

Principles relating to the membership and functioning of expert groups established by the Member States and the Commission in the framework of the EU Work Plan for Youth (1 July 2014-31 December 2015)

Membership

- The participation of Member States in the work of the group is voluntary and Member States can join them at any time.
- Member States interested in participating in the work of the group will nominate experts as members of the respective group. Member States will ensure that the nominated expert have relevant experience in the relevant field at national level and will ensure effective communication with competent national authorities. The Commission will coordinate the nomination exercise.
- Each expert group can decide to invite other participants: independent experts, representatives of youth organisations and other stakeholders, as well as representatives of European third countries.

Working procedures

- Expert groups will concentrate on delivering a small number of concrete and useable results on the subject requested.
- To implement the Work Plan, each expert group will be responsible for appointing its chair or co-chairs at the first expert group meeting. Each expert group will prepare a work schedule according to the Work Plan.
- The Member States will be given an opportunity to give guidance to the expert group in order to guarantee the desired outcome and timeline, as well as the coordination of the group's work.
- The Council and the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States, meeting within the Council, will decide whether it is appropriate to propose new actions for the expert group.
- The Commission will provide expertise, as well as logistical and secretarial support to the work of the group. As far as possible, it will support the group by other suitable means (including studies relevant to their field of work).
- Expert group will meet in Brussels as a main rule, but can organise meetings outside Brussels when invited by a Member State.
- Expert group will meet as a main rule twice a year, but can adopt a different timetable if needed.

Reporting and information

- The chair of the expert group will report to the Youth Working Party on the progress of work in the respective expert group and present recommendations on possible future actions to the Youth Working Party.
- The meeting agendas and meeting reports will be available to all Member States, irrespective of their degree of participation in a given area. The reports of the group will be published.
- The reports from the expert group will feed into the assessment prepared by the Commission on the implementation of the Work Plan.