



RESEARCH PROJECT ON THE RESEARCH-BASED ANALYSIS AND MONITORING OF ERASMUS+ YOUTH (RAY-MON)

SUMMATIVE REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

JULY 2023 - JUNE 2024



Research project on the analysis and monitoring of Erasmus+ Youth (RAY-MON) Report of activities 2023/2024

In 2008, the RAY Network was founded with the aim to contribute to quality assurance and quality development in the implementation of the European Union's Youth in Action Programme (2007–2013). The initial network partners developed the first standard surveys for project participants and project teams, which were further refined at the start of the next programme generation, Erasmus+ Youth in Action (2014–2020). As part of the network's core research project on the research-based analysis and monitoring of Erasmus+ Youth (RAY-MON), the surveys were overhauled for the first time since the network's foundation at the start of the current programme generation (2021–2027). This reseach project involves all 34 partners.

During the reporting period, the following research coordination activities were implemented:

- Development of revised research concept notes, budgets and research schedules for the project for discussion by network partners
- Support of the long-winded, complex and complicated process of obtaining a data processing agreement for contact data, which was signed in January 2023
- Finalisation of surveys for youth project and youth work activity participants as well as project teams in Erasmus+ with an extremely ambitious timeline
- Coordination of the translation of surveys into all 29 network languages and support to national partners for translation, including taking over the translation into French
- Upload of the surveys in English and all languages onto the dedicated RAY survey server at surveys.researchyouth.net
- Continuous cleaning of contact data, invitation of potential respondents to surveys, sending out timed reminders and overall contact data management
- Extraction and provision of data snapshots to national partners in September 2023 to support mid-term evaluation
- Extraction and provision of national datasets to national partners in January 2024, including documented dataset cleaning and harmonisation
- Preparation of support document for mid term evaluation for national partners, including variables, syntax and table as well as chart outputs
- Preparation, facilitation and follow-up of the analysis meeting for the project in December 2023 in Reykjavik
- Development of initial key findings in cooperation with the Heads of Agencies Core Group for the Director's General Summit
- Transnational analysis and development of key finding presentation and input for the Triangular Summit
- Thematic analysis and development of thematic inputs for a number of staff trainings and conferences
- Development of an interim approach to producing graphical outputs for the transnational analysis, until the Open Data Portal is ready
- Contribution to the development process for the upcoming Open Data Portal of RAY, including two weekly development sprints



- Participation in team retreats of the transnational research team and a joint team retreat with the network coordination team
- Contribution to the preparation of and support to the meetings of the RAY Strategy Group in 2023 and 2024
- Development of a concept note for the next phase of the project including the context of the origin of the project, the aims and objectives, the research questions as well as the research design and instruments for the next project phase
- Production of a summative report and a report of expenditure for this project phase

During the reporting period, the following research communication activities were implemented:

- Presentation of progress and plans during Network Meeting in September 2023
- Participation in several coordination meetings with institutional partners in 2023 and 2024
- Participation in coordination and contents meetings with thematically related SNACs
- Participation in and contribution to the analysis seminar in Reykjavik in December 2023
- Participation in and contribution to the Triangular Summit in Helsinki in May 2024
- Contribution to the Think Tank Meeting in Tallinn in June 2024
- Presentation of key findings of the project during NA Business Meeting in October 2023
- Presentation of key findings of the project during Directors General Meeting in March 2024
- Presentation of key findings of the project during E+ NA-Commission Meetings in 2023 and 2024
- Presentation of key findings of the project during TCA/NET Meeting in Riga in March 2024
- Presentation of key findings of the project during CIOST Staff Training in May 2024
- Presentation of key findings of the project during YWM Staff Training in June 2024
- Presentation of findings at a webinar for Eurodesk Information Officers in March 2024
- Presentation of findings at Youth Research Dialogues in 2023 and 2024
- Participation in and contribution to the monthly digital RAY Network Exchanges
- Thematic contributions to the monthly newsletter for the RAY Network
- Participation in and contribution to the monthly coordination and update meetings
- Contribution to the development of the RAY-MON project page on researchyouth.net

During the reporting period, the following additional research coordination activities were implemented, which started in previous reporting periods and will continue beyond this reporting period:

- Continuous review of technical and legal tools and frameworks required for programmatic and thematic research in the context of Erasmus+ Youth, and ongoing discussion of the implications for the technical tools and frameworks of the programme itself
- Contribution to the input and feedback process on the preliminary opinion on data protection and scientific research by the European Data Protection Supervisor from the perspective of youth and learning mobility research
- Setup and maintenance of a dedicated server for the surveys of the RAY Network



ANNEXES

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- 3. QUESTIONNAIRE YOUTH WORKERS
- 4. **QUESTIONNAIRE PROJECT TEAMS**
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- 20. CONCEPT FOR NEXT PROJECT PHASE