



Strasbourg, 3 November 2025

## **EUROPEAN STEERING COMMITTEE FOR YOUTH (CDEJ)**

### **Table on recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies April 2025 - November 2025**

### **Tableau sur les développements récents dans la mise en œuvre nationale des politiques de jeunesse avril 2025 - novembre 2025**

**Please feel free to share your country's good practices in the  
implementation of recent Committee of Ministers' recommendations in the  
field of youth**

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**Country / Pays:** Armenia / Arménie

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sports

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 24/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** According to the Youth Policy Law jointly developed by the Ministry, stakeholders in the youth field, and young people themselves, youth environments should be established in all communities of Armenia. These environments aim to identify the needs of young people, develop their capacities, satisfy their interests and hobbies, increase their level of participation, and ensure their intellectual engagement. Youth environments in Armenia are created through the cooperation of the state, the community, and the non-governmental sector, preferably in tripartite collaboration.

Currently, eight youth centers have been established and are providing youth services, and at the beginning of 2026, six additional youth environments will start operating in six communities of Armenia.

The Ministry is actively involved in cooperation with partners in the youth field (both international and local organizations). Within this framework, training sessions on youth work and youth forums have been organized. A Guideline on the Functioning of Youth Environments has been developed, approved by a ministerial order, and published on the official website.

Interest among young people in the state program aimed at establishing social enterprises continues to grow year by year. This program serves as an important platform where young people, with their ideas and innovative approaches, can contribute to the development processes of their communities and the state.

Between April and November 2025, the "Social Enterprise Idea-thon" program was implemented. Its goal was to provide 100 young participants with the necessary tools to develop social enterprise ideas and business models and to strengthen their practical skills in social enterprise management, marketing, and financial planning.

As a result, from 76 submitted applications, 10 were selected and awarded grants.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :** According to the Youth Policy Law jointly developed by the Ministry, stakeholders in the youth field, and young people themselves, youth environments should be established in all communities of Armenia. These environments aim to identify the needs of young people, develop their capacities, satisfy their interests and hobbies, increase their level of participation, and ensure their intellectual engagement. Youth environments in Armenia are created through the cooperation of the state, the community, and the non-governmental sector, preferably in tripartite collaboration.

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**Country / Pays:** Austria/Autriche

**Reference period / Période de référence:**

April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** The Minister for Family and Youth

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 24/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:**

Since March 2025 Austria has the current government. The Minister for Family and Youth is Ms Claudia Plakolm. She was previously State Secretary for Youth.

The core priorities of Austrian youth policy under the Austrian Youth Strategy are structured around **four main fields of action** and several **strategic priority areas**:

#### **Four Fields of Action**

1. **Learning and Employment** – Ensuring young people obtain qualifications and access the labour market, thus securing their future in a dynamic work environment.
2. **Participation and Initiative** – Enabling youth to engage in democratic processes, express opinions and take responsibility in society.
3. **Quality of Life and a Spirit of Cooperation** – Supporting young people's wellbeing, social inclusion and their ability to form cooperative networks.
4. **Media and Information** – Strengthening media literacy, access to information, and safe digital participation for youth. ([bundeskanzleramt.gv.at](https://www.bundeskanzleramt.gv.at))

#### **Strategic Priority Areas**

Under these fields, Austria highlights key priorities such as:

- Promoting non-formal learning opportunities.
- Supporting young people in employment and those not in education, employment or training (NEET).
- Encouraging youth engagement in society, volunteering and initiative-taking.
- Fostering youth work infrastructure at national and regional levels.
- Enhancing European belonging, tolerance and connectivity.
- Promoting healthy lifestyles and environmentally friendly behaviour among youth.
- Cultivating culture and creativity opportunities for young people.

In essence, Austrian youth policy is **cross-sectoral** and integrates education, employment, civic participation, social inclusion, digital/ media skills and cultural engagement — with the goal of equipping young people for independent, responsible and active lives in a changing society.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :**

**Country / Pays:** Belgium Flemish community / Belgique communauté flamande

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** Department of Culture, Youth and Media

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 21/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** The new Flemish youth and Children's Rights Policy Plan 2025 &#8211; 2029 is approved and was launched in a kick-off event on the 21st of October 2025. The selected priorities of the policy plan are:

- Feeling good about yourself
- Space to be young
- The road to Adulthood
- Living together in solidarity

Intermediary organizations of Youth are asked within the new Youth decree to use the new Flemish youth and children's rights policy plan 2025-2029 as a compass for their own policy note. The intermediary organizations submitted their policy notes, which are now under review.

The new Youth Decree enables organizations that are explicitly concerned with children and young people with fewer opportunities to apply for a structural recognition of their work, instead of having to make applications par project.

The baseline measurement and follow-up measurement of the Youth Decree is being prepared as an evaluation tool of the decree, in accordance with the policy note of the new Minister of Youth which highlights the priorities in Youth Policy for 2025 &#8211; 2029. The research project will run for 4 years, with an accompanying environment-analysis on youth work in Flanders.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :** The new Flemish youth and Children's Rights Policy Plan 2025 &#8211; 2029 is approved and was launched in a kick-off event on the 21st of October 2025. The selected priorities of the policy plan are:

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**Country / Pays:** Bulgaria / Bulgarie

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** Ministry of Youth and Sports

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 24/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** The Ministry of Youth and sport could provide information for recent developments as follow:

- The National Youth Strategy (2021&#8211;2030) is currently undergoing a mid-term evaluation, commissioned by the Ministry of Youth and Sports and carried out by an external consultant with the financial support of UNICEF. The main objective of this evaluation is to assess progress in implementing the strategic priorities and objectives of the Strategy, as well as to evaluate the effectiveness of the measures outlined in the accompanying implementation plans. Based on the findings, appropriate follow-up actions will be undertaken to strengthen the impact and efficiency of youth policy measures. The review will also include an assessment of the degree of alignment between the national youth policy and other national policies, as well as with the European youth policy frameworks, ensuring coherence and complementarity at both national and European levels.
- In 2024 and 2025, the Ministry of Youth and Sports allocated targeted funding of 4 million BGN per year to support the operation of eight youth centers across the country, two of which hold the Council of Europe Quality Label for Youth Centers.
- A new national youth program is currently being developed with the objective of ensuring stable and long-term funding for the existing youth centers, starting from 2026. In addition, efforts are underway to establish funding mechanisms for youth organizations aimed at strengthening their administrative capacity, as well as to implement regular national youth surveys to monitor trends, needs, and conditions affecting young people in Bulgaria.
- The Ministry of Youth and Sports is preparing to launch a new national initiative &#8211; the "National Youth Capital." This program will provide Bulgarian municipalities with an opportunity to demonstrate their activity, vision, and commitment to young people, promoting youth participation and civic engagement at the local level.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :** The Ministry of Youth and sport could provide information for recent developments as follow:

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**Country / Pays:** Czechia / Tchéquie

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 24/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** The Youth Policy Unit of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) has been mandated to develop a new National Youth Strategy 2025-2030. The work on the Strategy was carried out in a close cooperation with other ministerial departments as well as in a direct consultation with young people and relevant stakeholders. The Strategy was approved by the Czech government in May 2025. The framework of the Strategy to support young people consists of 1) developing full potential of young people; 2) supporting transition to adulthood; 3) social inclusion and wellbeing; 4) young people's trust in public institutions and young people's partnerships with public administration; 5) public administration processes to effectively support young people. The Strategy defines three strategic objectives: 1) To mainstream young people in policy-making; 2) To strengthen young people's active citizenship; 3) To develop the system of non-formal education, leisure-time education and youth work.

The specific method of implementation and fulfillment of the above-mentioned strategic objectives is specified in Action Plans, which will be created for the periods 2025-2026, 2027-2028 and 2029-2030. The first Action Plan for the period 2025-2026 has been approved by the Czech government this year and is now being implemented. The first monitoring of the implementation of strategic objectives will take place in April 2026.

This autumn, the Youth Policy Unit of the MEYS is organising meetings of stakeholders in the field of youth at the regional level. The aim of the meetings is to enable networking between stakeholders and representatives of young people themselves at the regional level and communication with representatives of regional authorities in the field of youth support, including providing information about the National Youth Strategy 2025-2030. Key players in the field of youth policy in the regions are invited to these meetings.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :** The Youth Policy Unit of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (MEYS) has been mandated to develop a new National Youth Strategy 2025-2030. The work on the Strategy was carried out in a close cooperation with other ministerial departments as well as in a direct consultation with young people and relevant stakeholders. The Strategy was approved by the Czech government in May 2025. The framework of the Strategy to support young people consists of 1) developing full potential of young people; 2) supporting transition to adulthood; 3) social inclusion and wellbeing; 4) young people's trust in public institutions and young people's partnerships with public administration; 5) public administration processes to effectively support young people. The Strategy defines three strategic objectives: 1) To mainstream young people in policy-making; 2) To strengthen young people's active citizenship; 3) To develop the system of non-formal education, leisure-time education and youth work.

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**Country / Pays:** Estonia / Estonie

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** The Estonian Ministry of Education and Research

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 27/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** As part of the coalition agreement, a commitment was made to establish qualification requirements for youth sector professionals. Over the course of nearly a year, a working group convened under the leadership of the Ministry, bringing together representatives from the field to define various profiles of youth workers along with the corresponding qualification criteria.

The coalition agreement also includes broader decisions, such as diversifying and clarifying youth participation at both local and national levels.

On September 1, 2025, an amendment to the Basic Schools and Upper Secondary Schools Act entered into force as part of the reform extending the learning obligation. The amendment makes it mandatory to recognise learning outcomes acquired through non-formal education, provided they correspond to the learning objectives of the school curriculum.

This change is expected to enhance the value and recognition of youth work, hobby education, and extracurricular activities within the overall education system. It also supports a more youth-centred approach in formal education.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :** As part of the coalition agreement, a commitment was made to establish qualification requirements for youth sector professionals. Over the course of nearly a year, a working group convened under the leadership of the Ministry, bringing together representatives from the field to define various profiles of youth workers along with the corresponding qualification criteria.

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**Country / Pays:** Finland / Finlande

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** Ministry of Education and Culture

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 20/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** Strengthening Young People's Belief in the Future

According to the Finnish Youth Barometer published in March 2025, young people's belief in the future has declined, and fewer 15&#8211;29-year-olds view their future with optimism. The barometer indicates that in 2024, only 61% of young people felt optimistic about their future, compared to 79&#8211;86% in previous years. A panel of researchers has been appointed by the Ministry of Education and Culture to investigate the reasons behind this decline and to develop policy recommendations for actions to strengthen future optimism. These recommendations will cover both short-term and long-term measures. The expert group started its work in April 2025, and the final recommendations will be presented to the Minister for Sports, Physical Activity and Youth in February 2026.

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Digital Wellbeing and Safety of Children and Young People

During school lessons: Starting 1.8.2025, mobile devices became restricted in schools due to the amendment of the Basic Education Act. With the amendments, the use of telephones and other mobile devices during lessons is allowed only in certain situations; during lessons for learning purposes or for personal healthcare reasons with permission from their teacher or principal.

During Leisure Time: December 2024, the Finnish National Agency for Education and the Institute for Health and Welfare initiated a collaboration to gather a broad stakeholder network. The goal is to engage in joint discussions and find ways to build a balanced approach to the use of digital devices and content by children and youth during their leisure time. The aim of the network is to develop national recommendations for leisure time. By the end of 2025, recommendations for young children (ages 0&#8211;5 and 6&#8211;13) are expected to be published, recommendations for young people (ages 14-18) will follow next year. The network includes over 160 participants from various organizations, including ministries, wellbeing services counties, municipalities, universities, NGOs, and companies.

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Vision Work for Finnish Youth Work and Youth Policy

Under the leadership of the Ministry of Education and Culture we are initiating a vision-building process for Finnish youth work and youth policy. What are the long-term strategic directions for our work? What kind of vision do we have for youth work and youth policy in the 2040s, and through what kind of process should such a vision be created? Moving forward, the discussion must also focus on the concrete measures needed to achieve that vision.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :** Strengthening Young People's Belief in the Future

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**Country / Pays:** France

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** Ministère français des Sports, de la Jeunesse et de la Vie associative

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 12/11/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:**

En 2025, les orientations des politiques de jeunesse françaises s'articulent autour de plusieurs objectifs : Renforcer la participation et l'engagement citoyen des jeunes, soutenir la santé mentale et la résilience, favoriser l'émancipation et l'égalité des chances, ainsi que promouvoir l'éducation populaire et l'animation socio-éducative. Depuis novembre 2024 (Décret n° 2024-1025 du 12 novembre 2024 relatif au délégué interministériel à la jeunesse) le directeur de la jeunesse, de l'éducation populaire et de la vie associative exerce les missions de Délégué interministériel à la jeunesse (DIJ). Il assure la préparation et le suivi des décisions interministérielles relatives à la jeunesse et coordonne la mise en œuvre des actions conduites par les différents ministères. La santé mentale, érigée en Grande Cause nationale 2025, constitue une priorité transversale ; une conférence nationale sur ce thème, organisée en octobre 2025 par le DIJ a réuni des jeunes ainsi que des acteurs publics, médicaux et associatifs afin de renforcer les réponses collectives.

Le suivi de l'effort financier de l'Etat pour les jeunes a été renforcé grâce au rétablissement du document de politique transversale « jeunesse » qui recense toutes les dépenses de l'Etat pour les jeunes. Pour 2025 l'effort financier de l'Etat pour les jeunes s'élève à 120 mds d'euros parmi lesquels environ 800 millions sont consacrés aux politiques de jeunesse.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :** Placé auprès du Premier ministre, le Conseil d'orientation des politiques de jeunesse, est une commission consultative qui contribue à la coordination et à l'évaluation des politiques publiques relatives à la jeunesse, à l'insertion des jeunes et à l'éducation populaire et au dialogue entre les acteurs concernés par ces politiques. En mars 2025, il a été réformé pour accroître la représentativité des jeunes : la part des membres de moins de 30 ans a été doublée et la représentation des conseils de jeunes renforcée. Il a par ailleurs publié en janvier le rapport « Logement des jeunes : une urgence sociale ! » formulant 57 recommandations pour élargir l'offre et faciliter l'accès au logement des jeunes en France.

L'année 2025 a marqué les quinze ans du Service civique, le dispositif français de volontariat, qui a permis à plus de 850 000 jeunes de s'engager depuis 2010, ainsi que les 5 ans de la Réserve civique, dont la moitié des 680 000 bénévoles ont moins de 30 ans. Une convention avec l'Association de gestion de fonds pour l'insertion professionnelle des personnes handicapées (Agefiph) a par ailleurs été signée en février, renforçant l'inclusion des personnes en situation de handicap dans le Service civique.

Depuis septembre 2025, le ministère des Armées et des Anciens combattants a mis en place une nouvelle version de la Journée Défense et Citoyenneté, visant à renforcer la participation active des jeunes et leur compréhension des enjeux de défense et de citoyenneté.

Les « Semaines de l'engagement », dispositif national organisé du 15 septembre au 4 octobre 2025 dans l'ensemble des établissements scolaires, ont mobilisé les référents vie lycéenne et les équipes éducatives afin de sensibiliser les collégiens et lycéens aux différentes formes d'engagement dans ou hors de l'établissement (bénévolat, volontariat, initiatives citoyennes).

**Country / Pays:** Latvia / Lettonie

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** Ministry of Education and Science

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 23/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** There have been several improvements in Latvia:

- Youth Policy framework for years 2025-2027 has been approved on May. The measures planned within the framework of the Plan cover all areas of action defined in the Guidelines for the Development of Children, Youth and Family for 2022&#8211;2027, aimed at achieving the set goal of youth policy.
- Still working on youth workers professionalization, on Spring 2026 youth workers professional development program will be launched in University of Latvia. Study visit to Ireland was held to get to know more about higher education program.
- On June changes on Minister Cabinet rules were adopted on non-formal education program content for Youth Affairs Specialist in municipalities. Content has been revised as part of youth workers professionalization process.
- On June first mock elections were held in Latvia for 16-17 years old youngsters, in 15 municipalities (which were drawn on special kick-off event)
- Youth Policy monitoring visualisations have been launched <https://sap-pub.viis.gov.lv:8443/BOE/OpenDocument/2411191259/OpenDocument/opendoc/openDocument.jsp?IogonSuccessful=true&shareId=0>
- On October changes on Minister Cabinet rules were adopted on easier way how youth NGOs and municipalities can apply for State budgeted program contest - possibility to apply the simplified cost methodology; for financing up to EUR 40,000 per project, the possibility of receiving 100% pre-financing.
- Concept on principles/ rules how Youth Test could be implemented in Latvia
- On October national Youth forum (more than 160 participants, 8 from 13 minister were represented) was launched, as part of National Youth Dialogue - consultative process, which purpose is to clarify the opinion of young people in the decision-making process affecting youth policy at the national level, in order to ensure the full and comprehensive development of young people, improving the quality of life and strengthening participation. National Youth Dialogue is planned as part of Youth test.
- Deputy State Secretary for Sports and Youth Affairs and Youth policy unit in Ministry of Education and Science structure has been created on May.
- STEAM and civic education school backpack project has been launched. It will give opportunity to diversify the learning experience, to strengthen the connection of knowledge with real life and to promote students' understanding of the requirements of the labour market. The offer is available to general and vocational education institutions, and preschools, allowing the discovery of science and civic participation through non formal education.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :** There have been several improvements in Latvia:

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- On June first mock elections were held in Latvia for 16-17 years old youngsters, in 15 municipalities (which were drawn on special kick-off event)
- Youth Policy monitoring visualisations have been launched <https://sap-pub.viis.gov.lv:8443/BOE/OpenDocument/2411191259/OpenDocument/opendoc/openDocument.jsp?logonSuccessful=true&shareId=0>
- On October changes on Minister Cabinet rules were adopted on easier way how youth NGOs and municipalities can apply for State budgeted program contest - possibility to apply the simplified cost methodology; for financing up to EUR 40,000 per project, the possibility of receiving 100% pre-financing.
- Concept on principles/ rules how Youth Test could be implemented in Latvia
- On October national Youth forum (more than 160 participants, 8 from 13 minister were represented) was launched, as part of National Youth Dialogue - consultative process, which purpose is to clarify the opinion of young people in the decision-making process affecting youth policy at the national level, in order to ensure the full and comprehensive development of young people, improving the quality of life and strengthening participation. National Youth Dialogue is planned as part of Youth test.
- Deputy State Secretary for Sports and Youth Affairs and Youth policy unit in Ministry of Education and Science structure has been created on May.
- STEAM and civic education school backpack project has been launched. It will give opportunity to diversify the learning experience, to strengthen the connection of knowledge with real life and to promote students' understanding of the requirements of the labour market. The offer is available to general and vocational education institutions, and preschools, allowing the discovery of science and civic participation through non formal education.

**Country / Pays:** Luxembourg

**Reference period / Période de référence:** November 2025 - March 2026 / novembre 2025 - mars 2026

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** Ministère de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 21/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** In 2025 and 2026, Luxembourg's youth policy will focus on rethinking the support system for youth organisations in order to provide the sector with the necessary resources to effectively meet the needs of young people in the field.

The Youth Department of the Ministry of Education, Children and Youth has developed a new funding model for accredited youth organisations. This system, to be implemented from January 2026, offers a clearer structure and better responds to the actual needs of organisations, including staffing, infrastructure, projects, equipment and events.

The new model is accompanied by improved quality management and monitoring of cooperation agreements, through the introduction of a work programme with quality indicators, allowing for closer follow-up of the activities carried out.

From a thematic perspective, the year 2026 will focus on youth participation ("Stëmm fir Jonker"), particularly at the local level. The launch of the annual programme will be announced to the youth sector during the Youth Forum in November 2025.

Finally, youth housing will remain a priority for 2026, with the implementation of the call for projects launched in 2025.

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**Country / Pays:** Norway / Norvège

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** The Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 03/11/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** Norwegian Government Initiatives for Children and Youth (May 1 &#8211; November 3, 2025)

White Papers

In June 2025, the Norwegian government presented White Paper No. 28 (2024&#8211;2025) titled "Belief in the Future &#8211; Regardless of Background". This document emphasizes equal opportunities for all children, regardless of their socioeconomic background. It promotes early intervention and universal services to prevent exclusion. Key measures include automatic kindergarten enrollment, family coordinators in NAV, and strengthened health and school health services. The paper was developed through collaboration between five ministries. Shortly after, a White Paper on Safe Digital Childhood was published. It outlines new measures to protect children online, including a proposed age limit of 15 years for social media use, a ban on behavior-based advertising targeting children, and initiatives such as mobile-free schools and national screen use guidelines.

Consultations:

A legislative proposal was submitted for public consultation in July 2025, suggesting a mandatory age limit of 15 years for social media platforms. The proposal includes requirements for age verification and enhanced privacy protections for children.

The Directorate of Health published national guidelines on screen use among children and youth. These guidelines aim to help families and schools balance screen time with health-promoting activities. They emphasize the importance of sleep, mental health, physical activity, and social interaction.

The Norwegian Union of Social Educators and Social Workers (FO) contributed to several consultations, including proposed amendments to the Child Welfare Act, youth program initiatives, tax deductions for young people, and strengthening children's rights in the Social Services Act.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :** Norwegian Government Initiatives for Children and Youth (May 1 &#8211; November 3, 2025)

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**Country / Pays:** Poland / Pologne

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** Ministry of National Education

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 24/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** The Minister of Education, acting as the Coordinator of activities in the field of youth policy, established the Council for Youth Policy under the Minister of Education. The Council serves as an advisory and consultative body whose mission is to integrate the knowledge and experience of public administration, expert communities, and representatives of the young generation and youth organizations. Its members include representatives of ministries, public institutions, non-governmental organizations, and youth organizations actively working for children and young people.

The establishment of the Council represents a significant step toward initiating a permanent dialogue between the government administration and young citizens. This will ensure that the voices and needs of young people are taken into account when making decisions in key areas of public life, such as education, climate, security, and technological development.

The main tasks of the Council will include co-creating, consulting and providing opinions on the National Youth Strategy. The Council will also be responsible for identifying key challenges and needs of young people, initiating and supporting research, analyses, and innovative solutions related to the situation of youth, the effectiveness of public policies, and new social trends. The first meeting of the Council took place on 13 October 2025 at the Ministry of National Education.

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**Country / Pays:** Portugal

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère:** Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 07/11/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:**

### **Strengthening Young People's Belief in the Future**

'Arribar Programme (A New Start Programme)

The Arribar Programme is a social intervention initiative launched by the Portuguese Institute of Sport and Youth (IPDJ) on 12th May 2025, aimed at supporting the inclusion and reintegration of young people deprived of liberty; either in educational centers or prisons.

It is part of the Youth Guarantee Implementation Plan, focusing on vulnerable groups and promoting their rights, personal development, and social reintegration.

Main Objectives

- Promote social and professional inclusion of young inmates.
- Develop personal, social, and emotional skills through activities such as theatre, cinema, and music.
- Prevent criminal recidivism by fostering responsible behaviours and life planning.
- Support post-release reintegration, including follow-up and mentoring.
- Encourage healthy lifestyles and habits.
- Identify talents and professional interests, and enhance digital, artistic, and civic competencies.
- Target group: Young people aged 16;21 in educational centers and 16;29 in prisons, within 12;24 months of sentence completion.

Afirma-te Já (Empower Yourself Now)

Afirma-te Já is a regional initiative under the Trajetos Programme (Pathways Programme), promoted by the Portuguese Institute of Youth and Sport (IPDJ), and it was launched on 1st August 2025. It supports local intervention projects aimed at removing barriers to education, vocational training, and decent employment for NEET young people (Not in Education, Employment, or Training), aged 18 to 29, living in vulnerable contexts.

Main Objectives

- Identify and map NEET young people in vulnerable situations.
- Promote access to information on education, training, and employment opportunities.
- Develop personal, social, emotional, and professional skills.
- Facilitate dignified and inclusive integration into the labour market.
- Support integration into educational, training, or employment pathways.

Tens Futuro em Portugal (You have a Future in Portugal)

This programme, approved by the Portuguese Government, includes 14 measures across five strategic areas to support young people in Portugal. One of these areas is Health and Well-being, with a strong focus on mental health, nutrition, and menstrual health.

Under IPDJ's "Cuida-te" programme (Take Care &#8211; Youth Health Programme), the following actions were taken:

- Reinforcement of 100 professionals:
  - o Psychologists
  - o Nutritionists
  - o Nurses

This expansion also included raising the age limit for beneficiaries from 25 to 30 years (now covering young people aged 12 to 30).

- Introduction of Health Vouchers:
  - o Psychologist Vouchers: Over 100,000 consultations available through Higher Education Institutions.
  - o Nutritionist Vouchers: Over 50,000 consultations distributed similarly.
- Free Distribution of Menstrual Hygiene Products:
  - o Available in basic and secondary schools and health centers, potentially benefiting up to 120,000 girls and women.

#### Academia de Desenvolvimento Juvenil 2025 (Youth Development Academy 2025)

Promoted by the Portuguese Institute of Youth and Sport (IPDJ), this annual initiative aims to empower young people and youth workers through non-formal education. The 2025 edition focused on fixing youth talent in local territories, with a decentralized and participatory model.

#### Main Objectives

- Strengthen civic participation and community engagement.
- Promote non-formal education and intercultural dialogue.
- Build local networks and foster strategic thinking among young people.
- Encourage co-creation of youth policies with young people.
- Develop skills in areas such as sustainability, digital literacy, inclusion, and critical thinking.

#### Youth Summit 2025

Held in Póvoa de Varzim from September 12&#8211;14, the Youth Summit was the culmination of the Academy's regional sessions, bringing together young people, policymakers, and experts.

#### Main Objectives

- Serve as a national platform for youth participation, training, and policy dialogue.
- Address challenges of territorial cohesion and youth retention.
- Inspire institutional commitments aligned with the National Youth Agenda.
- Promote mental health, entrepreneurship, digital citizenship, sustainability, and youth leadership.
- Use non-formal education methods to foster collaboration and innovation.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth /  
bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le  
domaine de la jeunesse :**

**Country / Pays:** Serbia/Sérbie

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère:** Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 24/11/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:**

Youth Strategy in RS for the period from 2023 to 2030 and Action Plan 2023-2025 - During the 2023, legal framework related of Youth policy in Serbia was strengthened by the adoption of a new Youth Strategy in the Republic of Serbia for the period from 2023 to 2030 and accompanying Action Plan for the period from 2023 to 2025. The Ministry of Tourism and Youth has formed a Working Group to develop a new Action Plan for the period from 2026 to 2028. The first meeting of the Working Group was held in September 2025, where the methodology for developing the new Action plan was presented, as well as the dynamics of the work of the working group.

**Public open calls**

For the implementation of the Youth Strategy and its goals in 2025, Ministry of Tourism and Youth (MTY) conducted five public open calls in 2025 and had selected 153 projects of youth organizations/organizations for youth and youth alliances, and 26 projects of local self-governments (with active local youth office) to be supported with a total value of 320,334,000.00 dinars. For two additional public calls, the evaluation process is ongoing.

For the organized and systematic monitoring, MTY maintains a Unified Database of youth associations, organizations for youth, and their federations. This database is particularly important since only those organizations that are registered, can apply for the allocation of funds from the state budget intended for the realization of public interest in the field of youth. By 30th September 2025, all together 2048 organizations and associations were registered in the Unified Database, of which 1013 were youth organizations, 975 organizations for youth, 33 associations and two umbrella associations.

After the public open call for the development and implementation of youth policy with the aim of establishing the "Youth Capital" program was completed, the Ministry established a Working Group whose task is to determine the criteria for establishing the "Youth Capital" program. Two meetings of the Working Group have been held so far.

**National Youth Council**

The Youth Council (established in 2014) has a total of 44 members, 16 of whom are youth representatives. Council, whose main task is to encourage and harmonize activities related to the development, realization and implementation of youth policy, propose measures for its improvement, as well as propose measures for harmonization and coordination of the activities of Ministries and other authorities responsible for youth policy, has the obligation to meet at least once a year. During the 2025. National Youth Council has met once - in January 2025.

**Local Youth Offices and Youth Spaces**

Local youth offices and youth spaces, are certainly one of the priorities of the youth policy in Serbia. Currently, 135 local self-government units in Serbia have functional Local youth office. In 2023, the process of (re)construction of four larger youth centers in different cities in Serbia had started (Nis, Subotica, Sombor, and Novi Pazar). In December 2024, projects for the establishment of 3 new youth centers (in Zrenjanin, Vranje and Obrenovac) were approved, and eight more LSGs become part of the mentorship program support. For the purpose of establishing youth centers, contracts were concluded in 2025. with the City of Zaječar and the Municipality of Bečej, and for the establishment of youth clubs with the Municipalities of Boljevac, Vladičin Han and Novi Kneževac.

Every year, the Ministry of Tourism and Youth conducts a survey on the position and needs of young people, which examines the position and needs of young people based on the Youth Strategy in the Republic of Serbia for the period from 2023 to 2030 and Eurostat indicators, as well as a deeper comparative analysis that should indicate changes in the attitudes and needs of young people and offer answers for their better understanding. The public procurement procedure for the new Survey on the Position and Needs of Young People for 2025 has been completed and data collection for the 2025 Report has begun.

#### Youth Guarantee

On 29 August 2025, the Republic of Serbia and the European Union signed the Financing Agreement for the Multiannual Operational Programme for Employment, Skills and Social Inclusion, with a total budget of EUR 126.93 million, of which EUR 100 million is a grant as part of the European Union's IPA assistance. The programme will finance assistance to employment, education, housing and social protection of citizens of the Republic of Serbia until 2032. The Managing Authority is the Ministry of Labour, Employment, Veterans and Social Affairs, and one of the intermediary bodies is the MTY, whose role is particularly important in the phase of reaching out to NEET youth. MTY is in the process of preparing the documentation required for the next phase and for the upcoming procedures following the signing of the financial agreement.

#### Council of Europe

The Ministry of Tourism and Youth is an active member of the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) and the Joint Council on Youth (CMJ), as well as of Programming Committee on Youth (CPJ). MTY maintains active communication with the relevant actors of the Council of Europe and responds to inquiries, delivers the necessary imputations, reports, contacts, etc. Representative from MTY took part at the 53rd meeting of the Programming committee on youth in Strasbourg on 12-13 June 2025.

A meeting between representatives of the MTY and the Head of the Council of Europe Mission in Belgrade, was held on July 29 to discuss possibilities for improving cooperation in the field of youth policy.

#### Global Education Week

MTY participates in the Ilegend II cycle of the Council of Europe program as a member of the North-South Centre network and strengthen its position as national coordinator for global education at the national level together with Center for Youth Work (CZOR) as CSO coordinator.

International partners - The Ministry of Tourism and Youth (MTY) continues intensive and fruitful cooperation with international partners in the area of youth policy, both in strategic fields and on specific projects.

GIZ - The project Prospects for young people in rural areas in Serbia is implemented by the German Organization for International Cooperation (GIZ) in partnership with the MTY, with the support of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ). The project lasts from November 2021 till June 2026. The aim of the project is to improve economic, social and cultural opportunities of young people in rural areas in Serbia. A regular meeting of the Advisory Board was held in February 2025. The project Steering committee was held on July 29, 2025, and on that occasion the most significant results of the project as well as plans for the future period were presented. Brochures are being prepared that will collect project experiences and examples of good practice. Trainings for coordinators of local Youth Offices are being held, which were designed within the project as a result of cooperation between MTO, GIZ and NAJU. The last training was held from September 16 to 17 in the NAJU premises under the title "Professional Training Program for Persons Responsible for Youth Policy in Local Self-Government Bodies &#8211; Module II". With the support of the project, young people have created and implemented more than 200 youth initiatives in various thematic areas. Within the project, 53 young individuals have undergone training in youth work&#8212;20 have attained the title of youth worker, and 33 have become youth leaders. Young people are also being supported in recognizing their economic prospects in agriculture and rural tourism. Through 2,183 different advisory services, over 1500 young people from 35 municipalities and 6 vocational schools have had

the opportunity to enhance their skills in entrepreneurship, business plan development, digital marketing, and rural tourism, thereby stabilizing their incomes and diversifying their sources. Mentorship support was provided to young entrepreneurs, with special focus on women from rural areas, to strengthen their business skills and launch their own initiatives. Business info hubs have been established and equipped, enhancing support for youth in career guidance and entrepreneurship. Spaces for youth have been equipped in 10 rural communities, providing platforms for youth activities, networking and skill development. In total, around 3,000 young people have participated in the project's activities to date.

UNFPA - Successful cooperation between the MTY and the UNFPA continued in several important areas. MTY and UNFPA had signed a Work Plan for 2025 defining main areas of cooperation. MTY and UNFPA, in cooperation with the Ana and Vlade Divac Foundation, developed Youth wellbeing index - as a composite index to be used as a tool for monitoring the progress in the implementation of youth policies at the national and local level as the structure of the index corresponds to the general and specific objectives of the Strategy. UNFPA supports the development of a new Action Plan for the period 2026-2028 for the implementation of the Youth Strategy for the period 2023-2030. The first meeting of the Working Group for the development of the Draft Action Plan for the period 2026-2028 was held on 23 September 2025. The Ministry is also one of the partners in the projects: "Youth for Inclusion, Equality and Trust" implemented by UNDP, UNFPA, UNESCO and the UN Agency for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women with the financial support of the PBF fund, as well as in the regional project "Regional Programme for Democracy in the Western Balkans - ReLOaD" implemented by UNDP and whose activities are also being carried out in the reporting period.

UNICEF - MTY and UNICEF have signed a one-year cooperation plan for 2025 that provides a framework for cooperation in various fields. In the last period, cooperation has been focused on two important areas: mental health of young people and standardization of youth spaces. The Comparative Analysis of Youth Centers in Serbia and Europe has been completed with the aim of defining the optimal way of working and functioning in order to develop the standards of youth spaces in the next phase. With the support of UNICEF, the preparation of the Ex-post Analysis of the Action Plan 2023-2025 for the implementation of the Youth Strategy for the period 2023-2030 has been developed. The MTY is part of the project "Recommendations for a National Indicator Framework and Improvement of Programs for Mental Health and Psychosocial Support of Youth in the Republic of Serbia", which is managed by the Institute of Public Health of Serbia "Dr Milan Jovanović Batut" with the support of UNICEF. The preparation of a document with a set of indicators of importance for the mental health of youth is finalized.

UN Youth delegates - As of August 2025, Serbia has elected two new youth delegates who were speaking at the recent session of the Committee of the United Nations General Assembly, as well as took part in other relevant UN Youth activities.

RYCO - RYCO Office in Serbia has all the necessary conditions for work provided by MTY (space and utility costs) and is fully functional. Serbia continues to fulfil its intended contribution in the amount of 389,000 EUR per year. Bosnia and Herzegovina's chairmanship of the Steering Board, which began in 2024, continues.

Serbia currently does not have a youth representative on the Advisory Board of the RYCO. New leadership has been elected - Vladimir Obradović as Secretary General and Krešnik Loka as Deputy Secretary General. A meeting of the MTY with the newly elected leadership of the RYCO and Head of the Local Branch Marija Bulat, was held on September 26 at the premises of the MTY. The topics of the meeting were related to the plans of the new leadership for the coming period and the further work. The "Super Schools" project continues, and at the event "Meet the Super Schools" held on September 26 in Belgrade, 20 new schools were presented that were selected to participate in the new cycle of the program. The implementation of the Western Balkans Youth Cultural Fund project, which is intended for cultural workers and youth-oriented civil society organizations working in the field of culture, is also underway.

RCC - Green Agenda - Ministry is actively participating in the third cycle of initiative Western Balkans Youth Lab focusing on Green Agenda, led by RCC (Regional Cooperation Council) and financially

supported by European Union. After participating in Kick-off conference in Sarajevo in June 2024, MTY together with partners from CSO sector developed the project focused on Youth and Green agenda and implemented planned activities. The activities included the preparation of the “Guide for the active participation of youth in decision-making on environmental protection at the local level &#8211; Too green for green decisions?”, holding of workshops for youth in selected LSGs, media campaign and final event held on 17th October 2025 in Belgrade. The results were presented at the final Conference held in Ljubljana (Slovenia) from 20-22. October 2025.

**Country / Pays:** Slovak Republic / République slovaque

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** The Ministry of Education, Research, Development and Youth of the Slovak Republic

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 22/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** Act No. 282/2008 Coll. On the Support of Youth Work, which is currently being amended, is undergoing the legislative process in the National Council of the Slovak Republic. An extensive participatory process was fully utilized in the preparation and finalization of this amendment, involving all stakeholders affected by the law, including young people themselves and organizations representing their interests.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :** Act No. 282/2008 Coll. On the Support of Youth Work, which is currently being amended, is undergoing the legislative process in the National Council of the Slovak Republic. An extensive participatory process was fully utilized in the preparation and finalization of this amendment, involving all stakeholders affected by the law, including young people themselves and organizations representing their interests.

**Country / Pays:** Spain / Espagne

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** Spanish Institute of Youth

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 21/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** The Spanish Youth Institute (INJUVE), the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation (MAUC), and the Spanish Youth Council (CJE) have launched the first edition of the “Young Delegates of Spain to the United Nations” programme, a pioneering initiative that offers young people in Spain the opportunity to engage directly in multilateral diplomacy and international policy-making within the United Nations system.

For the first time, Spain will be represented by four young delegates, doubling the standard representation of most countries. Each delegate focuses on one key thematic area &#8212;Sustainable Development, Human Rights, Youth and Participation, and Gender Equality&#8212; ensuring that the diversity of perspectives, priorities, and concerns of Spanish youth are reflected in global discussions. The delegates will take part in various United Nations fora and meetings, representing the voice of Spanish youth in international debates.

The programme, which has now officially begun, marks a milestone in Spain's youth policy and foreign action. The young delegates have already started their initial institutional and training activities, working closely with the institutions leading the initiative, thus taking the first steps in this unprecedented experience of youth representation at the international level.

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**Country / Pays:** Ukraine

**Reference period / Période de référence:** April 2025 -November 2025 / avril 2025 - novembre 2025

**Ministry's name / Nom du ministère :** Ministry of Youth and Sports

**Date of submission / Date de soumission:** 29/10/2025

**Recent developments in the national implementation of youth policies/ Informations sur l'évolution récente de la mise en œuvre des politiques de jeunesse au niveau national:** On 11 August 2025, the Cabinet of Ministers amended Resolution No. 1011 (2022) to establish the National Youth Council under the Prime Minister, enabling formal youth-government dialogue. Youth councils now operate in 613 locations, including 23 regional, 577 local, and 7 national-level bodies.

That same month, the government adopted the Concept of the new State Target Programme "Youth of Ukraine: Generation of Resilience &#8211; 2030," prioritizing youth participation, psychosocial support, and economic empowerment.

Ukraine advanced digital governance with the launch of the "E-Youth" national platform on 12 August 2025, integrating access to education, employment, volunteering, and grants. Its operation was formalized by Resolution No. 1227 (1 October 2025).

On 5 June 2025, the Verkhovna Rada adopted Law No. 4488-IX, enhancing youth policy financing and embedding the EU's Youth Guarantee.

The Ukrainian Youth Foundation scaled up outreach: 94 workshops reached 2,095 young people, 12 Career Start Forums engaged 682 participants, and 14 CSOs implemented 23 state-supported projects. 33 young people were employed in six regions under the UNICEF-backed Career Start pilot.

Youth-led recovery remained central. The Vidnova:UA programme mobilized 1,550 young people to rebuild 59 youth spaces, benefiting over 43,000 people. The SpivDiia network engaged 5,000 youth to support 765,000 beneficiaries. The National Volunteer Platform recorded 12,873 users and over 1 million views.

Six of 16 bilateral youth exchanges with Poland and Lithuania were implemented by October, involving nearly 200 participants. A new AI tool streamlined application and selection.

Lviv's status as European Youth Capital 2025 continues to raise Ukraine's youth profile in Europe.

**Good practices in the implementation of recent CM recommendations in the field of youth / bonnes pratiques dans la mise en œuvre des récentes recommandations du CM dans le domaine de la jeunesse :**

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