



European
Commission

Cross-sectoral cooperation

Cross-sectoral cooperation – examples¹

Cross-sectoral cooperation – new developments and main achievements 2015-2017	
Belgium	<p>Flemish Community: Intense cooperation in the field of preventing violence against children and young people. Four ministers cooperate to safeguard the integrity of young people. A knowledge centre is created, organisations from different sectors are asked to set up contact points where young people and local groups can seek advice and support, a big research on violence is initiated. Conversely, there is a platform on the prevention of violent extremism with an action plan for the whole Flemish Community.</p> <p>French Community: Existence of an administrative network of 'youth' contact points in each administration.</p> <p>German-speaking Community: The first youth report of the German-speaking Community will be published in 2018. The new youth report will be carried out every 5 years and will be conducted by a research institute. The results of the report and of a social space analysis (carried out by trained youth workers) will serve as a basis for defining the key issues for the next youth strategy plan.</p>
Bulgaria (**)	<p>The decision-making in the field of youth is coordinated by the Ministry of Youth and Sports. However, due to its cross-cutting nature, all ministries are implementing policies related to youth. The monitoring and accountability of youth policy is done by the Ministry of Youth and Sports through annual youth reports.</p>
Czech Republic	<p>In April 2017 the Government adopted the national report on mid-term evaluation of cross-sectoral cooperation in the implementation of the National Youth Strategy (2014-2020). This is the first time that the Youth Ministry submitted an overall report covering cross-sectoral cooperation in a concrete way. In December 2016 other ministers were invited to provide the Youth Ministry with relevant information, including a mapping of the laws and regulations they are responsible for and which apply to the child and youth. Such an approach was inspired by EU peer-learning activities.</p>

¹ Roman alphabetical order of the countries' geographical names in the original language(s). No information available for Ireland and Greece.

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Denmark	Implementation of the Youth Guarantee. More awareness of a holistic approach towards youth policy issues.
Germany	The Federal Ministry of Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (<i>Bundesministerium für Familie, Senioren, Frauen und Jugend, BMFSFJ</i>) is the leading ministry within the government for civic engagement policy. This is a cross-sectoral issue for which cross-sectoral exchange and networking is necessary. The Federal Ministry of the Interior and the BMFSFJ have set up an interministerial working group to systematically capture the activities related to the prevention of extremism and to the promotion of democracy and civic engagement. This laid the basis for the Strategy on preventing extremism and promoting democracy adopted by the Federal Government in July 2016.
Estonia	In 2017 training on integrated youth policy was organised for representatives of the Ministry of Education and Research, the Ministry of the Interior, the Ministry of Social Affairs, the Ministry of Justice, the Ministry of Culture and the Ministry of Finance. The aim of the training was to evaluate the current situation of youth policy (as it is seen through the eyes of young people and the local municipalities) and discuss how different ministries can contribute to integrated youth policy.
Spain	The approval of the Spanish Youth Strategy in 2014.
France	The Priority Youth Plan (<i>'Plan Priorité Jeunesse'</i>) adopted in 2013 was inspired by the European cooperation in the youth field and its eight fields of action, its cross-sectoral approach, the Structured Dialogue and the regular report.
Croatia	European Structural and Investment Funds and other EU funding have enabled the inclusion of youth into different projects, exchange programmes and dialogue on the EU level.
Italy	The framework gave a strong impulse to cross-sectoral cooperation. In Italy, mechanisms have been created to ensure a cross-sectoral approach to youth policy, such as regular interministerial meetings.
Cyprus	In 2016, Cyprus developed a strong cross-sectoral cooperation in order to develop the National Youth Strategy. A cross-sectoral committee has been established, which included representatives from the Youth Board of Cyprus, the Ministries, semi-governmental organisations and the Commissioners.
Latvia	The EU Youth Strategy gave impulse to propose a cross-sectoral approach at national level, with both short and long-term actions. The strategy invited Member States to organise a permanent and regular dialogue with young people (Structured Dialogue). Furthermore, it encouraged a more research and evidence-based youth policy. All these initiatives have been developed in Latvia at national and local level.

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Lithuania	During the last three years there were many different actors involved in youth policy. Our initiative was implemented together with some of the best YouTubers in Lithuania. It is very important to policy-makers, youth workers, people who are working with young people and youth organisations to use new and innovative ways to reach young people and to inform them about the granted opportunities.
Luxembourg	Besides the overall cross-sectoral approach, foreseen by the Youth Law introduced in 2008, specific result-oriented cross-sectoral projects were launched, like an outreach project to reach out to young NEETs together with Public Employment Services.
Hungary (*)	The National Youth Expert Forum, which is the main agent of the cross-sectoral cooperation, was established in 2013. The aim of the interdepartmental body is to harmonise the different activities related to youth policy in the different departments.
Malta	The 'National Youth Policy Towards 2020 A Shared Vision for the Future of Young People' is modelled and has a comparable structure with the renewed framework for European cooperation in the youth field. It has two policy aims and two specific but interdependent strategies (Strategy 1: Youth work and services for young people; Strategy 2: Cross-sectoral supports for young people).
Netherlands	The most important development was the decentralisation to the local level (youth law and social domain). This also meant a change from systems thinking to a human-oriented approach (living environment of the youth). And this requires an integral approach. These developments were not inspired by the framework for cooperation, although learning from the situation in other EU countries was important. Important achievements inspired by the framework were the cross-sectoral cooperation on the topics of radicalisation and mental health.
Austria	The development of a sector-specific qualifications framework for youth workers in Austria, which links education and training of youth workers to the National Qualifications Framework (NQF) in Austria was a starting point for ongoing cooperation of the formal education sector and the youth work sector. In several working groups about the NQF and the national strategy for the validation of non-formal and informal learning the Ministry of Education, the Ministry of Youth and non-governmental representatives of both sectors are permanently working together to provide better opportunities and more visibility within the Austrian education system.

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Poland	In Poland, in the years 2014-2020, special emphasis has been placed on promoting all forms of vocational school cooperation with employers in the process of vocational education. Therefore, the Ministry of National Education got involved, among others, in the implementation of a series of seminars aimed at employers. These seminars create an opportunity to discuss the changes within the vocational education, which the Ministry intends to implement in close cooperation with employers. The workshops have been attended also by representatives of ministries relevant for the professions included in a given branch, the Central Examination Committee, the Educational Research Institute and the Centre for Education Development. Seminars will be held until the end of January 2018.
Portugal	The Ministry and Secretary of State responsible for the youth sector have sought to define a policy in close cooperation with other policy-relevant and crucial areas, such as Employment, Inclusion, Citizenship, Education, Health or Housing. The executive body for youth policy in Portugal – the Portuguese Institute for Youth and Sport – in partnership with other entities, has created and implemented tailored programmes targeting youth to address the different problems that affect young people. The need for a cross-sectoral, rights and evidence-based approach on youth policy is the basis for the National Plan on Youth that is being launched by the present Government.
Romania	The cross-sectoral cooperation in Romania is driven by the national policy priorities and less by the European strategies.
Slovenia	The Council of the Government of the Republic of Slovenia for Youth (<i>Svet Vlade RS za mladino</i>) was set up as a cross-sectoral collaborative work in 2009. In 2015 the Council set up 4 different thematic working groups to strengthen its work and its influence in the cross-sectoral youth policy. These working groups can be considered as a mechanism for encouraging cross-sector cooperation because they involve representatives of various ministries. But at the same time they can be considered as a mechanism for consultation with young people because young people are represented in each working group. The third working group, for example, aims at monitoring the implementation of the Operational Programme for the Implementation of the EU Cohesion Policy in the period 2014-2020 with representatives of the Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy, the Ministry of Education, Science and Sport, the Ministry of Labour, Family, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities and the Ministry of Public Administration on the government side and 4 representatives of the youth sector. It is led by a representative of the Government Office for Development and European Cohesion Policy.
Slovakia	A Concept Paper on Supporting Youth Work 2016-2020 and the subsequent action plan for its implementation.

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Finland	Under the Youth Act (1285/2016) that entered into force at the beginning of 2017, local governments shall establish a steering and service network consisting of authorities or appoint some other similar cooperation team whose activities target all young people living in the municipality. The task of the network is to gather information on young people's growth and living conditions and assess their situation in the light of this information in support of decision-making; improve the coordination of services intended for young people and promote shared procedures in referring young people to the services while ensuring a smooth exchange of information; and promote cooperation in the implementation of youth activities. The network or other cooperation team shall operate in interaction with youth organisations, congregations and other entities providing youth services. Two or more municipalities may have a shared network. The network will not address issues related to any individual young person.
Sweden	The Government has decided on strategies that target young people, such as a strategy for young people who neither work nor study, and a strategy to counter violent extremism. The action plans involve tasks to government agencies in different policy sectors, thus facilitating cross-sectoral cooperation.
United Kingdom	Over the last three years, the UK has significantly expanded the social action opportunities available for young people. The UK's flagship youth programme - the National Citizen Service - is designed to promote social cohesion, social engagement and social mobility. Young people aged 16-17 in England and Northern Ireland come together in diverse teams of 12-15 and take part in a three-phased programme - with a phases devoted to outward bound team building, skills development and local community awareness and the creation and delivery of a social action project designed to tackle an issue participants have observed in their local communities. Since 2015 the programme has seen year on year growth in participation. The delivery organisation - the NCS Trust - is constantly seeking out new partnerships with different government departments, businesses and the wider youth sector to continue this innovative growth.
Serbia	The Action Plan for the implementation of the Serbian National Youth Strategy for the period 2015-2025 foresees cross-sectoral cooperation and identifies the key implementers and participants of the action plan. In order to promote further cross-sectoral cooperation and encourage relevant national stakeholders, in particular line ministries, to have agendas on youth, the Serbian Youth Umbrella Association has launched the advocacy campaign 'Think of the youth'. The campaign aimed to draw attention on the need to improve cross-sectoral cooperation in the implementation of the National Youth Strategy, and to develop efficient monitoring mechanisms. During 2015, 2016 and 2017 important briefs and documents were drafted, such as 'Synchronised implementation of sectoral policies as the key to achieving better results in youth employment'.

Source: Reply to questionnaire 'EU Youth Report 2018 – National Report' (<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/publication/EUYouthReport2018>); (*) Youth Wiki, Section 1.5 'Cross-sectoral approach with other Ministries' (<https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/en/content/youthwiki/1-youth-policy-governance-overview>, information retrieved in January 2018); (**) Reply to questionnaire 'Youth Policy Governance – Contribution to 2018 EU Youth Report' (<https://ec.europa.eu/eusurvey/publication/YouthPolicyGovernance>)