



OTHER EKCYP FEATURES – OBTAINING AND SHARING INFORMATION

→ **GLOSSARY:** the Glossary defines some key terms relating to European youth policy and youth work

The list of topics or terms is not comprehensive and is under constant development, in line with changes in youth policy and inputs from the EKCYP network of correspondents and EKCYP users.

→ **NEWS:** read the news and inform other users about current developments in the youth field (seminars, reports, events).

→ **EXPERT DATABASE:** look for an expert on youth policy, training, work, and upload your own profile and CV as an expert.

The EKCYP expert database allows experts in the field of youth to detail their expertise in their own portfolios and make these available to a wider audience. This database is designed to support network building by youth practitioners, policy makers and researchers with their peers or with members of the other groups. The expert database thus contributes to a European bank of youth knowledge, in accordance with the overall remit of the EKCYP.

→ **EKCYP LIBRARY:** browse the library and upload relevant documents.

→ **GOOD PRACTICES:** look for good practices and present successful practices developed in the youth field.

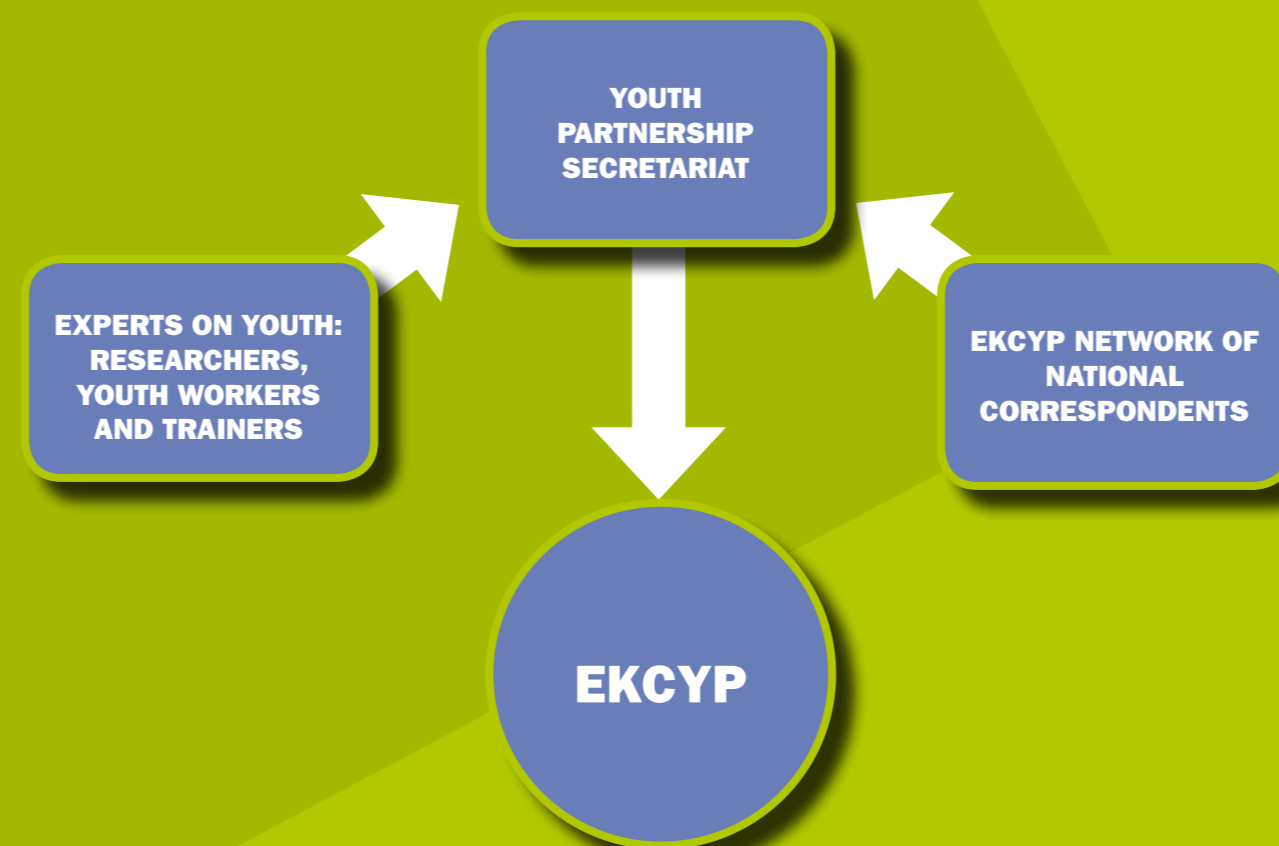
This database is an information pool that collects information about successful projects, initiatives, and organisations in the fields of youth work, training and youth policy at local, regional, and national level. The good practice database provides an opportunity for people who are active in the youth sphere in every part of Europe to give their activities and experience a higher profile and to share working concepts and ideas with others.

All news, documents, examples of good practices and expert profiles go through a validation process before being placed on line.



EKCYP STRUCTURE AND CONTACTS

Organisation chart



GET INVOLVED! Register with the EKCYP and share your experience with others.

Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of Youth



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The virtual European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy (EKCYP)

Council of Europe
Conseil de l'Europe



European Union
Union Européenne

Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of Youth

EKCYP
2010
2013



www.youth-partnership.eu.coe.int



THE EUROPEAN KNOWLEDGE CENTRE FOR YOUTH POLICY (EKCY)

Is an on-line database intended to provide the youth sector with a **single access point** to reliable knowledge and information about young people's situation across Europe. Linked to EKCY is a network of national correspondents, who are youth policy specialists responsible for collecting national data. EKCY had a twofold launch, first during Luxembourg's EU Presidency in June 2005 and then at the Council of Europe's Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth in September 2005.

OBJECTIVE

The Centre was created in order to enhance knowledge transfers between the fields of **research, policy and practice** through the collection and dissemination to as many users as possible of information about youth policy and research in Europe and beyond. An effort is made to include updated information about national youth policies in each of the Council of Europe's member states, as well as information about a number of topics spanning several countries. In addition, it provides information about various youth research topics and projects, as well as updates on conferences, events and forthcoming activities.

POLITICAL CONTEXT

EKCY has been developed in the framework of the youth partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe. Both institutions emphasise the importance of a **knowledge-based approach to youth policy-making**, as expressed in their relevant political documents and strategies.

For the **European Commission**, better knowledge in the youth field has been a prominent objective since the adoption in 2001 of the *White Paper "A new impetus for European Youth"*. This was confirmed by the Council of the European Union in its Resolution on *Common objectives for a greater understanding and knowledge of Youth*.

For the **Council of Europe**, policy-making based on evidence has played a crucial role since the adoption of Recommendation 92(7) concerning "Communication and co-operation in the field of youth research in Europe" and was further boosted by the setting up of a mechanism for carrying out youth policy reviews and policy advisory missions in 1997.



NEW STRATEGY

Recently, both the European Commission and the Council of Europe have renewed their strategies¹ in the youth field and confirmed the need for investment in research in order to promote the development of evidence-based policy in Europe. Both institutions highlight the relevance of EKCY in this context. Youth research is regarded as essential in order to achieve the overall objectives of a youth policy strategy.

As a result of the two new European strategies in the field of youth, a renewed forward-looking strategy for the partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth was developed for the period 2010-2013. One of the three priorities is "promoting evidence-based policy" through further development of the EKCY and its tools. The new strategy also calls for the further development of EKCY through the setting up of national networks, consisting of EKCY correspondents and all the members of the "youth knowledge triangle" (government representatives, youth researchers and young people).

EU: INVESTING AND EMPOWERING

Council Resolution on a renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field, November 2009.

Knowledge-building and evidence-based youth policy: Youth policy should be evidence-based. Better knowledge and understanding of the living conditions, values and attitudes of young women and men need to be gathered and shared with other relevant policy fields so as to enable appropriate and timely measures to be taken. Such knowledge can be promoted inter alia via **support to the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy and its correspondents**, EU-wide analytical capacity (Eurydice), youth research, studies, special European youth surveys and networks of researchers. The EU Youth Report will also be an essential contribution towards evidence-based policy-making. Co-operation between relevant authorities, youth researchers, young people, youth organisations and those active in youth work should be promoted.



Resolution of the Committee of Ministers on the youth policy of the Council of Europe, November 2008

The Committee of Ministers resolved that political priorities in the youth field should be pursued through *youth research and knowledge of youth*: youth research and co-operation between youth researchers and policy-makers is crucial in order to promote evidence-based youth policies and support the work of practitioners in the youth field. Studies should be carried out and publications, educational and training material should be produced in order to support youth work and policy. **The European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy should be further developed.**

EKCY NATIONAL CORRESPONDENTS

Country information is supplied by the members of an extensive network of national correspondents, designated by the national ministries responsible for youth policy. They draft and update country sheets and replies to questionnaires and also contribute to the fact sheets on cross-sectoral issues. Members of the network meet regularly to exchange ideas, and work together to improve knowledge provision within the EKCY.

1. CoE Agenda 2020, October 2008.
EU: An EU Strategy for Youth – Investing and Empowering. A renewed open method of coordination to address youth challenges and opportunities, April 2009.
Council Resolution on a renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field, November 2009.

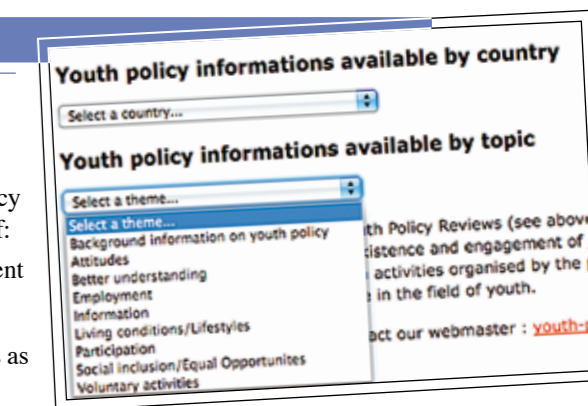
Access to specific kinds of knowledge relating to the youth field

KEY FEATURES OF THE EKCY

COUNTRY INFORMATION

The section on country information provides knowledge about youth policy and young people's situation in participating member states in the form of:

- **Country sheets** providing information about the structure and development of **national youth policies** in participating member states.
- **Thematic information** for each country about key youth policy topics as defined by the Council of Europe and European Union.



YOUTH POLICY TOPICS

The section on youth policy topics provides knowledge on **key themes of relevance to young people in Europe as defined by the Council of Europe and/or European Commission**. These are themes identified as crucial to empowering young people and creating favourable conditions for them to develop their skills, work and play an active part in society. The information is provided in **English, French and German**. Most topics are dealt with in the form of a **policy framework** accompanied by **related documents**. In addition, material is provided in respect of each topic relating to **seminars, research and other activities organised within the EU-CoE youth partnership**.

→ Human rights and democracy	→ Information
→ Diversity and the combating of discrimination	→ Voluntary activities
→ Social inclusion	→ Youth in the world
→ Education and training	→ Creativity and culture
→ Non-formal learning	→ Lifestyles and living conditions
→ Employment and entrepreneurship	→ Intergenerational dialogue
→ Health and well-being	→ History of youth work
→ Participation	→ Better understanding of youth/knowledge-based youth policy

RESEARCH ON YOUTH

This page contains studies or reports produced/funded by partners and other institutions on key themes of relevance to young people in Europe, as defined by the Council of Europe and/or European Commission.

