

Youth Council in Gdansk

CHANGE! Good practice factsheet



Title of good practice/initiative

Youth Council in Gdansk

Description of the good practice /initiative: history, activities, number of involved people, territorial scope, current scale, future plans, impact and benefits (**Max. 400 words**)

Youth City Council is the advisory body of the Gdansk City Council (local parliament) consisting of 34 elected members. Was established in May 2011 by the resolution of the City Council. The term of the council is 2 years long. Members of the Youth City Council represent students of Gdansk schools of junior and junior high level. They are elected in the general indirect elections carried out in all Gdansk public schools.

The structure and rules of functioning are the replica of the local parliament regulations. GYCC is chaired by the president and 1-4 vices. They are elected from the council members in secret voting. Officially YCC meets once a month on a plenary session. In between sessions 5 permanent, thematic commissions work. The main goals of GYC are:

- Promotion of the ideas of civil society;
- Dissemination of knowledge about local parliament, municipal governance and administration among the young people
- Integration and cooperation amongst groups of youngsters
- Undertaking actions with and for different groups of young citizens of Gdansk to meet their needs and aspirations;
- Organization of active participation of young people in public life

Role of the municipality within the process (e.g. how the municipality facilitates or coordinates the process to systematise/upscale a civic initiative)

Municipality is the coordinator and organizer of the election procedures and then is mentoring young elected members in their activities. Municipality supports the initiatives of the young.

Brief description of how the specific **local public service** has been **challenged** (with figures, if possible)

Good practice refers rather to the city governance not to public services and meets the challenge of participation of young citizens in public life. It may also be considered as a form of unformal education for young people to learn in practice how the civil society functions and how democratic procedures work.



European Union
European Regional Development Fund



Budget (in total and municipality's own contribution)

Every year there is 3000€ allocated for the GYCC initiatives and costs of participation of its elected members in national and international gatherings.

Links to website for further information on the good practice/initiative

<https://www.facebook.com/MlodziejowaRadaMiastaGdanska/>
<http://www.gdansk.pl/rada-miasta/mlodziejowa-rmg>