

Youth Partnership

Partnership between the European Commission
and the Council of Europe in the field of youth



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COUNTRY SHEET ON YOUTH POLICY IN SLOVAKIA



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1. Context and principles of national youth policy

1.1 Context of national youth policy

After the revolution in 1989 it took several years before the modern youth policy was created and basic legislative documents adopted. The first official post-revolutionary attempt to build state support of youth policy and a transparent system of financing was adoption of document *Principles of State Policy towards Children and Youth* (1992). In 2000, the originally twelve principles were widening to the first official *Conception of the State Policy towards Children and Young people* (2001 – 2007). Integral part of the document was the *National Report on the Youth Policy*, which analyzed situation in few areas - at that time considered as the base of youth policy - family, employment, education, leisure-time activities, criminality and mobility and European integration.

With the development of Slovak society, but particularly under the influence of the obligations arising from the accession of Slovakia to the European Union, it became increasingly evident the need to build wider youth policy based on facts, evidences and prognosis, which required much wider and structural co-operation. As the youth as social group is part of agendas more than ten ministries, regional and local government - to coordinate the identification of knowledge about children and young people, sorting and accessing relevant stakeholders have made more timely. In 2008, Slovak government adopted new concept of state policy (*Key Areas and Action Plans for State Policy towards Youth in the Slovak Republic 2008 to 2013*), which emphasizes the need for communication and co-operation between practitioners, researchers and policy makers.

1.2. Principles of national youth policy

State policy in relation to children and young people supported in an integrated manner and improving the lives of young people, their education, access to information, housing, employment, health and active use of leisure time. The most important elements are to support youth participation in corporate governance and education for active citizenship and patriotism.

The objectives of state policy in relation to children and young people:

- Create conditions for improving the quality of life
- Ensuring social justice, equality of opportunity and plenty of chances,

- Recognizes the right to their own identity, diversity and autonomy
- Providing opportunities for employment, active citizenship and participation of youth representatives in social and political life.

Taking into consideration the above-mentioned objectives, government declares that Slovak Republic will:

1. see youth as a major player in the development of society,
2. create the conditions for children and young people in Slovakia to express their legitimate needs environment and the quality and ethical self-realization,
3. consider youth to be able to take responsibility for the direction of their lives,
4. create legal and material conditions for the protection and promotion of children and youth in the interest of overall development, creating social and economic structures, shaping and developing co-operation and partnership with representatives of children and youth and will ensure equal access to education and true and actual information,
5. perceive that comprehensive security policy in relation to children and young people is not only the role of the state and municipalities but as well of non-governmental and private sector, the media, educational institutions, families, communities, and children and young people themselves,
6. confirm that youth has the right to actively participate in society, and recognize that natural youth participation in social and political life is essential for their positive contribution to decisions concerning their present and future life,
7. pay special attention to the protection and promotion of children and young people from socially disadvantaged (single mothers bringing up children, divorced parents with children, unemployed parents with children, adolescents, etc.), and create conditions for the development of prevention and support systems aimed only at young people in risk, marginalized groups but also for the mainstream group of children and youth,
8. create appropriate conditions for work with children and youth in schools and school equipment and other facilities, support families, children, youth, civic, humanitarian, religious and charitable associations, movements and foundations, as well as various non-governmental, private, non-profit organizations and agencies, as well as individual citizens in their exceptional work with children and youth,
9. support the development of work with children and young people and policy in relation to children and young people in local and regional self-governments and reserve financial sources for this purpose (especially financial support programs of the Ministry Education, Science, Research and Sport).

2. Statistics on young people

Number and Percentage of young people in global population¹

Aged 0-14: 543 542 (10,07%)

Aged 15-29: 1 182 375 (21,91%)

Percentage of young people by gender in global population: 31,98%

¹ Source: General census, as of May 21st 2011

3. Actors and Structures

3.1 Public authorities

3.1.1 National public authorities:

Ministry in charge of youth: Dušan Čaplovič, 4 years, 2011 - 2015

Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of SR – Section of Lifelong Learning - Department of Youth and Community Programmes covers the work in the field of non-formal education of children and youth mainly in these directions:

Preparation of conceptual and decisive materials in this field, methodical support for youth centres, international cooperation in the field of children and youth, financial support of youth policy.

- Coordinates the activities of the Government of the Slovak Republic in planning and implementation of the youth policy,
- Elaborates and updates long-term plans of the Ministry in the field of children and youth,
- Provides technical and organisational and content support to the activities of the Government Council for Children and Youth,
- Proposes direction of research in the field of children and youth, gives suggestions for further development of the analysis and implementation of the scientific researches and transfer of research outcomes into the youth policy measures
- Drafts legislation and conditions of financial support of youth organisations, youth information centres and other institutions providing services to children and youth
- Is responsible for the implementation of the EU Youth in Action Community programme
- Guarantees co-operation between governmental and local youth policy level through publishing of research, analytical and prognostic documents, organising work seminars, conferences and trainings for the representatives of regions, cities and municipalities along with youth workers and youth. Besides these activities ensuring communication between governmental, regional and local level there are also different financial support systems for development programmes
- Creates conditions for the work of children's and youth organisations, co-operates with these associations and other institutions providing services to children and youth.

Number of people who work in this ministry in the Department of European Programmes and Youth: 3

Director responsible for youth issues in the Ministry

Mrs. Eva Masárová, director of department

Contact person in the Department of Youth and Community Programmes competent for European youth policy

Mrs. Eva Masárová, director of department

eva.masarova@minedu.sk, tel.: 00421 2 59238201

Other national public bodies who are directly involved in youth policies

Other Ministries

Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, www.culture.gov.sk

Ministry of Interior of the Slovak Republic, www.minv.sk

Ministry of Environment of the Slovak Republic, www.enviro.gov.sk

Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family of the Slovak Republic,
www.employment.gov.sk

Ministry of Economy of the Slovak Republic, www.economy.gov.sk

Ministry of Construction and Regional Development of the Slovak Republic,
www.build.gov.sk

Ministry of Health the Slovak Republic, www.health.gov.sk

Ministry of Transport, Post and Telecommunication of the Slovak Republic,
www.telecom.gov.sk

Ministry of Agriculture, www.land.gov.sk

Public bodies

IUVENTA – Slovak Youth Institute, Búdková 2, 811 01 Bratislava 1

www.iuventa.sk, iuventa@iuventa.sk, +421 2 592 96 110

Institute of Information and Prognosis in Education

tel.: 00421 2 65428506, mail: uips@uips.sk, www.uips.sk

State Pedagogical Institute, tel.: 00421 2 49276111, mail: spu@statpedu.sk,
www.statpedu.sk

Parliament Commission in charge of youth issues

Committee of Education, Science, Youth and Sports

Mr. Mojmír Mamojka

Committee of Education, Science, Youth and Sports negotiates the acts and other legislative rules in the field of education, youth, science and sports. Supervising the observance of laws and execute the control activity in listed fields. This committee also participates on supervision of using EU funds in the field of education.

tel.: +421 2 5441 49 48, fax: +421 2 5441 85 35, e-mail: vvms@nrsl.sk

Other bodies

The Foundation Intenda, tel.: 00421 2 57297112, intenda@intenda.sk, www.intenda.sk

Research Institute for Child Psychology and Pathopsychology, tel./fax: 00421 2 43420973, e-mail: vudpap@vudpap.sk, www.vudpap.host.sk

3.1.2 Regional public authorities with competencies in the youth field

Offices of the Self-government regions

Regional self-government offices ensure the administrative and organizational issues related to youth policy at regional level in the field of social support for youth; in the field of education – establishment, operation and closing of schools and school facilities, regional youth centres, youth hostels, school counties etc.), providing information in the field of education; In the field of physical culture; culture and in the field of health care – establishment the centres for the treatment of drug addicts.

The self-governments advisory and coordination bodies create internal positions for professionals responsible for youth whose task should be to coordinate and methodologically support activities of all organisations and institutions active in this field in the region. During the year 2011 Offices of the regions started closer co-operation with IUVENTA – Slovak Youth Institute on creating their own youth strategic policies and conceptions. Regional steering committees were created in order to link different departments and set up the goals in youth policies using a cross-sectorial approach.

Regional youth centres

Regional youth centres function in 3 self-government regions (Trenčín, Banská Bystrica and Košice) Their main area of responsibility includes the coordination of the all institutions participating in the implementation of youth policy in the region (schools, educational and social institutions, civic associations, counselling services, municipalities etc.), but they also

initiate and promote the process of implementation of youth policy and provide educational opportunities for youth workers.

The Regional Commission for the Work with Children and Youth

Its members are representatives of expert and social institutions involved in various aspects of youth life (schools, educational facilities, representatives of civic associations, leisure-time facilities, church institutions as well as parents and representatives of the private sector).

The main role of the Commission is to prepare regional action plans for youth policy (linked to the national action plan), but it also monitors the process of implementation, applies arrangements for their realisation and elaborates evaluation reports on task-performance for the relevant year, and carries out the dissemination of information and feedback to interested parties and initiates their co-operation in carrying out the coordination of individual tasks.

3.1.3 Local public authorities with competencies in the youth field

Local administration units of municipalities

The municipality:

- management of schools and facilities at local level;
- supports social life of youth by providing various services, contacts to various other bodies and institutions of public administration and information for young people on various issues (ways of spending leisure time, accommodation, education, future career prospects);
- analyses activities of institutions and services for children and youth in the community,
- monitors effectiveness of measures related to youth. After the adoption of Act No. 369/1990 Coll. on local establishment and following the realisation of fiscal decentralisation in 2004 conditions were created for the realisation of own policies in relation to children and youth at the level of local self-government. After the adoption of the Act their representatives have greater freedom in the realisation of activities for children and youth, but the quality and scope of these services varies from one municipality to another. Following the adoption of the Act No. 282/2008 Coll. on support of youth work municipalities has clear role on support the development of the youth work.

Youth Centers (as part of formal education system)

There are three types of “youth centers” established: youth centers, youth clubs and youth school centers.

175 youth centers exist in more than 120 towns, 132 school centres for interest-based activities in more than 15 towns and school clubs are established in over 80 % of primary schools. These establishments make up the basis for the creation of conditions for good use of free time by children under 15 but also for older young people. Some of the Youth centers are also actively involved not only in interest-based activities but also in development of activities in the frame of non-formal education and long-life learning.

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

Not applicable

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

The Association of the Youth Information and Counselling Centres in the Slovak Republic (ZIPCeM) is an umbrella organization of the Youth Information Centres active in different regions of Slovakia. Their objective is to cooperate with all the Youth Information Centres (ICM), to guide them methodologically, to unify the common methodology of work in order to give all the ICMs uniform philosophy and ideas at the creation of their program that would be going along with the objective needs and demands of young people, and would provide the necessary information and counselling. www.zipcem.icm.sk

Students Council of Universities (SRVS) is a consultative body of the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic and the supreme representative body of students of universities in Slovakia, which represent Slovak university students at national and international level. SRVS associates the representatives of all types of universities in Slovakia (state, public and private). www.srvs.sk

Slovak Secondary School Student Union- SUS aims to support the comprehensive development and mobility of secondary school students. Work includes informing about relevant issues, to protect students, to stand up for their rights and to help with establishing cooperation between schools on a national and European level. Main priority is to organize projects, workshops and campaigns about issues affecting students (e.g. education) and supporting activities of its members at their respective schools.

3.3.1 Youth Councils

The National Youth Council of Slovakia (RMS) is an umbrella organisation – an association of nongovernmental not-for-profit children's and youth organization. Today it represents 33 children's and youth organisations with more than 40 000 members. The basic aim of the Council is to influence the national policy in favour of conditions creating for youth and children with respect to the Slovak legal system. The Youth Council of Slovakia became a partner organization to the Ministry of Education in February 2000. The council participates in the implementation of the two years lasting Action plans (2008-2009, 2010 -2011, 2012-2013) resulting from the Key Areas and Action Plans of Government Policy in Relation to Children and Youth in the Slovak Republic for the years 2008 – 2013 in the areas of non-formal education, active citizenship and volunteering. The Youth Council of Slovakia is also the official representative of Slovak youth organisations in international youth organisations and platforms. It actively participated on the establishment of the European Youth Forum and it is present in the Commission of the EYF for relations with the EU and in the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Youth. www.mladez.sk

Regional youth councils

A regional youth council is an umbrella organization representing the plurality of political, interest-based and other civic associations of children and youth, and it acts as a partner of the relevant institutions (the self-government) responsible for the formation of the concept of regional youth services. Regional youth councils operate in each of the administrative regions of the Slovak Republic (currently except of Banská Bystrica region) and create platforms for meetings between these organisations, opportunities for an exchange of experiences, methodologies, and support activities of children and youth organizations in the region.

The aim of the Regional Councils is to associate children and youth organisations working in the individual areas and to help to create suitable conditions for full development of children and youth. The objective of the activity of the Regional Councils is: according to the legislative, influence the policy of the state to create conditions for full, free and democratic development of children and youth in the name of realisation of their legitimate interests and to contribute to the development of state regional policy towards the youth, to contribute to the creation of conditions for activities of children and youth organisations and for co-ordinated emphasising their common interests, to co-operate actively with partner

organisations home and abroad, with international, government and non-government organisations and institutions, which develop activities with benefits for children and youth, to co-operate with state institutions and civic associations that are active in the field of interests of the Regional Council, to provide counselling, methodical and informative services for member organisations, to co-operate in the establishment of financial resources for activities of children and youth organisations.

Regional Youth Council of Žilina, www.rmzk.sk

Regional Youth Council of Trnava, www.rmtk.sk

Regional Youth Council of Košice, www.rmkk.sk

Regional Youth Council of Trenčín, [www.facebook.com/Rada mládeže Trenčianskeho kraja](https://www.facebook.com/Rada%20ml%C3%A1de%C5%BEd%C5%A7e%20Tren%C4%8Dianskeho%20kraja)

Regional Youth Council of Nitra, www.rmnk.sk

Regional Youth Council of Prešov, www.rmpk.sk

Regional Youth Council of Bratislava, www.rmbksk

Regional Youth Council of Banská Bystrica is temporarily not working. There are attempts to reconstruct and renew its functioning.

3.3.2 Youth NGOs

National grant programme ADAM supports nation-wide NGOs that meet required criteria of geographical coverage and number of members. One action of programme (ADAM 1) thus financially supports the functioning and administration of these NGOs work. In 2012, these organisations were supported:

Združenie mariánskej mládeže	www.zmm.sk
AMAVET – Asociácia pre mládež, vedu a techniku	www.amavet.sk
Detská misia	www.detskamisia.sk
Detská organizácia Záhorácky Fénix	www.zafenix.com
Detská organizácia Frigo	www.frigo.ahoj.sk
Klub Prieskumník – Pathfinder	www.pathfinder.sk
Spoločnosť priateľov detí z detských domovov Úsmev ako dar	www.usmev.sk
NODAM – združenie detí a mládeže	www.nodam.sk
Zväz skautov maďarskej národnosti	www.szmcs.sk
Slovenská debatačná asociácia	www.sda.sk
Priateľ	www.koinonia.sk
YMCA na Slovensku	www.ymca.sk

Laura, združenie mladých	www.laura-mladez.sk
DOMKA – Združenie saleziánskej mládeže	www.domka.sk
Občianske združenie Bol raz jeden človek	www.bolrazjedenclovek.sk
Slovenský Skauting	www.skauting.sk
EFFETA – Stredisko sv. Františka Saleského	www.effeta.sk
Detská organizácia Fénix	www.do-fenix.sk
Strom života	www.stromzivota.sk
Spoločenstvo evanjelickej mládeže	www.sem.sk
Združenie kresťanských spoločenstiev mládeže	www.zksm.sk
eRko – Hnutie kresťanských spoločenstiev detí	www.erko.sk
Stredoškolská študentská únia Slovenksa	www.suskaweb.sk
Republikové koordinačné centrum Ideálna mládežnícka aktivita	www.ima.sk
Zväz telesne postihnutej mládeže	www.ztpm.sk

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

Cross-sectorial working group responsible for preparation of Key Areas and Action Plans of State Youth Policy Towards Children and Youth

Informal network of researchers, policy-makers and practitioners managed by IUVENTA – Slovak Youth Institute

CERYs (Centre for European and regional Youth Research) www.ucm.sk/cerys/index.html

Slovak Committee for UNICEF www.unicef.sk

Slovak Youth Research Society www.syrs.org

The Council of the Government of the Slovak Republic for Prevention of Criminality

Council for Children and Youth managed by Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs and Family

Institute of Information and Prognosis in Education www.uips.sk

Eurodesk network of regional contact points www.eurodesk.sk/

Iuventa – Slovak Youth Institute www.iuventa.sk. Coordination of state youth policy and creation of different working groups according to the need

Slovak Academy of Sciences - SAV <http://www.sav.sk/>

4. Legislation

The basic protection of children and youth is ensured by Slovak Constitution. Article 38 of the Slovak Constitution declares more extensive health protection and special working conditions for women, minors and disabled persons as well as special protection in employment relations and special assistance in training.

Article 41 of the Constitution further protects matrimony, parentage, and family with special protection for children and young persons. Equal rights are guaranteed to both children born of legitimate matrimony and those born out of lawful wedlock. Child care and upbringing shall be the right of parents; children shall have the right to parental care and upbringing. The rights of parents may be limited and minor children may be separated from parents against the parents' will only by a court order as provided by law.

According to Constitution also parents taking care of their children shall have the right to assistance provided by the State.

National legislation on youth

The fundamental change was imposed by adopting the Act No. 282/2008 Coll. on support of the youth work. The Act brings the definition of „youngster“, „youth leader“, „youth worker“ and „youth volunteer“. The act also brings clear definition of responsibilities and roles of the state and self-governments in developing the work with young people and also it creates a platform for financial mechanisms for supporting youth work.

Other legislation related to youth:

4th chapter of comprehensive part of criminal code (300/2005 Z.z.): Distinctive enactments about prosecution of minors. This includes § 146 Murder of nasciturus by mother, § 175 Serving alcoholic drinks to under aged and minors, § 180,181 Dealing with children, § 201,202 Sexual abusing, § 205 Adjournalment of a child, § 206 Abandonment of a child, § 207 Omission of obligatory alimony, § 208 Maltreatment of close and consigned person, § 209, 210 Abduction, § 211 Endangering the moral upbringing o underage, § 367, art. 3, 4c Bawdery, § 368 Manufacturing children pornography, § 369 Distribution of children pornography, § 370 Possession of children pornography, § 372 Jeopardizing of decency

Following acts and regulations concern partly young people:

Act about family and about changes and completion of several acts (36/2005 Coll.)

Act 29/1984 Coll. about system of elementary and secondary schools (scholar act);
Act 279/1993 Coll. about school facilities;
Regulation of Ministry of Education and Science of Slovak republic no. 351/1994 Coll. about school centres of interest activities;
Regulation of Ministry of Education and Science of Slovak republic no. 291/1994 Coll. about youth centres;
Regulation of Ministry of Education and Science of Slovak republic no. 196/1994 Coll. about youth hostels;
Regulation of Ministry of Education and Science of Slovak republic no. 295/1994 Coll. about educating process in the nature;
Regulation of Ministry of Education and Science of Slovak republic no. 28/1995 Coll. about school clubs of children.
Act 305/2005 Coll. about social-legal protection of children and social probation.
University act no. 131/2002 Coll.
Directive 6/2007R about education docket

Regional and local legislation on youth

Act 596/2003 Coll. about state administration in education system and self-administration of schools
Regulation of Ministry of education of the Slovak Republic no. 9/2006 Coll. about the structure and contents of edifying-educational activities reports, about its results and conditions of schools and school facilities.
Regulation of Ministry of education of the Slovak Republic no. 43/1996 Coll. about the particulars of educative counselling and about counselling facilities.
Act 369/1990 Coll. about establishment of municipality
Act 597/2003 Coll. about financing of elementary schools, secondary schools and school facilities
Regulation Of Ministry of education of the Slovak Republic no. 14/1996 Coll. About conditions of state grants providing from state budget for church school facilities, municipal school facilities and private school facilities.
Act 302/2001 Coll. about autonomy of self-governing regions
Act 416/2001 Coll. about delegation of some spheres of authority from state administration bodies to municipalities and self-governing regions.

5. National Policy Programmes on youth

National programmes on youth.

ADAM: System of financial support for subjects working with children and youth in Slovakia. Program supports the activities of children and youth. ADAM has 3 action lines. ADAM 1 provides system of financial support for youth NGOs with more than 100 members and offices at least in 5 regions. ADAM 2 is intended for smaller projects of various NGO's and another subjects working for youth. Small scale projects are supported with priorities corresponding with priorities of state youth policy. ADAM 3 is oriented in supporting networks in youth work (youth councils, ZIPCEM, etc.). Programme will end in 2013 and will be replaced by new system of state support for youth work. www.iuventa.sk

Establishment of the **National Scholarship Programme** for the Support of Students' Mobility, PhD students, University Teachers and Researchers was approved by the Government of the Slovak Republic in 2005. The National scholarship programme of the Slovak Republic is funded by the Ministry of Education of the Slovak Republic. The National Scholarship Programme of the Slovak Republic is intended to support mobility of foreign and Slovak students, PhD students, university teachers and researchers to cover their living cost during studying abroad. www.scholarships.sk

Bilateral contracts for the academic field among The Government of The Slovak Republic and The Governments of the Czech Republic, The Croatian Republic, The Hungarian Republic about mutual recognition of diplomas of education.

Bilateral contract between The Slovak Republic and The Federal Republic of Germany about mutual recognition of diplomas of education in the field of Universities.

Bilateral contracts for academic use among The Government of The Slovak Republic and The Governments of the Polish republic and Romania about mutual recognition of some part of the studies and mutual recognition of diplomas of education. www.minedu.sk

Bilateral contracts between Slovakia and Serbia and Belgium – Flemish Community aimed at support of youth work development mainly in the area of youth work practitioners and local youth policies development.

Action Plan for Youth Policy for the years 2012-2013, resulting from The Key Areas and Action Plans of state policy towards children and youth in the Slovak Republic for the years

2008 - 2013 attempts by a comprehensive and integrated manner to promote and improve young people's lives, their education, access to information, housing, employment, health and active use of leisure time. From the perspective of non-formal education of youth it is important to promote youth participation in governing the society and upbringing for active citizenship and patriotic feeling. Priority issues in the politics of children and youth for the years 2010-2011 are in line with the priorities of the Council of Europe youth sector and the decisions of the EU Council for Education, Youth and Culture. It continues to emphasize the proactive stance of a young man to community and development of youth volunteering, solidarity and equality for others, promoting the awareness of young people and a better understanding of the youth secured by research. Priority issues in the politics of children and youth of particular sectorial policies are defined by the relevant ministries and specified in key areas such as particular tasks, the implementation of which falls within the period 2008 and 2009, indicating responsible body. Monitoring of tasks will be provided by an interdepartmental working group, which was established in accordance to key areas documents.

Global education in Slovakia is based on the **National Strategy for Global Education** for the period 2012 to 2016 (the Strategy), an official document of the program adopted by the Government to 18th January 2012. The Strategy is a comprehensive document, which on the one hand, analyzes the status quo of global and development education in Slovakia in both formal and non-formal education and outlines, which way would be the areas of the global education should take. It also identifies the main actors, audiences and objectives of the educational alternatives.

The aim of the Global Strategy and education in general, is to improve awareness of the so-called. global issues, the issues that concern all of us. It should also contribute to the development strategy of critical thinking and understanding of the challenges and problems they face in these areas or we will face. The intention is to encourage people to adopt a global responsibility, active global citizenship.

The primary objective of the **National Action Plan for Children** (initiated by Ministry of Labor, Social Affairs and Family) is through defined tasks and measures to secure progress towards the protection of children's rights recognized by the Convention on the Rights of the Child and progress in their use. The strategic objectives of the Slovak Republic in the field of children's rights can be summarized as into three main areas:

1. Institutional ensure the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, coordination

policies and monitoring of all areas of interest according to the Convention on the Rights of the Child

2. Adoption and implementation of legislative measures, as well as non-legislative to achieve progress in the field of children's rights,

3. Increasing training and professionalism of those working with children.

6. Budget / Public expenditure allocated to youth

National level

9 800 000 EUR

Regional level

N/A

7. European Dimension of youth policy

7.1 Council of Europe.

[European Youth Foundation](#) finances activities, which are implemented by youth NGOs or youth networks, or by another non-governmental organizations which are interested in working with young people based on the objectives of the Council of Europe in the youth field:

Human rights education and intercultural dialogue

Youth participation and democratic citizenship

Social cohesion and inclusion of young people

Youth policy development

7.2 European Union.

7.2.1 Implementation of the Youth in Action programme

YOUTH in ACTION programme is being implemented by IUVENTA – Slovak Institute for youth. Programme is offering all the respective Actions and possibilities as in other Member states. Programme is implemented also with the help of regional consultants, who work in almost all of the self-governing regions and they help to spread the information about the programme and also consult the ideas of projects from their regions. www.mladezvakcii.sk

European action in the field of youth information www.eurodesk.sk

IUVENTA – Slovak Youth Institute co-operates with European Parliament Information Office in Bratislava on common information campaigns oriented on promotion of European topics relevant to youth policies or youth work.

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

The basic document Key Areas and Action Plans of the State Policy towards Children and Youth consists of 16 different key areas covering most of the living conditions of young people. The new European Youth Strategy (Investment and Empowerment.) brings priorities already covered by Slovak youth policy. The direct link among chapters is not always visible or easy to find, but every priority is covered. Moreover, Action planning system for two years brings flexibility for covering other priorities not mentioned in the first - more general - document. Youth Policy Action Plans are created in different working groups, working under the supervision of Cross-sectorial Working Group on Youth Policy coordinated by Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic.

The same model is encouraged to be in place within self-governing regions where majority of them follows the model of creating the state national youth policy and action plans.

Municipalities are also invited to work on modern and up-to-date youth conceptions following the same model, where different departments of Municipality Office are involved in drafting and consulting the Action plan with the active involvement of local young people.

The EU Youth Strategy is communicated to all relevant actors at all level who are part of creating new youth legislation and conceptions.

IUVENTA – Slovak Youth Institute provides methodological help in all the levels of this process (national, regional, local).

8. Further sources of information on youth policy in Slovakia

Data- archive of youth research in Slovakia

<http://www.iuventa.sk/en/Vyskum-mladeze/Data-catalogue.alej>