

Council of Europe  
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European Union  
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Partnership between the European Commission  
and the Council of Europe in the field of Youth

# COUNTRY SHEET

## ON YOUTH POLICY

### IN SLOVENIA



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# **1. Context and principles of national youth policy**

## **1.1 Context of national youth policy**

In May 2010 Act on public interest in youth sector was adopted. It is the first law which systematically regulates the youth sector. Before this only the Youth council Act existed. The Act on public interest in youth sector gives the base for preparing the first national programme for youth. Office for Youth stays the central organisation in public administration responsible for youth sector. We accomplished to gain additional money for the youth sector from the European structural funds. With projects financed from the ESF we will try to facilitate participation of young people, we will try to create a profile of youth worker etc.

## **1.2. Principles of national youth policy**

Act on public interest in youth sector is based on the principles of democracy, plurality, integrity, intergenerational solidarity, equality, non-discrimination and justice, multiculturalism, intercultural dialogue, volunteering, promoting a healthy lifestyle, respecting life and the environment, and the participation of non-governmental organisations in the management of public affairs.

Youth policy (in accordance with the Act on public interest in youth sector) is a harmonised set of measures of various sectoral public policies with the purpose of promoting and facilitating the integration of youth in the economic, cultural and political life of the community and appropriate support mechanisms for developing youth work and operation of youth organisations, which is carried out in cooperation with autonomous and democratic representatives of youth organisations and professional and other organisations.

*the main target group (age group, specific groups of young people)*

Youth (as defined in Act on public interest in youth sector) are young people and young adults of both genders aged between 15 and a completed 29 years;

*the political organisation of youth policy (territorial organisation, share of competences)*

Act on public interest in youth sector defines organisation in youth sector as organisation in youth sector which is a subject which operates in the youth sector and is organised as a youth organisation or an organisation for the youth or a youth council.

Youth organisation is an autonomous, democratic, volunteer and independent association of youth, which with its operation enables the youth to gain planned learning experience, form and express their viewpoints and implement their activities in accordance with their interest, cultural, principle or political orientation, and is organised as an independent legal entity, namely as a society or an association of societies or as an integral part of another legal entity, namely a society, an

association of societies, a trade union or a political party providing that the autonomy of operation in the youth sector has been ensured by the basic act of this legal entity;

Organisation for youth is a legal entity which implements the youth programme, but is not a youth organisation, and is organised as an institute, an institution or a cooperative;

## 2. Statistics on young people

*Mention the number of all young people from the ages of 15 and 29 who live in the country*

[http://pxweb.stat.si/pxweb/Dialog/varval.asp?ma=05C2002S&ti=&path=../Database/Dem\\_soc/05\\_prebivalstvo/10\\_stevilo\\_preb/10\\_05C20\\_prebivalstvo\\_stat\\_regije/&lang=2](http://pxweb.stat.si/pxweb/Dialog/varval.asp?ma=05C2002S&ti=&path=../Database/Dem_soc/05_prebivalstvo/10_stevilo_preb/10_05C20_prebivalstvo_stat_regije/&lang=2)

Age 15-29: 375.365

Total population: 2.050.189

Number and Percentage of young people in global population: 375.365, 18,3%

Number and Percentage of young people by gender in global population: Male: 195.316, 9,5%;  
Female: 180.049, 8,8%

Any other relevant figures

### **3. Actors and Structures**

#### **3.1 Public authorities**

##### **3.1.1 National public authorities:**

##### **Ministry in charge of youth: Ministry of Education and Sports**

Minister: Igor Luksic, Phd

Duration of mandate: 2008-2012

Youth Department in the Ministry: Office for Youth

Main tasks of the Youth department:

- prepare the regulations and measures in the field of the youth sector;
- provide financial support to youth programmes and programmes for youth (hereinafter, programmes in the youth sector);
- provide for and execute supervision for the implementation of regulations and measures in the youth sector;
- monitor the situation of youth and the impact of measures in the youth sector;
- cooperate with the responsible bodies and other subjects in the youth sector;
- participate in representing the State in the bodies of the European Union and the Council of Europe and at an international level in the matter relating to youth, and
- perform other tasks in accordance with the law.

Number of people who work in this ministry in the youth department: 7

Director responsible for Youth in the Ministry: Peter Debeljak [peter.debeljak@gov.si](mailto:peter.debeljak@gov.si)

Contact person in the youth department competent for European youth policy: Barbara Zupan, [Barbara.zupan@gov.si](mailto:Barbara.zupan@gov.si)

Other national public bodies who are directly involved in youth policies:

Council of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth as a consulting body which offers assistance in making decisions on matters in the field of youth and the youth sector.

##### **Other Ministries:**

Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs,

Ministry of Health,

Ministry of Higher education, Science and Technology

**Offices:**

Parliament commission in charge of youth issues:

Committee for culture, education, sport and youth, subcommittee for youth (established in June 2009)

Name: subcommittee for youth

name of president / chair of the subcommittee: Dejan Levanič

role and competence:

The Subcommittee on Youth discusses draft laws, other acts, and issues relating to:

- youth and its role and position within the society,
- the promotion of an active civic culture among youth and the issues relating to the stable and development-oriented funding of youth policy, and
- other issues dealt with by the competent ministry.

**3.1.2 Regional public authorities with competencies in the youth field**

There is no regional public structure with competencies in the youth field.

**3.1.3 Local public authorities with competencies in the youth field**

*Describe the structure of authorities on the regional (or federal) and local level (existing institutions and their competencies and mandate; relation with national authorities in charge of youth and with EU institutions).*

The role of local communities in Slovenia varies and also depends on the size of respective local community. The municipality of Ljubljana, the capital, has a structure within city administration (youth department) that provides public tenders (for youth programmes, projects, information network, international activities), youth research, networking NGO in youth sector, information network for young people, educational programmes and trainings for youth workers, empowerment of youth NGO structures. Smaller communities cooperate closely with youth centres that take over part of the tasks that local community should provide. Due to a fact that most of the local communities do not have a youth office the cooperation with local authorities and youth centres is of essential importance. The Association of Local Communities of Slovenia is a non-governmental, non-profit organisation that includes most of the Slovene local communities. It cooperates actively with the Committee of Regions.

## **3.2 Youth welfare services (comprising public and/or non public actors)**

There are no such special services.

## **3.3 Non-public actors/structures & youth services with competencies in the youth field**

National Youth Council of Slovenia, Youth Centres and Local Community Youth Councils - The Youth Network MaMa combines and represents organisations that run youth centers or are active in field of youth work in Slovenia.

### **3.3.1 Youth Councils**

Mladinski svet Slovenije – National Youth Council of Slovenia ([www.mss.si](http://www.mss.si)), Mr. Kamal Izidor Shaker, President of National Youth Council [predsednik@mss.si](mailto:predsednik@mss.si) .

The National Youth Council of Slovenia is a voluntary association of national youth organisations with the status of an organisation in the public interest in the youth sector in accordance with the Act regulating the public interest in the youth sector.

The National Youth Council of Slovenia and the local community youth council are legal persons governed by private law with the rights, obligations and responsibilities determined by law and the basic act.

In accordance with the Youth council act, the National Youth Council of Slovenia and the local community youth councils shall:

- implement or participate in the implementation of youth work and other activities in the field of the youth sector in accordance with the act regulating the public interest in the youth sector;
- provide for the conditions for the operation and development of forms of interest for the association of young people;
- provide for the participation of young people in adopting statutory and other regulations having an impact on the life and work of young people;
- perform other tasks for promoting the interests of young people defined by the basic act.

The local community youth council unites youth organisations defined in the act regulating the public interest in the youth sector with at least 90 percent of members aged up to 29 years and 70 percent of members of the management aged between 15 and 29 years.



### **3.3.2 Youth NGOs**

*Please mention the most relevant youth NGO's which are not members of the national youth council. Please refer to their objectives and give a link to their website (and contact person)*

There is a number of youth NGO's active at national level. For example;The Youth Network MaMa <http://www.mreza-mama.si/> However, due to the decentralised nature of youth work, most groups and organisations are active at local level.

### **3.4 National network(s) for knowledge on youth linking all actors in the field (policy makers, researchers, young people and their organisations, NGOs)?**

No such network exists in Slovenia. Social protection institute of Slovenia has so called "children observatory". There were some attempts of the Office for Youth to establish "Youth observatory", but they were not successful. However the point of Children observatory are indicators and not networking between NGO, policy makers, researchers and young people.

## 4. Legislation

### Act on public interest in youth sector

Youth council Act

Indirect impact have also the following acts: Associations Act Student Community Act

Social Security Act

Local Self-Government Act, which is a general local legislation. There is nothing particular on youth besides a decree on setting up a public institution Youth Centre.

### Articles of the constitution concerning youth explicitly

Second chapter HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS:

-Article 52 (Rights of Disabled Persons): Physically or mentally handicapped children and other severely disabled persons have the right to education and training for an active life in society.

-Article 53 (Marriage and the Family): The state shall protect the family, motherhood, fatherhood, children and young people and shall create the necessary conditions for such protection.

-Article 54 (Rights and Duties of Parents): Parents have the right and duty to maintain, educate and raise their children. This right and duty may be revoked or restricted only for such reasons as are provided by law in order to protect the child's interests. Children born out of wedlock have the same rights as children born within it.

-Article 56 (Rights of Children): Children shall enjoy special protection and care. Children shall enjoy human rights and fundamental freedoms consistent with their age and maturity. Children shall be guaranteed special protection from economic, social, physical, mental or other exploitation and abuse. Such protection shall be regulated by law. Children and minors who are not cared for by their parents, who have no parents or who are without proper family care shall enjoy the special protection of the state. Their position shall be regulated by law.

National legislation on youth

/

Regional and local legislation on youth

/

## 5. National Policy Programmes on youth

National programmes on youth.

Act on the public interest in youth sector which foresees the preparation of the national programme for youth was adopted in 2010. Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth is currently working on the preparation.

Action plans i.e. official strategies

After the adoption of the national programme for youth actions plans for the period of two or three years period will be prepared.

*Name and describe (very shortly) the national action plans on youth*

In preparation

Programmes and actions for specific target groups

N/A

## **6. Budget / Public expenditure allocated to youth**

### **National level**

Information not available

### **Regional level**

/

## **7. European Dimension of youth policy**

### **7.1 Council of Europe.**

The Office of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth disseminates the information on the Council of Europe programmes in the field of youth to relevant organisations.

*Does your country contribute to the European Youth Foundation?*

No

### **7.2 European Union.**

#### **7.2.1 Implementation of the Youth in Action programme**

*Briefly explain how the Youth in Action Programme is implemented in your country and provide a link to the institution which implements this programme (National Agency or other).*

Youth in Action Programme is implemented by National Agency "Movit na mladina"

<http://www.mva.si/>

<http://www.eurodesk.si/>

#### **7.2.2 Follow up of the EU Youth Strategy (2010 – 2018) on the national level**

*Please describe if there is a national strategy for following up the EU Youth Strategy (2010-2018).*

No strategy for following up the EU Youth Strategy exists, however we expect national programme for youth will be in accordance with the EU Youth strategy and follow up will be assured by that.

## **8. Further sources of information on youth policy in Slovenia**

<http://www.irssv.si/english/social-protection-institute-of-the-republic-of-slovenia/index.html>