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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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.

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:

- 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.

**YOUTH LAW**

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.

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.

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.

The draft law was published on the official website of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth on 07.11.2018.

**STUDENT CARD**

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.

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.

This draft decision aims at facilitating the lives of students through provision of these services. 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.

- 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.

### YOUTH CENTERS

Intense work has been done to provide tangible services to young people. Currently in Albania there are three Youth Centers (in Tirana, Vlora and Korça). 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 Lushnje, 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 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.

“NO HATE SPEECH” CAMPAIGN
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. 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”. This campaign in Albania has found financial support by UNFPA, Olof Palme Center and the Friedrich Ebert Stiftung Foundation.

PRESENTATION OF THE EUROPEAN FOUNDATION FOR YOUTH IN ALBANIA
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.

Andorra/Andorre

Armenia/Arménie  Updated April 2019

State Youth Policy Situation:

As a result of the amendments to the Constitution in the Republic of Armenia in 2015, due to the changes in the legal field of Armenia in 2018 the new Strategy for the State Youth Policy of the RA for 2018-2022 was not approved by the Government of the RA. On the other hand, as a result of the same changes, appeared a problem with the action of the 2015-2025 Concept of the State Youth Policy of the Republic of Armenia, also it became necessary to have/create a law on youth.

Thus today we have a problem of regulating legal condition of the state youth policy and we expect the technical support of the Council of Europe. It is already officially confirmed that the expert group with a consulting mission will be in Armenia on July 16-18, 2019.

In the framework of the state youth policy a number of important projects have been implemented in Armenia in 2018.

Especially:

- “RA Youth Capital of the Year” project
  In 2018 the project was implemented in Ijevan. As a result of competition in 2018 Vanadzor was declared the youth capital of RA in 2019, where it is planned to implement many local, regional and republican events.

- Coordinating events dedicated to the International Youth Day by the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs RA.
  The Ministry coordinates the events and projects dedicated to the day by state, local and international organizations, young people, youth NGOs and other NGOs.
• “Training for youth non-governmental organizations” project
  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.

• “Youth Workers Training” project
  For specialists involved in youth work, work with young people and work aimed at solving youth problems was held the program “Together Have Your Say” with the support of the Council of Europe in 2018.

  After the official end of the "No Hate Speech" movement, it continues in Armenia through volunteers and NGOs.

Austria/Autriche

Updated September 2019

Education/Training until 18:

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://www.ausbildungbis18.at/downloads/BMASK%20FOLDER%20BIS%202018JAHRE_6SEIT ER_ENG.pdf

The “Education/Training until 18” will be evaluated scientifically. The role of youth work contributing to the initiative is surveyed presently. Therefore, a survey among youth work providers gathers measures and activities for young people in the context of “Education/Training until 18”.

Competence Framework for Youth Workers:

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.

Further information about the Competence Framework for Youth Workers [only in German available] www.kompetenzrahmen.at

Austrian Youth Strategy

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.

Four fields of action are important for the Austrian Youth Strategy:
1. Employment and Learning
2. Participation and Initiative
3. Quality of Life and a Spirit of Cooperation
4. Media and Information

The Federal Chancellery considers itself to be the impetus behind this initiative. The implementation of these measures is the task and responsibility of those involved in shaping social policy and it must be supported by a broad youth policy consensus.

Starting in autumn 2018, the renewed Austrian Youth Strategy was developed further in line with the new EU Youth Strategy.
As part of the Austrian Youth Strategy, each federal ministry developed and defined one or more national “youth objectives” 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.

At the same time existing youth aspects are identified in national action plans and strategies, in the objectives of the federal budget, in order to create an overview of activities in the various federal ministries that goes beyond the definition of youth objectives.

Within the reorientation of the Austrian Youth Strategy in 2018, it was important for the Federal Chancellery that the new 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. This was also reflected in the decision of the Austrian Council of Ministers of 24th October 2018. It stated that the European Youth Goals should be taken into account. The 11 European Youth Goals are considered in the reorientation process of the Austrian Youth Strategy in three ways:

- In a first step, all federal ministries were informed about the Youth Goals
- Each defined national youth objective is assigned to a European Youth Goal
- Each federal ministry chooses at least one European Youth Goal, within its sphere of competence

Youth participation

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 Youth strategy.

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.

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 are reflected in groups of young people ("Reality Check"). Discussion and exchange of ideas with young people are the main focus, not the representativeness. Young people of the “Get Active Team” engage in the discussion. For further details, please see https://www.jugendportal.at/get-active/get-active-team (in German only).

No Hate Speech

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. In the summer of 2019, the committee published a "No Hate Speech Media Package". The digital list includes online platforms, workshop offerings and advice on available printed materials such as flyers, guides, brochures and manuals. For further information and activities (e.g. promotion video, YouTube channel) please see www.nohatespeech.at

Infosheets Youth Policy and Youth Work

The Infosheets provide compact information on youth policy topics. The current versions have now been translated into English: https://www.women-families-youth.bka.gv.at/youth/youth-policy-in-austria/infosheets.html

Updated March 2019

Implementation of the State Program "Azerbaijani Youth" continues, which covers 2017-2021. Within the framework of the program activities such as youth health protection, youth employment,
and entrepreneurship activities, awareness-raising activities on human rights and gender equality, development of volunteerism and revealing youth's creative potential are being implemented. In 2018, 183 events were held by the Ministry of Youth and Sport in the field of youth policy, of which 165 were local and 18 were international.

On March 7, 2018, the legal status of the Azerbaijan Youth Foundation was changed and the new charter was approved. According to the new charter, the Foundation will finance projects for individual youth and youth organizations, including the payment of tuition fees for young people in need of social protection. Support of youth participation in internship programs in international organizations, implementation of a project that attracts youth participation in workplace and funding in innovative projects and start-ups by preferential loans are also part of the new charter.

From May 1, 2018, the project “Creating new bases for supporting young people's active participation in global political discussions” is being implemented by the Ministry of Youth and Sports and the United Nations Development Program. Within the Project, 17 Young Ambassador on Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) have been selected for a two-year term, and SDG's goals are being promoted by them.

The National Forum on Human Rights and Citizenship Education with Young People in Azerbaijan was organized by the Council of Europe Youth Department and the Ministry of Youth and Sport of the Republic of Azerbaijan on 10 December 2018. It was dedicated to the launching of Azerbaijani versions of “Compass”, a manual on human rights education with young people, and of “Have your say!”, a manual on the participation of young people in local and regional life”.

The Forum brought together partners and actors from the youth, education and human rights sectors to reflect on the state of play of human rights and citizenship education in Azerbaijan. Also, during Forum the participants of two projects jointly realized by the Ministry of Youth and Sport and Council of Europe Youth Department - “Long-term training course on human rights education and democratic citizenship for youth multipliers and trainers from Azerbaijan” and “National training-course on democratic citizenship and youth participation for specialists from authorities at national, regional and local level working with young people and for representatives of youth non-governmental organisations from Azerbaijan” were awarded with the certificates.

Initially, Azerbaijan Management Academy is planning to start a new course about management of the youth sector and youth policy for the very first time. The aim of this course will be the management of the youth sector, identifying youth policy models, learning the international practice, identifying main objectives of Azerbaijan youth policy and others.

Belarus/
Bélarus

Updated September 2019

The State Programme on Education and Youth Policy for 2016-20 is in process of implementation. The objectives in the youth field are to:

- to foster young people's active citizenship and participation in civic life and to enhance their feelings of patriotism;
- to improve a positive attitude towards traditional family values and responsible parenthood;
- to improve healthy lifestyle behaviour among young people;
- to prevent negative phenomena in the field of youth;
- to promote youth employment and entrepreneurship and to facilitate effective access for young people to the labour market;
- to encourage youth involvement in extracurricular activities including volunteering and student work team movement;
- to support socially significant initiatives of young people, pupils, students, and self-governance bodies;
- to support children’s and youth public associations’ activities.

A draft youth policy strategy for 2020-2030 was presented in Belarus. The youth policy strategy for 2020-2030 consists of seven parts which cover main areas of youth activity: education, participation in public life, health, employment, family policy, leisure and creativity, security. A number of CM
Recommendations on youth issues as well as key documents of the Youth Sector of the Council of Europe has been taken into account.

Youth Ambassadors for the Sustainable Development Goals have been chosen in Belarus. Their mission is to promote the collection of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in the youth field. The SDGs comprises 17 global goals set by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015.

The forum "Innovations of Teenagers and the Youth for the Achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals - SDG" was held on 14-15 August, at the Belarusian national children's education and recreation centre Zubrenok. The Forum gathered more than 150 children aged 14-16 from across Belarus. The main objectives of the forum are youth capacity-building, knowledge enhancement about SDGs, leadership capacity development for the successful achievement of the global goals.

The Belarusian youth delegation took part at the European Youth Forum Enter! Youth Week organised by the Youth Department of the Council of Europe, and held on 7 to 12 July in Strasbourg.

Orsha, Vitebsk Region, was assigned as the Youth Capital of the Republic of Belarus in 2019.

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<th>Belgium/ Belgique</th>
<th>Updated October 2018</th>
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<td>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.</td>
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<td>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.</td>
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<th>Bosnia and Herzegovina/ Bosnie-Herzégovine</th>
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<td>Within the Ministry of Civil Affairs of Bosnia and Herzegovina a new Department for Mobility and Youth has been established. Given the importance of youth issues and considering the fact that at the state level of Bosnia and Herzegovina do not exist any document dealing with youth issues, the Ministry is trying to draft a document (on state level) that would define the needs of young people in Bosnia and Herzegovina, in cooperation with non-governmental and international organizations dealing with youth issues.</td>
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<td>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 BiH received funds for the implementation of their projects. The total amount of funds allocated for projects in BiH is 151.504,47 euros. Some of the projects have been compiled while some of them are still being implemented. Currently, the second RYCO open call for proposals has been compiled and in coming period we will have informations about the number of applicants from Bosnia and Herzegovina who submitted their applications.</td>
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<td>In the following period, Ministry of Civil Affairs of BiH will provide support to the Local Brench Officer in BiH, in terms of promoting the activities of RYCO as well as the promotion of Erasmus+ programs with the aim of strengthening the capacity of potential applicants (NGOs) and increasing the number of applications from BiH in the program.</td>
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<th>Bulgaria/ Bulgarie</th>
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<td>Ministry of Youth and Sports of Bulgaria has the mission to improve the quality of intercultural life for all young people by promoting European values such as solidarity, democracy and equality. Important part of the government policy is focused on the quality and the sustainability of youth progress, thus making the future of young people one of the main priorities in the Governance</td>
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Programme until 2021. Following its state policy, at the beginning of 2018 Bulgarian Presidency of the Council of EU put the "The Young People and the Future of Europe" as one of the main horizontal priorities during these six months. This contribution let to concrete results in the sector.

An example is the first legislative dossier in the Youth sector adopted in June - European Solidarity Corps.

The platform enables young people to volunteer or work on solidarity projects in their own country and abroad. This initiative of the European Commission from 2016 was possible after the hard work of the Trio Presidency (Estonia, Bulgaria and Austria) and all stakeholders in the Youth Field. The programme offers young people who want to contribute to society, learn and develop, the opportunity to acquire inspirational and accountable experience, such as pluralism, non-discrimination, tolerance, justice, solidarity and equality. The European solidarity corps will be launched in October this year.

By the end of Bulgarian presidency of the Council of EU, we have also adopted two main policy documents (EU Council Conclusions) on topics that were also first put to the sector at this level and were highly appreciated by both the other Member States and the European institutions and partners. One topic is dedicated on the young people, peace and security, with an active focus on involving young people in peacebuilding policies.

You can read the Council Conclusion here. In addition, an unconventional partner, namely the European External Action Service, has been actively involved, which has been a precedent and was highly praised by all. The other Conclusion theme is focused on the role of youth in addressing the demographic challenges within the European Union with a focus on the impact of mobility in Europe, also taking into account the need of special attention to young people living abroad, with a view of faster and easier adaptation. The Council Conclusion has a specific focus also on the policies and activities for young people in rural area and internal migration.

Our national policies are closely linked to quality education and youth development and realization. That is why we are in the process of writing new National Youth Strategy that is linked to the new European Youth Strategy. In order to be more efficient and useful for the young people in Bulgaria, the Youth Policies Directorate is organizing informal meetings around the country with the young people in order to promote the 11 European Youth Goals that were a product of the 6th Cycle of the Structured Dialogue and hear their needs and priorities. The National Youth Strategy will be separated into thematic arias, age groups from 15 to 18 y., 19-24, 25-29 years and regions as each part of the country has different needs and specifics. In the meantime some updates on the National Youth Law are planned.

Ministry of Youth and Sports of Bulgaria won a Youth Wiki project until the end of 2018 that will help the Youth Policy Directorate to fill the statistics about Bulgarian youth. It will also include the two national programmes:

1.) National Programme for Youth (2016-2020) The programme is one of the tools for meeting the priorities of the national policy for young people and is in line with the priorities of the European youth policy. Under the programme, on a competitive basis, project proposals are funded by youth organizations from the country. The structure of the programme consists of two sub-programmes:

   Sub-programme 1: Developing a network of Youth Information and Counselling Centres
   Sub-programme 2: National Youth Initiatives and Campaigns

Croatia/ Croatie

Updated May 2019

Within the Ministry for Demography, Family, Youth and Social Policy (hereinafter referred to as: the Ministry), a new Directorate for Demographic development, Family, Children and Youth has been established. Therefore, the Department of Youth is a part of this new Directorate, and the sector of youth is considered in context of recent demographic changes and issues. New priorities are, among others, linked to youth in remote and rural areas in the context of demographic challenges.

The Ministry recognizes the importance of youth work development and therefore is focusing on professionalization of youth work in Croatia. The project "Support to the Development and Expansion of Youth Work in Croatia" has been approved in July 2018 for which funding from the European Social Fund is envisaged. The duration of the project is 24 months. The implementation of project activities has started in regards of appointing project administrative assistant and starting the public procurement procedure.

In 2018 the Ministry has established a national working group for drafting the new baseline document in the youth field for the period of the next six years. Priorities were defined in
accordance with national circumstance and taking into consideration the European Youth Goals. Smaller working groups were assigned to work on each area: employment and entrepreneurship, education, science and lifelong learning, active youth participation and sustainable community development, social inclusion, health and sports, youth in rural areas, culture, youth work and youth in European and global settings. After the process of public consultations with the stakeholders the document will be ready for the adoption by the Croatian. We would like to point out that for the first time Youth Work was emphasized as a strategic priority in the national youth programme.

In May 2018, new Advisory Board on Youth of Government of the Republic of Croatia has been constituted for the period of two years. The Advisory Board has organized the Annual conference of Youth Advisory Boards on local level for the first time in March of 2019. The theme and the goal of the conference was Young people as responsible and involved stakeholders in local community: youth as an important partner and priority in Croatia. Furthermore, a handbook on Youth Advisory Boards is printed and published online and available on the web site of the Ministry. Ministry has financed education for members of Youth Advisory Boards in the previous year and has established a cooperation with the State school for the public administration in regards of education about the Law on Youth Advisory boards aimed to Youth Advisory Board members as well as the public service officials and civil servants.

In May 2019 the Ministry has signed the European Youth Information Charter adopted in Cascais (Portugal) on 27 April 2018 by the 29th General Assembly of the European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA) and therefore continues to coordinate youth information and counselling standards with European standards.

The process of EU Youth Dialogue is implemented in. The process is coordinated by the National working group for EU Youth Dialogue.

In July 2017 the Ministry has published a call for project proposals “Support for programmes directed towards youth”, under the European Social Fund. The aim of this ESF programme intended entirely to youth is to increase the social inclusion of youth, youth in NEET status and in rural and remote areas. Hence in 2018 16 projects aimed to youth were funded through this call. Ministry plans to publish another call for project proposals aimed to youth under the European Social Fund in 2019.

No speech national campaign has ended, but Ministry continues to support projects about hate speech and violence prevention through yearly calls for projects focused on these priority areas. The Ministry 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. As of 2018, new priority of the call is linked to youth work in rural areas and will continue in 2019.

Cyprus/Chypre

Updated August 2019

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 3-year 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.

The proposals which were adopted by the Council of Ministers concern:
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.

### Czech Republic/ République tchèque

**Update August 2019**

**Implementation of the Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on youth work:**

*In September 2018 the recommendation was translated into the Czech language and disseminated*

The systematic approach to the development of youth work quality system in the Czech Republic has been revised based on the Implementation. Following tools in terms of the national grant schemes from the state budget including the budgetary allocation specifically for youth work have been adapted to new requirements and the allocated funds have increased in a significant way for 2018 and 2019 years:

- **Grant Schemes of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports:**
  - **Investment Grant Scheme for youth NGOs supporting after-school activities**
    - Budgetary allocation: annually 25 mil. CZK (1 EURO = 27 CZK)
  - **Grant Scheme for supporting Youth and Children NGOs**
    - Budgetary allocation: in 2017 from 180 mil. CZK to 182 mil. CZK in 2018, and 258 mil. CZK in 2019
  - **Development and Grant Scheme supporting participation of children and young people in knowledge-based and skills-based competitions**
    - Budgetary allocation: in 2017 from 37 mil. CZK to 38 mil. CZK in 2018, and 69 mil. CZK in 2019
  - **Grant Scheme supporting fulfilling the strategic and operational goals of the National Youth Strategy 2014 – 2020 at regional level**
    - Budgetary allocation: in 2018 7 mil. CZK, in 2019 15 mil. CZK
  - **Grant Scheme for supporting Czech – German cooperation in the field of children and youth**
    - Budgetary allocation: in 2017 from 6 mil. CZK to 7 mil. CZK in 2018

- **Funding youth work through the European Social Fund:**
  - Simplified grants (360 455 000 CZK) subsidising youth work in 2019 – 2020/2021 enable youth centers to support quality youth work in the following capacity building areas:
    - Assistants of youth workers
    - Sharing experience and examples of good practice
    - Trainings of youth workers
    - Community-based activities
    - Digital youth work trainings
    - Thematic-based meetings
    - Mentoring and coaching, career counselling
    - New methods in youth work
  - In 2019 265 youth centers benefit from the simplified grant (80%).

**Implementation of the Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)3 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the access of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods to social rights:**
In September 2018 the recommendation was translated into the Czech language and disseminated

In July 2019 the Czech delegation of 1 youth worker and 2 young people from a socially excluded area participated in Enter Week in Strasbourg and afterwards they were involved in the expert group on linking youth work to social work in which they guarantee the implementation of recommendation from Enter Week.

Since 2018 the Erasmus+ National Agency in cooperation with the Youth Ministry has been carrying on an international project on supporting NEETs with a focus on young people from disadvantageous areas. A survey on needs of this target group was done in July 2019 (another one mapping needs of youth workers is under preparation) and results of the survey were discussed in the workshop in August 2019 which resulted into Action Plan of follow-up actions.

Implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2016)7 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on young people’s access to rights:

In September 2018 the recommendation was translated into the Czech language and disseminated

In order to facilitate an access of young people to rights, Youth Department has initiated examination of possibilities of a close cooperation between youth work and social work and created Expert Group reflecting interconnection between youth work and social work. The Expert Group is functioning under the Youth Chamber, a cross-sectoral advisory body of the minister responsible for youth. The expert group consists of representatives of different youth work and social work networks especially the Czech Streetwork Association; policy makers from the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, the Agency for Social Inclusion under the Office of Government, youth work and social work practitioners and others, and aims at facilitating social inclusion of young people who are difficult to be reached out through youth work. The expert group has defined the profile of target groups providing and receiving youth work and social work as well as facilities which provide youth work and social work. It has mapped legislation, statistics, training opportunities, validation of competencies as well as resources of financial support concerning both youth work and social work. Afterwards the expert group proposed a list of challenges which should be discussed at national level and conferences, roundtables and expert meetings were organised. In 2019 pilot project on supporting NEETs is being carried on.

Funding youth work activities on social inclusion and intercultural dialogue through the European Social Fund in 2019: simplified grants in 2019 enable youth workers to share examples of good practices, build up competencies for facilitating social inclusion and benefit from targeted training.

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**Denmark/ Danemark**

**Updated October 2019**

The aims of Estonia in the field of youth are set in the Youth Field Development Plan 2014-2020.

The process of setting new aims for the next period of strategic planning is ongoing. 6th Youth Work Forum took place on 4-5 October 2018, where input was collected in order to set new goals. Different participatory formats were used to gather input for the future of the youth field. Young people themselves emphasized that they are willing to have a say in all fields not only in the youth field. This is also strongly supported by the Ministry of Education and Research, which is responsible for developing youth policy. In June and September a working group of about 60 members consisting of stakeholders of the youth field met to discuss and find a common ground for the next period of strategic planning. Long-term visions and goals together with the ways to reach the goals were also developed by the working group.

The concept of smart youth work was adopted in 2017. The concept helps to promote the inclusion of young people, which is one of the measures for achieving the objectives in the development
plan. The concept focuses on activities aimed at young people and needs for development of youth workers for implementing smart youth work, and on youth work quality and digital literacy development. Preparations for the international smart youth work training and seminar SomeCamp EU, taking place from 9th–11th December, are in progress. The event will look into smart youth work, with a focus on digital youth work in its versatility.

Interactive (i.e. based on augmented and virtual reality) workshops to introduce the job of a youth worker were launched in cooperation with the Estonian Youth Workers Association. The activity is being co-funded by the ESF programme “Inclusion of young people in the risk of exclusion and improvement of youth employment readiness”, which is approved by the Minister of Education and Research and implemented by the Estonian Youth Work Centre. 260 young people participated in the interactive workshops introducing the job of a youth worker in the first half of 2019.

In 2017, a new financial instrument was introduced from state budget to support young people’s participation in hobby education and hobby activities. The impact of this instrument on its main aim (greater access for young people to hobby education) through increased variability in the provision across local service providers and better quality of hobby education and hobby activities is yet to be concluded based on the results submitted by the municipalities. The funding scheme for the instrument ensures finances to be available on local level. How the local governments engage in developing their plans to use additional funding is of great importance to the whole youth work sector, as the provision of youth work is the responsibility of local level in Estonia. In 2018 all the municipalities had valid action plan of providing hobby education and hobby activities in their municipality. At the end of 2018, a digital platform to collect the results of implementation was introduced by the Estonian Youth Work Centre. The platform will be developed further to become irreplaceable tool for the municipalities not only to get an overview of hobby education and hobby activities but also of the provision of all youth work services in their area and to analyse the trends in participation throughout the years. In the first period (a year and a half) of applying additional funding, around 1800 more hobby activities were provided for 59 000 young people, with the result that 63% more young people participated in the hobby activities than it would have been without the extra funding. The results submitted by the local municipalities show that young people should be engaged from the very beginning of planning and designing the new activities. Electronic compilation of the results was published to make the results of additional funding accessible for the public.

Youth information service has recently seen considerable developments. Youth information platform Teevit has been introduced as a youth information brand, including blog posts, Facebook posts and podcasts to cover topics relevant to young people. In May, Youth Information Network ERYICA held its 30th General Assembly in Tallinn where a new Governing Board was elected and Estonian Youth Work Centre was also appointed its member. A call for youth project proposals Ideevit was opened which aims to empower young people and support their engagement and participation. To apply, at least two young people must submit an application. Activities which aim to raise awareness about topics which are of interest to young people are supported. Also mentoring is provided for the project teams of young people to make sure the first experience will be useful and encouraging.

The most important developments in the Estonian No Hate Speech (NHS) campaign in the past 6 months include: 1) publishing an Estonian version of a gender-sensitive youth work methodology handbook Väeneiud (Voimaneidot) together with emotion cards to help tackle discrimination of girls and young women in mixed groups, and to empower girls and young women to take space for themselves and express their negative emotions; 2) organising a human rights education transfer seminar in Narva to 84 youth work students from three universities with an aim to create a bridge between values and youth work practice; 3) conducting, in cooperation with the Estonian Refugee Council, peer-to-peer photography workshops for local young people and those in Estonia who have migrant/refugee background to give them opportunities to tell their stories via images, with an aim to support young people through increasing tolerance and finding a common ground; 4) conducting mental health trainings for young people in Kärdla and Haapsalu with the focus, among other things, on tackling manifestations of ableism, racism and sexism, and possible interventions to pay specific attention on vulnerable groups, such as LGBTQIA youth, and to tackle gender stereotypes; 5) conducting a workshop titled "Hate speech, sextortion, cyber-bullying" based on the No Hate Speech movement manual "Bookmarks" for youth workers in Tallinn.
Government Programme

On 6 June 2019, the President appointed the Prime Minister Antti Rinne’s Government, which is Finland’s 75th government. Rinne’s Government is formed by the Social Democratic Party, the Centre Party, the Greens, the Left Alliance and the Swedish People's Party of Finland. The Government has 19 ministers. [https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/rinne/ministers](https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/rinne/ministers)

The Programme of Prime Minister Antti Rinne’s Government "Inclusive and competent Finland – a socially, economically and ecologically sustainable society" 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.

For further information, please see [https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/rinne/government-programme](https://valtioneuvosto.fi/en/rinne/government-programme)

National youth work and youth policy programme

The current Youth Act (1285/2016) constitutes the legal basis for the programme. According to the Youth Act the Government shall adopt a national youth work and policy programme every four years.

As defined in the Decree, the National Youth Work and Youth Policy Programme coordinates the objectives and measures determined by the key ministries for promoting young people's growth and living conditions and designed to contribute to the attainment of the objectives defined in section 2 of the Youth Act during the programme period. In addition, the programme sets out the guidelines for supporting youth work and related activities, including the key criteria for eligibility for state aid by national youth work centres of expertise pursuant to section 19 of the Youth Act. The programme also establishes the national objectives for youth activities in the European and international context.

The development of youth policy is informed by the Government Programme. The Government programme defines the main themes for the national youth work and youth policy programme. One of the main themes is to prevent social exclusion and promote inclusion among young people by education and employment opportunities. Another objective is to increase the participation among young people. Finland will reinforce the obligation to consult young people and introduce new tools to develop it. Other objectives include inter alia are improving the recognition of prior work experience and non-formal learning; fostering cooperation between civil society organisations and schools; supporting human rights and democracy education, and inclusivity at schools. The Youth Act Finland will be amended, particularly with a view to streamlining the state aid processes.

According to the Government Programme, the national youth work and youth policy programme will also incorporate the following measures: to create a model for assessing individually and reliably every child’s ability to attend school; support minorities and prevent exclusion; promote young people’s employment and mental health; address substance use and game addiction among young people; ensure equal opportunities for young people to access face-to-face support as part of the Ohjaamo activities (one-stop-guidance centres), and the financial literacy skills and working life skills as part of young people’s wellbeing.

To improve the coordination of youth policy, a ministerial working group for child and youth policy was set up.

The Ministry of Education and Culture has launched the preparation of the national youth work and youth policy programme (2020-2023). The procedures preparing the programme require cross-governmental and cross-administrative approach.

The Presidency of the Council of the European Union (1 July – 31 December 2019)
The main objective of the Finnish Presidency of the European Union in the field of youth is to enhance the quality of youth work and to promote education and training of youth workers. Finland considers it important to increase the holistic understanding of and strategic approach to the use of digital media and technology in youth work.

**Priorities**
- advance the negotiations on the European Solidarity Corps regulation and the Erasmus+/Youth
- contribute to the effective implementation of the EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027 and its first Work Plan 2019-2021
- Adopt the Council Conclusions on education and training of youth workers
- Adopt the Council Conclusions on digital youth work

**Conferences**

The EU Youth Conference took place in Helsinki, Finland on 1-3 July 2019. The Conference brought together 237 participants who represented young people and youth organisations, ministries and other authorities, youth research and youth workers. All 28 Member States, the Council of Europe, the European Commission and the EU-CoE youth partnership took part in the Conference. The main aim of the conference was to explore and discuss young people’s expectations and needs regarding youth work. The discussion focused on five important areas related to youth work: sustainability, multicultural matters, digitalisation, the future of youth work and employability, and access to services and accessibility. The final report will be published at the Ministry's web-site soon.

The Directors General for Youth meeting will be held in Helsinki on 8-10 October 2019. The meeting will contribute to evidence-based youth policy-making and knowledge-building by focusing on themes including data production and the generation of information concerning the youth field. The meeting will serve as a platform for mutual learning between the EU Member States through the exchange of best practices in youth work, including digital youth work.

| France | Updated septembre 2019 |

**Récent développement des politiques de jeunesse**


Ces politiques ont pour objectifs de créer « une société de confiance ». En réformant en profondeur le système éducatif et de formation ainsi que les dispositifs d’engagement des jeunes, ces mesures doivent aboutir à « la confiance de la société dans sa jeunesse et la confiance de la jeunesse dans sa société ».*

Les principaux axes d’intervention sont :
- L’éducation
- La formation (enseignement supérieur, apprentissage)
- L’engagement

**Éducation**

La formation éducative de la jeunesse est au centre des politiques de jeunesse du Gouvernement qui souhaite bâtir « l’École de la confiance » afin d’assurer la réussite des élèves. Diverses réformes concernant les systèmes d’éducation primaire, secondaire et d’enseignement supérieur ont été mises en œuvre.

**Réforme de l’instruction obligatoire.**

Adoptée en juillet 2019, la Loi n° 2019-791 du 26 juillet 2019 « pour une école de la confiance » abaisse l’âge de l’instruction obligatoire à 3 ans, dans le but notamment de contribuer à la réduction des inégalités dès le plus jeune âge.

Cette mesure reconnait le rôle fondamental de l’école maternelle dans l’apprentissage y compris social des enfants vient rendre obligatoire une pratique déjà largement développée et plébiscitée par les parents français.

Réformes des systèmes éducatifs

À l’école primaire :
- dédoublement progressif des classes des CP et CE1 dans les écoles situées dans des territoires urbains défavorisés. À la rentrée 2019, le Gouvernement prévoit le dédoublement de plus de 10 000 classes situées dans des quartiers marqués par des inégalités. Cette mesure s’inscrit dans une logique de réduction des inégalités.

Au collège :
- L’instauration du programme « devoir faits » qui propose aux collégiens volontaires, un temps d’étude accompagnée, gratuit pour réaliser leurs devoirs, en dehors du temps scolaire.
- L’aménagement de la réforme du collège.

Au lycée :
Le ministre de l’Éducation a confié en novembre 2017, une mission de réflexion sur la transformation du baccalauréat et du lycée. Cette mission a eu pour objectif de repenser le baccalauréat et « d’affirmer [sa] fonction d’accès à l’enseignement supérieur » ainsi que de « conforter le lien entre le baccalauréat et la poursuite du cursus des élèves dans l’enseignement supérieur ». En 2019, la réforme du lycée s’est accentuée avec la suppression des séries (scientifiques, littéraires…) et la mise en œuvre d’un lycée modulaire où les élèves choisissent leurs enseignements et suivent un tronc commun. De plus, la réforme du BAC s’est traduite par l’apparition d’un contrôle continu (représentant 40% de la note finale) adossée à un contrôle final (60 % de la note finale).

La construction du projet d’orientation constitue l’un des socles de la réforme du lycée et du baccalauréat.

Cette volonté de modifier la transition du secondaire vers l’enseignement supérieur s’est aussi matérialisée par la création de la plateforme d’orientation, Parcoursup sur laquelle les lycéens, apprentis ou/et les étudiants doivent se préinscrire et déposer leurs vœux de poursuite d’études et répondre aux propositions d’admission des établissements.

Sensibilisation à la protection de l’environnement et au développement durable


Mesures pour les élèves en situation de handicap
Afin d’accompagner les parents d’enfants handicapés, le ministère en charge de l’éducation nationale a mis en place un numéro d’écoute pour élèves handicapés : La cellule d’écoute "Aide Handicap Ecole ". Cette cellule d’écoute et de réponses gratuites est présente dans chaque direction des services territoriaux de l’éducation nationale. Leur objectif est d’informer les familles sur les dispositifs existants, les démarches (administratives) à faire et les modalités d’accompagnement de leurs enfants.

Dans l’enseignement supérieur
L’enseignement supérieur est aussi concerné par de profondes réformes. Le Plan national « Étudiants » qui s’inscrit dans loi relative à « l’Orientation et réussite des étudiants », adoptée le 8 mars 2018. Il transforme le premier cycle de l’enseignement supérieur dans sa globalité : la structuration du premier cycle, les conditions de vie et d’études et tout particulièrement l’orientation et l’accès à l’enseignement supérieur à travers notamment la création de la plateforme Parcoursup (plateforme d’orientation)

Réforme de l’apprentissage
Le Gouvernement a mené actuellement une réforme du travail qui qui repose notamment sur la loi n°2018-771 du 5 septembre 2018 pour la Liberté de choisir son avenir professionnel. Cette loi comprend des mesures sur l’apprentissage, la formation professionnelle, l’assurance chômage, l’égalité hommes-femmes, l’emploi des personnes handicapées et le travail détaché. Les mesures de l’apprentissage et la formation professionnelle sont celles qui concernent plus spécifiquement la jeunesse. La loi introduit de nouveaux dispositifs et dispositions qui concernent les jeunes à l’exemple de:
- L’extension de l’âge de l’apprentissage jusqu’à 30 ans. »La mise en place d’une aide au permis de conduire de 500 € pour les apprentis majeurs.
- Une augmentation de 30 € par mois pour les apprentis de moins de 20 ans en CAP ou en Bac professionnel
- La possibilité de partir en « Erasmus pro » pour 15 000 jeunes apprentis en Europe d’ici la rentrée 2022.

Obligation de formation jusqu’à 18 ans
L’obligation de formation jusqu’à 18 ans est l’une des mesures de la Loi pour une école de la confiance. L’entrée en vigueur effective de cette obligation est prévue à la rentrée 2020. Cette mesure qui prolonge l’instruction obligatoire par une obligation de formation pour tous les jeunes de 16 à 18 ans a pour objectif de prévenir et de lutter contre le décrochage scolaire et de renforcer l’inclusion professionnelle et sociale des jeunes. Ce sont les missions locales (structures d’inclusion professionnelle et sociale) qui seront chargées d’assurer le respect de cette obligation de formation.

Engagement
Outre la réforme des systèmes éducatifs et d’enseignement supérieur, 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 volontariat en service civique qui a vu son budget augmenté. Elle se traduit aussi par Le prolongement du développement des politiques de mobilité internationale.

The Youth Policy Management Department, leading the Youth agenda in the country, has begun a process of revision of the National Youth Policy to better align it with the current and emerging priorities and challenges in light of the SDG 2030 Agenda. In 2019, as a part of Youth Policy updating process it is planned to conduct national youth survey, update National Youth Policy Action Plan and create Youth consultation platform that will ensures young people’s involvement in the consultation process.

Later, this Youth consultation platform is envisaged to serve as a model mechanism for youth involvement and advocacy, and will be integrated into the Inter-Agency Coordination mechanism on Youth Policy to ensure regular exchange and dialogue with young people regarding the priorities and implementation of the Youth Policy in Georgia.

As defined by the National youth policy of Georgia, local self-governances should be actively engaged in the development and implementation of youth policy. Consequently, one of the main directions and priorities of Youth Policy Management Department is the development and implementation of youth policy on local level. In this regard, Department is implementing the project which gives opportunity to representatives of youth department workers from the selected municipalities of Georgia to attended one week seminars aimed to increase their knowledge and expertise in the developing and implementation of youth policy on local level. In the framework of this project, a research group developed guideline on youth policy development on municipal level. The guideline is used as a reference document for the development and implementation of youth policy at municipal level in Georgia.

Additionally, Youth Policy Management Department started implementation of the Erasmus+ Project entitled “Supporting the Development of Youth Policy in Municipal Level in Georgia”, which was received funding from the Erasmus+ Youth component. The project aims to build sustainable capacities for inclusive youth participation at local level in Georgia via piloting a capacity building programme for municipal youth workers, young people and youth workers working in CSOs in selected municipalities of Georgia. Additionally, as part of the project, the participants are expected to specifically use their new competences for creating local youth councils and municipal dialogue platforms between youth, youth departments and youth workers in order to enhance municipal youth work and the implementation of the national youth policy at municipal level.

Georgian National Youth Policy Document recognizes youth work and non-formal education for young people as one of the priorities to support development and well-being of youth. As a part of supporting Youth Work development, Youth Policy Management Department with partnership of Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University and Association of Youth Workers of Georgia is preparing application to apply for Erasmus+ funding. The project aims to support systematization of youth work through development of the academic certification and master’s programmes for youth workers and creating legal basis for recognition of youth work as a profession in Georgia.

Another important goal of the youth policy in Georgia is to encourage establishment of the relevant environment for the comprehensive development of youth in which they will be able to fully realize their potential and be actively involved in any sphere of the social life. In order to achieve this objective the Youth Policy Management Department implements “Youth Development Programme”. The directions of the programme are defined annually, in 2018, it has 4 key directions: Professional Orientation and Career Development; Support Entrepreneurship Education, Volunteering and Youth Participation and Promotion of Healthy Lifestyle.

**No Hate Speech Movement**

Georgia is involved in No Hate Speech Movement since 2013. Youth Policy Management Department Coordinates movement since the beginning. Various online and offline activities has been implemented throughout the years. The Most recent development is the creation of Georgian campaign page www.nohate.ge Currently department is working on improving and strengthening the web page in order to reach as many youngsters as possible. Currently the most important partners of the youth policy department in implementation of no hate speech campaign represents Youth Association “Droni” and “Human Rights Association”.
### No Hate Speech Movement

The No Hate Speech Movement is an initiative of the Council of Europe and has been officially launched in Germany in June 2016, funded by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) as part of the federal programme “Live Democracy!”. The German NGO “New German Media Makers” (Neue Deutsche Medienmacher) coordinate the campaign, focusing on the empowerment of users targeted by hate speech, promoting counter narratives and enabling journalists to adequately deal with hate speech in order to establish a more civilized discussion culture and respectful forms of communication in social media platforms. To ensure sustainability and strengthen the dynamics created by the national campaign of the No Hate Speech Movement, the BMFSFJ supports the German campaign beyond 2017 (end of the co-ordination of the youth campaign by the Council of Europe) until end of 2019 as part of the federal programme “Live Democracy!.

The campaign against hate speech online managed to generate more than seven million website visits since its launch, being available not only in German, but also in English and plain language. Furthermore, the website of the campaign is continuously updated. Additionally, the campaign also cooperates with legal advisors as well as academics and activists to gain more insight and background knowledge concerning hate speech and how to deal with it. This knowledge is completed by the latest scientific research findings.

Since the launch of the campaign, representatives of the No Hate Speech campaign further organized and participated in various events offline, also addressing a wide audience of multipliers working in areas such as media, education and politics. For instance, the campaign team organized and held various so-called train-the-trainer workshops at regional and national news stations throughout Germany.

Another vital part of the campaign is the establishment of networks; connecting relevant organizations, initiatives and individuals with each other. This network is recorded as a competence matrix, which is constantly updated. During the annual national campaign meeting the various individuals are informed about the current state and projects of the No Hate Speech campaign.

In cooperation with scientists, journalists and Twitter and Facebook experts regarding hate and counter speech the No Hate Speech campaign developed a manual on how to counter hate speech effectively, mainly for media officials, but also the general public. Furthermore, the campaign will install an online-helpdesk. An interactive website that aims to offer tips and instant guidance for people and especially journalists and social media managers who are confronted with hate speech.

### Further development of the federal programme “Live Democracy!”

The Minister for Family Affairs, Dr. Franziska Giffey, has made the federal programme “Live Democracy!” permanent and thus it will be continued beyond the year 2019. Prevention does not work with a time limit. It needs to happen consistently so that it can sustainably unfold its preventive effect.

Starting in 2020, the federal programme will be readjusted and be given more precise focus – especially with a view to current social challenges and based on experience gained in the past. From 2020, the three core objectives of “Live Democracy!” will be: Promoting democracy, Shaping diversity. Preventing radicalisation. The programme's existing fields of actions “Promoting democracy” and “Prevention of radicalisation” will be fleshed out and complemented by the new field of action “Shaping diversity” in order to underline the importance of democratic action for peaceful coexistence and social cohesion within a diverse society.

Within the framework of the federal programme “Live Democracy!”, funding is currently provided on the basis of the guidelines on the granting of subsidies and benefits to promote the child and youth services by the Child and Youth Services Plan (Kinder- und Jugendplan des Bundes –
Joint Youth Strategy of the Federal Government

The project of a joint Youth Strategy of the Federal Government is based on the "Independent Youth Policy", which the Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (BMFSFJ) has pursued for some years and with which it makes the common interests of 13 million young people and young adults between 12 and 27 years visible. The “Independent Youth Policy” considers youth as a highly formative phase of life in its own right with specific challenges.

Whether youth welfare or family policy, whether tenancy law, consumer protection or traffic development, whether education or labour market policy – projects and decisions in all policy areas can have an impact on young people and these effects may also differ from other age groups. This conviction forms the starting point for the development and implementation of a joint Youth Strategy of the Federal Government.

The joint Youth Strategy of the Federal Government aims to involve the younger generation in decisions that affect them and to offer young people the best possible conditions for mastering the challenges of this specific phase of life. A Cabinet decision with which the entire federal government commits itself to the responsibility for young people is envisaged for the end of the year 2019 and is supposed to mark the transition into the implementation phase.

In order to develop the common approach and implement intersectoral thinking and action, an Interministerial Working Group (IMA) "Youth" has been set up. The development of the youth strategy takes place along key action areas that are of particular relevance to young people. Also, an advisory council of the BMFSFJ ensures the involvement of civil society and youth organizations as well as of federal states and municipalities.

Different possibilities of direct, visible and effective participation give young people the opportunity to act as experts in their own cause and ensure that their perspectives feed into the development of the Federal Government's strategy. Also, all concrete projects that are developed and carried out by one or more ministries as part of the Youth Strategy are supposed to be accompanied and qualified by tailor-made participation formats.

Very important milestones in this regard have been the “Youth Policy Days 2019” (JugendPolitikTage 2019, 9.-12. May in Berlin). 450 young people and young adults from all over Germany come together with Federal Government representatives from different ministries. In this dialogue with politics and administration, the young people developed concrete recommendations for the joint Youth Strategy of the Federal Government.

Further important components of the Youth Strategy are:

- Continuation of “Independent Youth Policy”: "jugendgerecht.de - Arbeitsstelle Eigenständige Jugendpolitik", a project of the Child and Youth Welfare Association (Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Kinder- und Jugendhilfe – AGJ), pursues the further development and dissemination of the goals, principles and contents of an Independent Youth Policy. Jugendgerecht.de provides networking and information transfer between public and free youth welfare as well as other youth political actors on the local, regional, federal or European level.
- EU Youth Strategy: In November 2018, the new EU Youth Strategy 2019-2027 was adopted. The implementation of the EU Youth Strategy in Germany is an independent process within the framework of the Federal Government's Youth Strategy.
- Youth-Check: The youth-check was put in place to assess the impact of legislation on young people aged between 12 and 27 years. Applying scientific methodology and in keeping with a standardized format, legislative projects of the government are checked as part of the interdepartmental coordination process. Specifically, their potential impacts on young persons are identified across six life settings, such as “leisure time” or “politics and society”. The check gives visibility to the intended effects of projects and reveals their unintended side effects. This effectively makes the youth-check a legislative impact assessment tool and a contributor to good legislation.
Supporting young people in Greece and designing policies aimed at the answering of their interests and concerns lie among the top priorities of the new Hellenic Government.

To this respect, under the leadership of the Minister of Education and Religious Affairs, we immediately proceeded with the establishment of a new General Secretariat for Professional Education, Training and Lifelong Learning, as an integral Body within the Ministry.

This new Structure was delegated with an expanded competence responsibility and executive role for implementing the governmental policies on the area of Training, in two main Sectors related to young people and partially to adults:

1. Vocational Training and Lifelong Learning
2. Youth and non-formal education policies

The top priorities set for the designing of our national policy on Youth are related to what identify as highest among the diverse issues pertaining to the interests and concerns of young people in the country, many of them not differing much from those of young people around Europe.

Specifically, among the top priorities of the Government for the Youth Sector are the following:

- Support young people’s employability
- Combat unemployment of youth
- Combat youth brain drain
- Support young people with disadvantages (i.e., young handicapped, in general, young people faced with discrimination due to diverse cultural or socio-economic background, or diversity in relation to religion, gender orientation, physical or psychological disabilities etc.). High priority is going to be given to the support of young refugees in the country, as this issue is quite critical, due to continuous rising numbers of incoming flows, mainly in Greece and then in other European areas as well.

In relation to the above, new programmes and initiatives and, in parallel, drastic redesigning of existing programmes are underway, expecting implementation starting from 2020 onwards.

**Overall mission: The designing and implementation of governmental policy in the areas of Life Long Learning and Youth**

The General Secretariat for Professional Education, Training and Life Long Learning is an integral Body within the Ministry of Education and Religious Affairs of the Hellenic Republic, implementing its mission through the following six (6) Units:

1. Direction of Youth Policies
2. Direction of National Strategy for Youth
3. Direction of Life Long Learning Policies
4. Independent Department for International and European relations
5. Independent Department for Implementation of European Legislation
6. Apprenticeship Department and Work Based Learning

This new General Secretariat was delegated with an expanded competence responsibility and executive role for implementing the governmental policies in the area of Training in the sectors of Youth and Lifelong Learning.
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<th><strong>Holy See/ Saint Siège</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>&quot;En décembre 2019 se tiendra à Rome la deuxième rencontre entre les représentants du Saint-Siège auprès des différentes institutions internationales et une centaine d’ONG d’inspiration catholique actives dans ces mêmes institutions. La promotion d’une société plus inclusive sera au centre des échanges, avec une attention particulière sur le secteur de la jeunesse et sur l’éducation formelle et non formelle. &quot;</td>
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<th><strong>Hungary/ Hongrie</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>I. Report on the Action Plan IV of the National Youth Strategy</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>In the beginning of this year, the General Youth Department started reviewing and drafting a report of the fourth action plan of the National Youth Strategy of Hungary that lasted from 2016 until 2017. We have collected all the inputs from every ministry and now we are finishing it. The report should be published after the Parliamentary Elections to be held on 8 April.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Besides we are preparing our new Strategy for Young People. Its construction is in line with the preparation of the post EU Youth Strategy and we are about to meet the recommendations of the committee of the ministers of the Council of Europe even deeper. Even more within the strategy a strong emphasis will be placed on mental health, social questions, digital awareness, active citizenship and critical thinking.</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>II. Free language exam</strong></td>
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<td>This initiative was introduced in 2017 by the minister of human capacities and has already entered into force. From 1 January 2018 the government reimburses the expenses of every new successful complex language exam (oral + written) to young people under 35 even if they have already passed one or more language exams in one or different foreign languages and regardless the type of the exam (e.g. TELC, Euroexam, etc.)</td>
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<td><strong>III. No Hate Speech Campaign</strong></td>
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<td>It is led by the Hope for Children Public Foundation and National Youth Council of Hungary. The Hungarian Campaign Committee is going to participate in the closing conference and they are ready and strive for maintaining the campaign and its platform in Hungary in the future as well.</td>
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<td><strong>IV. Programme for strengthening young people’s digital awareness</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>It involves experts from governmental, economy, youth, education sectors and aims to provide families, educators and young people with guidelines, information and knowledge how to become aware of challenges and dangerous aspects</td>
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<td><strong>V. Pact 4 Youth</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Roundtable that involves stakeholders from governmental and economy sector and such youth and youth led organization as National Youth Council of Hungary, No Hate Speech Campaign Committee of Hungary and the European Youth Card Association members. This initiative aims to draft proposals on handling the challenges of the labour market and fostering the successful integration of young people into the labour market for the government.</td>
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<td><strong>VI. V4 + EaP Youth Conference</strong></td>
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<td>The annual conference under the Hungarian Presidency is going to be organized from 28 until 31 of May in Budapest. Three priority topics are foreseen to become the basis of our conference:</td>
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<td>a) Opportunities for young people</td>
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<td>b) Digitalization</td>
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<td>c) Section of the Hungarian Youth Delegate to the United Nations</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>VII. Southern Great Plain Regional Youth Map</strong></td>
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</table>
This project was introduced this week on Monday in Gyula city at the conference which aimed to find solution and answers on young people’s situation and to facilitate the participants in getting familiar with each other’s work and share the good practices. The map project aims to get an idea on the followings:

a) In which settlements do youth workers and youth policy officers work;
b) Where has a local youth strategy or action plan been established;
c) Where has a community space for young people been built up.

**Iceland/ Islande**  
Updated September 2019

Minister of Education, Science and Culture has decided to begin preparation for a policy on Youth Work (Youth work is a part of Youth Act). The scope of the policy will be youth work. The Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)4 will be one of the key documents that will be used in this work and has now been **translated** in Icelandic (the recommendation and explanatory memorandum).

The European Charter on local youth work, Europe Goes Local, has been translated and implementation strategy is in place. There has been changes on the law on the Ombudsman for Children in Iceland. The Ombudsman for Children shall organise every other year a Children’s Congress where 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. The results from the Congress will be introduced to the Government. The Ombudsman of Children is also working on how to increase influence children and youth on policy making.

**No Hate Speech**

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/](http://saft.is/english/))

**Ireland/ Irlande**  
Updated September 2019

**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 act created the space to provide grants for youth work and enable the development of organisations and people providing youth work programmes and services, and to establish youth councils.

**Irish Youth Strategy**

The National Youth Strategy 2015–2020 has its basis in Better Outcomes, Brighter Futures: The National Policy Framework for Children & Young People (2014-2020) (BOBF). This framework sets out the Government’s agenda and priorities in relation to all children and young people under the age of 25 years and provides for the development and implementation of policies and services in relation to the following interconnected and mutually reinforcing outcome areas.

- Active and healthy, physical and mental well-being
- Achieving full potential in all areas of learning and development
Safe and protected from harm
• Economic security and opportunity
• Connected, respected and contributing to their world


Implementing the National Youth Strategy is a shared responsibility across government departments, agencies and youth interests. All youth services funded by Department of Children and Youth Affairs employ the National Youth Strategy outcomes and actions to plan and structure their strategy for delivering youth programmes. Cross-departmental engagement is on-going and Departments with responsibilities under the National Youth Strategy report the status of actions via the Better Outcomes Brighter Futures reporting structures.

Below are some actions which highlight the progress of the implementation of the National Youth Strategy

Funding Reform

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs is currently managing the reform of youth services funding. Future development and investment in youth services, under this fund, will be evidence based and this will provide an opportunity to identify need and to focus funding on young people most in need of intervention. Implementation of the new youth funding scheme has begun January 2019 on a phased basis.

Youth Employability Initiative

Following on from the success of the 2016 Youth Employability Initiative, the Department of Children and Youth Affairs launched a new Youth Employability Initiative in 2018-2019. This fund supports community, voluntary and not-for-profit services and organisations for programmes that target disadvantaged young people who were most at risk of unemployment and who were not in education, employment or training.

Skills Summary

The Department of Children and Youth Affairs 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 DCYA. Skills Summary helps young people measures 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.

Digital Space and Youth

The National Youth Council of Ireland (NYCI), which is funded by the Department, provides a web safety in youth work resource which is a component of its child protection programme. This resource provides details of the technical supports that are useful to have in place to create a safe environment for young people while online.

Spunout.ie, funded by the Department, has developed an online safety hub which provides guidelines on online safety, privacy and security for young people on the main social media platforms and messages, gaming and dating sites.
Peace IV programmes

PEACE IV Programme is a unique initiative of the European Union which has been designed to support peace and reconciliation. The Department of Children and Youth Affairs oversees the Children and Young People strand. The programming period for 2014-2020 provided opportunity to address the peace and reconciliation needs of the region. The development of the new PEACE PLUS programme is underway and funding by the EU has been committed to by the Commission until 2027 irrespective of the outcome of Brexit.

North South Education and Training Standards (NSETS)

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.

Comhairle na nÓg

Comhairle na nÓg, an action under the National Strategy on Children and Young People's Participation in Decision-Making (2015-2020), are child and youth councils in the 31 local authorities of the country, which give children and young people the opportunity to be involved in the development of local services and policies. Comhairle na nÓg is designed to enable young people to have a voice on the services, policies and issues that affect them in their local area.

No Hate Speech Movement

Following the conclusion of the No Hate Speech Movement campaign by the Council of Europe the National Youth Council Ireland (NYCI) no longer formally coordinates the campaign in Ireland. NYCI still hosts the website as a resource and continues to stay linked in with the Council of Europe on the issue.

NYCI have been working on a project on Transforming Hate in Youth Settings. This project focuses on building resources, a training programme and upskilling a team of trainers to deal with hate in the physical setting. NYCI felt that hate in offline settings was the area that needed focus in response to youth worker’s needs. The project has been innovative and progressive, taking a needs based approach and working with those doing the harm in a compassionate way using empathic listening and dialogue. NYCI will continue this project as a core part of their work.

Ireland has a National Steering Group Against Hate Crime which is fighting for hate crime legislation.

Italy/Italie

Updated October 2019

1) Institutional changes:

As of September 4th 2019, the On. Vincenzo Spadafora was appointed Minister for Youth and Sports. He was previously Undersecretary of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers with responsibility to Equal Opportunities and Youth.

Since February 2019, the delegated authority for youth is the “Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service” (previously “Department for Youth and National Civic Service”). However, the Department remains under the Prime Minister's Office and maintains the same functions.

Since March 2019, the Department has a new website, which among others, highlights European and international activities: http://www.politichegiovani.it/attivita/attivita-internazionale/
2) **New national laws and initiatives:**

In 2019, the Government allocated additional resources – i.e. € 30 million per year - to support youth policies (the amount does not include the funds allocated to the Universal Civic Service, which amount to €231 million for 2019).

In March 2019, the Department launched a € 16 million call for projects (named “Fermenti”), aimed at promoting youth self-entrepreneurship. The call offers financial and technical support to young people who identified a “social challenge” in one of the following areas: a) equality for all genders; b) inclusion and participation; c) training and culture; d) spaces, environment and territory; e) autonomy, welfare, well-being and health.

At the end of 2018, Italy passed a law that sets up the National Youth Council, the advisory and representative body of Italian youth. The transition from the previously existing “Forum” is underway and it is expected to be completed within 2019. According to the law, the Council has the task to promote the participation of young people to the political, social, economic and cultural development of the country, the dialogue among institutions, youth organizations and young people. In the intentions of the legislator, the Council should be able to enlarge its representation function, involving more youth organizations, and reaching out to youngsters who are not involved in associations.

In 2019, the Department started its participation in the EU project **Youth Wiki**. Research is being conducted at national, regional and local level and will allow the systematization of all existing initiatives in favor of young people in the age group 14-35.

Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)4 on youth work was translated into Italian thanks to the fruitful collaboration among the Department for Youth Policies and the youth association APICE with the supervision of Prof. Maurizio Merico, University of Salerno and member of the Pool of European Youth Researchers (PEYR).

At national level, in Italy, the concept of “youth work” is not clearly defined by law and the profession of “Youth Worker” is not recognized. In 2017, a national law regulated the professions of “educator” and “health worker”. However, since the law requires the obtainment of a bachelor degree, it does not reflect the reality of all existing youth workers, especially those who have been volunteering in youth organizations. At regional level, some Regions adopted “youth acts” that support youth workers and promote their activities and training. Therefore, the situation is quite fragmented. This is why, the Department is exploring the possibility of adopting legislation that will create a coherent framework for the promotion of quality youth work at national level.

The Italian Government is developing an online platform, designed to bring together in a single **Digital Hub**, all existing opportunities for young people. The hub will allow identifying and integrating open data sources relevant to youth policies, in order to extract new knowledge on the state of youths in Italy.

3) **No Hate Speech Movement**

The No Hate Speech Movement is coordinated in Italy by the association “APICE” and gathers about 60 organizations, which cover the majority of the national territory (10 regional coordination points, 12 local coordination points in major cities).

The Movement translated into Italian the manual Bookmarks and, in close collaboration with the Department, the translation of the manual WE CAN! is now under way.

In 2018, the Movement organized several online and offline activities, particularly during 5 Action Days on Cyberbullism, Racism, Omo-Trans-Bi Fobia, support to hatespeech victims, Human Rights. A national Training Course on “Counter-narrative and alternative narrative to hate speech” was also conducted.
### Kazakhstan/                                                           
#### Latvia/                                                          
##### Lettonie

**Updated March 2019**

The National Youth Programme defines the youth work priorities for 2019 as follows:

1) to promote the long-term planning of the youth work at local level;
2) to support initiatives of youth organisations for promoting the participation of young people;
3) the development of the common model for the recognition of young people's non-formal education at national level;
4) promotion of the implementation of 11 EU Youth goals.

The study on youth work at national and local level in 2017 as the main issues and challenges in the youth field identified:

1) The provision of the basic infrastructure for the youth work in municipalities. In order to ensure equal opportunities for young people regardless their place of residence, it is necessary to define and to ensure the minimal infrastructure for the youth work, as well material and technical basis, and human resources (for example, in every municipality there must be available – separate premises for youth activities, at least one youth affairs specialist, regular annual funding for youth work and regular annual funding for youth initiatives).

2) To plan activities for raising capacity and qualification of non-governmental organisations, thus activating the non-governmental sector in the youth work field. In particular, relevant question is ensuring the basic financing for operational work of non-governmental organisations and sustainability of implemented projects.

3) To ensure gaining a broader exchange of experience to those who are involved in youth work (joint events, joint projects).

4) Taking into account the significant number of emigrated young people and its proportion in the total number of young people in Latvia, activating diaspora youth and identifying it as separate target group of young people both in data recording and in youth policy.

Since 2016, the Ministry of Education and Science annually organises a contest “Youth Capital City of Latvia”. As a result of this contest a local municipality or a union of two local municipalities is selected and declared as the Youth Capital City for the next year. Throughout this year, different youth events and initiatives of youth work and youth participation are taking place therein. In 2016 it was Jelgava, in 2017 – Liepaja, in 2018 – Madona, but in 2019 – union of Ikšķile and Olaine municipalities.

The Ministry of Education and Science once every two years organises a contest “The Best in Youth Work” whose aim is to express the appreciation of the Ministry of Education and Science to the local governments, to persons who are involved in youth work, as well as to youth organisations and associations that perform youth work investing in improving the quality of life of young people.

### Liechtenstein

**Updated October 2018**

1. Youth work
   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
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 activities and non-formal education as in sector of education, also in employment (both in public and business sectors).

3. Creation of national system of Youth volunteering;
   a. Legal basis in a national level;
   b. Reglamentation 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
   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
   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

Updated October 2018


Finalement, notre ministère est constamment en train de réformer et harmoniser l’offre de logements pour jeunes. Une des pistes est la création d’une agence immobilière pour jeunes aura la mission de gérer l’ensemble des différentes offres de logement, mises à disposition par l’Etat (famille, logement, égalité des chances, éducation, jeunesse, aide à l’enfance) tandis que les prestataires privés auront le rôle d’assurer un accompagnement des jeunes en fonction de leur besoin, leur permettant de faciliter la transition vers l’âge adulte, sans les rendre dépendants de certaines mesures d’encadrement et en évitant la « thérapeutisation » des offres de logement.
Malta/Malte  
Updated April 2019
Youth Policy

In 2015 the Maltese Government revised its National Youth Policy for the fourth time. This document is entitled ‘Il-Politika Nazzjonali taż-Zgħażagħ Lejn l-2020 Viċjoni Komuni għall-Futur taż-Zgħażagħ’ – ‘National Youth Policy Towards 2020 A Shared Vision for the Future of Young People’. The National Youth Policy is underpinned by three separate but interlocking pillars. The first pillar is the reality of the lives of young people in Malta; the second pillar relates to the development of youth policy over the past 20 years at both European and national levels; and the third pillar concerns greater democratic participation, equitable economic and social progress for all, and inclusive change.

The policy intends to effectively support and encourage young people in fulfilling their potential and aspirations while addressing their needs and concerns. It intends to support young people as active and responsible citizens who fully participate in and contribute to the social, economic and cultural life of Malta, Europe and beyond.

As a result of this document in 2017 the first Inter-ministerial working group on youth policy was set up, chaired by Agenzija Zghazagh, the National Youth Agency. This working group is made up of all the different Ministries that have a stake in youth policy. The group is set to meet up twice a year and report on any development in youth policy in the respective areas.

Youth Work

Since 2014, Youth Work has been formally recognised and is now regulated as a profession. The Youth Work Profession Bill gives formal professional recognition and status to youth workers. It also regulates the profession and determines the qualifications and conditions under which youth workers can acquire such recognition.

Since 2018 Agenzija Zghazagh which is the biggest youth work provider on a national level in Malta has been working to develop a regional service. The plan is to divide Malta into 4 regions, the North, Central, South and Gozo region. The idea is to take youth work services closer to the local communities. “ of these services the South and the Gozo regions are already set and running.

NOHATE

Since the NOHATE Campaign ended an NGO called SOS Malta, engaged in a project called #STOPHATE. The project which is funded through a national funding scheme aims at creating policy as well as raising awareness through various social media campaigns. The policy document which has been drafted is currently being finalized to be presented towards local authorities so as to provide a basis for further legislation and enforcement of the law in cases of hate speech. This combined with the discussion that is being generated on social media to bring forward a positive discussion and provide educational material to the public to foster discussion.

Republic of Moldova/ République de Moldova  
Updated September 2019

Youth policy

Public authority responsible for youth - Ministry of Education, Culture and Research (MoECR)

Legal framework

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.

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.
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

Youth Programs

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.

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.

Program Components:
I Component – Consulting and empowering Regional Youth Councils
II Component – Co-financing activity programs of Regional Youth Councils

Currently, 22 Regional Youth Councils are active, being part of the National Network of Youth Councils. In 2018 there were 545 young people - members of the National Network of Youth Councils and involved about 30 000 young people in different activities.

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. 23 Youth NGOs received funding in 2018 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. In 2017, the Program fund was increased to 6 million Lei (=300 000 €), for 2019 the financing fund is similar (24 Youth NGOs).

2 projects categories:
Local / regional projects up to 10,000 €
National / International projects up to 15,000 €

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), Varnita (2017), Cahul (2018) and Costesti (2019).

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 150 accredited host organizations for receiving volunteers, and about 1500 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

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

Youth Sector Priorities
- Implementation of the Law on Youth and National Strategy for Youth Sector Development 2020;
- Youth infrastructure development (including the promotion of the Government Decision Draft regarding the establishment of the National Agency for Programs Development and Youth Work);
- 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.).

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1. Since 1st January 2019, Ministry of Sports of Montenegro has updated its name and now it is called Ministry of Sports and Youth of Montenegro.

2. The new Law on Youth is in the parliamentary procedure and it is expected to be adopted by April 2019. The aim of the new Law is to eliminate identified legal gaps in the current legal provisions of certain areas of youth policy. The main goal of adopting 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 draft law prescribes new mechanisms for financing priority areas of public interest for the development of youth policy and addressing other issues of importance for young people. The Draft Law specifies methods of constituting youth advisory bodies, as well as the realization of youth policy by youth (non-governmental) organizations, with a focus on their participation in the work of national and local advisory bodies.

3. Next to the above, Ministry implements the National Youth Strategy for the period: 2017-2021
The Strategy defines six key priorities (outcomes) regarding Montenegrin youth:
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.
Also, in 2017, the Ministry established a Coordination Inter-Sectorial Body for monitoring the implementation of the Youth Strategy, whose members are representatives of all ministries that are recognized as actors who implement activities for youth. Through the Open Call in 2017, 36 projects for young people have been supported. Action Plan for the implementation of the Youth Strategy for 2017 was realized in the scope of 93.2%. By the adoption of the Youth Strategy and Action plans for its realization, in cooperation with youth organizations, youth and other subjects of youth policy, we have contributed to better and more inclusive implementation of youth projects. A clear indicator of commitment and strong support, that the Ministry is taking to contribute to improving the position of young people, is also a triple increase in financial support for youth projects in 2018. 96 projects for young people had been supported and more than half a million euro had been allocated for its realization in 2018.

4. Youth clubs and youth centres are one of the key infrastructural mechanisms for improving youth participation, their networking and the development of life skills and non-formal education. We have opened dozens of youth clubs in municipalities throughout Montenegro, as well as the Youth Centre in Podgorica. In the upcoming period, we have planned to open new clubs, but also to support the work of the existing ones.

5. 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. 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 a national and regional level and their better cooperation, which is a regional response to the common challenges and problems of young people. The EU Enlargement Strategy for the Western Balkans from the February 2018 highlights the six main initiatives to support the Western Balkans Enlargement Process, and one of them is to expand the scope of RYCO. In addition, the Ministry maintains continuous cooperation with the Regional Youth Cooperation Office through the Governing board, represented by Nenad Koprivica, the Director General of the Directorate of Youth, on behalf of the Government of Montenegro.

6. No Hate Speech Campaign

Through the Open Call in 2018, Ministry has supported five projects, which aim are: research on the violence prevention, abuse, hate speech and discrimination within young people; an increasing level of knowledge and information about the mechanism of protection against violence; social inclusion of LGBT population and providing assistance for employment of the LGBT population; increasing the competences of young people and professors from 4 high schools on the topic of recognition, prevention, and responses in cases of violence and hate speech online and offline; strengthening key competencies in the area of violence, hate speech and discrimination of young people through education on non-violence conflict solving.

**Netherlands/ Pays-Bas**

**North Macedonia/ Macédoine du Nord**

Updated October 2018

**The Agency of Youth and Sport is currently working on:**

- **Initiating youth law** by forming three working groups, one from representatives from the coalition's SEGA and NMSM, one group from working assembly youth club and one from the Agency and involvement from the Ohrid Institute via political youth parties will be involved. There will be a consultative process managed by the NGO’s with assistance and support from the assembly youth club and the agency. The coordinative body will have the task of preparing a rulebook on the work of the groups, as well as technical tasks. After that period during the month March an analysis of the existing situation will be conducted and the beginning of the proposal proses for youth law. From April a first draft text will be prepared for adoption.

- The agency of youth and sport began a process of **revision of the national youth strategy** through consultative meetings with the civil sector and relevant institutions to analyse past experience of formulating the national youth strategy, analysis of the current situation, begin the process of establishing a methodological approach for the revision of the youth strategy and define the timeframe.
- In analysing the current situation, the Agency of youth and sport will launch a wide consultative process by creating documents and measures for implementation of the national youth card, which will enable young people to have access to discounts and benefits in the areas of mobility, accommodation, culture, services and services and products. The card will allow young people to be part of Europe where everyone is mobile and active, AMC will launch a process of informing about the opportunities that are intended for young people to be socially, culturally, educative and economically mobile.

- The youth guarantee, in coordination with relevant institutions, the agency will contribute a pilot project that will help establish a network among young people, businesspeople and state institutions. This network will contribute opportunities for youth education, pre-education trainings for young people in order to facilitate the way out of the labour market, increase youth competitiveness and contribute to directing young people on a professional path.

- The manual for youth local councils is after the final stage of preparation, and from April this year, in co-operation with the OSCE, trainings will be organized in each municipality to encourage awareness of the support of youth local councils.

- The main goal of the youth work is to enable young people to form their own future and is a narrower expression for the activities of social, cultural, educational and political nature intended for the youth, and the AMC aims at great support for defining youth work through coordination meetings with youth organizations for communication on the relevant topic, meetings with the Center for Vocational Education and Training for measures of defining and meetings with the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy for legal solutions.

- The Agency has taken part in the election of a youth representative of the Regional Office for Youth Cooperation (RYCO). Currently a working committee is created by members of civil society organizations who will meet next week in the AMC to review applications from applicants and choose a youth representative. On March 20th the first meeting of advisory and representatives in Macedonia will take place, bringing together the RYCO members and representatives.

- Guided by the good examples of the Council of Europe, European experience and regional experience, the youth in the Republic of Macedonia need to participate in decision-making on issues that directly affect them. Considering that the programme of the Government of the Republic of Macedonia 2017-2020 emphasizes the support and involvement of young people in the decision-making process, the Agency is beginning a process of the good European practice of the Co-Management body and structural dialogue which will make a significant contribution towards the realization of the specific, but also general goals of the programme, i.e. towards the essential democratization of the society. The Co-management body will bring together government officials and youth representatives to review and make recommendations for youth policies and to make them more informed in decision-making. Successful examples at the European regional and national level are a strong recommendation for introducing a co-management body in the Republic of Macedonia, precisely through its regulation in the Law on Youth, whereby the role of youth organizations should be strengthened.

Norway/ Norvège

Updated March 2019

The Norwegian Government has put youth high on the agenda. During 2018, youth policies are starting to be revised and developed. Participation and democracy, peace building, inclusiveness and equality are the values Norwegian youth policies are built upon.

From our national youth survey, Ungdata, we know that Norwegian youth in general do quite well. They have good relations with their parents, and school is important to them. There are also negative tendencies. Mental health issues, school drop-outs, bullying and abuse, especially on social media, are increasing problems. In 2017, research also shows that youth are less positive about their future. From several sources, we can observe gender specific issues. For example, boys and girls perform differently at school, and take different directions in life.

The Norwegian government will strengthen youth participation in democratic processes. From 2019, every municipality must have a local youth council, that advises local decision makers.
The Government has also established two committees that will look into gender issues regarding youth. One will look at school and education, and the choices youth make. The other one will look more into general gender equality issues. The committees will both deliver an Official Norwegian Reports (NOUs).

A new government was formed in January 2019, introducing also new elements in youth policy in their declaration. The government has started working on a White Paper on Youth, which will be the first one since 2001. Work in progress is also a ‘Youth Card’, giving children and young people 6 to 18 years the opportunity to participate in organised leisure time activities regardless of economic resources, as part of the strategy to fight the consequences of relative poverty. The establishment of a youth panel that will give advice to the Government on relevant topics such as integration, mental health and school drop outs, is still in the platform for youth policy.

Primo 2019 the government decided that Norway will not join the EU’s new youth programme European Solidarity Corps.

No Hate Speech

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.

### Poland/ Pologne

Updated September 2019

I- Council for Dialogue with the Young Generation

In September 2019, the law establishing the Council for Dialogue with the Young Generation entered into force. The Council is an opinion-making and advisory body to the Chairman of the Public Benefit Committee on matters relating to the young generation. The Council will provide a forum for dialogue between non-governmental organizations and other social entities and public authorities on the matters concerning young people, with the participation of youth municipal councils, which currently do not have an institutionalized method of communication with central government administration.

The tasks of the Council for Dialogue with the Young Generation will include in particular:

- expressing opinions on draft legal acts and government programs regarding the young generation,
- initiating and supporting activities aimed at increasing the level of civic participation of young people in Poland,
- creating a forum for dialogue between NGOs and other social institutions and public authorities in the field of the young generation,
- supporting the activities of civic dialogue institutions working for the young generation, including children and youth, with particular emphasis on youth municipal councils.

The term of office of the Council will last 2 years. It will consist of not less than 20 and not more than 35 members. Its members will be representatives of the President of the Republic of Poland, Ombudsman for Children, Prime Minister, minister competent for education and upbringing, minister competent for higher education and science, minister competent for physical culture, Chairman of the Public Benefit Committee, Public Benefit Activity Council and local government units. In addition, at least half of the members of the council will be representatives of youth municipal councils, the Students’ Parliament of the Republic of Poland, non-governmental organizations, unions and agreements of non-governmental organizations and some other entities conducting public benefit activities.
II- Report on youth work
At the request of the Ministry of National Education, research workers of the Youth Research
Center of University of Warsaw prepared a report entitled "Youth work in Poland". The report will
be published on ministry’s website. The report presents:
comparison of definitions of terms functioning in Poland and the European Union (youth, youth
work, informal education, non-formal education, youth worker),
comparative analysis of the strategic goals of youth work,
legal framework and system solutions for youth work in Poland and in the EU as well as legislative
proposals and recommendations,
comparative analysis of the role of a youth worker (competences, qualifications, career paths),
forms of youth work based on activities carried out in 3 selected municipalities and examples of
good practices in Poland and in the EU,
comparative analysis of financing youth work in Poland and the EU.

III- The exemption of young people from PIT
On 1 August 2019, the provisions on the exemption of young people under the age of 26 from
personal income tax (PIT) entered into force. Taxes will not be paid by taxpayers employed under
an employment contract or mandate contract. The allowance will apply to income from work and
commission contracts up to PLN 85,528 in a tax year. Up to this limit, the young taxpayer's income
will be exempt from PIT. It is estimated that 2 million young people will benefit from this tax
exemption.

IV- Seminar on digital youth work and innovation
The "Digital Youth Work and Innovation" seminar was held on 29-31 May 2019 in Warsaw.
Seminar was organized by the Ministry of National Education, in cooperation with National Agency
for the Erasmus + Program, in the frame of the Polish presidency in the Berlin Process. The main
subject of the seminar was the digital tools and innovative methods in youth work. The main
objectives of the seminar were to present good practices from the represented countries, discuss
challenges and work on possible future developments. The seminar brought together 57
participants from 20 countries, including from 7 EU Member States, 7 from Western Balkans and
from 6 Eastern Partnership countries.

Portugal

Updated October 2019

This past June 2019, Portugal hosted the Lisboa+21 World Conference of Ministers Responsible
for Youth 2019 and a Youth Forum. The events were held in Lisbon, promoted by the Portuguese
Government and the National Youth Council and endorsed by several UN-system partners.
From our side we would like to thank the Council of Europe Youth sector, and namely the youth
statutory bodies and the youth department for their support and co-operation. We did our best to
give the Council of Europe the visibility it deserves for what it has been doing for youth policies in
Europe and for the impact this unique way of doing youth policies is reflecting in the world.
The Conference counted with about a hundred national delegations, each one composed by the
Minister or a governmental official and a Youth Delegate, valuing co-decision and youth
participation in the very core of the whole process, from its creation to the drafting, debating and
approving of the Final Declaration.
The Lisboa+21 Declaration is the main outcome of the event, composed of a set of 17
commitments based on cross-cutting topics that renewed the 1998 Lisbon Declaration's
commitments, in the light of the 2030 Agenda.
Now it’s time to look into the future and to be consequent with the commitments we assumed.
In this framework, we at the Portuguese Institute of Sport and Youth are soon to publish a
brochure with the most relevant political moments that drove us from 1985 until June 2019, and
are key references for our work until 2030.
Moreover, the report of the events is almost finished and it will be published.
Apart from these, we are already drawing a document that will be the basis of what we are calling
the Lisbon+21 Stability Plan. With this Plan we want to establish a set of guidelines that will be
used as references to the follow-up of the compromises we assumed when the decision was
taken to hold the World Conference.
Soon we will share these documents with you all hoping we will join hands in seizing this
opportunity to contribute to a better world.
Right now, I’d like to invite you all to disseminate the Lisboa+21 outcomes in your countries, organizations and networks. For that, do visit the website lisboa21.gov.pt for further information on the Lisboa+21 Declaration.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Romania/Roumanie</th>
<th>Updated March 2019</th>
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<tr>
<td>Romania is involved in several initiatives dedicated to developing the youth field at national level.</td>
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1. Along the process of developing the final Terms of References for INCLUDE project, project that is financially supported by the EEA and Norway Grants and will be implemented in partnership by the National Grant Operator – Romanian Fund for Social Development, Ministry of Youth and Sport and the Council of Europe Youth Department the Ministry prepares its implementation team as well. The project aims at contributing to what the Occupational Standard of the Youth Worker means.

2. During the year 2018, the Ministry of Youth and Sports carried out a study on policy analysis on youth employment, highlighting the socio-economic risks in the context of technological transformations. The study aimed at formulating forecasts of youth labour market developments, identifying good practices on widening the scope of competencies, proposing solutions for increasing the adaptability of young people to labour market requirements and supporting entrepreneurial initiatives and was carried out by the Romanian Institute for Evaluation and Strategy. Given the development of the youth field and the development of young civil society, it is necessary to complete the normative framework on the consultation of youth and youth non-governmental structures and to regulate councils for youth at national and local level and / or youth fora at municipal level. Thus, the Ministry of Youth and Sports has submitted to Parliament a new draft law for young people. The amendments are also due to the entry into force of Law no. 78/2014 regulating the volunteering activity in Romania, so that the new provisions in the youth field will be aligned with the new regulations regarding the volunteer activity. The central and local public administration authorities, the units, institutions and public services subordinated to youth work will work together to support the youth work and ensure the appropriate framework for it, including having at least one young person responsible, staff regulations and the total number of posts approved under the law, or to designate a person within the public administration authority, the units, institutions and public services subordinated to them as a youth manager. Thus, the professionalization and standardization of youth activities within the public administration will be carried out, ensuring that they can develop long-term quality services provided to young people at these institutions level, related to the decentralization of competences in the youth field, to be achieved according to the General Decentralization Strategy. The responsibilities in the field of youth work of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, the Inter-ministerial Council for Youth Policy, the County Directorates for Sport and Youth, respectively the Direction for Sport and Youth of Bucharest, as well as the students’ culture houses and the Tei Student Sports Cultural Complex. It clarifies the role of the Ministry of Youth and Sports in the elaboration, regulation and coordination of the National Youth Policy and in ensuring the proper functioning of the public services in the youth field. Also, the setting up of the Inter-ministerial Council for Youth Policy is necessary because the policies involved in the field of youth are not the sole responsibility of the Ministry of Youth and Sport. Policies targeting and affecting young people are often developed in the fields of education, culture, research, health, work, social protection, child rights protection, the protection of the rights of people with disabilities, sport, minorities, the economy and public administration. In this context, there is a need for coordination between the specialized authorities of the central public administration and must be ensured through the regular organization of the work of this council.

3. At the initiative of the Ministry of Youth and Sports and in partnership with the National School of Political and Administrative Studies, the first Romanian Master Program for Youth Policy and Youth Work will be launched in October 2019. The first students group is aimed for strengthening the capacity of the public administration to efficiently deliver high quality public services in the youth field.

4. Through an Erasmus project – K3 Structured Dialogue component, the Ministry of Youth and Sport through 8 County Youth and Sports Directorates will develop and implementation of structured dialogue mechanisms in 8 counties in 8 development regions of Romania (including Bucharest-Ilfov), whereby youth counseling mechanisms and decision makers are strengthened and strengthened a country-wide scalable model for mechanisms for annual planning and implementation of County Action Plans for Youth. Also, the results of these regional consultations
will form the basis for the elaboration by the Ministry of Youth and Sport the future national youth strategy, the old one will expire at the beginning of next year.

5. Last but not least the Ministry of Youth and Sports has as a priority for 2019 to complete the process of accrediting the Student Cultural Complex Tei the certificate QUALITY LABEL for the European Youth Centers. This Youth Center is the biggest Youth Center in Romania. The Ministry, through its 2019 budget, will secure a consistent financial investment that will raise the standards of the center up to a ISO Conference Center Standard.

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<tr>
<th>Russian Federation/ Fédération de Russie</th>
<th>Updated September 2019</th>
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<tr>
<td>San Marino/ Saint Marin</td>
<td>1. Policy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Serbia/ Serbie</td>
<td>2. Youth policy at local level</td>
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<td>Trying to create conditions for improving the position and participation of young people in the local communities and stimulating various forms of employment, self-employment and youth entrepreneurship, the Ministry of Youth and Sports launched on March 25, 2019 a public call to support self-government units. At the end of July 2019, the Ministry of Youth and Sports selected 9 projects with a financial support of 127.000 EUR.</td>
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<td>3. Support to young talents</td>
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<td>In the reporting period, the Fund for Young Talents supported 1346 young students studying at the universities in Serbia, with a monthly scholarship of 250 EUR.</td>
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<td>4. Youth employment</td>
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<td>The Republic of Serbia recorded in the IIQ this year a decrease in youth unemployment. The unemployment rate of young people aged 15-24 was 24.4%, while the youth employment rate was 22%. In 2019, the Ministry of Youth and Sports decided to allocate special funds for youth programs and projects in order to support employment, self-employment and youth entrepreneurship. In August 2019, the Ministry of Youth and Sports supported 27 youth projects in the full amount of 512.000 EUR.</td>
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<td>5. Youth work</td>
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<td>In Serbia, there is a lack of a continuous and systematic approach regarding evidence-based youth work research. National Association of Youth Workers (NAPOR) is currently developing the research methodology that should continuously provide data regarding number of young people involved in youth work and their background. Currently there are 3 main youth work policy processes at national level, introduced by NAPOR and its member organizations: 1. Development of Digital Youth Work Strategy 2. Development of Rural Youth Work Strategy 3. Feasibility study on the Youth Work in Prisons</td>
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It is expected to present first two to the NAPOR General Assembly (November 2019), while the third one is in the preparation phase.

6. Erasmus+ EU Programme

Starting from 2019, the Republic of Serbia became Erasmus+ Programme country. Serbia is now among only six countries which fully participate in the programme, but are not the EU member states. The Foundation Tempus (National Agency) published the results of the grant award procedures for Erasmus + projects in the field of Strategic partnerships of Youth (KA2) for 2019. One project with a grant of 35,790 EUR was selected. When it comes to mobility projects in the field of youth (KA1) for 2019, 7 projects were selected for funding.

7. Youth delegates to the UN

The Ministry of Youth and Sports continued to support financially the implementation of the programme "Youth delegates to the UN". The third generation of youth delegates was selected in August 2019.

8. The European Youth Capital – OPENS 2019

Since Novi Sad is the European Youth capital for 2019, the organizing team prepared very rich program encompassing different cultural, sports, educational and non-formal activities that included not only the young people from Serbia, but also from Europe.

9. Regional Youth Cooperation Office (RYCO)

The Republic of Serbia remains dedicated to the improvement of regional cooperation in youth field through RYCO. The second call of the RYCO was published at the end of 2018. Based on the preliminary list published in June 2019, it is proposed to finance 44 projects, 17 of which are from the Republic of Serbia (with a total value of 389,659.45 EUR).

10. No hate speech

Within the projects dedicated to implement the National Youth Strategy, usually there are projects that include some segment about hate speech, violence and social inclusion. Apart from it, some youth organizations in Serbia implement or participate in projects which are related to this topic, being financially supported through Erasmus+ or other international funds.

Slovak Republic/République slovaque

Updated March 2019

A. Action plan 2019-2020 for the Concept Paper on youth work development – document created by the Ministry in cooperation with IUVENTA - Slovak youth institute, based on the discussions with the relevant actors and stakeholders in youth work across the country. Agreed by the Cross-sectoral Working Group for the state policy in the field of youth.

B. Re-establishment of the programme “UN Youth delegate”. This is a great opportunity not just for a country but for active young people to be represented and have their voices heard in large gatherings hosted by the United Nations.

C. European Capital of volunteering – Košice, the second biggest town in Slovakia, is holding the title of European Capital of volunteering in 2019

D. V4 + EaP + WB Youth Seminar. The annual youth event under the Slovak Presidency in the Visegrad Group will be held in Bratislava on April 11 and 12. For the first time, we decided to enlarge the scope and to invite countries from the Western Balkan, too. The seminar will focus on developing and supporting the talent and potential of young people and new approaches in youth work in this field. The goal of the seminar is to share and exchange best practices between the national representatives, to tackle the issue of talents and discuss how to support young people in discovering and nurturing their talents.

E. A Strategy on Education and Training of Children and Youth for Volunteering

The Strategy was approved in April 2018. The goal of this strategy is to create prerequisites for the implementation of training and education for volunteering at all levels of education, to define the objectives and principles of training and education for volunteering, and to set up measures for its implementation. The strategy and its introduction into practice should help volunteering to become a natural part of lifestyles of people and communities in Slovakia, and thus connect formal education with real life.
F. 2018 Youth report – In 2018 the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport (hereinafter referred to as “Ministry”) drafted the quadrennial National Youth Report 2018 adopted by the Government of the Slovak Republic in June 2018. The 2018 Youth Report is the third comprehensive material which presents the contemporary life of young people in Slovakia based on many types of research and findings provided by experts. It also serves as a mid-term review of the Strategy of the Slovak Republic for Youth for the years 2014 - 2020.

G. The Strategy of the Slovak Republic for youth for 2014-2020 – is in process of the implementation in all 9 fields, supported mostly through the grant scheme “Programmes for Youth 2014 - 2020”, by IUVENTA - Slovak Youth Institute, local youth organizations, other relevant actors involved in youth work and youth policy.

H. Youth work – we are preparing the new act on youth work in a participatory way, aiming at the promotion of the cross-sectoral approach towards the youth policy at national, regional and local level.

I. Implementation of No Hate Speech Movement Campaign in 2018 – on 27th September 2018 we launched the pilot phase of the No hate @School initiative building on a legacy of the No Hate Speech Movement. The aim of the pilot phase is to verify quality standards in the field of prevention of bullying, cyberbullying and hate speech at elementary and secondary schools. The schools that have signed up to the pilot phase will check the diagnostic tools to map the key areas and set the certification criteria. In the pilot year there were 7 schools involved (3 elementary schools, 3 grammar schools and 1 secondary vocational school). The participating schools have the opportunity to obtain a certificate on three levels (basic, intermediate and top level) demonstrating the compliance with the quality standard in eight areas important for building a culture of tolerance in schools, preventing bullying and hate speech in communication.

Slovenia/ Slovénie Updated March 2019

Peer-learning seminar on youth work and its relevance for youth policy in South East Europe "SEE Youth Work" was organised in Ljubljana, 13-15 November, in cooperation with the Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth.

End of 2018, Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth hosted as well the "History of Youth Work" event in Ljubljana.

EYF Training was co-organized in Ljubljana, 11-13 March in co-operation between EYF Secretariat, Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth and Youth Council of Slovenia.

Spain/ Espagne

Sweden/ Suède Updated September 2019

National Youth Policy

In 2019, the Swedish government started working on a new youth policy communication which will include an updated national action plan. As an initial stage, several organisations and governmental agencies have been invited or commissioned to produce and gather information that will contribute to the process. A youth perspective is central and the National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations (LSU) have been granted 500 000 SEK to coordinate youth organisations in the preparation of material to the government. The contribution will include a description of the youth organisations’ needs along with an analysis of how the national youth policy can be developed.

In June, the government commissioned the Swedish Research Council for Health, Working Life and Welfare (Forte) to review and analyse prior research on the effects of measures directed towards the NEET group. The review will include conclusions from completed research as well as an account of the aim of ongoing research. The mission is in line with a proposal from the final report of the National Coordinator for young people not in education, employment or training.

The Swedish Agency for Youth and Civil Society has throughout the year continued to support municipalities working with young people not in education, employment or training. The mission is founded on a youth perspective and previous knowledge and research about the NEET group. An important part of the agency’s work is to make use of and disseminate best practices and experiences from previous projects. The mission is implemented through a series of country-wide
work-shops where local municipal managers and officers partake with the aim to detect and evaluate strengths, weaknesses, possibilities and challenges in their respective municipalities. Through this project, the agency strives to create local conditions for more efficient activities that can provide strategic, early and coordinated long-term efforts directed towards young people.

**No Hate Speech Movement**

Since 2013 The Swedish Media Council has run the No Hate Speech Movement campaign on behalf of the Swedish government. The current purpose of the campaign is to raise awareness of racism and similar forms of hostility on the Internet among children and young people. The campaign will aim to strengthen children's and young people's ability to use their freedom of expression, to respect human rights and gender equality, and to stimulate critical thinking when using media. In addition, the campaign shall make ability for the disability groups of young people. This promotional period lasts until 2020.

The main objective of the campaign is to create the use of the target group of educators, librarians and parents and other adults near children. The ambition is to reach children and young people through targeted communication towards the adult target group. The campaign communicates through various formats such as Podcasts, Video formats, films and lesson structure and further activation of traffic through social media and dissemination through partners. The content of the campaign consists mainly of pedagogical materials aimed at schools and parents with a focus on methodologies regarding images as linguistic narrative and expression of visual power and influence. The purpose of these materials has been to work to prevent racism, violent extremism and sexism. The Council launched in January 2019 a material that focuses on images as narrative for modern myths and conspiracy theories.

Before the general election in September, the Council launched a "Package of elections", containing material from the No hate campaign, with the aim of developing pupils' source ability. The election package was sent out to all the schools in the country.

The Council has also launched a material on digital media for parents. This includes several parental guides that have been developed about the most common social and digital platforms with the aim to empower and inspire parents to talk to their children about the obligations and rights that apply and how different platforms are used. The aim is to strengthen young people online related to the risks they can be exposed to.

The Council has also produced a short survey on young people's reports of hatred and threats in social media to identify the degree of and the reasons for the notifications and in what digital platforms this is happening. The intention is to follow up this survey over time to be able to see the development and further develop strengthening and awareness content towards the target group.

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**Switzerland/Suisse**

Updated 19 September 2019

Le système éducatif suisse présente, à tous les niveaux et dans tous les domaines, un ensemble d’activités éprouvées qui concourent à la transmission de savoir politique et à la sensibilisation à la vie politique. C’est la conclusion d’un rapport approuvé par le Gouvernement suisse en novembre 2018 qui fournit une vue d’ensemble de l’éducation civique. Élaboré par le Secrétariat d’État à la formation, à la recherche et à l’innovation (SEFRI), le rapport « L’éducation à la citoyenneté en Suisse – une vue d’ensemble » montre qu’il existe, à tous les niveaux et dans tous les domaines du système éducatif suisse, une large palette d’activités qui stimulent la conscience citoyenne et permettent aux citoyens d’acquérir les compétences nécessaires pour exercer leurs droits et devoirs démocratiques. Les mesures de la Confédération sont axées principalement sur des possibilités d’encouragement et des offres d’information. De plus, la Confédération soutient des domaines spécialisés offrant des accès à l’éducation à la citoyenneté. Par ailleurs, l’éducation à la citoyenneté est inscrite dans la Déclaration 2015 sur les objectifs politiques communs concernant l’espace suisse de la formation comme un défi nécessitant une collaboration renforcée entre la Confédération et les cantons. Le rapport aboutit à la conclusion que les structures et les pratiques actuelles d’encouragement de l’éducation civique ont globalement fait leurs preuves. Il s’agit donc de maintenir les compétences et les conditions-
cadres existantes, en tenant compte de l’autonomie des différents acteurs et du principe de subsidiarité.

• La prévention des risques en matière de sexualité sur Internet sera le thème prioritaire 2018-2019 de la plateforme Internet nationale « Jeunes et médias ».

• Parmi les mesures en cours d’élaboration, un projet de nouvelle loi fédérale sur la protection des mineurs en matière de films et jeux vidéo a été mis en consultation fin février 2019. Il vise aussi à apporter une meilleure protection des enfants et des jeunes vis-à-vis des contenus inappropriés à l’âge, y compris pornographiques. Bien qu’axée prioritairement sur les films et jeux vidéo, cette nouvelle loi concernera également les services de plateformes et les services à la demande dont le siège se trouve en Suisse. La révision partielle de la loi sur les télécommunications (LTC) prévoit quant à elle également un article sur la protection de la jeunesse donnant au Gouvernement suisse la possibilité d’édicter des dispositions en vue de protéger les enfants et les jeunes des dangers liés aux services de télécommunication. Dans le cadre de l’ordonnance, le Gouvernement envisage ainsi de contraindre les fournisseurs de services de télécommunication à donner aux parents des conseils sur les possibilités de protection des enfants et des jeunes lors de la vente d’abonnements de téléphonie mobile et d’accès fixes à Internet.

• Sur mandat de la Commission fédérale pour l’enfance et la jeunesse, une vaste enquête représentative a été menée auprès de 1001 jeunes âgés de 16 à 25 ans et d’un groupe témoin de 390 personnes entre 40 et 55 ans. Les questions portaient sur la nature et la durée des activités en ligne, l’importance qui leur est accordée ainsi que sur le vécu et les astuces trouvées pour gérer la connexion permanente. Les jeunes réfléchissent plus que les adultes à leur utilisation d’Internet. Ils vivent la connexion permanente de manière essentiellement positive, tout en étant conscients que des règles et des limites sont nécessaires pour la gérer.


Les aspects positifs sont certes relevés, mais aussi le stress induit. Ainsi, un jeune sur trois se sent mis sous pression par les applications qui récompensent une utilisation régulière et un sur quatre devient nerveux s’il n’est pas connecté à Internet pendant un certain temps.

Deux jeunes sur cinq se fixent des règles sur le moment et la durée de leurs activités en ligne : les adolescents (16-20 ans) s’autorégulent davantage et se déconnectent plus souvent que les jeunes adultes (21-25 ans).


• Le projet du Réseau suisse des droits de l’enfant et de ses organisations membres vise à intégrer directement la voix des enfants et des jeunes dans la procédure d’établissement des rapports de l’ONU sur la mise en œuvre de la Convention relative aux droits de l’enfant CDE. Il s’agit d’un travail pionnier en matière de promotion de la participation. En effet, les enfants et les jeunes n’avaient pas été directement impliqués dans les précédentes procédures d’établissement des rapports nationaux entre 2000-2002 et 2012-2015 alors qu’il incombe à tous les États signataires qu’aux acteurs des droits de l’enfant d’intégrer les enfants et les jeunes dans le processus politique. Ce projet novateur met directement en œuvre le droit de participation découlant de la CDE.

Le Réseau suisse des droits de l’enfant a utilisé les résultats obtenus lors de la conférence nationale des enfants, de la Session nationale des jeunes ainsi que du Parlement des jeunes de Zurich, pour obtenir la première contribution suisse produite par les enfants et les jeunes. Le 1er juillet 2019, le Réseau a soumis sa liste des enjeux les plus urgents pour la mise en œuvre de la CDE en Suisse constituée de la contribution des enfants et des jeunes ainsi que celle de la société civile.
**Turkey/ Turquie**

**Updated October 2019**

**Youth Camps and Youth Centres:** In last six months number of youth camps in Turkey has not changed and 38 youth camps in total keeps offering service to young people across Turkey. In 2019 till now 125,000,00 young people have benefited from youth camps.

As for youth centres, number of youth centres has risen to 311 from 288 in last 6 months. The building and establishment of new youth centres in Turkey is underway. Besides the number of members of youth centres in last 6 months showed a significant rise, amounting to 2,168,199,00. Also 800 youth leaders perform their duty in these youth centres.

**Volunteering:** After the adoption of new governmental system, with the issuing of Presidential Decree number 1 dated 10/07/2018, *enhancing the volunteering activities and promoting civil consciousness on volunteering* among youngsters have been specified as the task of Ministry of Youth and Sports. This legal basis has provided an impetus for the betterment of existing National Volunteering Programme. Also there is an ongoing process for preparing a statue law dedicated to volunteering. Turkish Ministry of Youth and Sports has designated 2019 as “The Year of Volunteering”. In this context, *Volunteers Platform* which is the National Volunteering Programme of the Turkey has been made more effective and accessible to young people by developing a mobile application and improving programme’s website.

**Youth Projects Support Programme:** As for the cooperation between public authorities and NGOs in the field of youth, our Ministry conducts a very efficient grant programme. The Ministry has kept providing financial support for youth projects in the second half of 2019 as well.

**National Youth Council:** Within the number 1 presidential decree regulating the tasks of Ministry of Youth and Sports, the foundation of Turkish Youth Council is prescribed. In this vein, bylaws and structural scheme of Turkish Youth Council have been drafted in consultation with relevant stakeholders.

Adoption of new governmental system helps facilitate decision-making processes. Also it provides a more deliberative mechanism by reducing bureaucratic procedures.

Foundation of National youth council is underway. As the Ministry seeks to establish a more participatory mechanism, it receives all the contributions and views from youth sector and works on diverse participation and representation channels. In that framework, in the first half of 2019 a series of workshops and meetings have been carried out. In the second half of 2019, the legal procedures for the foundation of National Youth Council is ongoing. After all, it is envisioned to be founded before the end of 2019 in accordance with the applicable law.

**Youth Policy:** Updating processes of National Youth and Sports Policy Document is in progress. Upon the stocktaking of the implementation of previous Policy Document, the Ministry with its stakeholders have come up with the idea that a more flexible, less detailed documents would yield better results. The Ministry with all stakeholders works on a strategy document which is more responsive to the changes in our target groups.

With respect to international alignment in youth policy, we attach importance to keep up with the developments in European Union in the field of youth policy. we take place in *Youth Wiki* programme which is organised by European Commission and we arrange several activities in order to ensure its vast utilization among youth workers and young people.

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**Ukraine**

**Updated October 2019**

The new Ministry – Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports – was established according to the decision of the Government on September 2, 2019. The Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine will continue
to perform functions in the youth sphere until completion of the activities on establishment of the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of Ukraine.

The new Governmental Action Plan defines as one of the goals for the next 5 years to double the proportion of the population, especially young people, participating in public life (up to 12% - adults, up to 25% - youth).

The Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine (further – the Ministry) in cooperation with UNICEF in Ukraine developed a draft Strategy of the Development of Youth Policy in Ukraine till 2030.

State Target Social Program "Youth of Ukraine" for 2016-2020 is being implemented (61 events for youth were held, 48 projects of youth and children’s organizations will be implemented by the end of 2019, involving about 257 thousand young people).

Following the Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on youth work the Ministry implements National Training Program “Youth Worker” (42 basic trainings and 5 specialized trainings for NGO representatives and civil servants working with youth will be held by the end of November 2019, involving about 900 participants).

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 137 companies and organizations have signed the Pact and have created 614 partnerships with the educational sector and about 35 thousand places for internships, practices and youth employment. Based on the results of this initiative the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine elaborated a National Action Plan on Youth Employment. The project has been discussed with governmental authorities and young people. Now the draft is being consulted with experts on its further implementation.

National training program "Effective management of youth centers" is being implemented aimed at the enhancement of the capacity and quality of work of the youth centers. In 2019 4 trainings were held in Kyiv, Vynnytsia, Sumy, Dnipropetrovsk regions with the participation of 130 representatives of youth centers from all regions of Ukraine.

The Ministry is currently launching the Training program for representatives of youth advisory bodies (youth councils/youth parliaments).

In the framework of the implementation of Ukrainian-Polish and Ukrainian-Lithuanian youth exchanges the contests of projects among non-governmental organizations working with youth in Ukraine, Poland and Lithuania were held. 98 projects of the Ukrainian-Polish and Ukrainian-Lithuanian youth exchanges are implemented in 2019 with the participation of more than 2 000 young people.

National Competition "Youth Capital of Ukraine" is organized on the example of the "European Youth Capital" competition (in 2019 the city of Kamianets-Podilskyi was designated as the Youth Capital).

The Program of youth internships in Ministries and other governmental bodies is being implemented under coordination of the Ministry aimed to increase the youth participation in the process of the state reform (100 young people had internships in 18 governmental authorities in 2019).

The Ministry initiated several events devoted to European Youth Week in May 2019. The flagship event – National Youth Forum “Democracy and Me” – was organized on May 5th in Kyiv by the Ministry, American Councils for International Education, National Erasmus+ Office in Ukraine. The event provided young Ukrainians with an opportunity to deepen their understanding of European values, discuss the main directions and priorities of the European Union policy and to propose their own effective models for the harmonization of Ukrainian and European societies.
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