

“Participation of Young People in Youth Information Work”

Vienna, 20-23 April 2006

European Seminar, organised jointly by ERYICA, Eurodesk and EYCA,
in the framework of the Austrian Presidency of the European Union

<p>DESCRIPTION OF INITIATIVE OR PROJECT INVOLVING YOUNG PEOPLE DIRECTLY IN AN ASPECT OF YOUTH INFORMATION WORK included in Compendium of Projects prepared for the European Seminar</p>
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Ref: **06-25**

Organisation: **Servicestelle Jugendbeteiligung** European Affiliation: **ERYICA** (via IJAB)

<p>1. Name of Initiative (project, activity, service or product):</p>
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25 - GERMANY: Youth Participation Resource Centre

<p>2. Description of Initiative or Project (<i>please give a short but complete description, including the aim of the initiative or project</i>):</p>
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What is the Youth Participation Resource Centre?

The Youth Participation Resource Centre has been the contact point for youth participation projects in Germany since August 2001. Since August 2004, the team has a new line-up. Today we are a group of young people, based in Berlin, who want to offer support that allows ideas to become reality.

As a Youth Participation Resource Centre, we give advice and support, provide networking for young people and youth projects across Germany, initiate and co-ordinate pilot projects relevant to youth participation. We hold training seminars and networking events, and we supervise the setting up of the Infoscout network and regional resource centres for youth participation.

About the Infoscout pool

Effective strengthening of youth participation and youth information can best be achieved through local advice and support. This is why we, the national Resource Centre, have the overall aim of setting up regional resource centres right across Germany. In recognition of their life skills, young people themselves are establishing their own contact points for youth participation.

For this reason we are in the process of setting up an Infoscout pool across Germany. Infoscouts are motivated young people who act as regional contacts and who form a network to provide an effective exchange of information.

We want the Infoscout pool to become the largest possible network of active young people. Young people from various organisations as well as those involved individually are an integral part of the pool, engaging in diverse areas on local, regional or national levels. This network is available to everyone who needs the services of competent young people. It's a large think-tank of young people who can participate in various activities such as attending conferences and topical discussions with political decision-makers, evaluating new plans or taking part in newspaper interviews.

The Infoscout pool will also support the work of the Youth Participation Resource Centre and make it available on a local level. As local experts and specialists with knowledge of the regional organisations, the Infoscouts can maintain direct contact with projects advised by the Youth Participation Resource Centre. The regional centres collect this information, establish an advisory structure and create links with existing organisations.

Each initiator will have a free hand in deciding on the structure of their regional resource centre. Possible formats include umbrella organisations, project offices, networks of contact points, round tables, discussion forums, young people's self-organisation, youth groups, research groups and many more.

The regional resource centres' job is to support existing youth participation groups as contact points through information, advise, qualification and networking, and by encouraging new projects and making it possible to put forward other ideas.

As a mediator between the participants and as the organiser of larger networking meetings, the Resource Centre initiates and intensifies the direct exchange of experience and information. Through a nationwide 'Core Group' of young people supported by the Youth Participation Resource Centre, the Infoscout pool and the regional resource centres will be competently, intensively and continuously interconnected.

3. Form of Youth Participation in Youth Information Addressed by This Initiative :
(please click on / activate the box which corresponds to your answer)

- This is:
- a) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in the identification of the information needs of young people in their locality or field of interest**
 - b) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in the designing and preparation of information magazines and materials** (for a young public)
 - c) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in informing or advising other young people**
 - d) An initiative or project that **involves young people directly in managing or evaluating youth information centres or other services** (such as a youth card)
 - e) An initiative or project that addresses **another aspect of youth participation in youth information work** (please specify the aspect):

The initiative is completely initiated, planned, organised and implemented by young people for young people. Thus the initiative is achieving youth participation at all levels by informing, advising, qualifying and networking, with the help of

- a) Young people aged between 14 and 26
- b) 32 regional youth participation resource centres
- c) National youth participation resource centre
- d) On-line tools, newsletters, publications etc.

4. Name and Address of Organisation Responsible for This Initiative:

Name: Servicestelle Jugendbeteiligung
 (Resource Centre for Youth Participation)
 Address: Schöneberger Strasse 17a, D-10963 Berlin, Germany

<p>5. Name and E-mail Address of Person to Contact (for information about this initiative):</p> <p>Name: Benjamin Gesing E-mail Address: b.gesing@jugendbeteiligung.info</p>
<p>6. Who Participated in This Initiative ?</p> <p>Young people aged 14 to 26</p>
<p>7. What Was the Scope of This Initiative? <i>(please click on / activate the box which corresponds to your answer)</i></p> <p>Local <input type="checkbox"/> Regional <input type="checkbox"/> National <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> European <input type="checkbox"/></p>
<p>8. When Was This Initiative Undertaken<i>(please state the date when the activity was started, when it finished, or if it is still continuing):</i></p> <p>Started in August 2001</p>
<p>9. What Were the Results Obtained by This Initiative?</p> <p>Participation at all levels, for example: youth participation at whole-day schools (a programme initiated by the German Government) www.ganztaegig-lernen.de, European Youth Pact www.jugendbeteiligung.info/europa, pilot-project Netzwerkstatt www.projekt-nws.de, www.jugendbeteiligung.info, www.youthbank.de, and many more</p>
<p>10. Report – Publication – Other Product <i>(if there is a report, publication or other “product” relating to this initiative, please state where it can be obtained or consulted, and in which language):</i></p> <p>The following material is available concerning this initiative: <i>(please click on / activate the box which corresponds to your answer)</i></p> <p>Report <input type="checkbox"/> Publications <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Product (specify) <input type="checkbox"/></p> <p>Title: - “Handbuch für Jugendinitiativen” (a manual for youth initiatives) - “Profil – eine Sammlung von Portraits engagierter Jugendlicher” (a collection of portraits of active and committed young people) - “Jugendbeteiligung am Ganztagschulprogramm” (youth participation at full-time schools), - “Jugendreport zum Nationalen Aktionsplan für ein kindergerechtes Deutschland” (youth report on national action plan for a child-friendly Germany) - “Netzwerkstattbroschüre”, etc.</p> <p>Language(s): German</p> <p>Can be consulted / downloaded at this web-site: www.jugendbeteiligung.info</p> <p>Can be obtained from (address of organisation): post@jugendbeteiligung.info</p>
<p>11. Additional Information:</p> <p>.....</p>

This description form has been completed by:

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Name of Organisation: Servicestelle Jugendbeteiligung, Berlin