

Danube Region Youth Platform

WORKSHOP - December 17-18, 2018

Early School Leaving and NEETs across the Danube Region – towards new regional perspectives

Introduction

Social cohesion across the Danube Region is threatened by various processes of social exclusion. Young people are one of the groups most affected by these processes, which have been exacerbated since the 2008 economic crisis and are illustrated by high numbers of youth unemployment and NEETs (young persons who are 'Not in Education, Employment, or Training') as well as the challenge of early school leaving. The EU has started to tackle the issue, for example with its youth guarantee and youth employment initiative launched in 2013. These efforts – and the results achieved so far - as well as the different experiences and scale of problems across the Danube Region countries offer significant opportunities for mutual learning.





















Early school leaving (ESL) is a multi-faceted and complex phenomenon that is caused by cumulative processes of disengagement. Making mainstream education more inclusive plays an important role in addressing ESL but comprehensive approaches and the right mixture of preventative, intervention and compensation measures are required to reduce ESL. Reducing ESL can help towards the integration of young people into the labour market, and contribute to breaking the cycle of deprivation that leads to the social exclusion of too many young people. To tackle these challenges, there is a need for closer cooperation between different educational and labour market actors, including education and labour market policy makers who develop strategies, schools, NGOs, service providers and practitioners from the different sectors (like teachers and youth workers) who are implementing them in their everyday work.

The Workshop

The 2-days workshop will assemble experts from different sectors (formal and non-formal education, public administration, research, NGOs, service providers) in the Danube Region to take stock of current developments with regards to early school leaving and NEETs, highlighting country specific and general problems, needs of target groups and – in particular – showcase and share successful examples of how these challenges are met in different countries of the Danube Region. Based on the findings of the workshop, the potential for future cooperation across the Danube Region on the issue (for example in the framework of the Danube Transnational Program) will be explored.

The workshop is organized by Interkulturelles Zentrum and KulturKontakt Austria in cooperation with the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research and the Austrian Federal Ministry of Labour, Social Affairs, Health and Consumer Protection as Priority Area Coordinator 9 of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region.

Workshop Agenda

	17 December	18 December
9:00 - 10:30	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Welcome and Introduction  Who is here? Background of participants  Key note 'Promising Practices Inside and Outside Formal Secondary Education'; Julia Szalai and Agnes Kende, CEU Central European University  Questions and Discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Reflection on Output of Day 1 and Outlook  Discussions on possible co-operation projects  Harvesting from these sessions
	<i>Break</i>	<i>Break</i>
11:00 - 12:30	<p>Country-specific perspectives and dialogical exchange</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Key challenges and positive developments in different countries of the Danube Region  Questions and Discussions 	<ul style="list-style-type: none">  Presentation of concrete project ideas  Presentation of the 3rd call of the DTP – Danube Transnational Programme, Johannes Gabriel  Questions and Answers  Closing and Evaluation
	<i>Lunch</i>	<i>Farewell Lunch</i>
14:00 - 15:30	<p style="text-align: center;">Group discussions Legal situations in different Danube Region Countries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Round 1: Presentations and Discussions  Round 2: What is needed on a systematic/legal level to deal with the situation of ESL & NEETs?  Harvesting answers of Round 2 	
	<i>Break</i>	
16:00 - 17:45	<p style="text-align: center;">Group discussions Research/monitoring and specific projects</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">  Round 1: Presentations and discussions  Round 2: Discussions about priorities / criteria  Harvesting answers of Round 2  Closing 	
18:30	<i>Dinner at Europahaus Wien</i>	