

## Short Bio

**PhD Lidija Kolouh** competences and experience mainly focus on youth policy, youth participation, education policy development, analysis of education systems, democracy and human rights issues related to education, as well as validation issues related to non-formal education.

Lidija Kolouh works as a research officer at the Swedish National Board for Youth Affairs, which is a national agency responsible for youth policy development in Sweden. The National Board is commissioned to follow up and highlight the development of the national youth policy, and this is done through thematic research reports called Fokus-reports. Ms. Kolouh has worked with four Fokus reports. Some of research topics covered during the last six years are; youth influence, health, transitions from education to labour market, thematic analysis of the living conditions of the young in distressed neighbourhoods.

Lidija Kolouh has been a member of the Partnerships research network at European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy as a research representative for Sweden during 2004 – 2009.

She has been involved in several international research-projects related to her field of expertise; Comparative Education. Her thesis presents the political, economic and geographical features of Bosnia and Hercegovina, describes the education system, education reforms, and discusses education issues related to three spheres of society – the civil sphere, State sphere and economic sphere. She highlights the role of education in society and the crucial tasks of education systems to foster and guarantee the application of democratic principles, such as the promotion of critical citizenry and participation.

During a two-year period she worked as an education consultant for UNESCO in Bosnia and Hercegovina. In her work as an UNESCO consultant she had a coordinating role and worked closely with other international organizations, such as World Bank, several UN-organizations and various NGOs. Topics that were included in her terms of references were analysis and policy recommendations related to social institutions and capacity building.

Two publications that can serve as examples of Ms. Lidija Kolouhs' work;

*"FOKUS 08 - The living conditions of young people in socially deprived neighbourhoods in Sweden [2009]"*

The situation young people find themselves in and circumstances around their childhood and adolescence vary in our country. Fokus 08 highlights the conditions for young persons who live in some of Swedens poorest areas.

[http://www.ungdomsstyrelsen.se//ad2/user\\_documents/Fokus\\_08\\_ENG.pdf](http://www.ungdomsstyrelsen.se//ad2/user_documents/Fokus_08_ENG.pdf)

Kolouh-Westin, L.(2004). *"Learning Democracy Together in School? – Student and Teacher Attitudes in Bosnia and Herzegovina"*, Stockholm University.

<http://www.interped.su.se/publications/LidijaNo.66.pdf>