

**Research-based
analysis of European
youth programmes**

RAY WORKING GROUPS

Call for expression of interest

22 MARCH 2021

1. CONTEXT – THE NEW PROGRAMME PERIOD OF THE EUROPEAN YOUTH PROGRAMMES

During the RAY Network meeting 2019, ideas for potential future research directions and projects for the entire next generation of European youth programmes from 2021 to 2027 were discussed and voted on. Following and based on the results, it was agreed within the RAY Coordination Group which research projects will continue and/or start in 2021, which research projects will start after 2021, and which research projects will be merged with others or be dismissed entirely. Subsequently, a comprehensive overview of all suggested research project was provided to the RAY Network Partners. Each Network member confirmed its respective participation for research projects continuing (RAY LEARN, RAY INNO, RAY COR) as well as starting in 2021 (RAY DIGI, RAY COMP). The three network-wide projects are shared by and with all Network Partners (RAY MON, RAY SOC, RAY STRAT).

2. RAY WORKING GROUPS TO BE ESTABLISHED IN 2021

RAY working groups are to be established for the following RAY projects and activities:

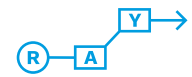
- Research project on the competence development and capacity building for youth work and training in the European youth programmes (RAY COMP)
- Research project on the role of digitalisation in youth work and non-formal learning in the context of the European youth programmes (RAY DIGI)
- Research project on the contribution of the European youth programmes to programme and sector strategies (RAY STRAT)

RAY working groups are to be renewed for the following RAY projects and activities:

- Research project on the impact of the Corona pandemic on youth work in Europe (RAY COR)
- Research project on the role of innovation in European youth work and youth policy (RAY INNO)
- Research project on organisational trajectories of learning and development in the European youth programmes (RAY LEARN)
- Research-based analysis and monitoring of Erasmus+ Youth in Action (RAY MON)
- Research-based analysis and monitoring of the European Solidarity Corps (RAY SOC)

RAY Network Partners are invited to express their interest in becoming a member of these working groups in line with the respective terms of reference (see appendix).

Meeting costs for researchers not being regular employees of National Agencies and attending RAY Working Group meetings can be reimbursed in line with the respective research project budget. Any costs related to staff members of National Agencies would need to be covered by the respective RAY Network partners.



3. EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

RAY Network partners can express their interest in becoming a member of a RAY Working Group of the RAY research projects RAY COMP, RAY COR, RAY DIGI, RAY INNO, RAY LEARN, RAY MON, RAY SOC, and RAY STRAT¹, indicating the experience of the National Agency and/or its research partners related to the **specific research project to carmen.teubl@oph.fi until 16 April 2021** at the latest. Please also let us know the **name(s) & as well as the email address(es)** of those who would take part in the respective working group(s).

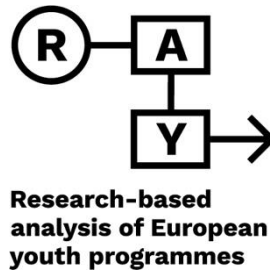
DECISION ON THE COMPOSITION OF RAY WORKING GROUPS

The RAY Coordination Group (see RAY Mission Statement) will assess the expressions of interest and propose a composition of RAY Working Groups to the RAY Network members, asking for their approval until the next RAY Network meeting in 2021 in Slovenia when the composition of new RAY Working Groups will be decided according to the terms of reference for RAY Working Groups.

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¹ For the concepts of these research projects see the [internal area](#) of the RAY website.

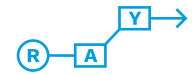
Appendix



RAY WORKING GROUPS

TERMS OF REFERENCE

VERSION 22 MARCH 2021



The RAY Network can establish working groups for specific RAY Network activities, in particular for RAY research projects. The role of RAY Working Groups is to advise the RAY Coordination Office/RAY Research Coordination and the members of the transnational research team in implementing RAY activities. In principle, RAY Working Groups are established at RAY Network Meetings as follows:

- The term of office of a RAY Working Group is established by the RAY Network.
- Members of RAY Working Groups are RAY Network Partners, i.e. the National Agency together with its respective research partners.
- The number of members of a RAY Working Group should be kept small enough to keep the group workable.
- Members of RAY Working Groups withdrawing from a RAY Working Group will inform the RAY Coordination Office of the RAY Network about their withdrawal.
- The RAY Network Meeting and the RAY Coordination Group can change the membership of a RAY Working Group.

Meetings of RAY Working Groups

- RAY Working Group meetings are organised by the RAY Coordination Office/RAY Research Coordination with members of the transnational research team in cooperation with the hosting RAY Network Partner.
- RAY Working Group meetings are prepared and facilitated by the RAY Coordination Office/RAY Research Coordination with members of the transnational research team.
- Meetings of RAY Working Groups can be attended by representatives of National Agencies as well as their research partners, the balance depending on the issues to be worked on.
- Meetings of RAY Working Groups are attended by representatives of the RAY Coordination Group, the RAY Coordination Office, the RAY Research Coordination as well as members of the transnational research team depending on the topics to be discussed.
- Further experts can be invited to RAY Working Group Meetings by the RAY Coordination Office and the RAY Research Coordination.
- RAY Working Group members can request from the RAY Coordination Office/RAY Research Coordination the reimbursement of travel and subsistence costs of one researcher representing the respective member at a working group meeting, within the limits of the respective research project's budget.
- Summary minutes of working group meetings are disseminated by the RAY Coordination Office/RAY Research Coordination to the members of the working group; if useful, these summary minutes will also be disseminated to a larger audience in the RAY Network.

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