

Hello and welcome to the second module of this Mooc dedicated to the CoE Recommendation on YW MOOC. I am Diana Yeghiazryan, from the Armenian Federation of Youth Clubs organisation and today I have a pleasure to introduce you to –

- The Council of Europe as an institution,
- the drafting process of Youth Work Recommendation,
- its big supporters that would include
 - o the Youth Department,
 - o the EYF
 - o and ECYC as a European Youth Work network.

But what is Council of Europe, some of you might ask?

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The Council of Europe is an international organisation whose stated aim is to uphold human rights, democracy and the rule of law in Europe. It was founded after World War 2, in 1949, it has 47 member states. No country has ever joined the EU without first belonging to the Council of Europe.

The Council of Europe and the European Union are 2 different organisations. One is 47 member states and another is 28 member states. One was founded in 1949 and the EU was founded in 1962. Do you know any other differences?

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So this year Council of Europe Celebrates its 70th anniversary. A great opportunity for us all to celebrate this anniversary. I highly suggest following the link and explore the Council of Europe's 70 years in an interactive timeline.

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The Council's two statutory bodies are the:

- [Committee of Ministers](#), comprising the foreign ministers of each member state, and
- the [Parliamentary Assembly](#), composed of members of the national parliaments of each member state. –

- The [Commissioner for Human Rights](#) is an independent institution within the Council of Europe, mandated to promote awareness of and respect for human rights in the member states.

- The [Secretary General](#) heads the secretariat of the organisation.

- Other major CoE bodies include the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, European Court of Human Rights. Conference of INGOs focuses on relations with International NGOs and Civil Society programs.

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Talking about Council of Europe, I would love to stop for a while and introduce you to 2 very important for Youth Work bodies, they are Youth Department and European Youth Foundation.

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The first one is the Youth Department was one of the key initiators of the Youth Work Recommendation.

It is part of Directorate of Democratic Participation within The Directorate General of Democracy of CoE.

The Department elaborates guidelines, programmes and legal instruments for the development of coherent and effective youth policies at local, national and European levels.

It provides funding and educational support for international youth activities aiming to promote youth citizenship, youth mobility and the values of human rights, democracy and cultural pluralism. It seeks to bring together and disseminate expertise and knowledge about the life situations, aspirations and ways of expression of young Europeans.

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The Unique Co-Management System of CoE is a decision making process.

The 2 bodies of co-management are the European Steering Committee on Youth (CDEJ) representing national governmental structures responsible for youth policy) and the Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) representing young people/youth organisations and networks.

The Joint Council on Youth (CMJ) is the 2 bodies together. In the Joint Council, decisions are taken by consensus – it is therefore important that both the governmental and non-governmental members know and practice consensus-building and find a common ground.

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The European Youth Foundation (EYF) is a fund established in 1972 as a division in the Youth Department. It provides financial and educational support for European youth activities, it has an annual budget of approximately 3.7 million EUR.

EYF is not just a donor for us but an irreplaceable PARTNER for us and other ngos:

- To make the voice of youth heard at a top decision making level;
- To support European non - governmental youth organizations and networks
- To promote peace, understanding and respect.

It has Pilot and International Activities, Annual Work Plans and Structural Grants.

In order to respond as close as possible to the needs of youth NGOs, specific focus is given to certain priorities every 2 years. Priorities of 2018-2019 are:

- Access to Rights;
- Youth Participation and Youth Work;
- Inclusive and Peaceful Societies

Want to know how to apply? Follow the link and good luck!

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On 31 May 2017 Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted a first comprehensive Recommendation on Youth Work. It is a historic step towards broader recognition and support for youth work and youth organisations, acknowledging the countless positive outcomes they create for individuals, their communities and for society in general.

The Recommendation has been adopted after a lengthy 18-month drafting process, involving multiple consultations with a broad range of stakeholders. Imagine that the text of Recommendation should have been the one that Ministers of 47 Member states could have agreed on it.

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Committee of Ministers' Recommendations

- Are **not binding** for member States
- Are **accompanied by an explanatory memorandum** (to make it easier to understand and explain the context)
- In the youth field, there are **roadmaps with concrete steps for the implementation of recommendations** allowing for the **involvement of many stakeholders**

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Drafting process was one and a half year. In the Drafting Group were involved 4 CDEJ (European Steering Committee on Youth) members, 3 (Advisory Council) CCJ members, a representative of the European Youth Forum (YFJ), 6 representatives of youth work organisations, 1 representative of the European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA), and the General Rapporteur for the 2nd European Youth Work Convention, Council of Europe Youth Department Secretariat.

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Content of the Recommendation

- Preamble
- Scope and purpose of the Recommendation
- Definition and scope of youth work
- **Recommendations to Member States**
- Principles
- Measures

The recommendation is accompanied by an explanatory memorandum and a glossary

The recommendation draws special attention to the fact that youth work needs legal and political support, sustainable funding and structures, improved co-ordination across sectors and between the local and the national levels, a competency-based framework for the education and training of youth workers and appropriate forms of review and evaluation of the impact and outcomes of youth work. The explanatory memorandum that is part of the document explains in detail the rationale for it, its content and includes a glossary of terms related to the topic of youth work.

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First time ever for the recommendation a High Level Task force has been created, which aims to collaborate a mid-term strategy for the knowledge based development of European Youth Work. The task force is an ad hoc body composed of relevant stakeholders in youth work in Europe. It will run from January 2018 to December 2019. It will meet at least twice a year.

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Some steps in the roadmap for implementation 2018-2021:

- **Ad hoc high-level task force on youth work** (3rd Meeting, Helsinki, 18-20 Feb 2019)
- **Seminar on Education and Training Pathways for Youth Workers**, CM Chairmanship of **Finland**, 20 -22 Feb 2019
- **3rd European Youth Work Convention**, CM Chairmanship of **Germany** and EU Presidency 2020
- A **seminar to review progress** made after three years (2019/20)
- **Examine the progress in the implementation of the recommendation** after five years (2023)

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ECYC also has its roadmap in the CONTRIBUTIONS AND HELPING IN DISSEMINATION and implementation of Youth Work Recommendation.

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Study Session "Youth Work Policy. It's Up to us!" organized in cooperation with Youth Department in Strasbourg.

The main outcomes were the creative non-formal methodology was developed to translate the Recommendation's text into easy understandable, youth friendly and interactive language.

You can use our treasure hunt package that will be available soon.

20 Policy Advocacy Action Plans using Recommendation as a tool have been developed by the participants to implement in their Youth Work realities.

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ECYC's Workplan

ECYC views the Recommendation (CM Rec 2017/2) on youth work by the Committee of Ministers as an opportunity to enhance the advocacy of our member organisations (national level youth work associations) as we work to fulfil our networks principle strategic priority: Acting as an agent for change and progress in youth work across Europe and raising standards of youth work across Europe.

This Recommendation is kind of a soft-law and requires behavioural and policy change at the domestic (national) level to see implementation and effect. As a preeminent European youth work association, ECYC holds specific insight into youth work policy within multiple national realities of Council of Europe Member states, through our member organisations. Many of our member organisations are also positioned as competent & influential political lobbyist at national level. As such, ECYC is well placed to coordinate targeted, evidence led national advocacy

campaigns on the Recommendation and dissemination of the Recommendation through national youth work sectors. This we will reach through

- MOOC on Youth Work Recommendation
- Working group
- Policy Advocacy Training Course

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MOOC

- Provides basics on Recommendation
- Explains each of the 7 Recommendations and much more
- Provides 7 fully funded scholarships to top graduates from the MOOC to TC

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Working group consisted from

representatives of 10 countries. They will investigate and evaluate what is the readiness of CoE member states to implement the recommendation considering its legal, education and funding frameworks.

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Training course in Brussels 30 participants will gather to learn more how to use the recommendation as a tool for an advocacy in Youth Work.

We will use the knowledge from 10 people who monitored national realities.

Info from MOOC will be used and 7 scholarships will be granted to top graduates of the MOOC.

Advocacy action plans will be created related with recommendation and how to improve situation using this recommendation.

This year we have this WorkPlan, but we will continue in 2020.

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You now have a short quiz to complete. <https://forms.gle/Y7TMvRchU1DuJoBu9>

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Thank you for watching and taking this MOOC. See you in our next session

More information can be found on www.europeanyouthwork.com, You can contact us at moc@ecyc.org; don't forget to follow us on social media platforms.