

Youth Partnership News

European Commission and Council of Europe

www.youth-partnership.net

About European Knowledge networks in the youth field...

To meet the needs and expectations of **young people policies should be based on the best available knowledge and understanding.**

Youth research plays an extraordinary important role in generating a better knowledge and understanding. But this is not sufficient: European Youth Policies confirm that for timely, efficient and sustainable policy making, it is essential to promote exchange, dialogue and networks, to encourage co-operation in the field of youth research and to anticipate future needs.

Therefore the metaphor of a triangle between youth organizations and youth work, youth policy and youth research – with young people in its centre - is a current figure in the European discourse.

The Council of Europe and the European Commission agreed to enhance co-operation not only between the two institutions through the Partnership programme but also to jointly develop a common and better knowledge in the youth field and to contribute to fostering networks and dialogue within the triangle.



Youth Partnership
COUNCIL OF EUROPE & EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Partnership WebSites:

www.youth-partnership.net

www.youth-knowledge.net

www.training-youth.net

www.coe.int/euomed

Research network

The network of research experts was initiated by the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe 13 years ago.

Since 2003 the network has been **coordinated within the Partnership** between the Council of Europe and the European Commission, in the field of youth.

The research network consists of representatives of the members states of the Council of Europe and the signatories of the Cultural Convention. **The members** of this network **are nominated** by the national ministries responsible for youth issues.

They meet yearly to exchange information on the recent developments in youth research in their respective countries and on international projects they are involved in.

They also receive updates on the youth research and youth policy initiatives of the Council of Europe, the European Commission and discuss further development of on-going and planned activities within the research strand of the Partnership.

In between the annual meetings, the network plays the role of a consultancy body for the Partnership in issues related to youth research.

The 12th meeting of the research network took place from **11th to 13th October in Strasbourg**. It discussed current trends and activities in particular dialogue-building and networking between youth research, youth work and youth policy.

The report of the meeting 2006 will be soon available online at www.youth-partnership.net.



European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy (EKCYC) Correspondents

The network of correspondents to the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy (EKCYC) has existed since 2005.

The members of this network **are nominated** by the national youth ministries of the Council of Europe member states. At present, 30 countries have nominated EKCYC-correspondents.

The correspondents **mission** is to collect each year up-to-date information and data on youth policy in their country and to input this data directly into the questionnaires of the EKCYC website. Current topics:

- ABC of Youth Policy
- Better Knowledge of Youth
- Information
- Participation
- Voluntary Activities

A first meeting of the European Knowledge Centre correspondents took place from **13th to 14th October in Strasbourg**.

During the meeting the Partnership secretariat gave an update on the development of the European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy and gathered the feedback and proposals from the correspondents. On the second day a forum for the discussion of inquiries related to the correspondent's task was provided.

Joint session of the Research network and the EKCYC-correspondents network

As members of both networks are considered as pillars for the building up of **national networks** linking actors in the youth field, a joint session on the topic of networking was held on the 13th of October. This session strategies for further cooperation between both networks were discussed.

The report of the meeting will be soon available online at www.youth-partnership.net.



www.youth-knowledge.net (EKCYC)

« The EKCYC is a knowledge management system that provide the youth field with a tool to promote evidence based policy making and practice and a central place for the exchange of information and dialogue. It is supported by the EKCYC-correspondents. »

European Network of Youth Knowledge (EuNYK)

The EuNYK is a network set up by the European Commission, aiming to develop a **better knowledge and understanding of the youth field**, as is foreseen in the common objectives adopted by the Member States in 2004 within the framework of the youth open method of coordination.

The members of this network are **policy makers** (representatives of administration responsible for youth issues), **youth researchers** and **young people** originating from the 25 EU Member States, the two accessing countries (Bulgaria and Romania) as well as from EFTA countries.

The first meeting was organised by the European Commission on **13th March 2006 in Brussels** and mainly focused on the setting up of a national network in each country linking the youth researcher community, the administration in charge of youth and the youth organisations, in order to promote dialogue and exchange of knowledge on youth issues amongst actors in the field.

The second EuNYK meeting will take place **12th March 2007**. On the basis of national contributions, the meeting will help to elaborate guidelines that could serve as a basis to facilitate the setting-up of such a national youth knowledge network in each country.

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