

**HUMAN RIGHTS,
DEMOCRACY
AND THE RULE OF LAW**

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

**DROITS DE L'HOMME,
DÉMOCRATIE
ET ÉTAT DE DROIT**

The Council of Europe and its contribution to Youth Work development





Why a recommendation?

- Common direction
- Common discussion
- Frame Youth Work
- Move it up the agenda of the CoE

The Council of Europe

- 47 Member states
- Committee of ministers
- Departments and Steering committees
- Youth Department and the Joint Council on Youth
- Co-Management

Our instruments

- Youth centres in Strasbourg and Budapest
- European youth Foundation
- Partnership between Coe and EU

- Youth Agenda 2020-2030
- Recommendations
- Access to rights, ENTER! And youth work

The road, context and what we learned

- Youth work convention
- Drafting group

- Interpretation of words
- Master thesis or bullet points?
- What does it change?

The recommendation

Despite different traditions and definitions, there is a common understanding that the primary function of youth work is to motivate and support young people to find and pursue constructive pathways in life, thus contributing to their personal and social development and to society at large.

The recommendation

Ensuring that the establishment or further development of quality youth work is safeguarded and pro-actively supported within local, regional or national youth policies, as appropriate. Taking into account the diversity of youth work across and within member States, special attention should be paid to the need for strategies, frameworks, legislation, sustainable structures and resources, effective co-ordination with other sectors, as well as to related policies that promote equal access to youth work for all young people. Youth workers and young people should be actively engaged in any planned measures for implementation;

The recommendation

Establishing a coherent and flexible competency-based framework for the education and training of paid and volunteer youth workers that takes into account existing practice, new trends and arenas, as well as the diversity of youth work. Stakeholders, including youth workers and young people, should be involved in developing this framework;

The recommendation

Supporting the initiative of the Council of Europe's youth sector to set up an ad hoc high-level taskforce of the relevant stakeholders in youth work in Europe, which can elaborate a mid-term strategy for the knowledge-based development of European youth work, in order to:

- improve co-ordination of and access to youth work knowledge and resources at European, national, regional and local levels;
- further support the exchange of youth work practices, peer learning and the creation of sustainable networks and partnerships;
- stimulate co-operation within the youth sector and among sectors and fields of expertise wherever youth work takes place in order to reinforce ties, in particular between formal education and youth work and between public authorities, the private sector and civil society;
- strengthen the dialogue between youth work, youth policy and youth research;
- strengthen the capacity of youth work to respond to the changes and trends in our society and the emerging challenges faced by young people;
- carry out a mapping exercise on existing education and training (such as vocational training and higher education) and existing systems for validation of competences for paid and volunteer youth workers;
- develop a range of assistance measures to support member States in taking forward and implementing this recommendation;

The recommendation

fostering national and European research on the different forms of youth work and their value, impact and merit;

What now

- High level task force continues it's work
- Enabling a common European Youth Work Agenda
- Moving towards a European Youth Work Convention 2020 in Germany
- Supporting the implementation in member states
- The charter!