

DEVELOPMENTS IN CYPRUS



- **NATIONAL YOUTH STRATEGY:** The National Youth Strategy (NYS) aims to fulfil the gap between several policies and actions and to establish a cross-sectional cooperation in the field of youth. It gives priority on the rights of young people and aims in having a positive influence on current social and financial conditions in so that conditions will be developed for the wellbeing and unobstructed participation. The NYS is a product of cross-sectional cooperation and it is based on the active and direct activation of Ministries, governmental sectors and NGOs who are active in matters of youth and above all the youngs themselves. Through the NYS all the actions will be coordinated in national level, ensuring optimum level of impact on youth lives.

NATIONAL POLICIES

- National policy on the rights of children in Health: the Ministry of Health has completed the procedures of creating and implementing the policy which aims in promoting access to high quality health services for children and youth with their active participation in decision making in matters concerning their physical and mental health.
- National policy on the Sexual and reproductive health and rights of youth in Cyprus: the Ministry of Health is on the early stages of creating a policy paper and action plan for the matter.
- National policy on the Violence in school: the policy is being designed by the Ministry of Education and gives emphasis on preventing all forms of violence within school settings.

NON-FORMAL / INFORMAL LEARNING

- The Youth Board of Cyprus, the Ministry of Education and Culture and the Human Resource Development Authority are having an ongoing dialogue with the National Youth Council as well, investigating the possibility for the establishment of occupational standards for Youth Workers. At the same time, the Ministry of Education and Culture is running a project which will enable the mapping of the current situation in Cyprus regarding the validation of non-formal and informal learning. Based on the mapping an overall National Action Plan for the creation of mechanisms for validation of non-formal and informal learning in Cyprus will be developed (2018) and pilot project will be implemented (2018-2020).

PRE-VOCATIONAL SKILLS

- The YouthBoard of Cyprus runs since 10/2017 the STEAMers Program which addresses children and adolescents needs and interests regarding recreational activities and pre-vocational skills: problem solving, planning and implementing of solutions, creativity and innovation, basic knowledge about applied arts and science (film making, robotics, branding, communication skills, public speaking etc)