

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON YOUTH (CCJ)

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 ▼
<p>Pillar: Democracy Programme: Democratic participation Sub-programme: Youth for democracy</p>
MAIN TASKS ▼
<p>Under the authority of the Committee of Ministers, the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) will advise the Committee of Ministers on all questions relating to youth. The overall aim is to act as the non-governmental partner in the co-management structures of the youth sector (the governmental partner being the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ)); the CCJ and the CDEJ co-operate within the Joint Council on Youth (CMJ) in order to establish the priorities and expected results of the Council of Europe youth sector and the elaboration of youth policy standards.</p> <p>In particular, the CCJ 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) contribute to the effective mainstreaming of youth issues and policies in the Council of Europe programme of activities, as well as the youth perspective to other issues that impact young people in Europe, by formulating and addressing opinions, proposals and recommendations to the Committee of Ministers and its steering committees, for CAI, CDMSI, CDADI, CCS, CDEDU, their subordinate bodies and <i>ad hoc</i> committees, and also other bodies, for example the Congress, Conference of INGOs, World Forum for Democracy, North-South Centre, or other bodies of the Council of Europe; (iii) subject to the adoption of the proposal for a Partnership status with it, advise the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on youth and other issues that impact young people; (iv) promote the Council of Europe's values, youth policies and youth standards, including its youth sector strategy 2030, within the Organisation and beyond, especially amongst young people and youth organisations/networks; (v) raise the concerns and challenges facing young people in Europe in the activities of the youth sector, including those of the partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth, and contribute to devising policy measures to address these; (vi) raise awareness of topical issues and/or challenges facing young people in Europe by organising online debates/workshops and/or issuing statements; (vii) designate, for two years, the CCJ members who shall be invited to represent it on the Programming Committee on Youth (CPJ), the co-management body in charge of establishing the programme of activities of the youth sector; (viii) 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; (ix) 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; (x) where relevant, contribute to building cohesive societies and to strengthening the role and meaningful participation of civil society in its work; (xi) 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.

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.

MAIN DELIVERABLES ▼						
Under the authority of the Committee of Ministers, the CCJ is instructed to complete the following deliverables, within the following deadlines:						
						<i>Deadline ▼</i>
1.	Contribution of opinions, proposals and recommendations to the CMJ's work throughout the quadrennium					31/12 of each year
2.	Annual online debate on a topical issue (subject to feasibility)					31/12 of each year
3.	Annual <i>ad hoc</i> information session for the CCJ on a topic to be defined					31/12 of each year
4.	Annual CMJ thematic debate on a current topic					31/12 of each year
5.	Consultation of youth organisations and networks on their requirements for the future priorities of the youth sector.					31/05/2024
COMPOSITION ▼						
MEMBERS:						
30 members:						
(i) 7 representatives of national youth councils, designated by the Committee of Ministers on the proposal of the European Youth Forum (YFJ);						
(ii) 13 representatives of international non-governmental youth organisations (INGYOs) designated by the Committee of Ministers on the proposal of the European Youth Forum (YFJ);						
(iii) 10 representatives of non-governmental youth organisations or networks, not members of the European Youth Forum (YFJ), designated by the Committee of Ministers on the proposal of the Secretary General.						
When designating the representatives referred to in paragraphs i, ii and iii above, the European Youth Forum (paragraphs i and ii) and the Secretary General (paragraph iii) shall establish one reserve list per category of member (national youth councils; INGYO; non-governmental youth organisations or networks not members of the European Youth Forum). Each of the three reserve lists shall contain up to a maximum of three representatives and will be submitted to the Committee of Ministers for approval along with the three lists in paragraphs i to iii above. The reserve lists will remain valid for one term of office.						
The Council of Europe will bear the travel and subsistence expenses of each member. Each member of the Committee shall have one vote.						
PARTICIPANTS:						
The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and at the charge of their corresponding administrative budgets:						
- Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe;						
- Committees or other bodies of the Council of Europe engaged in related work, as appropriate.						
OBSERVERS:						
The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:						
- European Youth Card Association (EYCA);						
- European Youth Forum (YFJ);						
- European Youth and Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA).						
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 are 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 ▼ Held in parallel to the meetings of the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ).			Bureau meetings ▼ Held in parallel with the meetings of the Bureau of the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ).		
	Members incl. Chair	Meetings per year	Days per meeting	Members	Meetings per year	Days per meeting
2022	30	2	3	5	2	2
2023	30	2	3	5	2	2
2024	30	2	3	5	2	2
2025	30	2	3	5	2	2
The Advisory Council on Youth will establish its rules of procedure in derogation from the provisions of Resolution CM/Res(2021)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.						