

Newsletter

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Summary of Work Progress

During the past six months we have completed the individual survey (WP3) in all the Younex consortium countries, except in Poland and Switzerland. The survey in these two countries will be completed shortly. We have also launched the in-depth qualitative analysis (WP4) by conducting and analyzing the first interviews with young long-term unemployed. Finally, we have started the work on two other tasks: the EU-level analysis (WP5) by gathering and analyzing the documents concerning EU policies and measures, and the policy and practical implications (WP6) by defining and planning the discussion groups with stakeholders.

Research Outputs

Unfortunately, we do not have research outputs to announce at this stage. Our efforts have been focusing on advancing the work on the remaining tasks. The next planned outputs are the integrated reports presenting the main results of the individual survey and the in-depth qualitative analysis.

*YOUNEX at a glance:
Three-year European
Project to have better
insights of integration
and exclusion of young
adults.*

Individual Survey (WP3)

The individual survey is now completed in all the countries, except in Poland and Switzerland, where it will be completed shortly. Preliminary analyses of the Italian data suggest a number of interesting results that will be inquired in more depth later on. For example, we can see that precariousness

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seem to foster political awareness. Precarious youth are found to be politically more aware and more active in politics than permanently employed youth. This result suggests that a context in which precariousness is publicly debated as a non-standard occupational status may push young people who have such an occupational status to actively try to change it. Furthermore, respondents display a poor involvement in labor unions, although some of them took part in strikes. Concerning unemployment, these first analyses suggest that it has negative consequences on the self-perception of well-being of young people, but much less on their social exclusion. In fact, both young long-term unemployed and precarious youth have more contacts with their friends than permanently employed youth. While this might be simply a matter of having more time, this finding is worth exploring more thoroughly.

These are only a few examples of the kind of results yielded by the individual survey. The next step will consist in analyzing the national data more systematically. This will imply both descriptive analyses comparing the three groups (young long-term unemployed, precarious youth, and permanently employed youth) and more explanatory analyses aimed at identifying the determinants of the social and political exclusion as well as of a lack of well-being. The results of the descriptive analyses will be summarized in the integrated report, including comparative analyses across countries.

In-Depth Qualitative Analysis (WP4)

The in-depth qualitative analysis is ongoing. The aim of this part of the research is to identify the strategies implemented by young long-term unemployed to cope with unemployment and its consequences. To reach this goal, we conducted a number of interviews with young long-term unemployed, which are analyzed following a grounded theory approach. In this approach, the analysis drives the data collection: the analysis starts with the first interview, which leads to the next interview, followed by more analysis, more fieldwork, and so on.

We have started a microanalysis of the first interviews. This analysis allows us to conceptualize and classify events, acts, and outcomes. The categories that emerge, along with their relationships, are the foundations for theory development.

The next step will consist in completing the interviews and then conduct a thematic or concept-driven analysis according to the categories that emerged through the microanalysis. The results of this analysis will be summarized in the integrated report.

*Next phase of the
research:*

*Analysis of the impact
of European policies on
local policies*

*Discussion groups with
stakeholders*

Forthcoming Events

Two proposals made by members of the Younex team have been accepted at the following international conferences:

- Three-country conference
Basel, January 13-14, 2011
Political Integration, Unemployment, and Precariousness
- 6th ECPR General Conference
Reykjavik, August 25-27, 2011
Youth, Unemployment, and Exclusion in Europe

Greetings

The Younex team is happy to have you as a reader of the newsletter and hopes to keep you interested in our activities throughout the project. The next newsletter will be distributed in October 2010.