

## National report: First cooperation cycle of the EU Youth Strategy 2010-2012

## CZECH REPUBLIC

## SECTION 1: GENERAL YOUTH POLICY

1. Does your country have a 'youth law' or legislation that specifically refers to youth issues, or laws containing a section addressing the needs and/or rights of young people?	Yes
2. Please provide references for the law (title, adoption date, validity, etc) in your national language as well as in English	<p>Convention on the Rights of the Child (Úmluva o právech dítěte) - Act No. 94/1963 Coll., adoption date 4 December 1963, in force from 1 April 1964 There will be new Civil Code from 2014 containing family law as well.</p> <p>Family Act (Zákon o rodině) - Act No. 94/1963 Coll., adoption date 4 December 1963, in force from 1 April 1964</p> <p>Education (Školský zákon) - Act No. 561/2004 Coll., adoption date 24 September 2004, in force from 1 January 2005</p> <p>Volunteer Services Act (Zákon o dobrovolnické službě) - Act No. 198/2002 Coll., adoption date 24 April 2002, in force from 1 January 2003</p> <p>Children's Social and Legal Protection Act (Zákon o sociálně-právní ochraně dětí) - Act No. 359/1999 Coll., adoption date 9 December 1999, in force from 1 April 2000</p> <p>Act on state social support (Zákon o státní sociální podpoře) - Act No. 117/1995 Coll., adoption date 26 May 1995, in force from 1 October 1995</p> <p>Law on institutional care (Zákon o výkonu ústavní výchovy) - Act No. 109/2002 Coll., adoption date 5 February 2002, in force from 1 July 2002</p> <p>Social Services Act (Zákon o sociálních službách) - Act No. 108/2006 Coll., adoption date 14 March 2006, in force from 1 January 2007</p> <p>Act on asylum (Zákon o azylu) - Act No. 325/1999 Coll., adoption date 11 November 1999, in force from 1 January 2000</p> <p>Law on Communities (Zákon o obcích) - Act No. 128/2000 Coll., adoption date 12 April 2000</p>
3. Is the document available in other languages, in full or abbreviated version?	Yes
If YES, please provide a web-link or a copy of the law in available languages together with this national report.	<p>Constitution of the Czech Republic <a href="http://wtd.vlada.cz/scripts/detail.php?id=8073">http://wtd.vlada.cz/scripts/detail.php?id=8073</a></p> <p>Volunteer Services Act <a href="http://www.legislationline.org/documents/action/popup/id/5788">http://www.legislationline.org/documents/action/popup/id/5788</a></p> <p>Social Services Act <a href="http://www.mpsv.cz/files/clanky/4088/Annex_3_social_services_act.pdf">http://www.mpsv.cz/files/clanky/4088/Annex_3_social_services_act.pdf</a></p> <p>Act on asylum <a href="http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,LEGAL,,LEGISLATION,CZE,4562d8b62,4a7a97bfc33,0.html">http://www.unhcr.org/refworld/country,LEGAL,,LEGISLATION,CZE,4562d8b62,4a7a97bfc33,0.html</a></p>

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4. Does your country have a National Youth Strategy and/or Action Plan, or a cross-sectoral strategy specifically referring to youth issues?	Yes
If YES, please provide references (title, adoption date, validity, etc) to this strategy or action plan	A strategic document called "Government policy on children and young people for 2007-2013" adopted by the Government of the Czech Republic, Decree no. 611 of 4 June 2007. It is implemented through two-year Action Plans which are regularly evaluated and together with new concepts of the respective Action Plan submitted to the Government of the Czech Republic for its approval.
5. Is the document available in other languages, in full or abbreviated version?	Yes
If YES, please provide a web-link or a copy of the document in available languages together with this national report.	Full version: <a href="http://www.msmt.cz/file/19774">http://www.msmt.cz/file/19774</a>
6. Please indicate how the EU Youth Strategy, adopted in November 2009, has influenced youth priorities in your country at the NATIONAL level?	A: It has reinforced existing priorities

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Please specify your answer.	Currently we are in a phase to evaluate the 2010-2011 Action Plan (“Government policy on children and young people for 2007-2013”) and prepare the last two-year Action Plan for the 2012-2013 years which will be elaborated in concrete objectives and measures to be taken. It is for the first time when, while working on a new Action Plan, a link between challenges we are facing and the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy will be taken into consideration. For such a reason the established structures for the implementation of the Policy has been entirely changed by setting up: - an inner working group for coordinating the implementation of the current Policy and preparing a new generation national youth policy after the 2013 year; - a newly established Youth Chamber as a cross-sectoral advisory body for drafting, implementing and evaluating current and future youth policies of the Czech Republic; support structures for an intensive European cooperation in the field of youth policies within the Visegrad Group countries (CZ, PL, HU, SK) including the CZ active participation in joint European projects (currently the European Peer-Learning on Youth Policy Project for 2012-2013). More importantly, one of the novelties in the planning phase Youth Department is going through now is an official proposal to group together themes of the current CZ Youth Policy in accordance with the themes of the EU Youth Strategy which was submitted to the Minister’s approval in January 2012.
7. Please indicate how the EU Youth Strategy has influenced youth priorities in your country at the LOCAL and/or REGIONAL level?	A: It has reinforced existing priorities
Please specify your answer.	1. The ministerial Youth Department organises regular meetings with the heads of regional Youth Units who have been informed about the EU Youth Strategy and encouraged to prioritise the EU Youth strategy core themes at regional level. Regions that have been already involved in promoting the EU Youth Strategy (especially South Bohemian Region) present there their youth policy as examples of good practices. An information bulletin for Youth Units of the regional authorities is provided by the Ministry. 2. Special-case grants supporting volunteerism (2011) and social inclusion (2012) of children and young people through the State Subsidy Programmes for supporting youth work 2011-2015 have contributed a lot to influence the implementation of voluntary activities and social inclusion at local and regional level. 3. A newly established Youth Chamber, an advisory body for the implementation of the CZ youth policy which is strongly linked with the EU Youth Strategy in the 2012-2013 Action Plan has representatives of municipalities at local and regional level among its members. 4. The Czech Republic has taken an active participation in the international project “European Peer-Learning on Youth Policy” (DE, CZ, BE, FR, SE, NL) under the German co-ordination which will contribute also to the development of the EU Youth strategy at local and regional level.

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<p>8. Does the government of your country support and promote cross-disciplinary research relating to young people and their living conditions in line with the Council resolution on active inclusion, having regard to the socio-economic environment and the opportunities and obstacles this poses for the social inclusion and employability of young people?</p>	<p>NO, but we plan to take concrete measures in this field in 2012.</p>
<p>Please specify your answer.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports supports research and survey activities conducted by Key for Life national Project. Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs carries out separate sub-researchers which apply to children and youth.</p>
<p>9. Is there an institutionalised and regular cooperation between the Ministry responsible for Youth and the youth research community in your country?</p>	<p>YES, such cooperation has existed since before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Additional comments.</p>	<p>The National Institute for Children and Youth (an institution directly financed and controlled by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports) is responsible for conducting research on youth, and employs professional researchers. They have a close cooperation with universities in the Czech Republic, in particular with the Institute for Research on Children, Youth and Family within Social Studies Faculty of the Masaryk University in Brno. The results of the surveys and researches reached as part of the Key for Life Project are presented in public events to a wide public and expert community including the media.</p>

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<p>10. Does your Government have an inter-ministerial working group on youth or any other institutionalised mechanism for ensuring a cross-sectoral approach to youth policy?</p>	<p>YES, such an institutional mechanism has existed since before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Additional comments.</p>	<p>The permanent inter-ministerial working group supervising the implementation of the CZ State Policy on Youth 2007-2013 (“Government policy on children and young people for 2007-2013”), and drafting and evaluating two-year Action Plans of the state policy was established in 2007. With new challenges being brought with the EU Youth Strategy into the Czech reality, Youth Department has reviewed functioning of the Youth Chamber, an advisory body of the minister responsible for the youth issues, and changed it into one of the most efficient instruments for the implementation of the youth policy in the Czech Republic closely linked to the EU Youth Strategy. A new Youth Chamber is a cross-sectoral advisory body which discusses and consults all the issues related to the youth policy. Apart from the representatives of partner ministries and the organisation directly controlled by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports (National Institute for Children and Youth), the members of the Youth Chamber represent Czech Council of Children and Youth, Leisure Time Centres, regions, municipalities at local level, employers and religions as well.</p>

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<p>11. Has your Government carried out specific initiatives targeting young people or the field of youth policy utilising EU funding opportunities through the European Social Fund, the European Regional Development Fund and/or the Rural Development Fund, or any other relevant EU funds or programmes such as PROGRESS[1]? [1]</p> <p>Please note that the question does not refer to EU programmes such as the Lifelong learning or Youth in Action programmes.</p>	<p>YES, we are currently carrying out youth initiatives or projects utilising the general EU funding opportunities mentioned above.</p>
<p>Additional comments.</p>	<p>National Project “Keys for Life” The National Children and Youth Institute implements, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, a national project “Keys for Life - Developing Key Competences in Extra-curricular and Non-formal Education” which started on 1 April 2009 and has been implemented throughout the 2010-2012 years. Main target groups of this project are those working with children and young people during their leisure time and after-school activities in various organisations and institutions across the whole country (leisure time centres, school play centres, youth clubs and NGOs). The project’s aim is to promote lifelong learning of children and youth workers by enhancing quality of the system supporting continuous and sustainable development of extra-curricular and non-formal education. Activities of the project are managed by expert advisors who help identify and specify the strengths and challenges of extra-curricular and non-formal education. The Keys for Life project covers the following areas: Research; Standardisation of organisations providing non-formal education; Education: Leisure time Pedagogy, In-service teacher training; Cross-sectional topics: Volunteering, Participation, Healthy Climate in Extra-Curricular Education, inclusion of Children with Special Educational Needs, Multicultural Society, Media and Media Education; Recognition of Non-formal Education.</p>

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<p>12. Does the Government of your country have a strategy to acknowledge, raise awareness of, and reinforce the role of youth work in society, in line with the Council Resolution on Youth Work (2010)?</p>	<p>YES, we already had such a strategy in place since before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Additional comments.</p>	<p>1. The Keys for Life national project seeks to raise awareness of the work with children and young people; 2. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports awards those youth NGOs whose work with children and young people is of a high quality with an honorary title “Organisation recognised by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in the field of children and youth work”; 3. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports supports youth work through its “State Subsidy Programmes for NGOs Working with Children and Youth for 2006-2010” and “State Subsidy Programmes for NGOs Supporting Youth Work for 2011-2015”; 4. “Strategy for Long-life Learning” adopted in 2007 by the Czech Government stress the importance of non-formal education and a need for the recognition of results achieved in processes of non-formal education and informal learning, including youth work.</p>
<p>13. What are the main measures implemented by your Government in order to improve the recognition and support the development of governmental and non-governmental youth work?</p>	<p>1. Involving experts, professionals and representatives of youth work in working groups and other structures which directly influence development of youth work ; 2. Implementing the national project “Keys for Life” which aims at enhancing quality of the system supporting continuous and sustainable development of youth work through paying a special attention to the professionalization of leisure-time education and non-formal education in the youth sector. 3. Establishing a permanent working group for recognition of the results of non-formal education in the youth sector; 4. Establishing Youth Chamber as a cross-sectoral advisory body for the implementation of the CZ youth policy and promotion of youth work out of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports; 5. Seeking for peer-learning opportunities (an active participation of the Czech Republic in European Peer-Learning on Youth Policy Project 2012-2013 where promoting youth work is one of the three key topics; organising a seminar with the partner Slovak Ministry of Education and Youth on Slovak experience with implementing and evaluating youth work as part of the Slovak National Report on Youth - July 2011); 6. From the position of the National Authority supporting the most effective implementation of the Youth in Action Programme as the most powerful instrument for professionalizing youth work.</p>

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<p>14. What are the main challenges and/or obstacles that your Government has been confronted with during the first three years of the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy?</p>	<p>1. To face challenges in establishing an efficient cross-sectoral approach for fulfilling the tasks resulting from the CZ Youth Policy at national level especially in the field of youth employability, social inclusion, housing and support to young families which are core issues of the State Policy on Children and Youth but are not covered by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports that coordinates the Policy and takes responsibility for its implementation; 2. Lack of financial resources at national and EU level due to the budgetary cuts as a consequence of the economic crisis; 3. Time-consuming and energies-consuming uncertainty connected to the future of the Youth in Action Programme which is the most efficient instrument for implementing the EU Youth Strategy.</p>
<p>15. Which measures and/or actions have your Government carried out in order to communicate the EU Youth Strategy to relevant stakeholders?</p>	<p>1. Informing about the EU Youth Strategy on the web pages of the YiA NA, Eurodesk and the Ministry. 2. Informing about the EU Youth Strategy in two international conferences on volunteerism within the 2011 European Year of Voluntary Activities and Active Citizenship and in the annual meeting with the heads of the regional Youth Units; 3. Organising roundtables on evaluating the 2010-2011 Action Plan of the State Policy and identifying challenges for the 2012-2013 Action Plan in November 2011. The EU Youth Strategy was presented there; 4. Planning a PR seminar for a wide public including young people on introducing a new strategy for the implementation of the current youth policy 2007 - 2013 in the Czech Republic and preparation of the new Policy after 2013 closely linked to the EU Youth Strategy in April 2012</p>
<p>16. Has your Government carried out any actions to measure the impact or success of the implementation of the EU Youth Strategy at the national level?</p>	<p>1. Organising roundtable-like seminars on evaluating the 2010-2011 Action Plan of the State Youth Policy and identifying challenges for the 2012-2013 Action Plan closely linked to the core themes of the EU Youth Strategy (November 2011). Currently the results are being assessed and will be used for drafting the last two-year Action Plan of the National Youth Policy for the 2012-2013 years. More importantly, the results will be taken into consideration also during the planning phase for drafting a new CZ youth strategy after 2013 which will start in summer 2012; 2. In co-operation with the Czech Council of Children and Youth a structured dialogue with young people will be organised with the aim to get their feedback on challenges being identified in the above mentioned roundtable-like seminars.</p>



<p>17. According to the principles of the EU Youth Strategy and in line with previous practice, Member States are asked to involve young people and their organisations in responding to this National Report. Please outline the various ways how young people have been consulted.</p>	<p>1. While drafting the National Report, any single chapter was continuously submitted to the Czech Council of Children and Youth for their additional comments which have been incorporated into this report (their comments if they had some are stated in respective tables as “a feedback from the National Council of Children and Youth”);                  2. As agreed on within the Czech National Working Group on Structured Dialogue with Young People, certain chapters, if appropriate, provide also results of the structured dialogue with young people taken from the National Reports on Structured Dialogue with Young People (those results are incorporated in respective tables as “Structured dialogue with young people”).                  3. If additional comments from the National Youth Council and young people are added, the feedback from the Government is marked as National Authority (Youth Department)</p>
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**SECTION 2a: PRESIDENCY PRIORITIES On youth employment & entrepreneurship**

<p>18. To take the specific situation of young people into account when devising flexicurity strategies?</p>	<p>NO, but we plan to take concrete measures in this field in 2012.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports is not aware of taking such measures by the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs which covers the issues of employability and unemployment. We plan to start a close cooperation with Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs within the functioning of a newly composed Youth Chamber (an advisory body of the minister responsible for youth).</p>
<p>19. To promote cross-border professional and vocational opportunities for young people?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

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<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Youth Department cooperates closely with the ministerial Department for the EU Issues that serves as the National Authority for Long Life Learning. The senior official responsible for conducting secondary controls within the implementation of the LLP in the Czech Republic is a member of the National YiA Steering Committee which enables Youth Department to cooperate closely also with the hosting body of the LLP in the Czech Republic - the National Agency for European Programmes. Youth Department also welcomes an opportunity to comment on the draft of the annual Plan of Main Tasks of the National Agency for European Programmes and to sharp the governmental strategy for promoting cross-border professional and vocational opportunities for young people. Moreover, anup-dated information on such opportunities is available on a variety of communication channels (web pages, newsletters, Facebook ...) of the local offices of Eurodesk and the National Youth Information Center. Some local offices of the National Youth Information Center carry on “Information and Counselling Center for Choosing a Job” which also promote cross-border professional and vocational opportunities for young people.</p>
<p>20. To develop career guidance and counselling services?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>National Authority (Youth Department): The Central Employment Office offers through its network of regional, district and local job centers a variety of services that are regularly revised in order to meet better needs of unemployed young people (requalification courses, counselling services or creating so-called “socially useful working positions”). The priority when applying for participation in the requalification courses for unemployed school-leavers is given to young people up to 29 years that are identified as “employable with difficulties”. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports supports financially the “Career Counselling Project” through Development Programme conducted by the University of Masaryk which promotes the development of a modern counselling system for university students and university graduates (it promotes creating contacts with future-to-be employers and facilitates the transition from education to labour market). Some local offices of the National Youth Information Center carry on “Information and Counselling Center for Choosing a Job.” Structured dialogue with young people A comprehensive strategy for career guidance and counselling services oriented towards school children and young people does not exist. Activities guaranteed by the State in this field should be more youth-friendly.</p>
<p>21.To promote quality internships and apprenticeships to facilitate the entry to, and progress within, the labour market?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

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<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>National Authority (Youth Department): The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports supports the internships of secondary-school students from South Bohemian Region in universities and the institutes of the Czech Academy of Science through the project funded by the ESF (2010, 2011). The National Youth Information Center and Eurodesk collect and disseminate the information about possibilities for young people to gain internships or apprenticeships both in the Czech Republic or abroad and provide counselling services where and how to apply for. Structured dialogue with young people Some social grants for young people with fewer opportunities and with a low social status to ensure them an equal access to internships would be welcome. It would be welcome to widen the possibilities of Erasmus with job shadowing and internship opportunities.</p>
<p>22. To promote sharing of responsibilities between partners in order to facilitate reconciliation between professional and private life for both young women and young men?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs facilitates reconciling professional and family roles by taking measures of a labour law focus and experience of financially and territorially accessible child care services with particular relevance to children up to three years of, pre-school and younger primary school age children. Joint provisions concerning maternity leave (28 weeks) and parental leave (up to 3 years of age of the child) are guaranteed by the provisions of the Labour Code: - a male employee may take parental leave during the period when a female employee takes maternity leave. - a female and male employee may both take parental leave at the same time.</p>
<p>23. To promote entrepreneurship in the field of sustainable development?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Ministry of Industry and Trade launched in 2009 an open call for submitting project proposals for “Entrepreneurial Culture of Young People and Entrepreneurial Education” (CIP - Entrepreneurship and Innovation). Supported projects will be conducted for 15 months (creating a comprehensive educational programmes for university professors who teach entrepreneurship) or for 36 month (creating on-line platform, support programmes for university graduates who wish to start their own business, improving entrepreneurial thinking skills of young people, creating an innovative teaching materials on entrepreneurship for university professors). Ministry of the Agriculture has launched an open call for submitting project proposals on supporting young farmers who want to start their own business. The approved project proposals are funded by the State Agricultural Intervention Fund through the Programme of the Development of the Czech Rural Area. Structured dialogue with young people A wide bureaucracy required for starting an own business should not be in place. Youth-friendly updated guidelines how to start an own business should be available. Schools should take measures to promote interest of pupils and students at each age in entrepreneurship through educational programmes at all levels of their formal schooling.</p>
<p>Additional comments on employment &amp; entrepreneurship</p>	<p>Young families often use an opportunity of taking so-called HOMEWORKING guaranteed by law. It is possible to arrange in the employment contract that an employee will not perform the work for an employer at the employer's workplace but, instead and under the terms and conditions set down by the employment contract, at home, during the working hours scheduled by an employee on his own. Employment relationships of these employees (so-called "home working employees") are governed by the provisions of the Labour Code, with the following deviations: - provision on scheduling of the statutory weekly working time and on idle times shall not apply to these employees, - in case of serious personal impediments to work they are not entitled to any wage compensation from the employer, - they are entitled neither to any overtime work allowance nor days of rest and public holidays work allowance, nor to any other potential wage elements otherwise stipulated by the wage provisions.</p>

**SECTION 2b: PRESIDENCY PRIORITIES On youth participation**

<p>24. to develop mechanisms for dialogue with youth and youth participation on national youth policies?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
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<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>National Authority (Youth Department): In 1991 Youth Chamber was established as an advisory body of the minister responsible for youth. As an advisory body it discusses issues related to the state subsidy policy in the field of children and youth, government policy towards the young generation, implementation of the Council of Europe and UNESCO's recommendations in the Czech Republic, and application of the European Communities' legal regulations to Czech conditions. The Youth Chamber is responsible for commenting on all legal regulations concerning children, youth and NGOs. Since 2007 with the introduction of the 2007-2013 Youth Policy Document representatives of Czech Council for Children and Youth have been members of the Youth Chamber and have been invited to evaluate two-year Action Plans and comment on drafting new two-year Action Plans of the Youth Policy of the Czech Republic. Since 2011 the Head of the Czech Council for Children and Youth is present as an independent, not voting observer when money is distributed through the Subside Programmes promoting youth work which are administrated by the Youth Department. Czech Council for Children and Youth</p>
<p>25. to encourage use of already existing, or development of, guidelines on youth participation, information and consultation in order to ensure the quality of these activities?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>A new Youth Information System Development Framework for the Czech Republic was completed in the course of 2008. Its objectives are to improve the quality of the Youth Information Center (YIC) network in the Czech Republic and set up basic parameters of the youth information environment in order to ensure one of the fundamental rights, namely the right to free access to information. The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports supported the formation of the National Youth Information Centre (NYIC) in 2008, which is an umbrella organisation for all YICs of the Czech Republic and their advisor as regards the methodology. Besides, the National Youth Information Centre co-operates with other organisations providing information services both within and outside the Czech Republic. While administering and updating the NYIC information portal <a href="http://www.nicm.cz">www.nicm.cz</a>, the year 2010 with 559 998 visits was the most successful one so far. In sum 1 700 000 people have visited the NYIC portal since it was created. The National Youth Information Center offers an open space where young people can express their creativity, exhibit their photographs, artworks, writings or videos, share their travel experience, meet with people from other cultures, people having an interesting profession or people with an unconventional life philosophy.</p>

<p>26. to support politically and financially youth organisations, as well as local and national youth councils and promote recognition of their important role in democracy?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The main tool for political and financial support is “State Subsidy Programmes for NGOs Supporting Youth Work for 2011-2015 Years”. These programmes apply to youth NGOs as well as to other NGOs that systematically work with children and youth, and are open to the target group annually. The priorities of the subsidy programmes are annually reviewed. An integral part of the Programmes is also an open call for NGOs to enable them to apply for a honorary title “An Organisation recognised by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in the field of youth and children work”. There are five programmes providing a financial support for youth sector development: - Ensuring regular activities of NGOs that work with organised children and youth; - Supporting successful forms of work with non-organised children and youth; - Investment development of the materially-technical platform in the field of after-school activities of children and youth; - Special-case grants aimed at supporting different youth policy areas (volunteerism and social inclusion in 2011 and 2012)</p>
<p>27. to promote the participation of more and a greater diversity of young people in representative democracy, in youth organisations and other civil-society organisations?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

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<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Youth Department does so through the implementation of the annual national priorities within the Youth in Action Programme as the most effective tool, which cover the need of more and a greater diversity of young people to be involved in a meaningful active participation. The national priorities are consulted in the meetings of the National Steering Committee for the Youth in Action Programme where the Czech Council for Children and Youth is represented. Since the last year, the national priorities have been consulted also with a broad public including young people, regional Youth Units and the Association of Leisure Time Centers for children and youth. The CZ YiA NA participated in a two-year international pilot project (2010-2011) aimed at promoting the quality and quantity of 3.1 Action projects (projects of participatory democracy). In autumn 2010 the National Training Course “Get Ready” was organised as part of the pilot project.</p>
<p>28. to make effective use of information and communication technologies to broaden and deepen participation of young people?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>In 2008 the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports approved the national “Strategy for the Development of ICT System for Youth” and elaborated the methodological material for certifying Youth Information Centers in the Czech Republic. Certified YICs receive financial support through the State Subsidy Programme. In accordance with the 2010-2015 Subsidy Programme, making an effective use of information for and about youth and children is one of the main conditions for providing a financial support. In 2010 - 2011 the “Coordinating Council of Youth Information Providers” as an advisory body for the Deputy Minister responsible for youth showed a very active approach in coordinating activities covering the field of providing information for, about and with youth and children.</p>
<p>29. to support various forms of learning to participate from early age through formal education and non-formal learning?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

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<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Various forms of participation had been developed before the Governmental Youth Policy Concept 2007-2013 was adopted. The traditional governance structures for children and young people in the Czech Republic have always taken the form of pupils' self-governance in schools. Successful approaches include school performances, leisure time groups, pupil assemblies and elections of their representatives. Gradually, the National Children and Youth Parliament and a network of regional parliaments have been set up, as well as a system for information and consultation services provision both for the parliaments and the general public. National Children and Youth's Parliament The National Children and Youth's Parliament is the top-level structure of all children and youth's parliaments, councils and other organisations promoting participation of the youngest generation in the Czech Republic. The National Children and Youth's Parliament holds round tables, discussions with experts on various topics, and seeks to draw the attention of young people to their rights and responsibilities. It contributes to public discussions and influences nationwide events concerning children and youth. By means of diverse projects it focuses on different groups of young people and their specific concerns. At the same time it provides consultations to existing parliaments to solve their problems and helps young people establish new ones in order to widen the network.</p>
<p>30.to further develop opportunities for debate between public institutions and young people?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>In accordance with the Strategy for Long-life Learning and the Governmental Youth Policy Concept 2007-2013 a research on the foreknowledge and participation of young people was conducted in 2009 within Keys for Life Project. The research maps a real situation of youth participation in the Czech Republic. The results of the research will be taken into consideration when Youth Departments sets up challenges for the 2012-2013 Action Plan of the Governmental Youth Policy Concept 2007-2013 One of the successful forms of youth participation in the Czech Republic is the involvement of young people into community planning. Community planning is based, on the principle of open communication between different groups of people (municipal authorities, civil society organisations, school teachers, library staff, etc.). Young people take an active part especially in solving problems that concern them directly (building sports grounds and skate parks, arranging school surroundings etc.)</p>



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<p>Additional comments on participation (for example references, web-links, project examples).</p>	<p>One of the topics of the National project “Keys for Life” covers the themes of youth participation and active citizenship. Within this theme, a training course on youth participation has been developed for the regional coordinators who deal with youth participation. The Czech Republic is divided into 14 regions and each region has its representative who attended the course in 2010. Moreover, a concept of another training course on youth participation for a wide public, including blended-learning, has been developed. In the 2010-2011 years 106 youth workers from leisure times centers and youth NGOs were trained in this course. Finally, from August 2011 to June 2012 forty-two selected projects on youth participation and active citizenship are being piloted in selected leisure time centers and youth NGOs.</p>
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### SECTION 5. ON VOLUNTEERING and the implementation of the Recommendation on the mobility of young volunteers

<p>31. To create more opportunities for mobility of young volunteers?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The Czech Republic has actively contributed to implementation of the Recommendation. Particular focus has been given to creating more opportunities. Czech Republic (CR) in partnership with the EC organized a European conference on Youth with the title Mobility of Young Volunteers across Europe in March 2009. The Conference served as a kick-off event for the implementation of the Recommendation. The outcomes of the Conference in form of “key messages” were integrated in the further implementation processes, especially in the agenda of the EC Expert Group on the topic of cross-border mobility of young volunteers. The CR has taken a lead within a specific part of its agenda: the aim of creating more opportunities for cross-border volunteering of young people. The CR has also strived to fully use the potential of synergies between the implementation process of the Recommendation and the European Year of Volunteering 2011 campaign. Within a wide and rich range of activities organised as part of this campaign, the creation of more cross-border opportunities was promoted through a pilot Special Open Call for Innovative Projects Promoting Cross-border Volunteering within the governmental subsidy programmes supporting the youth field. A total of 10 pilot projects were funded with more than 55.000 EUR within this Call in order to create better conditions as well as concrete opportunities for the exchange of young volunteers especially in the disadvantaged border areas.</p>
<p>32. To raise awareness about opportunities for mobility of young volunteers?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The international conference organised within the programme of the EYV 2011 in the CR, named Voluntarily across the Border. Volunteering as a tool for connecting and enriching neighbouring border communities in Central Europe was dedicated to the topic of promoting cross-border volunteering towards young people and organisations that work with them. The conference gathered 95 participants from 15 countries and was aimed at transferring good practice, networking and planning of future cooperation. The cross-border volunteering promotion aspect was also stressed in the Flagship initiative project funded by the EC and co-funded by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The project with the title Volunteering for All has integrated the topic of cross-border youth volunteering through supporting 5 concrete cross-border volunteering activities at local level, a series of exhibitions presenting their outcomes and through a brochure focusing practically on guidelines and quality aspects in a cross-border volunteering project. The contribution of YiA to the promotion of cross-border volunteering has to be emphasised. In 2011, a project of the South Moravian Regional Authority called The Youth in Action Programme in the Region of South Moravia - Bringing Europe to the practice of regional youth work and youth policy making. The project promotes cooperation among three border regions of CR, Slovakia and Austria through the implementation of diverse voluntary youth activities.</p>
<p>33. To assure quality through the development of self-assessment tools?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>It has been a common consensus on the value of international voluntary activities for the competence development of young people. However, it is identified as a common challenge to promote the contribution of international volunteering to the actors who can recognise it: the educators and the employers. As a response to this challenge, a special recognition tool for non-formal learning field, which can be effectively used also for cross-border volunteering activities of young people, is being developed within the project Keys for Life, which is implemented by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports in cooperation with National Institute of Children and Youth. It is called Personal Competence Portfolio (PCP).</p>
<p>34. To promote cross-border mobility of youth workers and young people in youth organisations?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>

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<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Based on the discussion in the EC Expert group, an initiative promoting a “multilateral approach” on this topic of creating more opportunities was articulated. The concept was further developed during a meeting named Multilateral Approach on Creating New Opportunities for Cross-border Voluntary activities of Young People in the EU which was organised by the Czech and German National Agencies of the YiA Programme and took place in September 2010 in Prague. The meeting presented the situation in cross border volunteering and its support in nine EU countries and looked for potential opportunities to develop this field further both in national and European context. The outcomes of the meeting were reflected in a follow-up Conference dealing with the same topic, which took place in September 2011 in Berlin in a close cooperation with the Czech Republic.</p>
<p>35. To give particular attention in this context to young people with fewer opportunities?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Within its efforts to support the aims of the Recommendation the CR has established a strong focus on the border regions which are often underdeveloped in comparison with the other regions of the country thus lacking adequate non-formal educational opportunities for local young people. Through this priority, the CR seeks to contribute to an inclusion aspect stressed in the Recommendation.</p>
<p>36. To promote the recognition of skills acquired through voluntary activities through instruments such as Europass, Youthpass and Member State instruments?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>A developed Personal Competence Portfolio (PCP) as one of the products of “Keys for Life” Project will enable the volunteers as well as volunteering providers and supervisors to present the most relevant learning outcomes in a language and form, which is comprehensible and acceptable for the educators and employers. A campaign promoting the PCP toward these actors is an important part of the project activities. In addition, the PCP is designed to complement the Europass and can be annexed to it.</p>
<p>37. To promote intergenerational solidarity through voluntary activities?</p>	<p>NO, but we plan to take concrete measures in this field in 2012.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>In 2012, synergies with the current European Year of Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations can be used effectively in the volunteering sector. At present, two international project proposals building on the experiences gained in the EYV 2011 Flagship initiative Volunteering for All are being prepared : Volunteering. A Way to Development of Local Communities (proposed by Hestia, the National Volunteering Centre) and Between Generations - Actively and Together (proposed by the Network of Helthy Cities in the CR). The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports supports these proposals since they promise to promote important aspects of the national youth policy at the level of local communities, municipalities and regional authorities. Nevertheless, the actual form and scope of the implementation of these proposals will depend on whether they receive funding from the respective Operation Programme managed by the Ministry of Labour Affaires.</p>

<p>Additional comments on volunteering (for example references, web-links, project examples).</p>	<p>Youth volunteering is one of the 19 areas covered in the national youth policy strategy formulated in Government Policy on Children and Young People for 2007-2013. This strategy is implemented in 2-years-cycles; for each of the cycle, an Action Plan stating specific aims and measures for each of the 19 topic is elaborated, implemented and evaluated. For Youth Volunteering, overall objectives of the strategy are: to support voluntary activities of young people and those who work with them, as they constitute major opportunities for non-formal learning and strengthen solidarity, social coherence and involvement in the life of society; to initiate debate on the legal and social position of volunteers working with children and young people and to encourage recognition of their work and education acquired. The specific Action Plan for the period 2010-2011 focused mainly on two priorities: 1. Using the potential of the EYV 2011 (European Year of Volunteerism) to promote a youth dimension in all types of voluntary activities, with a special focus on cross-border volunteering. A special report summarising the outcomes and achievements of the EYV will be available in February 2012. 2. Redesigning the national Act on Voluntary Service in order to eliminate existing obstacles for volunteering of young people, improve the quality of voluntary activities and boost the capacities of volunteering organisations. The Act is expected to enter into force in 2014. The implementation of the national youth strategy is also reflected in the activities of the Keys for Life project. In addition to the recognition tool (PCP) mentioned above, the project focuses on volunteering as an important, transversal element of non-formal education of young people. In addition, the projects provides a platform for discussion of the challenges, aims and measures to be taken in the field of youth volunteering, involving all key actors with whom cooperation has been established during the EYV 2011.</p>
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#### SECTION 4: On the implementation of the additional fields of action of the EU Youth Strategy

<p>38. To support the development of youth work and other non-formal learning opportunities as a way of addressing early school leaving?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
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<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>School facilities for extra-curricular education play an essential part in discovering, catching up and developing aptitudes and talents of children and young people. Various leisure time institutions supported politically and financially by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports offer the possibility to develop aptitudes and talents under the leadership of experienced professionals. The mission of leisure time centres is to motivate, support and lead the children, pupils, students, young people, but also the adults with a view to develop their personality, to acquire and develop key competences as well as specialized knowledge and skills and to spend the leisure time in a sensible way. This mission is accomplished by a wide offer of activities led by a professional team of educators in a safe environment. Leisure time centres can cover several areas of extra-curricular education, or focus on one specific area of extra-curricular education. Leisure time centres provide the participants of extra-curricular education, and eventually also schools and school facilities, with methodical, expert and material assistance. The centres generally carry on their activities throughout the school year, including the days when school instruction does not take place.</p>
<p>39. To strengthen the use of the range of tools established at EU level for the transparency and validation of skills and the recognition of qualifications?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>In accordance with the Strategy for Long-life Learning and the Governmental Youth Policy Concept 2007-2013, a development and the implementation of the piloting phase of the training course as well as of the Personal Competency Portfolio has started recently (it is part of the national Keys for Life Project, the section of the Recognition of non-formal Learning Results). The Personal Competency Portfolio serves as a tool for recording key competences acquired in the non-formal education in informal learning processes in the youth field, in particular in youth work. Moreover, final products of the Keys for Life project cover also so called “minimum competency profiles” related to some youth work positions (for instance a youth leader specialised in general activities, the main children camp leader, trainer of educational activities in the youth field etc.) which will be used for improving educational programmes of youth NGOs.</p>
<p>40. To promote learning mobility of all young people?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>There is a close cooperation of the Youth Department (National Authority for YiA Programme) and the ministerial Department for the EU Issues (National Authority for LLP). Both NAs (National Agency Youth and National Agency for European Education Programmes) have a comprehensive strategy for promoting learning mobility of young people and ensuring an equal access of all young people to learning mobility.</p>
<p>41. To make the broader public aware of the value of non-formal learning?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>In accordance with the Strategy for Long-life Learning and the Governmental Youth Policy Concept 2007-2013, five meetings with the representatives of educational staff, employers and the professional public were held in the 2010 and 2011 years (part of the “Keys for Life Project”) in order to start a dialogue about the recognition of the results in non-formal and informal learning settings as well as about acceptance of their benefits for the whole society. In November 2011 a Conference on the recognition of the results in non-formal education and informal learning settings was organised where a Memorandum was signed by the participants of the Conference representing state authorities, public services, educational staff and professional associations. A permanent working group for recognition of the results in non-formal education and informal learning settings has been working since 2006 under the coordination of the National Institute of Children and Youth. Structured dialogue with young people: The exhibition of activities conducted by NGOs and leisure time centers called Bambiriada (organised by the National Youth Council in co-operation with municipalities and the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports), which is annually organised at national and local level is the most powerful toll for achieving the above mentioned goal. Schools, youth NGOs and a network of leisure time centers in the Czech Republic should closely cooperate.</p>

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<p>Additional comments on education &amp; training (for example references, web-links, project examples).</p>	<p>Extra-curricular education in the Czech Republic is governed by the Government Regulation no. 74/2005 Coll. of 9 February 2005 on extra-curricular education. According to this regulation the participants of extra-curricular education are children, pupils and students; its participants could also be educators, legal guardians of minor participants, and eventually other physical persons. The extra-curricular education in the Czech Republic is subject to legal regulations, namely the Act no. 561/2004 Coll. on preschool, basic, secondary, tertiary professional and other education (the Education Act) that in article 111 describes the extra-curricular education as education developing personal interests and specifies it as follows: “(it) shall be provided to learners in their leisure time and shall focus on various areas. Education developing personal interests shall be carried out at school facilities for developing interests, in particular in leisure time centres, school play centres, and school clubs. School facilities for extra-curricular education belong to the education system of the Czech Republic and are fully or partially financed from the state budget. Their founders can be municipalities, unions of municipalities, regional governments, churches, other legal entities, and physical persons. It should be noted that these facilities support equal opportunities, are not selective and admit applicants regardless of their ethnic or national origin, gender, religion, etc. They also play an important social role in that they contribute to the prevention of risky behaviour of children and young people by enabling them inspiring leisure time activities.</p>
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## B. HEALTH & WELL-BEING

<p>42. To follow up the Council Resolution on the health and well-being of young people and encourage youth fitness and physical activity by applying the EU Physical Activity Guidelines?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports supports youth fitness and physical activities of children and young people through one of its subsidy programmes called “General Sport Activities” which promotes physical activities and fitness of children and young people who are 6 up to 18 years old as well as campaigns on well-being and physically active life style of children and young people. In addition, this programme promotes also a variety of sport activities including sport competitions for primary-school pupils and secondary-school students who are members of school sport clubs as well as university sport organisations.</p>
<p>43. To encourage healthy lifestyles for young people via physical education, education on nutrition, physical activity and collaboration between schools, youth workers, health professionals and sporting organisations?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

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<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Schools in the Czech Republic are obliged to prepare their own “school educational programmes” which have to be in accordance with the model “Framework Educational Programme” valid for respective types of primary and secondary schools including pre-school facilities. A chapter on health, fitness and well-being is an obligatory part for each school to be covered in their specific school programme through involving pre-school children, pupils and students into physical activities, informing them about healthy nutrition and a healthy life style (discussions of pupils and students with doctors and health professionals are frequently involved in school curricula). Some schools have developed an effective cooperation with children and youth NGOs as part of after-school activities.</p>
<p>44. To increase knowledge and awareness of youth workers and youth leaders of health issues?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>A specialised “Unit for Preventing Risky Behaviour” as part of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports acts as the national authority for so-called “specific primary prevention of risky behaviour of children and young people” in the Czech Republic. It elaborates methodical and conceptual documents, legislative documents etc., is in a close cooperation with regional school coordinators of risky behaviour prevention as well as with regional specialists in methodology of risky behaviour prevention of children and young people. The Unit supports financially (through its subsidy programmes) school and NGOs programmes and activities related to preventing risky and dangerous behaviour of children and youth including training activities for school and youth workers. By law, youth workers and youth leaders, especially those ones who organise children camps for children and young people, have to be trained in security and health issues.</p>
<p>45. To encourage peer-to-peer health education?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Specific subsidy programmes for schools and NGOs provided by the “Unit for Preventing Risky Behaviour” as part of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports supports peer-to-peer health education in the field of the primary prevention of risky behaviour of children and young people.</p>
<p>46. To facilitate access to existing health facilities by making them more youth friendly?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>General practitioners specialised in providing health care and treatment to children and adolescents up to 19 years old are available in each district. They attend schools and inform school pupils and students about access to health care and children’s and young people’s rights in health care. In our opinion, youth friendliness in facilitating access to existing health facilities is not the main problem. What is needed is to change the parents’ and doctors’ attitude towards children’s rights to be listened and heard seriously in the field of health care.</p>

<p>Additional comments on health &amp; well-being (for example references, web-links, project examples).</p>	<p>National Contest “SAPERE - to Know How to Live” is the national contest on the topic of healthy food as a form of preventing child obesity which has increased dramatically in the Czech Republic and is a cause of children’s sickness and other problems connected to the reduction of competitiveness and future career possibilities in the lives of children and young people. The Contest is implemented by COFET Company and supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. The contest is organised for primary-school pupils and secondary-school students in three categories. The school, district and regional levels are organised on-line while the highest national level gathers the best participants going successfully through lower levels at presence of the National Jury that assess the participants’ performance in a national contest. The main objective of the SAPERE Contest is to raise pupils’ and students’ awareness of healthy lifestyle and prevent them from obesity and eating disorders, as well as to motivate them to take responsibility of their own health. An added value of the Contest is to motivate teachers to cooperate together, and exchange experience in the field of healthy lifestyle in schools and after-school activities.</p>
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<p style="text-align: center;"><b>C. SOCIAL INCLUSION</b></p>	
<p>47. To realise the full potential of youth work and youth centres as means of inclusion?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>1. A network of youth workers in leisure time centers (Association of Youth Workers in Leisure Time Centers) guarantees an equal access of all children and young people to leisure time and after-school activities including an equal access to non-formal educational activities through training courses and other educational events (conferences, seminars) provided to the staff of leisure-time centers. 2. In accordance with the Strategy for Long-life Learning and the Governmental Youth Policy Concept 2007-2013, training courses for regional coordinators and the professional public on healthy environment in leisure time education and non-formal education settings and on the inclusion of children with fewer opportunities were organised in 2010 - 2011. The aim of these training courses was to establish a network for regional coordinators specialised in social inclusion of children and young people and elaborate sustainable educational programmes reflecting social inclusion of children and young people efor leisure-time centres, youth clubs and youth NGOs. In 2012 examples of good practices will be identified and promoted.</p>

<p>48. To adopt a cross-sectoral approach when working to improve community cohesion and solidarity and reduce the social exclusion of young people, addressing the inter linkages between e.g. young peoples education and employment and their social inclusion?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The minister responsible for youth has at his disposal an advisory body for youth issues called Youth Chamber whose members are representatives of respective ministries, youth NGOs, leisure-time centers and religions. Youth Chamber as a cross-sectoral advisory body consults Action Plans of the 2007-2013 Youth Policy Concept in two-year periods which cover also youth employment, education and social cohesion. In 2012 the functioning of Youth Chamber has been revised and new members of the Chamber have been appointed for a four-year period in order to link functioning of the Chamber with a new 2012-2013 Action Plan which is closely interconnected with the EU Youth Strategy. Under the work of such a newly established cross-sectoral advisory body where also representatives of employers, local municipalities and regional authorities will be present, the linkages between young people's education and employment and their social inclusion will be even reinforced. A feedback from the National Council of Children and Youth A newly established Youth Chamber can work efficiently ONLY if structured dialogue between the Chamber, Ministry of Youth and YOUNG PEOPLE is secured, promoted, and its results are evaluated and incorporated into an every-day implementation of the national youth policy.</p>
<p>49. To support the development of intercultural awareness and competences for all young people and combat prejudice?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>

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<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Within the Keys for Life Project, Multicultural Education Section, the National Institute for Children and Youth elaborated and implemented training activities for 120 participants representing non-formal and leisure-time education in youth field. 13 regional coordinators specialised in multicultural learning have been trained as well. Currently other training activities on intercultural learning for youth workers, children and young people are being held within the “Key for Life” Project.</p>
<p>50. To address the issues of homelessness, housing and financial exclusion with a particular focus on young people?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs provides a variety of social services for young people: shelter services for young homeless mothers and their children (a temporary accommodation which provides also the suggestion and realisation of methods how to obtain housing), half-way houses (means temporary residence services for young persons up to 26 years of age, who leave educational facilities for institutional or protection care after reaching their majority). The Ministry of Finance reviewed in 2010 the National Strategy of Financial Education which supports financial literacy as a set of competencies needed to avoid financial exclusion. The Strategy describes a system of building school programmes on financial literacy in primary and secondary schools and contains the standards of financial literacy which should be reached in pupils’ and students’ schooling. In 2012 the first year of “Financial Literacy Contest” for primary-school pupils and secondary-school students organised by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and the Association of Financial Literacy has been announced. The contest will be organised at school, district, regional and national level.</p>
<p>51. To promote access to quality services e.g. transport, e-inclusion, health, social services?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs facilitates an access of children and young people to a variety of social services. The information is widely spread on: - low-threshold services for children and minors which is a service for children and minors at risk of social exclusion, in particular “street kids”. The social workers’ support is directed towards offering these children and minors a meaningful way of spending free time and assisting the children and minors from neglected families. It is mostly a street job; - services in contact centers for drug addicts, therapeutic communities; - social prevention services covering an early intervention, helpline crisis intervention, asylum homes, field programmes etc. Concerning the transport, school-children and school-students commuters receive a discount on public transport to and from the place of school they attend. There is a comprehensive strategy of health care for children and young people including an equal access to the health services.</p>
<p>52. To promote specific support for young families?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs facilitates reconciling professional and family roles by taking measures of a labour law focus and experience of financially and territorially accessible child care services with particular relevance to children up to three years of, pre-school and younger primary school age children. An employer is required to take account, when scheduling male/female employees to shifts, also of the needs of female/male employees who care of children. If a female/male employee caring of a child aged below 15, or a pregnant woman asks for reduced working hours or another suitable arrangement of the statutory working week, the employer is required to allow their request, An employer shall excuse absence from work of a male employee/female employee during provision of care to a sick child aged under ten that, for serious reasons, cannot be placed in care of a child educational facility or school. An employer may, subject to discussion with the relevant trade union body, apply flexible working time to young mother/father. It is also possible to arrange in the employment contract that an employee will not perform the work for an employer at the employer’s workplace but, at home.</p>
<p>53. To engage young people and youth organisations in the planning, delivery and evaluation of European Year of Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion in 2010?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>

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<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>European Year of Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion was one of the yearly priorities of YiA Programme in 2016. The CZ YiA NA and Eurodesk (both an integral part of the National Institute of Children and Youth) informed about the Year online (web, newsletters, Facebook) and non-online (Eurocompass, articles in newspapers, training activities) . In co-operation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs promotional materials were distributed to the target groups of young people.</p>
<p>Additional comments on social inclusion (for example references, web-links, project examples).</p>	<p>Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs provides a financial support through its subsidy programmes for providing social services to children and young people that are at a high risk of social exclusion. Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports provides a financial support through its subsidy programmes for supporting youth work. Youth NGOs that conduct activities to prevent social exclusion are eligible to apply for funds. The CZ YiA NA organised in 2010 within an initiative called “Find Yourself in Europe” an educational event with the aim to inform secondary-school students about poverty and social exclusion. In addition, workshops for homeless young people, wheel-chair young people, young migrants, young people with hearing disability and Roma young people were organised.</p>



## D. CREATIVITY & CULTURE

54. To support the development of creativity among young people by following up the Council conclusions on promoting a Creative Generation: developing the creativity and innovative capacity of children and young people through cultural expression and wider access to culture?

YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.

Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

The Ministry of Culture supports a variety of children and youth festivals as well as exhibitions in museums which directly target school children, students and young people. The support of talented young people is based on legal regulations (Regulation no. 73/2005 Coll.) and detailed in the “Framework system for the support of aptitude and exceptional aptitude, in particular of pupils’ and students’ intellectual abilities in the educational process”. A possibility of how to discover one’s talent, which is so far the most prevalent way of talent identification, is the participation of pupils in competitions. Around 150 competitions and shows (focused on pupils’ and students’ knowledge, interests, performance in arts and in sports) organised, co-organised or recommended by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports are held yearly in the Czech Republic. The Ministry expends, together with regional authorities, approximately 50 million crowns yearly for these activities. Participation in these competitions is for pupils free of charge. Up to 400 thousands pupils participate in these competitions each year. The competitions are organised at local, district, regional and national levels. The system of competitions accommodates the pupils with special educational needs, as well. Competitions designed for pupils with special educational needs include, for example the Artistic Festival of Juvenile Homes and Children’s Homes.

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<p>55. To make new technologies readily available to empower young people's creativity and capacity for innovation, and attract interest in culture, the arts and science?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The Ministry of Culture supported financially projects granted through an open call for "Children's media and audiovisual creativity" proposals. Supported projects promoted development of children Internet TV, audiovisual competitions for children, workshops and training activities in the field of audiovisual creativity. A widely recognised national competition for secondary-school and vocational-school students called "Czech Little Hands" which is a platform for showing the professional skills of the best students at school, district, regional, national and international levels, is annually supported by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, the Ministry of Industry and Trade, and the Ministry of the Agriculture. One of the final products of the Competition are also video-programmes promoting creativity and innovation of the participants.</p>
<p>56. To provide access to environments where young people can develop their creativity and interests and spend a meaningful leisure time?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>There is a wide-spread network of school facilities for extra-curricular education that play an essential part in discovering, catching up and developing aptitudes and talents of children and young people. The mission of leisure time centres is to motivate, support and lead the children, pupils, students, young people, but also the adults with a view to develop their personality, to acquire and develop key competences as well as specialized knowledge and skills and to spend the leisure time in a sensible way. This mission is accomplished by a wide offer of activities led by a professional team of educators in a safe environment. Leisure time centres can cover several areas of extra-curricular education, or focus on one specific area of extra-curricular education. Leisure time centres provide the participants with extra-curricular education, and eventually also schools and school facilities, with methodical, expert and material assistance. The centres generally carry on their activities throughout the school year, including the days when school instruction does not take place. According to the Regulation no. 74/2005 Coll. there can be the two types of leisure time centres: leisure time centers that offer a wide variety of activities in several areas of extra-curricular education, and stations of interest-developing activities that focus on one of extra-curricular education.</p>
<p>57. To promote specialised training in culture, new media and intercultural competences for youth workers?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Within the Keys for Life Project, Media Education Section, eight training courses including e-learning courses for youth workers in leisure-time centers and youth NGOs were organised to enable youth workers using new technologies while working for and with children and young people. The CZ YiA NA has given priority to some of the projects which aimed at introducing new media to youth workers.</p>

<p>Additional comments on culture &amp; creativity (for example references, web-links, project examples).</p>	<p>In July 2011 a new PERUN Project financed through the ESF started under the implementation of the National Institute for Children and Youth. The Perun Project covers taking care of, developing and expanding talent of children and young people in the field of science and technology. The aim of the Project is to facilitate bringing quality changes into education of talented children and young people in formal and non-formal education settings through youth work, school and university education and leisure time activities in regions. A variety of stakeholders have been involved in the Project.</p>
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### E. YOUTH & THE WORLD

<p>58. To raise the awareness of young people about global issues such as sustainable development and human rights?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>1. National Strategy for Global Development Education 2011-2015 was created in a close cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports and is based on the recommendations of international organizations. The Strategy is divided in two parts, the first one focuses on the definition of global development education, and the second part focuses on the implementation process which takes place in the five years. The National Strategy takes into account both state institutions and non-governmental institutions. It covers funding as well as monitoring and evaluating of fulfilling the goals resulting from the Strategy. 2. Education for Sustainable Development is the current approach in the field of education, which applies the basic principles and issues of sustainable development in training activities of all types and levels. The topics include, for example, active citizenship, poverty alleviation, security, human and civil rights, sustainable consumption and production, the responsibility of local and global contexts, health, environmental friendliness, and many others. 3. Ministry of the Environment supports annual Environmental Festivals for young people.</p>
<p>59. To provide opportunities for young people to exchange views with policy-makers on global issues (e.g. via participation in international meetings, virtual platforms/fora etc.)?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>It does not work to copy the answer. See the uploaded document question 59.</p>
<p>60. To encourage young people to participate in green volunteering and "green" patterns of consumption and production (e.g. recycling, energy conservation, hybrid vehicles, etc.)?</p>	<p>YES, such measures/initiatives were taken after the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Within the 2011 European Year of Volunteerism 13 thematic working groups on promoting volunteerism were established in the Czech Republic. One of them, Working Group on Volunteering in Environmental Protection continues its work also in 2012 and tends to be transferred into a permanent working group. Its functioning is coordinated by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. In January 2012 a working Seminar on Volunteering in Environmental Protection was organised under patronage of policy makers from the European Parliament, Senate of the Czech Republic and the CZ Parliamentary Committee for the Environment. There is also the development programme called "The National Network of EEEA Centres" covering the environmental education which focuses on the implementation of selected tasks of NGOs activities in the Czech Republic and plays an important role in supporting and facilitating environmental activities of young people.</p>

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<p>61. To promote entrepreneurship, employment, education and volunteering opportunities with countries or regions outside of Europe?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>
<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>The bilateral agreement between the governments of the CZ and the USA on the foundation of the Fulbright Commission that administrates fellowships and grants enables Czech students to study and take internships in the USA. Moreover, the “Agreement between the Government of the CZ and the Government of the Republic of Korea Concerning a Working Holiday Programme” was approved by both governments in December 2011 which enables young people to work and spend holiday in both countries. A similar Agreement between the Government of Canada and the Government of the Czech Republic provides an opportunity for a learning mobility to Czech young people as well. Czech university graduates with no working experience can participate in the UNV “Internship” Programme. Annually 2 - 4 university graduates gain internships in UN countries in accordance with the Czech foreign policy priorities. Since 2006 to 2011 seventeen graduates took such an opportunity in Mongolia, Yemen, Vietnam, Kosovo, Bosnia and the Ukraine. Czech United Nations Volunteers Contact Point authorised by the Czech Ministry of Foreign Affairs to cooperate with the “United Nations Volunteer” Initiative provides an opportunity to young volunteers to be actively involved in UN development programmes and peace missions.</p>
<p>62. To encourage young people to participate in development cooperation activities either in their country of residence or abroad?</p>	<p>YES, such measures had already been taken before the EU Youth Strategy came into force in January 2010, no additional initiatives were necessary.</p>

<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Ministry of Foreign Affairs in accordance with its foreign policy priorities launches open calls and allocates money through its Development Aid Programme which supports the development of youth sector in some countries (for instance currently in Moldova). Czech youth NGOs are eligible to apply for these funds and they do so. A representative of Youth Department is one of the members of working groups preparing development cooperation programmes. In order to facilitate submitting project proposals, Czech Development Agency established by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs provides policy makers, professionals and youth workers with training courses on Project Cycle Management which is an obligatory requirements for preparing, implementing and evaluating development projects.</p>
<p>Additional comments on youth &amp; the world (for example references, web-links, project examples).</p>	<p>None</p>

### SECTION 5: EVALUATION OF THE STRUCTURED DIALOGUE

<p>63. Has your government carried out any specific measures or is it planning to do so based on the conclusions from the European Youth Week, which presents a number of recommendations on how the structured dialogue can be improved at the national and the European levels?</p>	<p>YES, the government has implemented specific measures responding to recommendations from the European Youth Week in May 2011.</p>
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<p>Please elaborate on your answer, if necessary. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Structured dialogue with young people has been identified by Youth Department as a priority area in processes of drafting challenges for the 2012-2013 Action Plan of the Concept of the CZ Youth Policy which will be submitted to the Government of the Czech Republic in April 2012. Following the recommendations for the improvement of the Structured Dialogue with young people at national level, Youth Department established a very close cooperation with the National Council of Children and Youth, namely with the main person responsible for the implementation of the innovative and very well welcomed project of the SD with young people called “Let’s Talk Into” and the director of Youth Department attends project activities in order to be actively involved in the Project and facilitate the implementation of the results in the youth field.</p>
<p>64. Has your Government supported the establishment of a National Working Group?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer. If yes, how has this been supported? If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here</p>	<p>Youth Department organised the first informal meeting with the National Council of Children and Youth where a decision on establishing and managing the National Working Group was taken. Afterwards separate meetings of the National Working Group were organised in the Ministry. While drafting the National Reports on the results of the Structured Dialogue under the respective Presidencies, responsibilities were shared between the National Council and the Youth Department. The Ministry provides financial resources to enable the Chair of the National Working Group to attend the presidential conferences and events on structured dialogue.</p>
<p>65. Does the National Youth Council play a leading role in the National Working Group?</p>	<p>Yes</p>



<p>If your answer is NO please elaborate and indicate who plays a leading role. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>66. Does the competent national ministry play an active role in the National Working Group?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>A civil servant responsible for the implementation of the structured dialogue with young people has been appointed by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, Youth Department and obliged to play an active role in the National Working Group (invites the members of the Group for meetings, prepares room for the meetings including the refreshment, coordinates writing the National reports, translates the National Reports into English...).</p>
<p>67. Given the cross-sectoral character of the EU Youth Strategy, have other national ministries played an active role in the National Working Group?</p>	<p>No</p>

If your answer is YES N/A please elaborate and indicate who plays an active role. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

68. Does your Government provide financial or other support for the National Working Group? Yes

If your answer is YES please elaborate (maximum 300 words) If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.

Political support: A civil servant in Youth Department has been appointed to take responsibility for a close co-operation with the Chair of the National Working Group on Structured Dialogue with Young People. There is a frequent interaction between those two when new tasks and challenges come to be fulfilled at national and European level. The responsible civil servant informs the director of Youth Department and the colleagues about all the activities and their results related to the structures dialogue with young people in regular meetings of Youth Department each week. Financial support: The Ministry has co-financed the Project on structured dialogue with young people “Let´s Talk Into” implemented by the National Council of Children and Youth.

<p>69. Is the competent national ministry aware of the process of consultations, and subsequent results, undertaken by the National Working Group in response to guiding questions issued by the European Steering Committee for the structured dialogue with youth?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer. If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>Youth Department elaborated a document which summarised the results of Structured Dialogue with young people at national level during the first cycle (under the ES-BE-HU PRES Trio) and submitted it to the minister responsible for youth and his advisors. Moreover, Youth Department receives a feedback from structured dialogue with young people in evaluating conferences and seminars on structured dialogue with young people which are organised by the National Council of Children and Youth and attended by the director of Youth Department and the appointed civil servant responsible for a cooperation with the Chair of the National Working Group on Structured Dialogue with Young People. Youth Department and the minister responsible for youth have also received an informative letter from the National Council which summarised results from national consultations with young people on youth related issues currently prioritised by the Ministry.</p>
<p>70. Has your Government taken any initiatives to follow up the points that were raised as priority areas in the conclusions of the structured dialogue on youth employment, as outlined in the Council Resolution on the structured dialogue?</p>	<p>No, but we intend to take relevant initiatives/measures in 2012</p>

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<p>Please elaborate If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>It is taken into account in newly established functioning of Youth Chamber, a cross-sectoral advisory body of the minister responsible for youth issuers. These priority areas require a close cooperation with the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs whose representative has been invited to be member of the Youth Chamber.</p>
<p>71. Would your Government support a structured dialogue with young people and youth organisations in other fields than those covered by the overall thematic priorities, and individual Presidency priorities, agreed at European level?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer</p>	<p>It has been already done and continues being done in cooperation with the National Council of Children and Youth under the ministerial political and financial support of “Let’s Talk Into” Project which is currently the most effective tool for implementing the structured dialogue with young people in the Czech Republic (see the Project description in the Section 6 on Examples of Good Practice). In the first phase of the Project in 2010/2011 years other topics, for instance legalisation of marihuana, paying tuition during university study or a new concept of school-leaving examination were discussed with young people. New themes are being currently voted for in the second phase of the Project.</p>

<p>72. Does your Government consider the National Working Group already established in your country to be sufficiently inclusive in its composition to ensure a participatory process open to all young people?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>If your answer is NO please elaborate</p>	<p>With new challenges and tasks resulting from a preparatory phase of drafting a new Concept of the CZ Youth Policy after 2013, intensive discussions with the National Council of Children and Youth have to start in order to shape functioning of the National Working Group and change its primary mission from contributing only to fulfilling the tasks from Presidencies into being an equal partner to the Ministry in preparing a new concept of the national youth policy after 2013.</p>
<p>73. What are the methods of consultation with young people that have been applied within the structured dialogue in your country?</p>	<p>A variety of methods have been applied among which it is important to list face-to-face interviews, roundtable discussions, discussions during conferences, questionnaire surveys in national displays of NGOs´ and Youth centers´ activities called Bambiriada, Facebook discussions, Twister; an interactive web page of “Let´s Talk Into” Project and evaluating conferences of “Let´s Talk Into” Project. The e-democracy and e-participation principles on a special web tool interconnecting social networks have been also used.</p>
<p>If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	

<p>74. Do youth researchers and those engaged in youth work play a role in carrying out the structured dialogue in your country?</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>If your answer is YES please elaborate If young people or other stakeholders who are consulted as part of finalising this National Report have a different opinion than that stated by the Government (above), their opinions can be stated here.</p>	<p>N/A</p>
<p>75. Would your Government support efforts to enhance the visibility and transparency of structured dialogue at national level?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer.</p>	<p>A presentation of the results of structured dialogue with young people was always on the agenda of all meetings of the Youth Chamber (cross-sectoral advisory body of the minister responsible for youth) and part of all the official ministerial documents on child and youth participation in the Czech Republic. Evaluation of structured dialogue with young people is part of the official evaluation of the 2010-2011 Action Plan of the CZ Concept of Youth Policy as well as applying structured dialogue with young people is integral part of a new 2012-2013 Action Plan which will be submitted to the Government of the Czech Republic in April 2012.</p>

<p>76. Based on the experiences gained since 2010, does your Government feel that the format and working methods employed at EU Youth Conferences contribute to a successful conduct of structured dialogue?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer.</p>	<p>YES based on our experience how much the Czech participants in the conferences (those ones involved in the National Working Group on Structured Dialogue) were motivated to conduct the tasks delegated to us by the European Steering Committee and respective Presidencies. It is with no doubts that the conferences themselves played a certain role in motivating the National Council of Children and Youth to develop their own project on structured dialogue called “Let’s Talk Into” (see the Project description in the Section 6 on Examples of Good Practice).</p>
<p>77. Based on the experiences gained from the first two cycles of the structured dialogue, does your Government have particular recommendations for the further development of the structured dialogue?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>Please explain the reasons for your answer.</p>	<p>The European Steering Committee of Structured Dialogue in co-operation with the respective Presidencies should give a certain flexibility to National Working Groups in Member States to enable them to discuss also their own sub-topics within the presidential thematic priorities which correspond better with the national reality. Some questions required to be answered in National Reports on Structured Dialogue with Young People were felt as artificial-like, did not covered what was important in the context of national realities, and as a consequence young people showed a very low motivation to discuss such questions.</p>

## SECTION 6: ON EXAMPLES OF GOOD PRACTICE

Presentation of good practice # 1

The structure for follow-up activities of the 2011 European Year of Voluntary Activities and Active Citizenship: Under the direction of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic an inter-ministerial co-ordination committee for the implementation of the 2011 European Year of Voluntary Activities and Active Citizenship (EYV) was established in 2010. It was composed of representatives of other ministries, institutions, experts, media and NGOs. Thematic working groups for follow-up activities of the 2011 European Year of Volunteerism were also created in 2011 that associate, in particular, non-profit organisations and other civil sector bodies active in the field of volunteering, working with volunteers or interested in achieving one of the EYV objectives. These working groups ensured interconnection between state administration, experts and organisations active in the field of volunteering. There were twelve thematic working groups that contributed to the follow-up of the EYV in the Czech Republic: - Volunteering in health service - Volunteering in social service - Volunteering in culture - Volunteering in sports - Volunteering in children and youth work - Volunteering in environmental protection - Volunteering in emergency cases and critical situations - Volunteering as part of corporate social responsibility - International volunteering and volunteering in development co-operation - Community volunteering - Volunteering in church and religious organisations Some of the thematic groups continue working also in 2012. Furthermore, three expert teams (focused on legislation, methodology, and mass-media) were established as well. Their aim was to put the four main EYV priorities into practice. Final products of the European Year of Voluntary Activities and Active Citizenship will result into elaborating and submitting to the Government a new Law on Volunteerism in the Czech Republic.



Presentation of good practice # 2 As an example of best practice, the Czech Republic can serve with the project of the Czech Council of Children and Youth “Speak Into - Structured Dialogue with Young People” (Kecejme do toho“), financed through Youth in Action Programme. The aim of the project is to create a national-wide inclusive platform for youth participation at national level with its overlapping to European one. Using the IT in combination with real youth work and face-to-face contacts are the main tools of the project’s implementation. The project wants to empower the role of young people in society and also promotes the principles of democracy, social dialogue and youth participation. The project has also an ambition to spread the ideas and topics related to European youth policy which directly helps integrate Czech youth sector into common European space. The implementation of the project is based on three main pillars: informational pillar, participative pillar as well as transferring outputs and results. Informational activities are based on collecting arguments and information related to important topics and questions as well as positions of different players in the certain field of choice. This information is analyzed and results into one short and clear paper per topic with links to more detailed information. These papers serve as a basic information tool for debating the topics with young people. Participation is ensured by group of volunteers as well as by organisers of roundtable debates, and workshops mostly in regions. The e-democracy and e-participation principles on a special web tool interconnecting social networks are also used. The project also involves non-organized youth e.g. within Open Air Festival for Youth, work with media and social networks. Transfer of results which meet interests of young people is ensured thanks to the existing and new channels which are linked to political system of the country as well as thanks to organising the National Youth Conference on Structured Dialogue where young people, decision-makers, politicians and youth organization representatives are invited. One of the final results of the Project will be a printed and electronic booklet for a long-term usage and a special edition of Youth magazine Archa which is regularly distributed to Czech youth sector as well as provided to political representatives of the Czech Republic.

Presentation of good practice # 3 “Czech Little Mind Project” is a project aiming at encouraging talented youth, mainly in engineering fields, thus stimulating young people’s interest for engineering and natural science studies, and for scientific careers. It targets high-school students and children in their final years of primary school. It is organized in a collaboration between the Czech Little Mind Project, the Prague University of Economics, the Ministry of Education, Youth, and Sports, the Association for Youth, Science, and Engineering (AMAVET), and the Association for Supporting Talented Czech Youth, as well as the general partners, who endow individual categories of each contest. The aim of the Project is to prepare and organize an annual nation-wide contest for primary school children and high-school students. Prizes are awarded in 5 categories; category winners are chosen by a jury composed of representatives of professional associations, universities, and scientific institutions. Each winner receives a financial prize, a diploma, and an original “Czech Little Mind” award. The winners are also introduced at a press conference and at a gala soirée, which are covered by a special TV programme and broadcast by the main Czech public TV station.