

# Young people with disabilities with special /intensive support needs or with mental ill health

## *Working Group Youth – In-Person Meeting 1/2023*

30 March 2023

09:00 – 16:00 CEST

*Theodor Rotschild Haus, Mülbergerstraße 146, 73728 Esslingen, Germany*

### Background

In recent years EPR members have increasingly expressed interest collaborating in the area of working with young people with disabilities. The joint work started off in December 2020 at the (online) National Awareness Raising Event (NARE) in Germany where a number of EPR members presented their services and programmes for young people with disabilities. In addition, EPR is currently leading 2 Erasmus+ projects with members focused on young people, [Jump2Job](#) and [TransitAction](#).

The joint work started off in December 2020 at the National Awareness Raising Event (NARE) online where a number of EPR members presented their services and programmes for young people with disabilities. On 17 May and 30 June 2021, two meetings were organised to start off a thematically focused exchange and mutual learning on services for young people with disabilities. The participants identified a number of topics of common interest: 1) “Transition Management” for young people with disability (YPWD) from school and training into employment; 2) Improvement of the employability of young people with a disability or mental health issues, including by addressing motivational issues for them to learn; 3) Adaptation of services to new demands in the labour market for young people with a disability or mental health conditions and to their specific needs; 4) How to effectively accompany and support a shift to hybrid models of learning, teaching and training; 5) Inclusive education; 6) Organisation of trans-national exchanges for young people with a disability or mental health issues.

The [first meeting](#) in 2022 on 31 March focused on “inclusive education”. Information on the activities planned in the European Year 2022 on Youth relevant for social service providers was shared. The [second meeting](#) on 23 June was built around the topic “Transitions from education and training into employment for YPWD”. Additionally, recent developments regarding the main EU policy frameworks and EU funds relevant for child and youth welfare and/or youth policy were presented and discussed. The [third meeting](#) was organised online on 24 November, split into two parts: The morning session was dedicated to transition services and programmes for young people with disabilities. The EPR Secretariat present the DRAFT Report based on the collection of good practices from EPR members. Provided further input and jointly validated the success factors of those practices. The afternoon session was organised jointly with colleagues from the Working Group “Mental Health” and focused on services to address the needs of YPWD with mental health conditions, what this implies the (re-)organisation of services, the related qualification and skill needs of the professionals, etc.

The first meeting in 2023 will happen on 30 March in Esslingen. It will be focused around the specific challenges for social service providers, their staff and the users in services for young people with disabilities with special/intensive support needs or with mental ill health. The participants are kindly invited to let us know if they are interested in making a contribution to the thematic seminar.

Practical information on the accommodation, the meeting venue, etc. will be shared with the colleagues who will register. Participants will arrive on 29 March and meet for a joint dinner. Participants are asked to fill in the [registration form](#) by 20 March, 12h00 CET, at the latest.

## DRAFT Agenda

### Wednesday, 29 March 2023

19:00 – Joint dinner

### Thursday, 30 March 2023

Theodor Rotschild Haus, Mülbergerstraße 146, 73728 Esslingen, Germany [*directions to the venue from the hotel and the train station in Esslingen will be sent to the participants registered*]

09:00 – 09:10 **Welcome & introduction, tour de table, minutes of last meeting on 24.11.22**

09:10 – 09:45 **Setting out the scene** (Dieter Meyer, Mutpol & Michael Backhaus, Mariaberg)

*Dieter from Mutpol and Michael from Mariaberg will give an overview on the priority areas of the work, touch upon the main challenges and talk about planned or recently realised innovations in their organisations relevant for the WG Youth.*

*The participants will be invited to react, based on the realities and experiences in their own organisation.*

09:45 – 14:30 **Thematic seminar “Young people with disabilities with special/intensive support needs or with mental ill health”**: Main challenges and reform needs in services provided by EPR members – Good practices and their preconditions, in particular as to service organisation (including one-to-one services), staffing, qualifications of personnel, methodological approaches, funding, coordination with other services

1) Schule des Lebens (school of life), Maike Pittelkow & Zvonimir Parazik, Mutpol, D

2) Virtuelles Klassenzimmer (digital classroom), Cristina Pfeiffer, Mutpol, D

3) Success factors to support YPWD and mental health issues, Alicia Gómez Campos, EPR, B

4) Socio-therapeutic forms of living in Mariaberg, Michael Backhaus, Mariaberg, D

5) Le Monde Culinary School: Follow-up activities and competition, Maria Ntzelepi, Theotokos Foundation, GR

6) Information from projects relevant for YPWD, Claudia Serrano, INTRAS Foundation, E

7) Services for YPWD on the autistic spectrum, N.N., Mutpol, D

8) *Overview on the architecture and functioning of the child and youth welfare support system in Germany (“framing” the child and youth psychiatric services, the inclusive social therapeutic housing offer and the vocational education and training provided by Mariaberg), Michael Backhaus, Mariaberg, D*

Mutual exchange and learning, assessing options for transferability, etc.

11:00 – 11:15 *Coffee break*

13:00 – 14:00 *Lunch break*

14:30 – 15:15 **Information/updates on relevant EU-level policy frameworks for YPWD**

European Year of Skills 2023: Summary information & identification of hooks for activities of EPR members and WG Youth (Benedetta Pesce, EPR)

ALMA initiative: aims, priorities and supported activities (Benedetta Pesce, EPR)

Child Guarantee & Youth Guarantee (Mathias Maucher, EPR)

15:15 – 15:35 **Transitions of YPWD from school or vocational education and training to employment** – *Summing up work done in 2022 – Which aspects to be taken up in the work of the WG Youth in 2023? & Highlight from youth-related projects [Jump2Job](#) and [TransitAction](#)* (Mathias Maucher, EPR & Benedetta Pesce)

15:30 – 15:50 **Agreement on Work Programme 2023 for WG Youth & Joint Projects** (moderation: Mathias Maucher, EPR)

*The participants will discuss and agree on the thematic focus of the meetings 2 and 3/2023 of the WG Youth on the backdrop of the EPR Work Programme 2023.*

15:50 – 15:55 **Conclusions/What have we learned together today?** (Josh Feuerstein, Mutpol & Michael Backhaus, Mariaberg)

16:00 **Next steps & closing of meeting** (Mathias Maucher, EPR)

## Registration

To attend this meeting, please register [here](#) before 20 March, 12h00 CET. The link to join the seminar and further instructions will be sent to all registered participants a few days prior to the event.

If you become unable to attend, please let EPR know in advance.

## Contact

For more information, please contact: **Mathias Maucher** [mmaucher@epr.eu](mailto:mmaucher@epr.eu)



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