



Terms of Reference for ENIL Youth Network Task Groups

Background

The ENIL Youth Network is a formalised subgroup of the European Network on Independent Living, with a growing membership of young disabled people from across Europe.

The ENIL Youth Network will ensure the long-term future of the Independent Living Movement and continue to engage new generations of young disabled people in ENIL's work.

The following terms are used within this document:

- Board - refers to ENIL Youth Board
- Task Group - refers to ENIL Youth Network Task Group

Members of the Youth Network were invited to participate in an online poll to determine the top priorities for the Network; the task groups are being established based on the most popular priorities. The 4 groups are:

- Education
- Employment
- Independent living
- Strategy and fundraising for the network – this will include engaging with youth policy not covered in other task groups
- Sexuality and relationships
- IFM-SEI/ENIL collaboration

Influences

The main drivers that support the need for specific task groups are, but not limited to, the following:

- United Nations Convention on Rights of Persons with Disabilities
- European Disability Strategy 2010-2020
- Council of Europe Disability Strategy
- European Parliament Disability Intergroup Work Priorities
- European Member States Legislation and Social Policy Initiatives
- Independent Living Movement Priorities and Concerns

The principles of the Youth Network task groups are based on achieving the following:



- To provide an accessible space to promote and ensure improved outcomes for young disabled people.
- To assist and help to shape decision making on policy and strategy developments within the European Network on Independent Living (including subgroups) and to influence various agendas at the local, regional, national and international level.
- To ensure young disabled people are engaged, consulted and are involved co-productively in the development of agendas which promote equality, disability rights and social inclusion.

It is the responsibility of the board and task groups to identify the necessary capacity and capability to ensure the task groups operate effectively. Any gaps in capacity and capability will need to be escalated to the board.

Structure of Task Groups

The work of the task groups is overseen by the board. This role includes providing overall direction and leadership for the different task groups.

The board acts as a key strategic decision making body in the governance structure among other things, it will advise on organisation and the delivery strategy of the task groups. This includes the programme of work, the success measures and expectations, all of which will be reviewed periodically.

The board and task groups are also accountable for driving progress, promoting successful implementation of the task group's workplan and aim to advance the inclusion of young disabled people within society.

Membership of the task groups will consist of existing members from ENIL Youth Network. This means all task group members must be aged 35 and under, identify as a disabled person and live in Europe. They should act as representatives, have knowledge or significant interest of the areas the task group they have chosen to be involved in.

Everyone in a task group is there as an individual. Conflicts of interest must be announced before and during any meetings.

The agreed task groups for 2015/2016 are:

- Education - Task Group Lead: Agnes Sarolta Fazekas
- Employment - Task Group Lead: Gatis Caunitis
- Independent Living - Task Group Lead: Aleksandra Surla
- Establishing Network (with reference to fundraising, overall strategy and policy) - Task Group Lead: Radoš Keravica
- Sexuality and relationships – Task Group Lead: Miro Griffiths
- IFM-SEI/ENIL collaboration – Task Group Lead: Brandon Aughton



This year (2015/2016) board members will lead the task groups because the network is new and in development; however, it is envisaged that in the future task group leads will be selected from the group membership.

Task group leads will be responsible for coordinating their work-plan, and ensuring that the task groups meet virtually at least once every 6 months. The groups will assist the board to develop their advice on strategy, policy recommendations, campaigns and future work plans.

The maximum number of people in any one task group should not be greater than 10, including the lead.

Task group work areas and membership will be reviewed annually with the youth network membership.

Furthermore, task group leads must consider how they involve members who are unable to commit on a regular basis; the board suggest the adoption of a flexible and email approach:

- Flexible Group - these members will agree to make a time commitment to the task group but with the understanding that they may not be able to attend on a regular basis.
- Email Group – these members will register email contact details and receive updates and information about task group work-plan activities, as well as respond to requests for feedback on specific issues.

Delivery of Work

The board will receive and discuss task group issues through the following methods:

- Online meetings
- Formal documents
- Recommendations following research into youth policy areas

All advice, discussions and decisions are confidential, unless stated otherwise.

Reporting arrangements:

- Each task group will decide on the frequency and length of meetings; it is the responsibility of the task group lead to report on updates, concerns and matters arising to the board.
- The board will publish an annual report setting out details of its achievements and ongoing activities. The Annual Report will outline the main activities of the task groups during the previous twelve months, and will review progress against objectives, as well as list the names of current task group members.



Members of the task groups cannot do the following:

- Provide advice and information to individual requests on behalf of the task group.
- Commit funds on behalf of their task group.
- Advise on areas (or attend events) in an official capacity that have not been agreed by the Chair of the board and/or task group lead.
- Liaise with the media without the agreement of the Chair of the board and/or youth network coordinator.
- Share confidential information relating to ENIL Youth Board, including task group activities, outside of their group.

There are no dedicated resource allocations to any or all task groups; it is the responsibility of the task group lead to determine suitable and appropriate working arrangements.

Meetings

The task groups will communicate through email and video/audio conferencing facilities – currently planned for 2 meetings a year but the task groups can decide to meet more or less frequently. It is expected that task group leads act as a conduit for information sharing between the board and their task group.

Task groups will decide their arrangements for meetings and communication but must inform the board of the adopted structure.

Date of Review

First draft proposed:

Date of approval:

Date of review: