annual report
2018
With this report, we aim to provide a comprehensive overview of the activities of the ERYICA network in 2018, showcasing the active work that is carried out throughout the year by our Members, our Governing Board and our Secretariat. We hope that this demonstrates the importance of youth information and counselling services across Europe (and beyond), and can be shared widely with our network, our partners and our stakeholders.

Information is a crucial tool for all of us, but it is especially crucial for young people, who may sometimes find difficulties to grasp the complexity of our society. They may not always know that they have the right to quality information, or understand the multifaceted media and information landscape. Tools on how to recognise phenomenon such as disinformation, propaganda or biased and manipulative media, which can harm young people’s well-being and future opportunities, are distinctly lacking.

This means that there is still very much a strong need for youth information and counselling, and we as youth information professionals should ensure that quality, multi-channel information is equally available to all young people. In order to do this, we have to be aware of young people’s information needs, and which skills they require to consume information in a critical way. Without quality, youth-friendly information, young people cannot act or influence. There is no participation without information! Information can be used as a tool to educate young people, but should also be used for young people to educate us, and others in society, about their needs, views and trends. We should provide them with a space to express themselves. To do this, we need to engage in cross-sectoral and multidisciplinary cooperation with a wide array of information providers. If we want to positively influence the future, we have to act now!

ERYICA offers space and forums to build cooperation, relationships and new ideas to develop professional youth information work. ERYICA helps its members adapt to the changing lives of young people. Last year, we were very happy to see the expansion of the network, with 3 new members. A crucial moment in ERYICA’s history was the update and adoption of the new European Youth Information Charter at our 29th General Assembly in April 2018, which has now been translated into 21 languages. I would like to thank everyone who was involved in this participative process – we did it together! We also finalised the DOYIT - Developing Online Youth Information Trainings project, which was a learning process for all of us, and ended with great results: 4 ERYICA trainings are now available on an online learning environment, and some of them available in 9 languages!

I would also like to highlight the report Future Youth Information and Counselling: Building on Information Needs and Trends, which we conducted in cooperation with researchers from Åbo Akademi. Here we can see that face-to-face youth information remains crucial for young people – not all young people have access to digital services – and peer-to-peer activities should also be developed in the youth information sector, an area that ERYICA is developing with its partners.

Throughout 2018, ERYICA remained very active in several discussions on youth policy at national and European level, always highlighting young people’s right to receive information as a fundamental right of citizenship. Young people play a major role in Europe’s growth, development and future, and we are here to support them. I would like to thank our members, our partners and stakeholders for their active cooperation throughout the year. We have successfully achieved the goals set for 2018, and it would not have been possible without you!

Best regards,

Jaana Fedotoff
ERYICA President
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What is Youth Information?

Youth Information aims (among other objectives) to:
- Provide reliable, unbiased, accurate and youth-friendly information;
- Facilitate access to different sources and channels of information;
- Give an overview of options available on topics relevant to young people;
- Help young people to navigate the information overload of modern day society;
- Ensure that young people know their rights, services available and how to access them;
- Support young people in evaluating the available information and its quality;
- Guide young people to find the best options available to them and make their own decisions;
- Offer different channels of communication and dialogue to directly support young people in their search for information and knowledge; and
- Educate in media and information literacy.

What is ERYICA?

ERYICA believes in a society where all young people have access to youth friendly, reliable and comprehensive information, which promotes their autonomy, well-being and active citizenship in a global and digitalised world.

Our vision

To inspire, support and develop youth information and counselling in Europe and beyond.

Our mission

ERYICA makes youth information work visible at local, national and international levels, and provides its members with opportunities for professional development, exchange and innovation.

In 2018, our network consisted of 28 Members, 6 Affiliated organisations and 4 Co-operating organisations in 27 countries.

ERYICA was established on 17 April 1986 in Madrid, Spain, and is currently registered in the Grand-Duchy of Luxembourg, in accordance with the 1928 Luxembourg law on associations.
The European Youth Information Charter establishes the minimum standards for youth information and counselling services according to nine principles:

1. Independent
2. Accessible
3. Inclusive
4. Needs-based
5. Empowering
6. Participative
7. Ethical
8. Professional
9. Proactive

The first Charter was approved in 1993, making it the first quality assurance tool in youth information and counselling. Its most recent, second update was approved by the ERYICA General Assembly in 2018.
A Strategic Plan is the course of action that guides the achievements of an organisation’s strategy and mission. The 29th General Assembly of ERYICA approved the 6-year Strategic Plan for the period 2018-2023. Up until then, ERYICA’s Strategic Plan had always been established in 3-year periods, which is a short timeframe to implement plans and draw conclusions for the next one. Therefore, the decision was made to extend this period and to foresee a mid-term review of the strategy in place.

The purpose of the Strategic Plan for this period is to:
• Ease the definition of each annual Work Programme and ensure that it follows the strategy;
• Facilitate the design, implementation, and monitoring of activities and projects; and
• Simplify the preparation of measurable and comparable Activity Reports.

Therefore, ERYICA’s Strategic Plan does not only identify the priorities of the Agency, but it also guides the initiatives described in each annual Work Programme, which constitute the basis of the Activity Reports during this period.

The present Activity Report is organised according to the Plan’s Strategic Directions, and presents the activities and projects developed in 2018 in line with this structure. The present report is opening the implementation of the strategy for the next 6-year cycle.

Youth information workers should be adequately skilled and resourced in order to support young people in a professional manner. The exchange of good practices and participation in training activities are milestones in the provision of quality youth information services. Youth information work shall likewise support young people in their own search for accurate and reliable information. It must provide them with the necessary skills to act as responsible and active citizens.
Organising training activities for youth information workers

Similarly to previous years, 9 ERYICA training courses were organised in 2018, in 6 countries. 164 participants received ERYICA certificates, having completed one of the following courses:

DOYIT YoMIM Training of eTrainers
- Zagreb, Croatia, 22-26 January 2018

DOYIT – Digital YIntro Training of eTrainers
- Vilnius, Lithuania, 19-23 February 2018

DOYIT – Exploitation and Dissemination Training
- Cascais, Portugal, 23-27 April 2018

YIntro – Stepping into Youth Information
- Barcelona, Spain, 18 April - 12 June 2018
- Tarragona and Lleida, Spain, 14-29 November 2018

YIntro – Training of Trainers
- Zagreb, Croatia, 23-27 July 2018

Digital YIntro eLearning Course
- Finland, 12 November - 14 December 2018

As well as these courses, the YIntro is still an integral part of youth worker training in Wales and similar arrangements are also being made for the Digital YIntro course. These training courses were organised mainly by ERYICA Member Organisations that are free to initiate trainings, access the materials and cooperate with the trainers’ pool. Certain courses were also organised by the ERYICA Secretariat.

Developing an ERYICA Capacity-building and Training System for online and face-to-face training activities

At the initiative of the Governing Board, the ERYICA Capacity-building and Training System Working Group (WG ECTS) has been established to design and create a new Training of Trainers Programme, and to restructure the ERYICA training system to ensure that it remains up-to-date and meets the needs and expectations of the field.

Digital YIntro eLearning Course

Further fields of activities under this Strategic Direction included:

- Developing and piloting the DOYIT online training scheme and eTraining courses
- Updating and translating existing manuals, training material and courses
- Supporting networking and exchange among ERYICA trainers
- Promoting the existing material and resources throughout the network and in countries wishing to establish youth information and counselling services
- Developing contacts with the formal education sector and other youth-related sectors in view of setting up common activities and projects for the benefit of youth information workers
- Participating in the training activities of our stakeholders and partners

DOYIT: Development of Online Youth Information Trainings – Erasmus+

Duration:
03/10/2016 – 02/10/2018

Coordination:
ERYICA

Partners:
Austrian Youth Information Centres (AT), Zajednica ICM (HR), Egomind (EE), Koordinatsi (FI), Humak (FI), Youth Work Ireland (IE), Creativitas (LT), ERYICA (LU), IPDJ (PT), Catalan Youth Agency (ES).

The overarching goal of this project was to exploit innovations in training methodologies and tools, especially eLearning methods and virtual cooperation, in order to increase the access of youth information workers and youth workers from the network to ERYICA trainings. The 2-year initiative adapted 4 training courses (YoMIM, Digital YIntro, Jimmy, ALTYO) to an online eLearning platform, thereby increasing their outreach and decreasing the cost of training for youth information workers. The project defined quality assessment tools and evaluation methodology for online courses in the youth work sector, and used the ERYICA Quality Management Catalogue to further increase the quality level of youth information and counselling services.

In 2018, Digital YIntro Training of eTrainers was finalised, Jimmy and ALTYO training manuals were adapted to an eLearning environment, YoMIM was translated into 5 languages (French, German, Spanish, Portuguese and Croatian), and Digital Yintro was translated into 8 languages (French, German, Spanish and Portuguese and Croatian, Finnish, Estonian and Lithuanian). The eLearning Kit and the eLearning Quality tool were finalised, and the project celebrated its success at the final dissemination event in Cascais on 28 September. The project consortium met for the final time on 27 September in Cascais. ERYICA is aiming to deliver 2 eLearning courses per year beginning in 2019, but all ERYICA members can organise eLearning courses in collaboration with our pool of trainers.
The third ERYICA Trainers’ Seminar took place from 10–13 December in Luxembourg, with the involvement of 12 partners and 28 participants, including a representative from the Council of Europe Youth Department. The purpose of this bi-annual seminar is to reinforce the ERYICA trainers’ community, exchange methods and knowledge between trainers, and discuss strategies and methods of updating the content of our training programmes. Special focus this year was placed on eLearning and the new Training of Trainers system.

In the course of 2016 and 2017, and with the support of the Council of Europe and the ERYICA Secretariat, our French-speaking members worked on the edition of LIAISONS – a toolkit for the prevention of violent extremism through youth information. This practical resource for youth (information) workers, educators and youth organisations provides theoretical elements and educational tools to reinforce young people’s resilience and critical thinking. In spring 2018, the toolkit was published in English, and the French version was updated. Throughout the year, first steps were taken for the translation of Liaisons into Dutch and Azerbaijani. These steps will be followed up on in 2019.

In October 2018, ERYICA applied to organise a training event for youth information workers from the network interested in gaining knowledge and skills on how to design and implement successful eParticipation processes and on the role that youth information plays in promoting young people’s participation. The course will be organised based on the training course developed under the Horizon 2020 project ELth. The project received funding and took place in 2019.
Youth information and counselling services need to explore innovative ways to empower young people by seizing the opportunities offered by emerging trends and new media. Youth information services need to be up-to-date and familiar with progressive and innovative practices, research outcomes and communication technologies in order to ensure their quality and effective outreach to young people.
Activities

Supporting the development of innovative services in order to address the information needs of young people and to reach them where they are

In the framework of the Youth.Info: Future Youth Information Toolbox, three innovative youth information tools were piloted and created throughout 2018. The training on eParticipation developed under the EUth project also uses innovative services to encourage youth participation in society. ERYICA submitted a project application for DesYIgn: Innovative Youth Information Service Design and Outreach, using Service Design as an innovative method to rethink how services are designed and to create new tools and resources.

Raising awareness on trends and new media popular among young people

In the framework of the Youth.Info: Future Youth Information Toolbox project, a training course on Peer-to-peer in youth information work was piloted and finalised. See more in Projects.

Towards the end of 2018, the Secretariat launched a Members’ Survey, which aimed to map the ERYICA network. The information collected provides evidence for advocacy work and underlines the importance and outreach of the ERYICA network vis-à-vis decision makers and stakeholders. Furthermore, the results ensure the visibility of youth information in Europe and allowed us to find out more about our network, showcasing ERYICA’s presence across the continent.

Exchange of best practices on youth information work

In 2018, we published the bi-annual Good Practice booklet. This booklet presents a large selection of quality examples to be adapted within different youth information and counselling contexts. Networking and sharing information play a major role in developing the themes important to youth information and counselling, as well as in our efforts to reach young people more effectively. The 2018 Sheryica Good Practice Booklet is the 5th edition of the publication.

Partnering with researchers on youth issues and media and information studies to ensure research-based policy-making and practice

In the framework of the Future Youth Information Toolbox project, ERYICA contributed to the study: Future Youth Information and Counselling: Building on Information Needs and Trends. The aim was to study information behaviour and experiences with youth information and counselling services of both users and non-users of the services. Further research was carried out using future foresight methodologies throughout 2018, and youth information tools were created based on the results of the research. Read more in Strategic Direction 1, Projects and Strategic Direction 4.

ERYICA is a member of the European Platform on Learning Mobility (EPLM), which aims to create a participatory space for exchange and cooperation between practitioners, researchers and policy makers. Read more under Strategic Direction 4.

Further activities under this Strategic Direction included:

- Organisation of an Open Dialogue Day on Mobility and Pre-Conference with researchers and stakeholders in the field in connection with the MOVE project
- Identification of researchers on youth policy through dialogue with research institutes and higher education institutions
- Dissemination of research results and publications among the members throughout the network’s channels
- Participation in research projects and project proposals dealing with youth policy and addressing the Strategic Directions and Thematic Priorities of ERYICA, especially under Horizon 2020
- Participation in GAPMIL, the Global Alliance for Partnerships on Media and Information Literacy.

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- Participation in research projects and project proposals dealing with youth policy and addressing the Strategic Directions and Thematic Priorities of ERYICA, especially under Horizon 2020
- Participation in GAPMIL, the Global Alliance for Partnerships on Media and Information Literacy.
The overarching aim of this project was to increase the quality and outreach of youth information at local level by creating and applying user-friendly methods based on evidence-based youth information needs and involving peer-to-peer youth information educators. The project was created due to the lack of evidence-based research in the field of youth information, which blocks the development of the sector. With this in mind, research was carried out to identify youth information needs, trends, and most relevant topics.

The survey was based on an ERYICA survey which was carried out in 2013, and, perhaps most innovatively, used future foresight methodology to identify a strategic direction for youth information, something that has never been done before. In 2018, the following research was conducted:

- Future Youth Information and Counselling: Building on Information Trends and Needs;
- Executive Summary of the Future Foresight activities; and
- Manual for Foresight in Youth Information.

Using the results of the research and the future foresight, three user-friendly, evidence and future-based youth information methods were developed and piloted at local level, and are now available for use. They are:

- Parents’ Evening: a LARP Game (on the theme of privacy and data protection);
- Everyone is employable (on the theme of employability); and
- Website: Opportunities Match (on the theme of youth mobility).

For the sustainability of the project, a peer-to-peer training course was developed, and piloted in October 2018 in Berlin. The participants later organised local peer-to-peer training activities.

In March 2019, a multiplier event was organised in Vilnius, Lithuania. This was tailored for political awareness building at local, national and European level for the further support of youth information services in participating countries, particularly those who require it the most.

Providing a research-informed contribution towards an improvement of the conditions of the mobility of young people in Europe and a reduction of the negative impacts of mobility through the identification of good practice, thus fostering sustainable development and wellbeing.

The main research question was: How can the mobility of young people be ‘good’ both for socio-economic development and for individual development of young people, and what are the factors that foster/hinder such beneficial mobility? Six types of mobility were addressed in this research: higher education, voluntary work, employment, vocational training, pupil’s exchange and entrepreneurship.

On 25 January 2018, ERYICA organised the third MOVE workshop in Zagreb, Croatia. Its purpose was to take the results of the MOVE project to policy makers and practitioners in countries where the research has not been carried out (i.e. in the Western Balkans). It took the form of an exploratory dialogue on the topic of youth mobility in Europe, and participants had the chance to discuss the different stages of youth mobility.

The final event to be organised by ERYICA in this framework of the project was the MOVE pre-conference on 7 March 2018 in Luxembourg, which preceded the final conference of the project. This event presented the final results of the MOVE research to participants. A wide variety of around 80 stakeholders attended this event. Although the project is over, there are various policy briefs publicly available on the topic of European youth mobility, and practitioners and policy-makers in the field are invited to use and share them widely.
Quality and ethics are fundamental aspects of youth work in general, and of youth information and counselling in particular. Youth information services operate on a human rights-based approach in their daily work. At the same time, quality youth information work enhances young people’s autonomy by supporting their critical assessment of information and media outlets. This strategic direction seeks to frame youth information practices within a set of ethical principles and guidelines and to provide quality assessment mechanisms in a complex and changing environment.

### Strategic Direction 3: Quality and Youth Information Ethics

**Tools and Tips for Digital and Mobile Youth Participation in and across Europe (EUth) – Horizon 2020**

- **Duration:** 01/05/2015-01/05/2018
- **Coordination:** Nexus - Institute for Cooperation Management and Interdisciplinary Research (DE)
- **Partners:** Alfstore (FR), AEGEE (BE), Development Centre of the Heart of Slovenia (SI), ERYICA (LU), Institute of Studies for the Integration of Systems (IT), UAB (DE), Liquid Democracy e.V. (DE), Missions Publiques (FR), Royal Institute of Technology (SE), the Danish Board of Technology Foundation (DK)

**EUth** has built a digital European youth participation platform, “OPIN”, which has been tested and put to use in various European administrations and youth organisations, to help them set up eParticipation processes. EUth aims to increase the trust of European youth in Europe and political institutions by making European youth participation more attractive for all involved actors, and thus make it happen more frequently.

The final OPIN tool is an all-in-one digital and mobile participation toolbox. It includes:

- Features for digital and mobile participation;
- Easy to embed participation processes on websites;
- Intelligent community management;
- Integration of offline events; and
- Multimedia information about your project.

The features of OPIN include:

- Collaborative text work;
- Collecting ideas; and
- Mobile polling.

ERYICA has created a new training course on eParticipation and youth information from this content. It was first piloted during the EUth project and an application for funding was approved so the course will be run for the first time in 2019. It will also be adapted to the eLearning platform.

**www.opin.me**
Revision and adaptation of the European Youth Information Charter and the Principles of Online Youth Information

A Working Group on the European Youth Information Charter was established at the 28th General Assembly in 2017. On 30-31 January 2018, the Working Group met together to revise and adapt the European Youth Information Charter and the Principles for Online Youth Information. It was decided to merge the two documents, as the previous versions dated from 2004, and new information technologies have had a very strong impact in the way we obtain, process and use information.

Encouraging our members to develop and apply quality management mechanisms and resources
ERYICA members were encouraged to translate the updated European Youth Information Charter into different languages, and to date the Charter is translated into 21 different languages.

Exploring the feasibility of designing a European quality label for youth information
In autumn 2018, ERYICA met with the Council of Europe to discuss the activities of the cooperation for 2019, which will be based on the development of a European Quality Label for Youth Information. A Working Group was established at the end of 2018 to work on this topic, and began their work at the beginning of 2019.

Adopting positive practices to promote and ensure young people’s access to rights through reliable, complete and understandable information
In 2018, ERYICA ran two calls for the Youth Information Development Fund. See more in Projects below.

Update and adoption of the new European Youth Information Charter
The new version of the European Youth Information Charter was adopted in Cascais, Portugal, on 27 April 2018 by the 29th General Assembly of ERYICA.

Activities

To celebrate the update of the Charter, a social media campaign was planned in the last quarter of 2018. The three-month campaign, from 15 October until 21 December 2018, gave broader visibility to the principles of the Charter and promoted their implementation and endorsement.

Projects

4th ERYICA Youth Ambassadors Training–Erasmus+
Duration: 15/05/2018 - 14/11/2018
Coordination: Consell Valencià de la Joventut in collaboration with IVAJ (ES)
Partners: ICM Jindrichuv Hradec z.s. (CZ), Youth Work Ireland (IE), ERYICA (LU), Catalan Youth Agency (ES), Cyprus Youth Council (CY), Estonian Youth Work Centre (EE), Mladiinfo International (MK), OSRS (BA), Solna Youth Center (SE), MISSS (SI).

The Youth Ambassadors training course gathered 24 participants from 10 countries in Alicante, Spain. This was the 4th bi-annual ERYICA Youth Ambassadors training course to take place and was organised in close cooperation with IVAJ and the regional Youth Council of Valencia (CVJ). There is a core programme that the Youth Ambassadors follow focusing on the basics of youth information and counselling, and then a flexible part. This year focused on Media and Information Literacy. A colleague from the UNESCO Communication and Information Sector attended to present the resources and initiatives targeting young people that the UNESCO has developed. The ERYICA Secretariat is now working together with the Youth Ambassadors to create a framework in order to involve Youth Ambassadors in the network in a permanent and sustainable way.

Update and adoption of the new European Youth Information Charter
The new version of the European Youth Information Charter was adopted in Cascais, Portugal, on 27 April 2018 by the 29th General Assembly of ERYICA.
This strategic direction aims to reinforce and deepen our cooperation with different international, national and regional institutions and partner organisations, while improving the coordination across sectors and at different levels. Our collaboration will be based on the endorsement of common policy goals, as well as the development of concrete projects and activities in priority areas. We will also seek to establish new strategic synergies, that aim to mainstream youth information and to reach out to more young people.
The objectives of the Grant Agreement for 2018 can be summed up as the following:

- Preliminary survey on the information needs of young people in Ukraine by involving the country in the study conducted under the Erasmus+ project Youth.Info: Future Youth Information Toolbox. The report was written in cooperation with Abo Akademi;
- A Kick-off meeting including ERYICA representatives, the Ministry of Youth and Sports of Ukraine, Council of Europe representatives, the national association of youth centres, and other stakeholders at the national level;
- A National seminar on youth information and counselling gathering targeted Ukrainian participants and experienced youth information workers and experts from the ERYICA network;
- Some sessions of the Jimmy training of ERYICA delivered by trainers of our trainers’ pool;
- The partial translation of the Compendium on National Youth Information and Counselling Structures into Ukrainian;
- Dissemination activities to promote other publications edited by ERYICA and the Council of Europe under their partnership; namely those available in Russian Info Rights Kit and Youth Information Starters’ Kit; and
- Promotion of Liaisons: toolkit for the prevention of violent extremism through youth information in French, and the translation into English, followed by dissemination.

The realisation of these aims has been enhanced through the following meetings:

- 20 February 2018 – Kick-off meeting with representatives of the youth sector in Ukraine (Kyiv, Ukraine);
- 23-25 May 2018 - Second International Forum of Youth Centres “From Initiatives to Action” – (Svitohirsk, Ukraine);
- 20-21 June 2018 - National Seminar on Youth Information and Counselling Services (Vinnytsia, Ukraine), gathering over 60 Ukrainian participants and experienced youth information workers and experts from the ERYICA network and researchers; and
- 6-7 September 2018 - General Assembly of the national Ukrainian Youth Council (Lviv, Ukraine).

The cooperation with the youth sector in Ukraine and the Ministry for Youth and Sports will continue in 2019.

ERYICA continued with the dissemination of the Liaisons toolkit throughout 2018. Liaisons is a 240-page toolkit on the prevention of violent extremism through youth information and counselling. The toolkit aims to define the role of youth information work in the prevention of violent extremism.

The second part is a practical toolbox, and includes a range of around 50 activities, divided into the following chapters:
- Self-confidence, self-esteem, knowing yourself (identity, talents, projects and dreams)
- Diversity and living together (understanding others, stereotypes, prejudices, discrimination, interculturality)
- Communication (expressing ideas, debating, conflict management)
- Media and information literacy (critical thinking, media, propaganda, conspiracy theories)

The activities in the toolbox have been selected due to their relevance and capacity to have a positive impact on young people. The toolkit was finalised in French in 2017, and published in English in spring 2018.

CDEJ and JCM Meetings: 26-28 March, Budapest & 15-17 October, Strasbourg

ERYICA is an observer of the CDEJ (European Steering Committee for Youth), a statutory body of the Council of Europe that co-manages the Youth activities and budget of the Department of Youth and Sport together, on an equal basis, with the Advisory Council on Youth (Joint Council on Youth). Meetings of CDEJ and the Joint Council have been seized as an opportunity to discuss youth information development with the responsible persons of the Ministries in charge of youth. The CDEJ-JC meet twice per year and ERYICA was represented at both meetings in 2018.

Meeting of the JCC: Strasbourg, 17 October

Since 1997, ERYICA activities with the Council of Europe have been developing within the framework of the Partnership Agreement that is maintained through the work of the Joint Coordinating Committee (JCC). One JCC meeting took place in 2018, after the CDEJ-JC meeting in Strasbourg. The meeting defined the activities of the cooperation for 2019, which will be based on the development of a European Quality Label for Youth Information.

The dissemination of Liaisons and other publications realised in the framework of the Partnership Agreement between the Council of Europe and ERYICA also remains a priority in 2019. The JCC took also the opportunity to discuss the update of the CoE-ERYICA Partnership Agreement.

CoE Children’s Rights Division

An important question that is becoming increasingly recurrent for youth information providers is how they may contribute to support the information resilience of children and young people in migration. The Children’s Rights Division of the Council of Europe has published a very interesting handbook on Child-friendly Information for Children in Migration. ERYICA was invited to provide input for the handbook and participate in a meeting of Working Group of experts that developed it (Strasbourg, 30-31 May). This was the first time that ERYICA collaborated with the CoE Children’s Rights Division.
No Hate Speech Movement (NHSM) Final Event
ERYICA was a recognised partner organisation of the No Hate Speech Movement. The Agency had an observer seat in the follow-up group of the Campaign. The group functioned as the Steering Group of the NHSM, responsible for the overall support of the Movement. The meetings were organised by the Youth Department. The meeting aimed to explore parameters and provide key content inputs for the development of a new Council of Europe youth sector strategy from 2020 to 2030. The Conference made recommendations to the Joint Council on Youth on the key parameters that should inform the contents and intervention logic of the Council of Europe’s future youth strategy. Access to information and media and information literacy were mentioned as key areas to be addressed.

DISSEMINATION ACTIVITIES OF COE INITIATIVES AND PUBLICATIONS

The promotion of the Youth Information

CoE Consultative meeting Agenda 2030 – Strasbourg, 15-16 May
ERYICA was invited to take part in the Consultative meeting on a “Council of Europe midterm youth sector strategy from 2020 to 2030” organised by the Youth Department. The meeting aimed to explore parameters and provide key content inputs for the development of a new Council of Europe youth sector strategy from 2020 to 2030. The Consultative meeting made recommendations to the Joint Council on Youth on the key parameters that should inform the contents and intervention logic of the Council of Europe’s future youth strategy. Access to information and media and information literacy were mentioned as key areas to be addressed.

INGOS registry Council of Europe
ERYICA has successfully acquired participatory status in the Council of Europe Conference of INGOs. The Conference represents civil society at the Council of Europe and works to promote participatory democracy. In addition to holding two annual sessions a year, it organises events linked to the priorities of the Council. The status is expected to give ERYICA a broader recognition, not only vis-à-vis the Youth Department where we are already quite involved, but at the CoE level as a whole. It also provides opportunities to meet INGOs in other sectors that work with the CoE, therefore increasing its capacity for cross-sectorial cooperation.

European Union
Cooperation with the European Union can be seen in the following frameworks and events:

PARTICIPATION IN THE EU YOUTH CONFERENCE AS OBSERVER

• EU Youth Conference of the Austrian Presidency: Vienna, 2-4 September 2018

ERASMUS+ AND HORIZON 2020
ERYICA participated in Horizon 2020 and Erasmus+ projects throughout the year. See previous sections.

• Conference on The Future of Erasmus+ – Brussels, 15 June 2018. This conference was a first discussion event on the European Commission’s proposal for Erasmus+ (2021-2027) organised by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research and the Permanent Representation of the Federal Republic of Germany to the European Union in Brussels.

OPERATING GRANT

• ERYICA received an operating grant for 2018 and applied to receive an operating grant in 2019.

European Parliament

• European Parliament Consultation: Invest in Youth – Brussels, 19 January 2018

DiscoverEU
ERYICA participated in 2 stakeholder consultations related to this new programme and highlighted the role of youth information in supporting the initiative.

• European Commission Stakeholders’ meeting DiscoverEU – Brussels, 3 May 2018

• European Commission Stakeholders’ meeting DiscoverEU – Brussels, 17 October 2018

Collaboration with Eurofound
ERYICA was invited by Eurofound to participate in a panel discussion about young people’s access to social services during the European Youth Event in Strasbourg on 1-2 June 2018.

Meeting with the Directorate General for Education and Culture
ERYICA’s President and Director met with the Head of Sector and other colleagues at the DG EAC. It was a good opportunity to highlight the importance of youth information at European level, the different tools and services ERICA provides and ways of cooperating.

European Union Visitors Programme

• Meeting at the EEA with a Member of Lipetsk City Youth Parliament and Member of the Education Committee from Russia - Brussels, 16 November 2018.

No Hate Speech Movement (NHSM) Final Event
ERYICA received an operating grant for 2018 and applied to receive an operating grant in 2019.
Partnership between the EU and the Council of Europe in the Field of Youth

European Platform on Learning Mobility Steering Group meetings and conference
ERYICA is a member of the European Platform on Learning Mobility (EPLM), which aims to create a participatory space for exchange and cooperation between practitioners, researchers and policy makers. The Agency also participates in its Steering Group meetings.

Two Steering Group meetings took place in 2018:
- Luxembourg, 5-6 March, hosted by ERYICA
- Brussels, 13-14 September

Participation in other initiatives of the Partnership
- "Connecting the Dots: Young People, Social Inclusion and Digitalisation", Tallinn, 26-28 June
- The role of the youth sector in supporting young refugees – Strasbourg, 4-5 December

UNESCO
Throughout 2018, ERYICA continued working in close collaboration with UNESCO, in particular the Media Development, Communication and Information Sector. This involved disseminating the MEDIA+ movement throughout the network and encouraging Members to participate in the movement. ERYICA is a member of GAPMIL.

North-South Centre
19th University for Youth and Development – Molina, Spain, 10-12 September
ERYICA in collaboration with our Belgian member CIDJ contributed to the annual University on Youth and Development organised by the North-South Centre. We held a plenary session and workshops on the Liaisons toolkit.

An ERYICA expert from the network (Koordinaatti) was also involved in the Media Literacy Task Force of the NSC on behalf of ERYICA throughout 2018.

Speakers at the UNESCO Global Media and Information Literacy Week, Kaunas, October 2018.

Workshop on Liaisons during the UN 2018, Molina, September 2018.

Stakeholders
3 networks collaboration
In the spirit of the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2016, the 3 networks continued their collaboration throughout the course of 2018. The Directors met 3 times during the year in January, June and September. These meetings led to the development of an Erasmus + KA1 project proposal, which will be carried out in 2019. The 3 networks published their first joint newsletter on 15 October 2018.

3 networks collaboration - ERYICA, Eurodesk and EYCA Presidents at the EYCA GA, Cascais, June 2018.

Exploring cooperation frameworks with other stakeholders, such as:
- The Commonwealth
- Evans Foundation
- Observatorio Iberoamericano de la Juventud (OIJ)
- Partnership of the Future Youth Information Toolbox project survey report in cooperation with Professor Gunilla Widen from Åbo Akademi.

The Directors of the 3 organisations were also invited to attend the event: "Youth Information in Europe and Ireland: The Future Youth Information Toolbox project survey report in cooperation with Professor Gunilla Widen from Åbo Akademi."

International Organisations and Capacity Building
Collaboration with organisations such as:
- European University Foundation (EFU)
- MediaWija
- Youth Access
- UK Youth

Development of Youth Information and Counselling Services in Ukraine
See Council of Europe - Grant Agreement 2018.

European Youth Card Association (EYCA)
- EYCA Seminar: Maximising Impact – Brussels, 24 January 2018;
- General Assembly European Youth Card Association – Cascais, 7-10 June 2018.

European Youth Forum

International Capacity-building
Projects and Activities included:
- Commonwealth Conference on youth work – Malta, 6-8 November
- Fight disinformation with media literacy (Events Foundation) – Brussels, 13 November
- Meeting with Observatorio de la Juventud en Iberoamérica (OIJ) – Madrid, 5 November

Eurosdesk
- Eurodesk Awards and Meeting with multipliers – Brussels, 23-24 May 2018;
The 29th General Assembly (GA) was hosted by Instituto Português do Desporto e da Juventude (IPDJ), Member Organisation of ERYICA. The event convened 38 participants from 16 countries.

The agenda included the following main points:

- Adoption of the Report of the 28th General Assembly;
- Presentation and approval of the Report of Activities 2017;
- Approval of the closed financial accounts 2017 and the forward budget of 2019;
- Release of Governing Board and Director for accounts, duties and responsibilities for the year 2017;
- Appointment of external and internal auditors;
- Presentation and adoption of the Strategic Plan 2018-2023;
- Editing and approval of the Work Programme 2018;
- Modification of the Standing Orders and Statutes;
- Presentation of the outcomes of the Working Group on the European Youth Information Charter;
- Presentation of the outcomes of the Working Group on the ERYICA Capacity-Building and Training System (ECTS);
- Presentation of stakeholders;
- Presentation of Youth Information Development Fund;
- Keynote speakers from projects MOVE and Future Toolbox;
- Presentation of ERYICA projects;
- Possible initiatives and activities for 2019; and
- Elevator pitch on Members’ projects and good practices from the network.

29th General Assembly
Cascais, Portugal,
25-27 April 2018
The ERYICA Governing Board had 4 meetings in 2018, in the following venues and dates:

- **Meeting 66:** St. Venera, Malta (6-7 February 2018); hosted by Agenzija Żgħażagħ
- **Meeting 67:** Cascais, Portugal (24-25 & 27 April 2018); hosted by IPDJ
- **Meeting 68:** Bonn, Germany (14-15 June 2018); hosted by IJAB
- **Meeting 69:** St. Pere de Ribes, Spain (10-11 October 2018); hosted by ACJ

They also held 4 online meetings.

Several Working Groups have undertaken specific tasks to move the development of the network and the organisation forward. The creation of Working Groups (WG) is a great way of combining Members’ expertise and ERYICA’s European outreach for the development of youth information and counselling. In 2018, the following Working Groups were active:

- **Working Group on the European Youth Information Charter**
- **Working Group on Training and Capacity-building System**
- **Working Group French-speaking Members**
- **Working Group Iberian Members**
- **Working Group Nordic-Baltic Meeting**

In 2018, the ERYICA Secretariat consisted of the following staff members:

- Eva Reina, Director;
- Imre Simon, Members’ Services Manager;
- Jessica Walker, Project Manager;
- Aurélie Labreton, Accountant (part-time).

Interns under the Erasmus Placement Programme continue forming an integral part of the ERYICA Team. As well as reinforcing ERYICA’s European identity and ensuring the involvement of young people in our everyday activities, the placement provides an opportunity for the trainees to get to know more about youth information and counselling services and at the same time gain work experience. Cloé Juigné from Luxembourg and Begoña Trujillo from Spain supported the activities of the Secretariat in 2018.

The members of the Governing Board in 2018 were:

**President:** Jaana Fedotoff (Koordinaatti, Finland)

**Vice Presidents:**
- Daniel Poll (IJAB, Germany)
- Josep Moliné (Catalan Youth Agency, Spain)

**Treasurer:** Miriam Teuma (Aġenzija Żgħażagħ, Malta)

**Members:**
- Claire Conlon (CIDJ, France)
- Stil Vik (Forum for Ungdomsinformasjon, Norway)
- Patrick Burk (Youth Work Ireland, Ireland)
- Matjaž Medvešek (Zavod MISSS, Slovenia)
PR and Communication

Website

Our website is updated regularly with news, new projects, new members and all other relevant information and material.

SHEryica Facebook Page and Group

The SHEryica Facebook group was created in 2018 and will be tested throughout the course of 2019. The aim is to enhance collaboration between youth information work professionals from a variety of backgrounds. On this group, youth information professionals will be encouraged to exchange ideas on upcoming projects in the youth information field, share individual competences, discuss experiences and exchange good practices. The SHEryica Facebook page still exists, a public space, and will also be re-vitalised throughout 2019.

Social Media

ERYICA used the same social media channels throughout 2018. The Facebook page accumulated 3613 followers, an 18.2% increase since the end of 2017. The total impressions were 292,746, a 101.8% increase since 2017. This is due to the new social media strategy that has been put in place and the increased activity on the platform.

ERYICA’s Twitter account had 1077 followers on 31 December 2017. ERYICA now has an active Instagram account and counts 434 followers at the moment (a 270% increase from 2017 due to the increased content on the account).

European Youth Information Day

17th April traditionally gives space to the activities of the European Youth Information Day, promoting youth information and counselling. In 2018, ERYICA ran the campaign ‘thumbs up for youth information!’ Members, stakeholders and young people were invited to take a moment to post 3 things on social media about why we should put our ‘thumbs up for Youth Information!’ Participants made their posts on the website Thunderclap (no longer existing), which released all the posts at the same time on 17th April to give maximum impact. Overall, 510,000 people were reached across 44 cities in 22 countries.

As well as this European initiative, youth information centres in different countries are also invited to organise activities with young people on this day, making the most of the promotion and visibility this opportunity gives them.

Newsletter

4 newsletters were sent out in 2018 to ERYICA members and stakeholders, as well as 1 joint newsletter in cooperation with Eurodesk and EYCA. Over 4000 people were reached through the newsletters.
As of 31 December 2018, ERYICA’s membership counted 28 Members, 6 Affiliated organisations and 4 Cooperating organisations in 27 countries.
Affiliated Organisations

Andorra (1)
Departament de Joventut i Voluntariat
del Govern d’Andorra
Prada Casader
AD 500 Andorra la Vella
+376 829 456
agusti_pifarre@govern.ad
www.joventut.ad

Bosnia and Herzegovina (1)
Youth Council of Republic of Srpska (YCRS)
Stevana Mokranjca 2
78000 Banja Luka
+387 51 326 130
omladinskisavjetrs@gmail.com
www.omladinskisavjet.org

Finland (2)
ALLIANSSI - Suomen Nuorisoyhteistyö Allianssi
Asennuspäätöskirjat 1
00520 Helsinki
+358 20 755 26 00
info@alli.fi
www.alli.fi

North Macedonia (1)
Association for Education MLADIINFO
INTERNATIONAL
Str. Filip Filipovic 22
1000 Skopje
+389 2 520 98 90
centar@mladiinfo.eu,
info@mladiinfo.eu
www.mladiinfo.eu

Sweden (1)
Solna Unginfo
Solna UngdomsCafé
Huvudstagan 2, b
171 44 SOLNA
+46 8 7050024
info@solnaungdomscafe.se
www.unginfo.se

Cooperating Organisations

Albania (1)
Youth Act Center
Frang Bardhi Str.
Tirana
+355 04 2400 333
prog.manager@youthact.al
www.youthact.al

Lithuania (1)
LiJOT – Lithuanian Youth Council
Didžioji str. 8-5
01128 Vilnius
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silvia@eurodesk.lt
www.lijot.lt

Serbia (1)
EDIT Centar
Pap Pavla 7/12
21000 Novi Sad
+381638018538
office@edit.org.rs
www.edit.org.rs

Switzerland (1)
Infoklick.ch
Sandstrasse 5
CH-3302 Moosseedorf
+41 31 850 10 90
welcome@infoklick.ch
www.infoklick.ch

United Kingdom (2)
Welsh Government - Youth Engagement Branch
Sain Mynach, Llandudno Junction
LL31 9RZ Cardiff
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+44 300 062 5224
YouthWork@wales.gsi.gov.uk
www.gov.wales.com

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Rosebery House, 8 Haymarket Terrace
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www.youngscot.net

Föreningen Luckan r.f.
Yrjönkatu 27
00100 Helsinki
+358 50 52 10 080
luckan@luckan.fi
www.luckan.fi

Liechtenstein (1)
aha - Tipps & Infos für junge Leute
Bahnhof, FL 9494 Schaan
+423-239 91 11
johannes@aha.li
www.aha.li

Lithuania (1)
LiJOT – Lithuanian Youth Council
Didžioji str. 8-5
01128 Vilnius
+370 5 279 10 14
silvia@eurodesk.lt
www.lijot.lt

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www.unginfo.se
ERYICA at a Glance

April 2018: The updated European Youth Information Charter was adopted at the 29th General Assembly in Cascais, Portugal. **October 2018:** The DOYIT final event was held and ERYICA now has 4 trainings available online and 1 of them available in 5 different languages, and another in 8 languages. **December 2017:** The Liaisons toolkit was published. **May 2017:** Adoption of Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)4 on Youth Work. **October 2016:** The development of eLearning courses begin in the framework of the DOYIT project. **September 2016:** ERYICA signs a Memorandum of Understanding with EYCA and Eurodesk and publishes a common position paper. **September 2016:** Adoption of Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec(2016)7 on young people’s access to rights. **April 2016:** ERYICA celebrates its 30th anniversary and organises a European seminar on youth information in the digital era in Helsinki in cooperation with Koordinati. **December 2015:** The outreach of the ERYICA Facebook account exceeds 100,000 in one year. A Regional Seminar on Youth Information and Counselling is held in Georgia. **November 2015:** ERYICA has a liaison desk in Brussels. **June 2014:** The Summer University on Youth Information and Counselling brings together 120 participants from 19 countries. **March 2014:** ERYICA publishes the Compendium on National Youth Information and Counselling Structures and the handbook Young People’s Access to Rights through Youth Information and Counselling in cooperation with the Council of Europe. **December 2013:** The Youth Information Starter Kit is available in 7 languages. **September 2013:** An ERYICA video opens the EU Youth Conference in Vilnius, Lithuania. **June 2013:** The Symposium on Youth Policy in South East Europe: The role of information and counselling takes place in Zagreb, Croatia. **February 2013:** ERYICA launches the Youth on the Move – InfoMobility (YoMIM) project. **July 2012:** Pilot of the 5th youth information training course of the ERYICA training system, the Advanced YIntro. **April 2012:** Launch of the Information Right Now! Campaign in partnership with the Council of Europe. **February 2012:** Launch of the Information Right Now! Campaign in partnership with the Council of Europe. **January 2012:** Publishing of Guide to Safety and Quality online. **April 2011:** 25th Anniversary Celebration of ERYICA in Opatija, Croatia. **February 2011:** Launch of JIMMY, the Youth Information Mediator project. **September 2010:** Colloquy “Bridging the Gap” organised with support of the Council of Europe in Budapest, Hungary, European Youth Centre. **June 2010:** Launch of Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)8 on Youth Information. **December 2009:** ERYICA launches SHERYICA, the Interactive Platform for Youth Information workers and adopts the Principles for Online Youth Information. **January 2009:** Launch of the “A Better Youth Information for New Times” project. **December 2008:** Launch of ERYICA’s first project Meet the Street. **April 2008:** ERYICA inaugurates the European Youth Information Day, on April 17th. **November 2007:** ERYICA together with the Council of Europe organises a colloquy on the Future of Youth Information in Europe in Budapest, Hungary. **July 2007:** ERYICA office moves to Luxembourg. **April 2006:** ERYICA celebrates its 20th anniversary and organises a European seminar on Youth Participation together with Eurodesk and EYCA in Vienna. **November 2005:** Policy statement on “Indicators for a National Youth Information Policy” is adopted in Ljubljana, Slovenia. **September 2005:** ERYICA organises the European Seminar on “Quality Matters in Information for Young People” together with Eurodesk and EYCA in Paris. **November 2004:** Updated version of the “European Youth Information Charter” is adopted in Bratislava. **December 2001:** ERYICA releases the Minimum Basic Training Course (MBTC) module for its training of Youth Information workers. **November 2000:** First ERYICA Governing Board is established. **July 1999:** ERYICA publishes its first study on “Generalist Youth Information in Europe in 1997”. **December 1998:** ERYICA launches the online version of Infomobil. **April 1997:** Council of Europe signs a Partnership Agreement with ERYICA. **April 1994:** ERYICA registers as a non-profit making association in Luxembourg. **December 1993:** 4th ERYICA General Assembly in Bratislava, Slovakia adopts the European Youth Information Charter. **May 1991:** ERYICA publishes the “European Directory of Youth Information Centres”: 471 centres in 18 countries. **February 1990:** Committee of Ministers (Council of Europe) adopt Recommendation 90/7 on “Information and Counselling to be Provided to Young People in Europe”. **May 1988:** 1st ERYICA General Assembly (Pomezia, Italy). **August 1987:** ERYICA registers as a non-profit-making association in Amsterdam. **June 1987:** ERYICA launches first “Guides for Young Visitors”, booklets containing practical information about European countries to promote youth mobility. **December 1986:** 12 organisations in 8 countries constitute ERYICA’s initial partners. **April 1986:** Founding of ERYICA in Madrid, Spain as the result of a constitutive meeting. **April 1985:** European Colloquium (Marly-le-Roi, France) recommends the creation of a framework for European cooperation in the field of “generalist” Youth Information and counselling.