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Elements for a Council of Europe reference framework for a youth perspective

***Follow-up to the Reykjavik Declaration
4th Summit of Heads of State and Government***

Item 4 on the agenda

Secretariat proposal
prepared by the Youth Department
Directorate of Democratic Participation
Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity

Elements for a Council of Europe reference framework for a youth perspective

Follow-up to the Reykjavik Declaration - 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government

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Decisions:**The Joint Council on Youth (CMJ):**

- thanked the CCJ for its preparatory work and contribution to the 4th Council of Europe Summit;
- underlined that the Reykjavik Declaration sets out a novel approach for the Council of Europe's work: including a youth perspective in the Organisation's intergovernmental and other deliberations, a new dimension which adds to the principle of youth participation in decision-making which the Council of Europe has been implementing in its co-management sector for more than 50 years;
- stressed that this new perspective should be explored in all its scope and to the broadest extent possible, through a multi-staged process which will result in a shared understanding of this novel approach throughout the Organisation;
- adopted the elements for a Council of Europe reference framework for a youth perspective, as set out in document CMJ(2023)44 as amended during the discussion, which read as follows:
 - Youth perspective is an attitude – Think with Youth;
 - Youth perspective is an experience – Learn from and with Youth;
 - Youth perspective is a skill – Participate with Youth;
 - Youth perspective as an action – Act with and for Youth
- instructed the secretariat to transmit it to the Committee of Ministers and to explore further opportunities to engage with the Committee of Ministers in a dialogue on the implementation of a youth perspective within the Organisation;
- called upon the Committee of Ministers to adopt a reference framework on a youth perspective as part of the decisions to be presented to the 133rd Ministerial Session in May 2024, which will mark the 75th anniversary of the Council of Europe;
- set up a working group on the implementation of the integration of a youth perspective in the Council of Europe. The Group shall consist of representatives from the CDEJ, CCJ and the Youth Department and shall be entrusted with the task of ensuring the strategic plan for the implementation of the youth perspective in the work of the Council of Europe. The Working group will consist of Zia Perko Rogejl (CCJ), Nina Grmuša (CCJ), nn (CDEJ), nn (CDEJ), and one representative from the European Youth Forum;
- entrusted the working group with the task of preparing a policy paper on the integration of a youth perspective in the work of the Council of Europe, to be discussed at its 50th meeting, and of developing methodological guidelines and an action plan for the integration of a youth perspective into the work of the Council of Europe, with a view to their presentation at its 51st meeting, and of liaising with the various bodies and organisations of the Council of Europe to provide all the necessary support for the implementation of this perspective. It also asked the Youth Department to report on the progress made at this meeting.

We set the Council of Europe on a new path of increased transparency and cooperation with its stakeholders, with strengthened visibility and sufficient resources. This should include a youth perspective in the Organisation's intergovernmental and other deliberations as youth participation in decision-making processes improves the effectiveness of public policies and strengthens democratic institutions through open dialogue. We also call for a review and further reinforcement of the Organisation's outreach to, and meaningful engagement with, civil society organisations and national human rights institutions.

Reykjavik Declaration, 16 May 2023

1. The Reykjavik Declaration sets out a novel approach for the Council of Europe's work: including a youth perspective in the Organisation's intergovernmental and other deliberations. This dimension is in addition to the principle of youth participation in decision-making, which the Summit confirmed and which the Council of Europe has been implementing in its co-managed youth sector for more than 50 years. Several Committee of Ministers' Recommendations and the Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life are the fruit of the co-managed decision-making structure. The Reykjavik Declaration demands a youth perspective and youth participation in decision-making processes in public policies and democratic institutions in general.

2. To include a youth perspective in the Council of Europe's intergovernmental and other deliberations, it is pertinent to explore the full potential of this new dimension in the functioning of the Council of Europe in all its scope and to the broadest extent possible. The integration of a youth perspective represents, first and foremost, an opportunity for all the different sectors and bodies of the organisation, to increase the relevance, openness and sustainability of their policies and activities, and to create the conditions for a better implementation and ownership by member states at national, regional and local levels. Moreover, considering the widely recognised capacity of the youth sector to reach out extensively youth civil society organisations, it is also an opportunity for the different sectors and bodies to implement another key priority of the Reykjavik Declaration, which is to strengthen the Organisation's outreach and meaningful engagement with civil society.
4. Integrating a youth perspective involves a multi-staged process which will result in a shared understanding of this novel approach and meet the objectives of inclusion, transparency, and meaningful cooperation with young people. This, in turn, should be underpinned by sufficient resources and an increased visibility of policies, instruments, and impact.
5. A youth perspective in the Organisation's work will also impact on youth participation in decision-making processes in the Council of Europe and, more generally, in the member states, and facilitate a better implementation of the Organisation's standards in all domains. Youth participation should be strengthened, broadened, and enlarged in scope in anticipation of the novel approach's probable impact over the coming years, building on the [Council of Europe Youth Sector Strategy 2030](#) and on the acquis of its Youth Department. An increasing demand for youth perspectives from the whole Organisation can nevertheless be expected and, in turn, sufficient capacity for meaningful, democratically anchored, and evidence-based input must be ensured. Additional resources may be required to accompany generational change and knowledge transfer within the Organisation overall, including in member states' authorities cooperating in the intergovernmental committees and bodies, because of the perennial turnover of youth cohorts.
6. In view of the 133rd session of the Committee of Ministers in May 2024 in Strasbourg, which will mark the 75th anniversary of the Council of Europe, a reference framework should be developed for the Organisation, the Joint Council on Youth (CMJ), the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) and the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) will inspire, inform and guide the process. The reference framework should be included in the draft decisions presented to the Ministers in May 2024 with the aim to orient the Organisation towards the full integration of the youth perspective for the coming years, complementing and updating the Council of Europe youth strategy 2030, substantiating the Reykjavik Principles for Democracy, and taking into consideration the Call for Action issued by the 450 young participants in the 2022 Youth Action Week: Democracy Now!. In turn, the deliberations of the 75th anniversary ministerial session in May 2024 will already benefit from an emerging youth perspective, in both substantive and ceremonial aspects, to chart the way ahead for the Organisation. The Committee of Ministers may also provide guidance for the preparation of the next European Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth.
7. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe will examine, at the end of 2023, a draft resolution on strengthening the youth perspective in its work, not least to help revitalise representative democracy. The Advisory Council has contributed thanks to regular exchange and contacts to the draft text. The adoption of a resolution aiming at a change in operational practices and amendments to the rules of procedure to take effect with the start of the 2024 session of the Parliamentary Assembly.
8. Initial exchanges are being held by the Youth Department with the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, the Commissioner for Human Rights, bodies set up by partial agreements (such as the Council of Europe Development Bank, the European Commission for Democracy through Law, the Observatory for History Teaching in Europe, the European Directorate for the Quality of Medicines & HealthCare, etc.) and across the Secretariat to facilitate the inclusion of a youth perspective through a reflection about conceptual and capacity requirements, and needs.
9. By nature of its activities, and thanks to its track record of achievements in including a youth perspective through the co-management structures and standards, the Directorate for Democratic Participation and the Youth Department are reviewing how their work can be further enhanced by the novel approach, whereby the youth sector acts as conduit for the Organisation's youth perspective between stakeholders. The youth sector's programmes, policies, and activities, both

current and since its establishment, their outcomes and impact, their practice and effectiveness, constitute a unique resource for ensuring a dynamic youth perspective which shall benefit from a general conceptual framework. It is proposed to elaborate this framework, which will also be promoted and supported by dedicated activities, in time for its adoption in May 2024 by the Committee of Ministers, when the Organisation will mark its 75th anniversary, to safeguard its importance for future generations thanks to the recurrent engagement of young people today.

10. A Council of Europe reference framework for a youth perspective shall include the following elements in four interlocking, mutually enhancing, youth-perspective dimensions, setting up a novel approach supporting the dynamic triangle of standard-setting-monitoring-cooperation for the whole Organisation.

Youth perspective is an attitude – Think with Youth

This new path for the Organisation requires a revitalised engagement of persons and institutions with the ambitions, situation and living conditions of young people, including their organisations, youth work and the structures which engage and benefit them. This includes a positive outlook on the contribution and change young people will bring to the Organisation's development and their contribution to achieving greater European unity, as well as awareness of the situation of young people and how they consider or approach different issues. This can be facilitated *inter alia* by dedicated and evidence-based research.

Youth perspective is an experience – Learn from and with Youth

Transparency, cooperation and youth participation require an openness, readiness and preparedness to experience open dialogue with young people, their organisations, youth work and the structures which engage and benefit them. They also require the attitude to accept the issues raised as relevant for the inclusion in the agenda of intergovernmental committees and other deliberations, which may need an adapted, multi-perspective and increasingly dynamic, hence novel approach. The participation of young people in democratic life and decision-making processes, as a priority for fostering the Reykjavik Principles for Democracy, requires support through a welcoming and enabling environment.

Youth perspective is a skill – Participate with Youth

This requires training and education, in non-formal as well as formal settings, about human rights, democratic values and the principles of the rule of law, for all stakeholders, young people as well as other generations. Values such as pluralism, inclusion, non-discrimination, transparency and accountability, need sufficient resources and spaces, including learning and living infrastructures for young persons, underpinned by civil society, youth organisations and other associations which are able to operate free from hinderance, insecurity and violence. This includes effective and youth-sector specific administrative and capital investments in standard-setting infrastructure such as the European Youth Centres as unique educational and training institutions, the further development of the European Youth Foundation and the broadening of aspects – and the spirit – of the co-management principles, also as an experimental intergenerational as well decision-making tool.

Youth perspective is an action - Act with youth and for youth

Opening to, taking into account and acting upon youth perspectives constitutes a strategic choice and conscious orientation towards the challenges facing young people today and in the coming decades, which requires engaging and working actively towards effective participation of young people in decision-making and joint action for implementation. In this regard, adaptation of working methods, capacity-building support and dedicated outreach and visibility efforts are essential elements to ensure the meaningful participation of young people and their effective contribution. This also implies strengthening the accountability towards young people including to sincerely cooperate to act upon young people's initiatives and proposals, the follow-up decisions taken and their effective implementation.

This four-dimensional approach is carried forward horizontally by the mobilisation of resources, public information, communication, and visibility – including through the highest representatives of the Organisation and its member states –, as well as research, knowledge production and dissemination.

By adopting the elements of this reference framework, the Council of Europe could play a pioneering role as initiator of the discussions on how to improve youth participation at all levels, that are taking place in parallel in other international and regional fora. In this regard, it is worth noting that this institutional framework will complement and enrich the guidance already provided to member States, of which the “Guidelines on youth participation 2.0”, also proposed for adoption at the 49th meeting of Joint Council of Youth, represent the most recent development.

Appendix I

Working paper on integrating a youth perspective in the work of the Council of Europe

Introduction

This paper provides a preliminary overview of the current degree of integration of a youth perspective in the work of the Council of Europe, in particular (but not exclusively) in the framework of its intergovernmental activity and having regard to the applicable legal framework. It also proposes some elements of a methodological approach aimed at supporting this integration by identifying critical success factors and actions to be taken to integrate a youth perspective and ensure youth participation within the Organisation.

This is a working document, which may of course evolve in the light of comments and suggestions from the Joint Council on Youth and any decisions taken by the Committee of Ministers concerning the reform of the secretariat and the intergovernmental structure, discussions which are currently under way. It is proposed that an updated version be presented in 2024, at the latest to the 50th meeting of the Joint Council on Youth in April 2024. That version will reflect the changes having taken place within the Organisation by then, and will include an update on the progress made on the integration of a youth perspective through ongoing initiatives.

Part I: Current degree of integration of a youth perspective in the work of the Council of Europe

I. Youth participation in the intergovernmental work, having regard to the applicable legal framework

a. [Committee of Ministers' Resolution CM/Res\(2021\)3](#) on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods envisages various possibilities for the participation of young people in the intergovernmental work of the Council of Europe. As participants or observers, young people and their organisations have the possibility to contribute in a sustained way to the work of an intergovernmental committee. Moreover, they can also participate on an ad hoc basis, through hearings or consultancy work.

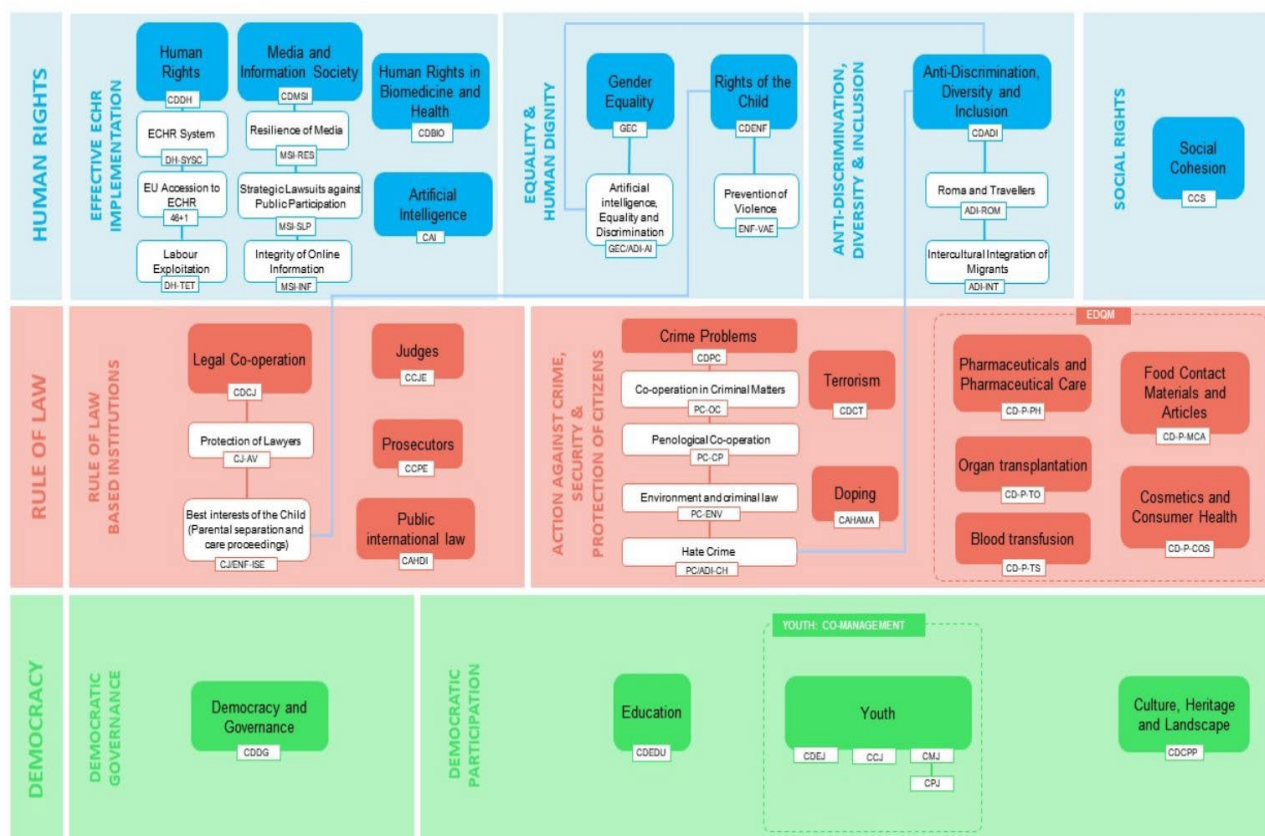
The Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) contributes, as a participant¹ to the work of a number of intergovernmental committees of the Organisation: a mapping carried out in September 2022 indicated that co-operation was ongoing with five steering committees on deliverables ranging from human rights and combating hate speech, to Roma and Travellers and education (see Appendix I).

It should be noted that the intergovernmental structure of the Organisation is quite broad in scope, with 23 intergovernmental committees and their sub-committees, as the following diagram shows:

[Council of Europe intergovernmental structure in 2022-2023. Source: Directorate of Programme and Budget; under review]

¹ See the above-mentioned Resolution, particularly III on Composition, n° 6, letter B. *Participants (...)*

7. *Participants shall take part in the meetings of committees with no right to vote nor defrayal of expenses unless otherwise indicated. They are: a. representatives of committees or other bodies of the Council of Europe engaged in related work (...)*



The Resolution also contemplates the possibility for youth organisations to participate in the work of a committee by obtaining an observer status.² This is the case, for instance, of the European Students' Union (ESU), the European Federation for Intercultural Learning (EFIL) and the Organising Bureau of European School Students Unions (OBESSU) which have observer status with the Steering Committee for Education (CDEDU); and the European Youth Forum with the European Committee for Social Cohesion (CCS).

Finally, the participation of young people in intergovernmental work can also take the form of hearings, for example to advise a committee or body on specific issues or deliverables, at the invitation of the committee or body concerned.³ This happened in the framework of the preparations of the 4th Council of Europe Summit when the Advisory Council on Youth was consulted by the Committee of Ministers with a view to gathering young people's views and expectations of the 4th Summit. Young people or representatives of youth organisations can also advise on issues that fall within the remit or workplan of that committee as paid consultants.

In conclusion, the applicable legal framework on intergovernmental work is an enabling one for youth participation, although it is subject to a number of substantive, procedural and financial requirements. Beyond the legal framework, the interest and readiness of the committee concerned to integrate a youth perspective and the availability of funds for this purpose are decisive elements.

² See the above-mentioned Resolution, particularly III on Composition, n° 8, letter C. Observers: Observers from States or organisations other than those referred to in paragraph 7.b above. They shall be admitted to steering committees, ad hoc committees and any subordinate body answerable to them in the following manner:

a. as a general rule, upon their request to the Secretary General, observers are admitted, to steering and ad hoc committees or any subordinate body answerable to them, on the basis of a unanimous decision by that steering or ad hoc committee; in the event where unanimity is not reached, the matter may be referred to the Committee of Ministers at the request of two-thirds of the members of the committee concerned. The Committee of Ministers shall decide on the matter by a two-thirds majority of all the representatives entitled to sit on it;

9. Observers shall have no right to vote nor defrayal of expenses.

³ See Appendix to CM/res (2021)3, Article 4, Hearings: Committees and subordinate bodies may organise hearings with international organisations, NGOs, research and academic institutions, experts, specialists, specialist organisations and professional organisations, in a position to contribute to their work, within the limits of available budgetary appropriations.

b. Co-operation with other bodies of the Organisation

The subject of youth participation in intergovernmental work has also been discussed within the Committee of Ministers. In addition to the above-mentioned exchange of views with the CCJ on the preparation of the 4th Summit, on 1 July 2022, an informal exchange of views was organised by the Committee of Ministers' Rapporteur Group on Legal Co-operation (GR-J) on "the participation of organisations representing youth, in particular the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ), in the development of soft law in the Council of Europe".

The Parliamentary Assembly regularly invites the Advisory Council on Youth to examine its texts to provide a youth perspective, to contribute to hearings and to exchange views with committees on future activities.⁴ Once mainly limited to the Committee on culture, science, education and media and its Sub-committee on education, youth and sport, increasingly the other committees are calling on the CCJ for advice. Currently, the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy is preparing a report which will advocate structured avenues of integrating the youth statutory bodies, and in particular the CCJ, in a meaningful way in the Assembly's activities. The CCJ will soon have an exchange of views with the Rapporteur on this report.

The Advisory Council has also co-operated with the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities. In 2019, it proposed to the Current Affairs Committee a report on "Youth work: the role of local and regional authorities", and in 2021 a report on "The future of youth in rural areas: responsibilities of local and regional authorities". This co-operation focuses only on issues surrounding young people, which fall within the competence of the Current Affairs Committee. The Advisory Council has not managed to initiate co-operation with the Governance or Monitoring Committees. It should be noted the Congress implements a youth delegates programme, whereby one young person per member State is selected to take part, each year, in sessions and activities. The youth delegates, who are from very diverse backgrounds, have no voting rights however can participate in debates.

c. Conclusion

The progressive participation of young people can be observed in several areas of work of the Council of Europe, although it has not yet reached its full potential. The PACE, the Congress, the Committee of Ministers and several intergovernmental committees have already taken steps in this regard.

It is also worth recalling that the Council of Europe's co-management system, which celebrated 50 years in 2022, represents the most advanced model of youth participation worldwide, with young people co-deciding, including on the use made of the budget, co-managing and co-implementing the Council of Europe youth sector's programme of activities. Although co-management is a specificity of the youth sector, which cannot be reproduced as such in the other committees due to the limitations set by the intergovernmental regulatory framework, it is important that it inspires and guides, with its founding values, the integration of a youth perspective throughout the organisation, which was defined as a priority by the Reykjavik Declaration and which relies in a first place on an effective and real youth participation.

However, some critical issues must be addressed if the Summit's decisions are to be implemented and a youth perspective fully integrated, these are examined in the following section.

Part II: How to support a stronger integration of a youth perspective within the organisation?

I. Critical factors to integrate a youth perspective in the work of the Council of Europe

a. The need to engage with the other intergovernmental committees on the basis of a tailor-made approach

As can be deduced from the above diagram, the competences and areas of work of the intergovernmental committees of the Council of Europe are very varied and it is likely that the needs of the committees, with regard to the integration of a youth perspective, will also be different. It is important that the Council of Europe youth sector - under the aegis of its statutory bodies - discusses with the different committees

⁴ Resolution 2372 (2021) human rights violations in Belarus require an international investigation; Resolution 2378 (2021) strengthening the role of young people in the prevention and resolution of conflicts; Resolution 2397 (2022) more participatory democracy to tackle climate change; Resolution 2192 (2017) youth against corruption; hearings on the impact of COVID19 pandemic on education and culture; on addressing inequalities in access to environmental rights; exchanges of views with the Committee on culture, science, education and media; and the Sub-Committee on refugee and migrant children and young people.

their needs and engages with them on a bilateral basis, with a view to identifying the most suitable way to integrate a youth perspective in a meaningful way. There should not be a one-size-fits-all recipe for integrating a youth perspective, but different recipes according to needs.

As mentioned earlier, the added value that integrating a youth perspective will bring to the work of intergovernmental committees cannot be stressed enough. Integrating such a perspective contributes to increasing the relevance, openness and sustainability of standards and policies, and to create the conditions for a better implementation and ownership by member states at national, regional and local levels. Moreover, considering the widely recognised capacity of the youth sector to reach out extensively to end beneficiaries from civil society⁵, it is also an opportunity to implement another key priority of the Reykjavik Declaration, which is to strengthen the Organisation's outreach and meaningful engagement with civil society.

As already mentioned, many committees have never experienced the participation of a young person in their meetings or activities. Therefore, it will be important to help them understand the added value of such participation (as well as the importance of avoiding a tokenistic approach and ensuring full integration into the work of the committee) and to help them identify youth representatives who can make a positive contribution. In other committees where a young person is already active, consideration may be given, if appropriate, to increasing the level of participation by opening it up to youth organisations that have expressed an interest in participating in the work of the committee with observer status.

Some committees may wish to adapt their working methods, using more inclusive and engaging language, and/or establishing a mechanism for feedback from young people on their work, and/or carrying out some activities in places where young people can interact with them, such as youth centres, and/or adapting their communication strategies and tools to reach a wider audience of young people.

Others may favour a thematic approach that examines interactions with young people in certain areas of activity (see, for example, the CDDG's interest in exploring how young people contribute to new forms of deliberative and participatory democracy). Others might consider engaging with youth organisations in the framework of bilateral cooperation or advisory activities in order to obtain the views of young people on issues of interest or to strengthen the capacity of young people to implement Council of Europe standards in member states.

It is also important to learn from successful examples already existing within the Organisation with regard to the integration of the youth perspective, such as for instance, the organisation of youth fora on specific issues or the appointment of Rapporteurs.

While flexibility should be ensured, it is important that some minimum requirements are also met and that the philosophy and working methods of co-management guide the integration of a youth perspective within the Council of Europe.

In this regard, the decision as to how to implement a youth perspective shall preferably be made with the active participation and contribution of young people under the age of 30 – this is important as young people bring a fresh and new perspective, which the committee may have not considered, as well as more sustainability in policy-making.

Integrating a youth perspective is in fact different from youth mainstreaming, as it is based on the participation of young people in decision-making, drawing on values such as mutual respect and trust, inclusiveness, sustained commitment, transparency and collaboration, which are the founding values of the [Council of Europe Youth Sector Strategy 2030](#).

Most importantly, the involvement through the Youth Department, of the youth statutory bodies and in particular the Advisory Council of Youth - which, with its 30 representatives from youth organisations provides the voice of young people in the Council of Europe – in the process of furthering the youth perspective in the organisation is key. This will be better examined under part II, section I c).

b. Funding

While the last budget of the Council of Europe was adopted on the basis of zero real growth (i.e. taking inflation into account), it remains that the costs for the operation and activities of the committees have increased over the past years. If no financial incentive is forthcoming, or worse, core activities of the

⁵ See in this regard the [report](#) of the Directorate of Internal Oversight of the Council of Europe, entitled "Evaluation of civil society participation in co-operation activities", issued in June 2023, point 83.

committees themselves are negatively impacted, there is a risk that the integration of the youth perspective will not take hold. The availability of adequate funding for allowing the participation of young people in intergovernmental work and other deliberations is thus a key success factor, in addition to allocating adequate funding to the Youth Department in order to support the integration of a youth perspective within the organisation.

II. A roadmap to integrate a youth perspective within the Council of Europe

In order to respond effectively to the challenges described above, it is proposed that a number of actions be carried out internally within the Youth Department as well as externally, towards other sectors of the Council of Europe.

Internal action must strengthen the capacity of the CCJ to deal with incoming requests of support to integrating a youth perspective. External action should aim to foster an understanding, by all the other sectors of the Organisation, of what integrating a youth perspective entails and the steps they can take in this respect.

a. CCJ capacity building

It is important to make sure – through training – that CCJ members and the young experts invited to provide a youth perspective are competent and bring added value to the work of other committees.

The 4th Summit's outcomes will be part of the induction course for the new 2024-25 Advisory Council term of office. CCJ members will be trained so they are fully aware of the specific context of the Council of Europe's intergovernmental co-operation and how they can best help. This could be followed also by individual capacity-building sessions aimed at fostering the understanding of the work of the committee concerned and how the CCJ member can make an effective contribution, relying *inter alia* on the resources and tools of the Youth department in that specific field. Bilateral meetings will also be organised to support a tailored integration in the committee concerned.

b. Capacity building of intergovernmental committees and other sectors of the Organisation

Council of Europe staff members will be trained on how to integrate a youth perspective in the intergovernmental work. Colleagues having already experienced the added value of such participation on subjects sometimes of a very technical and specialised nature will be invited to share their positive experience.

Bilateral meetings with interested committees will follow, in order to agree with them on how to support the integration of a youth perspective into their work, taking into account their needs and available resources. As mentioned above in section I a, several options can be explored for this purpose.

Support materials such as guidelines and checklists on youth participation will also be prepared.

The Youth Department will also support strengthening co-operation with the PACE, the upcoming report on Establishment of a "youth partnership" status will provide an excellent basis for discussions on how to proceed. More meaningful co-operation with the Congress could be sought through contacts with the secretariat, specifically the recently elected Secretary General suggested a meeting to the CCJ vice-chair when they met in Reykjavik.

c. The role of European Youth Centres in Strasbourg and Budapest

The European Youth Centres (EYCs) in Strasbourg and Budapest provide an open door to the Council of Europe and its institutions and promote its values to thousands of young people from all member states. Thanks to their in-house educational expertise and rights-based methodology, the two multilateral residential training centres represent the quality standard and reference for the provision of non-formal education in human rights and democracy, including through the Council of Europe Quality Label for Youth Centres. The EYCs also provide cost-effective, administratively and technologically integrated facilities to the activities and events organised by other Council of Europe sectors, reinforcing the mainstreaming of the youth perspective across the organisation, a priority under the Reykjavik Declaration.

Appendix II

Working document on the mapping of the CCJ's co-operation with steering committees and their subordinate bodies

Committee	Current co-operation	Deliverables	Deadline deliverable	Notes
CDDH Steering Committee for Human Rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CCJ participates in meetings; – CCJ 2020-22 participated in CDDH-ENV meetings; – Analysis of caselaw of the ECtHR and young people pending; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Draft CM rec on human rights and environment (draft approved by CDDH in 06/22); 12. Workshop/conference/dialogue on HR of members of the armed forces (CM/Rec(2010)4), with attention to issues concerning conscientious objection to compulsory military service; 16. Handbook on HR and AI; 17. Workshop/conference/dialogue on the system of the ECHR in university education and professional training (CM/Rec(2019)5); 	<p>30/06/2022</p> <p>31/12/2023</p> <p>31/12/2024</p> <p>31/12/2024</p>	<p>CDDH invited to participate in the consultative meeting of the CMJ drafting group on climate change;</p> <p>No 12: Nikol Parvanova participated, specific interest of last CCJ ToO to work on this subject;</p> <p>No 16: propose contribution of youth perspective;</p> <p>No 17: possible contribution of student organisations represented on CCJ?</p>
CDMSI Steering Committee on Media and Information Society	<p>Previous participation of CCJ in meetings, mainly concerning digitalisation and internet governance;</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Recommendation on combating hate speech, review promising practices at national level of the implementation of relevant aspects of the Recommendation within its mandate (in cooperation with CDADI); 10. Study on the role of social media and other digital platforms in the public debate/formation of public opinion, its implications for human rights, and strategies for the Council of Europe and its member States to mitigate its adverse effects, in the light of the conclusions and recommendations of the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Media and Information Society (10-11 June 2021); 11. Study on the implications of digitalisation on individuals' self-determination in the online environment: ensuring human rights, freedom of choice and action; 12. Recommendation on combating hate speech, review report on the implementation of relevant aspects of the of the Recommendation (jointly with CDADI); 	<p>31/12/2024</p> <p>31/12/2025</p> <p>31/12/2025</p> <p>31/12/2025</p>	<p>No 10: contribution of youth perspective to this deliverable, co-operation with CCJ, possibly through opinion on study? Contribution from PEYR?</p> <p>No 11: as for no 10;</p> <p>No 12: as per no 8;</p>

Committee	Current co-operation	Deliverables	Deadline deliverable	Notes
CAI Committee on Artificial Intelligence	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – Previous CCJ co-operation with CAHAI; – CCJ participates in meetings; 	Appropriate legal instrument on the development, design, and application of artificial intelligence systems based on the Council of Europe's standards on human rights, democracy and the rule of law, and conducive to innovation, in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Committee of Ministers	31/12/2023	Contribution of youth perspective;
CDENF Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CCJ participation in the past has been based on individuals' professional/organisational interest, for example one member was working with migrant children; – There is a "children's rights" portfolio in 2022-23. 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 4. Guide of good practice for the participation of children in decision-making processes on matters relating to their health (jointly with the CDBIO); 6. Report on children as defenders of human rights; 7. Implementation review report of Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)11 on effective guardianship for unaccompanied and separated children in the context of migration; 16. Report on the rights of the child and artificial intelligence; 	<p>31/12/2024</p> <p>31/12/2023</p> <p>31/12/2023</p> <p>31/12/2025</p>	<p>Any of these deliverables could be of interest to the CCJ, pending availability of budgetary resources.</p> <p>No co-operation yet.</p>
CDADI Steering Committee on Anti- discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CCJ has been co-operating regularly with this committee and its predecessors, as well as its subordinate committees (ADI-ROM; no co-operation as yet from CCJ side yet: GT-ADI-SOGI, ADI-INT); – ETD also co-operating with Roma and Travellers team; 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mid-term review report on the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025) (cf. ToR ADI-ROM); 2. <i>Draft comprehensive recommendation on combating hate crime including its investigation and victim support (cf. terms of reference of PC/ADI-CH, jointly with CDPC);</i> 3. Draft Recommendation on active political participation of national minority youth; 4. Draft Recommendation on equality for Roma and Traveller women and girls (cf. ToR ADI-ROM); 6. Study the impact of artificial intelligence systems, their potential for promoting equality – including gender equality - and the risks they may cause in relation to non-discrimination (jointly with GEC) in close co-operation with CAI; 7. Recommendation on combating hate speech: review of promising practices at national level of the implementation of relevant aspects of 	<p>31/12/2022</p> <p>31/12/2023</p> <p>31/12/2023</p> <p>31/12/2023</p> <p>31/12/2023</p> <p>31/12/2023</p> <p>31/12/2024</p> <p>31/12/2025</p>	<p>No 1: continuation of co-operation with ADI-ROM/Roma & Travellers team;</p> <p>No 2: possible contribution of youth perspective however this is a sub-cmte of the CDPC, maybe require legal knowledge?</p> <p>No 3: member of drafting group;</p> <p>No 4: member of drafting group;</p> <p>No 6: contribution of youth perspective to this deliverable, co-operation with CCJ, possibly through opinion on study?</p>

Committee	Current co-operation	Deliverables	Deadline deliverable	Notes
		<p>the Recommendation within its mandate (in co-operation with CDMSI);</p> <p>8. Subject to the result of main deliverable 6, possible specific legal instrument on the impact of artificial intelligence systems, their potential for promoting equality – including gender equality - and the risks they may cause in relation to non-discrimination (cf. ToR GEC/ADI-AI jointly with GEC and in close cooperation with CAI);</p> <p>9. Subject to the adoption of a Recommendation on multilevel policies and governance for intercultural integration, capacity-building programme and tools for migrant integration supporting its implementation at national level (Cf. ToR ADI-INT);</p> <p>10. Feasibility study and possible draft Recommendation on desegregation and inclusion policies and practices in the field of education including Roma and Traveller children (Cf. terms of reference of ADI-ROM);</p> <p>11. Draft Recommendation on the equality of rights of intersex persons;</p> <p>12. Feasibility study and possible new legal and/or benchmarking instrument on comprehensive strategies for inclusion (cf. ToR ADI-INT);</p> <p>13. Comprehensive review of the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)5 based on a new review methodology;</p> <p>14. Recommendation on combating hate speech, review report on the implementation of relevant aspects of the Recommendation (jointly with CDMSI)</p> <p>16. Study on the risk of discrimination and impediments to the full access to rights resulting from statelessness, including of persons belonging to national minorities and Roma and Travellers, and identification of good practices in member States;</p> <p>17. Handbook on democratic governance and representation and participation of Roma and</p>	<p>31/12/2025</p> <p>31/12/2025</p> <p>31/12/2025</p> <p>31/12/2025</p> <p>31/12/2025</p> <p>31/12/2025</p> <p>31/12/2025</p> <p>31/12/2025</p> <p>31/12/2025</p>	<p>No 8: contribution of youth perspective to this deliverable, co-operation with AI portfolio holder and/or CMJ GER?</p> <p>No 9: contribution of youth perspective to this deliverable, co-operation with CCJ?</p> <p>No 10: participation of CMJ rapporteur on Roma issues?</p> <p>No 11: possible contribution of youth perspective if necessary expertise available in CCJ; No 12: possible contribution of youth perspective if necessary expertise available in CCJ;</p> <p>No 13: dissemination of review questionnaire (if one is issued) through networks?</p> <p>No 16: continuation of co-operation with ADI-ROM/Roma & Travellers team;</p> <p>No 17: contribution of youth perspective to this deliverable, co-operation with CMJ rapporteur on Roma issues?</p>

Committee	Current co-operation	Deliverables	Deadline deliverable	Notes
		<p>Travellers in public and political life (cf. ToR ADI-ROM);</p> <p>18. Final evaluation report on the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan for Roma and Traveller Inclusion (2020-2025) (cf. terms of reference of ADI-ROM);</p> <p>20. At least two thematic reports per year, emanating from the two, possibly three, thematic visits foreseen per year (to be adopted by ADI-ROM and transmitted to CDADI for discussions and follow-up) (cf. terms of reference of ADI-ROM);</p>	31/12 each year	<p>No 18: continuation of co-operation with ADI-ROM/Roma & Travellers team;</p> <p>No 20: contribution of youth perspective to this deliverable, co-operation with CMJ rapporteur on Roma issues?</p>
CCS European Committee for Social Cohesion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – CCS ToR specifically mentions ensuring enjoyment of social rights, with a special emphasis on young people; – Some participation in former European Social Cohesion Platform by former CCJ members; – The CCJ chair and vice-chair may meet the secretary to the CCS in September; 	<p>4. Draft Recommendation on social cohesion enablers;</p> <p>6. Draft Recommendation on poverty eradication, including the challenges stemming from migration and global warming;</p> <p>7. Report/Study on integrated approaches to sustainable development, with particular reference to social security, employment, human resources development and health;</p> <p>8. Conference on ensuring effective rights for persons in vulnerable situations</p>	<p>31/12/2023</p> <p>31/12/2023</p> <p>31/12/2024</p> <p>31/12/2025</p> <p>31/12/2025</p>	<p>The CCJ could usefully co-operate with the CCS to contribute the youth perspective to all of the deliverables listed here;</p> <p>NB the committee is likely to cease to exist after 2023</p>
CDDG European Committee on Democracy and Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The CDDG secretariat wishes to create synergies with the youth sector around activities on participatory democracy. – Regarding participatory democracy, CMJ deliverable no 8 is relevant: CMJ guidelines to implement Recommendation Rec(2006)14 on citizenship and participation of young people in public life, as well as Congress Resolution 152 (2003) on the revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life. 	<p>2. Report on new forms of deliberative and participatory democracy, with a view to complementing Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)4 on the participation of citizens in local public life and the 2017 Guidelines on civil participation in decision-making and taking into account its own work on e-democracy;</p> <p>4. Handbook on the use of digital technologies and artificial intelligence by the public administration, identifying case studies, best practice and policy recommendations;</p>	<p>31/12/2023</p> <p>31/12/2024</p>	<p>No 2: the CCJ could usefully contribute the youth perspective to these two deliverables;</p>

Committee	Current co-operation	Deliverables	Deadline deliverable	Notes
CDEDU Steering Committee for Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> – The CCJ is systematically represented on this committee by the ESU representative; – EFIL and OBESSU also have observer status with CDEDU. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Draft Recommendation on the importance of plurilingual and intercultural education for democratic culture; 4. Guidance document on implementation of the Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture for digital citizenship education; 6. Monitoring report on the implementation of the Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture; 7. Draft Education Strategy (2024-2030); 11. Guidance document on the implementation of the Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture in non-formal education; 12. Standard-setting instrument on inclusive quality education; 13. Standard-setting instrument on furthering ethics, transparency and integrity in education, 14. Standard-setting instrument on ensuring the right to education in times of emergency; 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 31/12/2022 31/12/2023 31/12/2023 01/07/2024 31/12/2024 31/12/2025 31/12/2025 31/12/2025 	The CCJ could contribute a youth perspective to this work although, for budgetary reasons, the three youth NGOs with observer status (all of which are or have been (regular) members of the CCJ) could be invited to ensure this is done.

Appendix III

Council of Europe standards and resources on youth participation

Committee of Ministers

Resolution CM/Res(2020)2 on the Council of Europe youth sector strategy 2030

Recommendation CM/Rec(2023)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on Roma youth participation

Recommendation Rec(2006)14 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on citizenship and participation of young people in public life

Recommendation Rec(2004)13 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the participation of young people in local and regional life

Recommendation No. R (97) 3 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on youth participation and the future of civil society

[CM\(2017\)83 Guidelines for civil participation in political decision making](#) (see appendix for extensive list of reference texts on participation in political decision making)

Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

[Refreshing the youth agenda of the Council of Europe](#) (2008)

[Youth policies in the Council of Europe](#) (2002)

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

[Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life](#)

[Have your say! Manual on the Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life](#) (New Edition) (2015)

Centre of expertise for good governance

[Civil participation in decision making – toolkit](#)

Conference of INGOs

[Code of Good Practice for Civil Participation in the decision making process](#)