

**ENYA Annual Seminar
25th and 26th of July 2011
Belfast
Northern Ireland**



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1.0 Introduction

During 2010, ENOC developed the ENOC Network of Youth Advisors (ENYA) and in doing so enabled almost 200 young people and over 20 moderators to exchange their views and experiences, and contribute through ENOC, their thoughts and comments on policy making at European, national and regional levels.

Through the 4 different thematics of violence, education, health and the internet, young people debated the issues through the e-forum; identified key common issues on each of the issues; agreed representatives from each country to represent them at the Annual ENOC Conference in Strasburg and finally, presented their proposals for action / recommendations to ENOC members.

Thomas Hammarberg, EU Commissioner for Human Rights joined in the debate at the Conference and told us *"Time to stop having young people present as decorations in your debates about their rights and needs. Listen to them properly, and act!"*

Taking heed of these words and to move forward in developing a European model of good participative practice. A proposal was put forward (following on from the previous year's work and to build upon the young people's evaluation recommendations) that this year's ENYA seminar will include more direct contact with young people and Ombudspersons to enable fuller and more meaningful debates and discussions.

The aim was to enable ENOC to develop policy positions based on young people's perspective, but also rather that to talk about issues, to create actions from them. These actions would be created jointly by young people and Ombudspersons and would be on three levels:

- ENOC level (joint actions that ENOC can carry out as a group)
- National Level (individual actions for each country)
- Young Person led (Actions that young people can lead on themselves)



2.0 Proposal

To facilitate this process a two step proposal was put forward and approved by ENOC and supported by the European Commission. This would involve:

1. Regional Meeting (2 days)

Young people and identified ombudspersons would be split into four topic groups and they would work collectively to follow up on the proposals as identified at the Strasbourg Annual Conference, 2010 to decide what they could do as:

- Young People
- Ombudspersons at a national level
- Ombudspersons at a European level

Following this meeting action plans will be developed for tasks to outwork an agreed way forward.

2. Annual Meeting in Warsaw, Poland, September 2011 (3 days in total)

This conference will be a joint initiative between young people, co-ordinators and ombudspersons to feedback on the actions taken from last year according to the action plans developed. Over a three day period the conference would be structured as follows:

- 1st Day - Preparation of four topic groups with ombudspersons and young people
- 2nd Day - Presentation to all ombudspersons and young people to present the progress to date on the action plans for each topic, and to decide what topics will be taken forward for next year.
- 3rd Day - Evaluation

Alongside the more formal conference structure a detailed time line will be produced with key milestones for co-ordinators, young people and ombudspersons, to ensure that everyone is appropriately prepared and to ensure the smooth running of the conference. Communication to all will be facilitated by the ENOC secretariat.

2.1 Proposed Outputs

- 4 action plans (1 per theme) jointly produce by Ombudspeople and young people at Regional meeting



- 4 presentations and next steps for each theme at Annual meeting
- Production of evaluation report

2.2 Proposed Outcomes

- Development of a sustainable model of young people’s participation at a European level
- ENOC to develop policy positions based on actual need rather than perceived need.

3.0 Structure of Annual Seminar

The Annual Seminar was held on the 25th and 26th of July. The two day conference was structured as follows:

25TH JULY

DAY AND TIME	ACTIVITY
7.30	Breakfast
08.30-9.00	Bus from accommodation to NICCY (included)
09.00 -11.00 (Session 1 plan)	Getting to know each other and split into 4 topic groups
11.00-13.00 (Session 2 plan)	Based on Strasbourg recommendations, Young People and Ombudspeople agree what they can do as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Young People • Ombudspersons at a national level • Ombudspersons at a European level <p>Each group establishes an action plan and prepares a presentation on what they are going to do over the course of the next year with time scales.</p> <p>Vote for people within the group who can go to represent the group at the next annual conference.</p>
13.00-14.00	Lunch (included)
14.00- 18.00 (Session 3 plan)	Finalise recommendations and presentation.
18.00-22.00	Dinner (not included)
22.00- 23.15	Ghost tour in Belfast (included)



26TH JULY

DAY AND TIME	ACTIVITY
8.30-9.30	Breakfast
9.30-10.00	Bus from accommodation to Folk Park (included)
10.00-13.00	Cultural event (included)
13.00-13.30	Travel back from Folk Park
13.30-14.30	Lunch (included)
14.30-17.00 (Session 4 plan)	Welcome (10 minutes) Presentations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Health(15 minutes) • Violence(15 minutes) • Education(15 minutes) • Internet (15 minutes) • Questions (30 minutes) Discussion on ideas for 2012 ENYA topics (20 minutes) Vote on topics for annual conference(30 minutes)
17.00-18.00	Dinner/free time (not included)
18.00-19.00	City Hall (Presentation of prizes by Lord Mayor)
19.00-21.00	Free time
21.00-22.00	Feedback and presentation of certificates

4.0 Attendance

The conference was attended by the delegates shown below broken down by country.

Country	Name	
Azerbaijan	Ms Nigar Shabiyeva	Coordinator
	Ms Ulya Guliyeva	Young Advisor
Catalonia	Ms Estel Buch	Coordinator
	Ms Marta Arasanz Melero	Young Advisor
	Mr Darcel Yoya	Young Advisor
Croatia	Ms Maria Jesus Larios	Ombudsperson
	Ms Tanja Opacak	Coordinator
	Ms Paola Herc	Young Advisor
	Mr Nikola Grujić-Tomas	Young Advisor



Cyprus	Ms Christina Hadjisavva	Coordinator
	Ms Nikol Avraam	Young Advisor
	Ms Anna Maria Poullou	Young Advisor
	Ms Leda Koursoumba	Ombudsperson
Finland	Ms Mirkka Jalonen-Alava	Coordinator
	Mr Santeri Lohi	Young Advisor
	Mr Juuso Ahola	Young Advisor
Greece	Ms Matoula Papadimitriou	Coordinator
	Mr Ilias Bouras	Young Advisor
	Ms Antonia Markoviti	Young Advisor
	Mr George Moschos	Ombudsperson
Malta	Ms Suzanne Gili	Coordinator
	Ms Bernice Farrugia	Young Advisor
	Ms Naomi Camilleri	Young Advisor
Poland	Mr Maciej Zwierzyński	Coordinator
	Anna Jastrzemska	Young Advisor
	Aleksander Strzelecki	Young Advisor
Republika Srpska	Ms. Andrea Stankovic	Coordinator
	Mr Dejan Tatic	Young Advisor
	Ms Milica Kopuz	Young Advisor
Ireland	Ms Emily Logan	Ombudsperson
Northern Ireland	Mr Niall Moore	Coordinator
	Ms Eve Malcomson	Young Advisor
	Mr Barry McCrory	Young Advisor
	Mrs Patricia Lewsley	Commissioner

5.0 Thematic Working Groups:

The thematic working groups met over two days on the 25th and 26th of July. The first day was mainly to prepare ideas to action the recommendations from the Strasbourg conference in 2010 and to select two young people from each group to present the findings at the ENOC Annual Conference in Warsaw.

The second day of the annual seminar was dedicated to each thematic working group presenting their findings and answering any questions.



The following pages include a brief summary of the discussions of each thematic working group and a list of actions to be presented at the Annual Conference in Warsaw. For a more detailed account of all discussions and to see the presentations from each group please see Appendices 1-4.

5.1 Health

The Health working group comprised of:

Co-ordinators:

Niall Moore (Chair)-Northern Ireland
Tanja Opacak- Croatia

Scribe: Siobhan McLaughlin NICCY

Ombudsman: Emily Logan Ireland

Young people: Juuso Ahola Finland
Eve Malcomson Northern Ireland
Marta Arasanz Melero Catalonia
Antonia Markoviti Greece



5.1.1 Summary of workshop discussions

(More detailed minutes and a copy of the Health presentation in Appendix 1)

The group spent a considerable amount of time analysing and discussing the idea of influence and change, the group identified a number of key decision makers within each of their countries and at a European Level who can make key decisions about children and young people.

After examining the key decision makers, the group focused on the recommendations that were made at the conference in Strasbourg, focusing firstly on mental health. The group examined what services are in place for young people with mental health difficulties and came up with a list of skills a person should have, if they work with young people who have mental health difficulties, this also included a broad discussion about media's portrayal of mental health and the associated stigma.

The group concluded by coming up with a series of actions on tackling mental health through education in summary these were:



- To send to European Institutions (EU, CoE) lesson plans based on best practice from member countries that can be used across Europe to educate about Mental Health.
- Young People to set up an online petition to promote awareness of young peoples' concerns about Mental Health, and education in schools. Ombudsman to support this with a letter to European Institutions
- Young people to survey the ENYA members about Mental Health and collate the information
- Education with and through the media around mental health,
 - C&YP to contact local media
 - Ombudsmen to contact national media

The group then moved on to examine another of the recommendations from Strasbourg on the subject of addictions. The members of the group discussed the various advantages and disadvantages of each countries approach to tackling addictions through advertising, cultural differences and laws. The discussion also included the importance of politicians in influencing laws, and how young people need to be made more aware of the importance of the democratic process, in order to influence change effectively. The group's three action points on addictions were:

5.1.2 Summary of Actions for Health

1. To send the Council of Europe/EU lesson plans based on best practice from member countries that can be used across Europe to educate about Mental Health. This was to be supported by a letter from the Ombudsperson to Thomas Hammarberg and other authorities.
2. Young People to set up an online petition to promote awareness of young peoples' concerns about Mental Health, and education in schools.
3. Young people to survey the ENYA members about Mental Health and collate the information
4. Education with and through the media around mental health,
 - a. C&YP to contact local media
 - b. Ombudsmen to contact national media
5. For the Finish Ombudsperson to keep ENYA and ENOC up to date with the proposed change in law in advertising images promoting alcohol.
6. For ombudsman at a nations level and young people to promote an understanding of the political process and voting.
7. Ombudsmen to encourage national governments to consult young people on campaigns that show the impact of addiction.



5.2 Violence

The violence working group comprised of:

Coordinators:

Estel Buch (Chair)-	Catalonia
Christina Hadjisavva-	Cyprus
Andrea Stankovic	Republika Srpska

Scribe: Ken Smyth NICCY

Ombudsperson: Leda Koursoumba Cyprus

Young People: Nikola Grujic-Tomas	Croatia
Nikol Avraam	Cyprus
Ilias Bouras	Greece
Barry McCrory	Northern Ireland
Ulya Guilyeva	Azerbaijan



5.2.1 Summary of workshop discussions

(More detailed minutes and a copy of the violence presentation in Appendix 2)

Every one introduced itself, Estel explained her role and the objectives of session and then Leda explained her role as Ombudsperson in Cyprus.

The group discussed various topics relating to violence which included:

- Training programmes for teachers & people working with children - as part of University curriculum - to help identify symptoms/outcomes of violence
- Training for young people.
- Bullying and the role of peer educators and student councils.
- Biggest problem is that it is accepted - should be zero tolerance to violence
- TV / movies help promote violent heroes
- Need to educate the press / produce guidelines
- Stricter controls on video games - some places are strict on asking for ID but most people download them so there are accessible to all edges.
- No or little parental supervision / parents don't know how to use internet properly or as well as c&yp
- Promote positive parenting and develop role models



- Young people and violence: paramilitary violence; police doing very little
- Corporate punishment: should it be banned. Need to change attitudes and cultures.
- Anti-violence programmes seldom evaluated and improved. Also what happens after violence is reported. People feel that there is going to be no result.
- Bus drivers needs to be more aware of responsibility of being in care for young people
- People of responsibility should know how to report incidents of violence
- Family important - breaking the mould - from experience at home or wider family
- In school - Northern Ireland seem to have a lot of support mechanism but not consistent throughout Europe

5.2.2 Summary of Actions for Violence Group

1. Stop Corporal Punishment.

- a. Ombudspeople and young people to develop and promote campaigns to stop corporal punishment
- b. ENOC to lobby for a ban through press releases and joint statements
- c. Ombudspeople to collect, collate and promote research.

2. Stop Bullying

- a. Ombudspersons to propose pre-service and in service training on children's rights and mediation skills.
- b. Peer mediation approaches supported by Ombudspeople
- c. Ombudspeople to recommend employment of councillors and psychologists
- d. Ombudspeople to promote codes of conduct in dealing with young people
- e. To promote a programme for bus prefects
- f. Use school councils and national youth panels promote anti bullying

3. Stop Domestic Violence.

- a. Ombudspersons to develop campaigns to raise awareness of domestic violence and importance of positive parenting.
- b. Ombudspersons and young people to work with people affected by domestic violence.
- c. Ombudspersons to produce guidelines for the media around domestic violence
- d. Young people to create campaign around rights and domestic violence



- e. Ombudspeople to promote the employment of school psychologists and provision of training
- f. Ombudspersons and young people to campaign for compulsory reporting of violence
- g. Ombudspersons and ENOC to call for mandatory evaluation and monitoring of effectiveness programmes to ensure quality/effectiveness of services
- h. Ensure that young people are involved in developing anti bullying policies.

5.3 Education

The education group comprised of:

Co-ordinators:

Mirkka Alava (Chair) Finland
 Matoula Papadimitriou Greece

Scribe: Aileen Laverty NICCY

Ombudsman: George Moschos Greece
 Maria Jesus Larios Catalonia

Young People: Darcel Yoya Catalonia
 Paola Herc Croatia
 Anna Maria Poullou Cyprus
 Santeri Lohi Finland
 Dejan Tatic Republika Srpska



5.3.1 Summary of workshop discussion

(More detailed minutes and a copy of the education presentation in Appendix 3)

Everyone introduced themselves and played some name games. Mirkka (Finland) outlined the role and purpose of the group and George (Greek Ombudsperson) outlined his role as an Ombudsperson and as part of ENOC.

The group discussed the recommendations set out in Strasbourg and their discussions centred around two main areas of teacher education and participation.

Within teacher education, the group discussed each countries approach to evaluation of teachers by pupils and staff, which varied depending not only on the country you live in but also the type of school you attend.



The groups discussion on participation within school looked at various models across Europe designed to hear the voice of young people. From student councils, class representatives and peer mediators what became clear was that the model of participation was linked to how teachers view and respect their students but also how children's rights is seen within the education curriculum of the country.

5.3.2 Summary of Actions for the Education Group

1. Teacher training and education

Recommendation: Teacher evaluation

Level: All levels, namely schools

Action:

- a) Evaluation through intranet - anonymous by students
- b) Every term, pupils write a composition
- c) Student councils can participate in the decisions for students.
- d) Group sessions, weekly with trained teacher/peer sessions for other pupils.

Time: Now

Responsibility: Ombudsman to promote at all levels.

Teacher training:

- a) Different methods
- b) Children's Rights
- c) Child Psychology
- d) Child Protection
- e) Social skills
- f) participatory training
- g) retrain every 5-7 years
- h) Motivating skills to teach.

2. Participation between students and teachers

Recommendation: Student participation

Level: Local, school level and national level

Action:

- a) Training in participation in schools/community
- b) Define participation
- c) Agree on participation
- d) Promote ways to secure children's participation
- e) 4 levels of participation
- f) Participation needs to be defined, regulated and facilitated by law.



3. Human Rights Education and enrichment of school criteria

Recommendation: Human Rights Education

Level: European

Action:

- a) Have Children's Rights and Human Right mainstreamed
- b) Put into curriculum
- c) "Train the Trainers" - children train adults
- d) Day dedicated to children's rights.

Tolerance starts with knowledge.

4. Equal Opportunities

Recommendation: Minority groups

Action:

- a) More practical subjects e.g. art, not as much of a language barrier
- b) Able to chose voluntary courses/school subjects
- c) Maximum % should be foreseen in the law, for foreign nationals in schools. Considering population of inhabitants.
- d) More multi cultural education instead of religious
- e) Priority in planning for SEN → special educator.
- f) Limitation for classroom sizes
- g) Disabilities should have special support
- h) Books modified - more objective

5. Child protection

Action:

- a) Trained peer mediators/trained adults, teachers for mediation, head masters/psychologists and youth workers.
- b) Doctors to visit schools to educate on certain areas e.g. sex education.
- c) Health and sex education in schools.

5.4 Internet

The Internet group comprised of:

Co-ordinators:

Suzanne Gili (Chair)	Malta
Nigar Shabiyeva	Azerbaijan
Maciej Zwierzynski	Poland

Scribe: Catherine Bannon NICCY



Commissioner:	Patricia Lewsley	Northern Ireland
Young People:	Bernice Farrugia	Malta
	Naomi Camilleri	Malta
	Milica Kopuz	Republika Srpska
	Anna Jastrzemska	Poland
	Alexander Strzelecki	Poland

5.4.1 Summary of workshop discussions

(More detailed minutes and a copy of the violence presentation in Appendix 4)

After initial introductions and outlining the roles of everyone in the group, the members looked at the recommendations from last year's Strasbourg conference and put forward ideas as to how to action the recommendations. The ideas focused around:

- Training for children, young people, teachers and parents on how to use the internet
- Campaigning for everyone to make them aware of the benefits but also the danger of the internet
- The problems of cyber bullying and different approaches that countries are taking
- Child protection and issues of safety

5.4.2 Recommendations for Actions

The group decided to focus their actions on 4 different stakeholders:

1. Ombudspeople and ENOC to promote internet safety through websites, through encouragement of teachers, parents and children.
2. Young people with the support of Ombudspeople to create a campaign to raise awareness of internet safety through different types of media.
3. Ombudspeople and ENOC to get a government to review legislation on internet safety.
4. Ombudspersons to encourage governments to include internet safety in the school curriculum.
5. Ombudspersons to work together with website providers, ENOC and young people to promote a consensus of internet safety.

6.0 Young People selected to attend Annual conference



At the end of the first day, young people from each thematic group were given a voting slip to vote for the top two people to attend the Annual Conference in Warsaw. Young people selected were

Health

Eve Malcolmson (Northern Ireland)

Antonia Markoviti (Greece)

Violence

Ilias Bouras (Greece)

Nikol Avraam (Cyprus)

Education

Dejan Tatic (Republika Srpska)

Anna Maria Poullou (Cyprus)

Internet

Aleksander Strzelecki (Poland)

Bernice Farrugia (Malta)

7.0 NICCY Youth Panel ENYA Citizen Reporters

7.1 Introduction:

WITH the ENOC Network of Youth Advisers seminar taking place in Belfast in July the best way to communicate the work was discussed internally within NICCY.

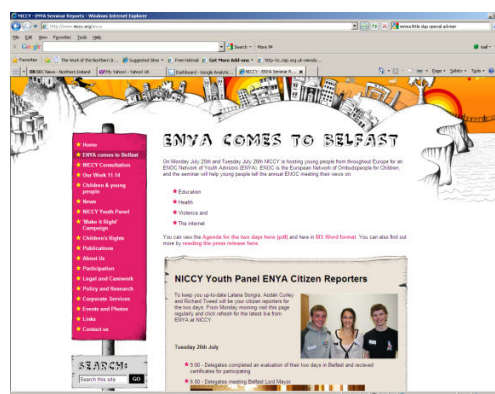
As young people were leading the event, it was decided that young people were best placed to observe and report on the seminar.

Three members of NICCY's youth panel volunteered to be '[citizen reporters](#)' using the concept that people 'close to' an event are best placed to report on that event, even though they may not be full-time journalists.

7.2 Implementation:

NICCY's communications staff supported the young reporters with a brief training session and the creation of a dedicated [ENYA](#) page on the NICCY website.

The three young people attended the seminar and observed and reported on the proceedings using written updates, photographs and video interviews.



"I definitely gained something from the experience, confidence that I can succeed despite a lack of experience and I really enjoyed conversing with people from other nations." NICCY Youth Panel ENYA Citizen Reporter

NICCY staff then posted these on the [ENYA](#) page, which was also added as a "top-level" link.

Throughout the two days the young people's updates were posted on the website, covering formal activities and informal events.

The page has now been updated with a selection of photographs taken by the young people, as well as their reportage.

7.3 Outputs:

The three young people all said that they enjoyed the experience, finding it both challenging and rewarding.

The [ENYA](#) page has been viewed 673 (as of 07/08/11), with visitors spending on average three and a half minutes viewing the page.

Visitors to the page were from across Europe. Croatia, Ireland, Finland, Greece, Spain, Bosnia and Herzegovina, France, Poland, Cyprus and Italy, were among the top 20 visitors to the NICCY page over the period of ENYA, with the majority viewing the ENYA page upon visiting the website.

7.4 Next steps:

While internally NICCY will evaluate the time versus benefit of carrying out a similar exercise, ENYA will need to consider whether they wish to adopt this model as a way of reporting on proceedings both at ENYA and ENOC.

7.5 Additional Communications

In support of the seminar being held in Belfast NICCY sent out press releases, and media invitation to attend the event.

BBC Northern Ireland carried an article on their breakfast bulletins, the Belfast Telegraph featured a photograph, and the Irish News mentioned the seminar.

Further coverage of the role of the citizen reporters will be evaluated if and when it appears.

In addition to the mainstream media the Commissioner's [Twitter page](#) was updated throughout the period of the seminar.



8.0 Findings

8.1 Introduction

Following the conclusion of the Annual Seminar on the 25th of July, participants gathered in the Lounge of the accommodation at Queens University Belfast to take part in a feedback session. The session was chaired by Tanja Opacak (co-ordinator for Croatia) and Niall Moore (co-ordinator for Northern Ireland) was present to take minutes.

8.2 Attendance

Below is the list of participants who took part in the feedback session broken down by countries:

Country	Name	
Azerbaijan	Ms. Nigar Shabiyeva	Coordinator
	Ms. Ulya Guliyeva	Young Advisor
Catalonia	Ms. Estel Buch	Coordinator
	Ms. Marta Arasanz Melero	Young Advisor
	Mr. Darcel Yoya	Young Advisor
Croatia	Ms. Tanja Opacak	Coordinator
	Ms. Paola Herc	Young Advisor
	Mr. Nikola Grujić-Tomas	Young Advisor
Cyprus	Ms. Christina Hadjisavva	Coordinator
	Ms. Nikol Avraam	Young Advisor
	Ms. Anna Maria Poullou	Young Advisor
Finland	Ms. Mirkka Jalonen-Alava	Coordinator
	Mr. Santeri Lohi	Young Advisor
	Mr. Juuso Ahola	Young Advisor
Greece	Ms. Matoula Papadimitriou	Coordinator
	Mr. Ilias Bouras	Young Advisor
	Ms. Antonia Markoviti	Young Advisor
	Mr. George Moschos	Ombudsperson
Malta	Ms. Suzanne Gili	Coordinator
	Ms. Bernice Farrugia	Young Advisor
	Ms. Naomi Camilleri	Young Advisor



Poland	Mr. Maciej Zwierzyński	Coordinator
	Ms. Anna Jastrzemska	Young Advisor
	Mr. Aleksander Strzelecki	Young Advisor
Republika Srpska	Ms. Andrea Stankovic	Coordinator
	Mr. Dejan Tatic	Young Advisor
	Ms. Milica Kopuz	Young Advisor
Northern Ireland	Mr. Niall Moore	Coordinator
	Ms. Eve Malcomson	Young Advisor
	Mr. Barry McCrory	Young Advisor
	Ms. Pamela Downham	Conference Coordinator

8.3 Findings

Tanja outlined to all participants that the purpose of this session was to evaluate the conference on the following four areas:

1. Preparation before the conference
2. The Conference and agenda
3. Joint working groups with the Ombudspeople
4. Future of ENYA

Tanja stressed that young people and advisors should be as honest as possible so that we can improve on any areas identified for the next conference in Warsaw.

8.3.1 Preparation before the conference

Participants felt that the timing of the conference caused a lot of pressure to prepare young people and arrange travel to Belfast; this was due to a delay in funding being approved from the Council of Europe which resulted in just under 3 weeks' notice to prepare for the conference.

Given this constraint, facilitators felt that the guidance issued was helpful in preparing participants, and were grateful to Niall and Pamela from Northern Ireland for being there to answer any questions or queries they had. Young people also appreciated the Strasbourg recommendations document which was sent out in advance of the conference.

It was noted that the absence of the E-forum caused particular difficulties in helping to get to know other participants and to debate issues online. There had been technical problems with the forum for a number of weeks. These difficulties had been reported



to ENOC who hosts the ENYA forum. Unfortunately they were not able to be fixed before the conference. It was suggested by Dejan from Republika Srpska that in the absence of the E-forum a PowerPoint with names and pictures should be sent around before the conference to help participants get to know each other.

There was also a suggestion from the Ombudsperson from Greece that Ombudspeople and coordinators should meet in advance of the conference to plan and get to know each other. Although guidance was issued to the coordinator, Ombudsperson and Chair of each subgroup in advance of the conference, it was felt that it would have been more beneficial to meet together face to face to ensure consistency and continuity.

8.3.2 Conference and Agenda

All participants commented on the high standard of organisation at this conference and thanked the organising team for preparing the conference in such a short space of time.

Accommodation

Whilst participants had no issues with the standard of the accommodation, it was noted by young people who were present at last year's Annual Conference that the European Youth centre offered a better venue because it was contained in one area, and that all participants including most Ombudspeople stayed and ate there. As a result they got to know each other more naturally.

The location of the Ombudspeople accommodation was noted by a few participants who recommended that all Ombudspeople should stay in the same place as the participants.

Number of Countries participating

It was noted by some participants that there were less countries present than at the Annual Conference in Strasbourg. Whilst it was understood that this was partly due to the delay in funding from the European Commission and the time of the year, it was also felt that Belfast was a difficult city to get to. It was recommended that the venue for ENYA should be chosen specifically to allow for as many countries as possible to participate.



Agenda (ENYA business)

Generally participants were happy with the amount of time spent on business in the agenda and coordinators and young people alike commented on how the positive atmosphere in workshops compared to Strasbourg as Ombudspeople were there and they felt that there was clear concrete work being carried out.

Although it was noted that the days were long and there was pressure to ensure that all actions were completed to schedule, most participants enjoyed this and did note that this was necessary and allowed for more cultural activities and free time. The participants did suggest that in future the venue should allow for access to fresh air and also more frequent shorter breaks.

All participants spoke about how good it was to get to know Ombudspeople better, they felt the icebreaker games at the start of the first day were useful to get to know the 5 Ombudspeople present personally, and one participant stated that she felt 'valued, respected and listened to by the Ombudsperson in her group'. This view was shared by a number of the participants present.

Although the icebreakers with the Ombudspeople worked well, a lot of participants commented that they would have liked more name games in the workshop sessions to allow participants and coordinators to get to know each other better.

Some young people were concerned about the composition of the working groups for each sub topic. Prior to the conference young people were asked to vote for which group they would like to join in order of preference. These names were sent to the ENOC secretariat who then divided them into groups. All coordinators were advised (as in Strasbourg) to reiterate to their young people that not everyone will get into their first preference group. During this process it was clear that there was a bias in favour of young people wanting to join the violence and education groups, as a result a lot of young people were unable to participate in their first preference group. Whilst all participants understood this, there was a feeling that the groups needed to be more balanced to reflect multiple countries in each working group.

There was also a concern around the voting process for young people to attend the conference in Warsaw. Each group were asked to give all young people a voting slip and each young person had to nominate two young people from each group to go forward to the Warsaw conference. The chair of each sub group then marked the voting slips to select the two highest scoring young people. In one group this caused confusion, and it was recommended that more

guidance is given in advance of the meeting to clarify the marking system.

Young people from Poland also were concerned as one of them was selected to attend the conference in Warsaw and he felt that this was unfair to other young people in the group as he would already be attending the conference as it was based in his country.

Agenda (Cultural Activities)

All the participants enjoyed the cultural activities planned in the agenda. These included a treasure hunt around Belfast, a ghost tour of the city, a visit to the Ulster Folk and Transport Museum and a meeting with the Lord Mayor including a tour of Belfast City Hall. Some comments specifically on these activities were:

- 'Fun'
- 'Allowed us to see the city we were staying in'.
- 'I felt very privileged to meet the Lord Mayor.'

- 'Although I found the weather cold, I enjoyed the folk park and the people were very friendly'.
- 'I loved the cultural activities'.

Although all participants enjoyed the activities most felt that a lot of the activities were completed in country groups (the co-ordinator and young people from one country), and they would have appreciated the opportunity to mingle more with young people from other countries. One suggestion put forward was that there should have been more free time in the evening to facilitate this.

Duration:

It was commented upon that the conference could be to be spread over 3 days.

8.3.3 Joint Work with Ombudspeople.

As stated above all participants enjoyed getting to know the Ombudspeople better, through the workshops and joint presentations. Young people commented that they felt more willing to approach the Ombudspeople and that they were always accessible and encouraging to all of the participants.

Some participants felt that it may have been beneficial to have the Ombudspeople present at the feedback session.



8.3.4 The Future of ENYA

As part of the agenda on the final day of the conference, Patricia Lewsley (ENOC Chair & NI Commissioner for Children and Young People) facilitated a session with all participants to discuss the future of ENYA. Patricia outlined her ideas for the development of ENYA; that participants could research one topic through the E-forum to contribute to the work of ENOC. Young People were supportive of the idea and stressed that they wished for ENYA to continue. On this point Patricia did highlight that any future developments with ENYA are linked to funding received from the European Commission.

Each young person in turn was then asked what areas they would like to focus on for the next annual conference, after a number of ideas were put forward each young person filled out a voting slip and the votes were tallied as follows:

	Issue	Score
1	Discrimination	22
2	Social Networking / Facebook	16
=	Pornography on the Internet	16
4	Bullying	15
=	Media	15
6	Negative Culture	14
=	Participation	14
8	Stereotyping	13
9	Student Councils (Youth, re: local authorities)	12
10	Mental Health	10
11	Information on Rights and Services	8
12	Decision making in schools (school councils)	7
13	Healthy lifestyle	6
14	Leisure	4
=	Young people with special needs	4
=	Peer pressure	4
17	Growing up / development	2
=	Integration	2



9.0 Key Questions for ENOC to move forward with ENYA

From this report it is clear that there are a number of areas where ENOC need to decide and clarify in order to make the ENYA forum an effective model of participation. Each of these areas are outlined below with a number of key questions for ENOC to consider.

Purpose of ENYA

It is clear from the ENYA meetings held to date, that young people, co-ordinators and Ombudsman gain a lot from the experience. However in order to make the process effective ENOC needs to consider how ENYA can be involved in their ongoing work. During this Annual Seminar a model of using ENYA as a peer research mechanism was outlined by Patricia Lewsley. In this model participants would work in their individual countries to research and feed in the opinions of children and young people affected by the topic that the Annual Conference is focused on. Young people would then use the e-forum to draw out common themes or recommendations and present these findings to ENOC during the Annual Conference.

ACTION: ENOC needs to discuss and clarify what model should be used to make ENYA a sustainable and effective model of participation.

ACTION: ENOC needs to seek clarification on funding arrangements for ENYA in order to maintain an effective long term process.

Following up on the Action Plans from this year

The four working groups from the annual seminar have created four separate action plans to work on throughout the next year and beyond. Each of these action plans have resulted in a range of actions on three levels:

- ENOC
- National Ombudspeople
- Young People

ACTION: ENOC needs to discuss and clarify who is responsible for coordinating each of these action plans after the annual seminar and leading up to the conference, and after the conference is finished.

ACTION: ENOC needs to make a decision around guidelines for how and when the ENOC/ENYA logo and brand are used, and what



happens when this is in conflict with a national institutions policy.

ACTION: To overcome the technical difficulties and re-establish the e-forum as soon as possible, to enable continuing exchanges with ENYA members.

ACTION: ENOC needs to make a decision on who hosts the ENYA forum and how it is maintained.

Location of the Annual Seminar

At the feedback session, young people were clear that they wanted more countries to take part, whilst part of this was due to the lateness of funding and the time of year an idea was put forward by the participants that the location of the annual conference should be based on accessibility by countries rather than who is the ENOC country chairing the conference that year.

ACTION ENOC needs to consider the proposals put forward by the young people during the feedback session and action appropriately.

