

# SECURING INCLUSION PATHWAYS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

In 2012, the ESEC reported on the increasingly insecure circumstances of young people in its opinion Paper Rights/Real Rights: Improving the Exercise of Social Rights by Youth. Almost three years on, this new opinion reports on the recommendations that were put forward by our assembly and proposes new measures to secure vocational and social inclusion pathways for young people whose circumstances have continued to deteriorate.

Although the ESEC has noted some progress, particularly in terms of the targets adopted by the Youth Priority Plan, it nevertheless highlights difficulties associated with its implementation and the importance of what still needs to be achieved. In terms of education on rights, information and support, there is still a need to build an effective public information and support service enabling all young people in their own territory to have access to a point of contact who is able to provide information and guidance.

**Some progress has been made in the coordination of public policy both at the local and national levels** with the appointment of an inter-ministerial youth delegate in January 2014 and the convening of inter-ministerial youth committees. There is still a lot of progress to be made in this direction. Efforts have also been made to involve young people more in determining and formulating public policy but levels of awareness still vary widely.

Although the government's Youth Priority Plan sets as one of its goals the access of young people to common rights and adopts the recommendations made by our assembly, there is still much to be done to secure vocational and social inclusion pathways for young people. The setting in place of the Youth

## Youth Guarantee:

Measure of the multi-annual plan to combat poverty and promote social inclusion, the "Youth Guarantee" scheme is intended to help the most vulnerable young people who are not in education or employment. Initiative based on the "quid pro quo" principle that awards a benefit to 18-25 year-olds on an intensive job-seeking and training pathway.

It was taken up by  
**10,000** young people in 2014,  
**50,000** will do so in 2015  
and **100,000** in 2017.

Guarantee is certainly a step in the right direction yet it does nothing to address the pileup of measures for young people. Furthermore, considering the high numbers of young people who are not in work or in training (1.6 to 1.9 million), it only partially addresses the needs of young people.

The ESEC therefore wishes to highlight the urgent need for an **effective youth policy** that provides a response to the social inclusion and security difficulties facing young people in terms of housing, healthcare and social mobility. Our social security system must adapt to take into account this new age group.



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This will not be an additional burden but rather a social investment to give each young person faith in the future.

In focussing its work on pathways, which are better able to shed light on the circumstances of young people and the diverse range of profiles, the ESEC calls for reflection on how to secure the vocational and social inclusion pathways of young people in the same manner used to address vocational pathways.

# Observation: alarming data

## QUALITY OF LIFE



**1** young person aged 18 to 29 in 5 lives below the poverty line, i.e. **1.93 million** young people. *INSEE*

## JOB-SEEKING



**1** young person eligible for work in 5 is still looking for work 3 years after leaving the education system. *CEREQ*

## EARLY SCHOOL LEAVING

**140,000**

young people leave the education system each year with no qualifications.

*Ministry of National Education*

exit



## UNEMPLOYMENT

**23.8%**

this is the unemployment rate of young people under 25 i.e. **700,000 unemployed** young people. The rate is as high as **45%** in certain Overseas Departments and priority neighbourhoods. (January 2014). *EUROSTAT*



## HOUSING

**70%**

of young people encounter difficulties in accessing housing. Of these, **30%** have no option but to stay at home with their parents



*AFEV*

## HEALTH



**10%**

This is the proportion of **18-24 year-olds** without top-up health insurance. **27.2%** of students state that they have foregone treatment for financial reasons.

*Observatory on Student Life*

## BENEFITS

**40%** of unemployed persons not eligible for benefits are under 30.

*DARES*

## ASSISTANCE



**40%** of callers to the "115" emergency shelter helpline are under 25. *FNARS*

## NEET

In France, the number of young people between 15 and 29 not in education, employment or training designated by the acronym NEET (not in education, employment or training) is a very little known statistic.

It is estimated at between

**1.6 and 1.9 million**



*CAE and EUROSTAT*

# ESEC recommendations

## **GUARANTEE EVERY YOUNG PERSON SUPPORT IN THEIR PATHWAY INTO ACTIVE LIFE**

### 👉 **Make the Youth Guarantee a right**

- make it a right to support, along with payment of a benefit, for all young people not in employment or training who meet the criteria;
- improve the mechanism (by making terms more flexible - right to start again, extension of the adaptation period - and by avoiding gaps in payment of the benefit).

### 👉 **Systematise the young adult contract for young people placed in the care of the child welfare services**

- make it a right for all young people in child welfare care, up to the age of 21 (or even 25 for young people in need of special protection) and include them in the Youth Guarantee.

## **FOSTER YOUNG PEOPLE'S ACCESS TO NEW RIGHTS**

### 👉 **extend the activity bonus to young people with an employment contract** under the same terms as other sections of the public without discrimination and inform young people of this new right;

### 👉 **carry out an impact study on a potential relaxation of the criteria for the minimum income benefit (RSA - *Revenu de solidarité active*)**

- to make it accessible to young people in need of it from age 18;

### 👉 **make the right to qualifications and training effective in practice** (by including the payment of a training allowance in exchange for a young person committing to a personal support programme).

## **EXTEND THE SCOPE OF INDIVIDUAL SOCIAL SECURITY**

## **FOR YOUNG PEOPLE AND GUARANTEE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF ACCESS TO THESE RIGHTS**

### 👉 **Regarding healthcare**

- step up prevention, including in the area of mental health, make young peoples' health a priority for the national health strategy and safeguard the health of young people in the workplace;
- facilitate access to a healthcare professional by undertaking reflection to provide young people aged 16 and above with their own rights as autonomous beneficiaries, by informing young people of their rights, by determining, in the framework of reforms currently under way, the level of support provided by the student social security fund to the general fund in order to improve the service provided to students.

### 👉 **Regarding housing**

- improve the effectiveness of personal housing benefits and take into account the specific needs of young people such as mobility, maintain eligibility for the benefits and attachment to the parental home for tax purposes, and adapt the housing offer, including emergency housing. Embrace the universal rental payment guarantee scheme

## **FOSTER A JOINT YOUTH POLICY THAT REDUCES CASES WHERE RIGHTS ARE NOT AVAILED OF**

### 👉 **Reduce cases where rights are not availed of**

- by putting an end to the pileup of local and national mechanisms, by developing social rights education, by promoting and developing social work and social-vocational support, by simplifying applications for benefits (CMU-C, ACS, student grants, etc.), and by carrying out statistical research, particularly on NEETS.

### 👉 **Improve youth policy coordination**

- by having the inter-ministerial delegate for young people report to the Prime Minister, by appointing the region as the lead for the coordination of youth policies at the territorial level and by organising better coordination of actors within a given community;
- by creating a Youth Policy Guidance Council that includes all youth policy stakeholders to ensure greater involvement by young people in the formulation of public policy.

# Mechanisms and rights available to young people aged 18 to 25

 <p>Young student not receiving special assistance</p>	 <p><b>CMU/ACS</b></p> <p>Access to top-up universal health insurance and top-up health insurance benefit</p>	 <p><b>HOUSING BENEFIT</b></p> <p>Personalised housing aid</p>	 <p><b>Student grant</b></p> <p>A student grant</p>	 <p>(Youth Guarantee Scheme)</p> <p><b>CIVIS</b> Social inclusion contract</p> <p>Other mechanisms</p>
 <p>Under-qualified young person first-time job-seeker, monitored by a "Mission locale"</p>	 <p><b>CMU/ACS</b></p> <p>Access to top-up universal health insurance and top-up health insurance benefit</p>	 <p><b>HOUSING BENEFIT</b></p> <p>Personalised housing aid</p>	 <p><b>RSA</b></p> <p>RSA (minimum income benefit) may be claimed from the age of 25 or where claimants have worked for two out of the last three years</p>	 <p><b>Mission locale</b></p> <p>Agency working with young people with few or no qualifications aged 16 to 25</p>
 <p>Under-qualified young person first-time job-seeker</p>	 <p><b>CMU/ACS</b></p> <p>Access to top-up universal health insurance and top-up health insurance benefit</p>	 <p><b>HOUSING BENEFIT</b></p> <p>Personalised housing aid</p>	 <p><b>Unemployment benefit</b></p> <p>Must have worked more than four months to be eligible</p>	 <p><b>RSA</b></p> <p>RSA (Minimum income benefit) may be claimed from the age of 25 or where claimants have worked for two out of the last three years</p>
 <p>Unemployed person with a child who has never worked</p>	 <p><b>CMU/ACS</b></p> <p>Access to top-up universal health insurance and top-up health insurance benefit</p>	 <p><b>HOUSING BENEFIT</b></p> <p>Personalised housing aid</p>	 <p><b>RSA</b></p> <p>RSA (Minimum income benefit) which is higher for single parents</p>	 <p><b>Family benefits</b></p> <p>Family benefits such as PAJE (early childhood benefit), for a child under three years</p>
 <p>Jeune Young apprentice</p>	 <p><b>CMU/ACS</b></p> <p>Access to top-up universal health insurance and top-up health insurance benefit</p>	 <p><b>HOUSING BENEFIT</b></p> <p>Personalised housing aid</p>	 <p><b>Unemployment benefit</b></p> <p>Unemployment benefit if claimant has worked more than four months</p>	