

YOUTH PARTICIPATION POLICY DOCUMENTS

❖ YOUTH PARTICIPATION

- 1) Article 165 of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union stipulates that “Union action shall be aimed at encouraging the development of youth exchanges and of exchanges of socio-educational instructors, and encouraging the participation of young people in democratic life in Europe”.
- 2) Article 2 of the Treaty on European Union states that “the Union is founded on the values of respect for human dignity, freedom, democracy, equality, the rule of law and respect of human rights, including the rights of persons belonging to minorities”.
- 3) Article 10(3) of the Treaty on European Union recognizes every citizen’s right to participate in the democratic life of the European Union.
- 4) Articles 11 and 12 of the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union state that everyone has the right to freedom of expression, to peaceful assembly and association. Article 24 declares that children may express their views freely and stipulates that such views shall be taken into consideration on matters that concern them in accordance with their age and maturity.
- 5) The Commission White Paper entitled ‘A new impetus for European youth’ presented on 21 November 2001 sets out a new framework for European cooperation on youth affairs.
- 6) Council Resolution of 27 June 2002 regarding the framework of European cooperation in the youth field (2002/C 168/02)
- 7) Council Resolution of 25 November 2003 on making school an open learning environment to prevent and combat early school leaving and disaffection among young people and to encourage their social inclusion (2003/C 295/02)¹
- 8) Council Resolution of 25 November 2003 on common objectives for participation by and information for young people (2003/C 295/04)
- 9) Council Resolution of 24 May 2005 on implementing the common objectives for youth information (2005/C 141/03)
- 10) Commission Communication of 30 May 2005 on European policies concerning youth: Addressing the concerns of young people in Europe - implementing the European Youth Pact and promoting active citizenship (COM(2005) 206 final)
- 11) Decision No 1719/2006/EC of the European Parliament and of the Council of 15 November 2006 establishing the "Youth in Action" programme for the period 2007 to 2013²
- 12) Council Resolution on implementing the common objectives for participation by and information for young people in view of promoting their active European Citizenship (2006/C 297/02), 26 October 2006

¹ In this Resolution the Council approved common objectives and identified participation by and information for young people as priority issues.

² The programme strongly supports the participation of young people, including various forms of volunteering.

- 13) Communication from the Commission “ Promoting young people’s full participation in education, employment and society” (COM(2007) 498 final) 5 September 2007
- 14) Council Resolution of 22 May 2008 on the participation of young people with fewer opportunities
- 15) Council Conclusions of 22 May 2008 on a European approach to media literacy in the digital environment
- 16) Communication from the Commission: An EU Strategy for Youth – Investing and Empowering. A renewed open method of coordination to address youth challenges and opportunities. COM (2009) 200, 27 April 2009
- 17) Council Resolution on a renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018). 15131/09, 6 November 2009
- 18) Europe 2020: A strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth (COM(2010) 2020)
- 19) Communication from the Commission – Youth On The Move: An initiative to unleash the potential of young people to achieve smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in the European Union (COM(2010) 477 final)
- 20) Council Conclusions of 19 November 2010 on the "Youth on the Move" initiative – an integrated approach in response to the challenges young people face
- 21) Council Resolution of 19 November 2010 on Youth Work (OJ C 327, 4.12.2010, p. 1.)
- 22) Council Recommendation of 20 November 2008 on the Mobility of Young Volunteers across the EU (OJ C 319, 13.12.2008, p. 8.)
- 23) Communication from the Commission “ A Digital Agenda for Europe” Brussels, 19 May 2010 (COM(2010) 245) ³(one of the Europe 2020 Strategy's flagship initiatives)
- 24) Resolution of the Council on encouraging new and effective forms of participation of all young people in democratic life in Europe (19 May 2011)
- 25) Council conclusions on the Eastern dimension of youth participation and mobility
(28 November 2011) 
- 26) Communication from the Commission - ERASMUS FOR ALL: the EU Programme for Education, Training, Youth and Sport (23 November 2011)

- 27) Council Conclusions on fostering the creative and innovative potential of young people – (to be adopted by the EYCS Council on 11 May 2012)⁴

³ The communication pinpoints the need for young people to be actively involved in e-participation

⁴ In the Conclusions it is considered that inter alia young people’s active engagement in society e.g. through entrepreneurship, youth work, voluntary activities and civic organisations can harness their creativity and innovative capacity and thereby their active citizenship and increase their prospects on the labour market and for creating self employment opportunities.

Moreover young people’s creative use of social media should be further stimulated, alongside efforts to strengthen their ability to access media and to understand, critically evaluate, create and communicate media content, with the purpose of enhancing their participation in society as a whole, including building social capital through linking communities and individuals online and at the same time giving society the benefit of their competences and skills.

❖ THE STRUCTURED DIALOGUE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE

BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS

- 1) Commission Communication "The Commission's contribution to the period of reflection and beyond: Plan-D for Democracy, Dialogue and Debate" ([COM\(2005\) 494](#) final), 13 October 2005⁵
- 2) Council Resolution on addressing the concerns of young people in Europe — implementing the European Pact for Youth and promoting active citizenship (2005/C 292/03) 15 November 2005⁶
- 3) Council Resolution on implementing the common objectives for participation by and information for young people in view of promoting their active European citizenship (2006/C 297/02), November 2006⁷
- 4) Communication from the Commission “ Promoting young people’s full participation in education, employment and society” (COM(2007) 498 final) 5 September 2007
- 5) Communication from the Commission: An EU Strategy for Youth – Investing and Empowering. A renewed open method of coordination to address youth challenges and opportunities. COM (2009) 200, 27 April 2009
- 6) Council Resolution on a renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018). 15131/09, 6 November 2009⁸
 - **FIRST CYCLE OF THE STRUCTURED DIALOGUE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE (Spanish, Belgian and Hungarian Presidencies) ON YOUTH EMPLOYMENT (1 January 2010 – 30 June 2011)**
- 7) EU Youth Conference of the Spanish Presidency (Priority: Social Inclusion) – Joint Recommendations
http://www.youthforum.org/en/system/files/yfj_public/media_corner/en/Conclusions_EUYouthConference_Jerez2010.pdf
- 8) EU Youth Conference of the Belgian Presidency (Priority: Youth Work) – Joint Recommendations
<http://www.anst.gov.ro/documente/documente/JOINT%20RECOMMENDATIONS%20Leuven.pdf>
- 9) EU Youth Conference of the Hungarian Presidency (Priority: Participation) – Joint Recommendations
<http://eu2011.mobilitas.hu/userfiles/file/Outcomes%20Budapest%20EU%20Youth%20Conference.pdf>

KEY OUTCOMES

- 10) Council Resolution of the Council on the structured dialogue with young people on youth employment (19 May 2011)

⁵ It states that "...communication is a dialogue, not a one-way street. It is not just about EU institutions informing EU citizens but also about citizens expressing their opinions so that the Commission can understand their perceptions and concerns. Europe's citizens want to make their voices in Europe heard and their democratic participation should have a direct bearing on EU policy formulation and output."

⁶ The Resolution invited the European Commission and the Member States to develop a structured dialogue with young people and their organisations, researchers in the youth field and policy-makers.

⁷ The Concept of structured dialogue was further supported by this resolution which states that due account should be taken of the structured dialogue and its outcome in policymaking at the relevant levels.

⁸ The Resolution recognised all young people as a resource to society and underlined the importance of upholding the right of young people to participate in the development of policies affecting them by means of a continuous structured dialogue with young people and youth organisations.

11) Overview of the structured dialogue between young people and EU institutions on youth employment - Information from the Hungarian Presidency of the Council of the EU (May 2011)

12) 

13) Council Conclusions on promoting youth employment to achieve the Europe 2020 objectives (EPSCO Council, 17 June 2011)

14) Compendium of the First Cycle of the Structured Dialogue
http://www.mobilitas.hu/uploads/1/hirek/8466/fajlok/Compendium_SD_en.pdf

15) Conclusions of the Structured Dialogue Exercise of the Fifth European Youth Week 2011
http://www.youthforum.org/images/stories/Structured_Dialogue/ConclusionsEYW2011_en.pdf

16) Implementation of the Structured Dialogue for the period of 1st of January 2010 until 30th of June 2011 http://www.youthforum.org/images/stories/Structured_Dialogue/Implementation_of_SD-ES_BE_HU_.pdf

- **SECOND CYCLE OF THE STRUCTURED DIALOGUE WITH YOUNG PEOPLE (Polish ,Danish and Cypriot Presidencies) ON YOUTH PARTICIPATION (1 July 2011 – 31 December 2012)**

17) EU Youth Conference of the Polish Presidency (Priority: Youth and the World) – Joint Recommendations http://ec.europa.eu/youth/documents/joint0911_en.pdf

18) EU Youth Conference of the Danish Presidency (Priority: Creativity and Innovation) – Joint Recommendations
http://www.youthforum.org/images/stories/Documents/Joint_recommendations_EU_YOUTH_CONFERENCE_SORO_20_March.pdf

KEY OUTCOMES

19) Council conclusions on the Eastern dimension of youth participation and mobility (28 November 2011)⁹

20) Council Conclusions on fostering the creative and innovative potential of young people¹⁰

21) Council Conclusions on participation and social inclusion¹¹

22) Council Resolution on the Structured Dialogue with young people on youth participation¹²

⁹ They were adopted under the PL PRES.

¹⁰ To be adopted by the EYCS Council on 11 May 2012 under the DK PRES

¹¹ They are foreseen for the CY PRES.

¹² It is foreseen to be adopted at the end of the cycle under the CY PRES.