

CONCEPTION OF STATE YOUTH POLICY

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This conception determines the basic provisions and directions based on which the State Youth Policy of Armenia is developed and implemented.

1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

State Youth Policy has a strategic importance and its implementation is one of the major functions of the State. It is called to create legislative, economical and organizational conditions and guarantees to provide political, social-economical, cultural development of Armenia, for comprehensive development of young generation aware of national and international values, with a deep awareness and responsibility towards motherland and nation, understanding of its responsibilities for their motherland, its self-realization and self-assertion.

The subjects of the State Youth Policy are:

- Citizens of the Republic of Armenia /RA/ at the age of 16-30;
- Foreign citizens at the age of 16-30, people who do not have citizenship, as far as their presence in the RA imposes certain responsibilities of respective state bodies;
- NGOs registered in the RA, where the age of the members do not exceed 30, or the NGOs that deal with the affairs of citizens whose age is up to 30;
- Young families, where one of the family member is younger than 30.

State Youth Policy is implemented by State Governmental Bodies through State Youth Policy subjects.

2. Principles of the State Youth Policy

State Youth Policy in the RA is based on the following principles:

- Integration of interests of the State, Society and Individuals in the development and implementation process of State Youth Policy;
- Provision of direct participation of young citizens in the development and implementation of policy and separate programs related to the Youth and Society as a whole;
- Provision of State guaranteed minimal social services for the health care, training and employment of young people;
- Increase the patriotism among young people, promote the deepening of national values, and development of educational, spiritual and physical levels;
- Prioritize public initiatives for funding of Youth related measures and projects comparing to those of State bodies and entities.

3. The Aim of the State Youth Policy and Directions of Implementation

The main objective of State Youth Policy is to create social-economic, legal and political, spiritual and cultural, and organizational conditions and guarantees for the social self-realization of youth and for more complete use of its creative potential for the benefit of the society.

For the achievement of this objective, the State Policy assumes the following steps of implementation:

- Creation of legal framework for Youth activities;
- Provision of guarantees for Youth employment, and implementation of youth personnel policy;
- Assistance to the Youth entrepreneurship;
- State assistance to Young Families;
- Guaranteed provision of social services,
- Assistance to talented young people;
- Creation of appropriate conditions for the promotion of spiritual and physical development as well as civil and patriotic upbringing among young people;
- Support to the activities of Youth Organizations;
- Support to the international co-operation in the youth field.

Ensuring the Protection of Rights of the Youth

The rights of young citizens are protected by the creation and further development of appropriate legislative, legal framework forbidding any limitations of the rights and freedoms of young people based on age, if they are not defined by the law.

Provision of Youth Employment and Guarantees in the Field of Youth Employment and Implementation of State Youth Personnel Policy

During the period of economical reconstruction, the main objective of the State is to create conditions for Youth entrepreneurship, for creation of new employment opportunities, for the development of employment services, for implementation of personnel policy, for professional orientation of young people, for the realization of the employment rights of youth (through the increase of qualification and retraining), and for their economical independence.

Supporting to the Youth Entrepreneurship

Integrated measures are needed to be undertaken for the development of small and medium proprietorship of the Youth, particularly in the scope of manufacturing of goods and rendering services to use their business potential, and to provide necessary conditions for youth to enter the market relations. Organization of youth farms and small enterprises for processing agricultural products especially in strategically important areas (near the borders and etc.) is of great importance.

State assistance to Young Families

While assisting the young families the Government takes into consideration that the conservation of national genetic fund, promotion of spiritual and physical development of new generation is based on married couples' health, social-economic and household conditions, as

well as natural and social environment. For this reason a comprehensive assistance is planned for their housing, education, first aid, and other needs.

Provision of Guaranteed social services

In the nearest future the activities will be concentrated on the establishment of social norms and normative systems, which will ensure the provision of necessary social services for the education, upbringing, spiritual and physical development, health care and professional development.

Assistance to Talented Youth

The preservation and development of intellectual and creative potential is the main factor for the development of acceptable conditions for the insurance of creative activities of the Youth.

An economical regulatory system is assumed to be created for implementation of these issues to improve the activities of the institutions, organizations, enterprises, NGOs, Funds and individuals in supporting young talented people, granting awards, scholarships, and other encouraging measures. Provide state owned facilities to the Youth, including publishing houses, mass media, and exhibition and concert halls on contract basis for the organization of their creative and innovative activities.

Creation of Conditions for Spiritual and Physical Development and Civil, Patriotic Upbringing of the Youth

The State considers spiritual and physical development and civil, patriotic upbringing of the youth as an important precondition for the development of the nation and a great social value.

The State prioritizes the inclusion of issues related to the development of spiritual and physical development of the youth in the elaboration of national, regional and local projects.

The State supports public initiatives and programs to educate the Youth and introduce national and all-human values.

Support to the Activities of Youth organizations

The State provides material and financial support to Youth organizations, which carry out activities in the framework of Youth policy and guarantee the independent functioning of Youth organizations.

Support to the International Collaboration of Young People

The State assists to the international collaboration of young people, commitment of international agreements to implement youth exchange programs, involvement of Armenian Youth in regional cultural, educational, scientific-technical Youth Programs.

The State pays special attention to the development of collaboration and relations of Armenian, Diaspora and Artsakh youth in the spiritual-cultural, scientific-educational, social and other spheres.

4. Priority Measures Necessary for the Implementation of State Youth Policy

- Creation of legislative framework for the efficient implementation of State Youth Policy;
- Development and implementation of integrated and targeted Youth related programs, as well as integration of Youth problems into environmental, social, cultural and economical State Programs;
- Establishment of appropriate State Infrastructure (Youth center, Information-analytical centers at national and regional level, Youth Funds and etc.) for efficient implementation of Youth policy.