



**Youth**Partnership

# **COUNTRY SHEET ON YOUTH POLICY IN LIECHTENSTEIN**



Last updated : 27/02/2008

**Youth**Partnership  
Council of Europe  
European Commission



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# 1. Statistics on young people

Number and Percentage of young people in global population: 8'274 (23,7%<sup>1</sup>)

Number and Percentage of young people by gender in global population: m 4'190 (12%), f 4'084 (11.7%)

## 2. Actors and Structures

### 2.1 Public authorities

#### 2.1.1 National public authorities

Ministry of Family Affairs and Gender Equality

- Minister: Rita Kieber-Beck

- Duration of mandate: 2005-2009

(see <http://www.llv.li/amtstellen/llv-rfl-familie.htm>)

#### Youth Department in the Ministry

- Main tasks:

The division Youth Services which operates in the function as a Children and Youth Office (Kinder- und Jugenddienst) is integrated in the Office of Social Affairs (Amt für Soziale Dienste) and is subordinated to the mentioned ministry and also takes charge of ministerial tasks.

#### Services provided by the Children and Youth Division:

a) Youth Support:

Difficulties at school, Behavioural problems in a child e.g. fears, aggressiveness, bedwetting, Separation and divorce: changes in the parental home, visiting and custody, rights, Problems between parents and growing children, Crises and conflicts in puberty, Child abuse, Risk / child neglect

Financing a childminder or crèche, Child adoption, Paternity recognition,

b) Youth Development Bureau:

Specialist support, co-ordination and advice in the field of youth work at the municipal and national level:

- financial support for youth organisations, youth groups, youth centres and projects in the youth field, for youth leader training as well as for day care centres;

- cooperation with persons and organisations that are involved in youth work,

- national research in the youth field (national youth report, national youth studies, analysis of developments, topics as youth violence, mobility, participation ),

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<sup>1</sup> The percentage relates to the entire population.

- guiding and coordinating projects in the youth field as well as assistance and counseling
- public information about youth topics
- trainings for youth workers

Ministerial tasks like drafting recommendations on youth matters, - regional and international networking and cooperation in the youth sector.

The division Youth Services supervises the national agency „aha“ running the EU programme YOUTH , is member in the national selection committee and member of the Youth in Action Programme Committee of the European Commission.

The division Youth Services represents Liechtenstein in the CDEJ (CoE) and the „Platform“ where European regions organise international study visits for young people.

#### c) Minors Protection Bureau:

Implementation of teaching-centred protection for minors

Instruction, advice and the provision of information in matters relating to the protection of minors

Overseeing proper adherence to the protection of minors

Risk behaviour, drug-related behaviour and preventative measures

- Number of people who work in this ministry in the youth department: 8
- Director responsible for Youth in the Ministry: Dr. Marcus Büchel
- Contact person in the youth department competent for European youth policy: Nancy Barouk-Hasler

(see [http://www.llv.li/amtsstellen/llv-asd-kinder\\_und\\_jugendliche1.htm](http://www.llv.li/amtsstellen/llv-asd-kinder_und_jugendliche1.htm) )

Other national public bodies who are directly involved in youth policies

- Other Ministries: Minister of Sports
- Offices: Sports Office

(See [http://www.llv.li/llv-ds-jugend\\_und\\_sport.htm](http://www.llv.li/llv-ds-jugend_und_sport.htm))

Parliament commission in charge of youth issues

Not existing. For information about the Parliament structure see <http://www.landtag.li/>

### **2.1.2 Regional public authorities with competences in the youth field**

not existing

### **2.1.3 Local public authorities with competences in the youth field**

Youth Commission

The Youth Commission is counselling the Community in the Youth Affairs, specially regarding to developing provisions for young people.

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

(See 2.1.1.a Youth Support)

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

Youth Information in Liechtenstein: In December 1999 the youth information centre „aha“-Tips and information for young people” was opened- within only a short period of preparation. It is well accepted and frequented by young people and embedded in the regional youth work. „aha“ operates the national agency for the EU programme YOUTH, offers youth leader workshops and initiates or counsels youth projects. (see [www.aha.li](http://www.aha.li))

### **2.3.1 Youth Councils**

The Youth Participation in Liechtenstein rather shows a learning process than a successful example. Young people increasingly participate in or initiate (short-time) projects like youth exchanges, youth initiatives. The implementation of a pilot project on “Youth Participation” (JUBEL = Jugendbeteiligung) is planned for the 2007/2008 school year at the national level. This pilot project aims to encourage the social commitment of young people in Liechtenstein. Around 80 school class speakers between twelve and sixteen years old take the chance to gather in a youth parliament. They discuss about their wishes and needs, collect ideas... They meet politicians and experts who support them in the implementation of their projects' ideas. They will realise their projects with the help of their schoolmates.

### **2.3.2 Youth NGOs/Youth work in Liechtenstein**

Open meeting places for young people play an important part in youth work. In all of the 11 communities in Liechtenstein there is a youth centre/youth club for, staffed by professional youth workers.

There are guidelines for governmental support and funding of youth work since 1995 (revised in 2003). The main idea is that institutions which work with a long- term concept (e.g. youth centers, youth clubs ), receive a fixed annual amount which they govern on a self-responsible basis. Other groups or organisations receive fundings for special projects.

There are about 400 sports clubs and cultural associations in Liechtenstein. Most of them have either youth divisions or accept children and youngsters as members. There is only one nationally and internationally organised youth association as such: the Scouts. About 10% of Liechtenstein's youth is or has been a member of Scouts.

In 1996 an umbrella organisation called Association of Liechtenstein Youth Organisations (VLJ) was founded.

It's primary task is to coordinate, interlink, promote and inform about non-formal education and youth activities. Associated members of VLJ are professional guided youth centres of the municipalities and the youth information centre. Their aim is to secure and develop the quality of youth work.

VLJ is also the office for the youth-card (Euro < 26), granting discounts and access to events. Young people between the age of 12 to 26 have access to all important scopes of life, such as leisure time activities, culture, travel and education. Euro <26 also promotes mobility and communication, thus creating a common European identity among young people.

VLJ is also the publisher, in cooperation with other institutions, of the youth magazine 'FLASH', which appears 4 times per year. This magazine is free of charge, distributed to all households in Liechtenstein, in public busses and youth clubs. The youth workers of the various youth organisations create the various issues of 'FLASH' together with young people.

### **3. Legislation**

Legal Basis: Youth Act (Jugendgesetz von 19.12.1979), Child and Youth Act under revision  
There are guidelines for governmental support and funding of youth work since 1995 (revised in 2003).

### **4. National Programmes on youth**

Anti - Bullying and Anti-Violence Programme „Respect-please!“

Alcohol/Smoke/Drug Prevention Programme „Du sescht wia!“

### **5. Budget**

In 1996 the spendings of the communities alone were CHF 839'270. This amount has increased since. All in all the spendings amounted to CHF 2'468'441.1 in 1996. 2005 raised its limit and spent over CHF three millions.

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

#### **6.1 Council of Europe programmes or activities implemented in an important way for youth purposes (incl. Funding schemes of the European Youth Foundation)**

Youth Campaign all different-all equal in Liechtenstein under the alemanic slogan: alle anderscht-alle gliich

## **6.2 European Union Programmes**

Life Long Learning, Youth in Action,

## **7. Forthcoming events / conferences**

### **7.1. Current developments/plans with regard to national legislation/ guidelines**

Revision of the Youth Act:

The still ongoing process of revising the Youth Act has been proceeded by active participation of young people and other interested persons. The White paper priorities as well as the priorities of the UN-Convention of the Rights of Children are taken into account as important elements in the new Youth Act. The establishment of a national youth council is in discussion as well as an ombudsperson for children's affairs. The first draft has been recently refused by the Parliament and has to be revised a second time.

### **7.2. Current developments with regard to European youth policy priorities**

Liechtenstein Youth Survey (conducted by Austrian Institute of Youth Research in 2006) has been presented in March 2007 and published in August 2007 (see <http://www.llv.li/amtstellen/llv-asd-publikationen.htm>)