

# The European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy

Key priorities for youth policies answers on  
**Country information on youth policies**



Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth policy, youth research and youth work.

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## **AUSTRIA, 2006**

### **1 Statistics on young people**

#### **1.1 Total number of young people in global population**

1.835.169 *young persons*

#### **1.2 Percentage of young people in global population**

22.3 %

#### **1.3 Percentage of young people by age brackets**

13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24	25-27	28-30
3.6 %	3.6 %	3.7 %	3.9 %	3.7 %	3.8 %

#### **1.4 Percentage of young people by gender**

Male	Female
50.8 %	49.2 %

#### **1.4.1 Percentage of young people by gender and by age brackets**

	13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24	25-27	28-30
Female	1.8 %	1.7 %	1.8 %	1.9 %	1.8 %	1.9 %
Male	1.8 %	1.8 %	1.9 %	2.0 %	1.9 %	1.9 %

#### **1.5 Percentage of rural young people in global population**

7.9 %

#### **1.5.1 Percentage of rural young people in rural population**

23.7 %

#### **1.6 Percentage of urban young people in global population**

14.6 %

#### **1.6.1 Percentage of urban young people in urban population**

21.9 %

#### **1.7 Percentage of young people with a different nationality in global population**



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N/A %

## 1.8 Number of people working in the youth field (employees and volunteers)

N/A *persons*

## 2 Actors and structures

### 2.1 National public authorities

#### 2.1.1 Ministry in charge of youth

Name of ministry

Federal Ministry of Social Security, Generations and Consumerism (BMSG) Bundesministerium für soziale Sicherheit, Generationen und Konsumentenschutz

Name of minister

Ursula Haubner

Duration of mandate

48 *months*

Number of people working in the ministry working on youth

17 *persons*

Contact person in the youth department

Henriette Naber; henriette.naber@bmsg.gv.at

Function, role and competence of youth department

Due to the federal structure of Austria the belongings of "youth" are up to the 9 federal states. At a national level the youth department is responsibly for out of school youth education. The tasks to be fulfilled are: Legislation and execution in the effect area; principle legislation in the area of the youth welfare; investigational function for law drafts; UN arrangements about the rights of children; international belongings including the programme YOUTH; financial support and sponsoring of youth organizations, youth initiatives, associations and youth projects; youth information; intialising and promoting youth research; intialising, promoting and treatment of thematic main focuses as violence against children, health promotion and prevention, new media, participation, sects, youth information, education of youthworkers, etc.

#### 2.1.2 Other public or semi public bodies

N/A

#### 2.1.3 Parliament commission in charge of youth issues

National council committee for family affairs; Mrs. Ridi Steibl

#### 2.1.4 Other national public authorities

Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture (for education, schools, universities etc.)



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## 2.2 Regional and/or local public authorities

### 2.2.1 Regional public structures with competencies in the youth field

Youth departments: Burgenland: Franz Steindl; Hermann Krenn Carinthia: Gaby Schaunig; Alfred Wrulich Lower Austria: Johanna Mikl-Leitner; Alfred Kager Upper Austria: Viktor Sigl; Reinhard Anreiter Salzburg: Doraja Eberle; Wolfgang Schick Styria: Kristina Edlinger-Ploner; Jutta Petz Tyrol: Sebastian Mitterer; Reinhard Macht; Vorarlberg: Gerti Schmid; Roland Marent Vienna: Grete Laska, Astrid Kellner

### 2.2.2 Local public structures with competencies in the youth field

N/A

## 2.3 Non public actors/structures - compulsory consultation

### 2.3.1 Names of bodies that must be consulted in the youth field

In some federal states of Austria (eg Salzburg) the federal youth council has to be consulted for statements before the legislations of federal laws that have an impact on young people to a high degree.

## 2.4 Non public actors/structures - non-compulsory consultation

### 2.4.1 Names of bodies that can be consulted in the youth field

Austrian Federal Youth Representative Council (Bundesjugendvertretung); Rainer Tuechlberger; advises and consults youth department of the ministry. On the regional level in the federal states youth councils may exist that consult and advise the regional governments and the youth departments. It is up to the federal states if the consultation is compulsory or not. Such youth councils exist in Vorarlberg, Salzburg, Niederösterreich, Oberösterreich, Burgenland and Steiermark. The councils consist of representatives of youth organisations. On a local level exist many youth councils in various cities and towns and even districts of cities.

### 2.4.2 National and regional youth councils

Austrian Federal Youth Representative Council (Bundesjugendvertretung); Rainer Tüchlberger  
Salzburger Landes-Jugendbeirat; Angelika Hechel;  
<http://landesjugendbeirat.akzente.net/home/home.html> NÖ Jugendrat; Vorarlberger Landesjugendbeirat Steirischer Landesjugendbeirat, Anneliese Richter Burgenländischer Jugendbeirat; Maria Huf

### 2.4.3 Large youth NGOs

Bundesschülervvertretung (national student body) Selma Schmid Evangelische Jugend Österreich (Protestant Youth of Austria) Lauri Hätönen Junge ÖVP (Young Austrian#s People Party) Felix Vogl Katholische Jugend Österreich (Catholic Youth of Austria) Clemens Pichler Landjugend



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Österreich Patrick Rosner Österreichische Gewerkschaftsjugend (Austrian Trade Union Youth)  
Mario Lindner Österreichische Hochschülerschaft (Austrian National Union of Students) Iris  
Hoheneder Pfadfinder und Pfadfinderinnen Österreichs (Austrian Scouts) Nikolaus Kubiczek Ring  
Freiheitlicher Jugend Johann Gudenus Sozialistische Jugend Österreich (Socialist Youth of  
Austria) Ludwig Dvorak

#### **2.4.4 Expert groups, round tables, consulting groups in the youth field**

A working group for the implementation of the "White Paper on Youth Policy" in Austria meets on a regularly basis. Twice a year the heads of the federal youth departments meets for consultations (also with correspondents of the ministerial youth department). An expert group in the field of youth research is formed currently.

#### **2.4.5 Contacts of permanent networks in the youth field**

Austrian Federal Youth Representative Council (Bundesjugendvertretung); Rainer Tuechlberger

#### **2.4.6 Other non public actors/structures**

N/A

### **3 Legislation**

#### **3.1 Constitution (articles that concern youth)**

Article 12: belongings according youth are concern of the federal states

#### **3.2 Application and transposition of the United Nations Declaration of Fundamental Rights and Freedoms**

The European Convention of Human Rights was ratified by Austria 1958, since 1964 this Convention was granted the rank of constitutional provision. The base right in the rank of c.p. include equality in front of the laws, identical accesibility as public offices, Right of the generosity of the person and the property; freedom of the stay, the entry and the emigration, sanctity of property, freedom of the immovable acquisition, freedom of occupation, habeas corpus act, right on processes in front of a lawful judge, freedom of assembly, freedom of opinion and press, prohibition of pre-censorship, freedom of conscience and worship, freedom of science and doctrine and the arts, freedom of education, right for education, minority rights, right for living, right for free choice of occupation, protection of data privacy, right for exepmtion from military service.

#### **3.3 Application and transposition of the European Convention on Childrens Rights**

The Austrian Government commissioned the Federal Ministry for Social Security, Generations and Consumerism in November 2003 to develop a National Action Plan for the Rights of Children and Youth (Young Rights Action Plan = YAP). In this Plan, which passed the National Council in



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November 2004, the direction of a future child and youth policy were described and measures to reach the defined aims were given. YAP follows the Convention of Children Rights in its main aims: protection, provision and participation. The YAP is made public via the homepage of the ministry and miscellaneous websites of children and youth organisations.

### 3.4 National legislation on youth

Federal Law on Representation of Youth (NR: GP XXI IA 270/A AB 351 S. 46. BR: 6253 und 6254 AB 6264 S. 670.). In this law from 2000 the representation of the concerns of youth (=young people up to 30) in Austria observe the policy makers on national level is granted. The BJV (=representing organisation) consults the government in youth concerning belongings. Federal law on Supportive Measures for the Youth (NR: GP XXI IA 269/A AB 350 S. 46. BR: 6252 AB 6263 S. 670.). Objective of this law is the support and promotion of measures of out of school youth education, especially the promotion of the development of the mental, spiritual, physiological, social, political and ethical competencies of children and youth. The impact of this law is that youth organisations can apply for financial support for projects that provide measures for the above mentioned development.

### 3.5 Regional or local legislation on youth

In the nine federal states of Austria exist federal laws on youth concerning youth protection, youth promotion, representation of the concerns of the youth and rights of youth on the regional level of the nine federal states of Austria. They differ in some details on youth protection (eg. age for legal consumption of alcohol) and on the representation of the youth.

### 3.6 Guidelines

YAP: the National Action Plan for the Rights of Children and Youth passed the National Council of Austria 2004. It gives direction and guidelines for a future child and youth policy and describes to achieve the defined aims. YAP follows the Convention of the Rights of Children and Youth in the main aims of protection, provision and participation.

## 4 Programmes

### 4.1 European programmes

YOUTH, Leonardo, Sokrates, ERYICA, Eurodesk

#### 4.1.1 National Agency for YOUTH Programme (Contact person)

NA Jugend Renngasse 4/3/1 A-1010 Vienna +4315327997 Action 1: Katja Stallecker; Action 2: Markus Krajasich; Action 3: Mario Frimberger; Action 4 & 5: Gerlinde Holliber (MA);

#### 4.1.2 Eurodesk

BMSG, Franz Josef-Kai 51, 1010 Vienna, Erich Pauser, erich.pauser@bmsg.gv.at; ARGE Jugendinfos (youth information centers); Lilienbrunnengasse 18/2/41; 1020 Vienna, Alexandra



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Cangelosi, alexandra.cangelosi@jugendinfo.cc

#### 4.1.3 Implementation of the YOUTH Programme

YOUTH is implemented through a regional structure. In all federal states an institution is established to provide young people of the federal state with information and help on the program YOUTH. These regional institutions are in close relation to the federal states administration in youth concerns (Landesjugendreferat) and with the youth information centers. The regional infopoints are to a strong extent responsible for the Actions 1; 2; 3 in their direct contact to the young people.

#### 4.1.4 Other EU programmes implemented in an important way for youth

For Socrates and Leonardo exist National Agencies: Sokrates National Agency Österreich Schreyvogelgasse 2 A-1010 Vienna Tel.: +43/1/53408 - 0 Fax.: +43/1/53408 - 20 Email: office@sokrates.at LEONARDO DA VINCI National Agency, Schottengasse 4/26, A-1010 Vienna, Tel.: +43/1/532 47 26, Fax: Ext. -80 Email: info@leonardodavinci.at

#### 4.2 National Programmes on youth

On the national level no programmes comparable to YOUTH exist but following the federal law of support of youth and the Youth Action Plan focal points of the support of projects in different fields are established. These cover participation, prevention of consumption legal drugs, measures for an increase of youth employment and gender sensitive youth work. Participation: concerning this focal point projects with high involvement of young people are supported Prevention: Promotion of projects of out of school youth work that deal with the reasons for consumption of legal drugs or/and prevent the usage of drugs or/and reduce the harm of drug consumption. Youth employment: Projects that have a positive impact on the development of basic qualifications needed in the labour market; promotion of access to and usage of new technologies; promotion of out of school education; acceptance of achieved qualifications; acknowledgment of voluntary work. Gender sensitive youth work: projects that deal with the unequal conditions of living for women and men in society and helps to abolish discrimination.

Name of non youth specific programmes but which have a direct impact on young people  
National Action Plan for labour (impact on apprenticeship)

### 5 Action plans

Main characteristics and action plans in other horizontal policies directly related to youth  
YAP: Young rights action plan / National action plan for the rights of children and young people In this action plan common aims for a children and youth rights politics are the main motive. YAP passed the National Council in November 2004. YAP gives the direction and guidelines for a future child and youth policy and describes to achieve the defined aims. YAP follows the Convention of the Rights of Children and Youth in the main aims of protection, provision and participation. The Action Plan is made public through the homepage of the ministry and homepages of miscellaneous children and youth organisations.



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## 6 Budget

### 6.1 Amounts allocated to youth policies/actions in the youth field

N/A *Euros*

### 6.2 Main beneficiaries

Due to the federal organisation of youth policy in Austria an actual budget is not to estimate. But the main beneficiaries are youth organisations, youth initiatives and open youth work. To a high amount the financial support is granted for projects following the focal points of youth promotion on the national and/or regional level. a basic support for structures of youth organisation is granted on a national level for organisations with more then 3.000 members existing for more than 10 years and for other organisations doing youth work (the directives for the support are to be found in the Federal law on Supportive Measures for the Youth (NR: GP XXI IA 269/A AB 350 S. 46. BR: 6252 AB 6263 S. 670.).

### 6.3 Tendencies

Since the budget can not be estimated tendencies can not be described in a secure way. But following information of youth work a shift from basic financial support of structures towards the financial support of projects can be seen.

## 7 Changes foreseen in the youth field and new developments especially linked to the four Open Method of Coordination priorities.

The implementation of the European youth pact in Austria provides the chance to establish youth policy as a horizontal topic. Therefor a working group where members of different ministries participate was created. Eventually this should lead to the development of a national youth plan providing the frame for future youth policies. Additionally a national network on youth research will be established. With the YAP (Young Rights Action Plan) the direction of future children and youth policy is declared. Future laws should be analysed concerning their compatibility to children and youth. Projects following the focal points of support for youth (prevention of legal drug consumption, gender sensitive youth work, participation, increasing youth employability, voluntarism) will be supported prior to other projects - at least on national level. On regional level the focal points may differ.

## 8 Forthcoming events/conferences in the youth field, especially linked to the Open Method of Coordination priorities

No answers available



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## 9 Useful links

[www.bmsg.gv.at](http://www.bmsg.gv.at) [www.jugendkultur.at](http://www.jugendkultur.at) [www.oeij.at](http://www.oeij.at) [www.statistik.at](http://www.statistik.at) [www.jugendvertretung.at](http://www.jugendvertretung.at)

## 10 Context of national youth policy (achievements, problems, obstacles, tendencies)

No answers available