

Part of the Kalaidos University of Applied Sciences



Legislation, policy and service frameworks supporting adolescent young carers

European Parliament Informal Carers Interest Group

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Programme

- 1. Welcome
- 2. Work package 2 Main goal
- 3. Methodology
- 4. Key legislative and policy findings
- 5. Future steps to progress
- 6. Questions and discussion

1. Welcome



2. Work package 2 - Main goal

Main goal: To analyse the development and implementation of

legislation and policy addressing AYCs in six countries:

Italy, the Netherlands, Slovenia, Sweden, UK and

Switzerland.

Specific aims: To examine what legal provisions and policy exist

that provide protection for young carers;

To explore how such provisions are enacted in the

'real' world





3. Methodology

The methodology included:

- 1. Preliminary examination: different legislation / policy responses supporting AYCs (Internet search)
- 2. 25 interviews with experts
- 3. Case study analysis
- 4. Feedback and input from AYCs

Main legislative findings: Comparison of different country responses

- Only UK:
 - Legislation specifically recognising children's caring roles



Specific definition



- Sweden between the specific/non-specific divide
- Recognition of AYCs reliant upon 'non-specific legislation' such as:
 - **Education**, **health** and **social care** legislation.









 Policy & Service frameworks specifically targeting (adolescent) young carers reported in Switzerland, Italy, and in the UK.







How does legislation and policy translate into practice?

- Translation into practice found to be variable
- Translation into practice relates to:
 - Existence of implementation guidelines and regulations
 - Collaboration between services
 - Culture of local authorities
 - Type of support offered by legislation
 - Sufficient financial support

AYCs falling through the gaps

How were changes in legislation and policy achieved?

Stakeholder involvement:

- Ministries
- Family associations
- Private and state organisations
- Young people and carers

Key drivers:

- Academics conducting research and partnerships with voluntary sector
- Key champions in Government
- Consultation with young people
- EU promotion of young people as target group (EU Youth Strategy)
- High workload of Social Workers / Analysis of other European legislation/policy
- The changes in legislation: associated with changes in paradigms.

Involvement of (Adolescent) Young Carers

Enactment of legal provisions and policy frameworks:

- X Some laws **not working well** in practice
- X AYCs **not offered any kind of support / roles not considered** by health professionals
- **X** Lack of information about their rights / support opportunities
- X The **school** environment should be more supportive

Involvement of (Adolescent) Young Carers

Future goals and hopes:

- Support for role of parents
- Participation of AYCs/families in decision-making processes
- Importance of awareness raising
- National legislation or strategy or adapt existing legislation
- Definition of young carers needed
- Need for increased support, especially in schools
- Emotional support should be included

5. Future steps to progress

ACTION: AYCs recognised as important target group for policy makers

ACTION: Further data and awareness and recognition of AYCs is needed

ACTION: Definition of AYCs needed

ACTION: Extend existing legislation and policy – to include AYCs

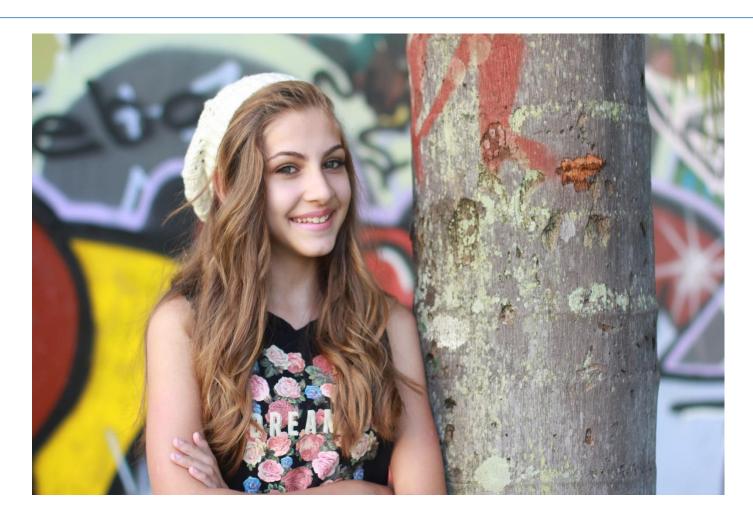
ACTION: Prevention and early interventions is important

ACTION: More participation/inclusion of AYCs

ACTION: Different stakeholders should be involved

ACTION: "Spread the word"

6. Questions and discussion



Thank you very much for your attention.

Stay in contact!

Further information

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Stay in Touch

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