

EU perspectives on youth

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20/05/2025 TAIEX TSI Workshop
Child & Youth well-being and mental health first

Agenda

- Why engage with youth
- Evolution of perspectives on youth
- Current topics



Why engage with youth

- Democracy and social cohesion
- Better policy outcomes and innovation
- Socio-economic outcomes and wellbeing

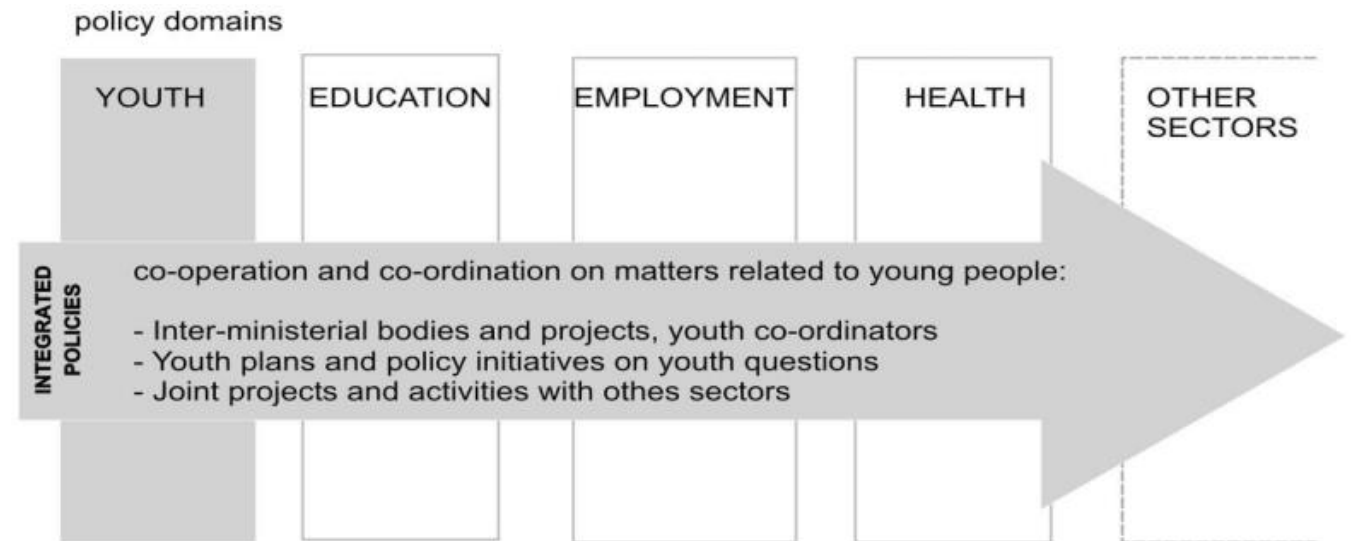
Your stakeholders as well

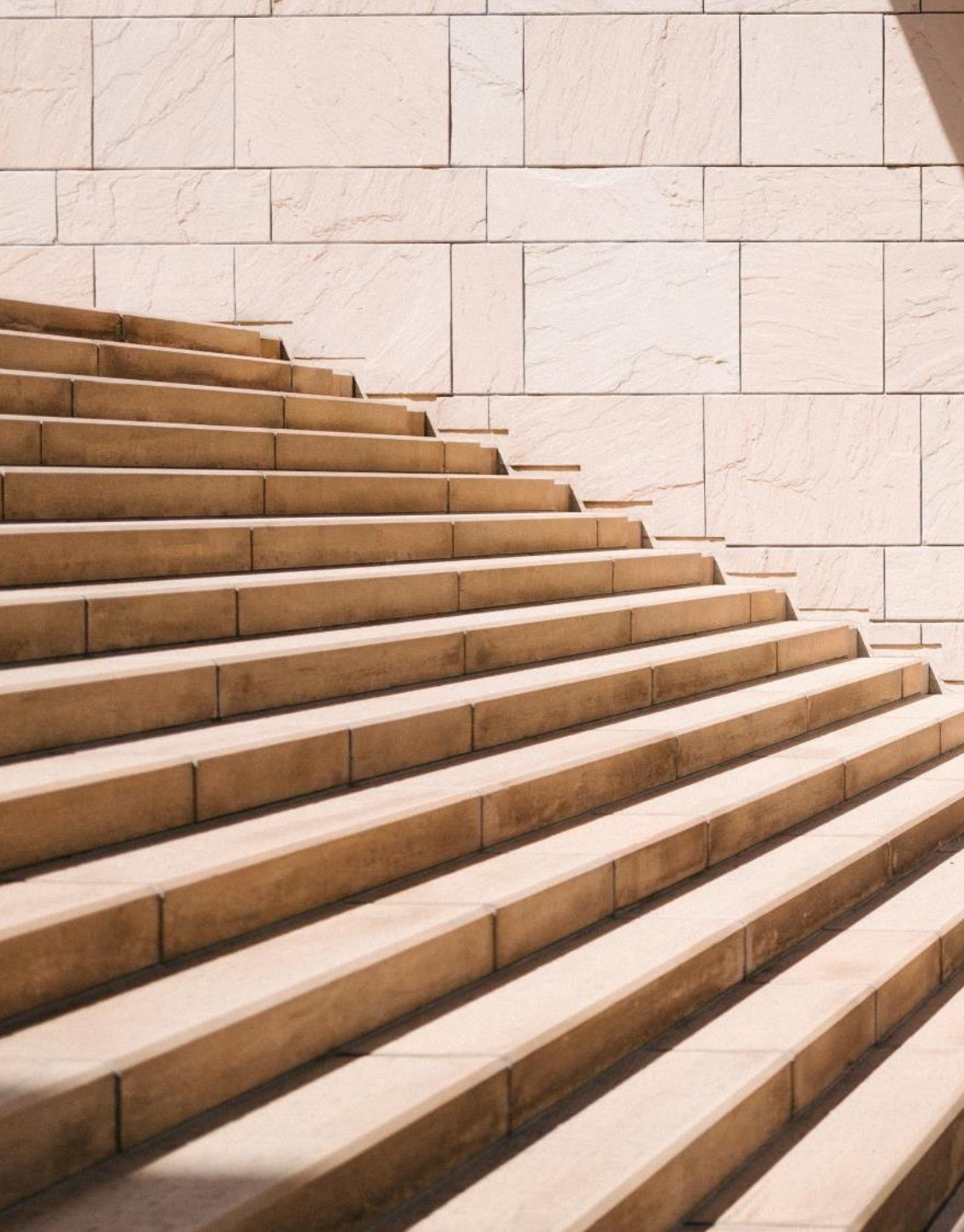
GROWTH PHASE	CHILDHOOD	EARLY ADOLESCENCE	ADOLESCENCE	POST-ADOLESCENCE
	– 11 yrs	12 – 17 yrs	18 – 24 yrs	25 yrs -
TRANSITION ISSUES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• security• development support	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• citizenship education & training• early prevention of social risks	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• institutional participation, citizenship action• life management• labour market integration• risk prevention, harm reduction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• independence• facility formation• labour market stabilisation
POLICY RESPONSE	CHILD CARE	YOUTH WORK	INTEGRATED YOUTH POLICY	



Integrated youth policy

“Youth policy is not merely the sum of actions taken by the different sectors towards young people, but rather a conscious and structured cross-sectoral policy of the youth field to co-operate with other sectors and co-ordinate services for youth – involving young people themselves in the process.”





Evolution of perspectives on youth



YOUTH DIALOGUES

WEU TALK

“EU trade and economic security - what is at stake for young Europeans?”

WITH EU COMMISSIONER M. ŠEFČOVIČ

03 FEBRUARY 2025
WARSAW




YOUTH DIALOGUES

WEU TALK

With Commissioner for Financial Services and the Savings and Investments Union MARIA LUÍS ALBUQUERQUE

4 March 2025, Brussels




More recognition and political support

YOUTH DIALOGUES

WEU TALK

“All in: Promoting Inclusiveness through Sports and Culture”

28 January 2025 • Athens – Greece

With Commissioner GLENN MICALLEF




YOUTH DIALOGUES

WEU TALK

The role of social media in shaping democracy and its impact on young people

WITH EVP HENNA VIRKKUNEN

10 March 2025 - Espoo, Finland






More tangible opportunities





Commission Youth Network

- Building internal capacity to work with/for young people
- Youth correspondents from 33 departments



EU Youth Stakeholders Group

- Connecting the EU with young people and youth civil society
- EU national youth councils, youth civil society, ministries for youth

More youth mainstreaming



EU Youth Coordinator

Enhancing cross-sectoral cooperation, knowledge development and exchange on youth issues in the European Commission



Commission Youth Check

- Assessment of youth relevance
- Youth consultations
- Impact assessment
- Scrutiny



EU Youth Dialogue



Dialogue between young people and decision-makers (since 2010)

Link to youth goals and Commission Work Programme

Youth-led, implemented by national working groups

18 months cycles – steered by Trio Presidencies (current PL-DK-CY)

30,000 - 50,000 diverse young people in every cycle




Instruments for youth policy

- EU youth programmes (Erasmus+, DiscoverEU and European Solidarity Corps)
- [European Youth Week](#)
- [EU Youth Coordinator](#)
- Commission Youth Network
- [EU Youth Stakeholders Group](#)
- Commission Youth Check
- [Youth Policy Dialogues with Commissioners](#)
- [EU Youth Dialogue](#)
- Evidence and research (EU Youth Report, [EU youth dashboard](#), [Youth wiki](#), [EU-Council of Europe Youth Partnership](#))

and more





**NOW WHAT?
NOW WHAT?
NOW WHAT?
NOW WHAT?
NOW WHAT?**

Current topics

- Simplification and impact
- President's Youth Advisory Board
- Youth work
- Intergenerational fairness
- Youth programmes post-2027
- EU Youth Strategy post-2027

Youth mental health

“I believe one of our greatest challenges in this decade is protecting the mental health of our children and young people –especially online.”

Ursula von der Leyen President of the European Commission

- Guidelines for policymakers and educators to promote wellbeing and mental health
- Self-assessment tool on inclusion and wellbeing for teachers and schools
- EU repository on mental health best practices - mental health in schools, children and adolescents as topic
- Partnership with UNICEF (Toolkit for Child and Adolescent Health and Mental Wellbeing Promotion)
- Youth stakeholders in the EU Health Policy Platform
- Better Internet for Kids Strategy
- EU-wide inquiry on the impacts of social media on well-being
- Action on the addictive design of online services
- Action Plan on Cyberbullying
- European Health Interview Survey – additional data on youth mental health





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References: slide 4 <https://rm.coe.int/european-framework-for-youth-policy-eng/16809096b6>

Images source: slide 2, 3, 12 images from Unsplash, Jon Tyson

