

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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DENMARK, 2005

1 Statistics on young people

1.1 Total number of young people in global population

1152488 *young persons*

1.2 Percentage of young people in global population

21 %

1.3 Percentage of young people by age brackets

13-15	16-18	19-21	22-24	25-27	28-30
3.68 %	3.36 %	3.15 %	3.33 %	3.68 %	4.11 %

1.4 Percentage of young people by gender

Male	Female
10.80 %	10.49 %

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	1.79 %	1.63 %	1.54 %	1.55 %	1.83 %	2.05 %
Male	1.89 %	1.73 %	1.6 %	1.68 %	1.85 %	2.06 %

1.5 Percentage of rural young people in global population

NA %

1.5.1 Percentage of rural young people in rural population

NA %

1.6 Percentage of urban young people in global population

NA %

1.6.1 Percentage of urban young people in urban population

NA %

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

2.43 %

1.8 Number of people working in the youth field (employees and volunteers) NA *persons*

2 Actors and structures

2.1 National public authorities

2.1.1 Ministry in charge of youth

Name of ministry

Ministry of Education, uvm.dk Ministry of Social Affairs, social.dk Ministry of Family- and Consumeraffairs, www.minff.dk

Name of minister

Bertel Haarder Eva Kjer Hansen Lars Barfoed

Duration of mandate

48 *months*

Number of people working in the ministry working on youth

1 *persons*

Contact person in the youth department

Pernille Skou Brønner Andersen, <mailto:Pernille.Skou.Broenner.Andersen@uvm.dk>

Function, role and competence of youth department

The Ministry of Education is generally responsible for vocational education and training, further education apart from universities, adult vocational training and adult liberal education as well as private schools on the primary, lower secondary and upper secondary level. The Ministry of Social Affairs is responsible for the central administration of the Danish social security and benefits system. The main responsibilities are policy on children at risk, elderly and disabled people and pensions, marginalized groups such as homeless people, people with mental disorders and drug addicts. The Ministry is moreover responsible for gender equality. Ministry of Family- and Consumeraffairs concerns politics on families and consumers, and the protection of the rights and safety of these groups.

2.1.2 Other public or semi public bodies

The National Council for Children (www.boeneraadet.dk) safeguards the rights of children, provides information on conditions for children, offer advice and consultancy to authorities, and assesses the conditions under which children in Denmark live in relation to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Danish Youth Council (www.duf.dk, contact: Thomas Bach, tb@duf.dk) is an umbrella organisation for more than 70 organisations working with children and young people at both national and global level. DUF supports it's member organisations financially and work to strengthen the participation and democratic involvement of young people in the society.



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2.1.3 Parliament commission in charge of youth issues

N.A.

2.1.4 Other national public authorities

N.A.

2.2 Regional and/or local public authorities

2.2.1 Regional public structures with competencies in the youth field

The Centre for Development- and Communication for Children and Youth, (www.ufc-bu.dk) resorts under the Ministry of Social Affairs and communicates experience between the central, the regional, the local and the administrative levels, as well as between levels of professionals, voluntary and users.

2.2.2 Local public structures with competencies in the youth field

In Denmark the youth field operates at both the level of the 13 county councils (amtskommuner) and the 271 city or district councils (primærkommuner), including the two metropolitan areas of Copenhagen and Frederiksberg. For more information see www.denmark.dk.

2.3 Non public actors/structures - compulsory consultation

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

N.A.

2.4 Non public actors/structures - non-compulsory consultation

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

The National Council for Children (www.boerneraadet.dk) safeguards the rights of children, provides information on conditions for children, offer advice and consultancy to authorities, and assesses the conditions under which children in Denmark live in relation to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. The Danish Youth Council (www.duf.dk, contact: Thomas Bach, tb@duf.dk) is an umbrella organisation for more than 70 organisations working with children and young people at both national and global level. DUF supports it's member organisations financially and work to strengthen the participation and democratic involvement of young people in the society.

2.4.2 National and regional youth councils

The Danish Youth Council (www.duf.dk, contact: Thomas Bach, tb@duf.dk) is an umbrella organisation for more than 70 organisations working with children and young people at both national and global level. DUF supports it's member organisations financially and work to strengthen the participation and democratic involvement of young people in the society.



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2.4.3 Large youth NGOs

Landsforeningen Ungdomsringen (www.ungdomsringen.dk) , The Danish Guide and Scout Association (www.dds.dk), YMCA Scouts (www.webspejder.dk), The Danish Gymnastics and Sports Associations (www.dgi.dk), Danish Sports Association (www.dif.dk)

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

The Danish Youth Council (www.duf.dk, contact: Thomas Bach, tb@duf.dk) is an umbrella organisation for more than 70 organisations working with children and young people at both national and global level. DUF supports it's member organisations financially and work to strengthen the participation and democratic involvement of young people in the society.

2.4.5 Contacts of permanent networks in the youth field

The Danish Youth Council (www.duf.dk, contact: Thomas Bach, tb@duf.dk) is an umbrella organisation for more than 70 organisations working with children and young people at both national and global level. DUF supports it's member organisations financially and work to strengthen the participation and democratic involvement of young people in the society.

2.4.6 Other non public actors/structures

N.A.

3 Legislation

3.1 Constitution (articles that concern youth)

There are no articles that particularly concerns youth.

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

The National Council for Children (www.boerneraadet.dk) safeguards the rights of children and assesses the conditions under which children in Denmark live in relation to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.

3.3 Application and transposition of the European Convention on Childrens Rights

Through the Ministry of Social Affairs.

3.4 National legislation on youth

Youth does not exist as particular field in the national legislation.

3.5 Regional or local legislation on youth

N.A.



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3.6 Guidelines

N.A.

4 Programmes

4.1 European programmes

The European Union funds three large educational programmes, Sokrates, Leonardo da Vinci and Youth. There are several smaller programmes aiming at either certain countries, e.g. USA or Canada, or specific themes, e.g. eLearning.

4.1.1 National Agency for YOUTH Programme (Contact person)

Cirius is the Danish coordination agency for the three major educational programmes of the European Union, Sokrates, Leonardo, Youth, and for a number of other programmes and schemes that contribute to international cooperation in education and training. Cirius is an independent, governmental institution connected to the Danish Ministry of Education. Cirius is a knowledge centre, collating and distributing information to the Danish educational sector and to foreign nationals who want information about the Danish system. (www.ciriusoline.dk, no contact person)

4.1.2 Eurodesk

Cirius is the Danish coordination agency for the three major educational programmes of the European Union, Sokrates, Leonardo, Youth, and for a number of other programmes and schemes that contribute to international cooperation in education and training. Cirius is an independent, governmental institution connected to the Danish Ministry of Education. Cirius is a knowledge centre, collating and distributing information to the Danish educational sector and to foreign nationals who want information about the Danish system. (www.ciriusoline.dk, no contact person)

4.1.3 Implementation of the YOUTH Programme

Cirius is the Danish coordination agency for the three major educational programmes of the European Union, Sokrates, Leonardo, Youth, and for a number of other programmes and schemes that contribute to international cooperation in education and training. Cirius is an independent, governmental institution connected to the Danish Ministry of Education. Cirius is a knowledge centre, collating and distributing information to the Danish educational sector and to foreign nationals who want information about the Danish system. (www.ciriusoline.dk)

4.1.4 Other EU programmes implemented in an important way for youth

N.A.

4.2 National Programmes on youth

According to the Popular Enlightenment Act it is the duty of the district councils to secure that children, young people and adults are able to establish and take part in free popular enlightenment



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activity. The districts must, among things, provide grants for activities and voluntary work for children and young people. The aim is to encourage participation and responsibility in the population. Voluntary work with children and young people are mentioned specifically in the description of the law.

Name of non youth specific programmes but which have a direct impact on young people
N.A.

5 Action plans

Main characteristics and action plans in other horizontal policies directly related to youth
In Denmark national tasks are decentralised to the sectors or authority closest to the young people in question. Therefore the policies does not work horisontially, but mainly on the level of the city districts.

6 Budget

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

N.A. *Euros*

6.2 Main beneficiaries

Public funding: The main source of public funding for voluntary activities is the Football Pools and Lotto Funds. The surplus is distributed among a number of ministries for distribution to certain activities given by law and most of these are related to organizations in different fields and most of them voluntary. The Ministry of Culture receives 64.1 percent of the surplus and 2/3 goes to sporting activities. The Ministry of Education receives 13.1 percent of the surplus and of that 63.9 percent goes to the Danish Youth Council (DUF), which again distribute money to primarily it#s member organizations but also other youth organizations. In 2002 the amount distributed to DUF on this account was 115.500.000 Dkr. (app. EUR 15.400.000). Other pubic funding is available (both basic and project grants) but is not at it#s outset especially aimed at supporting voluntary youth work.

6.3 Tendencies

The budget seems to be rather unchanged at the moment. The amount of money comning from the Football Pools and Lotto Funds have been increasing.

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

The Danish Government has decided to phase out the 13 county councils (amtskommuner) and join several of the 271 city or district councils (primærkommuner) to reduce the number, and this

administrative rearranging will most definitely influence on the handling of the youth field.

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

No answers available

9 Useful links

The National Youth Council: www.duf.dk The Department of Education: www.undervisningsministeriet.dk The Department of Social Affairs: www.socialministeriet.dk The Danish Centre for Youth Research: www.cefu.dk Statistics Denmark: www.ds.dk

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

Denmark focuses a great deal on the health of children and young people, and a new law that prohibits minors under the age of 16 to buy alcohol has recently been implemented. On the area of education the policy has been to increase the professionalism in both primary school and on higher levels. The young people are encouraged to have education but to speed up the process so that they enter the labour market earlier in life. Recently integration of immigrants has had a lot of political attention, and it is the intention of the liberal/conservative government to strengthen the integration through education and participation among other things.