in terms of the limited options for comprehensive evaluation of the trends in the youth situation and the impact of the policy, as well as the need to increase the effectiveness of the existing mechanisms for cross-governmental cooperation and greater sustainability of the consultation mechanisms with civic society stakeholders and young people. With view of addressing these challenges, the Youth Act was amended and entered into force in August 2022. Major amendments comprise changes in the period and content of the youth reports, setting out the work of the Public Council on Youth Issues, which has not been provided for in the Youth Act before, and others.</p>

The National Youth Strategy (2021-2030) sets out the long-term goals and priorities of the governmental youth policy with 10-years' horizon. It was approved by the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Bulgaria in July 2021 and is expected to be adopted by the National Assembly. It is based on the understanding that youth policy must be youth needs-based, cross-sectoral and collaborative policy that ensures equality and inclusion, promotes participation and empowerment and takes into account age and regional specificities. The vision of the National Youth Strategy 2021-2030 is "capable, engaged and empowered young people who are ready to develop their full potential and to meaningfully contribute to the development of the Republic of Bulgaria in the context of the European family and the global world." The achievement of this vision is supported by the following seven strategic priorities:

- Promotion of non-formal learning
- Promotion of employment and support of young people not in employment, education or training (NEETs)
- Promotion of young people's engagement, participation and empowerment
- Development and establishment of youth work at national level
- Connectivity, tolerance and European belonging
- Promotion of healthy and environmental-friendly lifestyle
- Promotion of culture and creativity among young people.

The main tools for the implementation of the national policy in the field of youth, respectively the strategic priorities of the National Youth Strategy (2020-2030), are the national youth programmes administered by the Ministry of Youth and Sports. Namely they are the National Youth Programme (2021-2025) and the National Programme of Youth Activities under article 10a of the Gambling Act. Under these programmes yearly the Ministry of Youth and Sports funds youth projects in areas such as promotion of health and well-being for young people – both mental and physical health, civic engagement and participation, non-formal learning for acquisition of skills and key competences, youth work, social cohesion, environment protection, leisure time, creativity and culture, tolerance, voluntary activities including in crisis contexts, prevention of various forms of addictions and aggression, prevention of cyber bullying and online abuse, disinformation and fake news, etc.

In 2022, the regulatory document that governs the administration of the two national youth programmes – Ordinance No 1 of 10.06.2022 on the terms and conditions for funding of projects under national youth programmes, was amended to provide conditions for youth activism and empowerment in small towns, by making small town municipalities and schools in small municipalities eligible for funding. It also opens the opportunity for informal groups of young people to implement youth projects.

In pursuance of the strategic objective for development and establishment of youth work, a National Working Group on Youth Work is established in 2022. The members of the working group comprise representatives of public authorities, youth organisations, faculty, etc. Currently the working group works on the definition of youth work, mapping of youth work at national level and designing of code of ethics for youth workers and monitoring system of youth work.

In terms of youth policies at European level, a National Working Group on EU Youth Dialogue is established and working in accordance with the European Youth Strategy 2019-2027 and the Resolution establishing guidelines on the governance of the EU Youth Dialogue. The working group works for awareness raising on the EU Youth Dialogue processes at national and local level among civil society, young people, nongovernmental organisations and institutions; supports the process of implementation and promotion of specific policies for achieving youth goals determined by the relevant EU trio presidency; carries out consultations; ensures consistent and continues process of EU Youth Dialogue implementation, etc.

As a national contact point for the Council of Europe's Democracy Here | Democracy Now campaign, the Ministry of Youth and Sports has had its youth delegation that took part in the flagship initiative of the campaign "Youth Here: Democracy Now - Council of Europe Youth Action Week" in Strasbourg, during the summer of 2022. The delegation comprised 6 young people and one representative of the Ministry of Youth and Sports of the Republic of Bulgaria. These were active young people and were well prepared for their participation in the event and represented different youth organisations from different regions of the country.

	<p>The Ministry of Youth and Sports is also the national coordinator for the European Year of Youth activities and implements a project funded by the European Commission. The motto of the Bulgarian initiatives under the EYY is "Sustainable development – Europe 2050: Let's hear the young people of Bulgaria". Within this framework the main initiatives that the Ministry of Youth and Sports implements include numerous activities in the following thematic areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Youth volunteering – cause for sustainable development here and now;• Youth vision – Europe 2050;• Youth civic space 2022;• The sport and the family – ambassadors for health, tolerance, environmental protection and culture;• National information campaign.
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Croatia/ Croatie	<p>Updated February 2022</p> <p>Since July 2020, national youth policy is within the scope of Central State Office for Demography and Youth. Even though recognized as a unique field, youth policy is a shared domain across other ministries (Ministry of Science and Education, Ministry of Labour, Pension System, Family and Social Policy; Ministry of Health etc.).</p> <p>Central State Office for Demography and Youth is preparing a new National Program for Youth with the aim of creating a positive, comprehensive, and inclusive youth policy. This is a strategic document covering all relevant priority areas and public policy measures for young people, for the period 2022-2024. It is expected to be adopted in 2022.</p> <p>Croatia will actively participate in the 9th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue under the Trio Presidency France-Czech Republic-Sweden with the aim of strengthening the Dialogue and including all young people with a special focus on the European Youth Objectives # 10 Maintaining a Green Europe and # 3 Inclusive Societies.</p> <p>Youth Advisory Board of Government of the Republic of Croatia is constituted for the new period of two years. Their task is to promote and advocate for the rights, needs and interests of young people at national level. Besides that, In Croatia are established regional and local Youth Advisory Boards with the role of counselling local authorities on youth policies with the active role in local communities. Their work is regulated by Act on Youth Advisory Boards whose implementation regularly monitors Central State Office for Demography and Youth. The Act is going to be amended in some sections during this year.</p> <p>Regarding the COVID-19 pandemic Central State Office for Demography and Youth put stress on protecting mental health of young people during and after the crises. In cooperation with the Croatian Psychological Chamber the Office has launched telephone lines exclusively for young people with the aim of psychological counselling. The project will continue as long as needed.</p> <p>The Office participates in European projects such as the Europe Goes Local and the Youth Wiki and it is a national body responsible for monitoring and supervising the management of the Erasmus + programme in the field of youth and the European Solidarity Corps. The Republic of Croatia is one of 29 participants in the Youth Wiki, an online platform presenting information on European countries youth policies. Central State Office for Demography and Youth supports the implementation of the project through financial assistance.</p> <p>Central State Office for Demography and Youth annually, through the public call, provides financial support to projects aiming young people. The cooperation with NGO that work with youth and that are formed by youth (NGYO) is strengthened through this kind of actions. Special emphasis is put on the priority area "Youth in Rural Areas" in order to implement activities that respond to the needs of young people in rural and remote areas and create additional opportunities for young people that might increase their quality of life and involvement in community.</p> <p>Croatian Youth Delegate to the United Nations participates in all activities organised at national, European, and international level and he actively advocates the needs and interests of young people. Youth Delegate was elected with the aim of including active and promising young citizens of the Republic of Croatia in the UN General Assembly.</p>
Cyprus/ Chypre	<p>Updated February 2021</p> <p>The Youth Board of Cyprus (YBC) as the consultative body of the government on youth issues, submitted three new policy proposals to the Council Ministers in April 2019. The proposals arose from the following activities held in 2018: the local consultations with young people where they had the chance to comment the first 3year Action Plan (AP) 2017-2019 of the National Youth Strategy, the 3rd National Youth Conference and the research activities of the YBC which focused on Skills Gap, Positive Youth Development and Project Based Learning.</p> <p>The proposals which were adopted by the Council of Ministers concern:</p>

1. The adoption of STEAM philosophy in formal education and the enhancement of STEAM programmes outside of schools and within the structures of the YBC;
2. The establishment of a Youth Policy Institute and the
3. Development of a National Youth Centre.

At the same time the YBC revised its strategy according to the above recommendations and set the following strategic goals for the next two years:

1. Improve our intervention in policy issues that concern and affect young people
2. Improve the engagement and participation of young people
3. Expansion and empowerment of the youth ecosystem
4. Foster the holistic youth individual empowerment & autonomy
5. Enhance International, national and local partnerships
6. Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of YBC's internal processes

Concerning the implementation of the CoE's Recommendation on youth work -CM/Rec(2017)4-, Cyprus had requested and received assistance from the CoE in the form of a youth policy advisory mission which took place in April 2019. The team of experts provided the YBC with a thorough, insightful and inspiring report which will be used for the development of a comprehensive national road map towards the recognition of youth work in Cyprus, the creation of educational paths and sustainable careers for youth workers and the quality assurance in the field. Meanwhile, the Ministry of Education and Culture is running a project for the creation of mechanisms for validation of non-formal and informal learning in Cyprus. A National Action Plan for the validation of non-formal and informal learning has been tabled by the Ministry of Education and Culture and adopted by the Council of Ministers. According to the decision, a National Agency will be established to set up the whole structure. The Youth Board of Cyprus, as a member of the Governing Board of this potential National Agency, will be responsible for the set up of occupational standards for youth workers whose competences will be validated through the mechanism for the validation of NFIL.

In close cooperation with the cross-sectoral working group for Youth, the Youth Board of Cyprus has drafted the the second 3-year Action Plan (2020-2022) of the National Youth Strategy and the 1st Progress Report 2017-2019 regarding the implementation of the first Action Plan. Both documents have been submitted to the Minister of Education, Culture, Sport & Youth who will then submit the documents to the Council of Ministers for their approval.

In the meantime, YBC is organising public consultations with young people in cooperation with other Ministries. The most recent example is the consultation series organised within 2020 with the Ministry of Agriculture, Rural Development and Environment with young people residing in rural areas, for the design of measures that respond better to their needs, under the future Common Agricultural Policy and the future Action Plans of the National Youth Strategy. Another example is the Working Group Covid-19, consisted of both Youth Officers and young people, which was set up during May 2020 in order to examine the situation faced by young people and youth organisations and propose concrete ideas and solutions.

Furthermore, in the frame of evidence-based policy, the YBC conducted two Youth-Barometer surveys within 2020..

Regarding the implementation of the CoE's Recommendation on youth work, the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sport and Youth is currently evaluating the tenders received for the creation of mechanisms for validation of non-formal and informal learning, including the set up of the occupational standards for youth workers. Moreover, following the recommendations of the CoE advisory mission, the Youth Board of Cyprus established a dedicated Working Group on Youth Work (YW), consisted of Youth Board officers and representatives of umbrella youth organisations, with the mandate to work on the development of an action plan for the holistic and quality development of YW in Cyprus.

Updated August 2022:

In April 2022, the YBC organised the 4th National Youth Conference with the participation of more than 350 young people, aged 18-35, from all over Cyprus (students from high school and universities, young people from NGOs, young unemployed, young employees etc). All these young people participated in workshops on specific thematic areas, along with representatives from the ministries and other governmental services. The workshops resulted in some important conclusions that will be part of the new National Strategy of the Youth Board of Cyprus that will be drafted in 2023. Moreover,

	<p>the conclusions will be forwarded to the ministries and/or services of the government that deal with youth issues and policies, with the recommendation to take them into consideration.</p> <p>Moreover, the Youth Board has been in close cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport that is coordinating the project for the creation of mechanisms for the validation of non-formal and informal learning, including the set up of the occupational standards for the youth workers. The project will be finalised till the end of 2022 and it is estimated that the pilot implementation will start during 2023.</p> <p>Additionally, a very specific program named: "Young Cities" has been launched since 2020 (a cooperation between the Youth Board of Cyprus and the National Betting Authority of Cyprus). The project helps young people that are involved in the creation of a project in their own Municipality or Community. The program is running in cooperation with the Municipality or the Community and helps young people to learn some skills during a period of 10 weeks seminars/lessons for specific themes and then to decide a project that they would like to see in their Municipality or Community. The program follows a bottom-up procedure that enables young people to have an active participation in their own local Authority.</p> <p>Among the above, the YBC continued with its several programs that help the main strategic goals:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve our intervention in policy issues that concern and affect young people 2. Improve the engagement and participation of young people 3. Expansion and empowerment of the youth ecosystem 4. Foster the holistic youth individual empowerment & autonomy 5. Enhance International, national and local partnerships 6. Improve the efficiency and effectiveness of YBC's internal processes
Czech Republic/ République tchèque	<p>Updated in September 2022</p> <p>Discussions in the Ministry are being held concerning a new National Youth Strategy or other strategic document for youth field. The previous National Youth Strategy for the period 2014-2020 already expired. In November 2020, the Government of the Czech Republic adopted the document Main Directions of the Education Policy of the Czech Republic until 2030+ which formulates a proposal for strategic goals of the education policy of the Czech Republic until 2030+ as well as main ways and measures to achieve them. One of the main goals is to contribute to developing young people's innovative and creative potential to be effectively used in their everyday lives and active participation in the society. The document calls for a wide offer of high-quality and accessible activities in the non-formal education system which are provided by NGOs. Department for supporting children and Youth of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports administrates the grant scheme for supporting youth NGOs in their efforts to promote young people's democratic engagement through youth work. Open calls are launched annually. The grant scheme was not interrupted during the Covid-19 crisis.</p> <p>This Grant Scheme of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport on supporting youth NGOs and young people in 2022 has been designed in a new way in order 1. to facilitate an equal access of all young people and NGOs to the financial support, and 2. to mitigate the impact of Covid-19 pandemic on youth work. The open call motivates organizations and non-organized young people to address the impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on children and young people in their projects. For 2022, specific priorities have been set up:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ reduction of the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on children and young people (activities reducing the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic focused mainly on disadvantaged children and young people, e.g., educational days, offering educational activities for unorganized children and young people, etc.) ✓ linking non-formal and formal education (activities leading to cooperation between NGOs and schools, e.g., cooperation between NGOs and teachers; joint educational activities) ✓ intergenerational dialogue – support for activities that will lead to intergenerational solidarity and cooperation strengthening (e.g., helping seniors, maintaining communication with seniors, etc.). Many children and youth organizations conducted the prioritized activities already in summer of 2020, especially assisting seniors and organizing so-called educational days, when NGOs helped children to catch up their slow progress during distance learning due to the long-term interruption of their education.

- ✓ **green / sustainable Europe** (involvement in environmental protection, education in this area, etc.)
- ✓ **support of the participation – supporting activities that will strengthen the interest of children and youth in public events** and at the same time they will **motivate children and young people to take an active part in society.**

For subsidizing the projects, there are 3 types of grant applicants:

1. Experienced NGOs (organization must meet certain criteria: tradition, trained youth workers, supra-regional impact etc.), (157 mil. CZK);
2. umbrella organizations (21.5 mil. CZK);
3. other NGOs with supra-regional impact (27 mil. CZK).

Part of this grant program is an open call named "*NGO recognized by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport for work with children and youth*". Legitimate applicants for this title are proven, experienced non-profit organizations that have been working with children and youth for a long time at the supra-regional level, fulfil their own strategic development plan, use a quality management system and regularly train youth workers and youth leaders. Applications are assessed according to established criteria. If the organization meets all the required criteria, it will defend its application before the expert committee, especially the fulfilment of "descriptive" criteria related to the organization's strategic plan, training plan, set processes in the organization, etc. Members of the Committee are appointed by the Deputy Minister of Education and Youth Section. The Committee consists employees of the Ministry, service organisations of the Ministry, or experts in the field of children and youth work, based on a proposal of the Department for the Development of Children and Youth. The title is and will be understood as a recognition of long-term and year-round work for the benefit of children and youth.

Other Grant Schemes of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports for 2022:

Development and Grant Scheme supporting participation of children and young people in competitions (Budgetary allocation: 63 mil. CZK in 2022).

Grant Scheme for supporting Czech – German cooperation in the field of children and youth (Budgetary allocation: 7 mil. CZK in 2022).

Grant Scheme for supporting talented children and youth (Budgetary allocation: 15 mil. CZK in 2022).

During 2022, emergency appeals were launched to help children from Ukraine:

Two calls for support for children of foreigners migrating from Ukraine were announced on 8 April 2022. The calls for the implementation of Adaptation Groups were intended to help:

with socialization; to support the development of language skills; to prepare children for entry to Czech schools; as well as promote mental well-being and mental health.

Within the framework of the Adaptation Groups, 354 implementers were supported, to whom 241 425 000 CZK (approx. 10 mio. EUR) were paid. Adaptation groups were functioning from April 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022. The call targeted children aged from 3 to 18 years. The project implementers are all over the Czech Republic. The second call for the implementation of Adaptation groups for the period from September to December 2022 has been recently announced. There are 200 000 000 CZK (approx. 8.2 mio. EUR) allocated for this call. The deadline for applications was Sep 15, 2022.

Within the framework of language support, a call for language courses for children of foreigners migrating from Ukraine was announced on April 8, 2022. The aim of these activities was to provide children from 15 to 18 years of age with a language support. The aim was to break the foreigners' language barrier and enable successful integration in relevant social groups and adapt to their peers. The language courses supported 89 implementers; the allocated amount was 51 569 000 CZK (approx. 2.2 mio. EUR). The call was announced for the period from April 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022.

A second call for language courses was also announced to support language skills during the holiday season (summer language courses). These courses were held from July 1, 2022 to August 31, 2022. This call aimed to support children from 6 to 18 years of age. Similarly, like the previous language courses, summer language courses aimed at barriers break down and Czech language skills adoption. There were 35 implementers who received 4 060 000 CZK (approx. 170 000 EUR) within this call.

Recent developments within the CZ PRES of the Council of the EU

Czech Presidency of the Council of the EU (July 1 – December 31, 2022)

Presidential document: Council Conclusions on promoting the intergenerational dimension in the youth field to foster dialogue and social cohesion

The document promotes intergenerational dialogue, intergenerational solidarity, and intergenerational justice/equity in the youth field within the mandate of the EU Youth Strategy 2019 – 2027 through

- ✓ innovative cross-sectoral youth policies (for instance establishing the intergenerational dimension as one of the horizontal priorities, pillars, or strategic or operational goals in youth policy documents) which foster dialogue in decision-making processes to enable young people to have an equal say in decisions that affect their lives, and thus promote age diversity and age equity in public life at local, national and European level.
- ✓ enriching youth work provision by integrating intergenerational solidarity and intergenerational dialogue in youth work activities and volunteering activities.

European Youth Conference (11-13 July 2022, Prague, Czech Republic)

The aim of the European Youth Conference (EUYC) was to implement the 2nd phase of the 9th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue (EUYD). The conference followed the achievements of the French Presidency and aimed to hand over its results to the Swedish Presidency that will complete the whole cycle. The 9th cycle of the EU Youth Dialogue (EUYD9) runs from 1 January 2022 to 30 June 2023 under the Trio Presidency of France - Czech Republic - Sweden. The cycle is coordinated by the European Steering Group (ESG) consisting of representatives from the European Commission, European Youth Forum and of the Trio presidencies (Ministry representatives, National Youth Council representatives). The cycle is divided in two phases: the consultation phase (January 2022 - August 2022) and the implementation phase (September 2022 - June 2023). EUYD9 focuses on the European Youth Goals #10 Sustainable Green Europe and #3 Inclusive Societies under the motto 'Engaging Together for a sustainable and inclusive Europe'. The conference discussions were based around good practice examples submitted by EUYD National Working Groups (NWGS). The good practice examples served as a basis for discussion among the young people and policymakers. Delegates proposed solutions on how to implement good practices and identify success factors and supporting mechanisms needed for spreading the good practice examples across the EU Member States.

For the first time a Ukrainian delegation composed of 5 youth delegates took part in the Conference. The chairperson of the Ukrainian Youth Council and a representative of the Ukrainian Embassy in Prague were invited by the Czech Presidency to reflect in the opening ceremony on why the European perspective is a large motivation for Ukrainian youth to strive for their future in the European Union.

The director Antje Rothmund participated as a policy maker in debating with young people in the Working Group on Action and Empowerment.

Meeting of the EU Directors General For Youth (19 – 20 September 2022, Prague, Czech Republic)

The topic: *Links between non-formal learning and formal education in the youth field: youth work responses to Covid-19 learning losses and to Ukrainian refugees' education needs (cooperation between the youth sector and schools)*

For the first time, the Czech Presidency enabled young people to actively participate in the programme through their interactive MentiMeter voting and a panel discussion. The theme of the panel was "Cooperation between the youth work sector and schools through the lens of young people's experience". The panellists were young people with different background and different educational path who have some experience with the topic of the panel either from a position of being recipients or providers of youth work based on the cooperation with schools. The main goal of the panel was not to enable young panellists to be listened and heard by the Directors Generals. The primary goal was to provide both young panellists and the traditional participants in the EU Youth DG Meetings a space for being actively involved in a dialogue. The dialogue which brings together people of different ages and helps them understand each other while debating the main topic of the DG meeting: cooperation between the youth work sectors and schools which contributes to supporting vulnerable pupils

	<p>and students who had been most affected by the Russian invasion in Ukraine and by school closures during the COVID-19 pandemic.</p> <p>Iryna Bieliaieva, Head of Youth Policy Department, Ministry of Youth and Sport of Ukraine was invited to present current challenges of youth policy in Ukraine.</p> <p>Clementina Barbaro, the Head of the Youth Policy Division in the Youth Department of the Council of Europe was invited to present last developments related to the topic of the DG Meeting.</p> <p>Clotilde Talleu from Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth was invited as an observer.</p>
Denmark/ Danemark	<p>Updated February 2022</p> <p>The Danish education system</p> <p>It is ensured from pre-school to higher education that all young people receive a high-quality education and a solid foundation for engaging in lifelong education. The education system should also contribute to fostering a learning culture that promotes creativity, independence and responsibility. There must be cohesion between the various education pathways and levels such that the individual can obtain qualifications and competences. Provision of high quality education at all levels is essential to ensure competitiveness in today's global society and qualification to take active part in the knowledge society and contribute to its further development. Education is open to all and generally free of charge. The Danish education is mainly regulated and financed by the state, and all public educational institutions are approved and evaluated on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>Grant</p> <p>All students above 18 years of age are entitled to a student grant in upper secondary education.</p> <p>Active participation</p> <p><i>Treating pupils and students as independent people with a right to form their own opinion and a duty to participate actively in discussions is a matter of course in Danish education.</i></p> <p>Project work</p> <p><i>At all levels of the education system, pupils and students attend classes. However, they also carry out project work, either on an individual basis or in small groups. Interdisciplinary activities are also an integrated part of Danish education.</i></p> <p>Lifelong learning</p> <p><i>Lifelong learning is a key principle in Denmark. The idea dates all the way back to the 19th century Danish clergyman and philosopher N.F.S. Grundtvig, who argued that a prerequisite for active participation in a democratic society is education for all citizens on a lifelong basis.</i></p> <p>The Danish Act on Guidance</p> <p>The Act on Guidance from 2003 covers guidance in the education system. In 2019 however, it was decided to rename the act to the Danish consolidation act on municipal provision for young people under 25. The new act has a bigger focus on the young people, who are in need of guidance in regards to choosing, starting and completing an education as well as a bigger focus on the municipalities' right to organize guidance in a way, they think is best for their young citizens.</p> <p>Pupils and students in need of special pedagogical support</p> <p>Danish policies and programmes to support persons with special needs and disabilities are guided by</p>

the principle of sectoral responsibility. That means that each societal sector has to provide for persons with special needs and disabilities. Thus, the responsibility in the educational sector is strictly limited to ensuring equal opportunities to and in education.

Persons with supportive needs stemming from social disadvantages or impairments, which in interaction with societal barriers hinder full and effective participation in education on an equal basis with others, are entitled to support.

All upper secondary educational institutions are obliged to apply for support to all students with documented special needs, e.g. assistive devices, learning materials designed to meet the needs of persons who are dyslectics or visually impaired, sign language interpretation and captioning, secretary, personal or practical support. In addition, educational institutions are obliged to adapt to students needs in testing and exams.

Preparatory Basic Education and Training (FGU)

In 2017, new ambitious goals were set with regard to educational attainment: at least 90% of 25 year olds must complete a general or vocational upper secondary education and the percentage of youths who are not in education or active on the labour market should be reduced by half by 2030.

In order to reach these admissions, a new Preparatory Basic Education and Training (FGU) has been implemented and the first students started the education in August 2019.

The duration of the education is up to two years and will enable young people below the age of 25 to improve their professional, personal and social skills with the aim to proceed into upper secondary education or the labour market

The Preparatory Basic Education and Training consists of three tracks, a general basic education in basic subjects like Danish, Mathematics, English, Natural Sciences etc., a work-based education with a high level of practical learning and a basic vocational education: Internship-based education.

Preparatory Basic Education and Training corresponds to level 1, 2 and 3 on the European Qualification Framework.

Tripartite agreements and other cooperation

The last 5 years The Danish Government and The Social Partners have made tripartite agreements about adult and vocational education because the cooperation is essential to secure a well-functioned education system related to the Danish labour market.

Denmark, together with the other Nordic countries and autonomous territories, has launched a development of a digitally based tool for internal use in the Council of Ministers regarding "Children and young people - rights-based analyzes" and entered into collaboration with Nordic Council of Minister's expert group for sustainable development and cross-sectoral program for sustainable lifestyles, as well as secured funding for the next three years on a communication project by and for young people in sustainable lifestyles.

COVID-19 pandemic called for new initiatives.

Denmark has had two periods of full lockdowns of schools and educational institutions. In the spring of 2020, schools were closed for 1-3 months. In December 2020, schools were closed again for 2-5 months.

During the lockdowns pupils with special needs or vulnerable students and children of parents in essential services were taught at school (both children, youth, and adults).

Parents working in essential services have had options for emergency care and education at school.

Reopening

Compared to other sectors in Denmark, schools have been given a high priority.

	<p>Younger children seem to benefit less from distance learning and were thus prioritized to go back to school first. This was also done out of consideration for the parents' opportunities to get to work. In March and April 2021 independent boarding school students as well as graduating students in lower secondary and in upper secondary education returned to physical classes. The reopening was based on geographical assessments of the infection rates.</p> <p>In the beginning of the year 2022 all restrictions caused by COVID-19 are abolished.</p>
Estonia/ Estonie	<p>Updated in September 2022</p> <p>After the war started in Ukraine, a social media literacy week was held online, aiming to raise knowledge on fake news and online safety. During the summer, youth festivals took place across Estonia focused on digitalisation, environment, mental health, and participation.</p> <p>From April through August, a new youth worker occupational standard was drafted by a working group established by the Estonian Qualifications Authority. In September, the draft was provided to stakeholders for feedback.</p> <p>In May, a support measure was launched to facilitate an easier and faster adaptation of Ukrainian young people in Estonia. In return for the support, 141 camps were organised, the purpose of which was to support Ukrainian young people in getting to know Estonian culture and integrating with Estonian peers.</p> <p>In May, coordinated by the Education and Youth Board, the youth information service Teeviit launched a multilingual information platform to support young people with quality and reliable information available in English, Ukrainian, Russian and Estonian, addressing young people with a different linguistic background through a single channel. The platform is divided into ten sections: education and youth work, employment, media literacy, financial literacy, human rights, physical and mental health, sexuality and relationships, environment, and safety.</p> <p>In May, the Estonian Association of Youth Workers established a new thematic working group in order to quickly respond to important topics in society and the media concerning young people and youth work, to write commentaries and articles, and to appear on television.</p> <p>In June, a new website was launched providing quality and innovative models developed by groups of members of the local community of practice and piloted locally to assess how universally applicable these are across municipalities. At the moment, 23 of such new models in youth work are described and shared by the Education and Youth Board, but the website is constantly being updated to include more models. The models aim to improve youth work quality, to tackle challenges faced by young people and youth workers, and to further the integration of non-formal learning approaches into the formal education. Users feedback on the models is also accepted on an ongoing basis.</p> <p>In preparation for the parliamentary elections in March 2023, the Estonian Association of Youth Workers published a platform outlining the necessary courses of action for better involving young people, developing youth work and improving the situation of youth workers so that candidates could be guided by it.</p> <p>In its General Assembly in June, the Estonian Association of Youth Workers decided to start negotiations at both national and local levels to solve the low salary problem youth workers face.</p> <p>In July 2022, an online self-study course was compiled that helps camp counsellors cope with young people with special educational needs. The course is available on the Moodle learning platform of the Education and Youth Board and consists of videos, tests and reading materials.</p> <p>The Opinion Festival held on 12-13 August targeted issues that matter both to young people and the youth work community of practice. Eight discussions on youth-related topics were conducted and live-streamed on the internet.</p> <p>In August, the Estonian National Youth Council published its platform for the parliamentary elections as well. 16 world cafés all over Estonia and a youth conference, which was attended by nearly 700 young people, were organised to get input from young people. The platform is divided into four sections:</p>

	<p>democracy; environment and sustainable economy; education and employment; well-being of young people.</p> <p>The indicators related to the youth sector were updated on a website My Municipality that offers a systematic comparative overview of the state of local governments' services. New criteria were added as well as expectations for local governments were raised across several existing criteria. Methodological changes led to a general decrease in service levels.</p> <p>The Education and Youth Board has launched a series of webinars on data on young people and youth work to highlight, among other things, issues relevant to young people. The target group of the seminars is the community of practice (policy makers, youth workers, youth researchers, etc.). The aim of the seminars is to increase the data literacy among the actors in the youth sector.</p> <p>A comprehensive study on future scenarios in the youth sector has been completed. This study stemmed from the need to understand how both the trends that take place in Estonia and the global megatrends impact on Estonian young people, and how should the Estonian youth sector and other policy areas adapt to these changes in order to best respond to young people's needs and to build young people's developmental assets. The aim of the study was to create four future scenarios for the Estonian youth sector for 2030.</p> <p>In September, the youth information service Teeviit focused on democracy and youth rights. Thematic articles and experience stories were published and shared on the website and its social media channels (Facebook, Instagram, TikTok).</p> <p>In October, the registration of activities for the youth work week that is a flagship event of the Education and Youth Board opened. The week is held every November, with a new theme. This year's week focuses on youth work as a tool for creativity and personal development of young people.</p> <p>Special emphasis is also given on youth rights and quality youth participation in democratic societies. The Education and Youth Board is organising the Youth Participation Forum on 31 October to 4 November to foster, among other things, the Youth Participation Strategy that is in line with the texts adopted by the CoE, and to inspire the youth work community of practice to involve more young people in their decision-making processes.</p>
Finland/ Finlande	<p>Updated August 2022</p> <p>The Government Programme "Inclusive and competent Finland – a socially, economically and ecologically sustainable society" (https://julkaisut.valtioneuvosto.fi/handle/10024/161935) pledges for fair and equal treatment across generations. Every young person should have the opportunity to study, participate and pursue their dreams. While most young people are doing fine, 10 to 15 per cent of young people are struggling. For example, exclusion among young men, mental health problems among young women and discrimination against minorities cause human suffering and are costly to society.</p> <p>The current Youth Act (1285/2016) constitutes the legal basis for the National youth work and youth policy programme (VANUPO). In line with the Government Programme, the key themes of VANUPO are preventing social exclusion and strengthening inclusion among young people. The most effective means for preventing social exclusion is ensuring the preconditions for a meaningful life for all young people. In addition to the Government's youth policy objectives and their related measures, VANUPO includes objectives for the youth sector's European and international activities and defines the priorities for the selection of Finland's national youth sector centres of expertise (https://minedu.fi/en/national-youth-centres). The programme is available in English at the Ministry's web site https://minedu.fi/en/policies-and-development-youth.</p> <p><i>The Finnish model for leisure activities</i></p> <p>The main objective of the Finnish model for leisure activities is to increase the well-being of children and young people. The aim is to enable every child and young person to have a leisure activity in connection with the school day that they enjoy and that is free of charge. To enable this, the Government has granted 14,5 million euros per year for municipalities to implement the leisure activities locally. Pupils and students in years one to nine of comprehensive school as well as students in additional education are the target group. The Finnish model for leisure</p>

activities combines consultation of children and young people on leisure activities, coordination of existing good procedures and practices, and cooperation between schools and different actors in leisure activities. At the beginning of the model over 200 000 pupils were consulted about their wishes and hopes for leisure activities. The most popular ones were parkour, arts, cinema, cooking and climbing.

Amendments to the Youth Act

The Government proposes amendments to the Youth Act. The proposal specifies the provisions on the eligibility and the criteria for granting state aid. In addition, the Government proposes that the Finnish model for leisure activities be added to the Act. The act would, i.a. lay down the provisions on the tasks of municipalities in organising leisure activities and the conditions to be taken into account when considering the amount of discretionary government grants for recreational activities. The aim is to establish leisure activities for young people as a permanent operating model in municipalities in accordance with the Finnish model. The proposed amendments are expected to enter into force on 1 January 2023.

Improving the administration of discretionary government grants

The system of administering discretionary government grants will be improved by creating uniform, digitalised government grant processes. The grant activities involved include the channelling of grants, the application process, and the award, monitoring and assessment of grants. The aim is that the whole of central government will gradually switch to the new system of government grant administration, and, over the next few years, will begin using the supporting shared online services. Introduction of the new system for administering discretionary government grants will improve the effectiveness of the system, increase the transparency and openness of the system, make the grant application and award processes clearer and smoother and ensure that grant administration practices are more uniform. The new shared online services will replace the existing online services either in part or in full. (<https://vm.fi/en/improving-the-administration-of-discretionary-government-grants>)

Implementation of the CM/Recommendation (2017)4 on youth work

The Ministry of Education and Culture continues its efforts to promote the implementation of the recommendation on youth work, focusing on the formal education of youth workers. The Humak University for Applied Sciences organizes in cooperation with EU-CoE youth partnership and the German National Agency for EU youth programmes an Expert meeting on higher education in youth work in Helsinki (20-23 September 2022). The final report of the meeting will be published in English.

Democracy here. Democracy Now youth campaign 2022

The Ministry of Education and Culture has appointed the National Youth Council Allianssi as the responsible body for the implementation of the campaign. As part of the communication campaign, Allianssi has conducted an open online survey to collect models for democracy education concepts and events. These have been compiled into a thematic site in Finnish and English. The site will be complemented in autumn. Please see <https://nuorisoala.fi/the-finnish-national-youth-council-allianssi/models-for-democracy-education-and-participation/>.

Digitalisation of municipal youth work in 2021

The centre of expertise for digital youth work (Verke) has published the fifth report on the digitalisation of municipal youth work and digital youth work. The previous reports were published in 2013, 2015, 2017 and 2019. The report examines the digitalisation of municipal youth work through five themes: 1) attitudes towards digitalisation, 2) the use of digitalisation, 3) digital competence, 4) the challenges and opportunities of digitalisation, and 5) the strategic development of digitalisation. The report also examines how the digitalization of municipal youth work has evolved between 2019 and 2021, with particular attention paid to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic. The results show that municipalities are making active use of

	<p>digitalisation in their youth work. However, there seems to have been no increase in the use of digital services when compared to 2019. The study shows a positive development in digital competence. A total of 94% of youth workers and managers rated their digital competence as at least fair. As many as 44% of respondents rated their digital competence as good or excellent, compared to just under a third (30%) in 2019. Media and information literacy was still perceived as the biggest strength and digital content production as the most significant weakness. According to the respondents' own assessments, their skills seem to have improved the most in terms of proficiency in the use of equipment and applications. However, almost three out of four (72%) said that they need training in digital skills.</p> <p><i>Presidency of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council 2021-2023</i></p> <p>Finland holds the Presidency of the Barents Euro-Arctic Council (BEAC) from October 2021 until October 2023. The Barents cooperation has been one of our key cornerstones of regional cooperation in the Arctic since 1993. Finland will focus on the areas of sustainable development and healthy environment, people-to-people contacts and transport and logistics. In the people-to-people contacts, specific focus will be on young people.</p> <p>In October 2021, the Foreign Ministers of the BEAC member states adopted a new funding instrument, the Barents Financial Mechanism (BFM) for small-scale practical cooperation projects cooperation in the region.</p> <p>On 9th of March Finland, Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden and the European Union issued a common statement in which they condemned in the strongest possible terms Russia's unprecedented military aggression against Ukraine. It was decided that all activities involving Russia in the Barents Euro-Arctic cooperation will be suspended. In the current situation, the focus of the cooperation is on activities between Norway, Finland and Sweden while securing the possibility for Russia to join activities in the future, if the political situation allows. The mobilization of the Barents Financial Mechanism is postponed.</p>
<p>France</p> <p>Les informations fournies dans ce document relèvent de la responsabilité des représentants nationaux au Comité directeur européen pour la jeunesse (CDEJ) et ne reflètent pas nécessairement la politique officielle du Conseil de l'Europe ou de ses États membres.</p>	<p>Updated September 2022</p> <p>Développement récent des politiques de jeunesse</p> <p>La politique en faveur de la jeunesse regroupe l'ensemble des actions favorisant l'accompagnement des jeunes vers l'autonomie et s'articule principalement autour de l'éducation, la formation et l'engagement.</p> <p>Les principaux axes d'intervention sont :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education et insertion professionnelle • Une approche interministérielle de l'engagement (Jeunesse, Société civile, Armées) • Le renforcement de l'accès aux droits, notamment en ce qui concerne la santé mentale <p>La prise en compte des questions environnementales et de développement durable est par ailleurs transversales aux différents axes d'intervention.</p> <p>Par ailleurs, de janvier à juin 2022, la France a assuré la présidence du Conseil de l'Union européenne (PFUE) qui a correspondu avec le lancement de l'Année européenne de la jeunesse.</p> <p><u>Education et insertion professionnelle</u></p> <p><u>Au lycée</u> Une réforme des choix de spécialité en première et terminale est en cours depuis 2019. Celle-ci a donné lieu à la mise en place de choix de matières multiples, remplaçant un système par filières.</p> <p><u>BAC 2022</u> En raison de la crise sanitaire et suite à une nouvelle réforme, le baccalauréat est à présent composé de 40 % de contrôle continu et 60 % d'épreuves terminales. Les épreuves terminales englobent à présent le français de fin de première, la philosophie, les deux épreuves de spécialités poursuivies en terminale et le grand oral.</p>

1 jeune 1 solution

Un ensemble de mesures d'ampleur à destination des jeunes a été mis en œuvre dans le cadre du plan #1jeune1solution pour faire face aux crises sanitaire et économique traversées depuis mars 2020. Ce plan dispose d'un volet de mentorat, [1 jeune 1 mentor](#). Le président de la République a annoncé l'objectif de 200 000 jeunes devant bénéficier d'une action de mentorat d'ici la fin 2022.

Le Contrat d'Engagement Jeune

Dans la continuité du plan 1 jeune 1 solution, **le Contrat d'Engagement Jeune** a été mis en place en 2020 pour offrir aux 16 à 25 ans qui ne sont ni étudiants, ni en formation, ni en situation d'emploi durable, des opportunités d'accompagnement individuel dans un cadre exigeant. Le programme se déroule pendant 6 à 12 mois (entre 15 et 20 heures par semaine), il vise à aider les jeunes à définir leur projet professionnel et à trouver un emploi. Il peut donner lieu à une allocation mensuelle allant jusqu'à 500 euros.

Engagement

Service civique

Renforcer **l'engagement de la jeunesse** au service de la société est l'un des objectifs du Gouvernement. Cette mesure se concrétise par **le renforcement du dispositif de volontariat en service civique qui a vu son budget augmenter**.

En **2022**, au moins 200 000 missions doivent permettre de mobiliser les jeunes.

Une convention-cadre pour le programme 2022-2023 « jeunes et nature » du Service civique a été signée le 4 mars 2022 en associant les ministres et secrétaires français de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation, de la Biodiversité, et de la Jeunesse, ainsi que l'Agence du Service civique. Le texte prévoit le déploiement de 1 000 missions en faveur de la nature.

Service national universel

Le Président de la République est à l'initiative du « [service national universel](#) » qui est un dispositif d'engagement ouvert aux jeunes français de 15 à 17 ans appelé à se généraliser au fil des ans à l'ensemble d'une classe d'âge, soit 800 000 adolescents par an. Cette année une journée « biodiversité » a été initiée en partenariat avec les associations de l'éducation à l'environnement et au développement durable afin de renforcer la thématique dans le séjour de cohésion.

Aujourd'hui, articulé autour de trois temps, le SNU débute par un séjour de cohésion qui donne l'opportunité de découvrir la vie collective au sein d'un centre pendant 2 semaines. En 2022, trois séjours de cohésion ont été proposés : du 13 au 25 février 2022, du 12 au 24 juin 2022, et du 3 au 15 juillet 2022. 40 000 jeunes Français, originaires de l'ensemble des départements de métropole et d'outre-mer, se sont inscrits pour y participer.

Le SNU se poursuit par une mission d'intérêt général d'une durée minimale de 84 heures qui peut s'effectuer en continu (par exemple pendant des vacances scolaires) ou de manière perlée quelques heures par semaine. Ceux qui le souhaitent ont la possibilité de poursuivre par un engagement volontaire d'au moins 3 mois, qui peut être réalisé jusqu'à 25 ans (30 ans pour les jeunes en situation de handicap).

La montée en charge du SNU pour 2023 entrera en résonance avec les enjeux environnementaux et sociétaux actuels. Cette politique publique, qui gravira cette année une nouvelle marche vers sa généralisation, constitue une opportunité majeure de conforter la cohésion nationale et le désir d'engagement des jeunes.

Appel à projets Jeunes et nature :

Le ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de la Jeunesse et des Sports a lancé en décembre 2021 un appel pour soutenir et accompagner les projets menés par les jeunes intitulé « jeunes & nature ».

Cet appel à projets est destiné aux fédérations ou aux associations agréées Jeunesse et Education populaire au niveau national, qui disposent d'une convention annuelle d'objectifs (CAO) ou d'une convention pluriannuelle d'objectifs (CPO) signée avec la DJEPVA.

L'objectif affiché était de mobiliser des adolescents âgés de 12 à 18 ans dans des actions concrètes à valeur éducative sur le terrain, en milieu urbain et rural, en faveur de la nature.

15 associations ont été lauréates de cet appel à projet. 32 000 jeunes qui sont accompagnés pour des réalisations en faveur de l'environnement.

Engagement dans les Armées

Le ministère des Armées a présenté le plan « **Ambition Armées Jeunesse 2022** », comprenant un ensemble de dispositifs adressés aux Français à partir de l'âge de 13 ans.

Le plan a pour objectif de développer l'esprit d'engagement des jeunes et à les sensibiliser à « l'esprit de défense ».

Plusieurs dispositifs sont mis en œuvre :

- Les **classes de défense et de sécurité globale** : elles reposent sur un projet pédagogique pluridisciplinaire mené par une équipe enseignante et une entité militaire ;
- Les centres « **cadets de la défense** » : ils proposent aux collégiens et aux lycéens des activités éducatives, citoyennes et sportives, hors temps scolaire, dans le cadre d'un partenariat entre des établissements scolaires et une unité militaire de proximité.

Semaine d'action de la jeunesse

La France a contribué à la campagne « Démocratie ici, démocratie maintenant » lancée par le secteur jeunesse du Conseil de l'Europe pour l'année 2022. Le Ministère en charge de la jeunesse (par le biais d'une contribution financière), ainsi que ville de Strasbourg étaient partenaires de l'événement phare de la campagne, la **Semaine d'action de la jeunesse**, tenue du 27 juin au 2 juillet 2022.

Accès aux droits

Dans le cadre de l'**Année européenne de la jeunesse** (2022), la France a réalisé une campagne d'accès à l'information. Des livrets de présentation des dispositifs jeunes ont été partagés en ligne et lors de divers festivals et événements jeunes.

Boussole des jeunes

Le dispositif « **Boussole des jeunes** » est un service numérique créé en 2019 à destination des 15-30 ans et qui souhaite recenser explicitement les services mobilisables par les jeunes au niveau des territoires. En 2021, 17 territoires étaient engagés, permettant de disposer de 27 boussoles à échelle départementale.

Accès au logement

La garantie Visale, service de cautionnement gratuit porté par Action logement qui se porte garant auprès du bailleur, été étendue à tous les jeunes de 18 à 30 ans.

Accès à la culture

Depuis 2019, un « **Pass Culture** » a été expérimenté dans 5 départements pour faciliter l'accès des jeunes à la culture en contribuant ou en donnant un accès gratuit à des sites, expériences ou supports culturels.. Il est crédité d'un montant de 300 euros par jeune. En 2022, le président de la République a annoncé souhaiter étendre le dispositif aux élèves à partir de la 6^{ème}.

Santé et sports

La France souhaite améliorer la santé des jeunes par la mise en œuvre de la **stratégie nationale de santé (SNS) 2018-2022** et le **plan national de santé publique Priorité Prévention** associé.

Ces textes ont pour objectif de réaliser de la prévention dans les établissements scolaires et de prévenir des risques auditifs, de consommation de substances, et de santé mentale.

La **gratuité de la contraception** pour les femmes de moins de 25 ans a été annoncée en septembre 2021.

La **santé mentale des jeunes** a donné lieu à la création d'un espace dédié pendant la pandémie de COVID-19 sur le site Santé publique France.

Santé publique France et le ministère des solidarités et de la santé ont lancé le 6 avril 2021 une campagne digitale de sensibilisation [#JenParleA](#) à destination du grand public, avec une attention particulière portée aux 18-24 ans.

Le ministère en charge de l'enseignement supérieur a mis en place différents dispositifs d'aides tels que le **dispositif Santé Psy Étudiants**. Il est destiné aux étudiants en situation de mal-être. Il permet à ceux qui en ont besoin, et qui le souhaitent, de suivre un parcours de soins et de pouvoir consulter gratuitement un psychologue (3 séances).

A l'approche des Jeux olympiques et paralympiques de Paris 2024, la France promeut les activités physiques et sportives auprès des publics scolaires et étudiants, en s'appuyant sur le réseau des **jeunes ambassadeurs de santé** et le label « **Génération 2024** » ou encore les « **mercredi du sport** ».

Accès aux loisirs

Séjours de vacances

Les « Colos apprenantes » ont été initiées en 2020, dans le cadre de l'opération Vacances apprenantes, par le ministère de l'éducation nationale et de la jeunesse afin, initialement, de faire face aux conséquences de la crise sanitaire Covid-19 sur les publics jeunes. Elles poursuivent l'objectif de faire partir un maximum de jeunes dans les séjours labellisés par les services de l'Etat, en s'appuyant en priorité sur les collectivités locales en lien avec les opérateurs de loisirs socio-éducatifs.

Les « Colos apprenantes » s'inscrivent dans un projet et un contenu pédagogique précis. Ainsi, en lien avec le socle commun de connaissances, de compétences et de culture, elles se fondent sur des séances de renforcement des apprentissages parmi les domaines suivants :

- Le développement durable et la transition écologique ;
- Les arts et la culture ;
- Les activités physiques et sportives ;
- La science, l'innovation ;
- Le numérique ;
- La découverte ou l'approfondissement de langues étrangères.

Un domaine parmi ces différentes thématiques est choisi comme dominante pédagogique du séjour. Une priorité est donnée au renforcement et à la remobilisation des connaissances et compétences des enfants et des jeunes. Une attention particulière est également apportée aux enjeux de lutte contre les discriminations et de citoyenneté.

Les publics cibles du dispositif sont les mineurs à partir de 3 ans :

- Domiciliés dans les quartiers prioritaires de la politique de la ville ;
- Domiciliés en zones de revitalisation rurale (ZRR) ;
- En situation de handicap ;
- En situation de décrochage scolaire ;
- Relevant de l'aide sociale à l'enfance (ASE) ;
- Dont les revenus ne dépassent pas un certain niveau (en tenant compte du nombre de membres de la famille).

Face au succès de la première édition, les Colos apprenantes ont été reconduites en 2021 et 2022. A ce jour, au cours des éditions 2020, 2021 et 2022, environ 200 000 mineurs sont partis en colos apprenantes gratuitement.

La présidence française du Conseil de l'Union européenne (PFUE)

	<p>La France a assuré la présidence du Conseil de l'Union européenne entre janvier et juin 2022. A ce titre, elle a pu lancer le 9^{ème} cycle du dialogue de l'Union européenne en faveur de la jeunesse, plaçant comme priorités « une Europe verte et durable » et « des sociétés inclusives ». La Présidence a été l'occasion de valoriser la contribution des jeunes à la transition durable ainsi que de renforcer leur participation à la construction des politiques publiques. La présidence a également visé à favoriser la mobilité des jeunes volontaires et la valorisation des compétences acquises ; et renforcer la citoyenneté européenne par l'engagement volontaire au niveau local et européen.</p> <p>La présidence a donné lieu à la négociation et l'adoption de deux textes au Conseil sur ces thématiques :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conclusions sur l'engagement des jeunes en faveur de la protection de l'environnement - Recommandation du Conseil sur la mobilité des jeunes volontaires à travers l'Union européenne.
Georgia/ Géorgie	<p>Updated March 2020</p> <p>In August 2019 the new LEPL¹ Youth Agency was founded as a part of the Government's structural reform plan. The Youth Agency, which reports directly to the office of the Prime Minister, took over the functions of the following institutions:</p> <p>Youth Policy Management Department of the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports of Georgia;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • LEPL Children and Youth National Centre; • LEPL Children and Youth Development Fund. <p>The main goal of the Youth Agency for the next three years is a comprehensive reform of the youth sector in Georgia. The main challenge being to close the gaps in the current youth ecosystem. (Definition of youth: 14 - 29 years of age.)</p> <p>The Youth Agency of Georgia has already developed a three-year fundamental reform strategy and an action plan, which is divided into four phases.</p> <p>One of the priorities of the Georgian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe is to promote democracy through education, culture and youth engagement. Consequently, the support of youth engagement and development of inclusive and participatory youth policy work on the national and local level became the cornerstone of the reform.</p> <p>The priorities of three-year reform strategy are based on Georgia's National Youth Policy and it aims at:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • developing inclusive and participatory youth policy work on the national and local level through legislative acts and regulations and through supporting the municipal institutions with the formulation and implementation a municipal youth policy; • creating more opportunities for young people by providing high quality Youth Work services, non-formal education programmes and information; • providing grants and capacity building activities for youth organizations; • enhancing the qualification of youth workers; • promoting a healthy lifestyle, human rights, tolerance and gender equality. <p>While defining priorities of the reform two important events were organized in Georgia on the topic of youth participation and youth work.</p>

¹ Legal Entity of Public Law - A legal entity under public law is a separate organisation from legislative and state government bodies, established under an appropriate law, an ordinance of the Government of Georgia or an administrative act of a state government body based on law, which independently carries out political, state, social, educational, cultural and other public activities under state control;

The Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth in cooperation with the Youth Agency of Georgia, hosted an international peer-learning event on strengthening the potential of youth work in Eastern Europe. The event was held on 27-28 November in Tbilisi, Georgia. The event brought together about 60 participants: policy makers, youth workers, NGOs and researchers, and will focus on quality development of youth work at local level.

The second event, international conference “Advancing youth participation in local and regional life” was organized by Youth Agency with the support of the Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth and National Council of Youth Organizations of Georgia (NCYOG). The event took place on 29 November 2019 in Tbilisi, Georgia. The aim of the conference was to strengthen the capacities of Georgian stakeholders (at national, regional, local levels) in the field of youth participation and to provide opportunities for the development of international cooperation between Georgia and other European countries in the area of youth participation.

Regarding the implementation of the reform, the first phase of the reform was already completed successfully in August 2019. It had an aim to consolidate all governmental resources in the youth field in one organization. Therefore, it was decided to transfer youth issues from the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports to the new Youth Agency that was established under the Prime Minister's Office. The Youth Agency took over the youth portfolio and now it is responsible for the development, implementation and coordination of Youth Policy, as well as for the reforming of the youth sector in Georgia.

The second phase completed in February 2020 and it was about the development of strategic documents and action plans on different directions of the reform. And also, after the series of meetings and negotiations Youth Agency representatives have managed to bring together all the major stakeholders into a common vision of the reform and to get their support in the implementation process of it.

The third phase will launch in March 2020, when the Youth Agency will start implementation of pilot projects in selected municipalities of Georgia.

The fourth phase will start in the second half of 2021, after finishing the evaluation process of pilot projects implemented in 2020. This fourth phase will be the last part in the process of establishing the sustainable ecosystem of the youth sector that is defined in 3-year reform plan and during this phase all remaining municipalities will be included in the reform process.

It should be mentioned, that the Parliament of Georgia also plays a big part in the reform process. The Sports and Youth Affairs Committee created a working group, with technical assistance from UN agencies based in Georgia, led by UNFPA Georgia, with the goal to review the government's current youth policy action plan and to work on the development of a new youth policy concept 2030, which will become the main document determining youth policy development in Georgia for the next ten years.

The Parliament of Georgia will adopt “youth policy concept 2030” in this spring session of 2020 and after that they will hand over it to the Youth Agency to develop the national youth strategy 2025 and a series of time-limited action plans till the end of 2020. The Parliamentary Committee will maintain an oversight role scrutinizing the implementation of the new youth strategy.

The strategy itself will be based on youth policy concept 2030 adopted by the parliament of Georgia in 2020 and Youth Policy adopted by Government of Georgia in 2014. This process will be participatory, where the line ministries, civil society organizations and young people will be involved as in the development as well in the implementation of strategy; and Youth Agency will take into consideration all the recommendations prepared by Youth policy advisory mission to Georgia, that was organized on 26-28 September 2019 with the aim to provide advice to the Youth Agency on the development of a participatory youth policy based on the Council of Europe's norms and standards. And the second Youth policy advisory mission to Georgia that will be organized on 22-24 April 2020 with the aim to provide assistance for the development of the National Youth Strategy 2025.

Germany/ Allemagne	<p>Updated September 2022</p> <p>National action plan for child and youth participation In 2019 the Federal Cabinet decided on the youth strategy of the federal government. "Shared responsibility: politics for, with and by youth" ("In gemeinsamer Verantwortung: Politik für, mit und von Jugend").</p> <p>Now the youth strategy will be further developed with a "National Action Plan for child and youth participation". The kick-off will take place in November 2022 – Länder, municipalities and civil society will be involved in the progress. Children and young people will also contribute their ideas and demands to the National Action Plan.</p> <p>The Interministerial Working Group on Youth (IMA Jugend), which has already developed the Youth Strategy, is continuing to coordinate the process. At IMA Jugend, representatives from all Federal Ministries exchange views on current projects and measures relevant to young people. A civic advisory board advises the Federal Ministry for Youth on the involvement of youth interest groups as well as of the Länder and municipal umbrella organisations.</p> <p>Bonn-Process As a follow-up to the European Youth Work Convention, held in December 2020 during the German chairmanship in the Council of Europe, the German Federal Youth Ministry has established a European Service Centre for the Bonn Process to support the Bonn-Process all over Europe. The aim of the Service Centre is to offer opportunities to further develop youth work in Europe e. g. by providing information and communication, organising networking opportunities and events or by supporting national processes, More information about the Service Centre: https://www.bonn-process.net/</p> <p>On national level the Federal Youth Ministry established a support structure that helps to facilitate national processes by bringing together different stakeholders from local to national level and from the whole community of practice in Germany.</p>
Greece/ Grèce	<p>Updated September 2022</p> <p>The 2022-2024 youth policy strategy of the General Secretariat for Vocational Education, Training, Lifelong Learning and Youth (GSVETLL&Y) of the Hellenic Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs is outlined in the <i>Strategic Plan for Vocational Education, Training, Lifelong Learning and Youth 2022-2024</i>, which includes a specific strategy based on the current needs and interests of young people, international and European data and extends to other fields, developed on a coordinated effort to take a cross-sectoral approach to all major issues affecting young people's lives, highlighting the new challenges of our time, challenges related to digital transformation and policies to help young people to actively participate in the digital age.</p> <p>The Inter-ministerial Working Group, which aims both to record the existing policies of each ministry concerning young people aged 15-29 and the implementation of policies for the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) concerning the Youth sector, has started its work. With the participation of 27 General Secretariats from the Hellenic Ministries that implement policies for the youth of the country, this Inter-ministerial Working Group will render the GSVETLL&Y a continuously up-to-date hub for gathering all relevant information, record horizontal cross-sectoral proposals aimed at improving each sector involving youth policies, as well as contribute to the comprehensive mapping of the country's youth policies in order to provide national and European stakeholders with up-to-date information so that the Greek youth can benefit from every European initiative and support. Our goal is</p>

by the 3rd quarter of 2023 to create an online platform to record existing youth policies, equally accessible to the public for their information as well.

The 3rd quarter of 2022 finds our General Secretariat in the process of implementing activities in accordance with the national programming for the European Year of Youth 2022 and the campaign for revitalizing democracy "Democracy Here. Democracy Now" of the Council of Europe, both priorities in the youth sector of the country. More specifically within the context of these two campaigns, the following main actions (chronologically) have been implemented, also aiming at addressing and solving key issues:

- **15.04.2022 – September 2022/EYY2022 national activity:** Online event of the General Secretariat for VETLL&Y on "*Youth Work: the road to recognition*" (on the [Erasmusplus Youth](#) YouTube channel). This event marked the launch of the actions and procedures aimed at the institutional recognition and certification of the Youth Work profession in the country. Additionally, following this event, an expert group with the participation of the National Organization for the Certification of Qualifications & Vocational Guidance (EOPPEP), the Greek actor mainly involved in the recognition, accreditation, and validation of non-formal learning (RVA), has been set up with the milestone of completing the professional profile of the Youth Work profession by the 1st quarter of 2023.
- 3 major national surveys:
 1. **23.05.2022-24.06.2022/EYY2022 national activity:** Pan-Hellenic Survey on "*Recording of good practices of municipalities implementing European Policies to their young citizens*" by the Hellenic Agency for Local Development and Local Government (EETAA), implemented under the responsibility of the General Secretariat for Vocational Education, Training, Lifelong Learning and Youth - the results are currently being processed.
 2. Within the context of both Youth campaigns (**EYY2022 and DHDN national activities**), our General Secretariat has planned **two surveys** to be carried out by the National Center for Social Research (EKKE), with the results being delivered by the last quarter of 2022.

The first one on "*Young people and Europe: How young people perceive Europe and their identity within it - Sustainable development goals and young people*" targets young people aged 18-29 and the second one on "*Perceptions of democracy in decision-making at school*" targets the student population of the last two years of upper secondary education schools (Greek General and Vocational Lyceums). The aim of these surveys is to study individual aspects of the life and perceptions of young people in Greece with the ultimate goal of contributing the research results to the international debate that will be developed in the context of the declaration of 2022 as the European Year of Youth and the DHDN campaign.

More specifically, the research findings are expected to shed light on:

a) the aspects that constitute the cognitive representation of young people about their status as Greeks, but also as European citizens. In particular, issues such as the

	<p>perception of democracy and its future, the digital and green transition in the European context will constitute additional fields of enlightenment for the perceptions of young people and the perspectives they themselves prioritise for the future of European coexistence, and</p> <p>b) the process of political socialisation of young people within the school environment, with an emphasis on the factors and conditions that favour the upbringing of participatory and responsible citizens who support democracy and contribute to safeguarding democratic processes.</p> <p>3. 27 June 2022 - 2 July 2022: Greece participated in the “Youth Action Week” with a six-member national delegation, actively participating in the formulation of the proposals for the 50 actions that emerged from almost 450 participants, which will be the subject of discussion and the basis for future recommendations and measures to be implemented by the Youth Sector of the Council of Europe. This experience of the national delegation’s participants will be multiplied through their networks and the variety of actions that are included in the national campaign.</p> <p>It is worth mentioning that according to its upcoming plans, the General Secretariat for Vocational Education, Training, Lifelong Learning and Youth, together with the Central Union of Municipalities of Greece and the Hellenic Agency for Local Development and Local Government (EETAA), within the context of 2022 as the European Year of Youth, has started the proceedings of establishing the honorary title of <i>National Youth Capital</i> for the Municipalities of Greece.</p> <p>The aim of the joint initiative is for the country's municipalities, in close cooperation with the young people living in them, to design and implement a comprehensive programme of actions and interventions that will empower young people, strengthen their participation as active citizens and bring a new perspective of youth in all aspects of city life. A necessary condition of the initiative is that young people have equal opportunities to shape the social, economic and cultural life of the place where they live.</p> <p>Finally, the first National Action Plan for Youth of the Hellenic Government is still being processed by the General Secretariat for Government Coordination regarding the implementation and monitoring of all the policies it includes.</p>
Holy See/ Saint Siège	<p>Updated in October 2022</p> <p>The 15th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops (a permanent body established in 1965 as an advisory body of the pope), commonly referred to as the “Synod on Young People”, took place 3–28 October 2018 and had as its theme “Young People, Faith, and Vocational Discernment”. Its aim was to “accompany young people on their way of life towards maturity so that, through a process of discernment, they can discover their life project and realize it with joy, opening the encounter with God and with men, and actively participating in the building up of the Church and society”.</p> <p>The theme was chosen by Pope Francis after consulting the members of the Synod Council chosen by the previous Ordinary Assembly, regional and national bishops' conferences, the Union of Superiors Generals, the leaders of the Eastern Catholic Churches, and others. In January 2017, Pope Francis released a letter that invited “Young People” to contribute to the planning of the synod. In June 2017, the General of the Synod of Bishops announced the launch of a website to present the synod’s planning document accompanied by a multi-language questionnaire to gather suggestions and feedback on it. In</p>

early July, he reported that the questionnaire had received more than 60,000 responses and the website had generated 173,000 "contacts." He said he hoped to reach "all young people, not only active Catholic young people." In September 2017, he hosted a seminar with about 20 teenagers and young adults from different continents to hear their ideas on the planned Synod. The General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops organized then a Pre-Synodal Meeting to take place from 19 to 24 March 2018, to which 300 young people from around the world were invited: young Catholics, young Christians from other denominations or other religions and young non-believer. At the end of the Pre-Synod, a joint document written by these young people was adopted and communicated to the people convoked for the Synod's Assembly. Building upon all these inputs, the Working Document (*Instrumentum Laboris*) that guided the bishops' discussions during the October's General Assembly, was released in June 2018. The Final Document of the Synod was voted and adopted at the end of its General Assembly, on 27 October 2018. Drawing on all the Synod's documents, after celebrating the World Youth Day in Panama in January 2019, Pope Francis authored an apostolic exhortation, *Christus Vivit* (Christ is living), which he signed on 25 March 2019.

On November 24, 2019, on the Solemnity of Christ the King, the Dicastery for Laity, Family, and Life of the Holy See established the "International Youth Advisory Body" and with a press release, announced the appointment as members for three years of 20 young people – 10 girls and 10 boys – coming from different regions of the world and from some international movements, associations, and communities. *"The Final Document of the Synod 2018 (n. 123) called for the activity of the Youth Office of the Dicastery for Laity, Family and Life to be strengthened also through the establishment of an organization representing young people at the international level."* For this reason, in the post-synod discernment the decision was made to establish the Body formed by "young people who were involved in different phases of the synod process, such as the International Youth Forum that the Dicastery organized last June, to promote the implementation of the apostolic exhortation *Christus Vivit*." The Pontifical Dicastery informed that the group would *"play an important advisory and proactive role, collaborating with the Dicastery to study issues relating to youth ministry and any other issues of more general interest."*

On 18 May 2021, the Holy See's Dicastery on Laity, Family and Life published the the "Pastoral Guidelines for the Celebration of World Youth Day in the Particular Churches". The document, prepared by the Youth Office within the Dicastery for the Laity, the Family and Life and approved by the Holy Father Pope Francis, is intended "for the Bishops' Conferences, the Synods of the Patriarchal and Major Archbishop's Churches, dioceses/eparchies, ecclesial movements and associations and, last but not least, for young people all over the world, so that the 'diocesan/eparchial WYD' may be lived fully as a moment of celebration 'for young people' and 'with young people'." World Youth Day (WYD) is the gathering of young people from all over the world with the Pope. It is also a pilgrimage, a celebration of youth, an expression of the universal Church and an intense moment of evangelization for the youth world. Although its Catholic identity is clearly evident, WYD opens its doors to everyone, no matter how close to or distant from the Church they are. It is celebrated at the diocesan level on the Solemnity of Christ the King (late November), and every two, three or four years as an international gathering in a city chosen by the Pope, with the presence of the Holy Father. It brings together millions of young people to celebrate their faith and sense of belonging to the Church.

Young people from all over Europe gathered from the 3rd to the 7th of August 2022 in Santiago de Compostela (Spain) for the European Youth Pilgrimage (PEJ22). The city welcomed some 12,000 young pilgrims from different European countries, who arrived along the 11 routes of the Camino de Santiago.

This initiative also serves as a preparation for the World Youth Day 2023, which will be held in Lisbon, Portugal, from the 1st to the 6th of August 2023. WYD aims to provide all participants with a universal Church experience, fostering a personal encounter with Jesus Christ. It is a new stimulus to the faith, hope and charity of the entire host country community. With young people as its protagonists, World Youth Day also seeks to promote peace, unity and fraternity among peoples and nations around the world.

Finally, from 20 to 23 October 2022, the European symposium on the proclamation of faith will be held in Krakow at the Sanctuary of St. John Paul II, organised by the Youth Commission and the Catechesis Section of the Council of European Bishops' Conferences (CCEE) and by the Archdiocese of Krakow.

Hungary/
Hongrie

Updated March 2022

Hungarian Youth 2020

Since 2000 (the year of the first youth report) every four years the research has been done in order to get a full review on Hungarian youth. The report is conducted by asking 8,000 young people between the ages of 15 and 29. The 2016 report was the first survey that also included the Hungarian youth living in the neighbouring countries. The 2020 survey was published in the summer of 2021.

Hungarian young people are much more satisfied in 2016-2020 than they were in 2008-2012. Satisfaction in the different areas (friendship / partner relationship, learning opportunity, future perspective, possible opportunity, standard of living) changed in a positive direction. Looking at the 2020 results, mainly the material characteristics show a significant positive shift. The coronavirus pandemic and information dumping on young people were likely to have been effected. 44% of Hungarian young people have experienced many changes in their lives as a result of the pandemic. In most cases, the change had negative consequences for example job loss; deterioration of financial situation, changing of the eating and sports habits. Positive changes included the transformation of family relationships more positively, the attitude for spirituality has also become stronger.

Children and Youth Fund

The aim of the Children and Youth Fund is to support series of programs implemented at national or international level with the inclusion and active participation of the youth groups, which form an integral part of the professional activities of youth communities and organizations, contribute to the implementation of youth initiatives, the creation and strengthening of communities, support the social participation of young people, promote the love of home and country, and ensure usefully spent leisure time. In 2021, the program was given the title of "Replanning". The coronavirus pandemic affected the entire world, and as a result of the situation economic, social, cultural processes and civic initiatives have slowed down and transformed since 2020. Within the framework of the application, financial support was given to present the activities, results and plans of the applicant organisation to organise online events and training courses promoting the overall community presence, personal development and community responsibility of young people. Financial support also can be given to these civic association in order to establish contacts with another Hungarian youth organisation in Hungary or abroad that is related to the applicant's activities. 665 youth organisations applied, of which 84 were supported by grants. This year's application has not been published yet.

Complete personal income tax (PIT) exemption under 25

In 2021 the Hungarian Parliament approved the bill draft of the complete personal income tax (PIT) exemption under 25 at April, 2021. From the 1st of January 2022, those under the age of 25 receive a complete personal income tax (PIT) exemption. With the introduction of the bill, the government aims to:

- support young labour market entrants by improving salary conditions.
- assist young people in the progress of reaching financial independence and creating/re-creating their self-identity.
- further improve the financial conditions of family formation.

The Government set the income limit for a personal income tax exemption for Hungarians under 25 at the gross average Hungarian wage: 1 163 EUR (HUF 403.600). This amount is expected to rise in the following years.

Financial moratorium

	<p>The Hungarian Government imposed a moratorium on corporate, household and student loan instalments, effective until the pandemic is over. The Government will extend the possibility of using the Student Loan Plus, until June 30, 2022. According to the decision, a free-use, interest-free loan of HUF 500,000 (EUR 1400) is available again to students studying in higher education from October 1, 2021.</p> <p>ReStart ReNew ReIntegrate- Opportunities for young people after coronavirus conference</p> <p>Under the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe Hungary was given the opportunity to organise a conference. The participants discussed the possible ways of restarting youth communities after the pandemic, and the conference gave place to a seminar involving the European Youth Card Association and the Partial Agreement as well. The event was held between 27-29 October 2021 in Budapest, in the presence of representatives of ministries responsible for youth affairs from the member states of the Council of Europe, and representatives of several civil youth organisations.</p> <p>The European Year of Youth - Cooperation with the National Youth Council</p> <p>National Youth Council shared their plans with Deputy State Secretariat for Youth for the European Year of Youth 2022. One of the aims supporting young people to actively promote the various opportunities available to the youth, be it from the EU, national, regional or local level. For example organizing conferences, events at national level and also support the participation of the young people at theme related conference at abroad. In order to promote youth participation we will create tools, channels, programmes. The first opening event of the European Year of Youth was held at the Ministry of Justice in cooperation with the Future of Europe conference team at 25th, February. The Deputy State Secretariat supports these initiatives.</p>
Iceland/ Islande	<p>Updated September 2021</p> <p>Minister of Education, Science and Culture has finished the work on policy in Youth Work. The Recommendation CM/Rec (2017)4 is one of the key documents in the policy as well as the Convention of the Rights of the Child. This is a major step forward for the policy and a clear vision to 2030. Among actions in the policy is revision of current Youth law and development of quality criterion on youth work.</p> <p>Policy on Child friendly Iceland was approved as parliamentary resolution in the Parliament in June. This is a policy in implementation on the Convention of the Rights of the Child. One of the actions is policymaking on youth.</p> <p>The Ombudsman for Children in Iceland will organise the Children's Congress in November but this congress is held every other year. About 250 children (12-17 years old, selected randomly) and about 200 MP's, Governmental officials, local authorities, representatives from the labour market, etc. come together to discuss issues concerning children and youth.</p> <p>The Ombudsman of Children is also working action plan on how to increase influence children and youth on policy making.</p> <p>Ministry of Social Affairs has made a contract with the Icelandic Youth Council regarding involvement of young people when it comes to policy making. The Youth council will also be consulting the Minister and the Ministry on youth affairs and how to increase participation of young people.</p> <p>No Hate Speech</p> <p>The National Committee "No Hate Speech", which was founded in 2013, will continue its work in Iceland regardless of the continuation of the European No Hate Speech campaign. The committee and the project is now a part of a contract between the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture and SAFT (Society, Family and Technology) (http://saft.is/english/)</p>

Ireland/
Irlande

Updated September 2022

Irish Youth Legislation

Youth work has been enhancing the lives of young people and adults in Ireland for more than 100 years. It was given formal statutory recognition in the Youth Work Act 2001, which defines youth work as:

A planned programme of education designed for the purpose of aiding and enhancing the personal and social development of young people through their voluntary involvement, and which is complementary to their formal, academic or vocational education and training and provided primarily by voluntary youth work organisations.

This legislation creates space to develop and co-ordinate youth work programmes and services including co-ordination with education and other programmes. The purpose of this act is to provide a statutory framework for the provision of youth work programmes and services by the Minister of Children and Youth Affairs, intermediary agencies and by the National and Regional Youth Organisations.

Irish Youth Strategy

Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures, the National Policy Framework for Children and Young

People, 2014-2020, and its constituent National Youth Strategy 2015-2020 concluded at the end of 2020. The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth is currently developing a new policy framework for children and young people to cover the period from 2023 to 2028.

The new policy framework is intended to inform cross-government work for children and young people over the period 2023-2028. The framework strives to place children and young people at the centre of policy, while also addressing the most pressing issues for children and young people, both now and over the lifetime of the framework. Furthermore, the framework will:

- Provide a platform to fully realise the rights of children and young people in Ireland, so that all partners can work effectively together to ensure all children and young people can be happy and thrive.
- Create an enabling environment where the needs of children and young people are a central part of everyone's agenda
- Spotlight areas requiring coordinated focus in order to address the challenges being faced by children and young people in Ireland, and generate momentum for change
- Identify the five national outcomes to be achieved for all children and young people, and recognise that improving the outcomes for certain cohorts needs ongoing concerted effort.

Recent developments on national implementation of youth policies

Youth Climate Justice Fund

The Youth Justice Climate Fund was established in 2020 to focus on youth engagement as part of the global response to climate change. This fund is underpinned by the understanding that we are a global community and that climate change affects some parts of the world much more acutely than others. The education and empowerment of young people, which aims to give them an effective voice in the future of environmental management and its social and economic impacts, is critical in achieving just transition and climate justice. As such, this fund supports youth-led action and innovation that seeks, at some level, to raise people's awareness of this global perspective and of the critical human rights impact of climate change.

Targeted Youth Funding Reform

	<p>There has been significant reform of the targeted youth service funding scheme in Ireland and mechanisms to ensure quality youth service provision are embedded within the new scheme, which was launched in 2020. For more information, see: https://ubu.gov.ie/ Reform of the Youth Services Grant Scheme, which provides funding to 30 national and regional youth organisations, is currently underway.</p> <p>UBU Your Place Your Space is a youth service funding scheme designed to target young people who are marginalised, disadvantaged, or vulnerable and whose outcomes fall short of general population outcomes. This scheme, which launched in July 2020, provides services that support young people to develop the personal and social skills required to improve their life chances, including with respect to their health, education, employment and social connectedness. These out of school supports offer a wide range of quality activities, which are mainly community-based.</p> <p>The introduction of UBU Your Place Your Space contributes to the broader efforts of Government policy which acknowledges that “a positive community context can enable civil and democratic engagement, and play a part in breaking the intergenerational cycle of disadvantage by acting as a protective factor against substance misuse, criminality, social exclusion and deprivation”</p> <p>The effectiveness of the new scheme will be measured through a suite of performance and oversight requirements. Together with a strong focus on outcome measurement and evaluation, these features will provide relevant data and findings to inform policy and practice and will ensure the scheme can respond to lessons learned and emerging priorities.</p> <p><u>Skills Summary</u></p> <p>The Department of Children, Equality, Disability, Integration and Youth recognises that young people’s transferrable life skills are vital to the economy and that they are already being developed through volunteering and taking part in youth work activities. The challenge now is to make future employers aware of this. To meet this challenge Skills Summary was developed as part of a collaborative project between the National Youth Council of Ireland, Accenture and SpunOut.ie, funded by DCEDIY. Skills Summary helps young people measure the skills they gain when participating in youth work and volunteering, such as leadership, problem solving, teamwork and adaptability, and helps them communicate the value of these skills to future employers.</p> <p><u>Recommendation CM/Rec (2017)4 on Youth Work</u></p> <p><u>Universal Youth Funding Reform</u></p> <p>The Youth Services Grant Scheme makes funding available on an annual basis to 30 national and major regional voluntary organisations. This funding is intended to ensure the emergence, promotion, growth and development of youth organisations with distinctive philosophies and programmes aimed at the social education of young people. This scheme is currently undergoing reform to ensure that quality youth work is safeguarded and supported.</p> <p><u>North South Education and Training Standards (NSETS)</u></p> <p>NSETS is responsible for the professional endorsement of youth work programmes on the island of Ireland. NSETS works to ensure and promote quality standards in the education and training of youth workers through an endorsement process based on a rigorous assessment of all aspects of programme content and delivery. NSETS professional endorsement represents a formal recognition by the youth work sector that programmes of study in youth work have met prescribed criteria and are fit-for purpose.</p>
Italy/Italie	Updated October 2021

	<p>1) Youth is one of the three overarching priorities of the Italian Recovery and Resilience Plan (NRRP). Investments in favour of young people amount to over 15.5 billion Euros, equal to 8.1% of NRRP resources.</p> <p>An online consultation with young people was held before the approval of the Plan.</p> <p>The main NRRP measures targeting young people are aimed at supporting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the creation of new jobs and youth entrepreneurship; - formal and informal education and training; - the development of digital and technological skills; - mobility opportunities; - generational turnover in the public sector. <p>2) In 2021, the Fund for Youth Policies, which finances projects mainly implemented by youth organizations at local level, was more than doubled as compared to 2020 (from 30 to 65 M Euros).</p> <p>3) An inter-ministerial working group aimed at coordinating activities for the post COVID recovery of the youth sector was set up. The working group includes the following sectors: health, education, employment, and communication.</p> <p>4) A Committee for the Evaluation of the Generational Impact of Public Policies (COVIGE) was set up. The Committee will provide indicators aimed at measuring the impact of policy measures on young generations (youth checks).</p> <p>5) Italy will hold the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe from 17th November 2021 to 15 May 2022. The Italian Presidency's priorities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Gender equality/combating violence against women; - Children's rights/youth policies; - Protection of cultural heritage; - Artificial intelligence and human rights/democracy/rule of law. <p>Italy will host the Forum on Human Rights Education and Democratic Citizenship (hereafter "Forum") in Turin on 10-14 April 2022. The Forum should focus on the five-year review of state of implementation of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education (CM/Rec(2010)7) in member states and by youth organisations. It should result in a final statement and conclusions with priorities for EDC/HRE with young people in the next five years. The conclusions will be examined by the Joint Council on Youth and ultimately by the Committee of Ministers.</p> <p>On 20-21 September 2021, the Preparatory Group of the Forum held its first meeting in Turin.</p> <p>6) Italy holds the co-presidency of COP26, and hosted the Pre-COP26 in Milan (30 September- 2 October 2021). In this framework, the Italian Ministry for the Ecological Transition organized the meeting "Youth4climate: driving Ambition", in Milan from 28 to 30 September 2021. The meeting gathered 400 young people (age group 18 and 29) from the 197 Countries that ratified the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Youth4climate meeting elaborated proposals that were presented at the pre-COP26 and the Cop-26 that will be held in Glasgow from 1 to 12 November 2021.</p> <p>7) In the framework of the Italian Presidency of the G20 (1 December 2020 - 30 November 2021), the Department is promoting youth participation at the Y20 Summit that will take place in Milan in July. The event will be organized by the youth organization "Young Ambassadors Society" with the support of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation. The young delegates will discuss the following topics: 1) inclusion; 2) sustainability, climate change and environment; 3) innovation, digitalization and the future of work. The conclusions will be gathered in a final communiqué to be presented to the G20 leaders.</p>
Kazakhstan/ Kazakhstan	

Latvia/ Lettonie	<p>Updated February 2022</p> <p>Ministry of Education and Science of Republic of Latvia is still developing a new youth policy strategy for upcoming planning period, "Youth Policy Guidelines 2021 -2027" The guidelines will also include separate Youth policy implementation Plan 2021-2027 The National Youth Programme 2022 – 2024 has been adopted in January 2022 with increase for Youth policy budget for year 2022 up to 1,3 million EUR.</p> <p>The main focus in youth policy for upcoming period still be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Establishment and development of a high-quality and sustainable system of youth work. 2. Fostering of wider and more active participation of young people in social and democratic processes. 3. Fostering of young people's skills and abilities necessary for the labor market and independent living. 4. Inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities in various social processes. 5. Strengthening the psycho-emotional health and wellbeing of young people. <p>To keep youth work quality on appropriately high level, in 2020 Ministry of Education and Science started an update process for profession standards of Youth workers and Youth affairs specialists. Within this update process, it is supposed to develop a new profession standard for separate strands of one common Youth worker profession.</p> <p>The working party on non-formal education in youth work has resumed its work in October 2021. The goal of this working group is to establish national level framework for recognition of non-formal education and its competences in youth work. In December 2021 Ministry of Education and Science started a review process for Youth NGOs national funding mechanism with the aim to increase effectiveness of Youth organisations and their impact on implementation of national youth policy.</p> <p>Following activities were made to mitigate Covid-19 caused effect on Youth sector:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. After success of peer support program for strengthening level of youth psycho-emotional competence in 2021, Ministry of Education and Science decided to continue and even strengthen support for young people initiatives via cooperation with school and university self-governments. The new initiative will be called "Kontakts" (the Contact) and will provide support for up to 150 youth initiatives to mitigate Covid-19 caused effect on psycho-emotional wellbeing of young people. <p>Ministry of Education and Science in cooperation with Ministry of Health and Ministry of Welfare is planning to develop new strategy for Youth psycho-emotional wellbeing.</p>
Liechtenstein	
Lithuania/ Lituanie	<p>Updated October 2018</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Youth work <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Supporting of open youth centers (OYC) and open youth spaces (OYS) programmes; b. Trainings for OYC/OYS specialists, working with young people also trainings about open youth work; c. Promoting of new forms of open youth work – street youth work and mobile youth work: municipalities should analyse the situation and Department will provide financial support for projects + methodological support for municipal youth specialists 2. Intergovernmental and cross-sectorial work <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Adoption of new Youth law; b. Recognition of youth worker as an separate, different specialist; c. Recognition of open youth work and different types of open youth work as a social service (input open youth work into a Social Services Catalogue); d. Work with ministry of Culture in order to input open youth work into a Reglament of libraries as a service, could be provided at the libraries for the young people e. Work with Police Department in order to train policeman and community workers empowering them with the methods of open youth work; f. Work with the Ministry of Education also with business associations about the preparing legal acts and working mechanisms for recognition of competences gained through volunteering, youth

	<p>activities and non-formal education as in sector of education, also in employment (both in public and business sectors).</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 3. Creation of national system of Youth volunteering; <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Legal basis in a national level; b. Reglementation of volunteering and creation of local network and coordinator at the municipal level; c. Supporting of regional networks and national network – trainings for mentors, coordinators of voluntary activities at the municipal level 4. Studies and researches <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Evaluation of National youth policy development 2011 – 2019 years programme results; b. Evaluation of quality of youth policy in the municipalities; c. Research: youth and internet, digital competences, social networks 5. Promoting of active youth participation <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Institutional grants for national youth organizations; b. Institutional grants for regional youth councils c. Institutional grant to National youth council (LiJOT) d. Trainings for regional youth councils e. Trainings for the leaders of non-formal youth groups and youth initiatives.
Luxembourg	<p>Updated March 2022</p> <p>Like in a lot of other countries, the main challenge during the last years was to adapt youth work offers to the restrictions due to Covid-19. Most of youth centers put in place digital offers and kept contact with young people with help of different tools of online communications. Special helplines for young people have been reinforced to tackle mental health issues and for instance lower the risk of depressions among young people. A lot of activities have been elaborated that can be done at home, like special sport challenges, cooking, handcraft and so on. But little by little, a certain normality is returning and activities take again place in person. Now it is a question of taking the blame and reducing as much as possible the side effects that the pandemic may have triggered along side young people.</p> <p>The other main activities regarding youth policy are going on like foreseen. The national report on the situation of young people with a special focus on wellbeing and mental health had come out in June 2021 and the work on the new national action plan of youth policy 2022-2024 is nearly finished.</p>
Malta/Malte	<p>Updated March 2022</p> <p>Youth Policy</p> <p>Malta's new national young policy <i>Towards 2030 - Reaching out to, working with, and supporting young people</i>, will cover the period 2021 to 2030 and focuses on all young people aged 13 to 30. It is a policy that is based on building on the success of the past five years while focusing on the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. <i>Towards 2030</i>, seeks to reach out to, work with and support young in meeting the changing circumstances, present challenges and new opportunities that face them in the years ahead. The policy is embedded in and complements European youth policy, such as the new EU Youth Strategy, (2019 to 2027) and the Council of Europe's Youth Sector Strategy 2030, and seeks to build on the success of the previous national youth strategy, <i>Towards 2020 - A shared vision for the future of young people</i>.</p> <p>The policy's vision is of young people who are respected, valued and listened to and supported and encouraged in building fulfilling personal and social relationships and in developing their innate abilities and talents for the benefit of themselves, their communities and society. The values of the policy are respect, recognition, sustained support and solidarity, and these are underpinned by principles of responsiveness, access, participation, inclusion, integration, diversity, empowerment and equality.</p> <p>The overarching aims of the national youth policy are:</p>

- to effectively support and encourage young individuals in fulfilling their potential and aspirations while addressing their needs and concerns, and
- to effectively support young people as responsible citizens who participate in and contribute to the social, economic, political and cultural life of the nation and Europe and in addressing global issues.

Achieving these aims will be pursued by:

Reaching out to, connecting with, and listening to the voices of young people

- in the community
- in the schools and other education/training institutions
- in the workplace
- through social media.

Empowering young people through the effective practice of youth work in

- regional and locally-based centres
- national programmes, projects and initiatives
- youth-led organisations
- cross-sectoral initiatives with voluntary, public and private entities, and
- European programmes.

Towards 2030 sets out the following eight Strategic Goals and accompanying actions that will be implemented over the period 2021-2030,

- To listen to and support the voices of young people and raise awareness among young people of issues that impact on their everyday lives and provide youth information.
- Conduct research on the lives of young people to ensure a knowledge-based policy approach.
- To further facilitate young people's transition to adulthood.
- To provide proactive and responsive regional, local and schools-based supports and services that enable young people to learn, work in and contribute to their communities and the wider society and create an environment that fosters equality, inclusion, educational and economic opportunity, and democratic participation and accountability.
- To support a wide range of national programmes, projects and cross-sectoral initiatives for young people that promote and foster their well-being, creativity, cultural and artistic expression and innovation and engagement in addressing global issues for sustainable development.
- To promote and facilitate cross-sectoral initiatives with the voluntary, state and private sectors that adopt an integrated and cohesive approach to meeting young people's needs and fulfilling their aspirations.
- To further enhance and develop effective youth work practice.
- To ensure effective coordinate and cohesion in implementation of the national youth policy and maximise its potential for supporting young people.

The implementation of the national youth policy over the period 2021-2030, will be monitored on an ongoing basis and a mid-term review of its implementation will take place in 2025/26 to ensure that it continues to be relevant and responsive to the needs and aspirations of young people. *Towards 2030*

will be implemented in tandem with and in support of European youth policy and will also be supportive of international youth policies.

Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ and Kunsill Nazzjonali Zghazagh commissioned a research study **Analysing youth perceptions on housing arrangements** among young people aged between 18 and 35 years. The key objectives of the study was to gain an insight into the challenges faced by young people in order to meet their housing needs and understand the current housing arrangements and potential challenges perceived

A study '**Insights on modern youth activism**' was conducted by researchers within the Faculty for Social Well-being, and commissioned by Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ to highlight a shift from traditional to a more contemporary approach to youth activism. Young people are withdrawing from formal institutions towards less structured means of activism; with social media being mostly used as a medium through which students are active. The aim of the study was to provide an insight on the prevalence of youth activism, as well as understanding factors that act as motivators or barriers for such involvement.

Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ published a report called **Good Practices in Youth Organisations**. The purpose of this report is twofold. First, it gives an overview and examples of how voluntary youth organisations have used the support funding they were allocated over the period of 10 years by Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ. Second, the projects selected are practical examples of good organisational practices. As is evident from the report, these good practices can vary in terms of aim, content and context from addressing issues of safety and maintenance to promoting tolerance, dialogue, active citizenship and health lifestyles.

Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ launched a service called Youth worker online. The aim of this service is to provide young people a safe space where they can discuss issues that they are currently concerned with. During these sessions young people are provided with valuable information to cater for their requests. Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ also serves as a bridge between the young people and a professional service which may be needed to help the young people address his/her issues.

A cross-sectoral cooperation between the Ministry for Education, Olympic Committee and Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ resulted in the development of the programme **Swish** which embraces this ideal of inclusion through sport and promotes the values of acceptance, non-discrimination and human rights by challenging different ability stereotypes. The programme provides a space where students can explore, and experience the different realities as lived by persons with different abilities through experiential and reflective sessions. **Swish** is a wheelchair sport practice session intended to promote inclusion in sport and life. Students will have the opportunity to experience inclusion through a hands-on fun and sporting activity. They will also have the opportunity to process the sporting activity through a lifeskills session focusing on inclusion. Qualified coaches from the Malta Olympic Committee will run the practice session and professional youth workers from Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ will facilitate the processing session.

The Jumpstart Film Festival project is a collaboration between the Ministry for Education and Aġenzija Żgħażaġħ to encourage young people in secondary schools to develop their creative and technical skills in film-making. The aim of the project is to motivate young people attending secondary schools to produce their own short films while providing a platform to showcase their work with young people coming from different schools.

‘Take action through photos’ is a program that aims to engage young people in advocating for issues close to their hearts through visual media. Youth workers from Agenzija Zghazagh started delivering these ongoing sessions to the young people attending Sharing Lives, a youth group facilitated by Agenzija Sapport. Participants are given insight on activism by sending messages through photography and posters in particular using tools such as mobile phones. Through these interactive sessions young people gained technical photography skills as well as other life-skills such as creativity, attention to detail and more.

Safer is a programme specifically designed to assist young people in providing them the necessary skills to make use of different social media platforms; a tool which has become part of youth hood. The programme was delivered in collaboration between Agenzija Žghažagħ and Agenzija Sapport. The programme highlights ideas which one needs to keep in mind and utilise to shield themselves from any digital harm which unfortunately might affect one’s well-being.

My Next School Adventure is a program by Agenzija Žghažagħ designed to assist young people undergo a smooth transition from year 6 to year 7. Real life topics are tackled during such programs such one’s strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and fears with the intention to have a fulfilling experience in their new school. The message is clear, transitions are healthy once the student is positive and well-prepared for what’s next.

Demokrazija I.S.S.A. ‘Insañhu I-iSkola bi Studenti Attivi’ is a programme by Agenzija Žghažagħ that conveys to students the importance of democracy as a right, a responsibility, and a commitment. During the sessions, students will interactively experience the process of what happens before and during the election of the student council. They will experience active citizenship in school through the student council and understand how in a democracy everyone should be include everyone.

It’s My Choice is a programme for young people in secondary schools that focuses on the relationship between weighing options, and making choices on issues that are relevant to young people- stressful situations, different career paths and first-time voting.

‘Team Worth’ is a team building session, delivered by Youth Workers from Agenzija Zghazagh in Middle schools. This session aims to increase students’ self-worth both as individuals and as part of a team. During the session, students will focus on core teamwork skills and explore how these can be applied in real-life scenarios, such as in school, in the family and with friends during leisure activities.

Stand Up Speak Out is an online life skills programme designed to enable young people to deal with hate speech and equip them with skills to counter intimidating behavior in schools, outside of schools, and online. Through interactive sessions, young people will discuss and express themselves on different scenarios while outlining other solutions to minimize and stop hate speech.

Sound On is a hands-on radio project designed for young people who want to explore and venture in radio broadcasting.

In Tune is an Agenzija Zghazagh Life Skills programme that focuses on identifying and expanding young people’s emotional vocabulary and dealing with stressful situations effectively. Furthermore, the programme promotes empathy, an attitude that fosters understanding and cooperation.

IdeAzzjonisti is a programme for young people aged 14-18 who would like to participate in a community-based active citizenship programme. Throughout its course, this programme offers young people the opportunity to undergo training, carry out research and as IdeAzzjonisti, to present their communities with their ideas and work related to the chosen theme.

Agenzija Žghažagħ recently published a revision of the reflective supervision policy. Apart from the one to one supervision, youth works now can benefit from group supervision. Reflexive supervision aims to nurture a resilient and reflexive community and seek to upskill employees to work around their

	<p>limitations through a continuous self-reflecting journey of their daily challenges. The aim of this policy is to provide an effective youth work practice.</p>
<p>Republic of Moldova/ République de Moldova</p>	<p>Updated September 2020</p> <p>Youth policy Public authority responsible for youth - Ministry of Education, Culture and Research (MoECR)</p> <p><u>Legal framework</u></p> <p>A new Law on Youth was adopted by the Parliament in July, 2016, which redefines the youth age barrier as 14 – 35 years old. The law contains new concepts/definitions, such as: youth work; non-formal education of young people; youth worker; youth organization; youth centre; regional youth council etc. The Law regulates the principles and objectives of the youth policies, fields of state intervention in the youth area and the requirements from youth policy stakeholders.</p> <p>In August 2020, a working group was created by the Commission responsible for Youth within the Parliament, to amend the Law on Youth. Main amendments that are being discussed are: recognizing Youth Pass, material and financial support for youth organizations, creating consultative commissions on youth problems in local public authorities etc.</p> <p>National Strategy for Youth Sector Development 2020 (adopted in 2014). There were established 4 main priorities within the document: youth participation; services for youth; economic opportunities for youth; strengthening the youth sector.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ The Report on the implementation of the Strategy for 2018 was submitted to the Government at the end of March ✓ In partnership with UNICEF Moldova, we performed a Mid-term review of the implementation of the National Strategy for Youth Sector Development 2020 ✓ Government Decision Draft regarding the review of the Action Plan of the Strategy <p>As 2020 is the last year of the Strategy implementation, we are in the middle of the evaluation process. The evaluation results should show us our strengths and shortcomings for the past 6 years of implementation. Starting January 2021, we are planning to work on a new Strategy. According to our plans, it should be adopted by June.</p> <p>National Agency for Programs Development and Youth Work The Agency was created in August 2020 and is planned to be fully working by 2021, and will act as an implementation unit of the Ministry's policies and programs. It will also be responsible for collecting statistical data and develop programs based on the information gathered, develop youth work, ensure external collaboration, monitor and evaluate current programs etc.</p> <p>Youth Programs</p> <p>Moreover, the youth policy in Moldova is built based on the Participation principle (as a priority is the involvement of young people in the decision-making process). In this context, we would like to mention some national programs that are in the process of implementation and of course in line with the Committee of Ministers Recommendations on Youth and other CoE policy documents, as well as in the same line with commitments stipulated in the Association Agreement signed between the Republic of Moldova and the EU.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ In this regard, it was designed and annually launched the National support program for strengthening and development of Regional Youth Councils, which encourages the establishment of self-representation structures of young people. This platform contributes to build a culture of genuine youth participation and empower young people to promote their rights and keep local governments accountable for mainstreaming youth policies at the local level. <p>Program Components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I Component – Consulting and empowering Regional Youth Councils II Component – Co-financing activity programs of Regional Youth Councils <p>Currently, 24 Regional Youth Councils are active, being part of the National Network of Youth Councils</p> <p>In 2020 there were 612 young people - members of the National Network of Youth Councils.</p>

- ✓ In order to capitalize the youth potential we need the civil society become strong and active. Thus, MoECR implements the **Annual Grant Program**, which allow NGOs to benefit of support, financial and logistic.
29 Youth NGOs received funding in 2020 within the **Annual Grant Program of the Ministry** - dedicated to support and develop youth NGO sector in Moldova, which provides, on a competitive basis, logistical and financial support to achieve initiatives, programs and youth projects, consolidating in this way cooperation with civil society.
The programs are focused on implementing the priorities of the National Youth Strategy.
In the pandemic context, we have allowed youth organizations to change their activity plans to respond to challenges that young people are facing. Even though we are having a lot of financial reserves from the Grant Program, as activities went mostly online, the money we saved we are using to support other Youth Organizations for local projects, that are based on the ever changing COVID-19 situation.

3 projects categories:

Local / regional projects up to 10,000 €

National / International projects up to 17,000 €

- ✓ Another program implemented by the ministry is the **Youth Capital**, which is an initiative taken from the experience of the European Youth Forum. This program involves the selection of a locality from the Republic of Moldova, within which, during one year, the youth activities of the Local Public Authority, Regional and national NGOs, international organizations, and Central Public Authorities are concentrated. Youth Capitals were the following localities: Ungheni (2011), Cahul (2012), Ialoveni (2013), Soroca (2014) Singerei (2015), Ialoveni (2016), Varnița (2017), Cahul (2018) and Costești (2019).

In 2020 we have elaborated and adopted a new Regulation for the program. Taking into consideration that this years Youth Capital (Sipoteni) had very limited possibility to implement their action plan, the program was prolonged to 2021.

- ✓ We have started working on a new Program that focuses on prevention of alcohol and drugs consumption among young people, based on the Youth In Europe Model. It should be adopted in December 2020.
- **Volunteering programs** and its support mechanisms are a priority for us. Within the ministry, a Commission on certification of host institutions for volunteering activity is functioning. The volunteers in Moldova use the following instruments of work: Volunteering contract; Nominal volunteering certificate; Voluntary book; Letter of Recommendation. The main volunteering activities are National Volunteering Week; Festival of Volunteers; National Conference on Volunteering. At this point, we have about 180 accredited host organizations for receiving volunteers, and about 2100 volunteer books released.

In the area of **youth services and recognition of the youth work** in Moldova:

An important achievement can be considered the **National Youth Centres Development Program, which is implemented during 2017-2022**. In this regard, the partnership between the **MoECR** and **UNFPA Moldova** was established by signing the agreement for the **Joint Fund for Development of the youth services, including those most vulnerable**. The program is implemented in the territorial-administrative units of the Republic of Moldova, where the local public authorities of the second level are interested and undertake the responsibility to develop and expand the territorial coverage of youth services. Starting with 2019, other partners joined the Joint Fund like the **Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation (SDC)** and **Council of Europe (CoE)**.

Program Components:

Component I: Professional development of human resources in the youth centers;

Component II: Support for the development of the technical and material basis of youth centers;

Component III: Support for the development of the District / Municipal Grant Program to fund Youth Initiatives / Youth Projects (7 Programs co-financed in 2020)

- 22 districts have signed already Partnership Agreements with the Ministry on the implementation of the Program

Youth Sector Priorities

- Amending the Law on Youth;
- Evaluate the current Youth Strategy and elaborate a new one;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Youth infrastructure development; ▪ Implementation of the Youth Centers Development Program 2022; ▪ Development and recognition of youth work and youth worker; ▪ Implementation of the National Youth Capital Project ▪ Ensuring attainment of the Annual Grant Program for youth organizations; ▪ Implementation of the international engagements on youth (Association Agreement with EU, Youth priorities and recommendations of the Council of Europe, GUAM, UN, Central European Initiative, Visegrad group, etc.).
Monaco	
Montenegro/ Monténégro	<p>Updated February 2021</p> <p>At the national level, the two most important institutions in the domain of youth policy are the Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports and Directorate for Sports and Youth, established by the Decree on the State Administration's Organization and Manner of Work ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 118/20 od 07.12.2020, 121/20 od 10.12.2020, 001/21 od 04.01.2021, 002/21 od 05.01.2021)</p> <p>1. The Parliament of Montenegro adopted the new <u>Law on Youth</u> on April 4 2019 ("Official Gazette of Montenegro, No. 025/19" from 30.04.2019). The main reason for creating the new Law on Youth is to improve the planning and implementation of youth policy by strengthening the institutional framework, empowering youth services in which young people can get skills and knowledge that contribute to their personal and social development. Also, the Law specifies methods of constituting youth advisory bodies, as well as the realization of youth policy by non-governmental organizations, with a focus on their participation in the work of national and local advisory bodies.</p> <p>The Government of Montenegro has already adopted all three bylaws recognized within the Law</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Rulebook on criteria and conditions for choosing a space for youth service ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 074/19 of 30.12.2019) - the Rulebook on the method of functioning youth services and the performance of the administrative and technical jobs needed for their functioning was adopted ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No. 009/20 of 21.02.2020) - the Rulebook on conditions, manner and procedure for election of members of the Council for Youth ("Official Gazette of Montenegro", No.058/20 od 19.06.2020) <p>2. <u>The National Youth Strategy 2017-2021</u> and its annual action plans are also being implemented. This Strategy clearly positions youth as a matter of interest to Montenegro and through a holistic approach envisages cross-sectorial and interdepartmental co-operation of youth policy actors. The Strategy defines six key priorities (outcomes) regarding Montenegrin youth:</p>

- A. Young people achieve economic and social security through improved access to the labor market and employment
 - B. Young people have access to quality education
 - C. Young people are active citizens, involved, motivated, proactive and participate in decision-making and community development processes, in the creation of policies and their implementation
 - D. Young people are healthy, they are safe, have access to an adequate support system for transition to adulthood and self-realization
 - E. Young people have access to quality cultural contents as creators and consumers
 - F. Normative and institutional framework for the implementation of youth policy has been established.
- (more at www.strategijazamlade.me)

Action Plan for the implementation of the Youth Strategy for 2019 was realized in the scope of 95%, whereas 90% of those activities were completely realized and 5% partially. The Report for 2020 is to be completed by the end of March 2021. Total budget funds spent for the implementation of Action Plan of the Strategy for 2019 was over one million EUR (regular budgetary funds). Some of the activities were realized through donations of international organizations (OSCE, UNDP, UNICEF...)

Additionally, since 2017 more than 900 000 € was allocated to projects for young people through the open calls for youth organizations/NGO's. The Open call for 2021 is planned by beginning of II quarter.

3. As stipulated by the Law on Youth (Articles 19 and 20) NGOs may establish **Representative (Umbrella) Association of NGOs implementing youth policy**. This is an association that consists of at least 30 NGOs that implement youth policy, from at least six municipalities, of which coastal, central and northern municipalities are represented by two members. According to the Law on Youth representation of the mentioned Association of NGOs shall be determined by the Ministry for a period of one year by issuing a certificate on representation. The process of establishing *Representative (Umbrella) Association of NGOs implementing youth policy* in Montenegro has been initiated by 35 youth NGOs in March 2020. In November 2020 the Ministry has issued the certificate on representation to "*Montenegrin Youth Network*".

Additionally, according to the Article 16 of the Law, the Representative (Umbrella) Association shall propose two representatives in the membership of advisory governmental body - Council for Youth (once it is established) of which at least one shall be a young person, but both with the mandate of one year.

4. Local self-governments (secretariats in charge of the youth policy at local level) are responsible to develop youth policy and provide conditions for its implementation at the local level. According to the Law on Youth (Article 14), municipalities are obliged to adopt **Local youth action plans**, and as such, they have to be in harmonization with the National Youth Strategy. Therefore, all the municipalities were obliged to submit the draft of the local youth action plan to Ministry of Sports and Youth (now Directorate for Sports and Youth) in order to obtain an opinion on its harmonization with the Strategy (before continuing the procedure of its adoption in the local parliament).

Accordingly, in 2020 and 2021 all 24 municipalities in Montenegro adopted Local Youth Action Plans and started its implementation. This brings us to the conclusion, that there has been significant enhancement in implementing youth policy at local level.

5. Youth services (youth clubs and youth centers) are one of the key infrastructural mechanisms for improving youth participation, their networking and the development of life skills and non-formal education. An intense work has been done in Montenegro to provide such services for young people. Correspondingly, in 2019 and 2020 close to 236.000EUR was allocated for the reconstruction and adaptation of 11 youth clubs in Montenegro. Youth clubs are open in Mojkovac, Plav, Petnjica, Danilovgrad, Nikšić, Šavnik, Cetinje, Bar, Kotor, Pljevlja and adapted Youth Center in Podgorica. Besides the abovementioned, youth clubs exist and are supported by the Ministry (now Directorate) in Berane, Tivat, Budva, Tuzi and Ulcinj. In the upcoming period, the intention is to open youth services

in every municipality in Montenegro and to support the work of the existing ones. For the time being, slight primacy have had the municipalities in the northern part of the country due to the fewer opportunities young people in this region have the chance to experience.

6. Ministry of Sports and Youth in cooperation with the European Youth Card Association and the NGO "Center for Youth Education" provide continuous support in implementing project of European Youth Card in Montenegro since April 2018. European Youth Card (EYC) represents internationally recognized benefit card for young people age 13-29 who use it free of charge for more than 200 discounts in Montenegro and over 70 000 discounts in Europe. Since 2018, in collaboration with our partners at both national and local level, we have distributed more than 10 000 free cards to young people across Montenegro who have thus become beneficiaries of the benefits and discounts of the card in 37 European countries.

7. From the very beginning, the Government of Montenegro provided an open and indisputable support to the entire process of establishing the Regional Youth Cooperation Office in the Western Balkans (RYCO). We are particularly proud of the fact that Montenegro was the first country that fulfilled all three conditions for establishing the Regional Youth Cooperation Office arising from the Berlin Process. The establishment of RYCO represents an additional stimulus for the mobility development of young people at national and regional level and their better cooperation, which is a regional response to the common challenges and problems of young people. The Government of Montenegro maintains continuous cooperation with RYCO through the Governing board. Additionally, in 2021 Montenegro is taking over the chairmanship in the RYCO Governing Board which shall be a great opportunity to continue the path of showing devotion to youth-related topics and bringing added value to the functioning of this important regional intergovernmental structure.

Also, the Government consistently supports the Local branch office of the Regional Youth Cooperation Office and participates in the events organized by RYCO. Moreover, it has provided a new and more spacious office for the Local branch office in purpose of expanding the capacities in both human resources and program activities.

8. No Hate Speech Campaign

The Ministry of Sports and Youth (now Directorate for Sports and Youth), the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Public Administration and the Police Directorate have signed a Cooperation Agreement on "Digital Literacy and Protection of Children and Youth on the Internet". Bearing in mind that internet is one of the main sources of information for children and young people, as they represent the most sensitive category, therefore particular attention should be paid to these target groups in the field of cyber security and preventing hate speech. The aim of the campaign is to raise awareness among children, young people and adults alike, of the need to develop digital literacy, as well as the proper use of new technologies without which survival in the modern world is impossible. Within the campaign several activities have been conducted, i.e. held panel discussions with young people in all three regions in Montenegro (central, coastal and northern), launched the website of the campaign www.mladime.me etc. In August 2020, the quiz Safe Surf 4 Me was organized on the Public Broadcast – National TV service. The quiz winners have received valuable prizes. This was the opportunity to see how much do children and young people know about internet, its safe usage, and the dangers lurking there.

Also, the National Operational Team for Prevention and Suppression of Radicalization and Violent Extremism was formed in order to indicate the threat of radicalization to which everyone is potentially exposed, however, children and young people are at particular risk. The Team involves 22 representatives of state bodies (state administration bodies, the Supreme Court, the Supreme State Prosecutor's Office, administrative bodies, public institutions and non-governmental organizations). Great efforts have been made to help young people learn about occurrence of radicalization and extremism, prevent it, and build and maintain a positive value system with young

	<p>people. So far numerous trainings, panel discussions and workshops were held, and the Manual for recognizing, preventing and combating radicalization and violent extremism within students was published (link https://zajednoproivekstremizma.me/prirucnik-za-prepoznavanje-prevenciju-i-suzbijanje-radikalizacije-i-nasilnog-ekstremizma-kod-ucenika/)</p>
Netherlands/ Pays-Bas	
North Macedonia/ Macédoine du Nord	<p>Updated September 2021</p> <p>The youth in the Republic of North Macedonia are present, future and are involved in all decision-making processes. We as the Government are committed to the vision of the youth and support them in every aspect. Their ambitions to share new ideas are added value on the road to a European perspective and regional cooperation. We include the youth in decision-making processes, by giving them the chance to sit at the same table together with the institutions and all together to create policies, activities and initiatives in order to jointly improve their status and become important part of our societies.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Parliament of Republic of North Macedonia adopted the new Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies on on January 16, 2020 for greater youth involvement in decision-making processes. The law aims to strengthen youth participation in policy-making processes, encourage volunteering, youth activism and youth work, as well as personal, professional and social development among young people. With this law, the Government and the municipalities are obliged to adopt strategies for youth with special action plans, and the municipalities are obliged to establish offices for youth and youth centers and to appoint a youth officer 2. Agency for youth and sports <u>establish</u> a register of youth organizations, organizations for youth and youth umbrella organizations to distinguish it from other forms of associations 3. The Government established a National Advisory Body for Youth Policies, as a body for cooperation between youth representatives and representatives of state administration bodies that has an advisory and supervisory role in implementing youth policies and activities for youth. 4. In order to exercise the right to free organization, as well as easier access to information that is of interest to young people, the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies provides <u>establishment of a youth officer in all state administration bodies, as well as in municipalities and municipalities in The City of Skopje and the City of Skopje</u>. This means that in every state and local institution, young people will be welcomed by a "youth officer" who will answer questions in the domain of his institution, such as self-employment, programs in the ministries and everything that interests them, and so far there has been no detailed to explain it to them. Full list can be found on the following link. 5. <u>Youth centers</u> are places where programs are prepared and implemented that improve the well-being of young people, the development of personal, social and professional life of young people, information of important interest to young people and other aspects of young people's lives. Youth centers were opened in 5 municipalities and according to the Law, in the next 5 years each municipality should have at least one youth center. For easier operation and standardization in cooperation with the Union for Youth Work and its members, a Rulebook on quality standards of youth centers was adopted, as well as a portfolio of youth workers and a code of ethics for youth workers. Youth centers were opened in Kumanovo, Kavadarci, Centar, Tetovo, Gostivar,, and in the process of opening are Probitip, Veles, Strumica, Gevgelija, Bitola, Sveti Nikole 6. <u>Local Youth Councils</u>. According to the Law on Youth Participation and Youth Policies, the municipalities, the municipalities in the City of Skopje and the City of Skopje are obliged to form local youth councils. In cooperation with the OSCE Mission to Skopje, a Manual for Local Youth Councils was prepared which will serve the municipal authorities and mayors, as well as the youth

regarding their engagement in the local youth councils. In more than 40% of the municipalities the process of establishing local youth councils has started, and in 15 of them we have functional youth councils

7. The Youth Guarantee is a program of the Government of the Republic of North Macedonia which increases the coverage and inclusion of young unemployed people in the labor market.

The Youth Guarantee is open to all young people up to the age of 29 who are unemployed, have already completed their education and are not registered with the Employment agency. Applicants receive a quality offer for employment, further education, internship or internship. All of these are key to the successful integration of young people into the labor market and reducing the outflow of educated staff from the country. **The Republic of North Macedonia is the only country that is not a member of the EU, and implements the Youth Guarantee.** In 2020, 25,502 people are included in the guarantee, 7,684 are employed within the first 4 months and the success rate is 35% which is higher than the European average (30%). In 2021, as of June, 7,842 people are included in the guarantee, of which 2066 are employed with a success rate of 26%.

8. The Youth Council of the Agency for Youth and Sports was established in accordance with the National Strategy for Youth towards the thematic area for Youth Participation, in order to provide a more significant institutional focus on youth through the Agency for Youth and Sports, and to increase youth involvement in creating youth policies within the AYS. The council is composed of 6 representatives from youth organizations and 3 from the ranks of administrative officials.

9. Law on internship. The law on internships helps to bridge the period from education to employment. Young people have the opportunity to gain practical work in companies for a period of six months and to be paid for it, and employers to recognize qualities of staff who will be permanently employed. In the first three months they are entitled to compensation of around 100 euro, and in the second in the amount of the minimum wage (around 250 euro). For 2021 it is planned to cover 1413 unemployed persons (up to 34 years) and 650.000 Euros are provided in the budget

10. A youth allowance was introduced to encourage the employment of young people in the production activities after graduation. The youth allowance is in the amount of 50 euro per month and is paid to young people up to 23 years of age with at least completed secondary education. The coverage through this measure is 2500 users for 2021 and 1,6 million Euros are provided.

11. Subsidized student meal, a systemic solution that is part of the work program of the Government and the Ministry of Education and Science, which significantly improves the student standard by providing financial support in the monthly amount of 40 euro for 9 months of the year. All full-time undergraduate students at state and private higher education institutions, who are citizens of the Republic of Northern Macedonia, can apply for a subsidized student meal.

12. The European Youth Card (EYC) reduces the costs of transport, sports, education and recreation and the card is valid in hundreds of bars across the country. **North Macedonia is a member of European Youth Card Association (EYCA).** Apart from bringing savings and lower costs, the card will improve the social life, but also the personal development of the youth. It is important to note that peers from Europe can use the card here, but also ours when going to European countries. The youth card has over 5000 users and is constantly growing. In the next period, work will be done on the digitalization of the European Youth Card and Joining the Partial Agreement on Youth Mobility through the Youth Card.

13. Young farmers receive 20,000 Euros to motivate themselves to engage in agriculture and produce a final product that is attractive to the European market. Young farmers are exempt from paying concession for agricultural land in the first 3 years. For this year there are 265 applicants and the entire support is in the amount of 3 million Euros

14. RYCO. North Macedonia, as a signatory to the agreement establishing the Regional Office for Youth Cooperation (RYCO), will continue to actively support the programs of the Tirana-based regional

	<p>office and Local Branch Office, as an extremely important point for connecting young people from the Western Balkans region. Through RICO, as one of the most recognizable and active networks in the region, we are providing maximum mobility and connection of young people as a necessary condition for reconciliation, cooperation and their common future.</p> <p>15. The National Strategy for development of the “One Society for All” Concept and Interculturalism is a document, first of its kind in the Republic of North Macedonia, significant if one considers the divisions within the society on various grounds. This document is envisioned to initiate activities and strengthen the processes of communication and cooperation between communities, with the aim of developing a society where every person shall feel as a member of “one society”. The main objective is to depart from a divided society and arrive at a society which is fair and just and which makes citizens more equal and equitable. Due to situation of apparent ethnic, social differences and divided society, we need a wide and specialized action from all relevant institutions, civil society organizations, as well as individuals from several areas with a view to overcoming the differences among young people and bringing them together, and for reconciliation in terms of ethnic, social, religious, party, gender and sexual backing. Education, culture, sports and other societal segments available to young people perceived from multiple segments are the ideal modus for encouraging, approximation and familiarizing young people with the values of fair play, respect, diversity, tolerance and unity</p>
Norway/ Norvège	<p>Updated September 2020</p> <p>The Norwegian government's child and youth policy is based on the following objectives and principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A safe upbringing in family and in the local community • Equal rights and opportunities • Participation and influence • High quality services for everyone <p>Norwegian youth policy is cross-sectoral with emphasis on collaboration and coordination between local and central authorities, and with the voluntary sector. In addition, children and young people's participation is emphasised.</p> <p>Recent policy developments across sectors include:</p> <p><i>Gender equality and education</i></p> <p>Two Official Norwegian Reports (NOUs) on gender and young people have recently been released. The findings and recommendations will have implications for further policy development; one describes gender differences in school performance and educational attainment, another overall gender equality challenges among children and young people. The reports propose various measures to address identifies issues.</p> <p><i>Health</i></p> <p>The Government's youth health strategy (2016 – 2021) covers the age group 13–25 years and sets out several goals related to mental health, healthy lifestyles and sexual health among youth. Young people's own views and experiences were central in the development of the strategy. Measures that have been undertaken to achieve the goals in the strategy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A national programme for public health run by the Directorate of Health which aims to strengthen mental health and substance abuse prevention among young people as part of the municipalities' public health work. An important aspect of the programme is to strengthen municipalities' capacity to develop, implement and evaluate knowledge-based measures. • A cross sectoral National Plan for children and young people's mental health (2019–2024) which covers measures to ensure that more children and young people between 0-25 experience good mental health and a good quality of life, and that those who need it should receive appropriate and effective treatment. The plan contains both health-promoting, preventative and treatment-oriented measures. • A national grant scheme administered by the Directorate of Health to promote mental health and well-being among students in higher education and prevent problems related to drug use. Universities, colleges and vocational colleges as well as student organizations can apply for project grants.

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Sexual Health Strategy (2017-2020) which includes activities for increasing young people's knowledge and skills to safeguard their own sexual health. <p>The Government has also initiated a drug reform process with the goal of transferring responsibility for society's response to the use and possession of illegal drugs for personal use from the justice sector to the health sector. A committee was set up to prepare for the implementation of the reform and has handed over an Official Norwegian Report to the Ministry of Health and Care Services and the Ministry of Justice and Public Security. A reform will potentially have significant implications for policies and measures relating to young people and drug use.</p> <p><i>Social inclusion</i></p> <p>The Government has initiated a collaborative effort between municipalities, the voluntary sector and top-level authorities to ensure that all children and youth, regardless of their parents' social and financial situation, can participate regularly in recreational activities. In addition, the Government has initiated a 'Recreation Card' trial, with the aim of giving children and young people 6 to 18 years the opportunity to participate in organised leisure time/recreational activities regardless of economic resources. The aim is to develop a national universal scheme.</p> <p><i>Culture</i></p> <p>The Government is developing a <i>White Paper</i> on children and youth culture which will be presented jointly by the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Education and Research. Arts for Young Audiences Norway, an agency of the Ministry of Culture, involved children and young people in policy development around several of the topics that will be addressed in the forthcoming White Paper.</p> <p>Youth participation at local and national levels</p> <p>From 2019, every municipality must have a local youth council, that advises local decision makers. A digital guide has been developed to support youth council members and provide guidance to municipalities.</p> <p>The Norwegian government has declared that it will strengthen youth participation in democratic processes at the national level. Ministries are establishing ad hoc youth panels to advise the government on various policy issues. Currently three panels have been established:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The Ministry of Local Development and Modernisation has set up a panel focusing on regional policy development 2) The Ministry of Children and Families has set up a panel focusing on measures for children growing up in low income families. 3) The Ministry of Children and Families has set up a panel focusing on the development of a national 'Recreation Card' with the aim of giving children and young people 6 to 18 years the opportunity to participate in organised leisure time/recreational activities regardless of economic resources. <p>There are plans to set up more panels in various ministries and on different policy topics.</p> <p>No Hate Speech</p> <p>No Hate Speech Movement in Norway "Stopp hatprat" are continuing their activities. The No Hate Speech Ambassadors are young people who act as role models and do peer-to-peer human rights educational activities with other young people, as well as organising youth conferences, take part in debates, governmental consultations, stands, demonstrations, etc. The No Hate Speech community of practitioners on human rights education are youth workers, youth leaders and teachers who learn and share experiences on using human rights education and the Bookmarks-manual in class and youth work. The movement in Norway remains a place for young people to meet and address hate speech as a human rights violation and change the knowledge, skills and attitudes of others. The Norwegian movement cooperates with the informal network that continues the work against hate speech after the coordination from the Council of Europe ended and wish to keep the legacy of the movement alive.</p>
Poland/ Pologne	<p>Updated September 2021</p> <p>Information on activities in the field of youth policy at national level in Poland (March – October 2021)</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>act on reinforcing the role of youth councils operating at local government units</i> <p>On June 23, 2021, an act on reinforcing the role of youth councils operating at local government units (youth commune council, youth municipal council, youth regional council) entered into force. The act allows the appointment of youth advisory bodies at all levels of local government. The tasks of the advisory bodies include, in particular: pronouncing opinions on draft resolutions concerning youth, taking action for youth and participation in the development of the municipality's strategic actions for youth.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>regional consultations of the national strategy for the young generation</i> <p>The regional consultations of the national strategy for the young generation continues. On September 23, the 8th consultation meeting will be held. Consultations are organised by the Government Plenipotentiary for Youth Policy, Piotr Mazurek, in cooperation with the Council for Dialogue with the Young Generation. The aim of the consultation is to develop solutions, collect opinions and ideas that will be included in the strategic document on state activities in the field of youth policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>consultations of the new Prime Minister's scholarship</i> <p>In June, consultations of the new Prime Minister's scholarship was held, organized by the by the Government Plenipotentiary for Youth Policy, Piotr Mazurek, in cooperation with the Plenipotentiary of the Prime Minister for GovTech, Justyna Orłowska. Currently, in Poland, the scholarship is awarded to students with the highest academic performance. The purpose of the consultation is to gather information on the expectations of young people so that the scholarship can best support their development.</p>
Portugal	<p>Updated October, 2022</p> <p><u>1 - Democracy Here Democracy Now</u></p> <p>The implementation of the campaign in Portugal is carried out by IPDJ, as the national coordinator, in partnership with the Regional Youth Directorates of the Autonomous Regions of Azores and the Madeira, as well as with the National Youth Council and with the National Federation of Youth Associations. It should be noted that this structure was reflected in the composition of the Portuguese delegation to Youth Action Week, as it was decided jointly by the IPDJ and the National Youth Council, integrating young people from all regions of the country and representatives of various member associations of the National Federation of Youth Associations.</p> <p>Visuals of the campaign "Democracy Here. Democracy Now" have been constant at the various moments where IPDJ is present, including the music festivals where thousands of young people gather. The visuals and the Portuguese version of the logo are also disseminated through IPDJ social networks and the young people attending events. Inspired by a good practice shared by Agenzija Zghazagh (Malta), testimonies of young people on social networks have also been collected and disseminated. Adding to this, a campaign page was created on IPDJ website. Cardboards for the photos, stickers and roll-ups were also produced. Occasional production of other materials is under analysis.</p> <p>The first activity took place on April 30th - Youth Association Day – with the Boot Camp “Young Associations for Democracy” and aimed to: a) bring the youth association movement closer; b) to know, share and think about the theme of youth participation, volunteering and youth policies; c) Celebrate the Youth Association Day; d) Learn more about the Programs and Opportunities to support Associations and Youth Participation (national and international).</p> <p>It should also be highlight the participation of IPDJ in a debate on "Causes Vs Ideologies, Local Challenges Vs Global Challenges, Democracy Vs Populism", promoted by the National Federation of Youth Associations, where the objective of the campaign, the European context, and the importance of the Council of Europe for democracy and peace on the continent were addressed.</p> <p>The campaign was also marked on September 15th — International Day of Democracy -, at the Lisbon Youth Centre, with an activity with the theme “Citizenship, Participation and Youth”. In addition to celebrating this date, this event aimed to promote the debate on current topics, broaden the voice of youth, talk about participatory democracy and recognise young citizens committed to the challenges of society.</p>

Also within the scope of the campaign and in collaboration with the National Federation of Young Associations, IPDJ is developing a set of trainings under the theme "Digitalisation and Democracy: opportunities and challenges", with the aim of helping young people, youth workers and other stakeholders to reflect on the role that digital can play in promoting democratic citizenship and human rights values, as well as on new communication tools that require a new approach to involve citizens, including young citizens, in decision-making processes.

IPDJ has translated into Portuguese the "Perspectives on Youth — Vol. 4 — Young people in a Digitalised world (2018)", which has been approved by the Council of Europe bodies and is in production phase. It is intended to launch the publication with a moment of debate on the subject, framing it in the campaign.

2 - Online safety and digital citizenship

IPDJ (Portuguese Institute of Sport and Youth) continues to co-operate in the activities of the Safer Internet Centre – Portugal.

The flagship activity is a Youth Volunteering project aiming at raising awareness of young people for Online Security and Digital Citizenship - "***Programa Naveg@s em Segurança***", which consists in the realization of face-to-face and/or online Awareness Sessions framed in a format of information and peer to peer counselling.

The Naveg@s young volunteers organise the sessions, producing the resources (presentations and videos) and addressing issues like fake news, human rights, social networks, online hate speech, cyberbullying, data protection, and others. These sessions took place all over the year. So far, for 2022 five volunteering projects were implemented with 36 young people selected for the execution of the informative sessions.

3 – Volunteering:

The programme "Agora Nós" ("Now Us") is a Volunteering Programme that integrates short-term (equal to or less than 15 consecutive days) and long-term (over 15 days) actions and/or projects, being addressed to public or private entities of public interest and young volunteers between the ages of 14 and 30.

During the past five years, the short-term actions of the programme "Agora Nós" have registered an annual average of 746 young volunteers. These numbers have been affected by the pandemic, which resulted in a lower number of volunteers in 2020 and 2021.

Additionally, in the framework of the "Agora Nós" programme, IPDJ develops the following youth volunteering actions: "Generation Z"; "Namorar com Fair Play"; "Naveg@s em segurança" (already above-mentioned) and "Youth Volunteering 70 JÁ!". Below follows a brief description of each of these actions.

The "Generation Z" programme is a long-term youth volunteering action, managed by the Portuguese Institute of Sport and Youth, for non-profit organisations, young people aged between 14 and 30, schools, students associations and parent's associations. "Generation Z" intends to widen the scope of volunteering in the framework of the "Agora Nós" programme; create synergies with civil society and public entities through the preparation of volunteering activities; contribute to a useful and effective intervention in the community; Improve the quality of volunteering activities and the acquisition of skills by volunteers; and the recognition of non-formal education. For the past five years, it averaged an annual participation of 523 young volunteers. For 2022, applications are open from 25th of March to 15th of November, and the number of young volunteers already exceeded the above-mentioned averaged (635 volunteers registered until 17th of August).

The long-term action "Namorar com Fair Play" ("Dating with Fair Play") aims to raise awareness of young people to prevent violence in dating, through peer education sessions. Volunteers are mobilized in primary (3rd cycle) and secondary schools, higher education institutions, municipalities and other third sector entities. Each entity must appoint a person in charge (teacher or youth association leader) to accompany the volunteers in carrying out a set of initiatives to be developed with the young participants. Volunteers will develop in schools or third sector entities a set of actions/workshops to make the participants aware of gender equality and diversity, and to prevent and contribute to the change of violent behaviour in dating. For 2022, applications are open from 25th of March to 15th of

November, and the age for young volunteers was enlarged from 14 to 30 years old. For the past five years, it averaged an annual participation of 65 young volunteers, being also strongly affected by the pandemic during 2020 and 2021.

Finally, the long-term action “Youth Volunteering 70 JÁ! – Youth Rights” aims to raise awareness amongst young people of Article 70 of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic, which acknowledges the especial protection Young People are entitled to in light of their social, economic and cultural rights. The beneficiaries of this action are volunteers, young people aged between 18 and 30 (this age range was then further enlarged and is currently set at 14-30 years old). The participants in this action are young people who attend the basic (3rd cycle), secondary and higher education institutions, as well as students who integrate technical-vocational courses and others in the area of education and training. In each edition, an awareness-raising/training action is developed for young volunteers that will contribute to increase their knowledge and skills in Human rights, in particular the rights of youth; Ethics; Citizenship and fundamental rights; Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the 2030 Agenda 2030; The rights and duties of young volunteers. The young participants will develop in their schools a set of actions/workshops (solidarity, training, sports, arts), promoted by young volunteers, which aim at contributing to inform the school community about human rights and in particular youth rights. For 2022, applications are open from 25th of March to 15th of November. This Programme was initiated in 2019, however it did not take place in 2020 and 2021 due to the pandemic situation. Nevertheless, since 2019, a total of 163 young volunteers received training, and the programme is now expected to be running and fully implemented in 2022.

In addition to the programme “Agora Nós” and its respective projects and actions, the programme “Youth Volunteering for Nature and Forests” represents another national youth volunteering programme promoted by IPDJ. This programme promotes practices in the field of nature protection, forests and ecosystems, by raising awareness to the need to preserve forests and protect them against wildfires, pollution and other natural disasters and harmful practices with an environmental impact. Additionally, it also works towards monitoring and restoring affected territories. For the past five years, the programme averaged an annual participation of 1588 young volunteers, distributed around 240 projects per year (average), which makes it one of our most participated programmes.

Within the scope of the #DireitoaterDireitos | #Righttohave rights initiative, several online non-formal education webinars took place. Participants had the opportunity to learn and share best practices in areas related to Human Rights, Health and Welfare, SDG's and Youth Goals. The **#RIGHTTOHAVERIGHTS project** was a youth volunteering activity, part of the youth volunteering programme “Agora Nós” which took place twice in the Lisbon Metropolitan Area.

This initiative had the following objectives:

Inform and raise awareness among the younger population about the Sustainable Development Goals; contribute to informed clarification of young people, through the promotion of awareness actions among peers, for a more participative and proactive society; promote the active participation of young people in order to achieve the SDGs by 2030. Several volunteers were involved, and they promoted various actions, using non-formal education methodologies.

Moreover, still in the field of youth volunteering and taking into account the good results obtained by the long-term actions, particularly the long-term volunteering actions “Generation Z” and “Youth Volunteering for Nature and Forests”, IPDJ will adopt a new approach to volunteering actions “Dating with Fair Play” and “70 JÁ!”, in a similar format to the long-term volunteering action “Generation Z”. This approach will be aiming entities that want to promote volunteering actions among young people.

4 – Incentive Plan for Student’s Associations:

Ordinance No. 284/2020 created the National Incentive Plan for Student Associations. This Ordinance supports already established student associations as well as student groups who intend to establish student associations, contributing to the following objectives:

- a) to promote civic education and the participation of young students in their school community, reinforcing the role of non-formal education in their training, through legal and institutional support;
- b) to implement annual information campaigns and support the legalization and establishment of student associations in public education institutions in the country.

The Plan is operationalized in harmony with the school calendar and ensures the implementation of the following measures:

- a) Awareness-raising and training actions aimed at young students in primary and secondary education, youth professionals, youth associations and municipal youth councils;
- b) Legal and institutional support in the constitution and recognition of basic and secondary education student associations, as well as in applications to the Student Support Programme (PAE);
- c) Actions to disseminate the Plan at local, regional and national levels;
- d) Production of training content to support the development of training and awareness-raising actions by youth associations, educational establishments, local authorities and inter-municipal communities.

Currently, the leading schools to start implementing the plan were already selected, and the necessary training of teachers and IPDJ personnel was completed. The pandemic impact in schools severely limited the feasibility of keeping up with several measures previewed under this National Plan. Nevertheless, the beginning of the next academic year (2022-2023) will allow for further developments in the implementation of the planned measures.

5 - Arribar Programme

Created in 2021, the programme “Arribar” promotes the inclusion of young people deprived of their liberty, namely young people aged between 16 and 20 who are in Educational Centres, and between 16 and 24 who are in Prison Establishments. The social and labour inclusion of these young people is done through the development of their personal, digital and social skills, and based on cultural and creative workshops. So far, under this programme, 3 pilot-projects of 12 months each were carried out by 3 entities. A total of 46 young people participated.

The pilot-projects come to an end in October 2022. Currently, the continuity of this project is being considered, bearing in mind the reports of the programme and the current national context.

6 - EUSOUDIGITAL Programme:

In 2021, the “EUSOUDIGITAL” programme was created with the aim of promoting the digital empowerment of adults in Portugal until the end of 2023 through the development of a network of young volunteers supported by dedicated digital spaces nationwide. It is aimed at Portuguese who have never used the Internet, particularly adults over 45 years who wish to acquire basic digital skills essential in everyday life allowing better adaptation to new employment realities that depend on Internet access and combat isolation through digital communication tools.

The programme is implemented by IPDJ, in partnership with MUDA - Movement for Active Digital Use, the National Youth Council and the National Federation of Youth Associations.

Currently, 72 Young volunteers helped 118 adults over 110 training sessions.

7 – European Year of Youth 2022

The European Year of Youth in Portugal is being developed through a **governance model** that allows the coordination of the activities and the involvement of all relevant stakeholders, while allowing the necessary flexibility to include other actors that would also like to be involved.

Firstly, regarding our national governance model, a **Steering Committee** was established to liaise closely with all actors involved in the European Year of Youth.

- This Steering Committee will be the top level of coordination, defining the overall strategy of the year and further orientations for the actions and activities, assuring they are in line with the objectives of the year.
- The Steering Committee is composed by representatives from the main national youth stakeholders and relevant public authorities. The Steering Committee includes, among others, the National Youth Council, the National Federation of Youth Associations, the National Agency for Erasmus+ and European Solidarity Corps, the National Association of Parishes, and the National Association of Portuguese Municipalities.

We assured the local, regional, and national scope of action of the elements that compose the steering committee. Hence, as an example, the local level is assured by the inclusion of the National Association of Parishes, which in turn is expected to seize its participation within the steering committee and outreach to young people at local level, given its privileged position and knowledge of the Portuguese localities.

At the bottom level of our governance model, a **Working Group** was set to assure the implementation, coordination, and operationalization of the strategy and guidelines defined by the steering committee. This body is composed (but not limited to) representatives from the Portuguese Institute of Sport and Youth, the National Youth Council, the National Federation of Youth Associations, the Regional Government of Madeira, and the Regional Government of Azores.

A **National Coordinator** is assuring the coordination between the Steering Committee and the Working Group.

The Steering Committee gathered for the first-time last 12th of January, and a second time on the 2nd of May. Thus, the guidelines and overall strategy for the actions and activities to carry out throughout the year at national level were already established and are already being implemented since March.

Secondly, for the **official launch of the European Year of Youth**, we organised, in March, an “**Action Week**” throughout our schools, where we promoted the dialogue with our youngsters. For this dialogue we recurred to digital platforms to engage them in a discussion about the European Year of Youth (what is it? What are they expecting? What do they know about the EU?).

This “action week” is currently being complemented by several “**action days**” throughout the year. These “action days” consist in communication and awareness actions about the European Year of Youth, its priorities, objectives, and opportunities.

Thirdly, we prepared a series of **regional events** that aim to mobilize young people at regional level. These events will be facilitated by the decentralized structures of the Portuguese Institute of Sport and Youth, given their experience and knowledge of the regional dynamics. The regional events will resort to non-formal methodologies of youth participation and dialogue. Their outcomes will be presented at the closing event of the European Year of Youth at national level.

Fourth, we are promoting a series of **decentralised events** where public entities, organisations and the third sector are encouraged to promote activities in partnership with the Portuguese Institute of Sport and Youth. At the end of the year, we will award the most successful events, assuring their legacy and best practices continues after 2022.

We also launched a **call for young people** to apply for and present their academic and/or literary works on Youth and Youth-related topics. The selected candidates will have their works published and presented in further events after 2022. This will foster scientific work on youth and promote an evidence-based youth policy at national and European level, one of the objectives of the year.

A total of **three awards** were published, namely, awards for events organised by Youth organisations, awards for academic works, and awards for creative and literary works.

Lastly, a **final event** will be organised to present the **results of the European Year of Youth**, set the vision to keep its legacy, and award the winners from the different awards.

Additionally, a merchandise and communications toolkit was developed and made available for Youth organisations and young people organising activities and events under the EYY2022. The official European Year of Youth national website gathers all the information and opportunities for our Young people and is available since March.

So far, we have registered more than 240 activities, a number that is expected to increase in the run up to the last quarter of 2022.

8 – II National Plan for Youth (PNJ)

On September 13, 2022, the II National Plan for Youth was published, and will be implemented until the end of 2024.

	<p>In line with what was the 1st National Plan for Youth 2018-2021, this new generation of the National Plan for Youth is a political instrument aiming at affirming the transversality of youth policies, with a view to the special protection of the rights of young people, thus complying with the provisions of Article 70 of the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic.</p> <p>On the other hand, the aim of this II Plan is to ensure the articulation between the II PNJ and existing national plans and programmes in sectoral or cross-cutting policies, with an impact on youth, as well as to ensure that the dimension of youth is integrated into these other public policy instruments.</p> <p>It is thus an instrument of intersectoral coordination of youth policy in Portugal, also taking into account the international references of the United Nations (UN), the Council of Europe, the European Union (EU), the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries (CPLP) and the International Youth Organisation for Ibero-America.</p> <p>The preparation of the II PNJ therefore also took into account the results of the process of auscultation to young people, promoted in the context of its elaboration. It has integrated several sources of information, such as questionnaire interviews with young people, and regionally promoted youth panels and auscultation seminars.</p> <p>The II PNJ is divided into five axes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Axis I - Emancipation and Autonomy - Axis II - Education and Science - Axis III - Citizenship and Participation - Axis IV - Healthy Lifestyles - Axis V - Culture and Free Creation <p>IPDJ has ongoing the translation of the II PNJ into English, in order to proceed to its sharing by the various groups of stakeholders with whom it cooperates on the international scene.</p>
Romania/ Roumanie	<p>Updated September 2021</p> <p>1. This year, the Ministry of Youth and Sports partnered with the youth organizations to carry out the process "YOUTH AFTER PANDEMIA" which comprised of two main stages: an online survey and facilitated online meetings, which ran in parallel. Over 1300 young people from all counties of the country participated in the consultation process in May.</p> <p>Assessing young people's responses to the online survey, as well as the ideas noted during the facilitated meetings, 3 main themes of interest strongly emerged:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PHYSICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH; • HOUSING; • FUTURE PROSPECTS AND DECISIONS. <p>In addition, concerns such as global warming and environment protection, inequality of opportunities highlighted by the pandemic context especially for vulnerable groups, the need for more development contexts (at a general level) were also mentioned.</p> <p>The results have been taken on board with the aim of creating new youth policies which emerge straight from young people's needs and concerns.</p> <p>2. After one year gap, the call for national projects has been resumed. A special methodology has been created in order to respond to the hygienic-sanitary rules and to the need of online and/or hybrid activities.</p> <p>3. On the occasion of the International Youth Day (12th of August), the National Youth Convention represented the perfect opportunity for the meeting of the representatives of relevant public</p>

	<p>structures with a role in the development, adoption and implementation of policies and programmes for youth with the representatives of the youth non-governmental organizations and other youth structures, aiming to join the efforts to develop the youth sector in Romania. For 3 days, the youth community shared their specific resources and challenges, identified channels of cooperation and points of common interest, and decided on the targets they should move towards together: e.g. a new national youth strategy, the adoption of the legislative youth package and the better absorption of the structural funds for the 2021-2027 period.</p> <p>Updated March 2021</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The National Council for Youth, the ministry's new dialogue partner from the youth civil society, has started its activity. Big and small youth organizations work alongside the ministry to develop youth policies complying with a clear regulation. At the end of February, the first plenary session took place in the presence of the minister of youth and sports. 2. The youth state of play 2020 was released in December. More focused was put on disadvantaged youth in order to ensure more inclusive policies in the future. 3. The new Youth Strategy (2021 – 2027) will focus on education, employment and entrepreneurship and inclusion. <p>The Ministry of Youth and Sports received the certification as provider of youth work courses. Moreover, the ministry has collaborated with the National Agency in providing digital youth work courses.</p>
San Marino/ Saint Marin	
Serbia/ Serbie	<p>Updated September 2022</p> <p>The process of Amending the Law on Youth and revising the National Youth Strategy is still ongoing. As regards the youth strategy, the public debate on the Youth Strategy 2022-2030 Proposal, was held in August 2022 in Novi Pazar, Užice, Novi Sad, Belgrade, Niš and Kosovska Mitrovica. The public debate was preceded by a one-year broad and transparent consultation process with all interested parties, which took place both online and face-to-face meetings, so broad consultative process with young people and all interested parties was achieved. In this way, we enabled young people and those who work with young people, and for young people, to be equal participants in the processes of making and implementing decisions in all areas that concern them, especially when it comes to such an important strategic document. Based on the received comments and suggestions, the Working Group is currently preparing an updated Strategic Document. The Ministry of Youth and Sports plans to start the process of developing the first Action plan for the implementation of the Youth Strategy.</p> <p>In the reporting period, the 19th session of the Youth Council was held on June 7, 2022.</p> <p>The Ministry of Youth and Sports continues to work on providing support to all subjects of youth policy. For the implementation of the National Youth Strategy in 2022, 108 projects of youth organizations/organizations for youth, alliances, and local governments in the amount of over 279 million dinars (EUR 2.3 million) were supported (more than 218 million dinars/EUR 1.8 million were allocated for 82 youth organization projects and more than 61 million dinars/EUR 517.910 for 26 projects of local self-government units). Through these projects, almost 70,000 young people were directly involved in programs aimed at promoting healthy and safe lifestyles, quality leisure time, implementation of volunteer activities and camps, as well as employment and self-employment programs. Conditions for active participation in society, implementation of cultural content, non-formal education, and information tailored to the needs of all categories of young people, have been created. Based on the public calls for stimulating various forms of employment, self-employment, and youth entrepreneurship, almost than 12.000 young people were included, direct beneficiaries, whose position in the labour market has been improved.</p>

This year through the program, "Youth are the Law", with the support of the Ministry of Youth and Sports 30 international and national volunteer work camps, 2 large actions with at least 100 young people, 135 youth volunteer projects and 15 trainings for at least 300 young people will be realized, with over 2,000 individually engaged volunteers recruited through 40+ volunteer services, which will leave over 42,000 volunteer hours in over 150 local communities across the country.

Youth offices and youth clubs, where non-formal education programs are implemented, are certainly a priority in youth policy. Currently, 140 local self-government units in Serbia have established youth office. Through the construction, equipping, and operation of 68 youth clubs, 81 outdoor gyms, and small sports fields, conditions for quality leisure time, development of healthy lifestyles, active participation of young people in society, creation of cultural content, non-formal education and information tailored to the needs of young people have been created.

The Fund for Young Talents of the Republic of Serbia which is under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, has been confirmed as a cornerstone of caring for the best students and high school pupils in Serbia. The amount of scholarships has increased since 2013 and there is a trend of increased number of young people who received scholarships and awards. This year in June, the best students in the Republic of Serbia were awarded the most scholarships to date - 1,550. And for the first time, the scholarship amounted to 320.000 dinars/EUR 2,900 per student.

Activities aimed at strengthening and supporting young people were continued when the Competition for High School Students' Awards was announced on June 6, 2022. The process of consideration of candidates' applications is still ongoing. The Call is intended to high school students for achieving success in the competitions in the country and abroad, without restraints on the number of awards. The awards are in the range of over 170 to over 1.700 EUR.

The cycle of public invitations for scholarships and awards was completed on September 15, 2022, with the announcement of the Competition for Scholarships for Students from Serbia Studying Postgraduate Studies Abroad. This year, near to 500 applicants studying in the EU or EFTA, as well as applicants studying at leading world universities, are expected. The amount of scholarship is close to 10.600 EUR per student.

Since 2008, the Fund has granted 36.864 scholarships and awards to high school and university students, and approximately EUR 85 million have been invested in these purposes.

The Ministry of Youth and Sports continues to participate in the II cycle of the Council of Europe program as a member of the North-South Centre network and strengthen its position as national coordinator for global education at the national level by connecting with other actors. During the third week of November 2021, a campaign was held to mark the Week of Global Education in cooperation with the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe, and local actions were organized throughout Serbia to promote the principle of gender equality. In the period from May 30 to June 3, 2022, the North-South Center of the Council of Europe organized the Pan-European Congress on Global Education and a meeting of national coordinators for global education. In continuation of the advocacy process for the promotion of global education, launched in 2002 in Maastricht, the North-South Center of the Council of Europe organized the Pan-European Congress on Global Education 2022 and brought together various actors to strengthen global education and policy plans emphasizing its importance for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, the results and effects achieved in the previous period, the plan for further development and drafting of the new Declaration on Global Education 2050, as well as the importance of global education programs to mitigate post-pandemic challenges.

The delegation of the Republic of Serbia (the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Youth Council of Serbia, the National Association of Youth Work Practitioners, the National Association of Youth Offices, OPENS and the Scout Association of Serbia) participated in the youth event "Youth Action Week", which was held in Strasbourg from June 27 to July 2, 2022.

Cooperation related to youth issues has been continued with international partners – UNICEF, UNFPA, IOM, OSCE. Additionally, the cooperation agreement between the Ministry of Youth and Sports and German organization for international cooperation GIZ was signed in February 2022, focused on the implementation of the new four-year project "Perspectives for youth in rural areas in the Republic of Serbia". In cooperation with the UNFPA the Ministry of Youth and Sports is preparing an activity related to Youth Score Index.

	<p>Serbia chairs the Governing Board of RYCO (Regional Youth Cooperation Office) in 2022. The Governing Board Meeting was held in July in hybrid format. RYCO is implementing the project „Superschools - Western Balkans School Exchange Scheme“. Superschools is a program for school exchanges in the Western Balkans with the objectives to support the peacebuilding and reconciliation processes and intercultural learning and dialogue.</p> <p>The collaboration at the regional level has been gone on. The Ministry of Youth and Sports participates in all activities of the project “WB Youth Lab”, which is implemented by the Regional Cooperation Council.</p> <p>As from August 2022, Serbia has two new UN Youth delegates, who will take part in relevant UN Youth activities.</p>
Slovak Republic/ République slovaque	<p>Updated March 2021</p> <p>The Ministry of education, science, research and sport of the Slovak Republic is currently working on the preparation of the new Strategy for youth for the years 2021-2028. As we want to ensure the participative process of the preparation, draft of the strategy was discussed within the Inter-governmental working group and this week the round tables are taking part around Slovakia in order to engage young people, youth workers and other actors in consultations of the proposed strategic objectives. Moreover, we are discussing the possibilities of collecting data from youth organisations about the impact of Covid-19 to their work in order to better understand the need for policies, that have to be adopted. Also, national agency for Erasmus+ in the field of youth and sport is planning to gather data from beneficiary final reports of Erasmus+ (Youth) and European Solidarity Corps how participants and organizations have been dealing with the pandemic situation. In the first months of 2021, the Ministry announced a call for grants for youth work actors in the total amount of 2,2 million euros. In order to proceed with the non-formal education and youth work activities, IUVENTA- Slovak Youth institute provided a lot of workshops and trainings online and many of them were streamed live via Facebook.</p>
Slovenia/ Slovenie	<p>Updated September 2020</p> <p>1. In the year 2020 the Office of Youth became deeply involved in preparation of the EU Presidency within trio framework (Germany, Portugal, Slovenia), starting with cooperation in setting up the relevant documents for the youth sector, for exam, Resolution on the framework of establishing a European Youth Work Agenda ("historical" step forward in direction of more productive synergies between CoE and EU institutions in the field of youth work).</p> <p>2. Office for Youth published in 2019 two-year public tender: Strengthening the competencies of young people through active citizenship for greater employability. Tender represent continuation of the previous tender for the period 2016 - 2018 - explained more in detail below.</p> <p>In 2016 the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport (hereinafter: MIZŠ) - Office for Youth published a call for tenders for programmes promoting active citizenship among young people to increase employability 2016–2018.</p> <p>The initiative is partly financed by the European Union, through the European Social Fund. The project is carried out within the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the Period 2014–2020, priority axes: 8. “Promoting employment and supporting transnational labour mobility”, investment priorities: 8.2 “Sustainable integration in the labour market of young people, in particular those not in employment, education or training, including young people at risk of social exclusion and young people from marginalised communities, including through implementation of the Youth Guarantee”, specific objective: 8.2.1 “Reduce youth unemployment”.</p> <p>The aim of the tender is to provide co-financing of projects carried out by organisations operating in the public interest in the youth sector, aimed at promoting active citizenship among young people to increase youth employability and employment.</p> <p>The expected results of the tender are: to enhance the employability and employment rate of the target group both in youth sector organisations and beyond – to encourage a more diversified approach to the employment of young people through youth work – to enhance young people’s competencies for active citizenship and to promote the social recognition of such competencies – to enable youth sector organisations to address and solve the problem of youth unemployment and, consequently, to increase the recognition of the competencies of youth workers for promoting youth work and increasing its socio-economic potential. The core of the programmes is the inclusion and</p>

	<p>employment of target groups both within and outside the youth sector. With the aim of achieving the set goals, the tender will encourage innovative forms of youth work, including new approaches to solving the issue of youth unemployment, that have the potential for a wider impact on youth work and youth policy. Enhancing the quality of youth work can also improve practices in the areas where youth work and employment overlap. As a result, quality youth work can contribute to the objectives of employment policies further by opening up the possibility of involving all young people in youth work, as well as to the objectives of the social inclusion policy. Quality youth work is therefore always to the benefit of young people, improves the environment and practice of youth work, and contributes to the wider objectives of youth policy. Projects were supported that will, in line with the subject matter, purpose, and objectives of the tender cover at least one of the following areas to promote employability and increase youth employment: - implementing non-formal education activities in the context of youth work to strengthen competencies and empower young people and transfer relevant skills and competencies to young people; - strengthening the human, organisational and programme capacity of organisations in the youth sector to implement youth work for the purpose of better addressing youth unemployment, to identify the problem and to actively resolve the issue of the life situation of young people related to their entry into the labour market; - networking among young people and young people with relevant organisations to ensure young people better access to employment.</p> <p>The public tender's target group was young people from 15 to up to 29 years of age. In order to be eligible, a young person must be at least 15 and less than 30 years old at the date of inclusion in the operation, and not in an employment relationship in accordance with the ZDR-1.</p> <p>3. The European Solidarity Corps Programme implemented in Slovenia by MOVIT (Erasmus+, youth) is based on the achievements of more than 25 years of implementation of European programmes for youth and solidarity, and in particular the European voluntary service and the implementation of the first phase of the European Solidarity Corps (hereinafter: ESC). The ESC Programme is expected to enhance the quality of and facilitate access to solidarity-related activities. The programme activities cover three areas:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solidarity projects • Volunteering activities (volunteering projects, volunteering partnerships) • Traineeships and jobs <p>The ESC offers the young the possibility to gather in order to build a more inclusive society, to support vulnerable groups and to respond to social challenges. It provides inspirational and profound experiences to young people who desire to help, learn and develop.</p> <p>Volunteering projects offer young people (18-30 years of age) the opportunity to volunteer (individually or in a team) abroad or in their country of residence. Projects must respond to basic needs of society, contribute to strengthening the community and enable volunteers to acquire experiences, skills and competencies necessary for their personal, educational, social, civic, and professional development.</p> <p>Solidarity projects are activities that are initiated, developed and implemented by young people (18-30 years old) themselves, who express their solidarity by accepting the responsibility and committing themselves to making a positive change in their local community. Participating in a solidarity project is an important informal learning experience enabling young people to boost their personal, educational, social and civic development.</p>
Spain/ Espagne	<p>Updated September 2020</p> <p>Youth Policy Governance and Structure of the Decision-making process</p> <p>Spain is a decentralized country formed by a Central Government (which manages the General Administration of the State through the Ministries and the rest of the public entities) and the governments of the regions (autonomous community – Comunidades y ciudades autónomas) 17 Autonomous Regions and two Autonomous Cities (Ceuta and Melilla). They have their own and independent governance: Autonomous Government, an Autonomous Administration, a directly elected Autonomous Parliament, set up by each Statute of Autonomy approved from 1979 onwards. On a third level, every region has a local authorities such as provinces and municipalities, which have their own competences in the local governance.</p> <p>The distribution of competences and policies is distributed among these governmental structures through the Spanish Constitution (1978, hereinafter CE) in its Title VIII: some are managed by the Autonomous Communities (art. 148, CE), and others belong exclusively to the Government (art. 149, CE).</p> <p>Youth Policy</p>

The CE in its article 48, states that “public authorities will promote conditions for the free and effective participation of youth in the political, social, economic and cultural development”. Therefore, public authorities must develop youth policies in their own level of competences, so it is done by the Autonomous communities which assume exclusive responsibility in their own statutes of autonomy. Although this structure has remained so, it does not mean that the State cannot make laws on this matter.

In the national level there is no National Youth Law but a variety of different tools and strategies seeking to coordinate political performances. In February 2017, the Secretary of State for Social Services and Equality announced the preparation of the Second Action Plan of the Youth Strategy 2017-2020. The Youth Strategy 2020 (Estrategia Juventud 2020) is currently in force, approved by the Council of Ministers on the 12th of September 2014. Besides these strategies and their development, there is an ordinary budget for the Youth Promotion and Services from the Ministry of Social Rights and 2030 Agenda, which is in charge of the Youth issues.

Although most of the actions related to youth are carried out through the autonomous communities and local bodies. In the national level the decision-making structure relies on the Spanish Institute for Youth (Instituto de la Juventud, hereinafter, Injuve) and the Interministerial Commission for Youth which coordinates the youth policies of the different regions.

The Spanish Youth Council (Consejo de la Juventud de España, hereinafter CJE) is a platform of national wide youth organizations and regional youth councils, and it is in charge of channeling the youth proposals and views to the public authorities and other entities, as well as the society in general.

National Youth Strategy (<http://www.injuve.es/conocenos/ediciones-injuve/estrategia-juventud-2020>) this link lets to download a pdf document that contains the strategy.

Spain actually is carrying out the 2020 Youth Strategy. It is an interministerial initiative promoted by the Ministry of Social Rights and 2030 Agenda, through the Spanish Institute for Youth, including the European Youth Strategy 2010-2018, and the current one 201-2027. All Ministries have taken part in the definition and contents of the Strategy through the Interministerial Commission for Youth.

The strategy was approved by the Council of Ministers on the 12th of September 2014. It covers two different Action Plans: the first Action Plan encompassed the years 2014 to 2016 and the second Action Plan currently includes the year 2017 to the year 2020. However, the second Action Plan has not been presented and approved by the Interministerial Commission for Youth yet.

The Strategy is divided into three parts:

1. Analysis of the policies and actions related to youth in the last few years, which make up the background information of the Strategy.
2. The topics and areas of action: education and training; employment and entrepreneurship; housing; health and equality; participation, volunteering and inclusion, as well as institutional cooperation.
3. Youth indicators catalogue: as a reference for the follow-up and assessment of the Strategy.

These indicators are related to emancipation, education, employment, health, social engagement and social networks areas.

The main goal of the Strategy is to become a reference for the youth policies in Spain and to enhance the implementation of policies and services for youth which have an impact in all these areas.

It also encourages collaboration concerning youth between the different Ministries and other administrations such as autonomous communities, local authorities and provinces. The Youth

Strategy also implies cooperation between all the social agents and actors related to youth issues, including social and civil organizations.

The 2020 Youth Strategy (Estrategia Juventud 2020) is implemented through Action Plans including actions related to youth from the different ministries. Thus, an assessment plan of the strategy is being set up.

The 2020 Youth Strategy is focused on six axis of action:

1) AXIS 1 Education and training.

- Improving the Spanish Education System quality in order to raise employability and entrepreneurship.

- Encouraging the non-formal training system.

- Identifying and encouraging new niches and sources of employment through training.

2) AXIS 2 Employment and entrepreneurship.

- Encouraging the establishment of youth employment opportunities
- Encouraging the entry of youth in the labour market.

- Increasing the number of self-employed youth as well as the number of companies established by people under 30 years of age.

- Encouraging the entrepreneurial culture.

- Promoting the implementation of a youth guarantee system.

3) AXIS 3 Housing.

- Raising the youth emancipation figures.

4) AXIS 4 Health, leisure and sports.

- Promoting actions taken in order to encourage healthy life habits.

- Reducing the use of drugs and narcotic substances.

- Fighting any kind of violence or discrimination.

5) AXIS 5 Participation, volunteering, inclusion and equality.

- Improving channels and tools to raise the participation and voluntary work of associated and not associated youth, especially those linked to ICT.

- Fighting against social exclusion of the most disadvantaged groups of youth population.

- Promoting equality.

6) AXIS 6 Institutional Cooperation.

- Encouraging cooperation between public administrations, national and international bodies and youth entities which may have an impact on youth, through the following areas of youth cooperation.

Youth Dialogue Initiative:

The EU Youth Dialogue, related to coordination on the European youth policy, the EU Youth Strategy 2020-2027 and the Youth Goals, is proposed as a tool to acknowledge and channeling the needs of

youth at all levels. This implies the primary task of including not only the people responsible for making decisions, but also young people from all over the territory.

The first objective is to encourage the participation of young people in democratic life and encourage debates on the bases of European youth policies through consultations and debates at the national, regional and local level. These debates involve young people and those experts and people responsible of the decision making process on youth policies.

The second objective is to offer young people mechanism and activities to participate and collaborate directly in the design of the Spanish and European public youth policies.

The Youth Dialogue is based on thematic cycles, covering the trio of EU Presidencies. The issues of every cycle are debated through consultations running at European and national level in EU Members. The consultations at the national level are carried out by the National Working Groups, which are formed by different agents such as the governmental authority on Youth, the national youth council, youth organizations, researchers, etc.

The results of the consultations are the basis of the EU Youth Conferences, where representants from ministers for youth and youth field work together to define the Conclusions at EU level.

The result of the EU Youth Conferences are recommendations for the European and national level policies in the field of youth, which are reflected in a Resolution of the Council of the European Union.

During the last VII Cycle (organized in an 18-month process, from January 2019- to June 2020), the motto has been "Creating opportunities for Youth", issues focused on the future of work have been addressed, to professionals of youth and rural youth. He has been guided by the presidencies of Romania (from January to June 2019), Finland (from July to December 2019) and Croatia (from January to June 2020).

The Romanian Presidency focused on the study of the challenges young people face in relation to the future of work in the sub-theme "Quality employment for all", directly related to the European Youth Goal 7 "Quality employment for all".

The Finnish Presidency highlighted the improvement of the quality of youth work under the sub-theme 'Quality of youth work for all'.

During the Croatian Presidency, different opportunities for rural youth were explored, in line with European Youth Goal 6 - Empowering rural youth.

In Spain the Youth Dialogue is involved at national level:

- National Working Group (NWG): taking part representants from the Spanish Youth Council (CJE), the Spanish Institute for Youth (INJUVE) and some other organizations at the national level.

- Embassies for the Youth Dialogue: formed by young people who help to carry out dialogue processes between youth and decision-makers at the local and regional level, implementing the program territorially in collaboration with the CJE , the Youth Institute, local / regional Councils, the General Directorates of Youth and other youth entities. And this is the most pioneering initiative, with respect to programs in other European countries.

- Associated and non-associated youth, local / regional / state level organizations, Councils, etc. with whom consultations are made on the issues raised from the European Commission.

To the current date, 15 Youth Embassies for Youth Dialogue are listed, 141 participants are member of the embassies and 449 young people are involved, from a total of 1230 young participants, of which 242 were from rural areas.

	<p>Throughout 2019, according to the EU youth cycle issues, a series of consultations were held with various students groups and leaders from different communities.</p> <p>The consultations focused on the use of surveys, thematic groups, large dialogue events with young people, workshops, participatory research, and participatory visual methods. The innovative approach helped increase participation.</p> <p>These activities allowed young people to give visibility to their demands, and try to find the connection with Youth, transfer their concerns, and to identify and solve the weakest and problematic areas in the field of Youth policies. The proposals, recommendations and “good practices” were to be implemented in the medium and long term, aimed to work on youth unemployment, the exodus of young people from rural areas, due to lack of training and technological resources, and the consequent demographic slowdown in “empty Spain”.</p> <p>If further information required you can visit these links (http://dialogojuventud.cje.org/) and (http://www.injuve.es/etiqueta/dialogojuventud).</p> <p>Much of the information described above has been consulted in youth wiki (https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/en/content/youthwiki/overview-spain).</p>
Sweden/ Suède	<p>Updated September 2022</p> <p>National Youth Policy</p> <p>In March 2021, the Swedish government published a Youth Policy Communication which includes an updated national action plan. The policy is multidisciplinary and deals with issues in areas such as education, employment, private economy, housing, health, participation, culture and leisure/youth work. The aim of the policy is to report on the development in relation to the Governments youth policy goal: “All young people should have access to good living conditions, power to shape their own lives and influence over the development of the society”.</p> <p>In summary, the Youth Policy Communication shows that young people in Sweden in many respects have good living conditions, but that there is still work to be done to achieve the youth policy goal. A large proportion of young people has the power to shape their own lives, but there are groups that have significantly worse living conditions than others. Young people in areas with socioeconomic challenges generally have worse conditions in life generally than other young people. Young people with disabilities and young LGBTQ+ people are less able to achieve the power to shape their lives.</p> <p>In conjunction with the Youth Policy Communication, four new priorities were presented for the Governments’ Youth Policy:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young people’s mental health, • Young people’s leisure time, • Young people’s participation in the development of society, • Young people’s social inclusion and transition to the labour market <p>The updated national action plan presents around 100 actions for 2021-2024. It contains e.g. actions aimed at strengthening mental health, psychiatry, and suicide prevention; strengthening school equality; a grant of SEK 200 million for jobs for young people in 2021; strengthening of the investment support for rental housing and housing for students.</p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic</p> <p>The Covid-19 pandemic has had several impacts on young people’s lives. There are serious indications of increased number of unemployed young people and NEETs. There is also a tangible risk that an increased number of young men and women could experience new or aggravated symptoms of decreased mental health. The Covid-19 pandemic has made it hard for youth organisations to continue with their ordinary activities. At the same time, there is still a lack of</p>

	<p>statistics regarding the consequences of the pandemic, but the Government is following the developments for young people closely.</p> <p>Due to the pandemic, the Government has decided to grant an extra SEK 50 million to youth organisations for 2020-2022. The Government has also directed extra investments in the work of civil society (especially the work towards vulnerable groups), public meeting rooms and child- and youth organisations. The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society has been commissioned to compile and disseminate information about the Government's support measures for the civil society concerning the pandemic.</p> <p>On June 31st the Swedish Government appointed an inquiry Chair to analyse local youth work (öppen fritidsverksamhet för ungdomar), such as youth centres and youth clubs. The aim of the inquiry is to identify how local youth work can be developed to become more accessible, equal, and of high quality. In addition, the inquiry Chair is to specifically analyse whether local youth work can be included in the overall crime and violence prevention work. The final report is to be submitted on December 1st, 2023.</p>
Switzerland/ Suisse	<p>Updated October 2022 :</p> <p>Campagne « Démocratie ici et maintenant ». Suite à la « Action Week » de juillet dernier, nos services de l'administration fédérale ont transmis une circulaire d'appel à l'action aux différents ONG qui sont concernées potentiellement par cette thématique démocratie ou citoyenneté.</p> <p>Le 15 septembre est la journée internationale de la démocratie. Ce jour-là, plusieurs communes, écoles, associations, bureaux privés et institutions culturelles ont organisé des actions privées et publiques invitant à apprendre, réfléchir et s'essayer à l'exercice de la démocratie. www.journeedelademocratie.ch.</p> <p>La participation est un thème clé de la Commission fédérale pour l'enfance et la jeunesse (CFEJ). De 2020 à 2023, la commission met l'accent sur la participation politique et l'éducation à la citoyenneté. La CFEJ va questionner les jeunes sur les motifs et les modalités de leur engagement. Elle souhaite également mieux comprendre pourquoi certains jeunes ne s'engagent pas ou ne participent pas à la vie politique.</p> <p>La CFEJ s'intéresse aussi à la perspective de genre dans la politique de l'enfance et de la jeunesse. La CFEJ s'interroge sur la manière dont les politiques tiennent compte du genre et souhaite mieux connaître – et faire connaître – les projets ou programmes visant à lutter contre la reproduction des stéréotypes de genre. Elle focalisera ses travaux sur les jeunes enfants de 0 à 4 ans, dans le contexte des crèches, et les adolescents de 12 à 18 ans, dans les contextes des activités de jeunesse extrascolaires et de l'espace public.</p> <p>Le 30 septembre 2022, le Parlement suisse a adopté une nouvelle Loi fédérale sur la protection des mineurs dans les secteurs du film et du jeu vidéo. OFAS - Nouvelle Loi fédérale sur la protection des mineurs dans les secteurs du film et du jeu vidéo</p> <p>Cette loi vise à protéger les mineurs notamment des scènes à caractère violent, sexuel ou effrayant. Dans toute la Suisse, les cinémas, les détaillants, les entreprises de vente en ligne et les services à la demande seront tenus d'indiquer l'âge minimal et d'effectuer des contrôles de l'âge. Cette obligation concerne également les fournisseurs de plateformes d'hébergement de vidéos ou de jeux vidéo (par ex. YouTube, Twitch, etc.).</p> <p>Après les cantons de Neuchâtel et Zurich, le canton de Berne a clairement rejeté en septembre 2022 une baisse de l'âge du droit de vote à 16 ans. Un vote qui pourrait avoir des conséquences sur les débats au Parlement suisse.</p> <p>En effet, ce dernier va débattre, après plusieurs consultations, d'un projet de loi visant à abaisser l'âge du droit de vote à 16 ans. L'âge du droit de vote à 16 ans a ainsi franchi le premier obstacle. Si le parlement l'accépte, il devra encore être soumis au vote du peuple.</p> <p>Afin de combattre le discours de haine, à la fois sur Internet et au-delà, notamment en employant des moyens juridiques, il importe de mentionner le « contre-discours » ou « counter speech ». Le Counter Speech Lab investigue les stratégies de contre-discours fonctionnant le mieux pour les différents types de discours haineux. Il s'agit d'une initiative commune de Stop Hate Speech, du Digital Democracy Lab (Université de Zurich) et de l'Immigration Policy Lab (Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Zurich). Stop Hate Speech est désormais actif en Suisse romande avec son « Bot Dog », un algorithme permettant de lutter contre le discours de haine (cliquer ici pour toutes les informations).</p> <p>La nouvelle plate-forme virtuelle www.contre-la-radicalisation.ch</p>

	<p>se destine en priorité aux assistants sociaux des services sociaux et aux professionnels travaillant avec des adolescents et des jeunes adultes. On y trouve pour chaque canton ainsi que pour certaines villes un organe de contact ainsi qu'une description de la procédure à suivre en cas de soupçon de radicalisation et d'extrémisme violent. Des projets cantonaux de prévention dans ce domaine y sont également répertoriés. Le site Internet contient de nombreuses informations thématiques et présente également des exemples de situations dont certains s'inspirent de situations connues en Suisse. Il traite de toutes les formes de radicalisation et d'extrémisme violent. Ce nouveau site Internet a bénéficié d'une aide financière allouée par le Plan d'action national de lutte contre la radicalisation et l'extrémisme violent.</p>
Türkiye	<p>Updated in September 2022.</p> <p>Youth Policy: Our efforts to develop a new youth policy are in progress. These efforts focus on specific action (program) areas determined as a result of field researches. In this context, the "Approach and Discourse Work" was launched in 2019 by our Ministry with the aim of generating a participatory approach, which conforms to the changing expectations and needs of young people, in implementing youth policies and providing service to young people. "Approach and Discourse Work" was completed in June 2021 subsequent to the consultation meetings with central and provincial personnel of our Ministry, face-to-face interviews with external experts and academics, semi-structured questionnaires with young people, and evaluation of national and international publications. In consequence of this study, an objective was set for young people to be able to make independent decisions, to be aware of their skills, to respect differences, and to be interested in environmental problems, depending on the main purpose of empowering young people. The Discourse and Approach Commission was established in November 2020 to ensure and coordinate joint implementation in both central and provincial organizations.</p> <p>Youth Centers, Youth Camps and Youth Offices: Our Ministry provides services to all young people in our country free of charge through its 417 youth centers located in 81 provinces of Türkiye with the aim of helping young people make good use of their leisure time and to allow them to socialize in the right way. Services offered in youth centers includes opportunities such as cultural, artistic and sports activities, programs to raise awareness of young people against harmful habits, opportunities enabling young people to gain social skills and share them. Youth centers continues their activities in accordance with protective measures during the pandemic. 1455 youth leaders (youth workers) working in youth centers carried on their activities under pandemic conditions, especially through volunteering projects and activities to support disadvantaged social groups. During this period, the number of the members of youth centers increased and reached 2,896.734.</p> <p>Youth Offices are established in order to increase the accessibility of services offered by youth centers to young people. Youth offices are the facilities established in schools, universities, dormitories, neighborhoods, gyms and organized industrial zones. Youth offices are for the young people who cannot participate in the activities of the Youth Centers for any reason. In this regard, 329 youth offices have been established and have been functioning by September, 2022.</p> <p>Youth camps are organized with the aim of providing an environment which enables our young people to develop the feelings of unity, solidarity and fraternity, raising historical awareness among our young people by bringing them together with our historical and civilizational heritage, and enabling them to make use of their leisure time with various social, cultural and sportive activities. Youth camps are planned as sea, nature, thematic (ecological agriculture and livestock, Entrepreneurship, Cyber security, Science, Mathematics, Health, Career etc.), civilization, history and culture camps. All our young people between the ages of 12-25 can benefit from the Youth Camps free of charge. Information regarding the Camp application is provided and announced through the institutional and social media accounts of our Ministry. Additionally, a special quota is reserved every year for the young people between the ages of 12-25 who are disabled or a part of a disadvantaged groups of the society. Activities such as badminton, aqua park, boat trip, street games, social and cultural trips and activities, theatre, music, volleyball, basketball, football, book reading, folk games, handicrafts, climbing wall, high rope track, flyfox, adventure track, paintball, canoe, mountain biking, orienteering, archery, horse riding,</p>

mini golf, rafting etc. are carried out by taking account of the venue youth camps located in and physical facilities. Youngsters who have successfully completed the training program provided by our Ministry in the youth camps and have turned out to be qualified for being the role models for the young people are assigned as camp leaders on a voluntary basis. 1100 leaders participated in the Basic Camp Leadership Training program, which was organized in August, 2022. Currently, young people are offered to opportunity of developing themselves and socializing with each other through 43 camp facilities. By April 2022, number of young people who benefited from the youth camps in the last six months amounts to 109.573.

Volunteerism: A total of 36 “Cooperation Protocols in the Field of Volunteerism” were signed between our Ministry and different institutions and organizations (Ministry, University, Municipality etc.) for developing cooperation between institutions within the context of volunteerism work. Within the scope of the protocol signed with Council of Higher Education “Volunteerism Work” class started to be given as an elective course in our universities with 2020-2021 academic year. Volunteerism class is included in the programs of 107 out of 207 universities and started to be implemented in 3088 programs, which are 1653 and 1435 for associate degree and undergraduate programs respectively. 33,377 students registered for the volunteerism class in the fall semester of the 2021-2022 academic year.

“WE are Volunteers” Platform: WE are Volunteers Platform (GönüllüyüzBİZ Platform), which has been providing services for more than seven years under our Ministry, brings volunteers and the organizations seeking volunteers together. The Platform, offering language support in English, German, Russian and Arabic, provides services in six different categories (sports, culture and tourism, environment, disaster and emergency, education, health and social services) on www.gonulluyuzbiz.gov.tr website.

By September 2022, the Platform has reached 305.236 volunteers and 3.097 volunteer organizations. A total of 29.433 volunteering announcements were made on the website of the Platform. Additionally, volunteering document is issued for the volunteerism activities carried out by young volunteers and this certificate provides a positive reference for their job and scholarship applications in the future thanks to this Platform. Thus, young people develop their individual and social skills and gain valuable references for their career planning

Credit and Dormitory Services: By 25.02.2022, 747,332 university students (including foreign students) reside in 780 dormitories of Ministry of Youth and Sports located all over the country are provided service. Dormitory and education credit applications are made online and young people having financial difficulties are given priority. 1.5 million University students, including the ones receiving education abroad, are provided with education credit and state scholarship.

Youth Projects Support Program: Through the Youth Projects Support Program, our Ministry provides grant support to the culture, art, education and social integration projects of many non-governmental organizations in order to support the individual and social development of young people and to increase their participation in all areas of life. 1.7 million Euros were subsidized to youth groups and clubs with 1.001 projects in 2019 and 9 million Euros were subsidized to non-governmental organizations with 772 projects in 2020.

National Youth Council: The main objectives of the National Youth Council are to ensure the personal development of young people in social, economic and political areas and their active participation in society, to contribute to the policies developed in the field of youth, to ensure coordination between national and youth organizations, and to carry out international studies and projects to increase the participation of young people in decision-making and implementation processes. Legal procedures to establish the National Youth Council are still in progress. Inventory studies on non-governmental organizations working in the field of youth, and with the potential of being represented in the National Youth Council are also in progress.

	<p>Youth Wiki: Our Ministry ensures that international developments are followed in the field of youth policy, regarding the alignment of youth policy with the international standards, As the primary public authority responsible for youth, our Ministry has been in the Youth Wiki program organized by the European Commission and organizes various activities to ensure the wide use of Youth Wiki among youth workers and young people in our country.</p>
Ukraine	<p>Updated October 2020</p> <p>The Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine (further – the Ministry) was re-established in March, 2020 as a result of re-organization of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports.</p> <p>The Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine in cooperation with UNICEF in Ukraine has developed a draft Strategy of the Development of Youth Policy in Ukraine till 2030. The aim of the Strategy is to create opportunities for Ukrainian youth to be competitive in the modern world and to make a significant contribution to the further development of Ukrainian society. The document is planned to be approved by the end of 2020.</p> <p>The Ministry elaborated the Concept of the State Targeted Social Program «Youth of Ukraine» for 2021-2025 using the developments received during the preparation of the Strategy. Based on the Concept, work on the development of the State Targeted Social Program «Youth of Ukraine» for 2021-2025 will start soon.</p> <p>The State institution «All-Ukrainian Youth Center» was established as a training and educational base to assist in the development of regional youth centers and implementation of training programs for them.</p> <p>Following the Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on youth work the National Training Program "Youth Worker" is implemented (42 basic trainings and 5 specialized trainings for NGO representatives and civil servants working with youth were held in 2019, involving about 900 participants. 3 basic trainings are planned for October 2020).</p> <p>Ukrainian Pact for Youth – 2020 is being implemented as a part of the European initiative. The main goal of the initiative is to unite the efforts of the companies, governmental and education institutions to contribute to youth employability. Since 2016 149 companies and organizations have signed the Pact and have created 807 partnerships with the educational sector and about 45 thousand places for internships, practices and youth employment. Based on the results of this initiative the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine re-signed the updated Ukrainian Pact for Youth for 2025 and involved the Ministry of Economic Development, Trade and Agriculture and the Ministry of Education and Science.</p> <p>In cooperation with UNICEF, an online portal of the National Volunteer Service was launched, which will contain information about volunteer projects, different volunteering opportunities for young people and NGOs.</p> <p>In cooperation of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe, the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the Council of Europe Office in Ukraine a new project “Youth for Democracy in Ukraine” was launched in October, 2020 within the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine 2018-2021. 10 different amalgamated communities of Ukraine have already started work in accordance with the first component for a long-term capacity-building activity in charge of youth policy.</p>
United Kingdom/ Royaume Uni	<p>Updated February 2022 England</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2021, the government carried out a review into out-of-school youth programmes, which engaged around 6,000 young people across England. The review told us what young people want from youth programmes and that's access to regular clubs and activities, adventures away from home and opportunities to volunteer. We are investing £560 million over the next

three years to aim to meet that ask.

- £368 million of our investment is dedicated to the Youth Investment Fund. The Youth Investment Fund will level up access to youth provision by targeting investment in left-behind areas, where young people have the greatest need and lowest provision. 45 local authorities and around 670 district wards in deprived parts of England are eligible to apply for the fund which will enable up to 300 youth facilities to be built or refurbished in these areas over the next three years.
- £171 million has been committed to run the National Citizen Service (NCS) over the next three years. NCS is a voluntary and social development programme open to 15-17 year olds across England and provides hundreds of thousands of young people from all backgrounds with opportunities to become 'work-ready and world-ready'. During the pandemic, NCS participants gave over 500,000 hours of social action and/ or volunteering in support of local communities. NCS will continue to support young people and their communities through the COVID recovery and will develop a year-round offer of regular activities, adventures away from home, opportunities for volunteering and social action, and digital content. The NCS portfolio of services includes:
 - Residential experiences that involve a trip away from home.
 - Accessible, regular community action groups in every Local Authority.
 - Non-academic support for schools/colleges and other education settings through material resources and in-person delivery.
 - A digital hub created for young people, by young people.
 - Offering 6 month work placements to young people to give them a 'stepping stone' into full time employment.
 - 9-12 month pilot programme of paid civic service that supports building active citizenship into a habit and potentially a career.
- We are supporting youth volunteering through the #iwill Fund which creates social action opportunities for young people aged 10-20. In August 2021, we added £2 million to the #iwill Fund, fully matched by the National Lottery Community Fund, to bring the total combined investment to £54 million. Following on from the 2021 Spending Review, a further £4 million has been announced for the #iwill Fund, which will create thousands of new social action opportunities for young people across England.
- We are also committed to enabling young people to share their views to inform decision making including:
 - Contributing funding to the UK Youth Parliament which enables youth participation in the democratic process and decision making at all levels.
 - Funding the Youth Policy Development Group which oversees the development and implementation of policies affecting young people. This ensures young people are directly involved in policy development and the commissioning, monitoring and evaluation of national programmes affecting young people.
- In terms of supporting young people into work and employment, from September 2020 we started implementing a Youth Offer for all 18 to 24 year olds making a claim for support and who are looking for work. The Youth Offer has been extended until 2025 and expanded to include 16 and 17-year olds. The Youth Offer offers wrap-around support, helping young people access local work provision including:
 - Youth Employment Programme (YEP) offers a structured 13-week programme for young people focused on finding work and accessing support. This may include sector-based work academy programmes, traineeships, work experience, Mentoring Circles, Kickstart placements or apprenticeships. 1000s of work coaches are helping young people access the right local opportunities for them.
 - Youth Hubs are co-located and co-delivered with our network of external partners to support young people with skills gaps and bring them closer to labour market opportunities. There is at least one Youth Hub in every district across England, Scotland, and Wales. Youth Hubs are bringing together over 600 partners from employment and skills sectors, training providers, youth charities, government and others within local communities to support the transition of young people into work.
 - Youth Employability Coaches flexibly support young people with significant complex needs and barriers to help them move into employment. We offer these young people

6 weeks of in-work support once they have found a job. Over 150 Youth Employability Coaches are in place and engaging with young claimants.

- The Kickstart Scheme provides funding to create new job placements for 16 to 24 year olds who are at risk of long term unemployment including those who are in vulnerable groups and those with disabilities. Kickstart aims to give young people the chance to build their confidence and skills in the workplace, and gain experience that will improve their chances of progressing to find long-term, sustainable work.
- As of the 31st January 2022, over 305,000 jobs have been approved for funding through the scheme, over 235,000 jobs have been made available for young people to apply to, and over 130,000 Kickstart jobs have been started by young people.

Northern Ireland

- The Department of Education invests in youth work to support and encourage children and young people as they mature and reach their potential as valued individuals and responsible citizens. Youth work is an important area of education policy and directly contributes to the Department of Education's vision and priorities for education. Investment in youth work contributes to achieving agreed defined outcomes for young people in a cost-effective manner. The strategic aims of youth work in support of the DE vision are:
 - To contribute to raising standards for all and closing the performance gap between the highest and lowest achieving young people by providing access to enjoyable, non-formal learning opportunities that help them to develop enhanced social and cognitive skills and overcome barriers to learning; and
 - To continue to improve the non-formal learning environment by creating inclusive, participative settings in which the voice and influence of young people are championed, supported and evident in the design, delivery and evaluation of programmes.
- To achieve these aims, involves the following:
 - Alignment of youth work policy with the strategic priorities for education, which will help shape and modernise provision in order to produce more equitable outcomes for young people;
 - The proportionate targeting of services based on need with a clear focus on those most in need of additional support to achieve their potential, embrace diversity, and overcome disaffection; and
 - A clear focus on the provision of measurable, quality learning experiences for young people.
- In Northern Ireland, the Priorities for Youth policy continues to be implemented. The final major commitment, to implement a new funding scheme, will be effective from 1 April 2021. This will replace a series of historic/legacy funding schemes by a single funding scheme. Other policy commitments are largely in place and continue to be progressed.
- Youth Work providers continued to receive funding support throughout the pandemic. Much youth work moved to online delivery. The Regional Youth Development Plan was updated to reflect Covid response actions. A £1m Outdoor Education Centre Covid relief fund was also provided to address inescapable costs given the lack of income and to ensure these centres could continue to provide outdoor education to young people in the future. Lessons learnt have been documented to inform future policy.
- Youth work has also been to the fore in delivering programmes to address the needs of young people at risk from paramilitary activity with positive outcomes and has been to the fore in delivery of community relations, equality and diversity programmes and initiatives.

Scotland

- The Scottish Government's ambition to create a fair and equal country is coordinated through Scotland's National Performance Framework. We have 11 national outcomes, one of which to ensure "young people grow up loved, safe and respected so that they can realise their full potential". Having a vibrant youth work sector is key to ensuring we realise Scotland's National Performance Framework ambitions. Scotland's National Youth Work Strategy (2014-2019) contains a set of sector-led youth work outcomes. The strategy aims to ensure young people are confident, resilient and optimistic, able to express their voice and able to broaden their perspective. We are currently refreshing our youth work strategy to ensure youth work plays a key role in Scotland's Covid recovery and that youth work is integrated across policy areas. The strategy is due for publication in 2022 and we are currently consulting with various equalities groups to ensure it meets the needs of all young people in Scotland, including those from protected characteristic groups.

Wales

- The Youth Work Strategy for Wales (2019) is a shared vision across the sector to strengthen youth work approaches to supporting young people across the whole of Wales, and to help move towards a sustainable model for youth work for the future. The Strategy was created directly with young people and the sector and this approach reflects our commitment to systems leadership – a young people and workforce empowerment approach – that will help ensure the sector plays an active role in developing and implementing the new strategic direction. The strategy contains 5 aims, each of which are a focus for the Interim Youth Work Board to consider as a part of the work towards their final report recommendations in September 2021. Once the report is published, the Welsh Government will consider their recommendations by December 2021 and will refresh the Implementation document that underpins the Youth Work Strategy to ensure it addresses any actions resulting from that report.