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CDEJ(2017)13

European University on Youth Policies (“CDEJ Summer University” 2017)

European Youth Centre Budapest, Hungary
29-31 August 2017

REPORT



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POWERPOINT PRESENTATIONS

See separate document First addendum to the report CDEJ(2017)13-add1

GOOD PRACTICES IN THE FIELD OF YOUTH POLICY: information shared by participants

See separate document Second addendum to the report CDEJ(2017)13-add2

INTRODUCTION TO THE SUMMER UNIVERSITY

The 2017 edition of the **European University on Youth Policies**, also known as the **Summer University**, gathered 40 representatives of ministries responsible for youth issues and of youth organisations from across Europe. It took place at the European Youth Centre Budapest.

The Summer University aimed at improving participants' understanding of European approaches to youth policy. Participants also exchanged knowledge and views on youth policy issues relevant to debates taking place in Council of Europe's youth sector. The programme of the Summer University alternated inputs with several good practices sharing and one on-site visit at Corvinus University. This methodology helped participants to understand the practical implications of youth policies.

Background

Over the years, several editions of the European University on Youth Policies have been hosted by individual states. They focused on issues closely linked to European youth policy, such as co-management, youth participation, social inclusion of youth, Roma youth issues, etc.

In 2017, the CDEJ requested the Secretariat to organise the next edition of the Summer University in August 2017, with the aim to **promote a wider discussion on youth policy**.

Aim of the Summer University

To provide members of the CDEJ, Advisory Council and their colleagues with a learning experience, which is likely to improve their capacity to actively participate in the work of the Council of Europe youth sector (particularly in its co-management structures) and to promote Council of Europe standards in youth policy.

Objectives

In accordance with the Council of Europe's package of youth policy development measures, the main objectives of the Summer University were:

- to familiarise participants with the values, objectives, programmes and structures of the Council of Europe and its Youth Department, including in the context of its co-operation with the European Union;
- to improve participants' understanding of European approaches to youth policy;
- to familiarise participants with the reality of youth, youth policy and youth work, notably through the visit of youth projects and the exchange of good practices;
- to exchange knowledge and views on youth policy issues relevant to debates taking place in the Council of Europe's youth sector;
- to facilitate peer advice and networking.

Thematic focus of the 2017 Summer University

In addition to the aim and objectives set above, this year's Summer University focused on the **core Council of Europe standards for youth policy**: access to rights; disadvantaged young people/social inclusion; youth participation; youth mobility and information; youth work.

These standards are mainly based on Recommendations of the Committee of Ministers. Additionally, the Council of Europe's activities in youth policy development and promotion usually try to take into account past experience (lessons learnt from the international reviews of national youth policy) and to focus on the areas where the Organisation has a clear competitive advantage.

The Summer University explored how these standards related to the variety of realities from local and regional to national and European levels. It also provided an opportunity to interrogate and test the main principles of youth policy (e.g. evidence-based, participatory and cross-sectorial). In so doing, the Summer University provided participants with an opportunity to test and provide feedback on a **tool** to help member states to **self-assess their compliance** with the Council of Europe youth policy standards.

The topic of **youth mobility** was explored more in detail through a moderated panel discussion on this matter and a visit to the Corvinus University in Budapest, where mobility projects were presented. A strong involvement of the European Youth Card Association (EYCA) in the Summer University also allowed participants to get deep knowledge about the current trends and debates in the field of youth mobility.

PROGRAMME FLOW of the CDEJ Summer University 2017

Time	Monday 28 August	Tuesday 29 August 2017	Wednesday 30 August 2017	Thursday 31 August 2017	Friday 1 September
8.00	Arrival of participants in Budapest	<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>	<i>Breakfast</i>	Departure of participants
09:30		Opening of the Summer University 9.30: Official welcome Introduction of the aims, objectives and programme Introduction of participants, their expectations and learning needs	Council of Europe's core standards for youth policy <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - access to rights - social inclusion - youth participation - youth work - youth mobility - youth information 	Thematic focus on youth mobility: policy, research and practice 9.30-11.00: moderated panel presentation and discussion 11.00: departure for on-site visit at Corvinus University	
11:00		<i>Coffee break</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>	Discussing concrete projects on youth mobility/youth policy Hungarian mobility/policy projects Good practices from other countries	
11:30		Council of Europe's presentation (video and quiz) Presentation of co-management and of the statutory bodies by the CCJ and CDEJ chairs	How do these standards and principles relate to national realities?	<i>14.00: lunch in a restaurant</i>	
13:00		<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Lunch</i>	Approx. 15.30: return to EYCB	
14:30		Council of Europe's youth policy: definition, objectives and practice (brief introduction) Council of Europe's youth field in details (corners on specific resources: policy support measures, education and training, EYF, Partnership with its EKCYP and PEYR, flagship programmes, decision-making)	Towards a self-assessment tool for youth policy Introduction of the idea of a self-assessment tool Trying out the tool	<i>Session starts at 16.30</i> Impressions from the visits (feedback in plenary) Next steps Implementation: how can I contribute and deliver in my context?	
16:00		<i>Coffee break</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>	
16:30		Key principles of youth policy: Introduction, group work and discussion	Towards a self-assessment tool for youth policy (continued) (feedback)	Evaluation and closing of the event	
18:00		Closing of day	Closing of day	Closing of day	
19.00		<i>Dinner at the EYCB</i>	<i>Dinner at the EYCB</i>	<i>20.00: Dinner-cruise on the Halászbástya ship (until 23.00)</i>	

MAIN OUTCOMES AND CONCLUSIONS

The 2017 edition of the European University on Youth Policies ("Summer University") fully **fulfilled its aim**, particularly by improving the CDEJ and CCJ members' **capacities to actively participate** in the work of the Council of Europe's youth **co-management** structures.

The 40 participants from across Europe came from varied backgrounds: CDEJ members; CCJ members; representatives of ministries responsible for youth issues; representatives of youth organisations; representatives of the European Youth Card Association (EYCA); representatives of the Council of Europe's Youth Department (see Appendix 1, page 6, for the full list of participants). This **rich blend of profiles** enabled participants to exchange knowledge and good practices on youth policy from a very wide array of contexts and experiences.

More specifically, several new CDEJ and CCJ members (or colleagues closely associated with the work of the CDEJ and CCJ) enjoyed the opportunity to learn more about the **Council of Europe's youth sector, its priorities, instruments, programmes and assistance measures**. The active involvement and participation of the chairs of CDEJ and CCJ (as well as of other key representatives of the youth statutory bodies) in the current edition of the Summer University was extremely helpful in this respect.

As can be seen from the participants' evaluation (see Appendix 3, page 18), their **overall assessment was extremely positive**, the vast majority indicating that the Summer University had "achieved" or "fully achieved" its aim and objectives. On average, participants evaluated that more than 75% of their own expectations had been met by the Summer University. Several participants also mentioned their willingness to engage more with the Organisation in the future and/or to contribute to youth policy development in their own context.

Moreover, the Summer University also **promoted a wider discussion on youth policy**, as explicitly requested by the CDEJ at its last meeting. Indeed, it provided participants with an opportunity to explore the **Council of Europe's standards** in youth policy, as well as to concentrate on policy issues relevant to the Council of Europe's youth sector. The programme also featured a **thematic focus on youth mobility** (from policy, research and practice perspectives) and included an on-site visit on this theme, which had been prepared by EYCA and its Hungarian partners.

The detailed structure and outcomes of each of the sessions of the Summer University have been documented in Appendix 2 (see pages 11 to 17).

Last but not least, in accordance with a request by the CDEJ at its 58th meeting (27 March 2017), the Summer University **tested the draft "self-assessment tool on youth policy"**, whose development had been recommended by the CDEJ. The **feedback** on the tool provided by participants was **very positive and constructive**.

All participants agreed that there was a **strong need for such a tool**, which – if adopted by the CDEJ - would be extremely useful in helping member states to self-assess their compliance with the Council of Europe's standards for youth policy. The tool was deemed relevant at national level, even though its use in federal states or in countries where youth issues are being dealt with by local authorities would require extra co-ordination. It was also felt that the tool could be helpful to other stakeholders as well (including international NGOs). The format of the tool was deemed well-structured and coherent and the indicators appropriate, while several concrete suggestions for improving them were made. These suggestions will be integrated in a revised version of the tool, which will be examined and endorsed by the CDEJ at its 59th meeting (16-18 October 2017).

In conclusion, it can be said that, after a few years of interruption (its previous edition took place in 2013), the Summer University regained its role as one of the main **knowledge and capacity-building activities** of the CDEJ annual programme of intergovernmental activities and fulfilled the objectives that had been assigned to it by the CDEJ.

APPENDICES

Appendix 1: List of participants

CDEJ members or substitutes

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Representatives of European Youth Card Association (EYCA)

Louise MACDONALD,
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EYCA Vice-President, Movijovem, Portugal

Manel SÁNCHEZ,
EYCA Director

Jarkko LEHIKONEN,
Alianssi, Finland

Istvan KARASZ,
EYCA Member of the board, HÖÖK, Hungary

Trainer /facilitator and speaker

Zaruhi LAVCHYAN,
Trainer /facilitator

Søren KRISTENSEN,
Researcher/speaker

Secretariat of the Youth Department

Florian CESCOON,
Head of Youth Policy Division

Natalja TURENNE,
Secretary to the CDEJ

Joanne HUNTING,
Secretary to the CCJ

Marta MEDLINSKA,
Partnership Coordinator

Davide CAPECCHI,
Research and Youth Policy Officer, Partnership

Balint MOLNAR,
Deputy Executive Director, European Youth Centre Budapest (Official opening)

Lazlo MILUTINOVITS,
Educational Advisor, European Youth Centre Budapest

Appendix 2: Daily programme: session outlines and detailed outcomes**Tuesday 29 August, 2017****SESSION 1: 29 August (9.30 – 11.00)**

Title	Official opening
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome the participants and set up the scene - Introduce participants to the aims, objectives and programme of the university - Get participants familiar with each other -
Methods and timing	<p>9.30 Opening of the Summer University – Florian Cescon 9.40 Official welcome – Balint Molnar 9.50 Introduction of the aims, objectives, programme – Zaruhi Lavchyan 10.00 Introduction, getting to know the participants (guided questions), expectations and questions to be answered during the event – Zaruhi Lavchyan</p>
Outcomes	<p>This session set the tone, context and atmosphere of the Summer University. It created a positive and constructive space for participants, allowing them to get to know each other both professionally and personally through bilateral discussions. Participants were able to identify and share their learning needs. Several questions on the structure, bodies, priorities and youth programme of the Council of Europe were answered. Participants were also associated with the current discourses, challenges, tools used within the Council of Europe, and raised questions relating to youth policy practices and applicability of standards in member states.</p>

SESSION 2: 29 August (11.30 – 13.00)

Title	Council of Europe's activities in the youth field Co-management and the statutory bodies in the Council of Europe
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Familiarise and build a common knowledge of the participants on Council of Europe work and structure - Learn more specifically about the work of the Council of Europe in the youth field - Get to know the statutory bodies in the youth field in the Council of Europe
Methods and timing	<p>11.30 - Video presenting the general work of the Council of Europe 11.45 – Council of Europe Youth sector (Quiz on the Youth sector (incl. Question on EYCA) – Zaruhi Lavchyan 12.15 - Brief introduction to co-management 12.20 - Presentation of the CDEJ – Markus Wolf 12.40 - Presentation of the CCJ – Marko Grdosic</p>
Outcomes	<p>Participants learnt about the Council of Europe's work and structure (main bodies and values), the Youth Department (priorities, guiding reference documents, programmes) and the co-management system (history and composition of the statutory bodies, work procedures, current themes discussed, etc.).</p>

SESSION 3: 29 August (14.30 – 16.00)

Title	Council of Europe Youth Policy Youth department in details
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Introduce the principles and practices of youth policy at the Council of Europe - Present the current reality and debates in the youth policy field - Introduce in details the existing bodies, opportunities, tools for promoting, supporting, building capacity in the field of youth policy on European and member states levels
Methods and timing	<p>14.30 - Introduction to youth policy at the Council of Europe (definition, objectives, focus, practice, current trends and debates) – Florian Cescon</p> <p>15.00 – 16.00 - Youth Sector in details The information will be presented in corners for small groups of participants who will be moving from one corner to another, learning more specifically about bodies, departments, resources in the sphere. The work is done in 2 rounds, there are 4 corners available, and people can chose which 2 corners to visit. Each visit lasts 15 minutes.</p> <p>Programme 14.45 Presentation of the methods of work and introduction of the 4 corners of the round 1.</p> <p>14.50 - Round 1: (2 x 15 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth Policy support measures – Natacha Turenne and Florian Cescon - Education and training - Lazlo Milutinovits - EKCYP, PEYR – Marta Medlinska and Davide Capecchi - European Youth Foundation – Joanne Hunting <p>15.20 – Presentation of the next round corners</p> <p>15.25 - Round 2: (2 x 15 min)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flagship educational programmes of the Youth department - Lazlo Milutinovits - Partnership support instruments on youth policy - Marta Medlinska and Davide Capecchi - EYCA and mobility – Manel Sanchez - Decision-making and statutory bodies – Markus Wolf and Marko Grdosic <p>15.55 - A general wrap-up in plenary</p>
Outcomes	Participants had a chance to deepen their understanding of the principles and practice of youth policy at the Council of Europe. The information provided at the corners also enabled them to further explore the youth sector in details and seek clarifications when needed, even though the timing for each round was limited.

SESSION 4: 29 August (16.30 – 18.00)

Title	Key principles of youth policy of the Council of Europe
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Get familiar with the youth policy basic principles - Share their own approaches to youth policy principles - Share the existing principles, important aspects of youth policy from their own realities
Methods and timing	<p>The group is presented with the key principles of youth policy for the Council of Europe, after which they are given a set of principles, with 3 guiding questions for discussion.</p> <p>16.30 – Brief introduction of the principles and the method of work in the session – Zaruhi Lavchyan and Davide Capecchi 16.45 – Group is divided into smaller groups of 6 participants 17.15 – Presentation of the group work results, sharing 17.45 – Wrapping up – Zaruhi Lavchyan</p> <p>Set of principles</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. To invest purposefully in young people in a coherent and mutually reinforcing way, wherever possible through an opportunity-focused rather than problem-oriented approach, by elaborating, among other things, standards and instruments of youth policy where necessary; b. To involve young people both in the strategic formulation of youth policies and in eliciting their views about the operational effectiveness of policy implementation; c. To create the conditions for learning, opportunity and experience which ensure that young people are enabled to develop their knowledge, skills and competencies to play a full part in both the labour market and in civil society; d. To establish systems for robust data collection both to demonstrate the effectiveness of youth policies and to reveal the extent to which ‘policy gaps’ exist in relation to effective service delivery to young people from certain social groups, in certain areas or in certain conditions; e. To display a commitment to reducing such ‘policy gaps’ where they demonstrably exist. <p>Guiding questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - What is your general impression of the principles outlines? What do you think they guarantee? - Are there principles, which are missing in the list, and are important for responding to needs young people have in today’s context? - What are main principles of youth policy in your own reality? How are these principles decided upon and seen as important and relevant for today?
Outcomes	<p>The session provided space to look into the principles of the youth policy. Participants felt that that all of them were applicable to their realities/national context and were equally important. The question on to actually implement the principles into practice (which tools and mechanisms) was also raised.</p>

Wednesday 30 August, 2017**SESSION 1: 30 August (9.30 – 11.00)**

Title	Council of Europe's core standards on youth policy
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Get familiar with the current discussion on the core Council of Europe areas of intervention - Open the space for discussion of the 6 core standards for youth engagement and development policy of the Council of Europe - Discuss the 6 main standards and their relevance an applicability in own context
Methods and timing	<p>9.30 - Recap of the discussion on principles from previous day – Zaruhi Lavchyan</p> <p>10.00 – Introduction to the history, background, main debates, lessons learned, need for Council of Europe's youth policy standards – Markus Wolf</p> <p>10.30– Group work on standards The large group is divided into buzz groups of 4 discussing them with guided questions</p> <p>Guiding questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - what are the main challenges connected to the 6 areas of intervention and standards in your realities? - how can European level standards help bridge and respond to those challenges?
Outcomes	After an overview of the context under which youth policy operates at the Council of Europe (new developments, need for a more focused approach around six main areas of intervention), participants reflected on the challenges they faced at national level when it came to the six areas of intervention. Several issues and challenges (inconsistent policies, budgetary constraints, different realities across country/region, gap between policy and young people, lack of truly inclusive policies, etc.) were mentioned. It was felt that challenges existed in mostly all areas of intervention of youth policy.

SESSION 2: 30 August (11.30 – 13.00)

Title	Application of standards at national level
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss the applicability and relevance of Council of Europe youth policy standards at local level - Share one's own practice with regard to the use of standards and indicators
Methods and timing	<p>Through a guided analysis of good practices (taken from compendium, policy reviews, or the last symposium) on each of the standards, several groups discussed how relevant they were in their national context, how much they could be used/integrated in their policies, what additional standards they used.</p> <p>Presentation and final discussion</p> <p>Guiding questions and tasks for the working group:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Do you have a set of standards the youth policy is based on in your youth policy frameworks? - How are they set and what indicator exists for those standards? - How relevant are the Council of Europe proposed standards in your home context? Can they be used? Applied? - What specific policy measures related to 6 areas (participation, information, inclusion, access to rights, youth work and mobility) are in place or planned in your countries youth policies? - Please, choose one or a few example of measure/youth policy areas related to the 6 areas, and present them to the plenary.
Outcomes	Participants shared their own practices and discussed some of them. 21 practices on youth policy implementation were provided and presented by the participants. Participants found this opportunity for exchanging good practices important, even though some of them mentioned that a case study might also have been useful. Participants were able find positive examples of responses to the challenges in all six areas. The good practice examples are summarised in a separate document (see CDEJ(2017)13-add2).

SESSIONS 3 & 4: 30 August (14.30 – 18.00)

Title	Towards a self-assessment tool for youth policy
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Presentation of the idea, history and development process of a self-assessment tool - Introduction and testing of the draft of the assessment tool developed within the Youth Department
Methods and timing	<p>14.30 - Introduction to the Council of Europe self-assessment tool for youth policy</p> <p>Presentation of the current context, the 6 standards/areas of intervention for Council of Europe's youth policy (participation, information, inclusion, access to rights, youth work and mobility), the related Committee of Ministers' Recommendations and the main aspects of the tool – Florian Cescon</p> <p>15.30 – Individually trying out the Council of Europe self-assessment tool</p> <p>16.00-16.30 Coffee Break</p> <p>16.30 - Feedback session on the Council of Europe self-assessment tool</p> <p>Topics for feedback in plenary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Need for such a tool - Proposed format - Indicators (missing, or needing improvement/reformulation) - Relevance of this tool at national level - Support required for the use of the tool <p>17.45 - Institutional next steps: Input/feedback on the discussion – Markus Wolf</p>
Outcomes	<p>Participants found the tool very useful, well-structured and coherent. Most participants mentioned that they would be able to use the tool in their own context, even though it might be more complicated for federal states or for states where youth issues were devoted to the local or municipal level (as this would require a considerable amount of data collection). Some concrete suggestions for improvement were made: it was, amongst other things, suggested to add some indicators (mainly in the area of youth mobility), to add a question on examples for each of the criteria in the 6 areas, and to separate the indicators accord to the level their concerns (international, national, local). It was also suggested that a short handbook or introductory package could be developed in the medium term to facilitate the use of the tool.</p>

Thursday 31 August, 2017**SESSION 1: 31 August (09.30 – 11.00)**

Title	Youth Mobility: shedding light on the issue: Policy, Research and practice – Panel discussion
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discuss the current issues, challenges and opportunities the field of youth mobility and its role in youth policy - Discuss the role of youth mobility in contribution to youth development - Introduce the existing bodies, processes, and structures promoting youth mobility and ensuing quality mobility activities
Methods and timing	<p>A moderated presentation and discussion on youth mobility and the role it plays in the life of young people. The panel had 3 speakers, who had 15 minutes each to present their area of work the presentations are followed by a Q&A session.</p> <p>09.30 – Opening the day and presenting the agenda</p> <p>09.45 – Panel discussion on Youth Mobility (from the policy, research and practice perspectives)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Youth mobility, a policy perspective (Davide Capecchi) - Youth mobility: the research perspective (Søren Kristensen) - Youth mobility: expanding minds and horizons (Louise Macdonald) <p>10.30 – Q&A session</p>
Outcomes	<p>The panel discussion enable participants to tackle the issue of youth mobility from different angles (policy, research, practice) and to see youth mobility as a tool for inclusion, poverty reduction, opportunities, participation, etc. It was stressed that research in this field was becoming more action-oriented, that policy was trying to bring in all actors concerns in order to come up with coherent and evidence-based decisions, while practice was trying to show how what was done at the practical level had an impact on the lives of young people. It was felt that even more interaction and co-operation between policy, research and practice was needed. The need for more research on processes ensuring quality learning experiences, on the need for youth involvement in designing youth services (including youth card services) was also underlined.</p>

SESSIONS 2&3: 31 August (11.00 – 15.30)

Title	Project on-site visit (Hungarian Youth Card)
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - To explore practical implementation of the mobility projects on the practice of Hungary - To get a chance to look at the project in the light of newly developed Quality indicators for learning mobility projects - Get familiar with the Hungarian context and work on youth mobility
Methods and timing	<p>11.00 - Departures to the project</p> <p>12.00 - Two parallel round tables lasting 45 minutes:</p> <p>First round table focusing on “youth mobility” with the following panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A national coordinator from Hungary; - Jose Sousa, EYCA vice-president (presenting Portuguese good practices); - A student from Mongolia having participated in a Hungarian exchange programme; - Istvan Karasz, Hungarian youth card (moderator) <p>Second round table focusing on “youth policy” with the following panelists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A representative of the Hungarian youth ministry; - A former vice-president of the largest youth organisation in Hungary; - Jarkko Lehikoinen, former EYCA president (presenting Finnish good practices). - Representative of the Hungarian Youth Council; - Manel Sanchez (moderator)

	Approximately 13.15 – Return from the university 14.00 - Lunch and sharing impressions from the visit
Outcomes	The presentations and the discussions took place at Corvinus University. Participants in the “youth mobility” round table had an opportunity, amongst other things, to discover some local good practice examples and programmes in the field of youth mobility (e.g. Stipendium Hungaricum). Participants in the “youth policy” round table had the opportunity to hear the views of representatives of the Hungarian ministry and youth council. The perspectives and experiences of other states were also presented.

SESSION 4: 31 August (16.30-17.00)

Title	Next steps and follow-up
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Create a reflection moment of reflection on the use of the acquired information and the university - Plan next steps on individual and organisational level
Methods and timing	<p>16.30 – Presentation of the task</p> <p>16.35 - Individual reflection on next steps to be taken individually, on organisational/structural level</p> <p>16.50 – Sharing of the next steps in small groups</p> <p>17.00 - Plenary sharing</p>
Outcomes	Participants shared the action which they would take after the Summer University: several mentioned that they would take back and present the self-assessment tool for youth policy, others would inform colleagues about co-management and the Council of Europe’s work in the youth field, and others again would share contacts.

SESSION 5: 31 August (17.00 – 18.00)

Title	Evaluation and closing
Objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Evaluate the Summer University and give suggestions for possible future editions
Methods and timing	<p>17.10 - Written form is filled in</p> <p>17.30 - Final round with main feedback, impressions</p> <p>17.45 – Official closing – Florian Cescon, Markus Wolf and Marko Grdosic</p>
Outcomes	See appendix 3 (summary of participants’ evaluation)

Appendix 3: Summary of participants' evaluations

The feedback provided by participants in the evaluation forms which they completed at the end of the Summer University is summarised below.

The overall evaluation was **extremely positive**, the vast majority of participants assessing that the Summer University had **“achieved” or “fully achieved”** its aim and objectives (see average scores with respect to the overall aim and to the specific objectives below). It can thus be said that the Summer University fulfilled its role as one of the main capacity-building activities of the CDEJ annual programme. On average, participants evaluated that more than **75% of their own expectations had been met** by the Summer University, with some participants (18%) indicating that all their expectations had been met. The main **professional/personal outcomes** for participants, as well as some **suggestions** for improvement or regarding the thematic focus of possible future editions of the Summer University are also summarised below.

Score from 1 (not achieved at all) to 5 (fully achieved)	Average
Aim of the Summer University	
To provide members of the CDEJ, Advisory Council and their colleagues with a learning experience, which is likely to improve their capacity to actively participate in the work of the Council of Europe youth sector (particularly in its co-management structures) and to promote Council of Europe standards in youth policy.	4.3
Objectives	
to familiarise participants with the values, objectives, programmes and structures of the Council of Europe and its Youth Department, including in the context of its co-operation with the European Union;	4.4
to improve participants' understanding of European approaches to youth policy;	4.1
to familiarise participants with the reality of youth, youth policy and youth work, notably through the visit of youth projects and the exchange of good practices;	3.6
to exchange knowledge and views on youth policy issues relevant to debates taking place in the Council of Europe's youth sector;	4
to facilitate peer advice and networking.	4

Expectations

“How far were your expectations from the meeting met?” (on a scale from 0% to 100%)

Average: 77%

Outcomes

“Main personal/professional outcomes for you in the Summer University”

- new knowledge on the Council of Europe and Youth Department;
- new contacts and networking;
- practices and policies in other countries;
- the self-assessment tool for youth policy;
- youth mobility, EYCA, quality indicators;
- youth policy principles and practice, components, priorities;
- better understanding of the CDEJ, CCJ and co-management;
- implementation of the Committee of Minister's Recommendations at national level.

Suggestions for improvement

“What do you think should be improved in the next editions of the CDEJ Summer universities?”

The main suggestions made by participants can be summarised as follows:

- methodological suggestions (regarding the use of interactive methods, the use of case studies, good practices sharing, networking, plenary discussions and field/project visits);
- suggestions regarding the contents of some sessions (information on the various aspects of the Council of Europe's youth programme, youth policy challenges, youth policy development and implementation issues at national level);
- suggestion regarding the need for participants to prepare beforehand, so that they can share information from their own policies;
- suggestion regarding the profile of participants (consider inviting more young people, more researchers).

Looking ahead: Next Summer University

“What do you think could be or should be the focus of the next summer university?”

Some of the possible themes mentioned by participants for future editions of the Summer University are summarised below:

- youth work;
- refugees;
- current challenges;
- youth unemployment;
- prevention of violent radicalisation;
- participation;
- youth co-creation;
- cross-sectorial co-operation;
- challenges when implementing youth policies.