

annual report 2021

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Dear Reader

Welcome to ERYICA's annual report 2021!

I am very pleased to present the Activity Report 2021. It's amazing what we have accomplished together in these difficult times, 2021 has not been the easiest year and the world around us has changed in many ways. We have focused our services and work on the wellbeing of young people and tried to find the best ways to support their lives. All our professional skills and experience have been used to reach out to voung people using multichannel methods. Opportunities for choices and mobility were limited for all young people globally last year. Their hope for the future may not have been so strong and they have lacked trust in society. What ERYICA members, together with our stakeholders and cooperating partners, have done over the past year to support young people has been very significant. We have reached out to young people in many creative ways. We have been there for them and heard their voice and concerns.

ERYICA's Activity Report 2021 shows us what we have done together to strengthen our services and professional work. It presents a wide range of development activities, capacity-building tools, and projects. All the work has been done in collaboration with our members who are the backbone and future of ERYICA. Significant future-oriented steps have been taken. We have built together a

strong foundation for the organisation, which can be seen in this activity report. This is an excellent context for our members and the new Governing Board to continue to advance towards the future.

I am honoured to have been able to accompany you on this journey as the President of FRYICA from 2016 to 2022. We have been motivated and strong together. We have made youth information even more visible and supported newcomers to our network. The European Youth Information Quality Label is a good example of our achievements. We needed it and discussed it for a long time, in fact for years. And now it is a reality! I want to express my gratitude to the Quality Label Working Group and Task Force. The Quality Label is really a landmark in ERYICA's history. This is just an example. as we have done much more. The thematic webinars, online General Assembly, projects. training activities have been success stories.

I would like to thank all our members, partners, and stakeholders for their efforts and work to ensure quality information services and a better landscape for young people during these challenging times. We have strengthened our knowledge and experience by enhancing cooperation and keeping in contact online, at times in very creative and qualitative manners.

As the outgoing President of ERYICA and on behalf of the Governing Board I chaired, I would like to express my gratitude to the Secretariat for all their work. 2021 was challenging, but a very productive year in many ways. We reached all our goals and even more. Our Director and staff members have worked really hard to support all of us. Thank you!

Best regards.

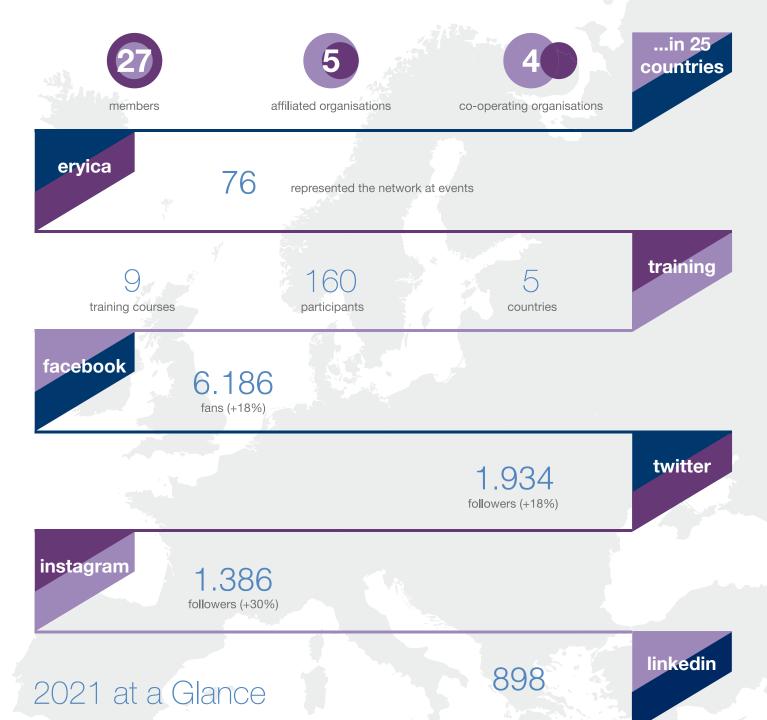
Jaana Fedotoff

ERYICA President 2016-2022

Jama Fedsty

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What is Youth Information?

Enabling greater access to independence.

Youth information and counselling seeks to inform and accompany young people on the delicate path to adulthood; a transitory and challenging period. In this relatively short time, young people are expected to make a myriad of important decisions that will no doubt highly influence their future. These first-time decisions need to be based on unbiased, complete and comprehensive information. Often faced with dilemmas, young people turn to various sources of information, a very important one of these being youth information and counselling services.

Generalist youth information and counselling work covers all topics that interest young people, and can include a whole spectrum of activities. The term "youth information and counselling" can encompass a wide range of services and activities, such as informing, counselling, supporting, coaching, training, peer-to-peer, networking, or referral to specialised services. The services can be set in different frameworks and provided by many different actors through various media. The essential aim of youth information and counselling is to engage and empower young people by guiding them in their autonomous decision-making. It builds on the fact that it is not possible to make a sound decision without knowing one's options and alternatives. Youth information aims to quarantee the right of young people to full and reliable 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.

Finding your place in society.

The aim of youth information and counselling is not only to meet the needs of the general public – its principal objective – but also to anticipate their needs and prepare preventative measures accordingly. Some of these needs will relate to key issues in society, notably physical and mental health, highrisk behaviour, interpersonal relationships, discrimination, citizenship, active participation in society and access to social rights. Only by being adequately informed about one's rights and duties is it possible to find a place in society and be a well-informed citizen.

Creating an information culture.

Today, young people are inundated with information and exposed to a wide variety of different media. This access to information is unprecedented, and having access to such a variety of media sources brings with it a previously unseen tendency for people to want to create their own media content, often in a personal and uncontrolled manner. In order to be a conscious citizen, it is important that one looks at this content critically, evaluating the quality, reliability, strategy and interest of those producing the information. In this context, youth information and counselling services take on a new aim; to educate young people on media and information literacy.

What is ERYICA?



The European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA) is an independent, international, non-governmental and non-profit association composed of national and regional youth information coordination bodies and networks. It works to intensify European and international cooperation in the field of youth information work and services.

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 2021, our network consisted of 27 Members, 5 Affiliated organisations and 4 Co-operating organisations in 25 countries.

ERYICA was established on 17 April 1986 in Madrid, Spain, and is currently registered in the Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg, in accordance with the 1928 Luxemburg law on associations.



Our vision

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 mission

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



The ERYICA Framework

The European Youth Information Charter establishes the minimum standards for youth information and counselling services according to nine principles:

Independent Accessible Inclusive

Needs Based Empowering Participative

Ethical Professional Proactive

The original 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**.

european youth information charter



principles

1. INDEPENDENT

- 1.1 The information offered is comprehensive, provides an overview of different options available and is based on pluralist and verified sources.
- 1.2 The information offered is independent of any religious, political, ideological or commercial influence.
- 1.3 Sources of funding for youth information do not compromise the application of any of the principles of this Charter.

2. ACCESSIBLE

- 2.1 Youth information services guarantee equality of access.
- 2.2 Youth information centres and services are easily accessible, attractive and visible to young people. Youth information is understandable for young people.

3. INCLUSIVE

- 3.1 Youth information services are open to all young people without any form of discrimination.
- 3.2 Youth information services are free of charge for all young people
- 3.3 Youth information centres and services strive to reach out to all young people, in ways that are effective and appropriate to different groups and needs.

4. NEEDS BASED

- 4.1 Youth information services are based on the needs of young people.
- 4.2 The information available covers all topics that matter to young people.
- 4.3 Each user is respected as an individual and the response to each question is personalised in ways that are effective and appropriate.
- 4.4 Youth information structures have enough human resources in order to guarantee personalised support and services.

5. EMPOWERING

- 5.1 Youth Information services empower young people and foster their autonomy.
- 5.2 Youth information services provide young people with media and information literacy skills to act in a safe and responsible way
- 5.3 Youth information services promote active citizenship and participation.

6. PARTICIPATIVE

- 6.1 Young people participate in the production, dissemination and evaluation of youth information, at different levels and in different forms.
- 6.2 Youth information services offer platforms for peer-to-peer activities.
- 6.3 Young people are encouraged to give feedback as an integrated part of the ongoing development of youth information services.

7. ETHICAL

- 7.1 Youth information services respect young people's right to privacy, confidentiality and anonymity. Youth information services provide a safe
- environment for young people.
- 7.2 Criteria for selecting information are made public and understandable. The author and the purpose of the information are clear and visible.
- 7.3 All information produced or disseminated is accurate, complete, up-to-date and verified.

8. PROFESSIONAL

- 8.1 Youth information services are provided in a professional manner by trained staff.
- 8.2 Youth information workers have media and information literacy skills.
- 8.3 Youth information services co-operate with relevant stakeholders in order to identify needs, look for synergies, share expertise and make youth
- information visible.
- 8.4 Youth Information workers cooperate at local, regional, national, European and international level and share best practices and knowledge.
- 8.5 Youth information workers ensure that young people have knowledge and skills to use the digital services targeted to them.



Strategic Plan 2018-2023

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 2021 in line with this structure.



Strategic Direction 1: Capacity-building



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.

Activities



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

Following the completion of the first Training of Trainers (ToT) cycle, a new **ERYICA Capacity-building and Training System Working Group** was established to incorporate the experience from the first edition. The group was very active and had 8 online meetings in 2021.

Organising training activities for youth information workers

Following a setback in 2020 due to the pandemic, ERYICA and its members organised more training courses again in 2021. Evidently, these were all eLearning or blended learning courses. ERYICA issued 160 certificates to the participants of 9 training courses organised in 5 countries. Two of these, a JIMMY and a DesYIgn were organised by the ERYICA Secretariat directly, and a DesYIgn pilot course also took place in the framework of the eponymous project. The course that took place in 2021 were:

YIntro - Stepping into Youth Information

Tartu, Estonia (blended learning), 6
 November - 4 December 2021

Digital YIntro

Finland (eLearning), 1 November - 5
 December 2021

Advanced YIntro

Catalonia, Spain (online), 19 April - 30
 June 2021

JIMMY - Youth Information Mediator

- International (eLearning), 15 Feb 21
 March 2021
- Portugal (eLearning), 12 April 14 May 2021
- Portugal (eLearning), 24 May 23 June 2021

JIMMY - Youth Information Mediator Training of Trainers

 Portugal (eLearning), 15 March - 9 April 2021

DESYIGN - Service Design in Youth Information

- International (eLearning, pilot), 19 April -30 May 2021
- International (eLearning), 1 November 12
 December 2021

For the eTraining on Service Design, see *Strategic Direction 2*.

Further fields of activities under this Strategic Direction included:

- Consolidating and promoting DOYIT online across the network;
- 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 willing 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; and
- Participating in the training activities of our stakeholders and partners



ERYICA TRAINING SYSTEM



YINTRO- STEPPING IN YOUTH INFORMATION

DIGITAL YINTRO

ADVANCED YINTRO

JIMMY- YOUTH INFORMATION MEDIATOR

YOMIM- YOUTH ON THE MOVE (INFOMOBILITY)

DESYIGN

ALTYO- ADVOCACING AND LOBBYING TRAINING FOR YOUTH ORGANISATIONS

E-PARTICIPATION

YOUTH AMBASSADORS

PEER-TO-PEER IN YOUTH INFORMATION

Strategic Direction 2:

Research, Trends and Innovation



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

Participants at the Ibero-Insular Working group meeting, November 2021

Exchange of best practices on youth information work

In cooperation with Eurodesk and EYCA, ERYICA sent one newsletter the past year, on the occasion of the European Youth Week 2021. The newsletter gathered key initiatives and activities organised by members of the three networks.

In September, ERYICA held its second **Network Meeting**, a unique opportunity for our members to share good practices with the rest of the network and learn from the projects and initiatives carried out in other countries.

ERYICA also supports Working Groups involving different members of the network. In 2021, this included the **Ibero-Insular and French-speaking Working Groups**. Besides, the **Nordic-Baltic Working Group** was reactivated and started to plan further cooperation in 2022. Read more under *Internal Matters, Working Groups*, pg. 43.





Raising awareness on trends and new media popular among young people

ERYICA continued our involvement in the **promotion of media and information literacy** (MIL), which manifested in the participation in the **International Organising Committee** of the UNESCO Global Media and Information Literacy Week 2021. Read more about it and ERYICA's involvement in the UNESCO MIL activities in *Strategic Direction 4*.

In 2021, ERYICA participated in two projects on media and information literacy:

- MedYla led by Jugendinfo Belgium in cooperation with in cooperation with the French-speaking Working Group and funded by Erasmus
- SMaRT-EU under the Media Literacy for All Programme of the European Commission.

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

The project uses **Service Design** as an innovative method to **rethink how services are conceived** and to create tools and resources to allow youth information workers to reach out to a maximum number of young people. See *Projects*.



Exploring trends and innovation in the provision of youth information and counselling across Europe

Activities in 2021 included the series of webinars on communication for youth information workers. A total of five online sessions were organised counting on experts of the communication field and members who shared their good practices on each topic. The webinars tackled topics such as inclusive communication, basic design for youth information services, paid media, or successful and easy use of social media platforms.

Another major process in this area was the definition of youth information worker and its inclusion as an occupation in the <u>European Skills</u>, <u>Competences</u>, <u>Qualifications and Occupations Database</u> (ESCO), in cooperation with Eurodesk and other partners (read more under *Strategic Directions 3 and 4*). Besides, ERYICA and Eurodesk developed **#YouthInfoComp**, a competence framework for youth information workers, the first of its kind at European level and a strong reference for all countries willing to give recognition to the profession.

Disseminating research results and publications among our members and stakeholders

ERYICA disseminated **developments and achievements** reached in the field of research, youth policy, and youth work innovations relevant to youth information work and youth policy in general. This included disseminating the results of the **Desyign project** (2019-2021), in concrete the *Focus Group Report*, the *DesYlgn Toolkit* and the promotional video. All these materials are available in <u>several languages</u>.

Together with Eurodesk, ERYICA disseminated the joint publication <u>Greening Youth Information Services</u> at different moments throughout the year. Due to the lack of face-to-face events, dissemination was relatively of a smaller scale and took place online. Read more under *Strategic Direction 3*.

The webinars organised in the framework of our Partnership with the Council of Europe were good opportunities to involve researchers from different universities to promote results relevant to the youth sector (see *Strategic Direction 4*).

ERYICA's social media channels and newsletters regularly disseminate other research outcomes and publications concerning youth and youth policy.

Further activities under this Strategic Direction included:

- Participating in research project proposals dealing with youth policy and addressing the Strategic Directions and thematic priorities of ERYICA;
- Disseminating the new joint publication #YouthInfoComp and Greening Youth Information Services; and
- Promoting the <u>DesYlgn Focus Group</u> Interview Research results, the <u>DesYlgn</u> toolkit and the <u>promotional videos</u> and its translations, at different moments and events throughout the year.



Projects

DesYlgn: Innovative youth information service design and outreach – Erasmus+

Duration:

01/03/2019-28/02/2021

Coordination:

ERYICA (LU)

Partners:

Youth Work Ireland (IE), Koordinaatti (FI), Agence Nationale pour l'Information des Jeunes (LU), Dirección General de Juventud y Deportes de Madrid (ES), ProMo Cymru (UK), Aġenzija Żgħażagħ (MT), Institut Valencià de la Joventut (ES), Åbo Akademi University (FI).



The aim of this project was to rethink how services are designed and to create tools and resources to allow youth information workers to reach out to a maximum number of young people. In order to do this, youth information providers need to be trained on new channels and tools, and on how to design their services in a user-centred and innovative manner to appeal and reach out to more young people. This project used service design methodologies and desk research. The service design is approached from a human-driven way of design thinking and doing. It starts from the needs and requirements of users and looks for solutions together with providers, users and other stakeholders.

The specific aims of the project were:

- To carry out focus group interviews to gain in-depth knowledge about young people's experiences with youth information services:
- To create a toolkit on service design for youth information provision, aiming to reach out to more young people, including quality indicators and measures;
- To create an eLearning course, to be implemented into the ERYICA training system, based on the toolkit; and

 To carry out innovative youth information design pilots that will test the resources developed at different stages and help re-think youth information provision using service design methods.

At the end of the project, regional and national multiplier events were organised by all the partner organisations. This was tailored for **political awareness-building** at local, national and European level for the further support of youth information services in participating countries, and to highlight the importance of the promotion of these services.

In 2021, both the <u>eLearning course</u> and <u>Toolkit</u> were finalised, and the former one was piloted. Translations into German, French, Spanish and Finnish were made. As an extra output, **5 videos** were created and also translated: one of them explains service design in youth information work, and the other 4 introduce the 4 steps of the service design process. The project concluded with the delivery of the dissemination events.

MedYla - Youth Information vs. Disinformation: Media under the Microscope! Erasmus+

Duration:

01/11/2020 - 31/03/2023

Coordination:

Jugendinfo (BE)

Partners:

ERYICA (LU), ANIJ (LU), CIDJ (BE), InforJeunes Luxembourg (BE), CIDJ (FR), Fédération InforJeunes (BE), Infor Jeunes Huy (BE).





The ultimate aim of this project of the Frenchspeaking Working Group of ERYICA Members is to provide youth (information) workers with resources and tools to carry out media and information literacy (MIL) related activities with young people, to equip them with the necessary skills to navigate the information that they come into contact with every day.

This project is aimed at actors in contact with young people: youth workers, youth information workers, educators, teachers, social workers, etc.

The project objectives are:

- Launch a survey among youth information professionals. To identify missing resources and existing good practices. The results were compiled in a report that helped understand the knowledge gaps;
- Create a training manual aiming youth professionals with a selection of MIL related themes and resources:
- Create a pedagogical scenario for professionals that gives them the skills to be able to work on MIL capacity building with young people;

- Organise a training course to put in practice the manual; and
- Organise a 'live the toolbox' day for young people to ensure that the outputs of the project are relevant and useful to them.

Finally, a multiplier event will be organised in Belgium at the end of the project. It will showcase what has been produced in the framework of the project to the target group and other stakeholders outside of the project partnership (e.g. other countries, other organisations). Equipping professionals and multipliers, such as youth organisations, will help ensure that young people can develop the critical thinking and skills necessary to navigate the information landscape, and contribute to producing and sharing digital content responsibly.

Due to a late start because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the project duration was extended by 6 months, until the end of March 2023. The first face-to-face consortium meetings of the project dealt with the adaptation of the intellectual outputs 2 and 3, as well as the start of the drafting of the training course.

SMaRT-EU: Social Media Resilience Toolkit - Media Literacy for All



Duration:

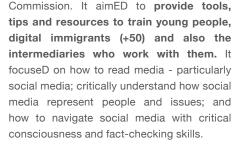
October 2020-December 2021

Coordination:

Cooperativa de Formasao e Animasao Cultura – COFAC

Partners:

Ponty (ES), DKMK (HR), IMEC (BE), Tartu University (EE), and ERYICA (LU)



Social Media Resilience Toolkit - SMaRT-

EU WAS a project funded by the Media

Literacy for All Programme of the European

SMaRT-EU worked across these two generations and across five European countries (Portugal, Spain, Croatia, Belgium, and Estonia) and seven languages (English, Portuguese, Spanish, Croatian, Dutch, Estonian and French). The partners involved diverse groups to ensure that the project reached out to digital natives and migrants from different backgrounds and cultures.

During the project timeline, there were five main activity streams:

- Tools for social media resilience.
- Participative activities with local intergenerational communities, using social media,
- Online platform,
- · B-learning course and final workshop, and
- Youtube news.

Through these activities, SMaRT-EU aimed to:

- 1. Produce a range of open access, tools, for use within social media spaces, for social-media resilience accompanied by intergenerational community training materials.
- 2. Develop a transferable methodology to work with different communities and to enhance the social media resilience of young and senior citizens. The aim was to reduce the potential impact of 'fake news' and the negative effects of social media, by enable responsible media use for civic engagement.
- 3. Provide EU leaders with data, generated through participative methods, to capture how citizens from different generations experience online fake news, social media and civic engagement through digital media.



Strategic Direction 3:

Quality and Youth Information Ethics



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.

Activities

Promotion and exploitation of the European Youth Information Charter

The European Youth Information Charter, adopted by the 29th General Assembly of ERYICA, reached **28 translations**, all available at eryica.org.

The explanatory brochure <u>Ensuring Quality</u> in <u>Youth Information and Counselling</u>, which reached 8 languages by the end of 2021.

You can consult them on www.eryica.org/charter



Encouraging our members to develop and apply quality management mechanisms and resources

The European Youth Information Quality Label has been launched and the first Labels were awarded in 2021. For this, a Task Force was established to assess the applications and recommend a decision for the Governing Board. The task force was composed of 6 ERYICA members from Ireland, Portugal, Malta, United Kingdom (Wales), Norway and Estonia; 3 Youth representatives from Ireland and Spain, a representative from the CoE Advisory Council of Youth and an ERYICA Governing Board member.

4 ERYICA Members were awarded the Label in 2021: Agenzija Zghazagh in Malta, BÖJI in Austria, Youth Work Ireland* and Young Scot in the UK. Congratulations! Read more under *Projects* below.

*the Irish Labelling Commission established by Youth Work Ireland awarded the Label to SpunOut.ie, Donegal Youth Services and Crosscare.

Besides, the promotion of the *Quality* management tool and the brochure Ensuring Quality in Youth Information and Counselling, as well as the encouragement of members to use them, continued in 2021.

Adopting positive practices to promote and ensure young people's access to rights through reliable, complete and understandable information

ERYICA is committed to **promote sustainable development** in the youth information sector across Europe and applying it to the work that we do as a network. We aim to become a more sustainable organisation and reduce the environmental impact of our operations.

In 2020, ERYICA together with Eurodesk, developed <u>Greening Youth Information</u> <u>Services</u>, a guide that explore the role of youth information work in the context of the climate emergency.

In the course of 2021, ERYICA has made efforts to become a more sustainble organisation and has implemented its **Green Policy**. The purpose of this document is to set out concrete areas and targets that ERYICA will commit to over the coming years, as well as measures that we will keep on taking to reduce our negative impact on the environment.





Supporting the recognition of youth information professionals

ERYICA and Eurodesk built a partnership with SALTO Training & Cooperation and the EU-CoE Youth Partnership to propose youth information worker as a specific occupation in the European Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations database (ESCO). The Europe-wide consultation confirmed that a youth information worker has a specific profile as compared to a youth worker. A definition and a set of competences, skills and attitudes were identified. The proposal was validated by the Commission in 2021 and it was successfully included in the ESCO database by the beginning of 2022.

Moreover, Eurodesk and ERYICA launched in 2021 #YouthInfoComp, a European Competence Framework for Youth Information Workers, following the work of the joint working group established in 2020. The guide aims to raise awareness on the occupation and the need for recognition, contribute to the quality of the sector, and propose a model for governments willing to develop or revise their own competence frameworks.



Establishing a framework for ERYICA Youth Ambassadors

Over the past few years ERYICA has been exploring ways of creating a framework for Youth Ambassadors. The aim is to make them an integral part of the network and ensure that youth information services remain focused on young people's priorities and needs. A 20-month Erasmus+ Key Action 2 project aiming, among other things, to develop this framework started in September 2020. The project brings together 11 partners and one of the aims is to build a structured and permanent network of Youth Ambassadors participating in the ERYICA decision-making processes (see *Projects*).

At the end of 2021, the framework that establishes the <u>ERYICA Youth Ambassadors</u> <u>Commission</u> was set up. A group of Youth Ambassadors are piloting it in 2022.

Every two years, ERYICA will organise an INFObassadors training. ERYICA members will disseminate the call and select training participants from their country. After the competition of the training, any Youth Ambassador will be eligible to be part of the ERYICA Youth Ambassadors Commission (EYAC), which will consist of 8-10 young people. The EYAC members will bring young people's voices to internal and external events, working groups and projects.

All INFObassadors training participants will automatically become part of the ERYICA Youth Ambassadors Network.



Youth Ambassadors and YInfoPEERs – Erasmus+ KA2



Duration:

01/09/2020-30/04/2022

Coordination:

ERYICA (LU)

Partners:

Youth Work Ireland (IE), Creativitas (LT), Mladiinfo (MK), Logo (AT), Catalan Youth Agency (ES), Cyprus Youth Council (CY), Valencian Youth Council (ES), ZICM (HR), MISSS (SI), Agenzija Zghazagh (MT) The overall objective of the project is to train young people across Europe to become ambassadors for young people's right to information, be able to carry out local-level trainings with their peers, and gain skills and competences in different important areas that will help them influence decision-making processes (digital communication, social networks, video-making, advocacy etc.). Another objective is to create a Youth Ambassadors for Youth Information framework through which engage young people permanently in ERYICA's activities and decision-making process.

The main project activities and intellectual outputs consist of:

- Co-creating and piloting the Youth InfoPEERs training manual;
- Co-creating and piloting the INFObassadors training manual;
- Creating and producing the iAdvocate
 Online MOOC designed by young people

- targeted at young people and youth organisations;
- Creating and implementing an online campaign, the theme of which will be decided on during the trainings, but will be closely related to Youth Goal 4 and the SDGs:
- Organising a European level seminar for decision-makers; and
- Carrying out national/local-level training multiplier.

The training programmes and resources developed will become part of the ERYICA training system. Training events will be organised regularly using the material to ensure that more young people and countries will benefit from it.

In 2021, the consortium focused on the selection of Youth Ambassadors participating in the project, the development of the INFObassadors training, and the creation of the Youth Ambassadors framework.



Competence framework for youth information workers – ERYICA & Eurodesk





ESCO is the European multilingual database on Skills, Competences, Qualifications and Occupations run by the European Commission, Directorate-General for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion. As it contained the occupation "youth worker" (with often erroneous equivalences in different languages) and not "youth information worker", ERYICA and Eurodesk joined forces with SALTO and the EU-CoE Youth Partnership to better this situation. A survey and a report on the survey were part of this project.

Following its success, ERYICA and Eurodesk decided to take this procedure a step further and established a European working group to devise a competence framework for youth information workers. The framework was finally launched in September 2021 and is available in English and Spanish in eryica.org/tools-resources.





Partnership Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe in the field of youth COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Youth Information Worker Competence Framework



(1) Youth Information professionals deliver youth information services in a variety of settings in order to support young people's autonomy and wellbeing. They ensure that information services are accessible, resourced and welcoming, and run online and/or face-to-face outreach activities aimed at both individuals and groups.

Youth information workers help young people make their own informed decisions and become autonomous and fulfilled citizens!



12 competences grouped in 3 key areas

Each competence has a specific title and description which explains the value and application of this competence to youth information work. There is no hierarchy within the framework; all competences described are of equal importance.

Youth information workers can use YouthInfoComp to:

Understand and explain their role to young people and stakeholders.

Identify areas for skills and operational improvement and set professional development objectives.





Organisations providing youth information services can use YouthInfoComp to:

- Promote understanding, visibility and recognition of the youth information workers profile and services at European, national, regional or local level.
- Enhance the role of youth information services in design and development of youth services and policies at local, regional, national level and European level.
- Design vacancies, recruitment criteria and HR development plans in the Youth Information Work sector.
- Identify skills development needs and education and training opportunities for Youth Information Workers.



Strategic Direction 4:

Co-operation and Policy Advocacy



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.

Activities



Council of Europe

Grant Agreement 2021

The objectives of the Grant Agreement for 2021 can be summed up as follows:

1. A series of 5 webinars on subjects voted by youth information providers

Their core purpose was sharing inventive solutions and good practice in 5 different topics related to the main purpose of the Partnership Agreement and current areas of interest for youth information services. In total, 5 webinars took place in the framework. Besides, a master class including 5 sessions on the topic of communication and outreach were also organised.

2. The finetuning and launch of the European Youth Information Quality Label (see Strategic Direction 3)

The Quality Label, developed in the framework of the present partnership in 2019-2020, was launched in 2021. To ensure the most competent co-ordination from the beginning, ERYICA established the European Quality Label Task Force, the successor of the Working Group that developed the Label itself. It includes experts in the domain, as well as an Advisory Council representative and 4 ERYICA Youth Ambassadors. The Task Force successfully assessed the applications that arrived in 2021.

3. The update of Liaisons and dissemination activities for publications produced in the framework of the Council of Europe – ERYICA partnership (see Strategic Direction 1)

In 2021, an update of two original languages of the publication, French and English, was accomplished. They layout will be made in 2022.

CDEJ, Advisory Council and JCM Meetings:

ERYICA is an observer of the CDEJ (European Steering Committee for Youth) and the Advisory Council on Youth (AC), the statutory bodies of the Council of Europe that co-manages the Youth activities and budget of the Department of Youth and Sport together (Joint Council on Youth). This is the second year that ERYICA has an observer seat at the Advisory Council. Meetings of CDEJ, AC 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-AC-JCM usually meet twice a year ERYICA. Due to the COVID-19 restrictions only one meeting was held online on 11-13 October 2021.

Meeting of the JCC:

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)**. The 2021 JCC meeting took place online on 6 October 2021. It was the occasion to report on the activities conducted by ERYICA in 2021 in the framework of our Partnership Agreement, as well as to agree on the focus of our joint activities in 2022.





Inception Seminar "Youth for democracy for Youth":

The Joint Council on Youth decided in October 2021 the modalities of a youth campaign for revitalising democracy. The campaign will run between March and October 2022 with a flagship event in Strasbourg in June. Under the slogan "Democracy here. Democracy now.", the campaign will address three major issues: revitalising democracy, youth participation, and digitalisation. From 22-26 November, ERYICA participated in the event in Strasbourg organised by the Council of Europe to gather stakeholders' input and evaluate their involvement and support to the campaign.

Dissemination of CoE initiatives, activities and publications

The promotion of the Youth Information Starters Kit, the Compendium of National Youth Information and Counselling Structures, as well as the Kit on Young People's Access to Rights, realised in cooperation with the Council of Europe and ERYICA, has continued. The activity has expanded with the promotion, dissemination and translation of the Liaisons, the European Youth Information Quality Label and the brochure Ensuring Quality in Youth Information and Counselling. In 2021, five organisations has been awarded with the label. ERYICA also provided dissemination for CoE publications, recommendations and policy documents.

INGOs platform Council of Europe

ERYICA holds 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 CoE. The status gives ERYICA a broader recognition at the CoE level as a whole. It also provides opportunities to meet INGOs in other sectors that work with the CoE, therefore increasing our capacity for cross-sectorial cooperation.

No Hate Speech Network

In 2019, the No Hate Speech Movement was transformed into the No Hate Speech Network. The new entity is already functioning as an international network with different types of membership. From 2021, ERYICA is officially affiliated as an observer of the Network. This status provides an opportunity to follow the activities of the Network and collaborate on them, while it does not induce any financial or legal obligation, or the right to vote. ERYICA was present in the network meeting in April 2021.



Participants at the Inception Seminar. Strasbourg, November 2021



European Union

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

EU Programmes

ERYICA participated in several Erasmus+, Media Literacy for All and European Youth Together project proposals and projects throughout the year. See previous sections.

In December 2021, ERYICA was awarded an **Erasmus+ trophy** from the National Agency in Luxembourg for the projects carried out in 2020!

Operating Grant

ERYICA received an operating grant for 2021 and applied to receive an operating grant in 2022.

Meeting with the EU Youth Coordinator

The new EU Youth Coordinator called for a joint meeting on 22 September 2021 with EYCA, Eurodesk, ESN and ERYICA. It was

a good opportunity to learn more about the position, role, and aims of this newly created position, as well as to establish a first personal contact with the recently appointed coordinator. The new Head of Unit of Youth was also present with other colleagues from DG FAC.



Luxembourg NA awards an Erasmus+ trophy to ERYICA, December 2021

Online consultation European Digital Education Hub

The European Commission proposes to establish a European Digital Education Hub which will reinforce cross-sector cooperation, collaboration and synergies for digital education in Europe. The Hub will also support activities to tackle key issues that concern policy and practice, as well as support the monitoring of digital education in Europe and of the implementation of the Digital Education Action Plan 2021-2027. ERYICA participated in the consultation process organised by the European Commission.







European Parliament

ERYICA is part since 2021 of the EU-wide initiative led by MEP Sirpa Pietikäinen to name the year 2023 or 2024 as the **European Year of Greener Cities**. The purpose of the European Year of Greener Cities is to highlight the fact that bringing nature into cities and greening the neighbourhoods is one of the biggest underutilised possibilities to increase the quality of life of European citizens.

EU Youth Conference

During the year, ERYICA attended the two EU Youth Conferences organised by the Portuguese Presidency and the Slovenian Presidency of the European Council.

- EU Youth Conference Online, March 2021
- EU Youth Conference Online, September 2021

Moreover, ERYICA was invited to become a jury member in the **Hackathon on digital participation** organised during the first EU Youth Conference.







European Year of Youth 2022

ERYICA participated in the first two stakeholders' consultation meeting on the EYY 2022 organised by DG EAC in 2021. The European Commission is using these meetings to update all the European youth organisations and national coordinators on the initiative and to gather good practices and ideas from them. ERYICA will continue participating in the meetings along 2022.

Transparency Registry

ERYICA is part of the transparency registry of the European Union, which allows the Agency to participate in consultations with the European Parliament and in the EU Visitors Programme.

ERYICA's Transparency Register Number is 064473227395-04.



Partnership between the EU and the Council of Europe in the Field of Youth

European Platform on Learning Mobility (EPLM)

ERYICA is a member of the <u>European Platform on Learning Mobility (EPLM)</u>, 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.

Participation in other initiatives of the Partnership

- Contribution to newsletters and publications
- Dissemination of publications and initiatives
- Participation in the webinar Webinar on young people's social rights

North-South Centre

University on Youth and Development (UYD)

ERYICA was planning to attend the University on Youth and Development of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe with the Youth Ambassadors training in the framework of the YInfoPeers project. The event was not organised in 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

UNESCO

Throughout 2021, ERYICA continued working in close collaboration with UNESCO, in particular the Media and Information Literacy and Media Development. This involved disseminating the MILCLICKS Movement throughout the network and encouraging Members to participate in the movement.



ERYICA is a member of the UNESCO MIL Alliance and was part of the International Organising Committee of the UNESCO Global Media and Information Literacy Week 2021.

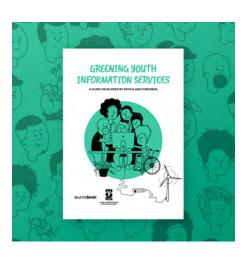
ERYICA participated in the international high-level event "Media and Information Literate Citizens: Think Critically, Click Wisely!" about the crucial role of media and information literacy (MIL) for the good of society. It was co-organised by UNESCO and the Republic of Serbia, with the support of the European Commission and Sweden. It was the first of 3 events, which culminated in the launch of UNESCO's MIL Curriculum for Educators and Learners.

The theme for Global MIL Week 2021 was Media and Information Literacy for Public Good. The whole programme took place online. ERYICA organised the webinar "Youth Information and MIL: navigating the infodemic" in cooperation with the Council of Europe. The webinar aimed to explore how MIL permeates all facets of youth information work and the role that the services play to support young people's MIL. The preliminary results of the Smart-EU project were also presented.



UNESCO Global Youth Community (GYC)

In February, ERYICA took part in the piloting phase of the UNESCO Global Youth Community. A workshop was carried out to collect ideas on how to make the GYC platform inclusive and better for everyone.



United Nations

ECOSOC Consultative Status

In 2021, ERYICA applied to obtain special consultative status at the **UN Economic and Social Council** (ECOSOC). ECOSOC remains the only main UN body with a formal framework for NGO participation.

Consultative status provides NGOs with access to not only ECOSOC, but also to its many subsidiary bodies, to the various human rights mechanisms of the United Nations, ad-hoc processes on small arms, as well as special events organized by the President of the General Assembly. ERYICA's application is planned for review in 2022.



Other 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 2021. The collaboration will continue in 2022.

Eurodesk

- Eurodesk Network Meeting Online, 20 April 2021
- Youth Link Scotland workshop on Greening YI services- 2 June 2021
- ESCO Meeting ERYICA-Eurodesk –
 Online, 11 and 19-20 January, 8-9 March,
 12 May, 10 June 2021, 7 July and 1
 September 2021
- Excellence and Equity: Our Climate
 Emergency Youth Work's Role for
 People and Planet 6 October 2021

Establishing cooperation frameworks with other stakeholders at national, European and international level, such as:

- · National Agencies and SALTO
- · OECD
- European Youth Work Convention Steering Group meeting
- Luxembourgish National Agency
- The Good Lobby
- · British Council
- European Forum for Urban Security







Other Institutional Stakeholders

Collaboration with Ministries responsible for Youth and national/regional/local authorities:

- Portuguese Youth Councils' National Meeting 2021, 23-24 April 2021
- Symposium of Youth Information Centres from the South of Germany, 27 April 2021

International Capacity-building

Special membership fee scheme for NGOs in low or lower-middle income countries

The Governing Board of ERYICA established a special membership fee scheme for non governmental organisations based in low or lower-middle- income countries. The aim is to allow civil society organisations active in the field of youth and willing to develop and establish youth information and counselling services to become ERYICA Co-operating Organisations and access our capacity-building and training opportunities.



Strategic Direction 5: PR & Communication



Efficient communication is key for the ERYICA members to stay updated and informed about the network's activities and opportunities. It is also a requisite for promoting youth information and counselling vis-à-vis our stakeholders. Raising visibility of ERYICA also means contributing to the visibility of our members.

In the framework of our communication strategy, ERYICA will continue to explore new ways to **smooth** the path of the information flow between the Secretariat, the Governing Board and our members and with our stakeholders at different levels

Activities

Providing tools and resources to enhance the communication of Member Organisations

In 2021, ERYICA organised a series of five webinars aimed to improve the communication skills of our members. The webinars tackled several topics as inclusive communication, social media outreach, paid ads, online events or basic of graphic design for youth information services. The sessions were recorded and are available for anyone who wants to access them.

Promotion and dissemination of our work through the ERYICA website, social media channels and communication tools

Website

ERYICA's website was updated regularly with news related to the youth field, our members and other relevant information.

The website experimented an increase of visitors, being more than 35,000 visits in 2021. The webpages were seen more than 60,000 times in the course of the year, with 33,000 unique visitors.

SHEryica

SHEryica Facebook group, serves to enhance collaboration between youth information work professionals from a variety of backgrounds and levels. The aim of this group is that youth information professionals can exchange ideas on upcoming projects in the youth information field, share individual competences, discuss experiences and exchange good practices. The group experimented an important increase of engagement and publications during the first months of the pandemic. This implied a continuous flow of content in the group by different contributors.



Social Media

ERYICA posted daily in the different social media platforms, opportunities, news and research interesting for our members. The ERYICA <u>Facebook page</u> accumulated **6,186 followers**, a 27,26% increase since the beginning of 2021. In 2021 the increase of Facebook followers was moderated as well as the engagement with the platform. This is why we decided to focus our efforts on other platforms as Instagram or LinkedIn. However, it is worth to highlight that due to the use of Facebook ads for some projects, the **impressions were 70,48% higher** (458,868) than the previous year (269,158).

It is important to highlight the fast growth of ERYICA <u>Instagram</u> account which sums **1,386 followers**, an increase of 34% in the last year. The daily visits to ERYICA Instagram profile increased by 46% in 2021.

The growth of ERYICA's <u>Twitter</u> was also moderated, reaching a total of **1,934 followers**. On the other hand, ERYICA <u>LinkedIn</u>, page experienced a rise of the 78,69%, counting now on counted **898 followers**.



Newsletters

4 ERYICA newsletters were sent in 2021 to keep the members update to the latest news of the network, as well as a to share good practices from our members with the network and our stakeholders. An additional joint newsletter was sent together with EYCA and Eurodesk. The Secretariat uses Mailchimp for the newsletter and publishes the newsletters on the website and on the different social media channels.

Moreover, 6 press releases were sent to launch new publications, projects, or job open calls, as it is the case of the Council of Europe webinars or the European Youth Information Day 2021. Besides, 6 Smart-EU newsletters were sent to inform about the latest updates of the project.

Finally, we keep informing our members through the **Governing Board Bulletins** about the latest Governing Board's decisions. A **General Assembly Bulletin** was sent after the event.



Improvement of tools and strategies to better communicate to our members the resources and opportunities made available to them by ERYICA

In 2021, we continue **monitoring the performance** of ERYICA's social media platforms and website. The data gathered during the whole year proportioned us continuous feedback of our online presence and engagement with the community. The data gathered from the website, has been useful to do some adjustments and to plan a future restructuration of the site.

We continued using the **calendar of publications** and several tracking tools to monitor any interesting information about the youth field around Europe. Besides, targeted opportunities and information were sent to ERYICA's working groups.

Moreover, in several moments during the year, we shared via email with ERYICA members the different graphics we used for certain occasions, including the **editable format** so they could translate them into their own language. In 2022, we would like to exploit **ERYICA's Canva Workspace** to make available to members the open source of all the designs ERYICA makes for each occasion.



The European Youth Information Day 2021 Campaign and Survey Report, May.

Supporting the visibility of our member at different levels

During the year, ERYICA held and participated in different **webinars** where we had the opportunity to showcase good practices and activities of ERYICA members. These webinars covered a wide variety of topics such as Media and Information Literacy, climate change, quality assurance in youth information, or education.

4 ERYICA **newsletters** and 1 joint newsletter with EYCA and Eurodesk were sent to ERYICA database (+1,300 subscribers), where our members' good practices are always featured in a very visible way. In the course of the weeks following their publication, individual articles were shared on our Facebook and Twitter accounts.

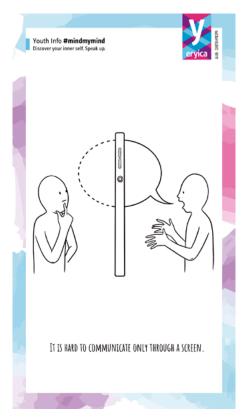
Conducting our annual members' evaluation survey

At the end of 2020 and beginning of 2021, 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 allowes us to find out more about our network, showcasing ERYICA's presence across the continent.

Expanding the network by attracting new members

The membership of our network has experienced growth in 2021, with 2 new cooperating organisations: **Cerebra NGO** (Bosnia-Herzegovina) and **Jugendstiftung Baden-Württemberg** (Germany).





Graphic for the European Youth Information Day Campaign 2021, April.

European Youth Information Day

The **17 April** traditionally gives space to the activities of the European Youth Information Day, promoting youth information and counselling.

Under the slogan "Youth info #mindmymind. Discover your inner self. Speak up", the EYID 2021 opened a meaningful discussion on mental health and emotional well-being among young people and youth workers.

The 2021 campaign was developed in two phases. The first one included two surveys. one aimed at young people and the other at youth information workers. More than 1,800 young people from 42 different nationalities filled out the preliminary survey in which they were encouraged to give their honest testimonial on how they experienced the first months of the pandemic. These testimonals, some of them guite harsh, showed that young people, above all, need to be heard. The second part of the campaign, which ran during April 2021, was shared more than 1,000 times by ERYICA members and other organisations who joined the cause. It reached more than 170,000 impressions and was translated into 16 European languages.

Among the various reflections the campaign has brought, we found a critical demand to train youth (information) workers and to increase their **mental health literacy**. Many of them feel disarmed, without sufficient resources or experience to deal with these issues. They want to feel empowered, to be able to offer a more professional and complete service to young people.

All these testimonials and outcomes, are gathered in the Campaign and Survey Report, available in English and Spanish.



Participants at the 32nd ERYICA General Assembly, Online, May 2021.

Internal Matters

32nd General Assembly, Online, 25 May & 22 September 2021



The 32nd General Assembly (GA) was hosted online by ERYICA and it was divided in two parts. The Statutory Meeting took place on 25 May and convened 36 participants from 20 countries. The Network Strategic Meeting took place on 22 September and gathered 36 participants from 17 countries.

The agenda included the following main points:

- Adoption of the Report of the 31st General Assembly;
- Presentation and approval of the Report of Activities 2020;
- Approval of the closed financial accounts 2020 and the forward budget of 2022;
- Release of Governing Board and Director for accounts, duties and

responsibilities for the year 2020;

- Appointment of external and internal auditors:
- Editing and approval of the Work Programme 2021;
- Presentation of ERYICA news:
- Introduction to DesYlgn project outcomes;
- Presentation of MIL initiatives (MedYla and Smart-EU projects);
- Panel with Youth Ambassadors in Youth Information;
- Discussion of the new 10th point of the Charter on Sustainability; and
- Revision of the work programme for 2022.







Katie's first days at the office, April 2021

Governing Board

The ERYICA Governing Board had 6 meetings in 2021, in the following venues and dates:

- Meeting 80: Online (27 January 2021); hosted by ERYICA
- Meeting 81: Online (11 March 2021); hosted by ERYICA
- Meeting 82: Online (5 May 2021); hosted by ERYICA
- Meeting 83: Online (1 June 2021); hosted by ERYICA
- Meeting 84: Online (7 October 2021); hosted by ERYICA
- Meeting 85: Online (30 November 2021); hosted by ERYICA



Governing Board composition 2021:

President:

Jaana Fedotoff (Koordinaatti, Finland)

Vice Presidents:

Patrick Burke (Youth Work Ireland, Ireland)
Josep Moliné (Catalan Youth Agency, Spain)

Treasurer:

Menelaos A. Menelaou (YBC, Cyprus)

Members:

Claire Conlon (CIDJ, France) Matjaž Medvešek (Zavod MISSS, Slovenia) Kadri Koort (Harno, Estonia) Daniel Poli (IJAB, Germany)







Meeting of the Ibero-Insular Working Group, Benicassim (Spain),
November 2021.

ERYICA Working Groups

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 2021, the following Working Groups were active:

- ERYICA Working Group on Training and Capacity-building System
- ERYICA Working Group French speaking Members
- ERYICA Working Group Ibero-insular Members

Staff

In 2021, the **ERYICA Secretariat** consisted of the following staff members:

- · Eva Reina, Director;
- Imre Simon, Development Manager and Consultant;
- Beatriz Terreros, Communications Manager;
- · Anna Nesladek, Project Manager;
- Katie Eitler, Project Manager (from April to September)
- · Aurélie Lebreton, Accountant (from July);

Internships at ERYICA

Interns under the **Erasmus Placement Programme** continue forming an integral part of the ERYICA Team in 2021. 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.

Márton Molnár from Hungary supported the activities of the Secretariat in 2021



Members



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ANIJ – Agence National pour l'Information Jeunesse

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ERYICA at a Glance

September 2021

ERYICA and Eurodesk publish the first European Competence Framework for Youth Information Workers.

October 2018

ERYICA launches for the first time an eLearning training system through the DOYIT Online Platform.

October 2017

ERYICA joins the Global Alliance in Media and Information Literacy and starts cooperation with the UNESCO MIL Section.

September 2016

Adoption of Council of Europe Recommendation CM/ Rec(2016)7 on Young People's Access to Rights.

December 2015

The outreach of the ERYICA Facebook account exceeds 100,000 in one year.

March 2014

ERYICA publishes in partnership with the Council of Europe the first Compendium on National Youth Information and Counselling Structures.

April 2012

Launch of the Information Right Now! Campaign in partnership with the Council of Europe.

June 2010

Adoption of Council of Europe Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)8 on Youth Information.

December 2021

The first European Youth Information Quality Label is awarded.

September 2019

1st ERYICAcademy Training of trainers Programme launched.

April 2018

Un updated European Youth Information Charter adopted at the 29th General Assembly in Cascais (Portugal).

September 2016

ERYICA signs a Memorandum of Understanding with EYCA and Eurodesk and publishes a common position paper.

April 2016

ERYICA celebrates its 20th anniversary in Helsinki.

June 2014

1st Summer University on Youth Information and Counselling brings together 120 participants from 19 countries

September 2013

An ERYICA video opens the EU Youth Conference in Vilnius, Lithuania.

April 2011

25th Anniversary Celebration of ERYICA in Opatija (Croatia).

December 2009

ERYICA launches SHERYICA, the Platform for Youth Information workers and adopts the Principles for Online Youth Information.

December 2008

Launch of ERYICA's first project Meet the Street.

July 2007

ERYICA office moves to Luxembourg.

November 2005

Policy statement on "Indicators for a National Youth Information Policy" is adopted in Ljubljana (Slovenia).

December 2001

ERYICA releases the Minimum Basic Training Course (MBTC) module, first training for Youth Information workers.

July 1999

ERYICA publishes its first study on "Generalist Youth Information in Europe in 1997".

April 1997

Council of Europe signs a Partnership Agreement with ERYICA.

December 1993

4th ERYICA General Assembly in Bratislava (Slovakia) adopts the European Youth Information Charter.

February 1990

Council of Europe Committee of Ministers adopts
Recommendation 90/7 on "Information and Counselling to be
Provided to Young People in Europe".

August 1987

ERYICA registers as a non-profit-making association in Amsterdam.

December 1986

12 organisations in 8 countries constitute ERYICA's initial partners.

April 1985

European Colloquium in Marly-le-Roi (France) recommends the creation of a framework for European cooperation in the field of "generalist" Youth Information and Counselling.

April 2008

ERYICA inaugurates the European Youth Information Day, on April 17th.

April 2006

ERYICA celebrates its 20th anniversary and organises a European seminar on Youth Participation together with Eurodesk and EYCA in Vienna.

November 2004

Updated version of the "European Youth Information Charter" is adopted in Bratislava (Slovakia).

November 2000

First ERYICA Governing Board is established.

December 1998

ERYICA launches the online version of Infomobil.

April 1994

ERYICA registers as a non-profit making association in France.

May 1991

ERYICA publishes the "European Directory of Youth Information Centres": 471 centres in 18 countries.

May 1988

1st ERYICA General Assembly (Pomezia, Italy).

June 1987

ERYICA launches 1st "Guides for Young Visitors", booklets containing practical information about European countries to promote youth mobility.

April 1986

Founding of ERYICA in Madrid (Spain) as the result of a constitutive Meeting.

european youth information and counselling agency





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