

What's in it for you, and how to get going?

The Changemakers Kit supports and provokes quality development. It helps you to improve all aspects of local youth work, from aims and organisation to practice and outcomes. It will open your eyes to new possibilities and widen your perspectives on what youth work can do and achieve. Using the Changemakers Kit will fuel and enrich your youth work.

Are YOU someone who wants local youth work to become more attractive and to give an even bigger contribution to both young people and society as such?

Are YOU a young person

- who wants to have new experiences and learn new things on your free time?
- who wants your voice to be heard and to develop as a person?

Do you think that you and your friends do not have access to quality youth work? Why not to use the European Charter on Local Youth Work as an agenda for discussion with your local politicians? Let you and your friends do the on-spot assessment and you can present the result as a starting point for discussions.

Are YOU a youth worker

- who wants **more recognition** for your work?
- who wants better and more **adequate support**?

Would you need better access to competence development?, so you may pick the relevant bullet points from the Charter and start a discussion with your organisation.

Do YOU work for an organization providing youth work

- that aims for more sustainable funding?
- that wants to do more successful advocacy?

Why not setting up a dialogue about the core principles with local politicians?

Are YOU a politician

- who wants to create the best possible **conditions for the young citizens**?
- who wants **young people to contribute to society**?

Would you like to have more solid arguments for financing youth work and ask your administration to come up with proposals for quality indicators and ways to measure them? Why not to have a look at the tools presented in the kit, not to re-invent the wheel?

The above examples could be multiplied. Any stakeholder might see the need to do the on-spot assessment. Any stakeholder might see the need for having tools to assess the quality of youth work, or for more competence development of youth workers. This is why the Changemakers Kit is built the way it is, adaptable to the various needs, contexts and stakeholders.



The following steps and examples might give you some ideas and guidance on how to get started:

1. Read the Charter and think about what the different bullet points mean in your reality and how your local youth work answers to its standards.
2. Think about what you want to achieve, the scope of the development.
3. Think about what kind of process you want, who you wish to involve and how you intend to organise it. (Have an idea, but do not decide this by yourself, make it part of the process.)
4. Read the introductory texts and get familiar with the different kinds of support measures that are offered in this kit.
5. Think about how you might spark this process and invite stakeholders to take part in it.

Some ways to create interest are:

- Run questionnaires or focus groups on how young people perceive youth work and present the results as basis for discussions.
- Invite speakers to talk about various themes connected to the Charter, e.g. young people's access to rights;
- Engage in an Erasmus+ youth exchange around on a topic from the Charter, e.g. inclusion;
- Make posters with information about young people's rights and possibilities, e.g. quoting the Council of Europe recommendation on youth work or taking some bullet points from the Charter;
- Contact various youth organisations and interest groups and invite representatives to discuss how you can cooperate around youth work development.
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Have a nice process! Go for change!

