

WORKING GROUPS

CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

I YOUTH SUMMIT

EUROPEAN UNION - LATIN AMERICA & THE CARIBBEAN

FUENLABRADA - MADRID (SPAIN) - 7 - 9 MAY 2010



Working Group 1: Open and Permanent Youth Cooperation

The value of youth and youth organizations, requires recognition when it comes to promoting development, poverty reduction and the guarantee of Human Rights and significant contribution they can make to strengthen dialogue and cooperation bi and the achievement of the objectives of the strategic partnership of the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean must also be recognized.

It is considered important that policies and strategies for youth cooperation taking into account effective actions historically discriminated groups: indigenous peoples, African descendants, affective-sexual diversity, and other vulnerable groups.

We recall the Commission communication of September 30, 2009 on the European Union and Latin America: Global Partners in Partnership (COM2009 495 / 3), which recommended a comprehensive dialogue that would involve civil society, with the support of the UEALC Foundation, referring to the new strategies of bi-regional dialogue, including the issue of youth in a specific and cross under the Cooperation between the European Union, Latin America and the Caribbean.

Recommendations:

- Ratification of the Iberoamerican Convention on the Rights of Youth and the establishment of a similar document for the Caribbean and Europe.
- That cooperation agencies work together with youth platforms taking into account the priorities for cooperation on youth.
- Create a monitoring system, evaluations and statistics on youth and development programs
- That governments include the youth issue in their national development strategies in a specific and cross-sectoral way in order for it to be addressed by international cooperation.
- Include the Caribbean youth platform in the Euro-Latin American Youth Forum (FEULAT) process as a step towards the creation of FEULAC.

Workshop 2: Economical Processes towards overcoming the Crisis.

The slowdown of the economic growth in some countries was further worsened by the financial and economic crisis, which has especially hit the most vulnerable and, amongst them, young people. The crisis has threatened to exacerbate the difficulties young people face in finding decent work, achieving autonomy and being able to fully exercise their rights as citizens.

As this situation was caused by the economic models and policies, chosen by Governments the delegates in the I EU-LAC Youth Summit call upon those same governments to take the necessary decisions and implement the appropriate actions to improve the situation.

Recommendations:

- To eliminate bureaucratic obstacles to and foster youth entrepreneurship.
- To promote sustainable consumption and fair trade
- To implement educational and training programs to develop the knowledge, skills and attitudes aiming to foster youth entrepreneurship as a way to create jobs and to increase financial stability.
- The institutional support and the agreement between social partners must facilitate the access to labour market, together with education as a key factor to achieve this objective.
- To develop a social oriented labour market, based on justice and sustainability, that protects the working rights and that guarantees the right to education, health and retirement. Such a labour market will allow a better fight against corruption and the so called *black market*. At the same time, this will reduce the poverty levels, as agreed in the Millenium Development Goals.
- To prevent capital flight.
- To equally distribute the wealth through a tax system.
- To only adopt Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) when the equal social, economical and political conditions are guaranteed.
- To generate economical forecasts, including the gender perspective, based on the participation of young people regarding the current economical situation. These diagnosis should lead to compulsory strategies to create public policies, both public and private cooperation programs, and the implementation of youth programs.



- To require national and multinational enterprises to provide decent working conditions for youth and to adopt and implement corporate social responsibility policies in the framework of international agreements.

Key Message:

We recommend the implementation of a global financial transaction tax and that any international financial agreements are based on the principle of self determination of countries and respect for human rights.

Workshop 3: Migration and Co-Development

The I EULAC Youth Summit, that preceeded the Head of States and Government Summit has concluded that they should guarantee migrants equal access to social services, including language education, political rights, citizenship, autonomy, welfare and respect and guarantee of human rights, as also the recognition of the benefit they contribute to transcultural society, allowing learning from the differences, achiving mutual enrichment.

To respect fundamental human rights and international conventions, which forbid discrimination and that are sensitive to gender issues.

Recommendations:

- To promote public policies that approach interculturality, multiculturality, transculturality and integration, both in formal and informal education, to avoid xenophobia, discrimination and racism.
- To create a legislation which permits the regulation and migratory status of people, which should include the homologation and the validation of educational degrees and working experience, as also facilitate visa admission with the objective of promoting mobility and integration.
- To create an economic and cultural co-responsibility among migration hosting countries and countries of origin, for sustainable development. To promote the dissemination of the benefits that migration brings to hosting countries.
- To foster the exercise of full citizenship through participation of migrants in economical, policial, social and cultural dimension in hosting countries (to deepen into the analysis of causes and effects).

Key Message:

To promote public policies that approach interculturality, multiculturality, transculturality and integration, both in formal and informal education, to avoid xenophobia, discrimination and racism.

Workshop 4: Sustainable Development

Recommendations and Key Message:

We demand our governments to build a binding, effective and coherent legal framework in order to adapt and mitigate climate change, food sovereignty, access to water and natural resources and to avoid the loss of bio-diversity. This legal framework should respect human rights, especially those of indigenous people, as a top priority, and guarantee sustainability as the new paradigm of global development.

In order to achieve this objective it is essential the full and effective participation of young people in the decision making processes, its implementation and future evaluation.

It is crucial, sustainability, as a value and as a practice, to be implemented in society through formal and non formal education and the interregional exchange and cooperation.

Working Group 5: Equal Opportunities in the Access to Knowledge

We recognize youth as authentic social entrepreneurs, responsible for a just globalization culture, as key actors in the different aspects of their life, for example, in their organization structures, the impact on social work, innovation and new perspectives to development that can impulse or multiply experiences of social transformation, launching new forms of investigation by and for young people.

We highlight the importance of universal access ICTs because of their social role in education processes and in the strengthening of intercultural dialogue. We promote this situation through open source software and hardware recycling to guarantee the access to this type of technologies to the economically depressed areas, and to stimulate institutional issues through e-learning, e-business, and e-government.

We understand the necessity of counting with universal digital literacy to avoid social discrimination. We consider that to break through with the technological gap it is essential to count with equal opportunities, strengthening the inclusion to the access of NICTs, as also the democratization of digital means as an instrument of development, which have as key actors young people and their organizations.

Recommendations:

- To Develop NICT projects for and from youth organizations that open new possibilities to communities
- To promote digital empowerment through social entrepreneurship in order to avoid the social exclusion
- To impulse Open Worldwide Knowledge (database, books, reviews)
- To implement Technology as an educational solution, as well as to strengthen research and investigation.
- To actively provide free internet access and technology
- To work on education in order to provide digital literacy

Key Message:

To Recognize the fundamental right to access new technologies and training for their use, contemplating pluralism and the different necessities, to improve educational quality and knowledge democratization.



To Promote new mechanisms of participation and communication, such as e-government, e-learning, e-business, among others; recognizing youth as strategic agents for development and for the reduction of the digital gap.

Workshop 6: Equality

The struggle for equality is of paramount importance to the youth of the three regions. Although recognizing the existence of many inequalities effecting young people, those related to access to health care, goods, services, justice, information, and others that prevent the full integration into society are considered to be the most significant

We propose to take into consideration:

- 1.- The historical aspects, diversity & ethnicity, being these aspects that affect the manifestation of violence and specifically violence against women
- 2.- Access to health, seen as quality of life, respect, human rights guarantees and the right to physical, emotional and mental health
- 3.- Violence and discrimination that sometimes affect the chances of social integration and exercise of citizenship of youth

Recommendations

- To guarantee access to health care, with differentiated services for young people, promoting respect for their world view to ensure that sex education and strategies for HIV / AIDS and sexually transmitted infections prevention are provided through access to antiretroviral treatment.
- To create and implement an anti-discrimination law that guarantees equal rights in the three regions and penalizes discrimination based on gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, migration, religion or belief, disability, sexual orientation or socio-cultural background and ensures full exercise of rights such as employment, goods and services, social and civil rights and education. This law should be accompanied by institutions to monitor their application and implementation.
- To promote human rights, the rights of vulnerable groups, sexual rights, ethnic, religious minorities and others for which good practices, infrastructure and action plans should be promoted.
- To establish mechanisms to ensure the full respect of human rights and youth rights, especially those in a vulnerable position, such as indigenous peoples and Afro LGBTTI communities, migrants and others.
- Countries have an obligation to provide education (formal and non formal) and awareness raising of the new paradigms for equity and equality.
- To establish, strengthen and implement mechanisms to contribute to the struggle against gender violence.



- To reduce barriers to participation of youth, women, LGBT community, indigenous peoples and afro-descendents in making the decisions through culturally relevant public policies.

Key Message:

To create and implement an anti-discrimination law that guarantees equal rights in the three regions and penalizes discrimination based on gender identity, age, race, ethnicity, migration, religion or belief, disability, sexual orientation or socio-cultural background and ensures full exercise of rights such as employment, goods and services, social and civil rights and education. This law should be accompanied by institutions to monitor their application and implementation.

To establish, strengthen and implement mechanisms to contribute to the struggle against gender violence.

Working Group 7: Democratic Governance and Citizenship Promotion

Participation means to have the right, the means, the spaces, the opportunity, and when necessary, the support to participate and influence on decision making, to get involved in actions and activities and to contribute to the building of a better society

In order to achieve democratic governance and citizenship promotion, full and effective participation of young people in political, economic, social and cultural, local, nation, regional and international decision making structures and processes is necessary. It has to consist of active participation in the drafting, implementation and evaluation of public policies and guarantee the principles of equality, representation, inclusion and non-discrimination as well as respect the diversity in sexual and ethnic orientation.

Recommendations:

- To promote and recognize independent and democratic local, national, regional and international youth councils, platforms and networks, creating valid representation and spaces for exchange between governments and youth organizations
- To guarantee the set up of youth summits, which allow young people to voice their opinion before state leader and intergovernmental meetings concerning the issues discussed and include youth delegates, which have been selected by national or regional youth platforms in a democratic and transparent process
- To implement mechanisms which empower young people by promoting and recognizing volunteerism, creating an independent fund for regional and international programs. Creating spaces on local, national, regional, and international levels for debates, cooperation and integration of youth and guaranteeing the right of association.

Workshop 8: Life Long Learning

We young people, as active actors of the society we live in, in our constant role as learners or educators, understand that to create a social and global coexistence it is necessary to achieve the goal of consolidation of the life long learning process based in peace. Because of this, we request a social pact that restores the value of culture and knowledge, that will allow the effective implementation of the measures below.

Recommendations:

Formal Education

- To guarantee the Access to quality, integral, inclusive and secular education, adapted to the reality of each community that is free and compulsory to the last grade of secondary school in order to guarantee a dignified life.
- To restore the value of teaching through adequate working and social conditions and adequate and specific training, that permit the exercise of teaching, taking into account all particularities and questions to which they are confronted to, especially those related to students with special educational needs.

Non Formal Education

- Governments should recognize the role and the contribution of non formal education to the learning of Young people, carried out by organizations and informal groups of civil society, as well as to promote its importance within the different actors of society.
- To jointly work with organizations and informal groups of civil society in a validation process of competencies and abilities developed through non formal education.
- Countries should guarantee the necessary resources to strengthen and impulse the work on non formal education, as well as to facilitate the cooperation with formal educational institutions at national and international level, according to the Resolution A/RES/64/130.

Peace Culture

- Countries should allocate resources and actions to initiatives and projects generated by Youth in favour of Peace from a human rights based culture.
- To follow up, promote and generate exchanges of youth initiatives in favour of Peace among European, Latin American and Caribbean Countries, which may contribute young people themselves to become multiplying agents of peace in their respective communities and countries.



Key Message:

To guarantee the access to quality, integral, inclusive and secular education, adapted to the reality of each community that is free and compulsory to the last grade of secondary school; recognizing, validating and facilitating the cooperation with formal educational institutions at national and international level, according to the Resolution A/RES/64/130, to guarantee a dignified life.