

JOINT COUNCIL ON YOUTH (CMJ)

Set up by the Committee of Ministers under Article 17 of the Statute of the Council of Europe and in accordance with Resolution CM/Res(2021)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

Type of committee: **Ad hoc Committee**

Terms of reference valid from: **1 January 2022 until 31 December 2025**¹

PILLAR/PROGRAMME/SUB-PROGRAMME ▼
Pillar: Democracy Programme: Democratic participation Sub-programme: Youth for democracy
MAIN TASKS ▼
<p>Under the authority of the Committee of Ministers, the CMJ will oversee the Council of Europe's programme in the youth field and advise the Committee of Ministers on all questions within its area of competence. The CMJ, within the framework of the Council of Europe policy established by the Committee of Ministers, is the policy-making body of the youth sector, bringing together the members of the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) and the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ).</p> <p>In particular, the CMJ is instructed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) ensure the follow-up of the relevant decisions taken at the 131st Session of the Committee of Ministers (Hamburg, 21 May 2021),² and in particular contribute to the implementation of the key strategic priorities relating to its specific field of expertise as identified in the Strategic Framework of the Council of Europe, and respond to the respective key findings and challenges set out in the Secretary General's 2021 Report on the state of democracy, human rights and rule of law "A democratic renewal for Europe"; (ii) develop jointly between member States and non-governmental youth organisations standards of European youth policy with a view to submitting them, where appropriate, to the Committee of Ministers and other relevant bodies of the Council of Europe; (iii) prepare the priorities and expected results of the youth sector and apportion the budgetary means available in the political and budgetary framework established by the Committee of Ministers; (iv) establish the youth sector's structure and policy for its programme, in particular through the Strasbourg and Budapest European Youth Centres and the European Youth Foundation; (v) contribute to the effective mainstreaming of youth policies into the Council of Europe's programme of activities; (vi) contribute to the cross-cutting activities of the Council of Europe that concern and impact youth, including as appropriate in the field of artificial intelligence; (vii) where appropriate, contribute to the preparation of the Council of Europe Conferences of Ministers responsible for Youth and ensure, as appropriate, that any decisions taken by the Committee of Ministers subsequent to the Conferences are followed up; (viii) identify opportunities for input and/or complementary measures and programmes by the Council of Europe taking into consideration the activities of other international organisations, in particular the European Union and the United Nations; (ix) implement the youth-related elements of the Council of Europe's thematic and country-specific action plans as necessary; (x) support youth participation as a way of revitalising pluralistic democracy, with special emphasis on the implementation of relevant Council of Europe standards, including the Recommendation on protecting youth civil society and young people and supporting their participation in democratic processes (subject to approval by the Committee of Ministers), Recommendation Rec(2006)14 on citizenship and participation of young people in public life, and Congress Resolution 152 (2003) on the revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life; (xi) support young people's access to rights by promoting the implementation of the relevant Committee of Ministers' standards in this field, with special emphasis on: Recommendation CM/Rec(2016)7 on young people's access to rights, Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)3 on the access of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods to social rights (ENTER Recommendation), and Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)7 on the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education; (xii) support young people's capacities to promote peaceful and inclusive societies, notably through youth and education-policy measures which prevent and counter hate speech online with special emphasis on the implementation of relevant Council of Europe standards, including Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)4 on supporting young refugees in transition to adulthood; (xiii) support youth work as a way of increasing the possibilities for all young people to contribute actively to society in their living environment, with special emphasis on the implementation of relevant Council of Europe standards, including Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)4 on youth work and the European Youth Work Agenda. (xiv) regularly take stock of the implementation of the Council of Europe youth sector strategy 2030, as set out in Resolution CM/Res(2020)2; (xv) hold an exchange of views annually in order to evaluate its activities and advise the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary General on future priorities in its sector, including possible new activities and those that might be discontinued; (xvi) take due account of the following mainstreamed perspectives in the performance of its tasks: gender, children's rights, rights of persons with disabilities, and Roma and Traveller³ issues;

¹ These terms of reference are approved for the first biennial period 2022-2023. For the second biennial period 2024-2025, they are approved on a provisional basis, subject to confirmation upon the adoption of the budget for 2024-2025.

² [CM/Del/Dec\(2021\)131/2a](#), [CM/Del/Dec\(2021\)131/2b](#), [CM/Del/Dec\(2021\)131/2c](#) and [CM/Del/Dec\(2021\)131/3](#).

³ The term "Roma and Travellers" is used at the Council of Europe to encompass the wide diversity of the groups covered by the work of the Council of Europe in this field: on the one hand a) Roma, Sinti/Manush, Calé, Kaale, Romanichals, Boyash/Rudari; b) Balkan Egyptians (Egyptians and Ashkali); c) Eastern groups (Dom, Lom and Abdal); and, on the other hand, groups such as Travellers, Yenish, and the populations designated under the administrative term "Gens du voyage", as well as persons who identify themselves as Gypsies. The present is an explanatory footnote, not a definition of Roma and/or Travellers.

- (xvii) where relevant, contribute to building cohesive societies and to strengthening the role and meaningful participation of civil society in its work;
- (xviii) contribute to the achievement of, and review progress towards, the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular with regards to Goal 1: No poverty; Goal 3: Good health and well-being; Goal 4: Quality Education; Goal 5: Gender Equality; Goal 8: Decent work and economic growth; Goal 10: Reduce inequality; Goal 11: Sustainable Cities and Communities and Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong institutions.

MAIN DELIVERABLES ▼

Under the authority of the Committee of Ministers, the CMJ is instructed to complete the following deliverables, within the following deadlines:

	Deadline ▼
1. Draft Recommendation on protecting youth civil society and young people and supporting their participation in democratic processes (if no agreement in 2021)	31/12/2022
2. Draft Recommendation on Roma youth participation	31/12/2022
3. Conclusions and recommendations of the review process of Recommendation CM/Rec(2016)7 on young people's access to rights	31/12/2022
4. CMJ guidelines to implement the results of the review process of Recommendation CM/Rec(2015)3 on the access of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods to social rights	31/12/2022
5. Subject to the results of the CMJ working group, CMJ guidelines to implement the European Youth Work Agenda	31/12/2022
6. Conclusions and recommendations of the review process of Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)4 on youth work	31/12/2023
7. Subject to the feasibility and to the results of the CMJ Task Force on the climate crises, CMJ guidelines or draft Recommendation on the climate crisis, young people and democracy	31/12/2023
8. 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	31/12/2023
9. Draft Recommendation on youth and anti-racism (subject to feasibility)	31/12/2024
10. CMJ guidelines or draft Recommendation on rural youth (subject to feasibility)	31/12/2024
11. Mid-term review of the Council of Europe Youth sector strategy 2030	31/12/2025
12. Conclusions and recommendations of the review process of Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)4 on supporting young refugees in transition to adulthood	31/12/2025
13. Further review and dissemination of Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)7 on the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education (throughout the quadrennium)	31/12/2025

COMPOSITION ▼

MEMBERS:

The members of the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) and the members of the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ). Each member of the Committee shall have one vote.

PARTICIPANTS:

The participants in the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) and the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ), without the right to vote and at the charge of their corresponding administrative budgets.

OBSERVERS:

The observers in the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) and the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ), without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses.

The "Pool of European Youth Researchers" (PEYR), co-operating with the Council of Europe Youth Department and the European Commission in the framework of their partnership in the field of youth, will be invited to send a representative without the right to vote. The expenses of this representative will be borne by the Council of Europe in derogation from Resolution CM/Res(2021)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

WORKING METHODS ▼

Plenary meetings ▼ The meetings of the CMJ are held during the meetings of the CDEJ and CCJ.			
	Members incl. Chair	Meetings per year	Days per meeting
2022	81	2	3
2023	81	2	3
2024	81	2	3
2025	81	2	3

The rules of procedure of the Committee are governed by Resolution CM/Res(2021)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

The CMJ will appoint from amongst its members up to 4 Rapporteurs on mainstreamed perspectives, including a Gender Equality Rapporteur.