The relevance of gender in youth policies

Many phenomena experienced by young people are deeply affected by gender. In certain areas it is young women who are disadvantaged, while in others it is young men. Young women are for example more likely to be affected by low pay and precarious employment, while young men more frequently have trouble in the educational field.

Grey literature in EIGE’s library

In EIGE’s library, you will find resources focusing on several aspects related to youth policy. The collection includes policy direction documents giving recommendations, research studies providing empirical evidence, as well as examples of policy measures and good practices throughout Europe.

Policies

Youth policy must be designed in coordination with employment, education and health policies in order to be effective.

In our library you will find several resources outlining the ways in which international and EU bodies are trying to address the challenges faced by the youth of today.

You will also find resources that specifically focus on how to mainstream gender into policy processes with particular reference to policy initiatives and specific measures.

Reading list

An EU Strategy for Youth — Investing and Empowering;
Youth policies and gender-sensitive youth work in Austria — Evidence from a capability-oriented perspective.
Education and employment

Gender stereotypes influence the subjects girls and boys choose to study and their career aspirations. Several studies in EIGE’s library show a direct link between choice of study field and gender, as well as gender differences in the school-to-work transitions.

Gender segregation in education leads to occupational segregation in the labour market and affects future career options of both women and men. This makes the labour market less competitive and companies struggle to find qualified professionals in growing sectors, such as information and communications technology and health or personal care.

Youth and society

Within the library you will find resources that present the views of young women and men as well as the gendered representation of young women and men in media. You will also find resources examining the participation of younger generations in political and civic affairs through a gendered perspective.

Young women and men may face multiple forms of social exclusion. In the library several resources analyse the causes of exclusion, as well as policy solutions to address them. Some resources included in the library deal with specific groups, such as young migrants, young Roma, the long-term unemployed, homeless youth and young people in public care.

Reading list

- Degrees of Equality: Gender Pay Differentials Among Recent Graduates;
- The advantages of a gender-sensitive approach to tackle youth employment;
- Starting Fragile — Gender differences in the youth labour market.

Reading list

- 20-year old Women and Men Today — Life plans, role models, attitudes to gender equality;
- ‘Youth civic and political participation through the lens of gender’;
- Social inclusion of youth on the margins of society — Policy review of research results;
- Young Migrant Women in Secondary Education — Promoting integration and mutual understanding through dialogue and exchange.

About EIGE

The European Institute for Gender Equality is the EU knowledge centre on gender equality. EIGE supports policymakers and all relevant institutions in their efforts to make equality between women and men a reality for all Europeans and beyond, by providing them with specific expertise and comparable and reliable information on gender equality in Europe. With over 800,000 items, EIGE’s Resource and Documentation Centre is a one-stop shop for gender knowledge. Access our collection of policy documents, books, articles, studies, specialised databases and more at www.eige.europa.eu.

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