

Podgorica, 29.12.2016.

MONTENEGRO

POLICY STATEMENT

We take this opportunity to address you on behalf of the organizations involved in the regional project "Network of youth funds of the Western Balkans and Turkey," which is being implemented in Montenegro, Serbia, Albania, Macedonia and Turkey, financed by the European Union.

National Partner and implementer of the project in Montenegro is NGO Prima.

Creating a legal and policy framework that stimulates and supports the development of young people is only possible with the **creation of different, efficient mechanisms** that will enable their active participation in public policy and compliance with the Law on Youth, the National Youth Strategy and other instruments of youth policy.

National Youth Strategy stipulated that in **the future knowledge about young people should be based on relevant data** to be used for planning in all areas and at all levels of government. To achieve this, the National Youth Strategy in the field of measures to establish a legislative framework for the implementation of youth policy planned: **"Improvement of statistics at the national level and knowledge of youth."**

After conducting research on youth policy and youth participation, conclusions for Montenegro in great part relate to necessity **of establishing a better and more complete structure for collection of data on young people** and the **establishment of the structures necessary for the implementation of youth policy at the national and local levels.**

In fact, bearing in mind that the Youth Law was adopted in July, a Youth Strategy in September 2016, we point out that it is necessary to **urgently establish their planned structures and frameworks** that will allow its active implementation and realization.

As the strategy states, with the aim to systematically monitor the situation and the position of youth in all spheres of life and therefore created the necessary measures and policies for its further improvement, **it is necessary to have relevant and readily available data** for knowledge of the situation in relation to young people. In addition, data are needed



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immediately and also to oversee the implementation and impact analysis of the implementation of youth policy.

We remind you that the Strategy provides that on the basis of made and adopted a plan for monitoring, a comprehensive system of official statistics to monitor the situation of young people in all areas, should be established - in particular for **52 indicators defined in the Youth Strategy, and the EU and UN indicators.**

It is necessary that **MONSTAT** annually reports in accordance with the indicators defined by youth policy, especially those accompanied by Eurostat.

In addition, it is stated that the Directorate of Youth and Sport, the academic community and other stakeholders should initiate research in the field of youth in order to provide relevant information to decision makers for the development of youth policy.

Keeping mentioned above in mind, we invite you **to intensify activities on the establishment of a comprehensive system of official statistics to monitor the situation of youth in all areas.**

To begin with, **it is necessary that all actors in the field of youth policy harmonize their systems and sort and published data collected in accordance with the Law on Youth**, which means that they should be collected and published explicitly and / or additionally category for young people, which the **Youth Law** represents the people aged **15 to 30 years old.**

This applies to all data relating to the number of young people in Montenegro, the number of employed, unemployed, young people who are entrepreneurs or owners of businesses, as well as all other areas covered by the Strategy for youth.

Our organization, as well as the "network of youth funds of the Western Balkans and Turkey" are at your disposal for any cooperation in this field.



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