



INFORMATION TEMPLATE

ON

SOCIAL INCLUSION OF YOUNG PEOPLE

(INCLUDING GUIDELINES FOR EKCYP-CORRESPONDENTS)

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1. The socio-economic situation of young people

1.1 Please inform which groups of the young people are perceived as being socially excluded. What are the main factors for being socially excluded as a young person in your country?

The youth unemployment rate of October 2013 was 3.0%, i.e. 72 persons within the range of 15-24 years¹. In the year 2012 79 persons until 26 years received social welfare benefit.² These figures indicate on economic basis the risk of social exclusion.

A small group of these young people are living at home without integration in the daily live. Young people with social welfare benefit often have no on-the-job training or have broken off from school or work. Some are not capable to living independently.

1.2 Please provide the percentage representing the share of young people (18-24) who are at *risk of poverty* (and/or severely materially deprived and/or living in a household with very low work intensity).

Please compare it to the general population risk of poverty rate. What is the trend in your country – is the rate growing etc.?

The risk of poverty is related to the unemployment rate and the persons receiving social welfare benefit. All together we estimate 1-2% within the range (of 15-25 years). According the poverty study from 2007 there is a risk of poverty about 11%³. Therefore is no evidence for a growing rate (besides seasonal fluctuations).

1.3 Has an impact of the current financial crisis on young people been observed in your country?

The current financial crisis is not marked in Liechtenstein compared to other economic areas. We have economic measures in the public sector but the social welfare system is not touched in this way.

2. Policy measures for young people at risk of social exclusion

2.1 Social subsistence/ protection and health cover for young people living in poverty

The social welfare structures are strongly developed in Liechtenstein. Basically, there is the social welfare benefit, which guarantees the breadline for the expenses of the daily life. People not claiming the social welfare benefit have access to rent allowances, child benefit allowances and a health insurance premium reduction.

¹ http://www.llv.li/llv-as-liechtenstein_nachhaltige_entwicklung-jugendarbeitslosigkeit.htm

² Source: Office of social affairs, Postplatz 2, LI-9494 Schaan

³ <http://www.llv.li/amtstellen/llv-asd-publikationen/llv-asd-publikationen-2.htm>

2.2 Measures to meeting the medical Care needs of Young people at risk of social exclusion

Medical Care needs may occur for addicts and for persons with mental illness. The therapeutical settings foresee outpatient treatment and inpatient treatment as well work programs on different levels when suitable.

2.3 Measures to re-engage the young people not in employment, education or training (NEET)

Different strategies are applied for younger unemployed people. E.g. learning on-the-job is financially supported for that the employer has less risk to engage young people without experience. Another initiative is the <job market chance Liechtenstein>. Young people get a training to self-presentation. The next step is the opportunity to self-presentation in the job market. This is an event where the employers are invited to meet young people⁴.

2.4 Measures to ensure access to decent housing for young people at risk of social exclusion

The phenomenon of homeless (young) people does not exist in Liechtenstein

2.5 Measures addressing the social integration of young people with disabilities

The integration of young people with disabilities in the labour market is a permanent challenge. The most important measure is the supplement to the wages. Nevertheless there is still a lack of employers which hire young people with disabilities. In the future the government will reinforce the staff giving support.

2.6 The contribution of youth work (and youth centres) to social inclusion of young people

The youth work is established in each community of the country. Professionals develop thematic cooperation projects involving young people. The youth information center as well as the programme youth for Europe is an important link in the chain of the services. Financial support may be awarded to activities in youth work and youth organisations. The association of Liechtenstein youth organisations (VLJ), founded in 1996, aims to secure and develop the quality of youth work. It is also the office for the youth-card (Euro < 26), granting discounts and access to events. The VLJ is publishing the youth magazine 'FLASH' together with young people.

3. Research on social inclusion

3.1 Is there any national report/ national survey investigating the social exclusion of young people in your country, including issues of discrimination?

⁴ <http://www.amsfl.li/stellensuchende/chance-liechtenstein/index.html?a=110&level=1>

There is no national report specified to the topic of social exclusion of young people. The government has ordered two youth reports in the last 15 years⁵.

3.2 Is there any longitudinal research focused on the cumulative nature of disadvantage (taking place across generations of the same family).

Not available.

3.3 Apart from national reports and surveys, are you aware of other research that is valuable for understanding the situation of young people (esp. those with fewer opportunities) in the current crisis?

Liechtenstein Institut⁶ has produced various specific reports related to minorities and social policy in Liechtenstein.

4. Examples of policy responses and practices

4.1 What are the relevant initiatives/projects at regional/ national level promoting the social inclusion of young people?

Not available

4.2 Have young people and civil society organizations been given political and financial support to be involved in the policy making process on social inclusion?

The implementation of a project on "Youth Participation" (JUBEL = Jugendbeteiligung) is running well since 2007. This pilot project encourages the social commitment of young people in Liechtenstein.

Around 80 school class speakers between the age of 12 & 16 years old take the chance to gather in a youth parliament. They discuss their wishes and needs, collect ideas. They meet politicians and experts who support them in the implementation of their project ideas. They realise their projects with the help of their schoolmates.

4.3 Have youth organisations and other civil society organisations been involved in the development of the policies related to social inclusion of young people

Not available

⁵ <http://www.llv.li/amtstellen/llv-asd-publikationen/llv-asd-publikationen-2.htm>

⁶ <http://www.liechtenstein-institut.li/>