



# Municipal Youth Work Strategies

## Youth work In Greece

# COUNTRY REPORTS FOR YOUTH WORK

Youth work in Greece refers to:  
Education and welfare services to support young's people safe and healthy transition to adult life as well as leisure time activities which aim to contribute to the social and personal development of young people and enhance their active political participation and social inclusion.

European Commission/Council of Europe 2013:14



# Main Areas Of Youth Work

- ❖ **Career services**
- ❖ **Youth Information**
- ❖ **Youth Counseling**
- ❖ **International Youth Work**
- ❖ **Youth Association and active participation**
- ❖ **Recreation and leisure services**
- ❖ **Education for disadvantaged groups**
- ❖ **Cultural Education**
- ❖ **Social Care**
- ❖ **Sports**

## *Youth Work Structure in Greece*

**Youth workers in Greece work primarily with young people aged between 15 and 25, but in some cases extend this to 13 to 15 or 25 to 30. Most youth services provide a mixture of “open” youth work, intended for young people in the area, and youth work targeting those who are disadvantaged or socially excluded**

**(Bohn and Stallmann 2007:24)**



# Youth Work Structure in Greece

*In terms of structures and institutions, Youth work in Greece involves a complex network of providers, for example:*

- ❖ Community groups
- ❖ Non-governmental organizations and
- ❖ Local authorities

(supported by a large number of adults working as full-time or part-time paid staff or volunteers.

Unfortunately, due to lack of official data it is impossible to provide precise figures for the number of youth workers in the country.

Overall, the different organizations share a common set of youth work values.

# Youth Work Structure in Greece

The General Secretariat for Youth, under the auspice of the Ministry of Education, Lifelong Learning and Religious Affairs, which is responsible for the implementation of the government's youth policy.

The Youth and Lifelong Learning Foundation (I.NE.DI.VI.M.) constitutes a Private Law Entity of the broader public sector, with financial and operational autonomy. It is a non-profit and of public interest institution, which is supervised by the Minister of Culture, Education and Religious Affairs.



# Youth Work Structure in Greece

Non-governmental organizations: The role of the non-governmental sector in the domain of youth work has become increasingly significant in the last few years.

The only survey held in 2007 showcased that there were 270 NGOs in the field of children and youth work (Bohn and Stallmann 2007:40). However, the real number is substantially larger.

First Level of Local Government: In Greece, there are 325 municipalities which constitute the first level of local government. They are entrusted with a wide range of responsibilities concerning children and young people. The most recent example for Thessaloniki is the Independent Department of Volunteerism, Youth and Administrative Assistance



# YOUTH POLICY DEVELOPMENT FOR MUNICIPALITY OF THESSALONIKI

Although the Municipality of Thessaloniki developed a designated Department, specialized youth actions or projects are being implemented by the Community Enterprise of the Municipality. During Thessaloniki 2014 European Youth Capital we tried to:

- Mobilize the youth of the city and get them involved with the commons
- Try to set an example of how cities can elaborate young people ideas .
- Offer support regarding the implementation of several events, competitions and activities for the youngsters in order to identify, inform, and support youth understanding, involvement and participation. The program consists of 258 activities.



- ✓ Support youth in the community (personal and social capacity building)
- ✓ Running a certified lifelong learning –level-2 training center providing educational and training opportunities regarding : languages, professions, information technology
- ✓ Youth center for non-formal education strengthening youngster's role in civil society.
- ✓ Promote active citizenship and encourage intercultural cooperation.
- ✓ Implementing European programs for Youth
- ✓ Partnerships with local organizations and public bodies.
- ✓ Implementation of cultural and environmental activities, mobility and voluntary projects.
  
- ✓ Cooperation with the following stakeholders : Network of European Youth Capitals , Thessaloniki Science Festival Network, Street Art Festival Network, Schedia stin poli Network (art and creativity), AIESEC (Global student-based volunteers organization), Thessaloniki's NGO network ( more than 100 youth Ngo's).
- ✓ Ongoing staff training.

# STRATEGIC PLANNING FOR YOUTH WORK IN GREECE

The role of Youth work **was** and still **is** of **great social value**.

The new reality and the economic crisis require a new strategy for Youth Policies in Greece by changing the activities to the real problems and needs of youth today and specifically , to issues of :

Youth unemployment

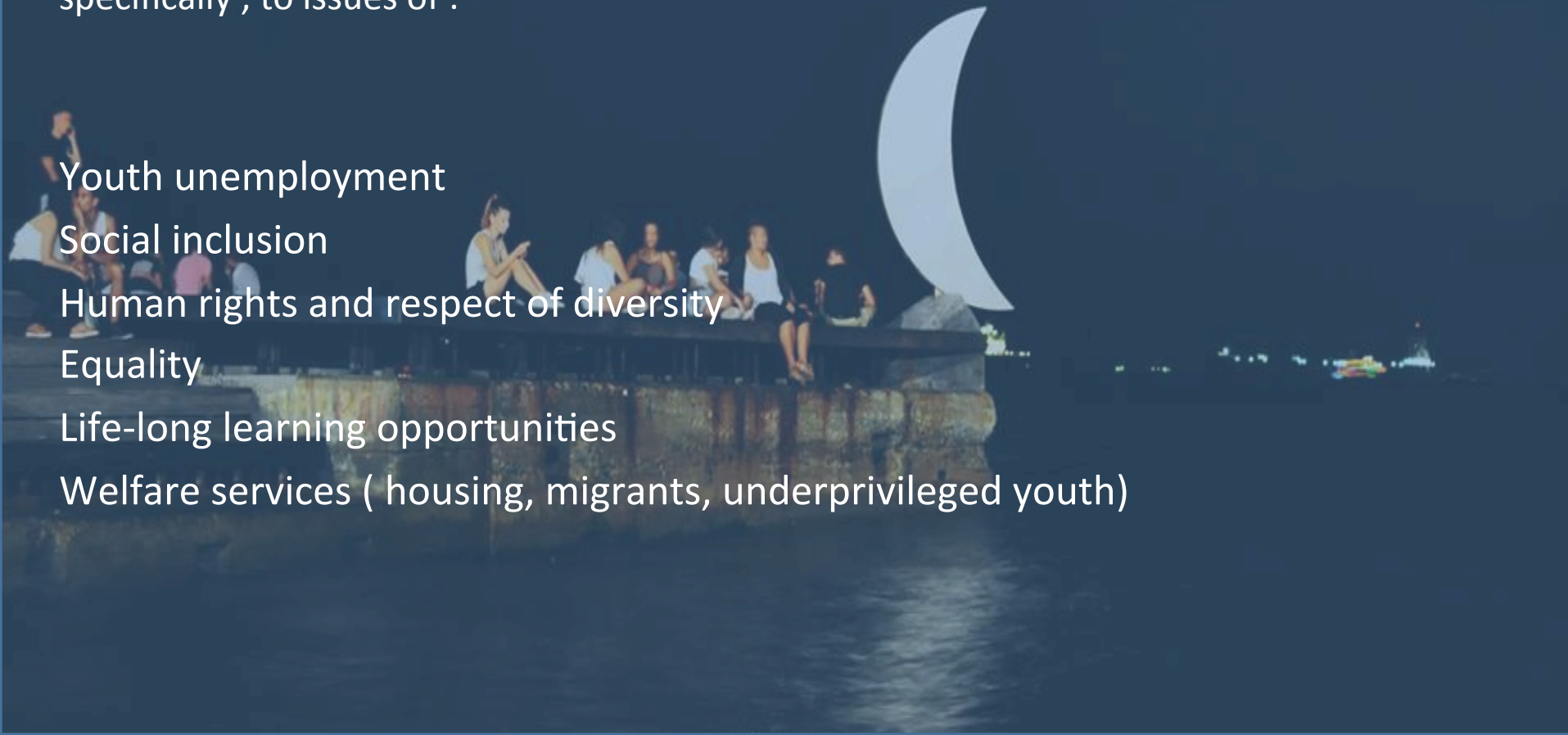
Social inclusion

Human rights and respect of diversity

Equality

Life-long learning opportunities

Welfare services ( housing, migrants, underprivileged youth)





# INITIATIVES FOR THE FUTURE

*Photography  
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**Formulation of a legal framework for youth work and youth workers**

**Setting up national standards for youth work**

**Need of Exchange good practices and methods of Youth work**

**Empowering cooperation of local organizations for youth work and organizations on national and European level.**