



Dear readers,
We are proud to present you the Winter 2010 edition of the ERYICA newsletter. In this edition you will find news about upcoming ERYICA projects for 2010, info about the new interactive Youth Information Platform SHERYICA and much more. ENJOY!

IN THIS ISSUE

ERYICA News

- Meet the Street Final Report
- New Governing Board
- Principles for Online Youth Information: Approved!
- Safety and Quality in Online Youth Information: Granted!
- Launch of the SHERYICA platform

Focus On ... Belgium

- Study Visit in Flanders
- Award for In Petto

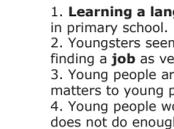
ERYICA Events

- News from the Training Task Force
- Review: 20th General Assembly
- Review: Seminar on Youth Policy and Youth Information
- Upcoming: World Forum "Un Monde Qui Bouge!"

Around us

- Mini Summit on e-learning in Helsinki
- Project Presentation "Informiši me - Informiši se" in Montenegro

ERYICA News



MEET THE STREET FINAL REPORT

The Meet the Street project has been finalised and the final report is ready. The project has been carried out with support of the Youth in Action programme of the European Union and allowed to gather 120 young people from all over Europe, who were given the opportunity to interview their peers on different subjects of importance for them such as education, employment, health, future perspectives, urban facilities, etc. The project was running from October 2008 until September 2009.

Here are some of the **most interesting aspects** the interviewing of young Europeans revealed:

1. **Learning a language** should be started as early as possible, even already in primary school.
2. Youngsters seem to have a pessimistic view of their **future**. Many of them perceive finding a **job** as very difficult, especially in times of crisis.
3. Young people are of the opinion that **politicians** do not take into account what matters to young people.
4. Young people would not necessarily vote in European elections as they feel **Europe** does not do enough for individual countries.
5. Young people feel that **staying healthy** is a luxury sometimes as buying fruits, vegetables and organic food as well as doing exercise can be expensive.

If you are interested in reading the full report please download it [here](#).

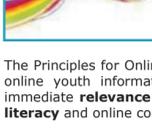


NEW ERYICA GOVERNING BOARD

On December 5th, 2009 – during the General Assembly in Rotterdam – the new Governing Board for the new working period 2009-2012 has been elected.

The new Governing Board consists of **Marc Boes** (Vereniging van JIP's, The Netherlands), **Julie Čáková** (NIDM, Czech Republic), **Alexandra Cangelosi** (Jugendinfo.cc, Austria), **Claire Conlon** (CIDJ, France), **Saša Dupor** (Zajednica ICM, Croatia), **Tanja Novaković** (MISSS, Slovenia), **Jorge Orlando Queirós** (IPJ, Portugal) and **Mika Pietilä** (ALLIANSSI, Finland).

The elected Governing Board members demonstrate ERYICA's concern towards ensuring gender balance in its staff accompanied by the attention to a geographical balance that should mirror continuous development throughout Europe following ERYICA's strategic priorities.



PRINCIPLES FOR ONLINE YOUTH INFORMATION: APPROVED!

During the 20th General Assembly of ERYICA in Rotterdam, the Netherlands the Principles for Online Youth Information have been approved. Taking seriously the tremendous **changes the Internet has brought about for information and communication** processes in our societies, the Principles for Online Youth Information have been established to **support young people to safely find their way around online**.

The Principles for Online Youth Information shall be seen as a guideline to ensure **accuracy** in online youth information, **easy accessibility** of information, by taking into account the immediate **relevance** of information for young people in order to facilitate their **information literacy** and online competences in a safe online environment.

The Principles for Online Youth Information correspond to the principles that have been set out in the European Youth Information Charter. Therefore both the European Youth Information Charter and the Principles for Online Youth Information shall be seen as one holistic framework.

SAFETY AND QUALITY IN ONLINE YOUTH INFORMATION: GRANTED!

With support of the Youth in Action programme the project "Safety and Quality in Online Youth Information" will provide **training for 30 trainers and two international workshops for 50 young people** "from the street" to help improve their use of information online.

Partners of the project are: INJUVE, Young Scot, CIDJ, Luxembourg, Vereniging van JIP's, the National Coordination and Development Centre of Youth Information and Counselling Services, Finland, aha, Vorarlberg and the GSM Youth Centre Service, Turkey.

The **objectives** of the project are:

1. Creating **know-how for youth information workers** on how to empower youngsters to obtain high quality information from the Internet;
2. Develop, implement and **promote the "Principles of Quality in Online Youth Information"**;
3. Promoting the **use of interactive platforms** for youth information workers in the field of e-literacy.
4. Non-formal education of young people on how to behave on the net in order to have a safe and proper experience;
5. Involving young people in **producing quality online youth information** (user generated content);
6. Training youth information workers on **good practices** and to-be developed principles and quality standards;
7. Developing a **kit for youth information centres** that can be adapted to their realities, containing good practices and recommendations;
8. Designing a **core follow-up project on quality search** of online youth information on a European scale;
9. Development of **quality principles** for online youth information.

Together with eight partners the project will be running **until April 2011**.

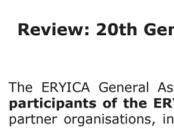


LAUNCH OF SHERYICA

The General Assembly in Rotterdam (3.12.-6.12.2009, see below) gave space to the presentation of the newly launched **interactive youth information platform SHERYICA** – a platform built specifically for youth information workers. The website has been designed for youth information centres as a platform for **disseminating information, news and stories** from their centre by offering a space for participants to get in touch with and to profit from **each other's** experiences and expertise. Visit SHERYICA at www.sheryica.org.

ERYICA Events

NEWS FROM THE ERYICA TRAINING TASK FORCE



Within the framework of the "A Better Youth Information for New Times" project the ERYICA Training Task Force held its sixth consecutive meeting from January 23 – 25, 2010 in Brussels, Belgium. During the meeting the finalisation of the **"YIntro – Stepping into Youth Information"** trainers manual has been achieved. The YIntro manual has been established as a tool to **enhance Youth Information Work** in light of the changing needs of information for young people especially with respect to new **media and communication areas**.

The "YIntro" course will be first introduced during the "Train the Trainer" event, which will take place in Prague from March, 2-7, 2010. During this course up to 25 experienced youth information trainers will be prepared to deliver courses in accordance with the new "YIntro" course. Read more on "YIntro" [here](#).

Review: 20th General Assembly in Rotterdam (3.12. – 6.12.2009)

The ERYICA General Assembly took place from December 3 until 6, 2009, gathering **70 participants of the ERYICA network** together with honourable guests and speakers from partner organisations, including the **Council of Europe, the European Commission, and the European Youth Forum, Eurodesk and the European Youth Card Association**. The event gave room to the re-election of ERYICA's Governing Board members for the period 2010-2013, a discussion on the **Youth Information Starters' Kit** and a paper on **"Quality in Online Youth Information"**. Aside from this a working group on gaming methods in youth information and counselling has been scheduled next to a presentation of the launch of the new interactive platform for youth information workers, SHERYICA. The General Assembly partly coincided with the seminar, which gave the participants a possibility to meet and share experiences with the representatives of the ERYICA board as well as representatives of the European partners.



REVIEW: SEMINAR ON "YOUTH POLICY AND YOUTH INFORMATION" (01.12. – 06.12.2009)

The seminar "Youth Policy and Youth Information" in Rotterdam, The Netherlands brought together **19 youth information workers from 17 countries** with support of the Youth in Action programme of the European Union. The participants were given the opportunity to meet experts and European policy makers from present and prospective ERYICA partners.

During the seminar the participants shared ideas and experiences about
 o developing **quality youth information services**
 o how youth information can contribute to **effective youth policy** and

During a **project fair** that has been established as part of the seminar, the participants were given room to present their project ideas on which they have been working on throughout the week in front of the participants of the General Assembly and the representatives of the invited European institutions. As a result of the seminar a best practice booklet that will present the most successful projects of the seminar participants and their Youth Information Centres will be produced and distributed thereafter.



UPCOMING: WORLD FORUM "UN MONDE QUI BOUGE!" IN BELGIUM

The National Youth Agency in Belgium – Bureau International Jeunesse (BIJ) organises a World forum in Louvain-la-Neuve, Belgium. The forum will gather **50 participants** from all Youth in Action Programme countries who will be **reflecting upon pressing matters** in our world: the privatisation of natural resources, poverty, the media shaping our perception, social and geographic mobility as well as methods to enhance participation

Drawing on these two approaches the workshops shall generate original analysis and questions to ask politicians and relevant social bodies for inventing **ideas for a positive future of our world**.

The Forum will take place from **February 14 to 20, 2010**.

UPCOMING: EUROPEAN EXPERT MEETING FOR YOUTH WORKERS IN ROTTERDAM

The Netherlands Youth Institute (NJI) and Foundation JONG Rotterdam will organise the European Expert Meeting for Youth Workers **"Empowering Youth Work: Placing Youth Work in Europe as an Evidence-based Practice"**. The meeting will take place on **March 17 - 19, 2010 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands**.

Youth Work is in the spotlight of the new policy at a European level. Therefore we are interested to gather a group of experts from different countries and forms of Youth Work (such as street corner work, work in a youth centre, youth information, working with girls, etc.) to find out more about the different methodologies and to see what from our work can be shared.

The outcome of this expert meeting will be handed over to the organisers of the big Youth Workers event, which will take place in Belgium during the Belgium presidency (July 2010, Ghent).

If you are interested please find more information on the event at <http://www.nji.nl/eCache/DEF/1/16/493.html>. You can also find the online form to express your interest in participation there. You can still sign up! The **deadline for applications is Friday, February 12th 2010**. Accommodation and meals will be provided by the organisation. Travel costs must be taken care of by the participants themselves.

FOCUS ON ... Belgium



STUDY VISIT IN FLANDERS

A **Study Visit** focusing on youth information practices and youth participation in **Flanders, Belgium**, took place on October 18-24, 2009. The Study Visit gathered **20 participants from the ERYICA network in the Western Balkans**, namely from Croatia, Serbia, Montenegro, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Turkey and Slovenia. Participants visited Flemish NGOs, governmental bodies and youth information structures in Brussels, Antwerp and Ostende! The organisation of the Study Visit was co-facilitated by a project group of social work students of the University College of Western Flanders. *The Study Visit took place within the framework of the 'Youth in Action' Programme of the European Union.*

AWARD FOR IN PETTO!

In Petto, the ERYICA member in Flanders, Belgium, received an award of € 10.000 for implementing the **Hip Hip Happy Project**. The award was granted within the framework of celebration of the World Day of Mental Health on October 10, 2009.

The project consisted of research, focusing on "risk groups"; a magazine, published in co-operation with young people and using the outcome and quotes of the research; and a manual for teachers, youth workers, educators, who want to work on the issue with groups of young people. For more details on the project, contact Johan Bertels (bertels.j@gmail.com).

News from our Members



FINLAND: FOCUS ON E-LEARNING

A group of experts in Youth Information and Counselling Work gathered in Finland in October 2010 to find out more about the present **situation of e-learning** and its use as a training method in different countries. Ajo Monzo (Xarxa Infojove, Balears, Spain), Anneli Starzinger (IJAB, Germany), Päivi Timonen (Bharosa Finland, Finland), Sari Rehell (Eurodesk/ CIMO, Finland), Jaana Fedotoff and Mika Pietilä (National Coordination and Development Centre of YI, Finland) focused on e-learning by presenting their

current **e-curriculums, pedagogical ideas** of e-courses, **e-teaching materials** and **e-teaching techniques**. As a conclusion of the meeting all represented organisations committed to continue developing their work on e-learning, pointing out the need for close co-operation between the represented organisations to be able to attract new interested organisations. The participants also expressed their wish that **e-learning would be considered a feasible method in youth information and counselling trainings on a European level**, making it a real blended learning" training.



MONTENEGRO: PROJECT PRESENTATION "INFORMISI ME - INFORMISI SE"

The final presentation of the project **"Informiši me – Informiši se"** took place in **Podgorica, Montenegro**, on the 15th of December, hosted by Forum MNE, ERYICA Affiliated Organisation. The project was financially supported by the Ministry of Culture, Sport and Media, with the aim of fostering youth information programmes in Montenegro.

This final forum was a good opportunity to present the results of

the project and gather young people, volunteers, partners and colleagues who participated in the project in six towns.

The open call for youth to send **photos on the topic "Youth and Europe"** resulted in 611 photos.

One part of the presentation programme was the **exhibition of about 200 photos**, a **catalogue** of three awarded photos and twelve more. Forum MNE volunteers presented their work, a radio programme for youth on a local radio in Nikšić and high school students from Podgorica shared their view of youth in Montenegro, youth in other countries in Europe, youth in the EU. This project included six schools and six institutions in its realizations. More than 300 young people from six towns directly participated.

Read in the ERYICA SPRING 2010 - Newsletter

- First results of the **YIntro** course
- Next **General Assembly** in June
- **Good practice in Youth Information** - booklet
- Presentation of the study **State of the Art in Youth Information**

And many more news and events related to Youth Information and Youth Policy throughout Europe!

ATTENTION! To contribute to the ERYICA Newsletter - SPRING 2010, please send your articles to cornelia.untersberger@eryica.org before the **end of April 2010!**

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