

### A strategic framework for youth work development

The European Youth Work Agenda (EYWA) is intended to be established as a strategic framework for further developing and strengthening youth work policies and practices, and shaping youth work development across Europe by addressing the following aims:

- implementing the European Youth Work Agenda in the Bonn Process as a strategic framework for the development of youth work in Europe,
- establishing youth work as an essential part of youth policies,
- ensuring and expanding the provision of youth work,
- strengthening the common ground of youth work through co-operation within and beyond the youth work community of practice,
- supporting the further development of quality youth work,
- supporting the ability of youth work to tackle emerging challenges and innovate its practices,
- enhancing the promotion and recognition of youth work,
- and ensuring a strong role for youth work in the new normal.

### Context

The need for a European Youth Work Agenda was expressed in the final declaration of the 2<sup>nd</sup> European Youth Work Convention (EYWC) in 2015. After years of focused youth work development from local to

regional, national and European level, the year 2020 offers the unique opportunity to bring the co-operation between the European Union and the Council of Europe to the next level and affirm the engagement of the youth work community of practice. The EYWA is planned to be established during the time of both the German Presidency of the Council of the European Union (EU) and the German Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (CoE). The Agenda is planned to be kicked off when both the Presidency and Chairmanship overlap in December 2020 with the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Youth Work Convention and surrounding preparation and follow-up activities.

### Elements of the European Youth Work Agenda

The EYWA is characterised by a co-ordinated approach of stakeholders at different levels and in different areas of youth work.

#### Political commitment

**Political documents of both institutions are intended to serve as a strong basis for getting the EYWA off the ground.** Besides the existing documents of the CoE (the Recommendation on youth work from 2017 and the Youth Sector Strategy 2030) and the European Union (the EU Youth Strategy 2019–2027), a Council resolution on the establishment of the EYWA is planned to be adopted during the German EU Council Presidency. Furthermore, the CoE and the European Commission consider co-operating on implementing the EYWA.

## Engagement of the youth work community of practice

### 3<sup>rd</sup> European Youth Work Convention

**The 3<sup>rd</sup> EYWC is foreseen to become the key moment for the youth work community of practice to transfer the political commitment into practice.**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> EYWC and the kick-off phase (accompanying preparation and follow-up activities in different formats) are planned to bring representatives of the youth work community of practice together to shape the EYWA, discuss the needs from their perspective and start to plan the implementation within their different youth work contexts. The Convention aims to provide guidance and inspiration for implementing the EYWA with a final declaration – a groundwork document by the community, which will be written during the event. Developments within the wider youth work community of practice in the member States and at European level are planned to be considered in shaping the 3<sup>rd</sup> EYWC and the kick-off phase. The Convention, which is the first in the series to take place in the digital space, and its surrounding activities will kick-off the process of implementing concrete measures and activities – the so-called Bonn Process. Community building and networking amongst the subsequent multipliers for implementing the Bonn Process encourage commitment to engage in the Bonn Process and contribute to its success.

### Bonn Process (Implementation of measures and activities)

**The Bonn Process is about making the EYWA happen.** It is planned to be embedded in existing processes and instruments, notably as part of the EU Youth Strategy 2019–2027 and the CoE Youth Sector Strategy 2030. Processes will be planned and encouraged, which include developing strategies, setting priorities and planning action for implementation in different contexts, and carrying out measures and activities. The Bonn Process is endeavoured to take place at all levels from the local, regional and national to the European level and in all the different settings of youth work in Europe. As far as needed, support processes, instruments or services are planned to be established. The EYWA is intended to be monitored, reviewed and developed further. Future Conventions will have a

key role in this strategic long-term development of youth work.

### Funding programmes in the field of youth

Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps as well as the European Youth Foundation are intended to be major implementation instruments at European level.

## The role of the youth work community of practice

The co-operation and support of the youth work community of practice in the member States and at European level is essential for an effective European Youth Work Agenda and shapes its content and future development. The whole youth work community of practice and all actors in Europe within their different mandates, roles and capacities are invited and encouraged to contribute to the development of youth work within this strategic framework. This includes youth work stakeholders at local (including municipal), regional, national, and European level. It involves youth work stakeholders, such as youth workers and youth leaders, youth work managers, project carriers, accredited and independent youth work organisations, trainers, researchers, educators of youth workers, local communities and municipalities, National Agencies for Erasmus+ Youth and European Solidarity Corps, youth representations and young people, and policy-makers for youth.

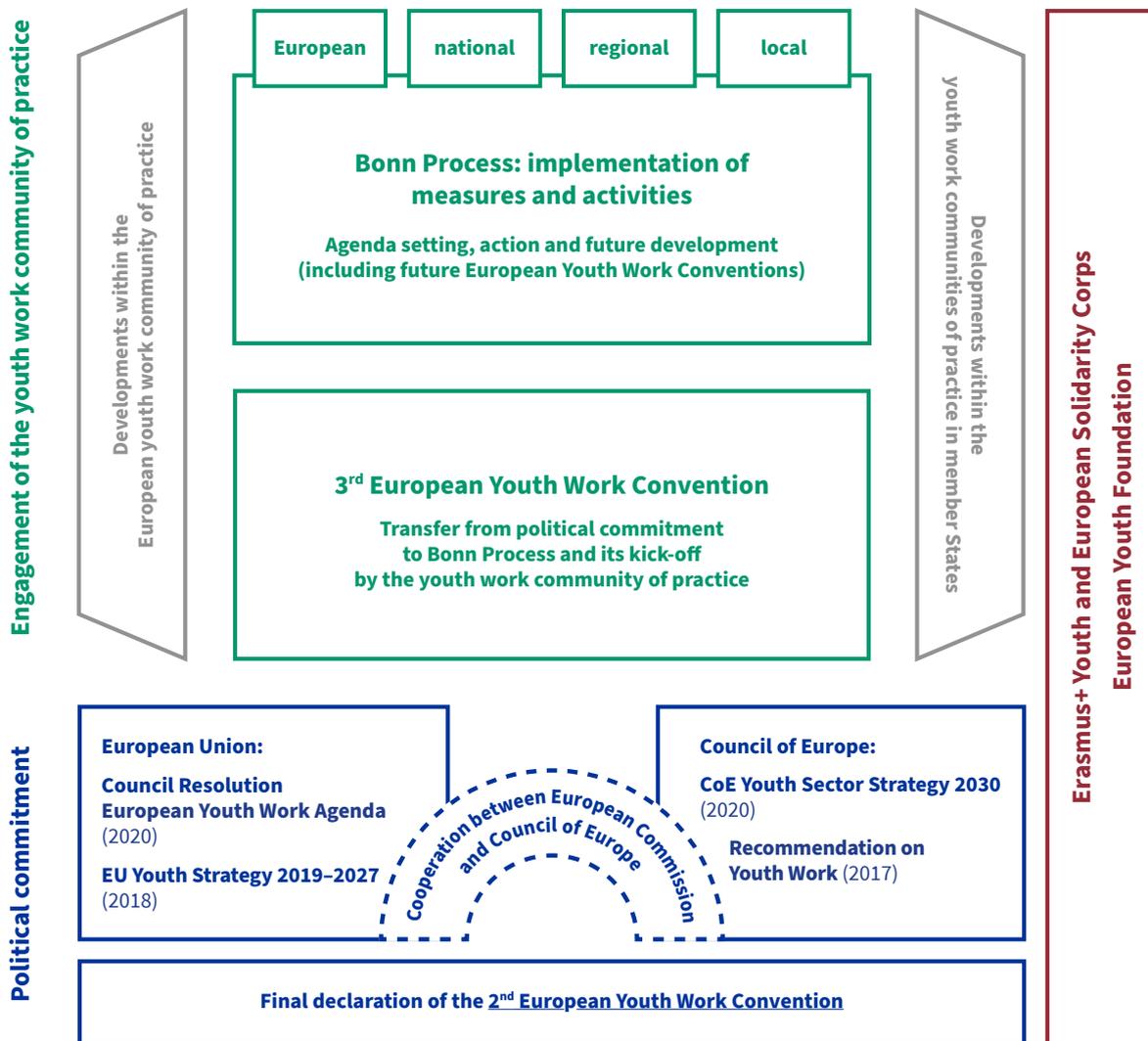
## Contact

The German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth is responsible for the German Presidency and Chairmanship activities in the field of youth. It is supported by JUGEND für Europa, the National Agency (Germany) for the EU programmes Erasmus+ Youth in Action and European Solidarity Corps.

For more information, please don't hesitate to get in touch with the project team of the 3<sup>rd</sup> European Youth Work Convention at JUGEND für Europa at [convention@jfemail.de](mailto:convention@jfemail.de).

Please also refer to our website at [www.eywc2020.eu](http://www.eywc2020.eu) to keep up to date with next steps and developments.

## The European Youth Work Agenda



### Political commitment – engaged community – action!

By setting focused development of youth work onto the agenda, the youth work community of practice prepared the ground for the future development of the working field during the 2<sup>nd</sup> EYWC. This idea has been consolidated, and rooted in its political basis, the EYWA is planned to get off the ground by a joint engagement of the community of practice during the 3<sup>rd</sup> EYWC and its kick-off phase. The Convention and

surrounding preparation and follow-up activities are foreseen to kick off the Bonn Process. The Bonn Process is meant to focus on the implementation of measures and activities to boost youth work development across Europe. It is intended to have a positive impact on the diversity of local and regional realities of youth work within 50 European countries and make youth work grow.