

# **ENGSO Youth report 2007 - 2009**

The ENGSO Youth report refers mostly to the ENGSO Youth Action Plan 2007 – 2009 adopted by the ENGSO Youth Assembly in Helsinki 2007. In the past two years ENGSO Youth focussed on the topics health, volunteering, inclusion and non-formal education. The following report gives an overview about projects and events realized.

## **ENGSO Youth Forum**

Parallel to the ENGSO General Assembly 2008 in Istanbul ENGSO Youth organised the 1<sup>st</sup> ENGSO Youth Forum. The success of this event led to the decision of the Youth Committee to organise a Youth Forum every second year, when no Youth Assembly takes place. Following up the event ENGSO Youth organised in September 2008 in Iceland a seminar for young volunteers in the organisation to motivate them to build up a own youth representation in the NOC.

## **European Youth and Sport Forum**

Since 2005 ENGSO Youth annually co-organises together with ISCA and national partners the European Youth and Sport Forum gathering young volunteers in sport organisations from across Europe. In 2007 the forum “Welcome diversity – let’s move Europe” was successfully held in Germany during the German EU presidency hosted by German Sport Youth. It gathered together around sixty young volunteers from 22 different countries to discuss and work on topics such: diversity, anti-discrimination and social inclusion through and in sports. A concrete outcome of the EYSF is a declaration written by the participants of the forum consisting of ideas, actions and recommendations of how to develop the sport policies in Europe. On the final day of the forum the declaration was presented and handed over to representatives from the European Commission, Council of Europe, German Youth Ministry and leaders of national / international sport organizations.

In 2008 the European Youth and Sport Forum was organised during the French EU-Presidency and hosted by CNOSF. The Forum illustrated how the EU white paper on Sport is implemented from a Youth and Sport point of view. Therefore the participants did not create another white paper, but the so-called Pink Paper on Sport.

The Pink Paper demonstrates how youth and sport put the spirit and the words of the white paper into practice and uncovers further trends. It is a kind of catalogue and points out the good practices from a local to European level, initiatives that are carried out and inspiration for local communities, NGO’s, national governments and European Institutions.

## **ARTCOS – Stand up against racism in sport, anti-racism tools**

For young leaders in sport clubs ENGSO Youth created a handbook on anti-discrimination in sports, called ARCTOS. The ARTCOS (Stand up against racism in sport) handbook was printed in an English version. The Austrian BSO-Sport Youth and the German Sport Youth published the German version. The handbook also includes a CD with 10 non-verbal video clips. The topic of the 10 ARCTOS video clips is discrimination, exclusion and bullying. Exemplary situations are represented from sport training and instruction, stemming from practical, everyday life. It has been created for sport teams, but also international youth exchanges to learn more about discrimination in and through sport, and to avoid future discriminating situations.

### **Motivation Paper “Young leaders” – inspired by sport**

ENGSO Youth also published the Motivation Paper “Young leaders” – inspired by sport. This document is intended to motivate ENGSO member organisations to improve youth leadership opportunities and to actively promote youth governance in their countries. ENGSO Youth provides interested members with free copies.

### **Youth Olympic Games - Recommendations**

The Youth Olympic Games organised by IOC will take place 2010 first time in Singapore. This event will be different from the Olympic Games we know, so far. It aims to bring together young people between 14 -18 years of age. ENGSO Youth as a representation of young people in sports compiled recommendations for the Youth Olympic Games. These were submitted to the International Olympic Committee.

### **European Union**

In 2008 for the first time ENGSO Youth gained support by the EU Youth in Action program - Action 4.1. This assured the resources to continuously being supported by the ENGSO Youth secretariat in Berlin.

### **EU-Physical Activity Guidelines - Statement**

In October 2008 the European Union published its Physical Activity Guidelines. ENGSO Youth gave its opinion on the guidelines, which states that ENGSO Youth welcomes the guidelines but calls on the member states to convert these guidelines into national standards.

### **European Year of Volunteering 2011 - Alliance**

On 5th December (International Volunteers Day) 2007, an alliance of major European NGO networks with a particular interest in volunteering met to begin developing a strategy towards having 2011 declared the European Year of Volunteering. The Alliance agreed a rationale for a European Year, including what they hope such a year might achieve. The resulting position paper was launched on 13th February, 2008 in the European Parliament at a meeting of the Interest Group on Volunteering. As well as MEPs and NGO representatives, this event was attended by representatives of the current Slovenian Presidency and the upcoming French Presidency of the Council of the European Union. ENGSO and ENGSO Youth are part of the initiative. The European Commission now works towards this year to be announced in due time.

ENGSO Youth also co-operates with other stakeholders such as the European Fair Play Movement or the European Network of Academic Sports Services and gave input to their conferences. Moreover important for the ENGSO Youth Committee is a close cooperation with other organisations in the field of children and youth.

### **Eurochild**

Since 2007 ENGSO Youth is member of Eurochild, a European organisation to promote the welfare and rights of children and young people. ENGSO Youth sees its contribution mainly in the field of physical activity, play and a healthy lifestyle. ENGSO Youth representatives attended several meetings and working sessions of Eurochild and contributed to policy papers.

### **European Youth Forum**

More active in the youth field is the European Youth Forum. ENGSO Youth started the application process for membership in 2007. Intensive advocacy led to the final result that ENGSO Youth was accepted as observer member in November 2008.

### **Council of Europe**

ENGSO Youth was member (2005 – 2008) of the Advisory council on Youth within the Council of Europe's Directorate for Youth and Sport. This is the co-managent system of the Council of Europe in the youth field, where ministerial representatives and youth organisations decide on an equal basis about the future youth policy of the Council of Europe. ENGSO Youth lost this position due to the fact, that it became member of the European Youth Forum. Furthermore ENGSO Youth was partner in the Council of Europe event „Youth, sport and racism“ which took place 6 – 10 April 2008 in Strasbourg. Last but not least ENGSO Youth forwarded a statement on the the CoE Agenda 2020 policy paper which will be finally decided upon by the Youth Ministers in October 2008.

For more information see the detailed ENGSO Youth report 2007 – 2009.

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