

The following recommendations were developed in the framework of KA2 Strategic partnership project “Baltic youth research(ers) up-graded: long-term impact on youth field”. Project is creating a culture of empowerment of youth researchers focussing on openness and cross-sectoral cooperation between politicians, practitioners and researchers, dealing with issues of youth migration. The implementation of the recommendations could strengthen the meaningful cooperation of all sides of the policy-making triangle and allow to better respond to the needs of society.

#iResearch

RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR EU YOUTH  
RESEARCHERS

#ErasmusPlus

#YouthMigration



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PROJECT NR 2016-2-LT-KA205-004814

# RECOMMENDATIONS FOR EU YOUTH RESEARCHERS

## How to strengthen youth researchers voice in the policy-making process

1. To strengthen the importance of research in the policy-making process, youth researchers shall be more proactive in policy shaping processes, see themselves as stakeholders.
2. To increase their role and visibility, youth researchers should strengthen their cooperation and collaboration on national and international levels by creating pools of researchers, associations, by initiating common researches and initiatives.
3. To increase the usability of youth research youth researchers should make themselves available and dare to give policy advice to decision makers.

## How to strengthen cooperation between youth researchers, youth policy makers and youth field practitioners

4. To increase the use of research results policy-makers should provide time and funding for valorisation activities and youth researcher should make time to valorise the results through specific actions.
5. To increase understanding between youth researchers and youth workers the stakeholders should make youth research results more accessible to youth field decision makers and practitioners through co-writing and peer-reviewing youth-related research and articles, organising common activities between researchers and youth workers.
6. To increase efficiency in youth research the Ministry of Youth should avoid overlaps in youth research by regularly informing other state institutions about research planned and carried out and by creating an inventory open data policy and encouraging re-use of the data.

## How to strengthen cooperation between local and national level for youth research development (incl. on methods, on gathering data, on defining research questions, etc.)

7. To strengthen cooperation between youth researchers, youth policy makers and youth field practitioners all stakeholders should be involved in research, starting from research design up to use and valorisations of results.
8. To increase professionalisation of youth workers, umbrella organisations of youth researchers should provide support for youth workers to become “micro-researchers” (#iResearch) by organising trainings and teaching youth workers to collect data systematically (e.g., how to conduct peer-research, interviews, how to make a good questionnaire/report, how to collect data, where to find data, ethics and privacy issues).

## How the results of international cooperation of researchers and European youth research and information networks can support national and local youth policy development

9. To foster evidence-based youth policy Ministry of Youth should regularly provide space for youth researchers, youth workers and youth policy-makers to exchange trends and results of international cooperation and networks by organising conferences, festivals, forums, etc.
10. To foster evidence-based youth policy researchers should promote existing platforms (Ray, YouthWiki, etc) to the national level and umbrella youth organisations.
11. To apply new knowledge developed in the result of international cooperation and by European youth research and information networks, researchers should disseminate the results of international research in a youth friendly way, for example by info-graphics, animations, comics, video, etc.

## How to more efficiently collect data from the local level and communicate this data to the national level for policy use

12. To implement the principle of evidence-based youth policy on national level, Ministry of Youth in cooperation with youth researchers and youth organizations and youth workers should improve the quality of data collected on local level by developing indicators on youth, instructing youth organizations and youth workers on indicators and gathering of data in a youth-friendly way (trainings, guidelines) and gathering information regularly.

## How to amplify the dissemination of national research methods to the local level

13. To foster youth research on local level, Ministry of Youth or professional associations should increase professionalisation of youth workers and youth organizations by creating a system of support (tools to implement this: create a platform for open access instruments, training for youth workers and youth NGOs on youth research and interpreting, guidelines for youth workers and NGOs on how to design and use research)
14. To implement the principle of evidence-based youth policy more effectively Ministry of Youth should increase its capacity to analyse data collected on local level through closer cooperation with youth researchers.



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