

## ERYICA NEWSLETTER - MARCH 2007

### Generalist Youth Information in Europe

At the end of 2005, according to the results of a survey conducted by ERYICA:

- a) there were 25 European countries in which there was a national network of "generalist" youth information centres, plus other countries where a network was being developed
- b) almost 8.000 local and regional centres belonged to these national networks
- c) around 13.000 youth information workers were employed (full-time or part-time) in these centres.

During the year 2005, these centres received a total of nearly 23 million visits. This figure is based on the record of the number of visits and the type of questions asked that each centre keeps, but it does not include any figures for the use of other services, such as phone calls, requests by post and e-mail, or the use of on-line services.

#### Related Documents



[statistics-2005-en.pdf](http://eryica.org/files/statistics-2005-en.pdf) (<http://eryica.org/files/statistics-2005-en.pdf>)  
statistics-2005-en.pdf (20.94 KB)

### Finland Organises Nordic Seminar



The National Co-ordination Centre for Youth Information and Counselling Services in Finland is organising a seminar on the topic of "Participation of Young People in Youth Information Work in Nordic Countries and Autonomous Territories". The seminar, which is supported by the Finnish Ministry of Education, will take place in Turku on 9-11 May 2007.

The seminar will involve youth information and counselling workers from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and from the "autonomous territories" (Faroe Islands, Greenland and Aland). From each country there will be 4 participants, from each autonomous territory one participant, and from the Finnish Youth Information and Counselling Network there will be around 10 participants. This co-operation is based on existing Nordic co-operation, and especially on the Strategy for Children and Young People adopted by the Nordic Council of Ministers in Copenhagen on 1 March 2006. [...]

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#### Related Documents



[finland-nordic-seminar-en.pdf](http://eryica.org/files/finland-nordic-seminar-en.pdf) (<http://eryica.org/files/finland-nordic-seminar-en.pdf>)  
finland-nordic-seminar-en.pdf (16.34 KB)

## New Staffer in Secretariat

As of 12 March, Audrey Guillo has joined the ERYICA secretariat as Co-ordinator of Internet Services. Coming from a similar job in Rouen with an association promoting co-operation between schools, Audrey is French, speaks fluent English, has some notions of Spanish, and is a frequent trekker.



A big welcome to you, Audrey !

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## Strategic Areas of Work



The main topic for discussion at the ERYICA General Assembly in Paris last December was a set of guidelines for the future development of the Agency and its activities. On the basis of proposals prepared by a working-group that had consulted the national partners during 2006, and others formulated by the Governing Board, the Assembly adopted a set of 13 Strategic Areas of Work, as well as a Mission Statement for the Agency.

It also decided that the ERYICA Work Programme would be prepared in future on a 3-year basis, with a view to making progress in as many areas as possible towards the objectives fixed for each of the Strategic Areas of Work.

[For the text of the Mission Statement, and the list of Strategic Areas of Work, see this document].

### Related Documents



[mission-work-areas-en.pdf](http://eryica.org/files/mission-work-areas-en.pdf) (<http://eryica.org/files/mission-work-areas-en.pdf>)  
mission-work-areas-en.pdf (21.18 KB)

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## Youth Information and Counselling Services in Finland

The Finnish youth information and counselling work has been strongly influenced by the European Union's White Paper on youth policy, by the new Finnish Youth Law of 2006 and by ERYICA's Charter, which emphasises the right of young people to receive information, their right to be heard and the importance of young people's active participation in the production of information aimed at them. These documents also underline the idea of peer-to-peer information and the importance of reliable and understandable information.



In Finland, the Ministry of Education is responsible for co-ordinating public youth work in general and youth policy measures. The Youth Law provides for the improvement of young people's living conditions and of youth services. The aim is to support young people in managing their own lives. The Youth Law reinforces youth information as one of the basic elements of municipal youth work services. The Law supports the National Co-ordinating and Development Centre in Oulu, the national youth information network and the development of training in this field. The Ministry of Education and the youth information network are working closely together on the implementation of the Law. Both parties understand the importance of a co-ordinated approach at the national level. The Ministry supports national and regional youth information and youth media services development projects financially. The budget for this work in 2007 is 900.000 euros. [...]

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### Related Documents



[finland-yic-services-en.pdf](http://eryica.org/files/finland-yic-services-en.pdf) (<http://eryica.org/files/finland-yic-services-en.pdf>)

finland-yic-services-en.pdf (13.91 KB)

## The Secretariat is MOVING ...

Following the mandate given to it by the General Assembly last year, the Governing Board has decided to move the ERYICA office to Luxemburg, primarily for economic reasons. The Board has accepted the offer of free office space in the centre of Luxemburg, made by the Luxemburg Ministry for the Family and Integration. It has therefore decided that the ERYICA office in Paris will be closed at the end of July, and that the move to Luxemburg will take place this summer.

The Board is in the process of recruiting the new head of the secretariat, who will succeed Jon Alexander when he retires at the end of June.

## Handbook for Youth Information Workers



The Hungarian Association of Youth Information and Counselling Offices (HAYICO) and HELPI - the Youth Information and Counselling Office in Kecskemet - have published a methodology handbook, that is designed for helpers who work in youth information and counselling services and for municipalities which are planning to set up such a service.

The handbook is a collection of the most significant documents - from Hungarian and European sources - that are relevant for organising a youth information and counselling service in Hungary.

The booklet of 120 pages - in Hungarian - covers the following topics :

- History of the youth information services in Europe
- History of the youth information services in Hungary

What is youth information and counselling service?

Guide for the organising of a service

Professional reference materials

European Youth Information Charter

Council of Europe Recommendation R (90) 7 concerning information and counselling for young people in Europe

HAYICO Professional Code of Ethics

Bibliography

Youth Work Thesaurus

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**GENERALIST YOUTH INFORMATION IN EUROPE:  
ANNUAL STATISTICS FOR 2005**

<b>Explanation of Table</b>
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**Introduction**

The statistics in this document are those provided by ERYICA partners in the listed countries in late 2006 for the year **2005**.

**Column A**

This column lists the **countries** and, where there is a national network (or more than one) of youth information centres (YICs), indicates the **name of the network or of the national organisation** which co-ordinates or supports the network. At the end of 2005, 7 countries (out of the 29 listed in the table) have no national network or co-ordinating structure.

**Column B**

This column indicates the **total number of visits** to the YICs in each country for the year 2005. "Visits" means the number of times in the year that the centres were visited. The figure does not indicate the number of users, and does not include other forms of contact that users have with the centres and their services (enquiries by letter, telephone, fax or e-mail, nor "hits" on Internet-based services). ERYICA partners will be asked to supply statistics for these other forms of contact in future years.

The total is around **23 million visits per year** to the centres in 29 countries, even if some of the country figures are estimates or incomplete.

**Columns C, D and E**

These three columns present the **different levels of centres** (national, regional, local centres, points and services) in certain countries.

**Column F**

This column gives the **total number of centres in each country**, adding together the figures in the preceding three columns.

**Column G**

This column indicates the **number of persons** working in the YICs in each country **as youth information workers (voluntary and salaried**, either receiving the public or dealing with their requests). The figure of 12.936 persons does not include other staff of YICs (technical, administrative, etc) who do not have contact with the public.

**APPENDIX C** (page 2)

**GENERALIST YOUTH INFORMATION IN EUROPE: STATISTICS FOR VISITS (to centres), CENTRES (centres, points, services), AND YOUTH INFORMATION WORKERS**

**Statistics for 2005**

<i>Country + National Network or Co-ordinating Body</i>	<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF VISITS IN 2005 by country</b>	<i>Number of Regional Centres or Services</i>	<i>Number of Local Centres or Services</i>	<i>Number of Other Centres, Services or Points (most being local)</i>	<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF CENTRES by country</b>	<b>TOTAL NUMBER OF YOUTH INFO WORKERS by country</b>
<i>A</i>	<i>B</i>	<i>C</i>	<i>D</i>	<i>E</i>	<i>F</i>	<i>G</i>
<b>AT - AUSTRIA:</b> ARGE	<b>165.719</b>	9 centres	26 centres	1 federal centre	<b>36</b>	<b>84</b>
<b>BE - BELGIUM</b>						
- In Petto	<b>19.069</b>	--	35 centres	--	<b>35</b>	<b>115</b>
- CIDJ	<b>7.565</b> [02]	--	5 centres	--	<b>5</b>	<b>20</b>
- Fédération Infor Jeunes	<b>100.000</b>	--	11 centres	1 nat. centre; 29 points	<b>41</b>	<b>56</b>
- Info Ag	<b>2.970</b>	--	2 centres	--	<b>2</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>BR - BELARUS:</b> CYID §	<b>2.400</b> [02]	--	1 centre	--	<b>1</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>CY - CYPRUS:</b> Youth Board	<b>38.300</b> est.	--	2 centres	1 nat. centre	<b>3</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>CZ - CZECH REP.:</b> NIDM	<b>53.197</b>	33 centres	--	--	<b>33</b>	<b>49</b>
<b>DK - DENMARK:</b> UI §	<b>11.566</b>	--	1 centre	--	<b>1</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>DE - GERMANY:</b> IJAB	<b>1.700.000</b> [02]	--	40 centres	--	<b>40</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>EE - ESTONIA:</b> ENTK	<b>10.000</b>	--	19 centres	7 points	<b>26</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>ES - SPAIN:</b> INJUVE	<b>10.000.000</b>	19 centres	3.263 centres	and points	<b>3.282</b>	<b>3.800</b>
<b>FI - FINLAND:</b> Aliianssi	<b>120.000</b>	--	70 centres	--	<b>70</b>	<b>100</b>
<b>FR - FRANCE:</b> CIJ Network	<b>5.000.000</b>	32 centres	1,600 centres	and points	<b>1.632</b>	<b>3.000</b> est.
<b>GB - UNITED KINGDOM:</b>						
England: - Youth Access	<b>500.000</b> [02]	--	440 centres	--	<b>440</b> est.	<b>900</b> est.
N. Ireland: - YCNI	<b>4.500</b>	1 centre	--	32 points	<b>33</b>	<b>35</b>
Scotland: - Young Scot	<b>nk</b>	--	87 centres	--	<b>87</b>	<b>117</b>
Wales: - Canllaw Online	<b>514.500</b> est.	22 offices	176 centres	167 points	<b>365</b>	<b>177</b>
<b>GR - GREECE:</b> GSY	<b>238.000</b>	--	60 centres	--	<b>60</b>	<b>180</b>
<b>HU - HUNGARY:</b> HAYICO	<b>265.000</b>	3 centres	18 centres	43 points	<b>64</b>	<b>186</b>
<b>IE - IRELAND:</b> NYIMC	<b>172.000</b> [02]	--	33 centres	--	<b>33</b>	<b>62</b>
<b>IT - ITALY</b> §	<b>3.000.000</b> est.	--	1,271 centres	and points	<b>1.271</b>	<b>2.800</b> est.
<b>LI - LIECHTENSTEIN:</b> aha §	<b>3.100</b>	--	1 centre	--	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>LU - LUXEMBURG:</b> CIJ	<b>10.522</b>	--	--	1 nat. centre; 38 points	<b>39</b>	<b>35</b>
<b>MT - MALTA:</b> NYIC §	<b>1.200</b>	1 centre	--	--	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>NL - NETHERLANDS:</b> JIPs	<b>37.500</b>	2 centres	71 centres	122 points	<b>195</b>	<b>727</b>
<b>NO - NORWAY:</b> Forum UIK	<b>32.000</b> est.	2 centres	6 centres	4 points	<b>12</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>PL - POLAND:</b> RICM §	<b>10.000</b> est. #	1 centre	23 centres	--	<b>24</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>PT - PORTUGAL:</b> IPJ	<b>551.989</b>	--	27 centres	1 nat. centre; 18 points	<b>46</b>	<b>121</b>
<b>RO - ROMANIA:</b> IFINET §	<b>70.000</b> [02]	1 centre	23 centres	--	<b>24</b>	<b>37</b>
<b>SI - SLOVENIA:</b> MISSS	<b>241.526</b>	4 centres	32 centres	1 national centre	<b>33</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>SK - SLOVAKIA:</b> ZIPCeM	<b>65.481</b>	--	14 centres	1 national centre	<b>15</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>22.948.104</b>				<b>7.950</b>	<b>12.936</b>

§ = no national network or co-ordinating body

"est." = estimated figure

"nk" = not known

[02] = 2002 figures

"#" = incomplete figure (not for whole country, or not for full year)



## **Finland Organises Nordic Seminar**

### **on "Participation of Young People in Youth Information Work in Nordic Countries and Autonomous Territories"**

The National Co-ordination Centre for Youth Information and Counselling Services in Finland is organising a seminar on the topic of "Participation of Young People in Youth Information Work in Nordic Countries and Autonomous Territories". The seminar, which is supported by the Finnish Ministry of Education, will take place in Turku on 9-11 May 2007.

The seminar will involve youth information and counselling workers from Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, and from the "autonomous territories" (Faroe Islands, Greenland and Åland). From each country there will be 4 participants, from each autonomous territory one participant, and from the Finnish Youth Information and Counselling Network there will be around 10 participants. This co-operation is based on existing Nordic co-operation, and especially on the Strategy for Children and Young People adopted by the Nordic Council of Ministers in Copenhagen on 1 March 2006.

The purpose of this professional meeting is to exchange good practice between the participating countries and autonomous territories, and to find new ideas and tools for young people to be more interested and involved in an active way in the youth information work. English will be the working language.

Themes:

- To clarify the youth information work situation and structure in each Nordic Country and autonomous territory
- Involvement of young people and the role of youth participation in the youth information work
- Nordic youth information work, and methods used at the European level
- Future plans in different countries in youth information work
- Co-operation projects and networking in Nordic Countries.

Another task of the seminar is to plan a joint Nordic meeting for young people and youth information workers which will be held in Inari Youth Centre (North Finland) at the end of November 2007. The idea is to bring young people and youth information workers together to create new forms of youth participation.



## ERYICA's MISSION

The European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA) is an independent European organisation, composed of national youth information co-ordination bodies and networks. It works to intensify European co-operation in the field of youth information work and services. It aims to develop, support and promote quality generalist youth information policy and practice at all levels, in order to meet the information needs of young people in Europe and to apply the principles of the European Youth Information Charter.

## STRATEGIC AREAS OF WORK, 2007-2009

With a view to achieving the aims of the Agency and to providing a framework for its Work Programme for the period 2007-2009, the 17th ERYICA General Assembly (Paris, December 2006) adopted the following list of strategic areas of work, and decided that it should be included in the Agency's Standing Orders:

### **A) to improve the quality of youth information work and products:**

- a.1) to share youth information experience, expertise and methods;
- a.2) to improve knowledge, skills and attitudes of youth information workers;
- a.3) to stimulate and support innovation and creativity in youth information;
- a.4) to stimulate and support the participation of young people in youth information work;
- a.5) to contribute to the development of youth information policy;
- a.6) to stimulate and assist the development of youth information services, in particular where they do not exist or where they are new;
- a.7) to stimulate and assist the application of the Principles of the European Youth Information Charter;
- a.8) to make youth information work and its benefits more visible;
- a.9) to identify and promote other measures to improve the quality of youth information work and products.

### **B) to improve and strengthen the functioning of the Agency:**

- b.1) to strengthen the position of the Agency as a reference for youth information work in Europe;
- b.2) to ensure the cohesion of the European network and the equality of the member organisations;
- b.3) to represent the reality of the youth information field in Europe, on the basis of democratic and transparent decision-making procedures;
- b.4) to increase the financial resources of the Agency, for both projects and support services.

## **Youth information and counselling services in Finland**

**By Jaana Fedotoff (National Co-ordinator)**

The Finnish youth information and counselling work has been strongly influenced by the European Union's White Paper on youth policy, by the new Finnish Youth Law of 2006 and by ERYICA's Charter, which emphasises the right of young people to receive information, their right to be heard and the importance of young people's active participation in the production of information aimed at them. These documents also underline the idea of peer-to-peer information and the importance of reliable and understandable information.

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Some distinctive features of Finnish youth information and counselling work have to do with the rural character of much of our country: a relatively small number of inhabitants in towns, and many young people living in scattered and isolated settlements with no youth services. This is one of the reasons why the producers of information and counselling services are interested in developing local and regional Internet services. At the moment we have nearly 30 regional or local net services which cover more than 200 municipalities.

The national co-ordination unit started work in January 2006, under the responsibility of the National Co-ordinator, Jaana Fedotoff. The first priority was to collect a maximum of information about existing youth information services and to organise two large national seminars to find out from the network what were their needs and suggestions. More than ten seminars were held in 2006 and another ten project and funding consultation days were organised around the country. Altogether more than 400 youth workers participated in these events, which also involved as co-operating partners the Finnish Youth Co-operation Allianssi (the Finnish member of ERYICA) and the Finnish Eurodesk office.

The national co-ordinating work includes a number of tasks, such as:

- a) to provide a support service to all youth information and counselling services and workers in Finland
- b) to give professional help to new and existing services
- c) to organise training seminars at the regional and national level
- d) to support and create possibilities for the national network to co-operate, all in support of the main goal which is to create equal opportunities locally and regionally for young people to find and use information services. Through this national

co-operation, our aim is to reach a good level of quality in all services: centres, points, web services, phone services and face-to-face work, in accordance with European Youth Information Charter.

Key elements for the near future:

- Improve contacts between youth information and counselling centres and workers at different levels
- Improve communication tools: last year a national Extranet was created, which now has more than 150 users, and this spring a professional web magazine "KOORDINAATTI" will be published
- a national Youth Information Portal for Young People has been discussed, and several seminars will be organised.

And the future looks bright thanks to the strong support that the Finnish youth information network gets from the Ministry of Education, and to the place that youth information work now has in Finnish youth work and in youth policy structures.

For further information, contact:

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