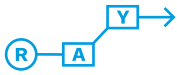


**RESEARCH PROJECT  
ON THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE  
EUROPEAN YOUTH PROGRAMMES  
TO PROGRAMME AND SECTOR  
STRATEGIES (RAY-STRAT)**

**SUMMATIVE REPORT OF ACTIVITIES**

JULY 2022 – APRIL 2023



# Research project on the contribution of the European youth programmes to programme and sector strategies (RAY-STRAT)

## Report of activities 2022/2023

Over the past years, the core documents that frame the European youth programmes, such as the joint decision of the European Parliament and the Council and the annual work plans and programme guides, have been complemented by programme-specific strategies on inclusion, participation, and training. Moreover, the EU Youth Strategy relies on the European youth programmes as a main tool for its implementation, the European Youth Goals cover the European youth programmes, and the European Youth Work Agenda has recently complemented the array of strategic documents with reference to and influence on the European youth programmes.

In addition, strategic cooperation projects by partnerships of National Agencies (SNACs) have become a prominent tool to take core issues further and help develop and advance the European youth programmes. At the moment, the monitoring surveys of the RAY Network typically do not cover strategic cooperation projects, which leaves their contribution to the realisation of the afore-mentioned strategies unconsidered and unvalued.

Against that backdrop, the RAY Network is beginning to explore how the European youth programmes, and the strategic cooperation projects within them, contribute to the implementation of programme- and sector-specific strategies of relevance to the European youth programmes (RAY-STRAT).

### ***During the reporting period, the following research coordination activities were implemented:***

- Development of a draft concept note, initial budget and budget allocation preview for the research project in 2022 and 2023
- Preparation and facilitation of discussions of the RAY Strategy Group, in particular in relation to the research project
- Support of the SNACs (Strategic National Agency Cooperation) with a connection to strategic aspects of the European youth programmes
- Cooperation with the SNAC Inclusion to ensure data and indicator consistency for the second study on effects of inequalities on learning outcomes
- Cooperation with the SNAC Power in Youth to provide evidence and research support for the activities related to the implementation of the programme-wide participation strategy
  - In this context: Implementation of a pilot study to accompany the establishment of youth advisory boards
- Development of a concept note for the next phase of the project including the context of the origin of the project, the aims and objectives, the research questions as well as the research design and instruments for the next project phase
- Production of a summative report and a report of expenditure for this project phase



***During the reporting period, the following research communication activities were implemented:***

- Presentation of key findings, progress and plans during Network Meeting in September 2022
- Presentation of progress, options & plans during Strategy Group meeting in December 2022
- Participation in several coordination meetings with institutional partners in 2022 and 2023
- Participation in coordination meetings with youth work related SNACs
- Presentation of key findings of the project during Directors General Meeting in September 2022
- Presentation of key findings of the project during E+ NA-Commission Meetings in 2022 and 2023
- Presentation of findings at the Erasmus+ Launch Conference in Oslo in July 2022
- Presentation of findings at the Youth Participation Forum in Tallinn in November 2022
- Presentation of findings at Youth Research Dialogues in 2022 and 2023
- Contribution to the development of the RAY-STRAT project page on researchyouth.net

***During the reporting period, the course of the project was influenced to a great extent by the coronavirus pandemic. In consequence, the following activities were implemented differently:***

- The coronavirus pandemic had delayed so many projects across all project types in the entire programme, and the technical tools for the programme were so faulty at the start of the programme, that the Strategy Group of RAY decided to delay the first monitoring survey round and push the first survey from 2022 to 2023; and to delay the first think tank of RAY STRAT and the preparatory focus groups subsequently, to allow the think tank to be based on current data.

# ANNEXES

- 1. CONCEPT NOTE**
- 2. REPORT PILOT STUDY YOUTH ADVISORY BOARDS**
- 3. REPORT RAY STRATEGY GROUP MEETING**
- 4. CONCEPT FOR NEXT PROJECT PHASE**