

Let's grow youth work!

Intro to the European Youth Work Agenda for National Contact Points.

- 1. European Youth Work Agenda**
- 2. National processes**
- 3. Offers by Growing Youth Work**

Are you involved in...

- **Local** youth work offers?
- **Inclusive** youth work targeting all young people in their diversity?
- **Quality** development in your work?
- **Networking** and co-operation with colleagues and partners?
- Partnering up with actors from **other sectors** beyond youth work?
- Making youth work seen, heard and **recognised**?
- Bringing **innovation** to your practice and tackling crisis and challenges?
- Generating more **political support** for youth work?

Do you want to...

- Strengthen and **develop youth work** in your country?
- Improve the **situation of young people** and youth work as their space?
- Bring the relevant stakeholders in your country together and support their **networking**?
- Help your youth work community of practice make use of existing **political backing**?



Then the
European Youth Work Agenda
is for you.

Are you active in youth work in your country?

Are you providing or participating in youth work activities? Are you advocating for youth work as a field?

Then you are part of the youth work community of practice!

The **youth work community of practice** comprises everybody who plays an active role in and for youth work at all levels, from the local to the European, such as:

- Youth workers and youth leaders
- Youth work organisations
- Youth work managers, project carriers, trainers
- Researchers, youth work educators
- Local communities and municipalities
- National Agencies for Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps
- Youth representations and young people
- Youth policy-makers

The situation of youth work in Europe

lack of skilled
workers

rightwing
parties gaining
power

mental health

Covid-19
Pandemic

War in Europe

financial insecurity

lack of recognition

Shrinking spaces
for civil society

shaken youth work
structures

climat crisis

...

- Youth work in Europe is under pressure!

The European Youth Work Agenda as a strategic framework for youth work development

- is a **collective answer** to the challenging situation of youth work
- aims at **strengthening co-operation** within and between all levels of the **youth work community** of practice and with **other sectors**
- intends a more strategic and **co-ordinated approach**
- aims at strengthening **framing conditions** for youth work
- Provides recommendations for measures or action in **eight thematic priority fields**



The political basis...

**Not from
scratch...**

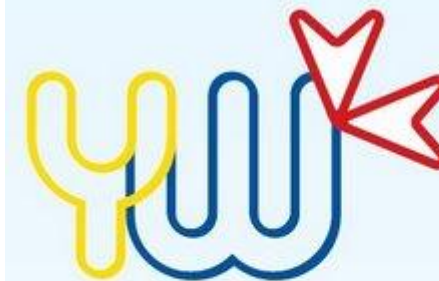
European
Youth Work
Conventions
Resolutions
2010 (EU)
2017 (CoE)

2020

Resolution
on the
framework
for
establishing
a European
Youth Work
Agenda



European
Union Youth
Strategy
2019-2027



4th European
Youth Work Convention



Council of
Europe
Youth
Sector
Strategy
2020-2030

The Community Process

What's in it for you?

- 'youth work' as common ground
- European dimension in local youth work
- EYWA as advocacy instrument (Council Resolution, 3rd EYWC Declaration and 4th EYWC Conclusions)
- Quality development
- Exchange, networking and thematic co-operation
- Visibility
- Financial means by European funding instruments



What is important when setting up a fruitful national process?

- Creating a **national contact point**/co-ordinating body/working group to plan and start implementing the process
- Receiving **political support** from decision-makers
- Developing **aims** and an **action plan/work plan**
- Developing a **communication plan**
- Implementing **mappings** or gathering knowledge on the situation of youth work at national level
- Providing opportunities to **exchange** on practice examples
- Strengthening commitment from all actors and partners/**co-creating developments**
- Reshaping the framing of **ongoing activities and underlining the connection** to the EYWA



Who is/should be actively involved in the national process?

- National contact point
- National youth ministry/authority
- National Agency for the EU youth programmes (if one exists)
- Relevant stakeholders in the youth work community of practice

How can a **national contact point** support the national process?

Potential role of a national contact point:

- To ensure **communication** about the EYWA with national actors
- To ensure **participation of national actors**
- To **encourage implementation** of activities by the national actors
- To **implement** measures and activities of the **national action plan**/work plan, develop content for events, publications, mappings, etc., and monitor the national action plan/work plan
- To facilitate **national thematic priorities**
- To **transfer information** between national, regional, local and European levels
- To **keep up to date** through newsletters/partners/meetings
- To carry out **practical management work**
- The role of the national contact point should be based on a **mandate** and contract.

How can **national youth ministries/authorities** support the national process?

Potential role of the national youth ministry/authority:

- To have a good **understanding of the EYWA** and share its aim to strengthen youth work development
- To provide **political support** to the national process and long-term support to youth work development as an ally (within the community of practice)
- To provide **financial support** to the implementation of the national process
- To **appoint a national contact point** and create the budgetary basis for it in the ministry
- To create (in co-operation with the community of practice) a **national working group** for the EYWA implementation
- To **set national priorities**
- To **maintain international co-operation** and exchange with youth ministries from other countries
- To **raise political awareness of the EYWA** and mention it in various political documents
- To give a clear **mandate to National Agencies** to support the national process by mobilising the capacities and resources of the EU youth programmes as instruments for the EYWA (in those countries where they exist)

How can **National Agencies for the EU youth programmes** support the national process?

Potential role of National Agencies for Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps:

- To **provide financial support** to European activities related to the EYWA (projects to develop youth work)
- To **support funded projects** as regards their content and strategic development
- To ensure **transfer between the European debate and national implementation**
- To provide **thematic impetus** to the European debate/debate in Europe (through events, publications) and at national level
- To actively **contribute to the national process**, inform about opportunities available under the EU youth programmes and – potentially – act as national contact point
- To **facilitate networking** between various actors or groups within the community of practice
- To **act as communicator** for the EYWA by raising awareness among beneficiaries about it, providing translated, understandable and accessible materials, and transferring knowledge
- To **make visible funded projects** related to the EYWA

How can the **youth work community of practice** support and benefit from the national process?

Role of the youth work community of practice:

- To act at the operational level and **implement activities** to develop youth work further
- To **involve young people** and co-create with them to capture their concerns and requirements
- To **generate connections, exchange, and co-operation** within the youth work community and beyond
- To **advocate** (for youth work and its development) in the role of aware experts and ambassadors and to get involved in decision-making processes
- To maintain a proactive, future-oriented and **strategic mindset** and practice
- To **generate data** for knowledge-gathering/research/evaluation surveys
- To **maintain ownership** for the EYWA and speak about its benefits
- To **show solidarity** and support each other

How does the European level support the national processes?



- **Current offers**

- Yearly Exchange Forum on the EYWA
- Regular digital Coffee Talks on the EYWA
- Supporting materials
- News articles about national processes on the website's [news section](#)

Growing Youth Work

1
SNAC
Strategic National
Agency
Cooperation

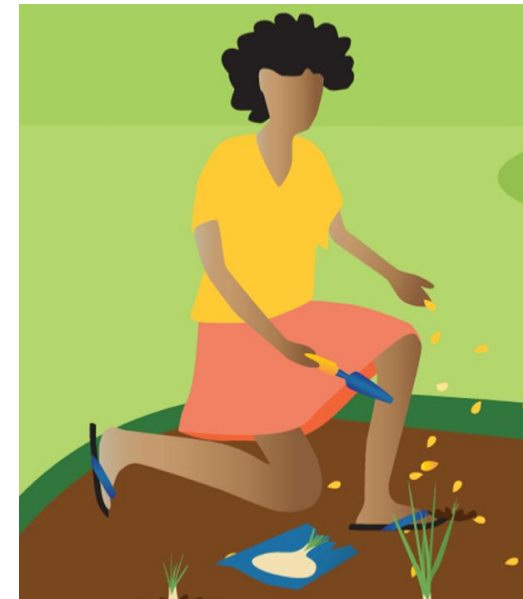
16
partners

48
countries

1
**community
process**

Partners:

National Agencies for Erasmus + Youth and the European Solidarity Corps in Austria, Belgium (Flanders), Croatia, Cyprus, Estonia, Germany (coordinator), Hungary, Italy, Malta, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Portugal, Slovenia, Türkiye, SALTO Training and Cooperation, SALTO Eastern Europe and Caucasus.



recognized
accessible
OUR MISSION: to help youth work is...
innovative
visible
future-
re
well-
provided
valuable to
society
GROWING YOUTH WORK ACROSS EUROPE
Co-op gardening for youth work
supported by the SNAC Growing Youth Work
PUT THE EUROPEAN YOUTH WORK AGENDA (EYWA) into ACTION!

MOBILISING THE EU YOUTH PROGRAMMES FOR YOUTH WORK DEVELOPMENT

Developing youth work with the help of the EU youth programmes

Developing inspiration on how to fund funded projects with the Best Practice

Partners of the project "Strengthening youth work in Europe by supporting the implementation of the European Youth Work Agenda (EYWA)"

SNAC Growing Youth Work: What is this project about?

Growing Youth Work starts to develop and strengthen youth work across Europe by offering support, encouraging coordinated and strategic efforts and creating opportunities for youth work professionals.

European Youth Work Agenda

It's a special cooperation project of its partners: A Strategic National Agencies Cooperation (SNAC).

CREATING SPACES FOR COMMUNITY-BUILDING

EVENT SERIES "YOUTH WORK TALKS"

Join this professional debate about pressing issues of youth work development!

Let's talk about youth work!

WHAT CAN YOU SHARE?

SUPPORT FOR NATIONAL PROCESSES

Workshops for municipalities: "Europe as a resource for local youth work"

meetings, networking, support materials

QR codes linking to: Facebook, Website, Instagram, Newsletter, YouTube

YOUR INITIATIVES TO VISUALIZE YOUTH WORK DEVELOPMENT

MAKING YOUTH WORK DEVELOPMENT VISIBLE

Space of empowerment for the community of practice www.growingyouthwork.eu

You need funding for your idea? Your instruments are:

Cooperating to achieve goals, work national activities of the EU network

Conference "Values and Recognition of Youth Work" 2023 in Zagreb, Croatia

Youth Work Talks Conference on cross-sectoral cooperation: "Space for youth work" 2023 in Rotterdam, Netherlands

Let's see cooperation with other sectors.

Look, how recognition is growing.

Youth work in my country is... What's inspiring?

Exchange Forum on the EYWA

Analysing national processes for youth work development

Let's work on this together

Identifying mechanisms for national contact points

Coffee talks on the EYWA: Building national quality for youth work development

BOOSTING SPECIFIC TOPICS OF THE EYWA

- promote well recognition
- quality development
- improve the youth work community of practice
- develop and expand the youth work offer
- prevent and manage challenges
- policy development
- strengthening digital solutions on specific topics of the EYWA
- create a strategic framework for youth work development

Offers

- Exchange Forum on the EYWA (yearly event on national processes)
- Coffee Talks on the EYWA (informal meetings)
- Youth Work Talks (thematic event series)
- Guide for Beneficiaries
- Newsletter, Website, Social Media
- European Training Calendar (SALTO)
- European Charter on Local Youth Work (Europe Goes Local)



THANK YOU.

www.growingyouthwork.eu

Elke Führer, coordinator SNAC cooperation Growing Youth Work | fuehrer@jfemail.de