



Dnr: 0223/19

**Minutes Joint working group on youth  
2019-04-04, Tromsö**

**Participants**

Lotta Jarvenius Rössner	MUCF, Sweden
Susanna Lantz	County administrative Board of Västerbotten
Mikael Bergström	County Administrative Board of Västerbotten
Henrik Blomqvist	County Administrative Board of Västerbotten
Hanne Sofie Roaldsen	Troms fylkeskommune
Sofia Mörtlund	Region Norrbotten
Elizaveta Vassilieva	Norwegian Barents Secretariat/Barents regional youth council
Eva Ekmeahag	MFA Sweden
Ivan Zhernakov	Arkhangelsk region
Minna Mustonen	Regional Council of Kainuu
Tiina Moisala	Regional Council of North Karelia
Tommy André Knutsen	Norwegian ministry of children and equality
Nina Merete Austad	Finnmark County Authority
Chuykova Karina	Federal Agency on Youth Affairs, Russian Federation
Tim Andersson	Barents regional youth council
Terhi Hassinen	Finnish Ministry of Education and Culture

**Start of the meeting**

Presentation of participants

**Selection of chair**

Lotta Jarvenius Rössner was chosen to be the chair.

**Selection of secretary**

Susanna Lantz was chosen to be secretary.

**Follow up from Luleå conference on youth strategy: Cooperation with other working groups.**

The chair has asked all working groups to concretize their work with youth issues into a set of recommendations. All groups are positive and will contribute with their recommendations by the deadline May 31<sup>th</sup>. Several working groups have submitted a draft version, which will be compiled and disseminated after this meeting.

As far as the recommendations of the JWGY goes the chair presented the following two proposals:

1. In order to formalize the role of BRYC within the cooperation, BRYC will be offered an advisory role in all working groups. This to increase their relevance and cooperation with the working groups. BRYC will be invited to take part in all meetings. The BRYC representatives from the hosting region will participate and if a meeting is held outside the Barents region the hosting party will pay.

Details discussed:

- The hosting party will cover catering and facilities, the BRYC member will pay for local travel if applicable.
  - Important that the structure within BRYC is so that the representative is well informed and will have a full mandate.
2. All working group will add a sentence about youth perspective in their annual report to IBS. Thus the template for the annual report should be slightly updated.

Both proposals were accepted by the working group. The chair will reformulate to include points from the discussion and then circulate it to all members.

### **Follow up from workshop on 3 april on youth issues.**

The workshop focused mainly on the working groups which haven't already submitted a recommendation, however it was concluded that all working groups will provide the chair with recommendations.

Further on the workshop focused on cross sectoral matters such a tourism. The working group on tourism has found productive ways to cooperate with other groups and shared their experience.

### **Presentation of survey of Joint Working Group on Youth - overview on the selection procedure of BRYC members in different regions**

Minna presented the results from the survey. Particularly the relationship and communication with BRYC was addressed and measures to enhance this should be taken. Please see appendix 1 for the complete results.

List of measures agreed upon during the meeting:

- Elizaveta Vassilieva will add the working group to the invitations of BRYC activities.
- BRYC will use IBS for communication, i.e. add some good practices.
- Hanne will submit to the working group the list of questions prepared by Troms youth to select BRYC members.

- Regional representatives will reach out to their BRYC-representative and vice versa to ensure that the dialogue and communication works.

### **Sharing information: Information from the regions**

#### **Finnmark**

- Finnmark county council has established a fund for grassroots initiatives in then Kven language and culture. Main focus is youngsters.

#### **Västerbotten**

- Västerbotten will be the chair of the Barents regional council in October 2019. Will continue with some of the initiatives from the previous chairmanships including youth perspectives.
- Barents environmental group has their flagship event in June. A bus free of charge will be organized for students taking part in the conference. The bus will start in Umeå and pick up students from Luleå, Oulu and Rovaniemi.

#### **Kainuu**

- Kainuu will host the Barents winter games.

#### **North Karelia**

- North Karelia has had a youth council since 2017. It meets 4-6 times /year and the new council was selected in February 2019. They are still developing the role of the youth. They are planning to organize four regional meetings with decision-makers.
- "The regional youth council has received 10 000 euros grant for inclusive budgeting. The idea is that youth themselves can plan and decide how to use the money most effectively. Youth council has organised a competition for ideas that would benefit the youth most. Youth council selects 1-5 ideas from the competition to open voting procedure, and 1-2 most popular ideas will be financed."

#### **Archangelsk**

- The region has a new cooperation with a youth house. This youth house has visited Tvibit in Tromsø previously.
- The region has received financing for a history project celebrating 75 years since the liberation of North Norway. 15-17 youngsters will participate.

BRYC annual event in 2020 will be held in Arkhangelsk, now we are starting preparations; all members of JWGY and BRYC are invited to visit International educational youth forum of Arkhangelsk region TEAM29 on 23-29 JUNE 2019 as experts, participants or guests.

## Brief Information on forum TEAM29

Dates: 23-29 of June 2019;

Location: Russia, Arkhangelsk Region, Velsky District, Children's summer camp "Orlyonok";

Conditions: meals and accommodation are provided and covered;

The purpose of the Forum: Involving young people of the Arkhangelsk region to the process of creating a strategic vision and future developing proposals from youth in the concept of the long-term program "Youth of the Arkhangelsk region 2021-2026" (including international cooperation).

Participants: youth from 18 to 30 y.o. (mostly from Arkhangelsk region);

During 7 days of working program we will have:

- General working sessions for all participants of the Forum, aimed to create a common informational field, develop a common concept of regional strategy, transfer regional / international experience in the field of youth policy;
  - Work on thematic areas in small groups: thematic trainings and consultations with experts, team work in the field, development of proposals in the main concept;
  - Strategic sessions and foresight sessions, eduScrum concept work sessions for all forum participants to develop proposals, visions, new formats and new directions, proposals to the concept, etc.
- And a lot of different activities for extra agenda after the ending of the working sessions.

The best days to come are 26-28 of June. "Global Village" on FORUM is on JUNE 26-27 where we meet different cultures and can arrange a participants dialogue with experts on youth policy from Barents countries or members of BRYC and on JUNE 28 we meet Governor of Arkhangelsk region and Heads of municipalities to discuss all topics of youth policy and its future.

### Norrbotten

- Has two BRYC representatives, one representative and one replacement.
- The regional youth council is preparing a seminar in Almedalen. A BRYC representative will be in the panel as it was last year.
- There are plans for a youth dialogue in the autumn, including minority groups. As part of the new minority law.
- On regional level there are financial difficulties. 300 million is to be decreased in 3 years. Worrying especially concerning the participation of Norrbotten in various international organization.

### Troms

- The counties of Troms and Finnmark are merging into one.

- In Feb youth from Troms, Nordland, Finnmark and Sami had a meeting in Oslo. They met politicians and went to the parliament.
- Celebration of youth council in Troms, with historic presentation for politicians and youngsters. Over 10 year 80 youngsters have been active in the youth council.

### **Information from BRYC**

- Since last meeting BRYC had an annual event in Kirkenes in November. The theme was cultural diversity and approx. 60 representatives from all regions attended.
- BRYC took part in
  - o Murmansk business week
  - o Inversia media festival.

BRYC attend Business to Barents Event in Joensuu, arranged by the regional authority of North Karelia

- August Sjørvall has been selected the new chair and Tim Andersson the international secretary (to facilitate for the chair).
- Upcoming events include:
  - o BRYC sexual health conference, in Kiruna. 23-24 May. Sexual health among youth. Hopefully approx. 30 youngsters from the regions. The idea is a small conference with a big impact.
  - o Game creation in Kajani, Kainuu. October.
  - o Women empowerment project during the summer.
  - o Annual event, early autumn. The preliminary plan is to make it a cross border event between North Karelia and Republic of Karelia.

### **Information from the Swedish chairmanship**

There are six months left the chairmanship. A follow up from the Luleå conference will take place in the second half of June, in Luleå. More information will follow. This event will include the book release of #Barents #beingyoungerhere.

Regarding the upcoming ministerial meeting in Umeå, it will be arranged back to back with EU arctic forum and start in the afternoon.

### **Other issues**

Hanne suggested a Facebook group for the working group. The working group was reluctant to an official group on Facebook but anyone interested in this can be in direct contact with Hanne and sort out the details.

### **Next meeting**

Unfortunately, it's not possible to arrange a meeting during the week of the ministerial meeting. A suggestion is back to back with the Luleå follow-up conference.

The chair will get back to the group with a suggested date as soon as the date for the conference is decided.

End of meeting.