



## **Youth Wiki national description**

# Youth policies in Italy

# 2019

The Youth Wiki is Europe's online encyclopaedia in the area of national youth policies. The platform is a comprehensive database of national structures, policies and actions supporting young people. For the updated version of this national description, please visit <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/en/youthwiki>



<b>Italy .....</b>	<b>5</b>
1. Youth Policy Governance .....	6
1.1 Target population of youth policy.....	6
1.2 National youth law .....	6
1.3 National youth strategy .....	9
1.4 Youth policy decision-making .....	10
1.5 Cross-sectoral approach with other ministries.....	12
1.6 Evidence-based youth policy .....	12
1.7 Funding youth policy.....	14
1.8 Cross-border cooperation.....	17
1.9 Current debates and reforms.....	17
2. Voluntary Activities.....	18
2.1 General context.....	18
2.2 Administration and governance of youth volunteering.....	19
2.3 National strategy on youth volunteering.....	20
2.4 Youth volunteering at national level.....	21
2.5 Cross-border mobility programmes.....	24
2.6 Raising awareness about youth volunteering opportunities.....	24
2.7 Skills recognition .....	25
2.8 Current debates and reforms.....	26
3. Employment & Entrepreneurship.....	27
3.1 General context.....	28
3.3 Skills forecasting.....	33
3.4 Career guidance and counselling .....	37
3.5 Traineeships and apprenticeships.....	40
3.6 Integration of young people in the labour market .....	45
3.7 Cross-border mobility in employment, entrepreneurship and vocational opportunities.....	49
3.8 Development of entrepreneurship competence .....	51
3.9 Start-up funding for young entrepreneurs .....	53
3.10 Promotion of entrepreneurship culture .....	56
3.11 Current debates and reforms.....	56
4. Social Inclusion.....	58
4.1 General context.....	58
4.2 Administration and governance.....	61
4.3 Strategy for the social inclusion of young people.....	63
4.4 Inclusive programmes for young people .....	66

4.5 Initiatives promoting social inclusion and raising awareness.....	68
4.6 Access to quality services.....	69
4.7 Youth work to foster social inclusion.....	72
4.8 Current debates and reforms.....	75
5. Participation.....	77
5.1 General context.....	78
5.2 Youth participation in representative democracy.....	80
5.3 Youth representation bodies.....	81
5.4 Young people's participation in policy-making.....	84
5.5 National strategy to increase youth participation.....	85
5.6 Supporting youth organisations.....	87
5.7 “Learning to participate” through formal, non-formal and informal learning.....	88
5.8 Raising political awareness among young people.....	90
5.9 E-participation.....	92
5.10 Current debates and reforms.....	92
Glossary.....	93
References.....	103

# Italy

In Italy, youth policies are relatively new compared to other sectors of public policies. The first legal reference about "young people" is contained in Art. 31 of the [Constitution](#) "*The Republic protects mothers, children and the young by adopting necessary provisions.*"

Youth policies are based on the principle of concurrent jurisdiction between State and Regions, and on the principle of subsidiarity, with the active involvement of the Third Sector and youth organizations.

Youth policy-making takes place at various levels. At the central level, it is the responsibility of the [Department for Youth Policies and Universal Civic Service](#) of the Presidency of the Council of ministers. The Department deals with the promotion of youth policies and manages the national civic service programme.

At territorial level, the Regions and the autonomous Provinces enact youth laws.

# 1. YOUTH POLICY GOVERNANCE

---

In Italy, youth policies are developed at various levels. There are many national laws in favour of young people in different fields, such as education, employment, health, culture, etc. The organizational system is a multilevel governance, a democratic form of government in which decisions arise from the collaboration of many actors that influence each other.

At the central level, the [Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#) of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers deals with the promotion and connection of the Government actions aimed at ensuring the implementation of youth policies and manages the [Universal civic service programme](#).

Youth policies are based on the principles of concurrent jurisdiction and subsidiarity. Therefore, the central Government, the Regions, and the Autonomous Provinces concur in drafting youth legislation, while local authorities, the Third Sector and youth organizations are actively involved in its bottom-up design and in its implementation.

The "Unified Conference" (Conferenza Unificata), that includes the National Government, the Regions, the Autonomous Provinces of Trento and Bolzano, the [National Association of the Italian Municipalities](#) (Associazione Nazionale dei Comuni Italiani - ANCI) and the [Union of the Italian Provinces](#) (Unione delle Province d'Italia - UPI), allows a dialogue on youth among the different policy making actors.

## 1.1 Target population of youth policy

In Italy, the definition of "youth" is not regulated by the law, and varies according to the specific field of application.

The lower age limit of the juvenile population is generally set at 14 years, both at national and regional level, while the upper age limit varies according to the specific legislation and target groups of the measures adopted in favour of young people.

The target of the actions adopted of the [Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#) is represented by the age group 14 to 28/35.

The National Statistics Institute ([ISTAT](#)) set up the information system [#GIOVANI](#) that collects data on youth in the age range from 15 to 34.

## 1.2 National youth law

### Existence of a National Youth Law

In accordance with Article 31 of the [Italian Constitution](#), the Republic shall protect young people "by adopting necessary provisions".

According to Article 117 of the [Constitution](#), youth matters are covered by concurring legislation. Therefore, the legislative powers on youth are vested in the central Government, the Regions and Autonomous Provinces. The determination of the fundamental principles are laid down in State legislation.

At national level, the legal system does not foresee a framework law on youth.

### Scope and contents

13 Regions and the 2 Autonomous Provinces enacted youth framework laws with due respect of the constraints posed by the [Constitution](#), the existing European and international legislation, and the national youth strategy (ref. [para 1.3 National youth strategy](#)).

Therefore, Italian youth policies are based on a bottom-up approach, which is a peculiar feature of the Italian legislation on youth.

### Regional youth laws

**Basilicata Region:** [Regional law 11/2000](#), concerning the recognition and promotion of the role of the young generations in society. The law promotes youth citizenship rights, their autonomous participation in civil society, and regional institutions, as well as the full development of their personality on the cultural, social and economic level. It provides for the adoption of biennial plans for youth policies, identifying the main areas of intervention. It establishes a Regional Youth Forum and a Committee for Youth Policies.

**Campania Region:** [Regional law 26/2016](#), relating to the establishment of youth Policies and youth Forums in Campania. The law promotes, inter alia, the following measures in favour of young peoples: well-being and personal development:

- active citizenship and leadership;
- life skills and talents;
- formal and non-formal education,
- training;
- access to the labour market;
- mobility;
- dedicated youth spaces.

The law recognizes and promotes youth work; it provides for a regional planning mechanism for interventions, also in coordination with the Municipalities, and establishes a regional Observatory on youth policies and the Regional Youth Forum.

**Emilia Romagna Region:** [Regional law 14/2008](#), related to Youth policies. The law:

- establishes a regional Observatory on children and youth;
- promotes youth access to the labour market;
- supports the provision of information and orientation in the 332 youth centres (Eurodesk);
- set up a youth portal.

**Friuli Venezia Giulia Region:** [Regional law 5/2012](#), related to youth autonomy and the Guarantee Fund for youth opportunities. The law, addressed to young people in the age group 14-35, promotes, inter alia, the following measures in favour of young people:

- participation;
- access to housing and to the labour market, including entrepreneurship;
- mobility;
- participation in cultural, social and sports' activities;
- development of youth centres;
- information, through a dedicated website and the development of Eurodesk points.

**Lazio Region:** [Regional law 20/2007](#), related to the promotion of youth participation in political and administrative life. The law aims at implementing the Council of Europe "Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life". It recognizes the role and favours the establishment, development and interaction of the Municipal councils of young people (15-25 years). The law also established a network of all youth councils, aimed at promoting the exchange of good practices.

**Liguria Region:** [Regional law 6/2009](#), related to the promotion of children and youth policies.

The law aims at implementing the Council of Europe "Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life". It establishes a system of coordination among sectoral policies addressed to youth. It establishes the duties, tasks and responsibilities of the Region, the Provinces and the Municipalities.

It promotes youth participation, the creation of a Youth Forum at Regional level and of youth forums at provincial level. It supports youth organizations and youth work.

**Marche Region:** [Regional law 24/2011](#), on youth policies. The law is addressed to the age group 16-35. It is a comprehensive text that foresees the development of a Regional plan in consultation with youth organizations, and the annual programming of activities. The law promotes the development of Eurodesk info points and the creation of a dedicated website for youth information. It promotes youth access to housing and to the labour market, including entrepreneurship, and the development of talents. It promotes youth participation at political, cultural, and social level.

**Bolzano Autonomous Province:** [Provincial law 13/1983](#), relating to the creation of a bureau for youth services. The law:

- sets up a bureau that promotes youth work, also through training of volunteer and payed youth workers;
- provides financial support to youth organizations;
- supports the creation of youth centres and spaces.

**Trento Autonomous Province:** Provincial laws [5/2007](#) and [7/2009](#), relating to the development, coordination and promotion of youth policies; the provincial civic service; the Provincial Youth Council. In 2018, [Provincial law 8/2008](#) modified some provisions of the previous legislation on youth. In particular, the law simplified the procedure for acceding to public funding for youth organizations. The law promotes, inter alia, the following measures in favour of youth:

- participation;
- active citizenship;
- creativity;
- entrepreneurship;
- volunteering.

**Piemonte Region:** [Regional law 6/2019](#), regarding new legislation on youth policies. The law aims at developing youth policies in coordination with Municipalities and youth organizations and supports the activities with a financial contribution of €350.000 per year. It is addressed to the age group 15-29 and introduces and supports the professional role of the youth workers. It envisages the creation of a Youth Forum composed of 25 local administrators under 30 years of age and 25 representatives of youth organizations. The law set up a Roster for youth organizations, that will enable them to receive public funding. The [dedicated portal](#) provides information on youth policies.

**Sardegna Region:** [Regional law 11/1999](#), relating to initiatives and coordination of activities for youth. The law promotes, inter alia, the following measures in favour of youth:

- participation;
- representation, associations and consultative bodies;
- social inclusion;
- access to the labour market.

**Sicilia Region:** [Regional law 6/2019](#), relating to youth policies, the establishment of a Regional Youth Forum and a Regional Observatory on Youth Policies. The law aims at implementing the Council of Europe "Revised European Charter on the Participation of

Young People in Local and Regional Life” and European youth policies. It promotes, inter alia, the following measures in favour of youth in the age group 14-35:

- participation and active citizenship;
- social inclusion;
- information;
- formal and non-formal education;
- access to the labour market.

The law established:

- the Regional Committee for the coordination of youth policies;
- the Commission for the inter-sectoral integration of youth policies;
- the Permanent Observatory on the youth condition;
- the Regional Youth Forum and Provincial and Municipal Forums.

### **Revisions/updates**

Currently, there are no revisions on the topic

## **1.3 National youth strategy**

### **Existence of a National Youth Strategy**

Every year, the national Government sets up youth policies priorities, upon close consultation with the Regions, and other relevant local Authorities.

The annual strategy is based on multi-year lines of action. For example, in the last five years the strategy has supported actions in favour of young talents, and the fight against youth distress.

The strategy is agreed upon in the framework of the “Unified Conference” (Conferenza Unificata) that meets every year. The Unified Conference includes the National Government, the Regions, the autonomous Provinces, the Nation Association of the Italian Municipalities ([Associazione Nazionale dei Comuni italiani - ANCI](#)) and the Union of the Italian Provinces ([Unione delle Province d’Italia - UPI](#)).

The [Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#) avails of a yearly Fund for Youth Policies aimed at promoting the youth rights and at implementing the annual strategy. The amount of the Fund is set annually with the budget law. The official act produced by the Unified Conference establishes the division of the fund between the national Government, Regions, and local Authorities.

The [Department](#) directly manages the part of the Fund earmarked for national interventions through calls for projects open to youth organizations and the civil society. The part of the Fund allocated to the Regions and local Authorities is managed through separate agreements between the Department and the different Regions, and between the Department, [ANCI](#) and [UPI](#). The [Department](#) may also sign agreements with the [National Youth Council](#), the [National Agency for Youth](#) and other entities that carry out activities in favour of young people.

### **Scope and contents**

Since 2006, the national Fund for Youth Policies has been financing measures oriented to promote the following:

- Non-formal and informal education;

- access of young people to the job market, including the development of start-ups and youth entrepreneurship;
- social inclusion, and specific measures to reach out to marginalized and vulnerable groups;
- participation and youth rights;
- cultural activities, development of talents;
- prevention and measures against addictions;
- volunteering and access to international and European programmes and projects.

In 2019, the Minister set the national policy priorities as follows:

- social inclusion;
- participation;
- support to youth autonomy;
- prevention and measures against new addictions.

### **Responsible authority for the implementation of the Youth Strategy**

The Prime Minister is the authority in charge of youth policies and strategy. He/she may delegate the responsibility to a third political authority. Since September 2019, the delegated authority for youth policies has the rank of Minister.

The [Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#) is responsible for the implementation and coordination of the strategy.

### **Revisions/updates**

The first National Youth Plan was adopted in February 2007 by the then Ministry for Youth Policies and Sports Activities (POGAS).

## **1.4 Youth policy decision-making**

### **Structure of Decision-making**

Legislative competence on youth matters belongs to both the National Government and the local Authorities (Regions and Autonomous Provinces). (ref. [paragraph 1.2](#))

As far as the national level is concerned, the Prime Minister is responsible for youth policies. Usually, the responsibility is delegated to a Minister (as it is the case at present) or to an Undersecretary of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (“the Delegated Political Authority”).

The [Department for Youth Policy and the Universal Civic Service](#) constitutes the operating arm. Its mandate includes:

- The implementation and coordination of the youth strategy (ref. [para1.3](#));
- The promotion of youth rights;
- The management and implementation of the [Universal civic service](#) programme;
- Support to the supervisory functions of the Delegated Political Authority on the [National Youth Agency](#);
- The representation function at European and international level for youth policy matters.

For the promotion of youth rights, the [Department](#) avails of the collaboration of local authorities, and other stakeholders among which the [National Youth Council](#).

Within the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, for the development of specific measures addressed to youth, the [Department](#) avails of the support of the following sectoral Departments:

- [Department for equal opportunities](#);
- [Department for anti-drug policies](#);
- [Department for family policies](#);
- [Office for sport](#);
- [Structure for policies in favour of people with disabilities](#);
- [Department for cohesion policies](#);
- [Department for information and publishing](#).

However, the promotion of youth rights is not exclusively assigned to the [Department](#). All Ministries are called to develop specific policies in favour of youth. The major programmes in favour of youth have been developed by the following Ministries:

- Ministry for education, universities, and research;
- Ministry for labour and social policies;
- Ministry for economic development;
- Ministry of Health;
- Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities, and for Tourism.

At local level, according to art. 117 of the Italian [Constitution](#), Regions and Autonomous Provinces are entitled to legislate on youth policies, except for the determination of the fundamental principles, which are laid down in the State legislation (ref. [para 1.2](#)).

Therefore, with the contribution of the Provinces and Municipalities (thus involving young people living in the Municipalities), the Regional Departments for Youth Policies can define the needs, proposals, safeguards and rights in the planning and implementation of the measures adopted in favour of youth within their respective territories.

## **Main Themes**

In 2019, in agreement with all relevant institutional actors, the Government placed policies in favour of young people at the centre of its action.

The pillars of the Government's themes are the following:

- Participation;
- Social inclusion of youth with fewer opportunities;
- Employment and entrepreneurship;
- Health and well-being, including programmes for the prevention of new forms of addictions
- Voluntary activities;
- Creativity and culture.

## **The National Agency for Youth**

The "[National Agency for Youth](#)" is the agency implementing the Erasmus+/youth and European Solidarity Corps (ESC) programmes. It is a public body, with organizational and financial autonomy, supervised by the delegated Political Authority by the means of the [Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#).

Aside from the Erasmus+ and ESC programmes, the [Agency](#) implements measures in favour of youth in agreement with and funded by the [Department of Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#).

## Policy Monitoring and Evaluation

In Italy, the power of control and monitoring of youth policies financed through the Fund for Youth Policies is exercised by the [Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#) and is addressed to:

- verify the correct utilisation of the resources of the Fund for Youth Policies earmarked for national and territorial interventions;
- the financial planning, administrative and accounting management of the Civic Service Fund.

The [Department](#) produces periodical reports on the progress of all programme activities implemented by the Regions, autonomous Provinces and Municipalities through the national youth Fund. The [Department](#) has the right to carry out inspections on site to monitor and verify the correct implementation of the activities.

## 1.5 Cross-sectoral approach with other ministries

### Mechanisms and actors

The norms that regulate horizontal cross-sectoral cooperation among public bodies is contained in [law 241/1990](#) regulating administrative proceedings.

To coordinate youth policies at national level, the [Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#) makes regular use of two tools, namely protocols of understandings and inter-ministerial tables.

At present, the following Inter-ministerial Tables are active:

- Development and implementation of a National Youth Card;
- No Hate Speech campaign;
- Certification of skills acquired through informal education.
- Civic service planning (with Regions).

Moreover, a specific agreement with the Ministry of Justice was set up for the implementation of the EU youth Dialogue with young inmates.

## 1.6 Evidence-based youth policy

### Political commitment to evidence-based youth policy

In Italy, a number of public and private bodies deal with research and statistics on young people. At public level, the Government avails of the following state-funded bodies:

[The National Observatory on Childhood and Adolescence](#) (Osservatorio Nazionale per l'Infanzia e l'Adolescenza) was established with [law 451/1997](#). It consists of about 50 members, representing the various central Administrations responsible for childcare policies, the Regions and Local Autonomies, ISTAT, other relevant institutions, as well as of eight associations and eight experts.

Every two years, the Observatory drafts the [National Action and Intervention Plan](#) (Piano d'Azione Nazionale) for the protection of the rights of children/young from 0 to 18 years old, and the Report on the Condition of Children in Italy. Every 5 years it drafts the United Nation Report for the Convention on the rights of the child.

The Observatory avails of the [National Center for Documentation and Analysis for children and adolescents](#) (Centro Nazionale di Documentazione e Analisi per l'infanzia e l'adolescenza), which carries out studies and publications, organizes seminars and training courses on juvenile issues.

The [National Institute for the Analysis of Public Policies](#) (Istituto Nazionale per l'Analisi delle Politiche Pubbliche INAP) is a public research institution (supervised by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies), which monitors and evaluates public policies on labour, education, training, welfare.

According to art. 99 of the Italian Constitution, the [National Council of Economy and Labour](#) (Consiglio Nazionale dell'Economia e del lavoro CNEL) is the Parliament and Government advisory body. The Council has also legislative initiative powers.

The main topics of his research and studies on young people concern: welfare, employment, education, training, immigration.

[The Institute for Research on Population and Social Policies](#), which is part of the National Research Council (CNR), conducts studies on demographics and migrations, welfare, social policies, sciences, information technology.

In addition, the National Youth Council collaborates with the Government in the collection of information useful for guiding public policies.

Some Regions set up Observatories on Youth with a view to develop, monitor and evaluate their policies.

The main Observatories are in the Region Campania, developed in collaboration with the University of Salerno ([Regione Campania](#)), and in the Region Emilia-Romagna ([Regione Emilia Romagna](#)).

## **Cooperation between policy-making and research**

At the national level, the cooperation between policy makers and the research community is developed also on specific subjects.

Recently, the Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service financed the following researches:

1. In 2019, the study "Condition of Italian youth", which was conducted by the private research institute Ipsos, was aimed at orienting the €16 million call for proposals, which was launched by the Department thereafter;
2. In 2017, the national civic service programme was the subject of two researches conducted by two private research companies CLES Ltd. and Eulab consulting Ltd.. The studies analysed the strengths and weakness of the national programme, its impact on youth, with particular reference to the skills acquired through informal education. These researches were conducted in preparation of the reform of the universal civic service, which was approved at the end of 2017.

## **National statistics and available data sources**

The National Institute for Statistics ([Istituto nazionale di statistica](#)), is the public authority that deals with general censuses of the population, sample surveys on families and economic surveys at the national level.

Data and indicators on youth, in the age range from 15 to 34, are collected annually by ISTAT and are available on line in the dedicated information system "Youth" ([#GIOVANI](#)).

Key areas that are subject of data collection are the following: Italian and immigrant population in the age group 15-34; education; health and life styles (alcohol and drug abuse, accidents, disabilities); housing; labour force; welfare; culture; leisure and use of media; welfare and social protection; participation; juvenile delinquency; adoptions.

Ad-hoc indicators by different age groups are produced on NEETs, and youth unemployment.

## Budgetary allocations supporting research in the youth field

The Government finances all the above mentioned public research institutions that institutionally carry out research on the youth policy sector as well.

## 1.7 Funding youth policy

### How youth policy is funded

Since 2006, youth policies have been funded mainly by the National Fund for Youth Policies, established by art. 19, paragraph 2, of [Decree-Law 223/2006](#). The Fund aims at promoting the right of young people to cultural and vocational training, inclusion in social life, including housing, to facilitate access to credit.

Each year the Fund is financed through the national budget law. In 2019, over €37 million were allocated for national, regional and local interventions by [law 145/2018](#) (2019 Budget Law).

Part of the national interventions find financial support from other specific dedicated funds, for example the Youth Credit Fund and the Guarantee Fund for mortgages for the first home (the latter managed by the Ministry of Economy and Finance).

Since 2013, funds of the Action and Cohesion Plan (ACP) and other national funds have been financing interventions for more than €100 million. The Plan is coordinated at national level by the Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service, and implemented in the 5 Convergence Regions in the South of Italy.

Through the ACP funds, the following two calls for projects were launched:

- "[Youth for the social](#)" ("Giovani per il sociale") aimed at social inclusion of young people from 14 to 35 years old;
- "[Young people for the enhancement of public assets](#)" ("Giovani per la valorizzazione dei beni pubblici") aimed at creating spaces for youth in renovated public buildings.

Both calls were opened to youth organizations (age range 14-35).

### What is funded

The main national programmes financed with the National Fund for Youth Policies are the following;

"[Ferments](#)" ("Fermenti") call for projects: finances social and cohesive youth entrepreneurship initiatives with a duration of 18 months, proposed by young people between 18 and 35, and aimed at improving the living conditions of young people and the community. There are five social challenges identified as priorities: Equality for all genders; Inclusion and participation; Education and culture; Spaces, environment and territory; Autonomy, welfare, well-being and health. The total budget is € 16 million;

"[Support for young talents](#)" ("Sostegno ai giovani talenti") call for projects: funds initiatives in support of talents and creativity of young people between 18 and 35 years old. Total funding: € 2.5 million. The projects are implemented by the Third Sector and last up to 24 months;

"[Prevention and contrast to youth distress](#)" ("Prevenzione e contrasto al disagio giovanile") call for projects: it finances initiatives for the prevention and fight against youth distress favouring their social inclusion. Target group: from 14 to 28/35 years. Total funds: €8.5 million;

"[Young talents orientation and placement](#)" ("Orientamento e placement giovani talenti") call for projects: aims to promote job placement for young people between 15 and 28

years, to support the self-entrepreneurship of young talents, and the link between education and the labour market. With a total funding of € 4.5 million, the call financed 33 project proposals in 2018;

"[Youth Camp](#)" ("Campo Giovani") Call: since 2009, in collaboration with the Coast Guard, the Navy, the Fire Brigade and the Italian Red Cross, the initiative has been addressed to youth in the age group 14 to 22. The action has the following objectives:

- allow young people to develop civic and social commitment, bringing them closer to institutions through the sharing of programs and activities aimed at enhancing the concept of the common good; stimulate healthy relational behaviours, based on solidarity and respect, encouraging group experiences, including recreational ones; involve young people in training initiatives aimed at understanding prevention, first aid and emergency management practices, through actions that promote the dissemination of a safety culture with the aim of bringing young people closer to the culture of prevention and of responsibility and developing collective spirit and civic sense.

At the local level, the National Fund for youth policies finances projects proposed by local Authorities through special agreements with the Regions, the National Association of the Italian Municipalities (ANCI) and other institutional actors, including the National Agency for Youth (ANG) and the National Youth Forum (now National Youth Council), or joint partnerships in projects proposed by different subjects.

For 2019, the Fund financed the initiatives of the 20 Administrations (Regions), for a total budget of € 9,703,598. Municipalities, through the National Association of the Italian Municipalities (ANCI), were assigned a total of € 8,210,736, and Provinces, through the Union of Italian Provinces (UPI) received € 1,119,646.

The agreement negotiated with the Regions and Municipalities in 2019 foresees the following priority areas of intervention:

- social inclusion;
- participation;
- support to youth autonomy;
- non formal education;
- prevention and measures against new addictions.

The Universal Civic Service Fund, with an endowment of approximately € 231 million in the year 2019, finances the civic service programme. It is based on an annual planning agreed upon in the "Conference between the State and the Regions" (Conferenza Stato-Regioni), and operates under a special accounting regime as required by the legislation.

## **Financial accountability**

The [Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#) finances measures aimed at younger generations through different types of instruments. Therefore, the "financial responsibility" is different based on the type of intervention.

With regard to the resources assigned to the Regions, full autonomy is recognized to these institutions. The resources are used directly by the Regions that send their monitoring tools (periodic reports and tables) to the Department that verifies the progress of the project activities. Therefore, this activity allows to obtain information on the use of the funds, providing useful elements to identify and assess shortfall and possible corrective actions.

The funds allocated to the Union of Italian Provinces (UPI), to the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI), and to other organizations are expressly regulated by ad hoc agreements, which establish the procedures for monitoring the projects and the mutual responsibilities and commitments.

With regards to the funds assigned to private non-profit organizations, in order to guarantee public co-financing, the Administration requires the presentation of adequate bank guarantees or insurance policies for the first tranche received; the guarantee must be valid for the whole duration of the project eligible for funding. The subsequent instalments are paid further to the presentation of adequate documentation of expenditure.

The institutions involved must also ensure compliance with legal, tax, social security and labour provisions, the traceability of financial flows and the anti-mafia certification.

In addition, the Department can carry out inspections at the project sites (by its representatives and / or specialized persons or companies specifically designated) to verify the progressive implementation of the activities.

The preventive supervision on the legality of the administrative action, which is the responsibility of the Department, is exercised by the Court of Auditors, which is an independent body.

The Office of the Budget Presidency of the Council of Ministers exercises the administrative-accounting regularity control on all expenses.

With regard to external responsibility, the principle of transparency, introduced by law 15/2005 [11], allows all citizens to verify the administrative procedures undertaken by the Public Administration.

Public Administration disseminate information that must be made public in their own institutional websites under a section called "Transparent Administration".

These publication requirements concern, among other things, the organization and the activities of public administrations, the use of public resources and the services provided. The principle of transparency promotes the prevention of corruption, including a "social control" by the citizens (the so-called "civic access").

As previously reported, the [Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#):

- is responsible for the financial planning, administrative and accounting management, and related disputes management of the National Fund for the civic service;
- is responsible for the management of European resources for the implementation of the projects assigned to the Department;
- verifies the correct use of the resources assigned for interventions of national relevance in the field of youth policies.

## **Use of EU funds**

Through the 2014-2020 Partnership Agreement, Italy identified its own strategy, priorities and methods of use of the European Structural and Investment Funds (ESIF).

The total community resources assigned to Italy are reported hereafter:

For the two Structural Funds of the cohesion policy - European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) and the European Social Fund (ESF) are allocated € 32.7 billion (instead of the € 31.1 billion allocated in the previous programming);

For the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) the resources allocated are € 10.4 billion, while for the European Fund for Maritime Affairs and Fisheries (EFMAF) the resources allocated are € 537 million.

These two funds do not specifically finance youth policies. However, social inclusion and professional development are part of their objectives, thus they can finance projects that benefit young people.

In addition, Italy is the second largest recipient among Member States of the Youth Employment Initiative.

The thematic objective of the National Operational Plan (NAP) Youth Employment Initiatives (YEI) Axis 1 Youth Employment NEET consists in promoting sustainable and quality employment and supporting worker mobility. The financial allocation for the Youth Guarantee programme amounts to € 1.513.363.329 (out of which € 567.5 million from the YEI, the same amount from the ESF, and € 378 million from national co-financing).

Resources were allocated to the Regions taking into account the rate of unemployment of the age group 15-24 (based on data of the 2012 ISTAT survey).

The Youth Guarantee will continue until 2020, thanks to additional European resources, which amount to € 343 million for Italy.

## 1.8 Cross-border cooperation

### Cooperation with European countries

**Slovenia:** "Collaboration Agreement in the field of Culture and Education", signed in Rome on 8 March 2000 and entered into force on 29 April 2018.

### International cooperation

**(AII) [Adriatic Ionian Initiative](#):** Italy is part of the Adriatic Ionian Initiative established in May 2000 through the "Ancona Declaration". It aims at facilitating the enlargement of the EU in the Western Balkans. Today, the AII initiative counts 8 members: Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Greece, Italy, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia.

The [Department for Youth Policies and the Universal civic service](#) represents Italy in the [European Steering Committee for Youth](#) (CDEJ) of the Council of Europe, which coordinates and promotes youth policies among the 49 member States, with focus on young people's access to human and social rights. The Department represents Italy also in the [Partnership between European Commission and the Council of Europe](#) in the field of youth.

**Algeria:** "Memorandum of Understanding on Youth Policies", signed in Algiers on 20 January 2007.

**Qatar:** "Memorandum of understanding on cooperation in the fields of Youth and Sports", signed in Rome on 20 November 2018.

## 1.9 Current debates and reforms

### Forthcoming policy developments

A legislative procedure for the recognition of youth workers is expected to start in 2020.

### Ongoing debates

A possible law for the recognition of youth work is currently under discussion at national level.

## 2. VOLUNTARY ACTIVITIES

---

At national level, volunteering is a widespread phenomenon with a long tradition. The national legal system recognizes the social value and function of volunteering as an expression of participation, solidarity and pluralism.

The provisions of the third Title of the Third Sector Code ([Legislative Decree 117/17](#)) apply to youth volunteering. The article of the Code on the promotion of the culture of volunteering invites public administrations, within the limits of available resources, to support volunteering among young people, also through specific initiatives to be carried out in the premises of schools and universities, and with the involvement of voluntary organizations and other Third Sector entities.

At national level, one of the main instruments for the promotion of youth volunteering is the [Universal Civic Service](#) (Servizio civile universale) accessible to youth between 18 and 28 years of age, and managed by the [Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#).

### 2.1 General context

#### Historical developments

The [Italian Constitution](#) provides an important stimulus to social solidarity. Art. 2 and 3 expect that fundamental duties of social solidarity be fulfilled and assign joint responsibility to the community and to the public administrations. It is also worth mentioning art. 18 "Citizens have the right to form associations freely [...]".

The first framework law that regulated volunteering ([law 266/1991](#)) was the result of a parliamentary debate that lasted fifteen years. The law ratifies the inception of volunteering as a new subject, acknowledging and accrediting the existing voluntary organizations and recognizing the social value and function of volunteering as an expression of participation, solidarity and pluralism. Art. 2, paragraph 1 clarifies: "[...] volunteering must be understood as an activity provided in a personal, spontaneous and free manner, through non-profit organization [...] and exclusively for the purpose of solidarity". Art. 3, paragraph 3 establishes that the founding acts of voluntary organizations must explicitly mention "[...] the absence of profit, the democratic nature of the organization, the electiveness and gratuitousness of the association board, as well as the free of charge service provided by the participants [...].

[Legislative decree 460/1997](#) defines the role of voluntary organizations and the related tax rules.

In 2001, [law 64/2001](#) set up the "National civic service". With the abolition of conscription in 2005, the civic service became voluntary for young people of both sexes in the aged group 18 to 28.

Later on, a radical reform of the Third Sector was undertaken. In 2017, the Third Sector Code ([legislative decree 117/2017](#)) gathers in a single text the different types of Third Sector Bodies, i.e. those organizations dedicated to volunteering in a broad sense. The Code also repealed previous legislation, including two historical laws: the one on volunteering ([law 266/1991](#)), and the one on social promotion associations ([law 383/2000](#)).

In 2017, [legislative decree 40/2017](#) transforms the "National" Civic Service into "Universal" Civic Service. The provision represents a fundamental step in the process of reforming youth volunteering in Italy.

## Main concepts

Volunteering is a deeply rooted and widespread phenomenon at national level. It has a long tradition recognized by legislation. Indeed, the law recognizes the social value and function of volunteering as an expression of participation, solidarity and pluralism. In Italy, there are different forms of non-organized volunteering, i.e. spontaneous and free of charge activities undertaken for the benefit of others.

After the repeal of the [framework law on volunteering 266/91](#), the [legislative decree 117/2017](#) defines the volunteer as "a person who, by her/his free choice performs tasks in favour of the community and of the common good - also through organizations of the third sector - making available her/his time and skills to respond to the needs of people and communities, in a personal, spontaneous and free of charge manner, no profit, and exclusively for solidarity".

[Legislative decree 40/2017](#) defines the "Volunteer Operator" of the Universal Civic Service as "a volunteer engaged in the fulfilment of Universal Civic Service in Italy or abroad." According to the decree, the Universal Civic Service is aimed at the unarmed and nonviolent homeland defence, at education, peace among people, as well as at the promotion of the founding values of the Republic.

## 2.2 Administration and governance of youth volunteering

### Governance

In 2017, the Code of the Third Sector ([Decreto Legislativo 117/17- Codice del Terzo settore](#)) deeply reforms the third sector and volunteer organizations. (see para 2.1)

The main actors involved in the governance of volunteering at national level are the following:

The Ministry of Labour and Social Policies ([Il Ministero del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali](#)) is responsible for the implementation of the legal provisions on volunteering. It is also responsible for promoting the development of volunteering keeping into account three key concepts: active citizenship, values sharing and participation in the community.

Among others, the Ministry is responsible for the following:

- Promoting researches and studies in Italy and abroad on volunteering, the third sector and active policies of the social state;
- The collaboration with the Regions on training and refreshment courses for the provision of services;
- The Technical Secretariat of the National Observatory on Volunteering and the activities of the working groups;
- The administrative management of the funds given to the voluntary organizations and NGOs for purchasing equipment and ambulances to be offered to the public health services;
- The financial, administrative and technical support of pilot projects implemented by voluntary organisations, financed by the Fund for the Voluntary Service;
- Monitoring the Volunteering Service Centres;
- The cooperation with the European voluntary and international organisations of the Third sector.

The Department for Youth Policy and the Universal civic service (Il [Dipartimento per le Politiche Giovanili e il Servizio Civile Universale](#)) is the supporting structure of the President

of the Council of Ministers for the promotion and coordination of youth policies, and the management of the Universal Civic Service set up with [legislative decree 40/17](#).

As far as youth volunteering is concerned, the Department is responsible for the overall planning, management, and monitoring of the Universal Civic Service and the Civilian Peace Corps. The Department handles the financial planning and the administrative management of the National Fund for the Civic Service. In addition, the Department promotes and supports the access of young people to the civic service projects.

The National Observatory for Volunteering (L'[Osservatorio Nazionale per il Volontariato](#)) set up in 1990, is chaired by the Minister of Labour and Social Policy and is composed of ten representatives volunteer organizations that are active in at least six regions, two experts and three representatives of the major trade unions. The Observatory has the task of maintaining the inventory of volunteer organizations, promoting researches, approving pilot projects, and providing consultative services.

The National Auditing Body ([Organismo nazionale di controllo](#)) is a foundation with legal personality under private law with full statutory and managerial autonomy. It was set up with a decree of the Minister of Labour and Social Policy 6/2018. The foundation has a unique character among the private foundations. Further to legislative decree 117/17 – Code of the Third Sector, the foundation is responsible for the allocation of the funds to the Volunteering Service Centres.

The Volunteering Service Centres are set up on the basis of the [framework law on the voluntary service no 266/1991](#) and the reform of the Third sector [legislative decree 117/17 - third code sector](#). The Centres provide technical assistance to the voluntary organizations in the fields of advocacy, training and communication. The promotion of a culture of volunteering among young people is one of their main objectives. The Service Centres are present in all Italian Regions. The National Single Fund (Fondo Unico Nazionale) assures their financing through donations of bank foundations.

Regions and autonomous Provinces are responsible for creating and updating the Single Register of the Third Sector (Registro Unico del Terzo Settore), that lists the voluntary organisations, the associations of social promotion, philanthropic companies and social enterprises. Only the organisations that regularly joined the Register have the right to apply for grants.

## Cross-sectoral cooperation

CSV-Net is the national association of Volunteering Service Centres. It is inspired by the Chart of the Values of Volunteering ([Carta dei valori del volontariato](#)) and by the Chart of the Representation ([carta della rappresentanza](#)). It aims at reinforcing the collaboration, the exchange of experiences and good practices among the Service Centres, through technical assistance and training. It runs research on non-profit organizations.

## 2.3 National strategy on youth volunteering

### Existence of a national strategy

The national strategy on volunteering, which is also addressed to youth, is not contained in an *ad hoc* document, but is inferable in the dispositions of the Title III of the [legislative decree 117/2017](#) of the Third Sector Code. Further to the approval of the Code, [legislative decree 40/2017](#) reformed the Civic Service, the voluntary programme specifically addressed to youth in the age group 18-28.

### Scope and contents

The Code protects the volunteers from possible cases of exploitation. For example, volunteers shall not work for the organization where they serve as volunteers. In addition, the law requires insurance cover for third party liability as well as a comprehensive medical insurance. Finally, volunteers are entitled to modest reimbursements for their expenses.

To encourage voluntary activities, the volunteer can request work permits, and obtain the certification of the skills and competences acquired. Schools and Universities may recognize the certification as credit for extra work done.

The Code requires public Administrations to promote the volunteer culture especially among youth, by organizing promotional initiatives in the premises of schools, Universities, and elsewhere, involving volunteer organizations.

### **Responsible authority**

Upon agreement with the Regions (Conferenza Stato-Regioni), the Minister of Labour and Social Policy, the Minister of Education, University and Research and the Minister for the Public Administration are responsible for defining the criteria for the recognition of the skills acquired in volunteering.

The [Department for youth policy and the Universal civic service](#) is the responsible Authority for volunteering in the framework of the Universal Civic Service.

### **Revisions/updates**

Currently there are no revisions or updates.

## **2.4 Youth volunteering at national level**

### **National Program for Youth Volunteering**

The main national program for the promotion of youth volunteering is the [Universal Civic Service](#) accessible to young people in the age group 18 to 28.

The National Civic Service was set up in 2001 with [Law 64/2001](#). In 2017, with the Reform introduced by [legislative decree 40/2017](#), the national civic service became "universal". The legislator used the term "universal" to stress the importance of guaranteeing access to volunteering to all young people who wish to do so. However, accessibility depends on the amount of funds, which are available yearly.

The responsible authority for the implementation and coordination of the programme is the Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers.

The Universal Civic Service is a programme that includes several actors:

- the volunteers, i.e. young people who decide to dedicate a period of their life to the Country and to others, carrying out the civic service activities in the intervention sector of their choice;
- the sending organization, which promote the projects. They are public or private entities enrolled in the Register of the Civic Service;
- the entire community, which reaps the benefits thanks to the implementation of the civic service projects;
- the State, through the Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service, the Regions and the autonomous Provinces that manage the entire system.

The sectors of intervention of the civic service projects, which are implemented in Italy and abroad are the following:

- Assistance;
- Civil protection;
- Environmental heritage and urban regeneration;
- Historical, artistic and cultural heritage;

- Cultural, landscape, environmental, sport, sustainable and social tourism promotion and education;
- Agriculture in mountain areas, social agriculture and biodiversity;
- Promotion of peace among peoples, nonviolence and unarmed defence; promotion and protection of human rights; cooperation for development; promotion of the Italian culture and support for Italian communities abroad.

Since 2001 up to 2019, about 490,000 young volunteers have been involved in civic service projects, out of these approximately 7,000 have been deployed abroad.

During the first year in 2001, only 181 young people were involved. In 2006, placements increase to 45.000. At the end September 2019, placements were around 39.000. In 2020, about 40.000 placements are available in around 3.800 projects.

All sending organizations participating in the programme are registered in the Universal Civic Service Register, which is continuously updated. The database contains information on the organizations, on the project activities and on the deployed volunteers. Annually, the Department publishes a Report to the Parliament which contains the main summary data on the performance of the civic service programme.

The reform introduced a number of innovations, some of which will produce results in the years to come. Among them it is worth mentioning the three-year programming, which became operational in 2019. The 2020-2022 three-year plan drafted by the Department with the involvement of all the stakeholders was developed taking into account the objectives of the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development of the United Nations and the Conclusion of the Council of the European Union of 9 April 2019, where the importance of the youth dimension in the 2030 Agenda and the key role that young people can play in achieving the objectives of sustainable development are recognized.

The reform also introduced the possibility of availing, during placement, of 3 months deployment in a European member State or of 3 months tutoring aimed at facilitating access to the labor market.

## **Funding**

According to the legislative decree 40/2017, the Universal Civic Service is financed through an ad hoc National Fund (established by law 230/1998, art.19) and managed by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. In addition to the national resources, the Fund also receives European financing.

In 2019, the financial endowment of the Universal Civic Service was equal to € 231.7 millions (departmental decree 355/2019), i.e. the equivalent of 40,651 voluntary placements.

At present for 2020, the National Fund for the Civic Service has an allocation of approximately €140 million, subject to adjustments.

The European financing for 2020 are the following:

- €53 million from the Youth Guarantee Programme (European Social Fund 2014-2020) in favour of NEETs;
- €1.7 million from the Asylum, Migration and Integration Fund (AMIF) aimed at promoting the inclusion in Italy of young immigrants holders of international protection.

## **Characteristics of youth volunteering**

The volunteers of the Universal Civic Service have the following characteristics:

- Gender: females are slightly more than males (60.82%);
- Age: the most represented is the age group between 24 and 26 (29.60%), while the least represented is the age group between 21 and 23;

- Education: the majority have a high school diploma (66.79%), followed by those who have a bachelor degree (21.03%); only a few have a junior high school degree (11.23%) and a primary education licence (1%).

## **Support to young volunteers**

Young civic service volunteers receive the following benefits:

- training (minimum 80 hours);
- training credits;
- certificate of participation in the civic service;
- recognition of acquired skills;
- recognition of the placement for the pension fund (redeemable);
- monthly allowance of around € 440.00; an additional daily allowance of € 13 to 15 for placements abroad;
- for placements abroad: free food, accommodation, and 2 round trips;
- leave in proportion to the placement period (20 days over 12 months);
- up to three months tutoring to facilitate access to the labour market (for placements in Italy);
- preferential access in some Universal Civic Service projects, for young people with fewer opportunities.

Furthermore, mentoring is an important supporting measure for volunteers. The Local Project Operator is a volunteer, employee or other contract staff of the sending organization, who possesses specific skills related to the activities and objectives established by the project. He/she is available on the project site for at least 10 hours per week.

The Universal Civic Service provides for a Standard participation certificate; a Specific certificate; and the Certification of skills. The certifications can be used to obtain credits in public competitive exams. In addition, Universities may recognize volunteering as educational credits.

## **Quality assurance**

The civic service system has inherent quality standards that are verified when sending organizations enrol in the Register of Universal Civic Service. In particular, sending organizations must meet certain criteria regarding their management, training, communication, selection of volunteers and monitoring. If the organizations do not meet those requirements, they are not admitted in the Register.

In addition, the sending organizations must guarantee the following:

- Youth friendly and transparent application process;
- Mentoring during placement;
- Adequate non formal learning for volunteers during placement;
- Social value for the beneficiary community.

Finally, quality is guaranteed by the following additional tools:

- Online application;
- Post placement evaluation by volunteers;
- A constant dialogue between the Department and the representation of former volunteers, who are organized at national and territorial level;

- Administrative monitoring procedures, and on-site inspections carried out by the Department.

## Target groups

The Universal Civic Service is open to EU or non-EU citizens legally residing in Italy in the age group 18 to 28, not having reported convictions in Italy or abroad.

Regarding the participation of specific target groups, the reform promotes the inclusion in the Universal Civic Service of youngsters with fewer opportunities (i.e. disabled and youth with low standards of education or low economic background).

Additional specific target groups are the NEETs and third-country nationals with international protection; both target groups are financed through European funding (see [Funding](#)).

## 2.5 Cross-border mobility programmes

### EU programmes

Since January 2014, the [National Agency](#) for Youth (ANG) is the implementing body in Italy of the youth chapter of the [ERASMUS + Program](#). Since December 2018 the Agency manages also the [European Solidarity Corps](#) (ESC) programme. The European Voluntary Service (EVS) ended in October 2018, however some EVS projects are still on-going (KA125 and KA135 in the framework of Erasmus+).

The ESC programme offers young people - in the age group 18-30 - jobs, traineeships and volunteering opportunities, in their own country or abroad.

The Italian National Agency for Youth monitors the number of incoming participants and their country of origin, as well as the number of outgoing participants and the topic of their activities through the European platforms and softwares.

In the period 2014-2019, the number of incoming participants for projects approved by the Agency was 2,958 (out of which 2,264 financed by Erasmus+ and 694 by ESC). During the same period, the number of outgoing participants was 746 (618 for Erasmus+ and 128 for ESC).

### Other programmes

The Italian Government finances the Universal Civic Service programme managed by the Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service. The programme offers volunteering opportunities both in Italy and abroad. (see para 2.4)

### Legal framework applying to foreign visitors

There is no specific legal framework for young people participating in volunteering activities in the above mentioned programmes. However, for the EVS and ESC programmes, the Italian National Agency for Youth made an agreement with the Italian Ministry for Foreign Affairs aimed at facilitating the access in Italy of incoming volunteers from non-Schengen countries. The Agency communicates the name of the incoming volunteer to the Italian consulate and requests the visa to enter Italy.

## 2.6 Raising awareness about youth volunteering opportunities

### Information providers

The [National Agency for Youth](#) plays an important role in disseminating information through the implementation of the Erasmus+ youth program and the European solidarity corps, which foresee the promotion of volunteering opportunities for young people.

Other third sector organizations involved in volunteering carry out awareness activities for young people. In particular:

- The [Volunteering Service Centres](#) (see para 2.2) support Third sector organizations in promoting volunteering at territorial level. They conduct promotion activities in schools also through the "volunteer passport" (passaporto del volontario), a tool that certifies the skills acquired by students during volunteering. It is a personal document that can accompany the student throughout the school career.
- The [Youth Information Centres](#) (Centri InformaGiovani) that provide information and guidance on training, volunteering, leisure, sport and job opportunities.
- [Eurodesk Italia](#) is the official network of the Erasmus+ programme that provides information on programmes and initiatives financed by European institutions in particular: international mobility, culture, formal and non-formal training, volunteering and job opportunities. It is supported by the European Commission DG EAC and the National Agency for Youth.

## Key initiatives

The website of the Department of Youth Policy and the Universal Civil Service publishes all news related to the Universal Civic Service (see para 2.4). Moreover, the Government is developing a platform that will gather all existing information and opportunities relevant for young people, including volunteering.

## 2.7 Skills recognition

### Policy Framework

[Law 92/2012](#) on the reform of the labour market provides an official definition of lifelong learning: "the term lifelong learning refers to all learning activities formally, non-formally and informally undertaken throughout life with the aim of improving knowledge, skills and competences in a personal, civic, social and/or employment-related perspective".

Furthermore, the same law foresees the establishment of a national public system for the certification of competences based on minimum service standards and uniform throughout the country.

'Certifiable competences' are a structured combination of knowledge and skills recognisable also as formative credits through a special procedure for the validation of non-formal and informal learning. The certification of competences is defined as a public deed that ensures learning transparency and acknowledgment, consistently with the objectives set by the European Union. A certification, diploma or qualification formally attests that assessment and validation have been carried out by a public institution or an authorised subject.

[Legislative decree 13/13](#) – issued in application of law no. 92/2012 - provides the general rules of the national system for competences certification. The decree makes the new National system for competences certification operational; it aims at increasing the professional competences acquired at work, as well as those acquired in leisure time in order to promote mobility, to foster the meeting together of demand and supply in the labour market, to increase learning transparency and the relevance of certifications at national and European level.

Subsequently, an inter-ministerial decree issued on 30 June 2015, has defined the National framework of the regional qualifications. The decree established:

1. a tool for the mutual recognition of regional qualifications,
2. standard procedures and certification for the identification/validation of non-formal and informal learning and of the certification of competences.

3. Finally, the inter-ministerial decree issued on 8 January 2018 has established the National framework of qualifications (Quadro nazionale delle qualificazioni - QNQ), which is the tool that describes and classifies all qualifications released within the National system for the certification of competences.

### **Existing arrangements**

Young volunteers can request the recognition of their training credits and obtain a certification of their experience following regional legislations.

[Legislative Decree 40/17](#) "Establishment and discipline of the Universal Civic service" (Istituzione e disciplina del Servizio civile universale) requires that civic service organizations carry out all the preparatory activities needed for the recognition and enhancement of the skills acquired by volunteers during placement. In addition, Article 19 requires that civic service organization certify the length of placement and the activities carried out by volunteers.

Within the European Mobility Programs such as Erasmus + and the European Solidarity Corps, young volunteers have the right to receive the Youthpass which certifies the experience gained and the skills acquired during placement.

## **2.8 Current debates and reforms**

### **Forthcoming policy developments**

At present, there are no forthcoming policy developments.

### **Ongoing debates**

The possibility of making the Universal Civic Service mandatory for all youth is being discussed at political level.

### 3. EMPLOYMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

---

The publication of the "[2019 Annual Report on the Performance of the Labor Market in Italy](#)" by the National Statistical Institute (ISTAT) shows and certifies that in 2018 the absolute employment rate in Italy was 58.5%. The absolute unemployment rate reached 10.6 percent instead (it was 6.7% in 2008).

The unemployment rate for young people between the ages of 15 and 24 stands at 31.4%, and between 15 and 34 at 45.2%.

If in 2008, 30.2% of those employed were aged between 15 and 34, ten years later this share dropped to 22.0% and overall the number of employees is "older" than in the 2008-2018 interval.

The number of NEETs slightly decreases, and in 2018 is stopping at 24.8%.

Several factors have contributed to the decrease in the numerical component of the young people employed: on the one hand due to an actual drop in the youth population, the lengthening of the study paths and the difficulties in entering the labor market; on the other, the progressive aging of the Italian population, as well as the increase in retirement age.

Young people are less present in the labor market, but more and more educated, and those who have achieved at least a degree have higher employment rates and lower unemployment or lack of participation in the labor market.

The increase in skilled employment has also accentuated the segmentation of the labor market, with the concentration of Italian low-skilled workers and foreign workers towards occupations characterized by low skills, fewer protections and lower wages.

Government support has developed mainly:

- On the alternation between school and work, now called "pathways for transversal skills and orientation" as per legislative decree 77/2005, pursuant to [Law 145/2018, art. 1, paragraph 784](#), which modified the name of the institution;
- In a policy of economic incentives to companies to encourage the recruitment of young people through a strong investment in the "[Youth Guarantee](#)" plan, through the use of the [Apprenticeship](#) and [Traineeship](#) contract;
- Through the stimulation of forms of [self-employment and entrepreneurship](#).

Through this support plan the young students and / or unemployed who join the program are helped to enter into the labor market, foreseeing a series of activities to the advantage of the curriculum and the career of the participant. The economic bonus takes the form of a series of incentives for companies that hire young participants in the project. The hiring can be on a permanent contract, a fixed contract and an apprenticeship or traineeship.

Therefore, different types of employment contract correspond to different economic incentives.

The stimulation of young people to self-employment and entrepreneurship, through incentives for business creation, is envisaged with the offer of measures capable of supporting the development and improvement of entrepreneurial attitudes for the start-up of activities of self-employment or business. The accompaniment includes training and support courses from the start-up phase up to the realization of the business idea and are available both at national and regional level.

## 3.1 General context

### Labour market situation in the country

The Italian labor market, despite the recent entry of the economy in a phase of cyclical slowdown, shows a substantial improvement, surpassing the employment levels prior to the 2008 crisis and progressively reducing the workforce not used in the production system, still remains at high levels.

Il "[Rapporto annuale 2019 sull'andamento del Mercato del lavoro in Italia](#)", ("2019 annual report on the progress of the Italian labor market"), of the National Statistical Institute (ISTAT), indicates that the recovery of employment has only partially succeeded in reducing the vulnerabilities and gaps that had increased during the previous phase of economic recession.

Even the overall level of work, measured by the total hours worked in Italy, still remains well below the pre-crisis level. With reference to the 2008-2018 period, the marked increase in employees and the fall in independent workers increased the weight of the number of relatively weaker contracts in terms of contractual duration and safeguards.

In fact, the incidence of temporary workers among employees has increased, in particular the number of contracts less than six months has increased; while among the self-employed dependents, the category of self-employed workers, a particularly heterogeneous segment with large sections of vulnerability, has increased too.

At the same time, forms of permanent full-time work were reduced, while involuntary part-time employment increased, especially for women.

The positive employment dynamics for women, whose participation in the labor market has increased over the decade has been accompanied by a reduction in job stability and total hours worked.

This transformation of employment is a reflection of the reduction in the weight of the full-time labor-intensive sectors and the increase in sectors and professions with higher concentration of short-time work.

With regard to the sectors, this transformation concerned the national health service, the services to businesses, the hotels, catering and family services. For the professions, the transformation concerned those involved in trade, services and the less qualified ones.

The expansion of less qualified employment has also accentuated the segmentation of the labor market, with the concentration of Italian and foreign workers with low qualifications employed in occupations characterized by low skills, fewer protections and lower wages.

The recomposition of work towards relatively more vulnerable forms and sectors has also involved young people, who are less present in the labor market but are increasingly educated.

In general, the human capital of young people continues to play an important role in determining participation in the labor market. Those who have obtained at least a degree have higher employment rates possibility. With the increase in the education level of the population, which is reflected in the increase in the number of graduates among the employed, all professional groups can count on average levels of higher skills than in the past.

The general decline in employment, in favor of less qualified professions, however, exacerbates the problem of the mismatch between supply and demand labor and, in this case, the number of employees with a higher qualification than that required for the performed task, represents a factor of obstacle to the full valorization of human capital, of young people in particular. A positive sign emerges instead with reference to the most qualified professions which, after having suffered a sharp contraction during the crisis, gradually returned to growth starting level in 2014.

This progressive growth can also be read in the light of the restructuring processes undertaken in recent years by companies, which have invested in human and technical capital, and in particular by companies engaged in digital transition and the introduction of innovations. For these companies there is an increase in qualified employment, which also appears to be rewarded by higher salaries.

## Main concepts

The process of evolution of the regulatory framework and labor policies in Italy, had in 2014-2015 a fundamental stage of reform with the approval of the [Delegated Law 183/14](#) (known as the [the reform of the Jobs Act](#)) and then with the subsequent [implementing legislative decrees](#).

The intent of the Jobs Act is to simplify rules that have governed the market in the work of our country and to relaunch in this way the employment, especially youth, for an indefinite period.

The law provides for the reorganization of employment contracts. It establishes that fixed-term contracts, while continuing to exist, cannot exceed, with the exception of a few cases, 20% of the total workforce, as from 2016 the abolition of job sharing and project work has been envisaged.

The law encourages permanent contracts, introducing tax reliefs to companies and inserting the so-called "growing protection system", or the possibility for the company itself to more easily dismiss new hires, who are entitled to compensation in cash proportionate to the time of service exercised.

Discriminatory dismissals however provide for the reinstatement of the worker. In addition, the Jobs Act reorganized the part-time legislation, providing for its use also as an alternative to contractual parental leave.

With the [Legislative Decree 150/2015](#), [National Agency for Active Labor Policies](#) (ANPAL) was established, aimed at coordinating the network of services for the unemployed and a single Inspectorate for controls on safety and regularity of work [See . Par. 3.2].

The labor reform is a fundamental element for the revival of employment, in particular youth, also as a function of combating the phenomenon of NEETs and unemployment. And in this perspective the Government's action is strengthened through the reform of the apprenticeship, the permanent employment contract aimed at training and youth employment.

The Government's support has also developed into a policy of economic incentives for companies to encourage the recruitment of young people through a strong investment in the "[Youth Guarantee](#)" plan, financed both with EU funds and with national resources, through the use of the [contract apprenticeship](#) and [internships](#), and through the stimulation of [forms of self-employment and self- entrepreneurship](#). The plan includes a series of activities to the benefit of the curriculum and its own training. The plan includes a series of activities to the benefit of the curriculum and its own training.

## 3.2 Administration and governance

### Governance

The [Ministry of Labor and Social Policies](#) plans, implements and coordinates labor policy and interventions for employment development, labor protection and adequacy of the social security system, social policies, with particular reference to the prevention and reduction of the conditions of need and social distress of people and families.

The main areas in which the Ministry carries out its functions are:

- [Supervision of national labor contracts and industrial relations](#); care of institutions related to the employment relationship; the application and monitoring of legislation on

- health and safety in the workplace; filing of deposited agreements and national collective agreements; the management of the right of appeal;
- the definition of the [discipline of social safety nets and training](#), of salary integration treatments, of unemployment and mobility treatments and of the related contributory aspects;
  - the promotion and coordination of training policies; the activation of inter-professional funds for continuous training; the definition of the essential levels of performance in the field of recognition and certification of skills and alternating school-work, now called "Paths for transversal skills and orientation" as legislative decree 77/2005, pursuant to [Law 145/2018, art. 1, paragraph 784](#), which modified the name of the institution
  - [policies to combat poverty and to develop social planning](#), high supervision and addressing of supplementary pension schemes;
  - the coordination and application of the legislation on welfare benefits [policies to combat poverty and to develop social planning](#) provided by social security institutions, with particular reference to retirement, social allowance and disability benefits; implementation of the regulation on the Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator (ISEE); the definition of policies for children and adolescents as well as for the protection of minors and the fight against child labor;
  - [integration and immigration policies](#); the coordination of activities related to the protection of foreign minors; the promotion and coordination of humanitarian interventions in Italy and abroad attributed to the Ministry;
  - [the promotion and support of the activities carried out by the subjects of the third sector](#) and those in favor of the [social enterprise](#), including the implementation of the reference legislation.

With the [Legislative Decree 150/2015](#), the [National Agency for Active Labor Policies \(ANPAL\)](#) was established, aimed at coordinating the network of services for the unemployed and a single Inspectorate for controls on safety and regularity of work

The task of ANPAL is to coordinate labor policies for job seekers and the relocation of the unemployed. For this reason, it provides tools and methodologies to support public and private operators in the labor market.

The Agency coordinates the national network of employment services, which promotes the rights to work, training and professional elevation. This network includes: the regional structures for active labor policies, the National Institute for Social Security (INPS), the National Institute for Insurance against Accidents at Work (INAIL), employment agencies and other authorized intermediaries, the inter-professional funds for continuous training and bilateral funds, Anpal Servizi, the Institute for the development of professional training for workers, the Chambers of Commerce, universities and secondary schools of the second degree.

The ANPAL is responsible for the information system for the management of the labor market, where information on job seekers converge, useful for professional integration. The information system also allows monitoring of the services provided. The Agency manages the national register of accredited subjects for active policies, the national repertoire of employment incentives and European activities and programs for training and employment. Tramite le proprie strutture di ricerca, ANPAL svolge inoltre analisi, monitoraggio e valutazione delle politiche attive e dei servizi per il lavoro.

The task of the inspection activity is the responsibility of the [National Labor Inspectorate \(INL\)](#). Born in September 2015, with Legislative Decree n. 149/2015 - as a single agency for labor inspections - the INL integrates the inspection services, and the related activities, previously carried out by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, the INPS and INAIL.

Both agencies are placed under the supervision of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, which periodically monitors the objectives and the correct management of financial resources.

The [National Institute for the Analysis of Public Policies](#) (INAPP) is a public research institution that carries out analysis, monitoring and evaluation of labor and employment services policies, education and training policies, and policies social and all those public policies that have effects on the labor market. Its strategic role in the new governance system of Italy's social and labor policies is established by [Legislative Decree 150/2015](#).

INAPP collaborates with European institutions and is part of the national statistical system (SISTAN) within which, together with Istat, it is the only statistical information agency. It plays the role of methodological and scientific assistance for the system actions of the European Social Fund and is the National Agency of the Erasmus + Community program for the field of vocational education and training. It represents the National Agency within the European ERIC-ESS consortium, which leads the European Social Survey survey.

### **Main actors - Regional level**

The Italian regions, according to the [art. 117 of the Italian Constitution](#), have legislative competency concurrent with the State in matters of "complementary and supplementary pensions" and "professions", but above all of "protection and safety of work", while they have full-residual competence in matters of "professional training ", concerning public training policies.

The competences of the Ministry of Labor and social polizie are: the definition of professional qualifications, their technical, cultural and operational contents and the assessment tests for their attribution; study, research, documentation, information and experimentation activities; the organization and financing, in agreement with the Regions and on their own initiative, of refresher courses for the personnel employed; the definition of the technical requirements for the recognition of the suitability of the structures and equipment used for professional training.

In this regard, the Regions, in agreement with the Ministry of Education, University and Research together with the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, the Ministry of Economic Development and the Ministry of Economy, have developed a professional training course for young people who want to enter into job market immediately, or without having to do long studies to get a diploma or a degree.

This training is parallel and differentiated from what the children follow for school education of state competence (Ministry of Education, University and Research). The course of studies currently offers a wide range of courses and depends on the type of vocational training center attended. In Italy the vocational training centers prescribe a two-year / three-year course of studies with a prevalence of specialized practical subjects of the sector aimed at achieving a professional qualification.

A further contribution to professional training is also provided by private training institutions that offer specialized training contents on specific sectors of professional learning. Many courses offered by private bodies, as long as they are accredited by the Italian Regions, are free because they are financed with the European Social Fund.

The professionalization and training of young people takes place through two paths:

- [Higher Technical Education and Training courses](#) (IFTS): are post-diploma high-level vocational training courses, carried out in synergy between vocational training centers, higher education institutions, companies and universities. The IFTS is the Italian equivalent of post-secondary vocational education, attributable to the 4th level of the European qualifications framework. IFTS courses are aimed at young people and adults, with or without work commitments, in respect of equal opportunities. Access to the IFTS courses is allowed to graduates, as well as those who do not have a secondary school diploma, but prove to have the minimum cultural requirements for access. They are training courses lasting between 800 and 1,200 hours, in two semesters, including

an internship in the company for at least 30% of the hours, supported in a coordinated manner by vocational training bodies, higher education institutions, universities and companies. Finally, the IFTS issue a "higher technical specialization certificate" valid on the Italian territory. The INDIRE institute has the task of monitoring and collecting the data relating to the IFTS courses carried out by the different Regions, for this reason it has created a database in 2000 which makes this information available and available for consultation.

- The [Higher Technical Institutes \(ITS\)](#) are the new "special schools of technology". The ITS represent a new post-secondary training channel parallel to the university. In these courses "superior technicians" are trained in technological areas considered strategic at national level. The courses are carried out, on the proposal of a technical institute or a professional institute, based on a regional planning constituting a foundation of participation with various realities. The courses generally have a duration of 4 semesters for 1800/2000 hours, characterized by teaching in the laboratory and compulsory internships for a fixed amount of hours. The courses are characterized by the fact that most of the teachers come from the world of work and professions. The title awarded is the "Diploma of Senior Technician" diversified by specialization

## Cross-sectoral cooperation

### The organization of active labour policies

The process of reform of employment services in Italy was characterized by two parallel phenomena. On the one hand, the progressive decentralization of skills in terms of organization of Employment Services and active policies. On the other hand, the gradual opening up of the labor market to private operators.

The transfer of competences from the State (which is assigned a coordinating role) to the Regions on the basis of the principle of subsidiarity was started with the [Bassanini Law \(Delegated Law 59/1997\)](#), which was then implemented with [Legislative Decree 469/1997](#).

This second decree has conferred to the regions the functions and tasks related to the placement (such as the placement of some categories of workers or initiatives to increase employment and to stimulate the meeting between demand and supply of labor) and in the matter of active labor policy (PAL), in particular the planning and coordination of the services provided.

The Ministry of Labor, in addition to the tasks described above, is responsible, first of all, for establishing and verifying compliance with the essential performance levels (Lep) of active policies for work to be guaranteed throughout the national territory.

It has the task of defining a [Three-year plan for the planning of active labor policies](#) and an [Annual plan for setting the objectives for the period relating to the "reduction of the average duration of unemployment, service times, the intermediation quota between demand and supply of work"](#), identifying the result indicators on the basis of which to measure the performance of the operators of the national network of employment services (see above).

The activities must be aimed at reducing the average duration of unemployment and, to this end, the times within which they will have to intervene in favor of the user and the minimum intermediation quota to guarantee will be identified.

The main actor of the network of active policies for work at national level is represented by the new [National Agency for Active Labor Policies \(ANPAL\)](#), with functions of "management coordination" of policies entrusted to other subjects of the Network.

The ANPAL is entrusted with the creation (in cooperation with the Ministry, Regions, Inps and Inaap) of the "unified information system of labor policies" (SIUL), composed of a national coordination node and regional nodes, as well as the "single portal for registration on the national network of services for labor policies", through which citizens access the same network.

The [National Agency for Active Labor Policies](#) has established and manages a «National register of training institutions accredited by the regions and autonomous provinces», to which the Regions will have to provide the related data.

As well as the "National Directory of Employment Incentives", consisting of a series of monitoring information previously communicated by the Regions in the process of introducing incentives.

The National Agency is also called upon to verify the achievement of the result indicators set by the Ministry, also in order to propose, based on the results of the monitoring and evaluation activity itself, the appropriate target changes and result indicators set by the Ministry.

[Legislative Decree 150/2015](#) provides for the stipulation between the Ministry and individual Regions of an agreement aimed at regulating the relative relationships and obligations in relation to the management of employment services and active employment policies in the territory. In this way a variable geometry network is proposed, differentiated by negotiation.

The Regions are responsible for providing the Services at work. In particular, it is established that these provide the service in-house, ie through its own Employment Centers.

Or they can turn to the private operators market for a wide range of these activities, creating a service model based on the creation of a public-private partnership, through the regional accreditation tool.

## 3.3 Skills forecasting

### Forecasting systems

The [Excelsior Information System](#), created by Unioncamere and the ANPAL, has been one of the major sources available in Italy on labor market and training issues since 1997 and is included among the official surveys with response obligations provided by the [National Statistical Program](#) (SISTAN).

The data collected provide an up-to-date, systematic and reliable knowledge of the size and territorial, dimensional and economic activity of the job demand expressed by the companies, as well as of the main characteristics of the professional figures required (level of education, age, experience, difficulty of retrieval, need for further training, skills).

The system provides for monthly surveys of private companies using the CAWI (Computer Assisted Web Interviewing) detection technique. The sample data are appropriately integrated into a specific forecasting model that values, in a historical series, the data obtained from administrative sources on employment such as the EMens systems (information on insurance at work), INPS (on social security contributions) and Centers for employment (from the newly hired and job seekers) linked to the Business Register.

The concurrent legislative competence in matters of labor policies between the Government and the Regions has allowed the development, in regional territorial administrations, of analysis institutes and Observatories on the local labor market. These study centers have developed their own information systems, with specific forecasting models and historical data series, aimed at analyzing the needs of local businesses in relation to the skills sought and necessary for the evolution of production activities.

### Skills development

The Europe 2020 strategy places the development of knowledge, skills and competences as a prerequisite for economic growth and employment, in order to improve entry and progression in the labor market, facilitate transitions between work and learning phases, promote geographical and professional mobility.

Enhancing the skills acquired through each learning, even those that take place outside the places traditionally assigned to this (school and university), is a very important topic.

This is a process that can support the competitiveness of the system and the flexibility of work paths, facilitate re-entry into training through the mechanism of training credits and facilitate geographical and professional mobility.

At national level there are two institutional subjects, the Ministry of Labor and the Ministry of Education. At the local level all the Regions are involved, based on the exclusive legislative competence in matters of training and professional education.

The Government has been committed since 2012 in defining its own national framework and in this perspective and has built a system of recognition, validation and certification of competences that allows citizens to be able to exploit and spend their skills acquired in a specific geographical context, in the European labor market and in education and training systems.

The national system of certification of competences is provided for by the art. 4 (paragraph 58) of Law 92/2012 which delegates the Government to the definition of general rules and essential levels of services for the identification and validation of learning acquired in non-formal and informal contexts, with reference to the national system for the certification of skills and establishes the criteria and guiding principles.

National legislation on skills development:

- [Law 92/2012](#) provisions on labor market reform in a growth perspective, with reference to art. 4 paragraph 58 (to paragraphs from 51 to 61 and from 64 to 68, relating to lifelong learning).
- [Legislative Decree 167/2011](#) the national law of the apprenticeship, with reference to Article 6;
- [Legislative Decree 13/2013](#), definition of general rules and essential levels of services for the identification and validation of non-formal and informal learning and the minimum service standards of the national system of certification of competences, pursuant to Article 4, paragraphs 58 and 68, of the law of 28 June 2012, n. ninety two;
- [Law 4/2013](#), provisions concerning unorganized professions;
- [Interministerial Decree of 13 February 2013](#) transposing the [State - Regions Agreement 252/2012](#) on referencing the Italian qualification system to EQF;
- [Legislative Decree 81/2015](#), organic regulation of employment contracts and revision of the legislation on duties, pursuant to article 1, paragraph 7, of the law of 10 December 2014, n. 183, with reference to Chapter V Apprenticeship;
- [Ministerial Decree 30 June 2015](#), definition of an operational framework for the recognition at the national level of regional qualifications and related competences, within the national Directory of education and training titles and professional qualifications referred to in Article 8 of the Legislative Decree 16 January 2013, n. 13;
- [Agreement 86/2017](#), agreement between the Government, the Regions and Autonomous Provinces of Trento and Bolzano on the document entitled "Guidelines on the subject of training and orientation", pursuant to article 1, paragraphs 34 to 36 of the law June 28, 2012, n. ninety two;
- [Ministerial Decree of 8 January 2018](#), establishment of the National Qualifications Framework issued within the framework of the National System for the certification of competences pursuant to Legislative Decree 16 January 2013, No. 13;

The rules described above have initiated a systemic and regulatory reform process by providing a set of provisions for lifelong learning, including the definition of a national system for the certification of skills and validation of non-formal and informal learning.

The themes of the validation of non-formal and informal learning and of the national system for the certification of competences are identified, as two fundamental elements to ensure and realize lifelong learning in relation to maintaining the employability of citizens.

With the [interministerial decree concerning the definition of an operational framework for the recognition at national level of regional qualifications](#), the Ministry of Labor, in agreement with the Ministry of Education and University, have taken note of the set of rules and procedures that the Regions have defined, in order to make valid and validated skills and qualifications available and exploitable throughout Italy.

In particular, this Decree, with the relative technical annexes, contains the following definition of the processes:

- The validation of competences is a process that allows access to qualifications (understood as aggregates of competences or individual competences) through a reconstruction and evaluation of formal, non-formal and informal learning. This opportunity is an integral part of the skills certification system. Therefore the identification, validation and certification of the competences acquired in non-formal and informal contexts must be understood as an alternative way to the formal one to obtain the qualifications (intended as aggregates of competences or single competences). The qualifications obtained through validation are potentially accessible even in a formal context and vice versa.
- The certification of competences is defined, instead, as the procedure and final act of release of the qualifications (intended as aggregates of competences or single competences). The certificate of certification always has the value of a third party or is issued on the responsibility of the Entity holder with the support of those who carry out the service as an authorized body. The certification, if it refers to non-formal and informal learning, normally follows the identification and validation process, except in cases where this is not considered appropriate due to lack of conditions or actual need by the concerned citizen.

The [national directory of education and training titles and professional qualifications](#) is established, and becomes the unitary reference framework for the certification of skills in Italy.

Furthermore, the process of identifying and validating non-formal and informal learning skills, the nature, type and format of the certificates that can be released, the professional and operational functions connected to each step and the minimum standards that characterize the evaluation processes are also defined.

Finally, the Decree of 8 January 2018, relating to the establishment of the National Qualification Framework (NQF), in response to the European Recommendation on the European Qualification Framework (EQF).

The decree unequivocally defines for our country a series of descriptors for the 8 levels of the Qualifications, identifying which type of knowledge, skills and autonomy / responsibility are attributable to each level.

Furthermore, the NQF Decree structures the procedures for referencing qualifications to the Framework through the National EQF Coordination Point set up at the ANPAL (National Agency for Active Labor Policies) and with the independent evaluation of Inapp.

The [national directory of education and training titles and professional qualifications](#) has given life to the [Atlante del Lavoro e delle Qualificazioni](#), and is the result of research-intervention work conducted by INAPP (ex Isfol) starting in 2013, in support of the Technical Competence Group consisting of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, Ministry of Education, University and Research, Coordination of Regions and Regions, with the technical assistance of the Technostructure of the Regions.

The [Atlante del Lavoro e delle Qualificazioni](#) is, therefore, the result of an intense collaboration and participation of various institutional subjects, and has seen in different phases the involvement and participation of the employers and trade unions, bilateral representations, professional associations, sectorial experts and work system stakeholders -learning.

The Atlas connects the labor market with national and regional learning systems through the use of the universal language represented by work activities.

- It is useful for:
- The transparency and reorganization of the qualification system issued in Italy;
- National recognition of regional qualifications and the identification of potential equivalences;
- The recognition of educational credits / debts towards formal learning paths;
- Support for the validation and certification of skills acquired in non-formal and informal learning contexts;
- Orientation to work, also with a view to profiling services and skills assessment;
- Il supporto alla progettazione, valutazione e certificazione, di percorsi di apprendimento (formazione professionale, iniziale e continua, alternanza scuola - lavoro, ora denominata "Percorsi per le competenze trasversali e per l'orientamento" di cui al decreto legislativo 77/2005, per effetto della [Legge 145/2018, art. 1, comma 784](#), che ha modificato il nome dell'istituto);
- Support for planning, evaluation and certification of learning paths (initial and continuing vocational training, school-work alternation, now called "Paths for transversal skills and orientation" as per legislative decree 77/2005, for effect of [Legge 145/2018, art. 1, comma 784](#), which modified the name of the institution);
- The programming of the public training offer;
- Support for the definition of policies in the field of active labor policies both nationally and nationally;

Support for the alignment of production needs expressed by the business system and the labor market with the offer of skills in the qualification systems;

Research based on the evaluation of the supply systems, the analysis of technological innovation and the evolution of skills in the demand for labor;

The [Atlante del Lavoro e delle Qualificazioni](#) is a detailed map of work and qualifications, described according to a common language shared between the institutions. Inside there are various information tools, each with a specific purpose and use.

It is organized in three sections:

- [Work Atlas](#) which describes the contents of the work in 24 professional economic sectors following a scheme that identifies work processes, process sequences, areas of activity (ADA) and specific activities for each sector.
- [Atlas and professions](#) which collects the regulated professions (Directive 2005/36 / EC and subsequent additions), the Repertoire of apprenticeship professions (consisting of all the profiles present in the National Collective Labor Agreements related to the professionalizing apprenticeship), the Associations professionals (Law 4/2013) that bring together the professions not organized into orders or colleges.
- [Atlas and qualifications](#) that collect the qualifications awarded in the various areas of the lifelong learning system in the same framework: School, Vocational Education and Training, Higher Education and Regional Vocational Training.

In 2019, further important measures were taken to address the skills issues. For example, the Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) has created a network of

organizations for [lifelong learning](#), which should lead to the creation of a national plan for adult skills.

The territorial networks for lifelong learning ensure:

- Support for the construction by people of their own formal, non-formal and informal learning paths;
- The recognition of educational credits;
- Certification of any learning acquired;
- The use of guidance services throughout the course of life.

Finally, the last decisions of the Government to enhance the system of competences should be noted:

- the [Budget Law 2019, L.145/2018](#), allocated one billion euros for the reform of employment centers, which will be used to increase human resources by 125% and improve processes;
- the [National Industry 4.0 Plan](#), which the [Ministry of Economic Development](#) (MiSE) has developed to launch a series of organic and complementary measures in order to encourage investment for innovation, competitiveness and the development of skills in support of the fourth revolution industrial.

## 3.4 Career guidance and counselling

### Career guidance and counselling services

The recent reforms of employment services, by [Legislative decree 150/2015](#), design and re-evaluate the function of employment centers (CPIs). The centers have a pivotal role in the management of labor policies, focusing on the strengthening of conditionality, on the stipulation of the personalized service agreement, on the qualitative profiling of users, on standard services and measures, on measurable and accountable outputs, on a network broader territorial that involves the educational training system.

This new model is characterized by a strong integration between education, training and work and for a greater connection with the production system implemented through the Information System on Work (SIUL) for the management of the regional network of employment centers and also for the monitoring of the characteristics of the users, of the active policy actions undertaken, of the services provided.

This new model of employment services and policies, and specifically the guidance model, has enabled the [Youth Guarantee Program](#) to be included in the extensive national and regional network.

The current framework of employment services retains a strong regional peculiarity. The Regions, through the Regional Agencies or through governance models based on a network of accredited subjects, are holders of the territorial articulation of services and the implementation of labor policies in the respective local systems, and ensuring compliance with the essential levels of performance defined at national level.

The system is structured as follows:

- The Employment Centers are public structures which, on the mandate of the Regions and Provinces, favor the meeting between the demand and supply of work in the territory, informing, orienting and giving free advice to those who are looking for a job. They also carry out administrative activities such as enrollment on mobility lists and lists and rankings of protected categories, registration of recruitment, transformation and termination of employment relationships with private companies and public bodies.
- Employment Agencies are private structures (partnerships, corporations, and cooperatives) authorized by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies to offer services

related to labor supply and demand. They deal with: research and selection of personnel, intermediation between demand and supply of labor, supply of labor to companies.

Based on the type of activities for which they have been authorized, they are divided into Agencies of:

- Job administration (somministrazione di lavoro): of a generalist type (when they provide temporary and indefinite labor) and of a specialist type (when they perform permanent administration activities exclusively for the permitted activities);
- intermediation: they carry out mediation between work supply and demand, and deal with: collection of curricula, preselection, promotion and management of the meeting between supply and demand, training;
- search and selection of workers;
- support for professional relocation.

Employment agencies are present throughout the national territory and must be registered in the IT Register to operate. The other authorized operators can carry out intermediation activities (eg public and private universities, educational and training institutions of upper secondary education (limited to their own students), Municipalities, Chambers of Commerce, employers' associations and trade unions, bilateral institutions and Patronati, Onlus that have as their purpose the protection of work, the assistance and promotion of entrepreneurial activities and the protection of disability, Training Institutions Labor Consultants, Internet site Managers, Enpals).

One of the elements that allowed the reorganization of the employment services, with the aim of increasing the quality and interoperability of labor policies was the creation of the Unitary Information System (SIU), which consists of a coordination node national and regional coordination nodes, as well as the single portal for registration to the national network of services for labor policies ([Article 13, paragraph 4, Legislative Decree 150/2015](#)).

The Portal is the access to the Services for the job, as well as the site for having information and basic services at a distance (orientation and basic training). At the same time, it can provide unitary tools to the Employment Services operators.

- Specifically, online activities are intended to provide the citizen with the possibility: declare the immediate availability (DID) to carry out a training or work activity and to schedule a meeting with the Employment Center;
- the operator of the CPI, has the possibility of manage the DID (confirmation / rejection, suspension and forfeiture), whether it comes from a direct request by the young person, or if it comes from the INPS portal, and manage all the information (curriculum, work experience and profiling) necessary to offer the citizen a personalized service agreement, thus lightening the workload at the counter.

The main goal is to combat youth unemployment by strengthening the Youth Guarantee, whose implementation takes place in institutional cooperation between:

- ANPAL through the inclusion in the Partnership Agreement of a National Operational Program dedicated to its ownership: PON Youth Employment Initiative (PON IOG);
- Regions / PA Trento through the involvement as Intermediate Bodies of the PON IOG and through the implementation of complementary actions funded within their own ESF ROPs and with regional resources.

In synergy with the [2013 European Recommendation](#), Italy guarantees young people under the age of 30 a valid qualitative work offer, continuation of studies, apprenticeship or internship, within 4 months of starting unemployment or leaving the formal education system.

A young person between the ages of 15 and 29, resident in Italy - EU citizen or non-EU foreigner, legally resident - not engaged in a work activity, nor included in a school or training course, can be helped to enter the Youth through the Youth Guarantee world of work, enhancing the attitudes and educational and professional background through an [orientation path](#).

Programs, initiatives, information services, personalized paths, incentives: these are the measures envisaged at national and regional level to offer opportunities for guidance, training and job placement, in a perspective of collaboration between all the public and private actors involved.

In order to appropriately establish the level and characteristics of the services provided and increase their effectiveness, it was decided to introduce a profiling system that takes into account the distance from the labor market, with a view to customizing the actions provided: a series of variables, territorial, demographic, family and individual profile the young allowing it to regulate the measure of the action in his favor.

As part of the [Youth Employment initiative](#), which Italy will continue until the end of the 2014-2020 programming period, the initiatives to combat the "NEET" phenomenon will continue through the implementation of the Youth Guarantee measures, which also includes an additional axis of intervention, Asse 1bis, with a financial envelope of over 497 million euros, made up exclusively of European Social Fund resources.

These are the measures of the Youth Guarantee:

- Hospitality;
- Orientation;
- NEET disadvantaged interception;
- Training;
- Recruitment and training;
- Accompaniment at work;
- Apprenticeship;
- Internships;
- Extracurricular training in geographical mobility;
- Civil service;
- National civil service in the European Union;
- Support for self-employment;
- Professional mobility within the national territory or in EU countries;
- Employment Incentive NEET 2018-1019.

## Funding

There are several sources of funding at national and regional level that provide savings for career guidance and counseling as described above. The financial resources of the European Social Fund (ESF) are also used. It is not possible to provide a single number here as the funding comes from different sources and ministries.

Supporting the information, it is reported as general economic documentation:

- [Nota integrativa legge bilancio triennio 2019-2021](#), Explanatory notes to the three-year budget law 2019-2021;
- [Documenti relativi al Programma Garanzia Giovani](#) Documents relating to the Youth Guarantee Program.

## Quality assurance

As part of its institutional prerogatives, the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies carries out an [Statistical analysis on the labor market, social security and social protection](#).

ANPAL has recently published the [first annual report](#) on active policies in Italy, born from the joint work of ANPAL, the Regions and the Autonomous Provinces that make up the Subgroup "[Analysis of Active Policies and methodology development](#)".

The Sub-group is a forum for discussion and sharing on active policy monitoring systems implemented at regional level, also with reference to the timing of release, publication and dissemination of data, as well as to the statistical methods applied for data analysis and for the construction of tools used in the various territorial contexts.

The Youth Guarantee Program periodically publishes [reports and analyzes](#) on its activities.

## 3.5 Traineeships and apprenticeships

### Official guidelines on traineeships and apprenticeships

There are many and diversified formulas for the insertion in the company of young people, who normally also include simultaneous training in the job task.

The offer of traineeships and apprenticeships is one of the measures included in the national strategy to combat youth unemployment and NEETs. The promotion of internships and apprenticeships has the strategy of promoting participation and is strongly activated at the local level and has as main actors: the regions, local administrations and accredited bodies together with companies.

Many training programs that combine practical experience in a company with more theoretical education are offered to young people, who can opt for work / study courses or internships depending on their qualifications, diplomas and career choices. These programs, which enable the acquisition of professional attitudes and skills together with theoretical knowledge, allow young people to integrate the world of work more quickly.

### The dual system

The [dual system](#) is an integrated training model between school and work which, by creating an ongoing and coherent relationship between the education, professional training and work systems, aims to reduce the skills gap between educational institutions and the company with the ultimate goal to reduce early school leaving and youth unemployment and to facilitate the entry of young people into work.

Important changes were introduced to implement the legislative decrees [81/2015](#) and [150/2015](#) which point to:

- relaunching first and third level apprenticeships;
- reduce early school leaving;
- expand the training offer;
- strengthen, in general, the school-work transition by supporting the connection between school and work.

In the field of vocational training, [the agreement of 24 September 2015](#) introduced a trial that intends to strengthen the dual system. The Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, through ANPAL Servizi, has selected 300 vocational training centers are carrying out this experimentation, which allows young people enrolled in education and vocational training courses to obtain a professional qualification and / or diploma through courses provide for an effective alternation between training and work.

The tools with which the dual system operates in Italy are:

1. Professional education and training (IeFP): in Italy education is compulsory up to the age of 16 and is completed with the "right to education and training" aimed at achieving an upper secondary education qualification or a professional qualification lasting at least three years within the age of 18; the right can be discharged in upper secondary education (high schools, professional institutes, technical institutes) or in vocational education and training, carried out at the vocational training centers accredited by the regions or, where provided, at the State professional institutes. The courses can be three-year, for the professional qualification, or four-year courses, for the diploma;
2. the alternation between school and work, obligatory in every educational institution and type of course, is a didactic methodology introduced in the educational system with the aim of enriching the paths of the second cycle with skills that can be spent in the labor market (now called "paths for the transversal competences and for the orientation" of which to the legislative decree 77/2005, for effect of the [Law 145/2018, art. 1, comma 784](#);
3. The simulated training company is one of the ways of carrying out school-work alternation, implemented by setting up a virtual company animated by the students, which carries out a market activity on the net (e-commerce) and refers to a real company (tutor company or godmother) that constitutes the reference model to be emulated in every phase or business life cycle;
4. Apprenticeship is the privileged form of insertion of young people in the labor market since it allows, on the one hand, the attainment of a degree and on the other hand, to develop a direct professional experience. The apprenticeship reform carried out by the Jobs Act (Legislative Decree 81/2015) provides that children aged 15 to 25 can achieve any upper secondary level qualifications, including IVET qualifications and diplomas, through an apprenticeship contract. To encourage the use of apprenticeships, the Jobs Act has introduced substantial advantages for employers in terms of contribution and the remuneration of apprentices and, for young people, the opportunity to train and acquire skills in the context of a work contract indefinitely.

## Promoting traineeships and apprenticeships

The traineeship is a period of orientation and training carried out in a work context and aimed at the inclusion of young people in the world of work. It is not considered an employment relationship.

Although not constituting a working relationship, extracurricular traineeships are governed by a [specific law](#) and by specific [Guidelines of traineeships](#) and all are subject to the obligation of mandatory communication to the Center for exploitation by the host.

A monthly participation allowance is recognized, the amount of which is defined by the individual Regions or Autonomous Province. The contribution will be higher if the traineeship takes place outside the area of residence, by a voucher calculated on the basis of the current EC tables of the mobility programs.

There are two types of traineeships:

- curricular traineeships, aimed at young people who follow an education or training course and aim to integrate learning with a work experience. This type of internship is governed by institute or university regulations and is promoted by accredited schools, universities or training institutions;
- extracurricular traineeships: aimed at facilitating professional choices thanks to a period of training in a productive environment and therefore to direct knowledge of the world of work. This type of internship is governed by the Regions and Autonomous Provinces, while at the national level common minimum standards are defined.

It is possible to activate Traineeships in national and transnational geographical mobility with the aim of encouraging an educational and professional experience outside the region or abroad. The aim is to strengthen their curriculum and put themselves in direct contact with the most dynamic territories and labor markets capable of offering greater employment opportunities.

A [Trainee Manual](#) was published as a practical guide to extracurricular training.

The common minimum standards to be followed are contained in the Guidelines on internships that define the minimum quality levels of the internship and ensure equal treatment and homogeneous levels of protection throughout the national territory.

To activate an internship, an agreement is required between a promoter (university, high school, employment agency, training center, etc.) and a host (company, professional firm, cooperative, public body, etc.), accompanied by from a training plan.

The promoter and the host organization appoint a tutor each. The tutors are the figures that help the trainee to draw up the training plan, fit into the new context, define the organizational and educational conditions. They also monitoring the training path and attest to the activity carried out.

As part of the national Youth Guarantee program, extracurricular internships for orientation, insertion or reintegration and internships in national and transnational geographical mobility, or in a Region other than that of residence or abroad, can be promoted.

The apprenticeship is a permanent employment contract for the training and employment of young people, with [dedicated legislation](#). It is one of the key instruments of the Italian dual system and is one of the measures envisaged by the [Youth Guarantee program](#).

By virtue of its nature, partly work-related and partly formative, it is considered the most suitable contractual instrument to favor the insertion of young people between 15 and 29 in the world of work.

It is divided into three different types:

- [apprenticeship for the qualification and the professional diploma](#), the diploma of upper secondary education and the certificate of higher technical specialization, for young people from 15 to 25 years old, aimed at achieving one of the aforementioned qualifications in the workplace;
- [professionalizing apprenticeship](#) for young people from 18 to 29 years old, aimed at learning a trade or attaining a professional qualification;
- [apprenticeship in higher education and research](#) for young people aged 18 to 29 years, aimed at obtaining university and higher education qualifications, including research doctorates, diplomas of the paths of the higher technical institutes, for research activities and for the practicum for access to professions with professional orders.

Private companies that take on an apprenticeship contract can benefit from numerous concessions, such as:

- the subsidized contribution equal to 10% of the salary for companies with more than 9 employees;
- total relief for those with less than 9 employees;
- the deductibility of expenses and contributions from the Irap tax base;
- the cutting of the apprentices' labor costs, operated either through an under-management of two levels, or a percentage of remuneration exemption on the ordinary salary;
- for the two dual apprenticeships, or rather those aimed at the acquisition of qualifications and qualifications from the educational system (types 1 and 3), the

apprentice's remuneration no longer includes the external training schedule, while internal training is paid at 10%.

To avoid abusive use of the professionalizing apprenticeship contract, companies with more than 50 employees, in order to hire new apprentices, must confirm at least 20% of the apprentices hired in the last three years in service at the end of the training.

The minimum duration of the apprenticeship contract is 6 months. The level of contractual classification of the young person cannot be lower by two levels than that of the worker who carries out his own job.

At the end of the training period, the company will decide whether to continue the employment relationship or withdraw, providing the notice in accordance with the terms established by the collective agreement.

The apprenticeship contract has been the subject of [many legislative interventions](#): the last, in chronological order, is [Legislative Decree 81/2015](#), for the creation of a dual system that integrates education, training and work, above all thanks to the two types of apprenticeship for the acquisition of qualifications and qualifications from the educational system.

[The interministerial decree of 10/12/2015](#) then defined a unified framework of training standards and criteria for the realization of dual paths.

Young people can find information on career opportunities available to them using the dedicated online portals: [Youth Guarantee](#), [ClicLavoro](#) or use career counseling services provided by regional employment centers or accredited bodies.

The Italian Government, in order to combat youth unemployment, has launched the [National Youth Guarantee Plan](#).

The offer of traineeships and apprenticeships is one of the measures included in the strategy to combat youth unemployment and encourage the activation of NEETs. Each Region, in agreement with the Government, has therefore defined its own strategy. The promotion of traineeships and apprenticeships has the strategy of promoting participation of young people and is strongly activated at the local level and has as main actors: the regions, local administrations and accredited bodies together with companies.

## **Recognition of learning outcomes**

At the end of the traineeship based on the Training Plan (PFI) and the individual Dossier, a final certificate is issued to the Trainee, signed by the promoter and the host. This certification indicates and documents the activities actually carried out with reference to the areas of activity contained in the classification of the professional Sectors, Interministerial Decree 30/6/2015, and therefore facilitates the subsequent readability and usability of the learning gained.

In order to issue the final Certificate, the trainee must have participated at least 70% of the duration foreseen in the training plan.

Both the dossier and the final certificate constitute useful documentation in the context of the services for identifying, validating and certifying the skills acquired, with specific respect for the competences included in the [national directory of education and training titles and professional qualifications](#).

In the apprenticeship contract, regardless of the type used, it must always be accompanied by the individual training plan (PFI), or by a document in which the training path that the apprentice must follow must be identified, in addition to the methods through which the same will be implemented during the employment relationship.

Precisely for this reason, the employer is required to pay, as compensation, not only the remuneration, but also the training necessary for the acquisition of professional skills or the requalification of a professionalism.

The individual training plan, which is an integral part of the contract, can be indicated in summary form, possibly also by using forms and forms prepared by collective bargaining or by bilateral bodies.

In order to harmonize the professional qualifications acquired through the different types of apprenticeships and to allow a correlation between training standards and professional standards, the legislator has provided for the respect of the forms of competences included in the [national directory of education and training titles and professional qualifications](#).

## Funding

The Ministry of Labor and Social Policies manages the National Operational Program (PON) [Youth Employment Initiative](#), through which the Youth Guarantee initiative is implemented in Italy.

The sources of funding and the exact amount of dedicated economic resources are indicated in the three-year [National Plan for the programming of Active Labor Policies](#).

Young people under 30 must be guaranteed an offer of qualitatively valid work, continuation of studies, apprenticeship or internship, within 4 months from the beginning of unemployment or leaving the formal education system.

The specific measures foreseen by the Program are: reception, orientation, training, work support, apprenticeship, traineeship, civil service, support for self-employment, professional mobility within the national territory or in EU countries, employment bonuses for businesses; distance education.

The program is implemented through the Regions, which play the role of intermediate bodies.

With the help of the European Social Fund in Italy in the 2014-2020 funding period the programs supported will include those that help to safeguard and improve the supply of skilled workers, those that promote the inclusion of NEETs, entrepreneurship and start-ups and those aimed at improving the balance between professional life and private life and educational levels.

The Regions establish the resources destined to the activation of the internships and the modalities of disbursement of the participation allowance.

## Dedicated incentives

[The Growth Decree](#) (Legislative Decree April 30, 2019, No. 34 converted into law with amendments by Law June 28, 2019, No. 58), provided for an incentive with a dual purpose: to enhance the learning of the professional skills required by the labor market and to favor the integration of young people into the world of work.

In detail, the incentive concerns those who have donations of at least € 10,000 over a year for the creation, requalification and modernization of professional laboratories in favor of secondary schools of second grade with educational paths technical or vocational education (also with an agricultural orientation) and who, at the end of their school cycle, take young graduates from the same educational institutions with permanent contracts.

The recognized benefit takes the form of a partial contribution exemption (with the exclusion of the premiums and contributions due to INAIL) for a maximum period of twelve months. It is effective from the financial year 2021; in particular 3 million euros are allocated for the year 2021 and 6 million euros per year starting from the year 2022.

Furthermore, the 2019 incentive reserved for recruitment of members of the Youth Guarantee Program is also confirmed. This is an exemption from the payment of social security contributions, with the exception of the INAIL premiums and contributions, paid by the employer, for a period of 12 months, for a maximum of € 8,060 per year. The incentive relates to hiring with a permanent contract (also for the purpose of administration) and with a vocational apprenticeship.

## Quality assurance

The application of the rules resulting from the guidelines of the internship is subject to monitoring by the administrations in charge, also through the mandatory communications of employment contracts.

Through [the Guidelines](#) the supervisory activity carried out by the Regions is supported, through the protocols signed together with the territorial offices of the National Labor Inspectorate. Furthermore, the regions undertake to adopt a specific sanctioning system that is a deterrent to a distorted use of this training tool.

In addition to the penalties already provided for failure to send the mandatory communications of the contracts or for non-payment of the indemnity, different penalties have been introduced for:

- non-remediable violations punished with the notice of the termination of the internship and the interdiction for twelve months against the promoter and the host from the activation of new internships;
- curable violations for which the aforementioned sanctions are imposed only in the event of failure to accept the invitation to regularization.

For apprenticeship contracts, in addition to the protection of the salary guarantee (the prohibition of piecework remuneration and the introduction of limits to the possibility of classification), and always with a view to protecting the worker, there are social security protections concerning accidents at work and occupational diseases, sickness, disability and old age, maternity and family allowance. The apprentice also falls within the scope of the New Social Insurance for Employment.

If the training obligations are not respected, an economic sanction is imposed on the employer, who will have to pay the difference between the contribution paid and the amount due, with reference to the level of the upper contractual framework that would have been reached by the worker at the end of the apprenticeship period, increased by 100 percent.

ANPAL, published in 2019 the first "[Joint annual report on active labor policies in Italy](#)" that arises from the work of ANPAL, the Regions and Autonomous Provinces that make up the Subgroup "Analysis of Active Policies and Development of Methodologies", established in within the Active Labor Policies Committee with Decree of the DG Anpal n. 428 of 12/21/2017.

In 2018 the report was published by ANPAL: [Young people guaranteeing results compared and novelties](#), as an annual information activity for the National Operational Program ESF and the "Youth Employment Initiative", in the document the status of implementation of the Program is analyzed through the indicators of physical and financial monitoring.

In 2019 Anpal published the second "[Rating Report on Youth Guarantee](#)", the report presents the results of the research activity conducted by ANPAL, as foreseen by the Evaluation Plan of the National Operational Program Youth Employment Initiative (Pon Iog). The report, located three years after the previous [report of 2015](#), proposes an analysis of the implementation of the program and progress towards policy objectives.

## 3.6 Integration of young people in the labour market

### Youth employment measures

Employment, especially youth employment, was encouraged both through the provision of tax relief for new hires, and through the implementation of the European Youth Guarantee Program (aimed to contrast the phenomenon of youth unemployment through the implementation of measures aimed at to encourage the training and integration into the labor market of young people up to the age of 29).

[Incentives](#) to employment are the normative or economic benefits granted to employers for the recruitment of specific categories of people, even young people, and to certain types of subjects for starting a new business.

The Anpal publishes the [National Repertoire of the incentives](#) granted to employers in relation to the hiring of specific categories of workers (Article 30 of Legislative Decree No. 150/2015).

Another [incentives database](#) is that created by the [Ministry of Economic Development and the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies](#).

The Growth Decree (**Decreto Crescita**, Legislative Decree April 30, 2019, No. 34 converted into law with amendments by Law June 28, 2019, No. 58) provided for an incentive with a dual purpose: to enhance the learning of the professional skills required by the labor market and to favor the integration of young people into the labor market. In detail, the incentive concerns those who have donations for at least € 10,000 over a year, for the creation, requalification and modernization of professional laboratories in favor of secondary schools of second grade and which take on permanent graduates from the same schools.

The eligible actions are: professionalizing laboratories for the development of skills; laboratories and innovative learning environments for the use of technologies; digital and innovative environments for integrated teaching; hardware and software equipment and devices for teaching.

The recognized benefit takes the form of a partial contribution exemption (with the exclusion of the premiums and contributions due to INAIL) for a maximum period of twelve months. It is effective from the financial year 2021. In particular, 3 million euros are allocated for the year 2021 and 6 million euros per year starting from the year 2022.

### **European program Garanzia giovani (Youth guarantee)**

In Italy, some of the objectives of the Youth Guarantee have already been anticipated.

The total funding amounts to € 1,513 million, of which € 1,135 million funded at European level (half from the European Youth Employment Initiative program and the other half from the European Social Fund (ESF 2014-2020) and the remaining € 378 million national co-financing); the Plan involves the entire national territory, with the exception of the Province of Bolzano (the only one with a youth unemployment rate below 25%). Please note that the Italian Government has extended the Guarantee to young people up to 29 years old.

The incentive reserved for recruitment of members of the [Youth Guarantee Program](#) is also confirmed for 2019. This is an exemption from the payment of social security contributions, with the exception of the INAIL premiums and contributions, paid by the employer, for a period of 12 months, for a maximum of € 8,060 per year.

The incentive relates to hiring with a permanent contract (also for the purpose of administration) and with a vocational apprenticeship.

The ANPAL Decree of December 28, 2018 established how the bonus can be used by February 28, 2021, with reference to the assumptions made from January 1 to December 31, 2019. The operating methods are illustrated in circular [INPS n.54 / 2019](#).

### **Flexicurity measures**

The Government, regulating the internal labor market, has introduced, over the years, various [flexicurity measures](#) and, more specifically, systems that allow a simpler professional transition also through professional courses, which, although not all specifically aimed at young people, are anyway open to them too.

Young people have the right to claim a [monthly unemployment benefit](#) (NASPI), [the Dis.Coll.](#) (monthly unemployment allowance for coordinated and continuous collaborators (Co.Co.Co.), even on a project basis (Co.Co.Pro.), who have involuntarily lost their

employment), depending on the work contract and whether they meet the relevant requirements, or can access to [other measures](#). The right to indemnity obliges the recipients to get in touch with the Employment Centers and activate the path of employment services aimed to reintegrating them, also through professional courses, into the labor market.

From the age of 18 they also have the right to receive, the so-called active policy instrument, [Reddito di Cittadinanza](#), a new measure of active labor policy and combating poverty, inequality and social exclusion. It has a double meaning: it is an economic support for the integration of family incomes and an active policy measure also considering the involvement of services for work. The Citizenship Income, if the young person is able to work, is associated with a training, work and social reintegration pathway, through the signing of a Labor Pact or a Pact for social inclusion at the Employment Centers . As established by the D.L. 4/2019, citizens can apply for it starting from 6 March 2019, obliging themselves to follow a personalized path of job placement and social inclusion.

Through the Youth Guarantee Program, young people have the right to financial support for their professional training: the [relocation allowance](#) (ADR). The check is a tool that helps people improve their chances of replacing themselves in the labor market and consists of an amount to be used by those who provide personalized intensive care services for finding employment (employment centers or accredited bodies for employment services), which they intend to follow provided they meet the relevant requirements.

The [European Globalization Adjustment Fund \(FEG\)](#) was established which supports workers and even self-employed workers who have lost their jobs due to globalization or the economic and financial crisis. The Feg finances personalized active policy measures for work, such as training and retraining, guidance and assistance for job search, promotion of entrepreneurship and assistance to self-employment. They are measures aimed at encouraging the disadvantaged unemployed, young and old, to stay or return to the labor market, as well as some special measures of limited duration (allowances for job search, hiring incentives, compensation for territorial mobility , subsistence or training allowance or salary supplement for those participating in training and lifelong learning activities).

The workers involved, who can be part of a single company or of the same sector affected by the crisis, are contacted directly and informed of the opportunities offered to them by the Feg.

## **Reconciliation of private and working life for young people**

The objective of the balance between work and life has long been present in an apical position and a priority in the planning of Italian politics. National legislation is aimed at promoting effective conciliation and equal opportunities policies, also by rebalancing the distribution between workers and people of all ages, of both sexes, in the role of care and assistance. The matter pertains to the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, the Department of Equal Opportunities, the Department for Family Policies and has produced various regulatory measures.

As part of [national and regional planning](#), financed by the European Social Fund, most of the interventions are planned with a view to removing obstacles for the active participation of the youth component in the labor market: by strengthening care services and through innovative corporate welfare systems..

Many Regions, with the resources of the European Social Fund, have experimented the implementation of territorial gender agreements and networks that, as an innovative tool, aim to create services for conciliation through actions between public and private subjects, with partnerships that in some cases have created innovative welfare models.

The process creates virtuous social mechanisms, in which institutions, civil society and companies become promoters and actuators of concrete and effective responses to the requests present in the territory.

In this same line of experimentation and implementation of "network", the project "[Equality for work and life](#)" is born, EQW & L, coordinated by the National Agency for Active Labor Policies (ANPAL) which, with EaSI-PROGRESS funding and with the national and European partnership aims to create a new model of intervention and a kit of tools that facilitate access to the labor market, also promoting a more active participation of men.

- The proposal intends to act simultaneously on three elements: on the employment services system to propose and test the strategies that the Italian network of employment services can use to support people entering or re-entering in to the labor market and are more vulnerable in relation to their reconciliation needs, than life and work;
- unemployed and / or people looking for a new job to which, through the services of the EQW & L project, the opportunity will be offered to recognize and manage the specific needs of reconciling private and working life;
- Small and medium enterprises and social enterprises, which offer more employment opportunities to women but at the same time have greater difficulties than larger companies or listed companies in the implementation of conciliation policies.

### **Funding of existing schemes/initiatives**

Italy uses its own funds, and those of the [European Social Fund](#) in particular, to increase the employment opportunities of young people, help disadvantaged groups, increase the skills of the workforce, empower national education and training systems and improve administrative capacities and implement the Youth Guarantee program.

Funding are used on the basis of operational programs developed and managed by authorities, to carry out projects entrusted to operators, organizations or companies, public or private, called "beneficiaries". The latter are identified by the managing authorities through public procedures. Managing authorities can be national or regional.

It is useful to keep in mind that in Italy most of the ESF resources are managed by the Regions and the autonomous provinces of Trento and Bolzano, so most of the practical information for accessing the training activities co-financed by the ESF are published on their sites.

### **Quality assurance**

For the analysis, monitoring and evaluation of the quality of active policies and employment services, the National Agency for Active Labor Policies (ANPAL) was established by Legislative Decree 150/2015, with the aim to coordinate the network of services for labor policies, the management of active labor policies, to promote the effectiveness of labor, training and professional elevation rights, through interventions and services that improve market efficiency.

ANPAL, published in 2019 the first "[Joint annual report on active labor policies in Italy](#)" that arises from the work of ANPAL, the Regions and Autonomous Provinces that make up the Subgroup "Analysis of Active Policies and Development of Methodologies", established in within the Active Labor Policies Committee with Decree of the DG Anpal n. 428 of 12/21/2017.

The Subgroup, composed of contacts of Anpal, Anpal Servizi, MIUR, Regions and Autonomous Provinces. was established as a forum for comparison and sharing of active policy monitoring systems implemented at regional level, also with reference to the timing of release, publication and dissemination of data, as well as the statistical methods applied for the analysis of data and for the construction of tools used in the various territorial contexts.

In 2018 the report was published by ANPAL: "[Young people guaranteeing results compared and novelties](#)", as an annual information activity for the National Operational Program ESF and the "Youth Employment Initiative", in the document the status of implementation of the Program is analyzed through the indicators of physical and financial monitoring.

In 2019 Anpal published the second "[Rating Report on Youth Guarantee](#)", the report presents the results of the research activity conducted by ANPAL, as foreseen by the Evaluation Plan of the National Operational Program Youth Employment Initiative (Pon Iog). The report, located three years after the previous [report of 2015](#), proposes an analysis of the implementation of the program and progress towards policy objectives.

## **3.7 Cross-border mobility in employment, entrepreneurship and vocational opportunities**

### **Programmes and schemes for cross-border mobility**

For young people wishing to gain work experience abroad, or even just in another Italian Region, the "[Youth Guarantee Program](#)" encourages the mobility of young workers in Italy and other EU countries through a voucher that covers travel and accommodation costs for 6 months.

The employment centres offer information about:

- job opportunities in Italy and in Europe;
- job search support;
- assistance in hiring practices;

This support for professional mobility is aimed at both young people seeking job opportunities in Europe, and companies interested in hiring staff in other European countries.

In order to facilitate the free movement of workers in the EU, the role of the competent services is very important, such as the EURES Network, the European network of employment services, coordinated by the European Commission, which also involves trade unions and organizations of employers.

The Eures Network in Italy is made up of 64 consultants (Eures advisers) and about 400 referent persons based throughout the national territory, who carry out consulting and placement services: the Eures advisers provide information on the European labour market and encourage the meeting between job supply and demand. They also promote transnational and cross-border cooperation, helping to remove obstacles to mobility such as differences in legislation and administrative procedures between different European countries.

By consulting the [Eures portal](#) with numerous job offers from all over Europe, it is possible to discover the various selection projects promoted by the [Eures Italy network](#).

To help young people in their choices, all the information and advices on the living and working conditions of each individual European country can be consulted in the "[Living and working in Europe](#)" section.

### **The national civic service in the European Union**

Following the new European project dedicated to the European civic service, this measure is carried out in specific areas of intervention and also includes general and linguistic training in institutions and administrations operating in the EU, with the recognition of a flat-rate cost in favour of the young person. The projects can be carried out in collaboration with a host institution of a European Union Country and will have a duration of 12 months, out of which 8 will be spent abroad.

There are also the opportunities offered by the national operational program "[Youth employment initiative \(Pon IOG\)](#)" by ANPAL, the [Stage4eu website and App](#), designed for university students and graduates who intend to gain an internship experience in Europe, the opportunities to transnational mobility for young people offered by the Erasmus + VET program.

## Il progetto European Solidarity Corps – Occupational Strand

The [experimental project](#) was coordinated by ANPAL, EURES Italy National Coordination Office, in partnership with the Giacomo Brodolini Foundation, the EURES Coordination Offices of Spain and Slovenia, Metropolitan City of Rome Capital and Work Capital, DIAN Greece, VOLUM Romania, Time4society Belgium, Chamber of Trade and Industry Bulgaria, DG Immigration and DG Third sector of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, the Eurodesk Italy network, Unioncamere and 18 members of the national EURES network.

It was part of the Occupational Axis of the European Solidarity Corps Community Initiative launched in December 2016 and terminated in 2019. It was aimed at offering job or internship opportunities to young people between 18 and 30 years, for example on NGOs, associations and third sector organizations, local administrations, public and private companies. The European Solidarity Corps programme is now managed by the Italian National Agency for Youth.

## Legal framework

The different regulations of the various national social security systems of the European Union are coordinated by EU legislation, in order to guarantee the protection of the social security rights of migrant workers and the exercise of the right to free movement of European citizens.

The fundamental principles of EU legislation apply to workers moving within the European Community. You can also choose to [start your own business](#) or start a business of any kind, respecting the obligations provided by law.

For EU citizens or non-EU foreigners, legally resident, aged between 15 and 29, resident in Italy, there is also the [Youth Guarantee Program](#), aimed at facilitating their entry into the world of work. Lavorare in Italia "[Working in Italy](#)" is a section of Youth Guarantee, aimed at foreigners who are already in Italy or coming from abroad and want to find employment or start an independent activity. Among foreign workers it is necessary to distinguish EU citizens, coming from one of the 28 Member States of the European Union, from non-EU citizens, who come from other parts of the world.

## The citizens of the European Union

[EU citizens](#) intending to stay in Italy are not subject to the provisions of the Consolidated Immigration Act. On the basis of the principle of free movement and the right of establishment, they can in fact circulate and stay freely in the national territory and carry out any type of activity, whether autonomous or subordinate, by applying the same provisions valid for Italian citizens.

If they reside in Italy for a period longer than 3 months they must, in any case, enroll in the population register (D.Lgs. 30/2007), presenting to the offices of the Municipality where they are living. EU citizens must, declare the place where they live and present, in addition to a valid identity document, the documentation attesting to the employment, subordinate or autonomous, exercised in Italy.

If they are required for study or training purposes, they must present a document certifying enrolment in a course of study and entitlement to health insurance, as well as declaring possession of economic resources for the stay.

Based on the principle of free circulation, EU citizens must have a valid ID and the Italian fiscal code, which can be requested personally from the competent local office by showing their identity document.

[Non-EU citizens or non-EU foreigners](#) are required to apply the rules contained in the Consolidation Act on immigration. The arrival in Italy and the access to work for citizens coming from countries, that do not belong to the European Union, are regulated by the Consolidated Act on Immigration. To enter Italy the citizen of a non EU country must have a passport and, in cases where it is required, an entry visa issued by the Italian embassy

or consulate in the state of origin or in the country where the foreigner has a permanent residence.

The text refers to the State the regulation of entry into Italy to carry out subordinate work or selfemployment. The decree for scheduled entries establishes yearly the entry quotas for work reasons, based on the needs of the production system.

The ILO Convention on the Rights of Migrant Workers and the UN Convention guarantee foreign workers who regularly stay in Italy and their families equal treatment and full equality of rights with respect to Italian workers. Further information and documentation are available on the [Integration of migrants portal](#).

### **Social integration measures**

The Ministry of Labor and Social Policies works on the phenomenon of migration under two aspects: on the work entrances of EU citizens and on the other social integration measures. Italian legislation provides an articulated system of tools and measures aimed at favoring the social integration of immigrants, the application of which is delegated to the Regions and local authorities.

The integration, promoted by the Ministries of Labor and Social Policies, of the Interior and of Education, is based on five basic principles:

- education and learning: the school as a primary place of intervention, with roofs for foreign students in the classrooms to promote integration through language training and knowledge of the Constitution through civic education;
- work, with particular attention to a flow schedule measured with the effective absorption capacity of the workforce; a path, this, which must start already in the countries of origin;
- housing and government of the territory: for the creation of a social pact in compliance with the rules of civil coexistence, in order to avoid the immigration-crime binomial;
- access to essential services: favoring the relationship with the bureaucracy and with access to health and social assistance services is essential; a path facilitated, among other things, by an appropriate specific training of operators and mediators;
- minors and second generations: priority to the integration of foreign minors in the area and their full and unconditional protection.

The migration phenomenon is constantly monitored. [The 2018 Report](#), prepared by the Directorate General for Immigration and the integration policies of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies, proposes an analysis of migratory phenomena, of the ways in which foreigners enter and remain in the Italian territory, of problems relating to family reunions and to the younger generations and deepens the theme of the employment status of foreign citizens in Italy and of safety and accidents at work.

## **3.8 Development of entrepreneurship competence**

### **Policy Framework**

With policies to support entrepreneurship, in the current regulatory framework, entrepreneurial ideas are encouraged, in particular, in economically disadvantaged areas. Specific measures have also been adopted to encourage female and youth entrepreneurship, as well as particular sectors such as agriculture and social. The support measures that are offered are both economic and intellectual, through professional support in the various stages of starting up the new company.

### **Formal learning**

Entrepreneurship skills in Italy are defined by referring to the [European reference framework on key competences for lifelong learning](#). With the [law 107/15](#) - and its

implementing decrees which reformed the education and training system - alternating school work becomes mandatory, providing for more favorable conditions for entrepreneurship education in the school.

The rules listed above invite you to experience the "school founded on work" through different ways: an extension of the experience of alternating school and work; the use of innovation laboratories; innovative projects of integration between training courses and the labor market also according to the "workshop at school" and "business school" methodology in collaboration with trade associations and representative subjects of the world of work, leveraging the principle of social responsibility.

In 2018, the Ministry of University Education and Research launched the project to promote an [educational path](#) for entrepreneurship education in state-run secondary schools. The path, for the secondary school of the second degree, can be built starting from the first two years of school, intervening on the strengthening of the attitudes of the students and on some skills, such as creativity, self-awareness, motivation.

In the second two-year period and in the last year, the course develops skills and competences typical of entrepreneurship education (see the EntreComp conceptual model) through additional courses and the strengthening of those already present in the curriculum.

The path can be linked to the alternating school work activities, even if this connection does not constitute a constraint for the realization of the path of entrepreneurship education. The path can also be developed in synergy with dedicated disciplinary paths, for example for the deepening of digital skills or particular disciplines that are intended to be treated also through the development of business prototypes.

The eventual adoption of the elective courses makes it necessary, at the end of each school year of the course, the overall evaluation of the skills and competences achieved by the student in the context of courses. In order to standardize the professional qualifications acquired through the different types of learning and to allow a correlation between training standards and professional standards, it should be remembered that the legislator has provided for the respect of the forms of competences included in the national [directory of education and training titles and of the professional qualifications](#).

Furthermore, in the Youth Guarantee program, the "[YES I Start Up](#)" project was launched, a path designed to train young people in self-employment through courses that transmit the skills necessary to build their own business idea. The program includes all the information needed to create a business plan and to prepare all the documentation required to start up your own business. The project is aimed at NEETs, young people between 18 and 29 who do not work, do not study and do not attend vocational training courses.

In parallel with the previous project, SELFIEmployment was activated, a fund that makes available to young NEETs between 18 and 29 years of age registered as a Youth Guarantee a loan without interest and without the need for collateral and / or personal guarantees, thus including all those who do not can access traditional financing. Who receives the financing is supported by a tutor, who follows him in the path of presentation of the application. The fund that finances the start-up of businesses through microcredit (from € 5,000 to € 25,000), extended microcredit (from € 25,001 to € 35,000) and small loans (from € 35,001 to € 50,000).

## **Non-formal and informal learning**

The Law n. 92/2012 on the labor market reform provided for the first time a formal definition of the concept of lifelong learning: "lifelong learning means any activity undertaken by people in a formal, nonformal and informal way, at various stages of life, in order to improve knowledge, skills and competences, in a personal, civic, social and occupational perspective".

By formal learning, we mean what happens in the education and training system and in universities and institutions of high artistic, musical and dance training, and which ends with the attainment of a degree or a professional qualification or diploma, achieved also in apprenticeship, or a recognized certification.

Nonformal learning means that characterized by an intentional choice of the person, which takes place outside of the formal systems, in every organization that pursues educational and training purposes, including volunteering, the national civil service and the private social sector and in businesses.

By informal learning we mean the one that, even apart from an intentional choice, is carried out in the performance, by each person, of activities in everyday life situations and in the interactions that take place in it, within the context of the work , family and leisure.

By "certifiable competence" we mean a structured set of knowledge and skills that can also be recognized as educational credits, subject to a specific validation procedure in the case of non-formal and informal learning.

The certification of competences is defined as a public act aimed at ensuring transparency and recognition of learning, in line with the guidelines set by the European Union. Certification leads to the issue of a certificate, a diploma or a title that formally documents the assessment and validation performed by a public body or an accredited or authorized person.

For the recognition and certification of skills see paragraph 3.3.

For more information on the validation of non-formal and informal learning see the national description of [Cedefop](#).

## **Educators support in entrepreneurship education**

In March 2018, the Ministry of Education of the university and research published the document "[Syllabus for education in entrepreneurship in secondary school](#)".

The document is aimed at secondary schools of the second grade and aims to make entrepreneurship education structural by accompanying other disciplines. Taking the EntreComp model as a reference, the Syllabus provides teachers with examples of possible teaching methods and themes to be proposed to students ranging from understanding students' attitudes to managing ideas, and to realizing these ideas.

Students will be able to realize their ideas through innovation, creativity, self-evaluation and the development of an entrepreneurial spirit. The skills acquired will be useful to students not only for a possible future in the business sector, but also in their working life and in all their actions of active citizenship.

## **3.9 Start-up funding for young entrepreneurs**

### **Access to information**

Through the [Youth Guarantee Program](#), the Government encourages forms and services for self-employment. For young people aged 18 to 35, services are provided that can support the development and improvement of entrepreneurial attitudes, to support the start-up of self-employment or business activities.

The support from the start-up phase to the realization of the entrepreneurial idea, also thanks to the incentives for business creation, is available at national and / or regional level.

Employment Services operators, but also accredited private organizations, propose a targeted training and personalized assistance path in the various stages of development of the business project:

- specialized training courses up to the drafting of the business plan;

- support to the start-up phase, through access to credit tools or to the SELFIEmployment Fund with the support of a tutor for administrative, legal and financial management.

The support measures that are offered are both economic and intellectual, through professional support in the various stages of starting up the new company. The public and private actors who are directly or indirectly interested in the construction of the business idea and help young people in their journey by offering them services and assistance are:

- Ministry of Labor and Social Policies;
- [Unioncamere](#);
- [Invitalia](#);
- Self-employment services started at the departments responsible for employment policies, Regions and Local Bodies, with particular regard to the Single Branches of productive activities (SUAP) of the Municipalities;
- Association and cluster;
- University;
- non-profit organizations;
- [AdEPP](#),
- National body for microcredit, [Ente nazionale per il microcredito](#).

In the new Youth Guarantee phase, these measures are envisaged:

- [YES I Start Up](#);
- ICT skills for young people in Southern Italy, [Competenze Ict per i giovani del Mezzogiorno](#);
- Grow in Digital 2.0, [Crescere in Digitale 2.0](#);
- Young programmers and developers in the ICT sector, [Giovani programmatori e sviluppatori nel settore Ict](#);
- [SELFIEmployment](#).

The [Ministry of Economic Development](#) (MiSE) has launched the [National Industry 4.0 Plan](#), a series of organic and complementary measures to encourage investment in innovation, competitiveness and the development of skills in support of the fourth industrial revolution.

[Spin - Scaleup program Invitalia network](#), is the Invitalia program dedicated to the business development of innovative SMEs, innovative start-ups and university spinoffs with operations in Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Puglia and Sicily. It is promoted by the MiSE, in implementation of the PON Business and Competitiveness 2014-2020.

Numerous Regions and Municipalities, also in collaboration with the educational and professional system, promoting the creation of start-ups on their territory, accompanying young entrepreneurs, providing them with financial support and informing them about existing networks.

For the promotion of youth entrepreneurship in the social field there are 2 national projects:

- [Italy social economy](#), for the promotion, dissemination and strengthening of the social economy, of [Invitalia](#);
- [Nuova Marcora - birth and development of small and medium-sized cooperative societies](#), aimed at promoting the creation and development of cooperative societies, of the [MiSE](#).

## Access to capital

Who wants to start a startup is not necessarily forced to resort to private financing: in fact there are many ways to request public subsidies.

There is great interest both from the Italian State (and from the Regions), and from the European Union to encourage entrepreneurial initiatives and increase employment by guaranteeing public funding for new businesses.

The government, through the [incentivi.gov.it](http://incentivi.gov.it) portal, has created a [vademecum](#) based on the incentives that the public administration provides, a document in which young people and entrepreneurs can find the right incentive depending on what they really need and how to be able to obtain it, of their territory or the size of their company.

The economic incentives concern: the start-up of a new business, investments in innovation, growth, capital strengthening, investments in machinery, plants and software, internationalization, investments in training, research and development, efficiency energy, in new hires, up to the tax breaks. Not least that related to citizenship income.

This vademecum was created in synergy between: the Ministry of Economic Development and the Ministry of Labor, Revenue Agency, Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, GSE, ENEA, Finest, Invitalia, INPS, ICE, Unioncamere, Sace, Simest, SofiCOOP.

There is also a database of incentives created by ANPAL. [Invitalia](#) manages the project "[Resto al sud](#)" Staying in the south of Italia", an economic incentive that supports the creation of new entrepreneurial activities initiated by individuals under the age of 46 in the Southern regions of Italy. The total financial envelope is 1,250 million euros.

The funding covers 100% of eligible expenses and consists of:

- non-repayable contribution equal to 35% of the total investment;
- 65% of the total bank loan, guaranteed by the Guarantee Fund for small and medium-sized enterprises. The interest on the loan is entirely covered by an interest subsidy.

"[Resto al sud](#)" is a direct incentive: the requests are examined without rankings based on the chronological order of arrival. It is possible to start up entrepreneurial initiatives for: production of goods in the sectors of industry, crafts, processing of agricultural products, fishing and aquaculture, supply of services to businesses and people, tourism. Agricultural activities and trade are excluded from financing.

In October 2019, 9,128 the request for funding were submitted, while the requests approved were 3,839. It should be noted that numerous Regions and Municipal Administrations, also in collaboration with the school and professional system, promote on their institutional sites and public offices, the creation of start-ups on their territory, accompanying young entrepreneurs, also through business incubators, informing them on existing networks and providing them with financial support.

In addition to business incubators financed with public funds, there are also various private centers for new businesses (some called incubators, other accelerators and others still company builders or innovation centers).

Depending on their orientation, business incubators support different types of startups: for example, some centers support only technology-oriented companies and others only start-ups for students and graduates. However, they all have in common the fact of helping the companies that qualify as early as a very early stage.

Usually the start-up centers offer financial, advisory and infrastructural support: they provide capital in the start-up phase (for which they usually receive company shares) and provide advice and support for the creation and growth of the company. They also often help with further capital procurement and organize business contacts.

## 3.10 Promotion of entrepreneurship culture

### Special events and activities

Various institutional bodies promote the entrepreneurial culture, also through public communication campaigns, including: The Ministry for Labor and Social Policies, the Ministry of Economic Development, Department for Youth Policies and Universal Civil Service, ANPAL, Regions and Municipalities, Revenue Agency, Cassa Depositi e Prestiti, GSE, ENEA, Finest, Invitalia, INPS, ICE, Unioncamere, Sace, Simest, SofiCOOP, Chambers of Commerce, employers' associations and trade unions, bilateral bodies and employers' associations, non-profit organizations that have as a job protection, assistance and promotion of entrepreneurial activities and protection of disability, training institutions, labor consultants, Internet site managers, Enpals.

A series of events and activities focused on the "entrepreneurial spirit" have been organized by the main associations working in the field of youth entrepreneurship.

### Networks and partnerships

There are numerous networks of young entrepreneurs who seek and promote the development of youth entrepreneurship at all territorial, national, regional and local levels, many of which are encouraged by public authorities.

Some of them are specialized in specific economic sectors and are based on partnerships between public operators and private bodies (associations, companies, etc.):

[L'associazione nazionale per la giovane imprenditoria](#), The national association for young entrepreneurs;

[I Giovani imprenditori di Confindustria](#), Confindustria Young Entrepreneurs;

[CNA-giovani-imprenditori; CNA-young-entrepreneurs](#);

[Associazione nazionale giovani agricoltori](#), National Young Farmers Association.

## 3.11 Current debates and reforms

### Forthcoming policy developments

The 2020 national budget law provides for several new measures to facilitate the entry of young people into the world of work:

**Bonus "Young hires"**. The incentive will allow employers who carry out permanent employment of young people under 35 during 2020, to benefit from a contribution relief, for 3 years within the limit of 3,000 euros per year, of 50% of the contributions INPS mandatory by law. The relief will be 100% if the hiring is in the South and if it concerns the following types of new hires:

- alternate students / "dual" apprentices;
- young and unemployed in the South;
- under 29 Neet, enrolled in Youth Guarantee.

**Facilitated redemption of the university degree**. The measure provides a discount of about 30% on the amount to be paid to redeem the years of university study useful for retirement pension. Furthermore, all payments made can be deducted for 50% and the amounts can be paid in instalments at zero interest.

**Apprenticeship reform**. The measure, in favor of micro-enterprises with a maximum of nine employees, provides for a total exemption, for three years, from the obligation to pay social security contributions for first-level apprentices hired during 2020. Starting from the fourth year, the reduction is reduced by applying a 10% contribution rate. The first level apprenticeship is a type of contract that combines a course of study with periods of training

in the company. It applies to young people aged 15 to 25, is aimed at obtaining a degree, lasts up to three years which can become four in the case of a four-year professional degree.

### **Ongoing debates**

Currently, there are no ongoing debates on the topic.

## 4. SOCIAL INCLUSION

---

Poverty and social exclusion are complex phenomena that depend on numerous factors. They are connected not only to the lack of income but also to the access to opportunities, and to the participation in the economic and social life of the country.

Therefore, national policies for social inclusion are characterized by a wide range of different initiatives, intervention and tools.

In Italy, interventions to combat poverty and social exclusion are promoted and implemented by several institutional actors at national, regional and local level. In addition, the Third Sector supports public institution in the implementation of social policies and act as mediators at local level.

Social inclusion policies specifically targeted on youth are aimed at reducing early school leaving, improving the access to the labour market, and reducing social disparities.

Italy adopted the [2018-20 National Social Plan](#) (Piano sociale nazionale 2018 - 2020), which is a share of the National Fund for Social Policies (Fondo Nazionale per le politiche sociali - FNPS). According to the National Social Plan, at least 40% of the resources transferred to the Regions must be used in favour of vulnerable children and adolescents.

Italy also adopted a national strategy to tackle poverty, which includes the [Citizenship Income](#) (Reddito di Cittadinanza), i.e. an income supporting measure that all citizens and long term residents can request if they commit themselves to follow a personalized path aimed at social inclusion and job placement. In addition, the strategy includes the [2018-2020 Plan for Social Measures and Services aimed at tackling Poverty](#) (Piano per gli interventi e i servizi sociali di contrasto alla povertà 2018-2020).

### 4.1 General context

#### Main challenges to social inclusion

The [ISTAT](#) (National Institute for Statistics) publication "[Poverty in Italy 2018](#)" released estimates on absolute and relative poverty, based on the household consumption expenditure survey. The national data that follow, demonstrate a strong correlation between the level of education, economic poverty and chronic poverty. Youth with low or medium-low levels of education not only are more likely to fall into a state of need, but run the risk of remaining into a state of chronic poverty.

In 2018, over 1.8 million families – or 5 million individuals were estimated to be in a state of absolute poverty (incidence rate 8.4%) and one in eight young people lived in absolute poverty. The NEETs' rate (age group 15 to 29) peaked at 26.2% in 2014, and decreased to 23.4% in 2018. However, the pre-crisis levels have not been recovered (19.3% in 2008). Among the NEET population, there is an over-representation of foreign youth: in 2019, foreign NEETs were 300 thousand, or the 14.5% of all NEETs, while the foreign population was 8.5% of the total population.

The incidence of families in absolute poverty is considerably higher in the South than in the Northern and Central Italy. In 2018, families in relative poverty were estimated at more than 3 million (11.8%), or about 9 million individuals (15.0%). Compared to 2017, the phenomenon got worse in the North, while in Southern Italy the incidence of poverty was reduced, both in the Southern part (from 24.1% to 22.3%) and in the Islands (from 25.9% to 21.6%).

In general, as the age of families increases, poverty diminishes: families of young people generally have lower spending capacities because their average incomes and savings are lower. Indeed, absolute poverty concerns 10.4% of the families where the reference person is aged between 18 and 34, while 4.7% where she/he is over 64 years. In 2018,

absolute poverty in Italy affected about 1.3 million in the age group from 0 to 18 (12.6% as compared to the national average of 8.4%).

The conditions of children (age group 0 to 18) remain critical: since 2014, the incidence rate has not been lower than 10%. The incidence varies from a minimum of 10.1% in Central Italy to a maximum of 15.7% in the South; compared to 2017, data are stable. Disaggregating data by age, the incidence is higher in the age groups 7-13 (13.4%) and 14-17 (12.9%) as compared to the age group 0-6 (about 11, 5%).

The families with minors in absolute poverty are over 725 thousand, with an incidence of 11.3% (over four points higher than the national average 7.0%). The greatest criticality for families with minors emerges not only in terms of incidence, but also in the intensity of poverty, which is 20.8% as compared to 19.4% of the national average. Therefore, the poverty rate is higher in families with children. The incidence of poverty among families with minors depends on the employment status of the reference person. Where the reference person is employed, the incidence is 8.8%, while it reaches 22.5% where she/he is unemployed.

The incidence of absolute poverty for families with minors is more critical in metropolitan areas. Citizenship of the families with minors plays an important role on the condition of poverty: the absolute poverty rate is 7.7% for Italian families, while it reaches 31% when the family is composed only of foreigners.

The incidence of absolute poverty increases with the increase in the number of children (6.5% for couples with one child, 10.1% for those with two children, and 17.2% for couples with three or more children); it is high among single-parents (16.8%) and when different households share the same apartment (20.1%). Data show that the fight against poverty must start from the educational opportunities offered to young people. Indeed, poverty is generated by low levels of education.

In the single school year 2016-2017, the students who dropped out of the Italian education system were 120,000. Early school leaving, both in middle and high school, mainly concerns males, mostly foreigners, who drop out of school three times more than Italians.

The presence of Unaccompanied Foreign Minors (UFM) represents a structural element of migration towards Europe, and particularly towards Italy. This phenomenon presents various problems linked to the condition of being unaccompanied minors, to an often traumatic migratory journey and to the difficulties of accessing training and job placement opportunities. The Directorate-General for Immigration and Integration Policies of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies has the task of monitoring the condition of UFM and publishes [statistical reports](#) on their presence and main characteristics on a regular basis. According to the [2019 December report](#), at December 31st, 2019, out of the 6,054 UFM who were present in Italy, the majority were male (94.8%) and aged between 16 and 17 years (87.6%). The main countries of origin are Albania (27.7%), Egypt (8.8%), Pakistan (8.3%) and Bangladesh (8%). UFM are mainly hosted in the following Regions: Sicily (19.2%), Lombardy (13.6%), Friuli Venezia Giulia (11%) and Emilia Romagna (10%).

The Italian legislation regulating the protection of UFM are [Legislative Decree 142/2015](#), which introduced specific provisions relating to their reception, and [law 47/2017](#), which set up an organic discipline on the matter. Unaccompanied foreign minors have the same rights and protection recognized to Italian minors, as stated in art. 1 of law 47/2017.

## Main concepts

The [Italian Constitution](#) does not define "disadvantaged people", but identifies some categories of people, who for different reasons, are to be considered disadvantaged. According to Art. 3, para 2: "It is the duty of the Republic to remove those obstacles of an economic or social nature which constrain the freedom and equality of citizens, thereby impeding the full development of the human person and the effective participation of all

workers in the political, economic and social organisation of the country". The Constitution enumerates the following cases of people in economic distress:

- Art. 32: "The Republic safeguards health as a fundamental right of the individual and as a collective interest, and guarantees free medical care to the indigent."
- Art. 34: "Schools are open to everyone. [...] Capable and deserving pupils, including those lacking financial resources, have the right to attain the highest levels of education."
- Art. 38: "Every citizen unable to work and without the necessary means of subsistence is entitled to welfare support".
- Art. 24, para 3: "The poor are entitled by law to proper means for action or defense in all courts".

Other categories of disadvantage, according to the Constitution are:

- the "disabled" due to physical or mental conditions (Art. 38);
- "A foreigner who, in his home country, is denied the actual exercise of the democratic freedoms guaranteed by the Italian constitution shall be entitled to the right of asylum under the conditions established by law (Art.10).

Indeed, Art.10 of [Legislative Decree 460/1997](#) (related to the tax treatment of third sector entities) refers to disadvantaged people "due to physical, mental, economic, social or family conditions" in line with the constitutional provisions.

As far as ordinary legislation is concerned, Art. 414 of the [Civil code](#) states that "the adult and the emancipated minor, who are in conditions of mental infirmity that makes them incapable of providing for their own interests, are interdicted when this is necessary to ensure their adequate protection".

With regard to labour legislation, [Law 68/99 "Rules for the right to work of disabled people"](#) favours job recruitment of persons with disabilities and considers work as an instrument for autonomy and social inclusion. Other beneficiaries are the following protected categories: orphans and surviving spouses of those who have died as a result of work and war, as well as spouses and children who have been recognised as seriously disabled by reason of war and work, and repatriated Italian refugees.

With specific reference to the conditions of physical or mental disadvantage, the [law 104/1992](#) defines a broad and articulated discipline regarding assistance, social integration and the rights of disabled. A disabled person is defined as a person "who presents a physical, mental or sensorial stabilized or progressive disability, which is cause of learning-relationships- or work integration difficulties, which determine a process of social disadvantage or marginalization".

Finally, [law 381/1991](#) (related to social cooperatives), art. 4 defines "disadvantaged people" as those who are "physically, mentally and sensorial disabled, former patients of psychiatric hospitals, subjects in psychiatric treatment, drug addicts, alcoholics, minors of working age in situations of family difficulties, persons detained or interned in penitentiary institutions, convicts and inmates admitted to alternative measures to detention and outside work".

[Legislative Decree no. 112/2017](#) (on the revision of the rules on social enterprise), art. 2 paragraph 4 b), identifies "the beneficiaries of international protection (in accordance with Legislative Decree no. 251/2007) among the disadvantaged categories employable in a social enterprise".

[Law 47/2017](#), Art.2 defines the Unaccompanied Foreign Minor (UFM) as: "a minor who does not have Italian nor European Union nationality, who is located in the national territory or is otherwise subject to Italian jurisdiction, without assistance and representation from parents or other adults legally responsible for him/her under the Italian laws".

The law 47/2017 defines the various measures protecting the UFM in coherence with the national legislative framework related to minors. In particular, safeguards for the right to health and education of minors are strengthened, and the procedures for enrolment in the National Health Service and the school system are simplified.

On December 21, 2019 the Council of Ministers approved in preliminary examination the "Regulation with amendments to the decree of the President of the Republic 394/1999, in implementation of article 22 of the law 47/2017, concerning measures for the protection of unaccompanied foreign minors". The new regulation amends and complements the existing legislative framework, with particular reference to the issue of residence permits and the conversion of residence permits upon reaching the age of majority.

## 4.2 Administration and governance

### Governance

In Italy, the Governance of social policies aimed at fighting poverty and achieving social inclusion involves a plurality of public actors, that intervene at different levels of planning and implementation. They are supported by the Third sector for the definition of the related measures.

The definition of social policies is entrusted to national and local Authorities. The Government and the Regions, define the management model of the process of planning and implementation of social policies for the inclusion and integration of disadvantaged subjects, through the adoption of measures defined by law. The Third sector, through a vast network of actors, carries out mediation and representation functions of the specific needs of the territories in which they operate, sharing and supporting the general objectives defined by the national authorities.

At national level, the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies designs, implements and coordinates the measures of labour, social and welfare policies, with particular reference to the prevention and reduction of poverty. The main areas in which the Ministry carries out its functions are:

- the definition of the rules governing social security benefits, supplementary pay, social employment insurance, unemployment and mobility benefits and their contribution aspects; the promotion and coordination of training policies; the mobilisation of funds for life-long training; the definition of essential levels of performance in the area of recognition and certification of skills and in the framework of the alternance between school and work;
- the implementation of social security and insurance policies; high supervision and guidance on supplementary pension schemes;
- policies for the fight against poverty and social planning; coordination and enforcement of legislation on welfare benefits provided by social security institutions, with particular reference to pensions, social benefits and invalidity treatments; implementation of the Equivalent Economic Situation Indicator (Indicatore della Situazione Economica Equivalente - ISEE); definition of policies for children and adolescents as well as for the protection of minors and the fight against child labour; policies in favour of disabled and dependent persons and legislation on the targeted placement of persons with disabilities and protected groups;
- integration and immigration policies; coordination of activities related to the protection of foreign minors; promotion and coordination of humanitarian interventions in Italy and abroad delegated to the Ministry;
- promotion and support of the activities carried out by Third sector and those in favour of social enterprises, including the implementation of the related legislation.

In order to fulfil its role effectively, the Ministry is supported by a number of bodies working in specific fields. For example, to strengthen the policies oriented to the labour market, legislative decree 150/2015 set up the National Agency for the active Policies of Labour (ANPAL) with the task of coordinating assistance to job-seekers and managing the relocation of the unemployed.

In 2017, [legislative decree 147/2017](#), art. 21 set up the Network of Protection and Social Inclusion (Rete della protezione e dell'inclusione sociale). It is a coordinating body chaired by the Minister for Labour and Social Policies and composed of representatives of the Regions, Autonomous Provinces, other Local Government Authorities, and the Social Security Institute ([Istituto Nazionale Previdenza Sociale](#) - INPS), that has the task of promoting greater territorial homogeneity in the provision of social services and of defining the related guidelines.

In this context, the Government defines the general principles of the national Strategy to combat poverty, the related Plan and budget (financed with the national resources of the Poverty Fund and the European NOP Inclusion).

The Regions, for their part, implement their own programming of interventions in line with the National Plan for Combating Poverty, implementing the principle of horizontal subsidiarity of the social autonomies present in the territory.

Regions support national interventions with their own active policies such as "public utility jobs" and social inclusion placements, promote the involvement of profit-making enterprises, undertake actions aimed at social inclusion of people with fewer opportunities.

To complete the picture of the stakeholders involved in social policies, alongside the public bodies, there are private bodies, present at the local level: the Third sector associations. They act as mediators and spokespersons for the needs of the population living in the territory in which they operate.

For example, associations for social advancement carry out activities of social benefit for members or third parties. They contribute to the attainment of social, civil, cultural and ethical goals by promoting participation and solidarity. In this regard, the Ministry of Labour promotes the recognition and support of freely constituted associations, also providing financial contributions.

### **Cross-sectorial cooperation**

The above mentioned Network of Protection and Social Inclusion drafted the following Plans adopted by the Government:

- The 2018-2020 National Social Plan ([Piano Sociale Nazionale 2018-20](#)). It is the programming tool of the resources of the National Social Policy Fund (€ 393,958,592 million for 2019) and identifies the services necessary for the progressive definition of the essential levels of social benefits to be guaranteed throughout the national territory. The main objective of the Plan is to define common objectives at local level in order to guarantee greater territorial uniformity. According to the Plan, a share of at least 40% of the Social Policy Fund must be allocated to strengthening services in favour of children and adolescents.
- Plan for interventions and social services to contrast poverty ([Piano per gli interventi e i servizi sociali di contrasto alla povertà](#)). It is a programmatic tool for the use of the resources of the Poverty Fund aimed at financing social services. The financial amounts of the plan were € 297 million 2018 and € 347 million in 2019. Since 2020, the Fund has increased to € 587 million per year; this includes € 20 million for services in favour of people in extreme poverty and homeless, and € 5 million for experimental measures in favour of "care leavers" i.e. young people who live outside their families due to a court order.

- The 2019 – 2021 National plan for dependants ([Piano nazionale per la non autosufficienza 2019-2021](#)). It is aimed at ensuring the implementation of the essential levels of assistance in favour of dependent persons at national level.
- The Plan against educational poverty ([Piano contro la Povertà educativa](#)). It is an action plan aimed at contrasting school drop-out rates.

Those Plans (which have a three-year time horizon with possible annual updates) imply the coordination among different public sectors, such as health and social welfare among others. Within the limits of the resources available, they all aim at achieving the essential levels of welfare benefits to be guaranteed throughout the national territory.

While the Plans identify the national priorities, at local level each Region or Autonomous Province set up Plans that regulate the necessary cooperation among all the services involved.

In addition, with a view to improve the efficiency of the system, some tools have been recently developed to support the management of information that feed the database of the public Administration. Those tools are aimed at facilitating the exchange of information and the cooperation at the different levels of intervention (national and local).

## 4.3 Strategy for the social inclusion of young people

### Existence of a National Strategy on social inclusion

The Italian national strategy on social inclusion is contained in the 2018-20 National Social Plan ([Piano sociale nazionale 2018-20](#)) and in the Plan for Interventions and Social Services to contrast Poverty ([Piano per gli interventi e i servizi sociali di contrasto alla povertà](#)).

Youth social inclusion policies aim at promoting access to the labour market, improving living conditions and reducing social inequalities. Youth employability and the fight against early school leaving are among the main priorities for contrasting juvenile distress.

Indeed, the European recommendations emphasise the need for quality socio-educational facilities to ensure equal opportunities, reduce educational poverty and social exclusion. The availability of quality public services starting from early childhood is a tool to overcome inequalities. In this regard, the approval of [Legislative Decree 65/2017](#) marks an important step for social policies. The Decree draws up an integrated system of education and training for children in the age group 0 to 6 aimed at promoting educational continuity and inclusion, and at reducing disadvantages. The system is marked by multiple implementing complexities, such as territorial policy planning and sharing of quality standards related, among others, to the access to the different services.

As far as primary, secondary and tertiary education is concerned, a paradigm shift is necessary: It is not only a question of technical knowledge, but above all of teaching young people to adapt to a fluid and uncertain economic environment.

In the context of the fight against early school leaving, the Vocational Education and Training (VET) supply chain is among the most important policies in favour of youth employment. According to the [latest annual report](#) produced by the National Institute for Public Policies Analysis ([Istituto Nazionale per l'Analisi delle Politiche Pubbliche - Inapp](#)) in recent years, VET has constantly increased in terms of participation and effectiveness in relation to the transition to work. Employers complain that education does not adequately develop those skills that favour youth employability, such as flexibility, creativity, communication, problem solving, critical thinking, project management etc. Therefore, educational programmes must focus on soft skills. In line with the European Council Recommendation of 22 May 2018, an ongoing Inapp research is specifically dedicated to the evaluation of VET key competences.

## Scope and contents

The Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, through the actions of the [PON Inclusion](#) (PON Inclusion), contributed primarily to accompanying the national reform process aimed at introducing a measure of contrast poverty, active inclusion and the strengthening of social services.

The development of the regulatory framework resulted in the introduction of Citizenship Income (*Reddito di cittadinanza*), which since 1 March 2019 has replaced and accompanied the Inclusion Income (*Reddito di inclusione*), has added further elements of complexity in the process of organizing and strengthening territorial services. The National Plans were adopted by decree of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies (MLPS), in agreement with the Ministry of Economy and Finance, after agreement with the Unified Conference.

At the end of the reorganization, Italy has endowed itself with:

- [National social plan 2018–20](#) (Piano sociale nazionale 2018-20) and [Plan for interventions and social services to contrast poverty](#) (Piano per gli interventi e i servizi sociali di contrasto alla povertà): a programmatic dispositive for the use of the resources of the Poverty Fund aimed at financing interventions and social services to contrast poverty (€297 million in 2018, €347 million in 2019 and €470 million a year starting in 2020, including a share of €20 million for interventions and services for people in extreme poverty and homelessness);
- [National plan for non self-sufficiency](#) (Piano nazionale per la non autosufficienza): aimed at programmatic use of the resources of the Fund for non-self-sufficient persons to "ensure assistance at the essential levels of assistance services to be guaranteed throughout the national territory with regard to non self-sufficient persons";
- [Plan against educational poverty](#) (Piano contro la povertà educativa), an action plan to intervene effectively and systematically in the direction of combating educational failure. There are two conditions set by the National Plan, based on the guidelines of the Pon Inclusion:
  - that the planning areas of the social, health and labour policies sectors are made homogeneous at the territorial level and that in the planning and implementation of the interventions are taken in account the activities of the Third Sector engaged in the field of social policies;
  - that there is a strengthening of the territorial social service, whose offer must include the interventions and services identified in [Legislative Decree 147/2017](#).

## Regional plans

In this framework, the Plan identifies the national priorities, while, consistently with these, the Regional plans will eventually have to identify further specific reinforcements to be foreseen in the territories of competence. The Regional plans (or different planning acts) will therefore regulate the forms of collaboration and cooperation between the services to achieve the foreseen outcomes, for example, using the funds of POR of European Social Fund.

The Regional plans may include reward mechanisms aimed at facilitating the effectiveness and efficiency of services by strengthening associated management. In addition, each Region or Autonomous province must comply with the arrangement of regional services planning and with the measures to contrast poverty (defined as an essential level of services). More precisely, the Regions will have to define the integrated offer of interventions and services according to coordinated methods, to be achieved through the adoption of:

- homogeneous territorial planning areas for the social, health and labour market sectors, providing that the social territorial areas are coincident for the planning and integrated

supply of interventions with the territorial boundaries of the health districts and the employments centres;

- guidelines to promote territorial agreements between social services and other competent authorities or organizations for work placement, education and training, housing policies and health.

The list of interventions and financeable services is mandatory and is the following (except for the social and professional service and the social secretariat):

- internships aimed at social inclusion, personal autonomy and rehabilitation;
- home or territorial based socio-educational support, including support in managing expenses and the family budget;
- home assistance with social assistance and proximity services;
- parenthood support and family mediation service;
- cultural mediation service;
- emergency social service.

### **Plan against educational poverty**

In order to counter this phenomenon, the 2019 budget law ([law 145/2018](#), art. 1, para. 478) has extended and refinanced, for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021, the Fund for contrasting child educational poverty, already established by the 2016 stability law ([law 208/2015](#), art. 1, paragraphs 392 to 395), supported by payments made by the bank foundations.

At the same time, the aforementioned [2019 budget law](#) (article 1, paragraphs 479 and 480) extended the tax credit granted to banking foundations for each of the years 2016, 2017 and 2018 relating to payments to the aforesaid for the same three-year period 2019-2021 Fund, but reducing the amount from 75 to 65 per cent of the amounts paid and lowering the relative spending limit from 100 to 55 million per year.

At the end of April 2019, the Government and the banking foundations signed a [Memorandum of Understanding for the management of the Fund](#) (Protocollo d'intesa per la gestione del Fondo) which will be allocated "to support experimental interventions aimed at removing the economic, social and cultural obstacles that prevent the complete use of educational processes by minors".

The implementation modalities have been defined by the [decree of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies 1 June 2016](#). The operability of the Experimental Fund was assigned to the social enterprise "[Con i Bambini](#)" for the allocation of resources through tenders, while the strategic decisions are defined by a special Steering Committee composed jointly by banking foundations, Government, Third Sector organizations and representatives of INAAP and EIEF-Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance.

### **Responsible authority**

The Ministry of Labour and Social Policies, as the leading authority of the ESF in Italy, coordinates the ESF management authorities and dialogues with the economic and social partnership to facilitate synergies and coherence between national and regional ESF actions and to deepen the state of planning and implementation of co-financed interventions. The Sub-Committee Human Resources 2014-20 is deputy to the coordination of all the above-mentioned actions.

The Ministry is also the managing authority of three National Operational Programs (PON) for the 2014-2020 planning: the PON Active Employment Policy Systems, PON Youth Employment Initiative (Youth Guarantee) and PON Inclusion. The Ministry, moreover, represents Italy in European discussion tables, technical meetings, committees and professional networks, where guidelines, methodological and operational frameworks are defined.

The Ministry of Labour and Social Policies also manages:

- the European Globalization Adjustment Fund (EGF), which supports workers who have lost their jobs due to globalization or the economic and financial crisis. The Ministry is responsible for the management, certification and control of the contributions granted by the EGF and plays a role of coordination, direction and cooperation with the autonomous Regions and Provinces, responsible for implementing the co-financed initiatives;
- the Fund for European Aid to the Most Deprived - FEAD which mainly finances investments and the distribution of food products. Additional interventions involved: the supply of school materials to children belonging to disadvantaged families; the activation of school canteens in territorial areas with strong socio-economic hardship, in order to encourage student participation and extracurricular afternoon activities; aid for homeless people and in conditions of extreme marginality.

## Revisions/ Updates

All strategies are reviewed and monitored on a regular basis. The results are published on the websites of the respective institutions or responsible ministries.

## 4.4 Inclusive programmes for young people

### Programmes for vulnerable young people

The [National Operational Program](#) (PON) Inclusion, steered by the ministry of labour and social policies, represents for Italy, within the policies co-financed by the European social fund, the first experience of an operational program entirely dedicated to the themes of social inclusion and the fight against poverty. The [citizenship income](#) is a measure of active policy of labour and of fighting poverty, inequality and social exclusion. It is an economic support to supplement family incomes.

In order to be entitled to receive the citizenship income, certain conditions must be met regarding immediate availability to work, adherence to a personalized project aimed to integration into labour market and social inclusion, which may include community service activities, professional retraining or completion of studies, as well as other commitments aimed at entering the labour market and social inclusion.

These conditions should be respected by all adult members of the family who are not in employment and who do not attend a regular course of study. It should be noted that according to article 4, paragraph 15-ter, low-income workers are considered unemployed, that is, employees with work incomes below 8,000€ and self-employed workers with lower incomes than 4,800€.

In the situation that the need is complex, the social services of the municipalities responsible for fighting poverty proceed with a multi-dimensional evaluation of the family in order to start the process of social and labour activation involving, in addition to employment services, other competent territorial authorities.

The multidimensional evaluation is composed of a preliminary analysis and a framework of in-depth analysis that highlight the needs and strengths of the family in order to share with them the interventions and commitments necessary to guarantee the path for phasing out from poverty that will be signed with the pact for social inclusion.

In order to promote access to credit, sustainability and transparency for the benefit of Italian families, the "Youth Credit Fund ([Fondo per il credito ai giovani](#)) was set up at the Presidency of the Council of Ministers. This fund allows worthy young people, without sufficient financial resources, to undertake a course of study or complete their training thanks to a loan guaranteed by the state. The purposes and methods of use of the fund have been determined by inter-ministerial decree 19 November 2010.

The management of the fund has been entrusted to CONSAP SpA (Company fully owned by the MEF) with which the Department has signed a specific regulation on 23 June 2011. The instrument aimed at facilitating access to bank credit by university students and graduates, for the purposes of learning indepth study, and professional or work paths.

The guarantee is based on the principle of risk sharing between the lending banks and the department, which is the guarantor, significantly reducing the level of risk borne by the institution.

Specifically, the loans eligible for the fund's guarantee can be combined with each other up to a maximum amount of 25,000€ and disbursed in annual instalments for an amount not less than 3,000 € and not exceeding 5,000€.

The guarantee is addressed to worthy students and allows to finance young people who wish to pursue their studies after high school by enrolling university classes or attending post-graduate specialization courses or deepening their knowledge of a language (up to a maximum amount of 25,000 euros).

The repayment of the loans is to be made in a period between three and fifteen years.

The "first house mortgage guarantee fund" ([Fondo di Garanzia Mutui Prima Casa](#)) recently refinanced with the "growth decree" (art. 19, DL April 30, 2019 n. 34), provides for the granting of first demand guarantees on mortgages, a maximum amount of 250 thousand euros , for the purchase with restructuring interventions. That include increasing of energy efficiency and properties located on the national territory to be used as main residence.

Priority subjects are young couples married with or without children, single-parent households with cohabiting minor children, tenants of social houses as well as young people under the age of 35, holders of an atypical employment contracts.

The public notice "Youth for the social 2018" ([Giovani per il Sociale 2018](#)) which aims at promoting social inclusion and personal growth, employability, activation, integration, inclusion and social innovation policies, in less developed regions (Calabria, Campania, Puglia, Sicily, Basilicata).

## Funding

"Citizenship income" was funded by the law of 30 December 2018, n. 145. [State budget for the 2019](#) financial year and multi-year budget for 2019-2021for 7,100 billion euros.

"Youth credit fund" which allows worthy young people, without sufficient financial resources, to undertake a course of study or complete their training thanks to a loan guaranteed by the state: initial endowment of 20 million euros determined with [inter-ministerial decree](#) 19 November 2010.

"Guarantee fund for the first house" was refinanced for an additional 100 million euros in 2019 with the "decree-law 30 April 2019, n. 34 "Urgent measures for economic growth and for the resolution of [specific crisis situations](#)", published in the Official Journal on 30 April 2019.

"[Youth for the Social 2018](#)": The resources planned for the implementation of the intervention of the public notice are an amount up to 9,000,000.00€.

## Quality assurance

The legislative decree 15 September 2017, n. 147 has established the Unified Social Services Information System (SIUSS), a component of which is the Social Information and Performance Information System, which integrates and replaces the care records (see chapter 4.2).

The SIUSS aims to ensure a thorough knowledge of the social needs and interventions provided by the integrated system of interventions and social services and all the information necessary for the planning, management, monitoring and evaluation of social policies and monitoring compliance with the essential levels of benefits.

Furthermore, SIUSS aims to process data for statistical, research and study purposes.

## 4.5 Initiatives promoting social inclusion and raising awareness

### Intercultural awareness

Pupils with non-Italian citizenship are almost 850,000, representing 9.7% of the total school population. The majority of these students, 63%, were born and raised in Italy (data for the 2017-2018 school year).

The [ministry of education, university and research](#) (MIUR) proposes every year several initiatives addressing schools and teaching staff to reflect on the issues of intercultural learning and promote greater awareness within schools:

- National seminars "Suburbs at centre" (Periferie al centro) held in 2017 and 2018.
- National seminar "Protagonists! The new Italian generations .The new Italian generations talk about themselves" (Protagonisti! le nuove generazioni italiane si raccontano).
- Annual proposals "Builders of Bridges"(Costruttori di Ponti) in which each year a specific theme related to intercultural learning is addressed;
- "Train of children" (Treno dei bambini) aims to tackle a pedagogical and cultural path, addressed to children living in difficult and disadvantage conditions. The idea is to involve primary school pupils in activities to discover their own neighbourhood and to develop ideas and solutions to learn and improve the quality of life, to promote the quality of coexistence and to stimulate participation.
- "Auditorium in the periphery" (Auditorium in Periferia). In collaboration with the *Cortile dei Gentili* Department, Department of the Pontifical Council for Culture and *Fondazione Musica per Roma* (Auditorium Parco della Musica), is starting a pedagogical and cultural pathway to tackle educational poverty in the suburbs of Rome with musical workshops for pupils and students. The program is active from October 2019 to May 2020.

### Young people's rights

#### *Guarantor Authority for childhood and adolescence*

To ensure, at a national level, the full implementation and protection of the rights of children and adolescents according to the provisions of the convention, the [law n. 112 of 12 July 2011](#) established the Authority for childhood and adolescence. As defined by the law (Article 3 paragraph 1, letter a), the Authority "promotes the implementation of the New York convention and other international instruments concerning the promotion and protection of children's rights and adolescents, the full application of current European and national legislation on the promotion of child and adolescent protection, as well as the right of the child to be accepted and educated as a priority in their own family and, if necessary, in another family environment support or replacement ". The Guarantor Authority is a monocratic body; an institution endowed with autonomous powers of administrative organization and independence and without the constraints of hierarchical subordination.

The Authority acts primarily to promote the implementation of the convention and other international instruments on this subject.

Numerous projects aim, in particular, at ensuring the knowledge of children and young people of their rights and the awareness of being fully owners of them. Furthermore, the Authority informs the government, the regions or interested bodies, in the respective areas of competence, of the appropriate initiatives to ensure the full promotion and protection of the rights of children and adolescents.

Another fundamental action is carried out through opinions, observations and proposals that allow it to influence the institutions and bodies that intervene directly or indirectly in the field of the protection and promotion of the rights of minors.

The Authority ensures appropriate forms of consultation, including those of minors and those of family associations, making available skills and professionalism.

In such a context of collaborations, the Authority exercises its competences in compliance with the principle of subsidiarity and presents to the chambers, annually, a report on the activity carried out.

*"#DirittiInCrescita" communication campaign*

On the occasion of the UN convention on the rights of children and adolescents anniversary, the Authority for childhood and adolescence, AGIA, together with the Department of information and publishing, has created a campaign of communication that aims at involving the broader and different strata of the relevant public. It has the aim of spreading the knowledge of these fundamental principles and contributing to ensuring the best living conditions and growth opportunities for the children of our country.

The campaign aims to spread the knowledge of the fundamental principles for the protection of children and adolescents contained in the UN convention, as a necessary prerequisite for ensuring a good quality of life and a future that meets their expectations.

The campaign hashtag is: #DirittiInCrescita. The claim: "We protect the most precious thing. the future".

## **Key initiatives to safeguard democracy and prevent radicalisation leading to violent extremism**

Since 2013, the Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civil Service launched the Council of Europe's campaign in Italy to combat hate speech online ("No Hate Speech"). The campaign was initiated through the involvement of various Ministries and Departments of the Prime Minister meeting in an inter-institutional table.

The "Movement of contrast to the Hate Speeches" recognized by the Council of Europe as the national implementing body for the campaign, brings together about 60 organizations, which cover most of the national territory (10 points of regional coordination, 12 local coordination points in the main cities).

The Movement organizes various online and offline activities on the themes of Cyberbullying, Racism, Omo-Trans-Bi Phobia, support for victims of hate speech, human rights. It also organizes training courses for young people on counter-narrative to hate speech using the manuals of the Council of Europe "Bookmarks" and "WE CAN!" which it translated into Italian.

In the 2019, the Italian Regulatory Authority for Communications ([AGCOM](#)) launched the [#stophatespeech campaign](#) on the occasion of the approval of the [new regulation](#) to combat hate speech on television, social media, radio and the press.

## **4.6 Access to quality services**

### **Housing**

#### **First house**

As mentioned in chapter 4.4, in 2013 the "First Home Mortgage Guarantee Fund" (Fondo di Garanzia Mutui Prima Casa) was recently refinanced with the "Decreto Crescita" (art. 19, DL 30 April 2019, n. 34). The Fund provides guarantees for first demand on mortgages' granting, of a maximum amount of 250 € thousand, for the purchase, with restructuring interventions provided that with an increasing in the energy efficiency, of real estate units located on the national territory to be used as the main home of the borrower.

With interministerial decree 31 July 2014, published in the Official Gazette no. 226 of 29 September 2014, the implementing rules were issued and CONSAP was identified as the manager of the fund.

The priority subjects who can take advantage of this facilitative measure are young married couples with or without children, single-parent families with cohabiting minor children, tenants of housing owned by the autonomous institutes for public housing and young people under the age of 35 years, holders of an atypical employment contract.

### University residences

[Law n.338/2000](#) provides a co-financing by the state for interventions aimed at the construction of housing and residences for university students. In implementation of this legislation, MIUR has already issued, in the past years, a series of ministerial calls and related decrees.

Finally, on 28.11.2016 with the Ministerial Decree n. 937 the IV Call was issued, preceded by the Ministerial Decree n. 936 of 28.11.2016 containing the "Minimum dimensional and quality standards and guidelines relating to the technical and economic parameters concerning the construction of housing and residences for university students".

In order to obtain a bed in one of the university residences, it is necessary to participate in the call that each university opens before the start of the academic year in order to be able to draw up a ranking list for those who are suitable and assigning a bed in one of the university residences.

The criteria on which the ranking is drawn up are economic (based on the ISEE model of the student's family unit) and academic. In order to maintain the bed in university residences, it is necessary to accumulate a sufficient number of University Training Credits (the minimum number of CFU which varies from a faculty to another, usually it is 75/80% of the CFU foreseen in the annual study plan).

### Social services

The Italian social protection system, articulated in the areas of social security, assistance and health, is governed by different levels of the government according to the competences that the law assigns to each one (for its governance see chapter 4.2).

By social services, we mean, pursuant to art. 128 of [Legislative Decree 112/1998](#), all measures aimed at the provision of services, free and paid, or economic services intended to remove and overcome situations of need and difficulty that the human kind encounters during his/her life, with the exclusion of the measures guaranteed by the social security, health and jurisdictional system.

Access to care interventions, like health services, has a universality character ([art. 2 Law 328/2000](#)). It is conditioned by two necessary elements: the physical need and the economic recourses to provide it.

The right to social benefits, in particular in the facilitated form, and / or to public utility services, is subject to compliance with personal and economic parameters, verified by the provider institutions (State, regions and municipalities). (For example, the income of the individual person, the indicator of the economic situation (ISE) and the indicator of the equivalent economic situation (ISEE) which allow a synthetic assessment of the economic conditions of the family unit).

ISEE is the tool introduced by art. 1 of [Legislative Decree 109/98](#), as a measure of the economic condition of a person who intends to benefit from facilitated social benefits, both on national and local territory.

In particular, it is used for access to the following social-welfare services.

#### *National level*

- Purchase Card (so-called Social Card);

- Allowance for families with at least three minor children;
- Maternity allowance for mothers with no other insurance guarantee.
- Free or semi-free supply of textbooks.
- Provision of scholarships (ex [L. 62/2000](#)).
- Benefits for supporting the the right to university study.
- Social tariff for the distribution and sale of electricity (electricity bonus).
- Facilitation for the telephone fee.

#### *Local level*

- Nurseries and other socio-educational services for children.
- School canteens.
- Social and health home services.
- Daytime, residential social and health services, etc.
- Other financial assistance services (eg citizenship income, minimum living, extraordinary assistance).

Regions and single or associated municipalities, excluding the services concerning the healthcare offer (hospital and district health care), offer the following services:

#### *Territorial services*

- Home care services, with healthcare content - provided by Local Health Authorities (ASL) - or a socio-welfare service, provided by local authorities (mainly Municipalities);
- Semi-residential assistance, provided for example through day centers.
- Services people in need.

#### *Residential services*

- Non-hospital residential structures (therefore excluding interventions provided by hospitals and similar healthcare facilities), such as Healthcare Residences (RSA), Retirement Homes or Housing Communities.

#### *Cash benefits / financial support*

- Economic interventions (care allowances, family bonuses, vouchers etc.) to guarantee the minimum vital for people and families in difficult situations;
- Exemptions and tariff reductions.

## **Health care**

Since 1979, in implementation of article 32 of the Constitution: the National Health Service (Servizio Sanitario Nazionale, SSN), Italy has had a system of structures and services which have the aim of guaranteeing all citizens, in conditions of equality, universal access to the equitable provision of health services. The fundamental principles of the SSN are accompanied by the organizational principles which are basic for health planning. The most important ones are: the centrality of the person, public responsibility for the protection of the right to health, collaboration between all the levels of government of the SSN, the enhancement of the professionalism of health workers and socio-health integration.

The government sets the minimum level of guaranteed benefits across the country and specifies the conditions under which patients can turn to the private sector to obtain NNS benefits.

The social and health services are distinguished, as indicated by the [D.P.C.M. February 14, 2001](#), in:

- Healthcare services socially relevant, provided at the same time as social interventions, aimed at containing degenerative outcomes, at the expenses of the local healthcare service provider.
- Integrated social and health services for maternal and child case, the disabled, the elderly and the non self-sufficient, addictions, psychiatric and HIV diseases, terminal patients, at the expenses of the territorial health structures, guaranteed in Annex 1 C of the [D.P.C.M. November 29, 2001](#) on essential levels of health care (LEA).
- Social benefits with a medical relevance, aimed at supporting the disabled or marginalized people whose condition could have negative health outcomes for the municipality or citizen.

With particular reference to young disabled inclusion, Italy was one of the first countries to develop an integration learning process for students with special educational needs, thus abandoning the former "special classes" learning program. According to the learning inclusion program, students with special educational needs are admitted to the same classes with other students, where they can be assisted by a special educational teacher, who works jointly with NHS clinicians in order to create and Individualized Educational Program (IEP) to be completed during the school year.

The main regulatory reference is Legislative Decree 66/2017. The norms for promoting school inclusion of students with disabilities apply to all schools of all levels, and therefore potentially until the end of the high school course of study which typically takes place when they are 18-19 years old.

### Financial services

See Social Protection at [Chapter 4.2](#) and [Chapter 4.4](#)

### Quality assurance

With the [Ministerial Decree of 7 April 2011](#), the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy approved the performance measurement and evaluation system. [The 2019-2021 Programing Performance](#) contains the guidelines for the period in object, the programming and the method of measuring of the established objectives and of the performance.

The Superior Health Council (Consiglio superiore di sanità) is the technical-scientific advisory body of the Minister of Health.

The Council expresses opinion on the request of the Minister and in cases established by law, in any other case in which the Directorates-General request it for the adoption of regulatory or administrative measures and when the judicial Authority requests the consultation of the Organ to decide in case of disputes.

[The independent performance assessment](#) body is present at the Ministry of Health , appointed by Decree of the Minister of Health of 9 January 2018.

It monitors the overall functioning of the evaluation system, the transparency and integrity of internal controls and prepares an annual report on the state of art, also making proposals and recommendations to the top management.

## 4.7 Youth work to foster social inclusion

### Policy/legal framework

Programs that support social inclusion are transversal to different ministerial competences. There are no specific inclusion programs pertaining to "Youth Work", but in general to of the Third Sector ([see chapter 2](#)).

In Italy there is no legislation defining "Youth Work", in fact, generally it refers to the world of associations, volunteering and more broadly, to the Third Sector and their different professional figures.

## Main inclusive Youth-Work programmes and target groups

Currently, various structures of the Italian government, in particular the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, support programs for the social inclusion of young people, through the issuing of tenders aimed at financing social activities in favour of social integration.

The Department of Youth Policy and the Universal Civil Service in collaboration with the Department for Drug Policy have launched the call "[Prevention and contrast to youth disadvantage](#)". It has as its objective the prevention and contrast to youth disadvantage with the promotion of systematic actions on territories which, through social innovation and networking, act to stop the exclusion and spread of risky behaviour, with reference to the identification and reintegration of young NEETs. This call is addressed to bodies and organizations of the Third sector (see also 4.6).

In 2018, the Department for youth policies launched the call "[Youth for Social 2018](#)" (Giovani per il Sociale 2018) with the aim of promoting the spreading the culture of legality, social inclusion, respect for compulsory schooling, orientation in the labor market, for the purpose of strengthening social cohesion in the less developed regions, such as Calabria, Campania, Puglia, Sicily, Basilicata. In particular, the project actions actively involve young people by foreseeing their prevalent presence; the human resources used in the projects or beneficiaries of the projects must in fact be mainly young people aged 14 to 35.

Proposing entities are private social entities (see also 4.6). The call made 9 million euros available.

Always in 2018, the Department launched the call "Youth for public goods"( Giovani per i beni pubblici) . The intervention provides €5 million and addresses young people from the regions of Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Puglia and Sicily. It aims at creating social inclusion and personal growth, promoting employability, activation and integration, inclusion and social innovation policies, and social inclusion, also to be understood as managerial, economic and technological transformation of services, spaces and public goods.

In 2019, the Department launched the call "Fermenti", which provides young people with total funding of 16 million euros and aims at providing financial and technical support to transform young people's ideas into a project, building and realizing from youth leaders entrepreneurial initiatives of a social and cohesive nature that improve the living conditions of young people and the community. The call for projects is innovative in that it is addressed, for the first time, not only to associations of the Third Sector but also to informal groups, or to individuals who are united for the realization of a project.

The social challenges identified as priorities for which you are asked to propose ideas and develop projects that concern the field of equality for all genders, inclusion and participation, training and culture, spaces, environment and territory, autonomy, welfare, well-being and health. One of the most relevant innovations of the call is the free of charge availability of accompanying and acceleration services, managed by incubation process experts, for the preparation of the project proposals of those who are less experienced and for the development of new executive projects.

## Youth work providers in the field of social inclusion for young people

Here are some organizations and NGOs working in the field of social inclusion of young people:

- [Youth red Cross](#)
- [ACTIONAID](#)
- [AFSAI](#) –Association for Training, Exchanges and Cultural Activities (Associazione per la Formazione, gli Scambi e le Attività Culturali)

- ([APDAM](#)) About the other worlds (A proposito di altri mondi)
- ([LVIA](#)) International ASSOCIATION LAICI VOLUNTEERS (Associazione Internazionale Volontari Laici)
- [ARCS](#) - Arci Culture and Development
- [ARCI](#) (Arci cultura e sviluppo)
- [FOCSIV](#) Volunteers around the world
- [YearOut](#), International volunteering
- ([CISV](#)) Comunità Impegno Servizio Volontario
- [IBO](#) Italia iboitalia.org
- [InformaGiovani](#)
- [Libera](#)
- [Lunaria](#)
- [Mani Tese](#)
- [Oikos](#)
- [SCI](#) - Servizio Civile Internazionale
- [YAP](#) - Youth Action for Peace Italia
- [WEP](#)
- [Universitari Costruttori](#)

Public funding for training organizations mainly comes from the EU and its programs.

### **Training and support for youth workers engaged in social inclusion programmes**

Regarding these topics see also chapter [2.7](#), [3.6](#) and [3.8](#).

### **Financial support**

To fight the phenomenon of educational poverty, the 2019 budget law (Law n.145 / 2018, art.1, paragraph 478) has extended and refinanced, for the years 2019, 2020 and 2021, the [Fund for the fight against child educational poverty](#).

At the end of April 2019, the government and Bank Foundations signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the management of the Fund to fight against the child educational poverty, which is intended "to support experimental interventions aimed at removing economic, social and cultural obstacles that prevent the full use of educational processes by minors".

The Fund is financed by the banking foundations, which will benefit from a tax credit. Economic poverty is often caused by educational poverty: the two feed one another and are transmitted from generation to generation and do not favour inclusion projects. The operations of the fund have been assigned to the social enterprise "Con i Bambini" for the allocation of resources through calls.

The strategic policy choices are defined by a specific Policy Committee in which the Bank Foundations, the Government, the Third Sector organizations and representatives of INAPP and EIEF - Einaudi Institute for Economics and Finance, are equally represented.

In the 2016-2018 three-year period, the Foundations gave a Fund of approximately 360 million euros. The 2019 budget law confirmed the fund for the three-year period 2019-2021, making available 55 million euros per year in tax credit in favour of the foundations which can use it for 65% of the amounts paid. A contribution from the Foundations of around 80 million euros per year is therefore expected.

"Con i Bambini" has published till today five calls (Early Childhood 0-6 years, Adolescence 11-17, New Generations 5-14 years, One step ahead and Sew on dreams), selecting a total of 355 projects throughout Italy, including 17 project ideas related to co-financed initiatives and 6 projects supported through the initiative in support of the earthquake areas.

"In the management of tenders, the element of impact assessment has been introduced. The calls ask for experimentation with innovative and integrated solutions between formal and non-formal education, aimed at preventing and fighting against early school leaving and abandonment, as well as enriching learning processes with content and experiences, developing and strengthening social and relational skills, sports, artistic-recreational, scientific-technological, economic and active citizenship, and to fight against the development of addictions and the phenomenon of bullying."

The approved projects, supported with a contribution of around 281 million euros, involve over 480,000 children and young people, together with their families, who live in conditions of hardship, directly affecting around 6,600 organizations, including the third sector, schools, public and private bodies.

## Quality assurance

For the analysis, monitoring and evaluation of the quality of active policies and employment services, the National Agency for Active Labor Policies (ANPAL) was established by Legislative Decree 150/2015, with the aim to coordinate the network of services for labor policies, the management of active labor policies, to promote the effectiveness of labor, training and professional elevation rights, through interventions and services that improve market efficiency.

ANPAL, published in 2019 the first "[Joint annual report on active labor policies in Italy](#)" that arises from the work of ANPAL, the Regions and Autonomous Provinces that make up the Subgroup "Analysis of Active Policies and Development of Methodologies", established in within the Active Labor Policies Committee with Decree of the DG Anpal n. 428 of 12/21/2017.

The Subgroup, composed of contacts of Anpal, Anpal Servizi, MIUR, Regions and Autonomous Provinces. was established as a forum for comparison and sharing of active policy monitoring systems implemented at regional level, also with reference to the timing of release, publication and dissemination of data, as well as the statistical methods applied for the analysis of data and for the construction of tools used in the various territorial contexts.

In 2018 the report was published by ANPAL: "[Young people guaranteeing results compared and novelties](#)", as an annual information activity for the National Operational Program ESF and the "Youth Employment Initiative", in the document the status of implementation of the Program is analyzed through the indicators of physical and financial monitoring.

In 2019 Anpal published the second "[Rating Report on Youth Guarantee](#)", the report presents the results of the research activity conducted by ANPAL, as foreseen by the Evaluation Plan of the National Operational Program Youth Employment Initiative (Pon Iog). The report, located three years after the previous [report of 2015](#), proposes an analysis of the implementation of the program and progress towards policy objectives.

## 4.8 Current debates and reforms

### Forthcoming policy developments

D. Lgs 96/2019 amended D. Lgs. 66/2017 (see [paragraph 4.6](#)) introducing important changes:

- The allocation of support hours that will be decided in consultation with the families.

- Grants, tools and methodologies of study that will no longer be processed in a "standard" way, according to the type of disability, but with an individualized teaching plan that will look at the characteristics of the individual student.
- The composition of medical commissions.
- New inclusion groups such as the Operational Inclusion Working Group (GLIR) and Territorial Inclusion Groups (GIT).

D. Lgs 96/2019 became executive coinciding with the beginning of the 2019-20 school year, and the new measures will be implemented during the 2020-21 school year once implementation agreements are adopted at the Unified Conference between state, regions and local autonomy.

These agreements will be necessary to define, among others, the accessibility and usability's physical, perceptual and communicative sense of the spaces and tools of educational institutions.

### **Ongoing debates**

Currently, there are no ongoing debates on the topic.

## 5. PARTICIPATION

---

According to the Italian constitution, legislative competence in the field of youth policies is concurrent and must be exercised in agreement between the state and the regions.

Italy has a long history of national, regional and municipal participatory projects and dispositives. In recent years, participatory governance has also seen the introduction, also in Italy, of new and more direct forms of participation of citizens and stakeholders in political decision-making processes: subsidiarity; the constant involvement and consultation of stakeholders along the various stages of the decision-making processes, partnership projects, reporting at various levels (accountability) and major accessibility to public information.

Forms of collaboration and structured dialogue between institutions and local actors are foreseen in the legal framework that regulate public sector policies: from planning tools in the city planning, local development and social and health policies. Among the most well-known are the following: voluntary agreements, thematic consultation tables, memoranda of understanding, conferences of different services, pacts for the health system and territorial agreements (Piani di Zona).

There are also specific participation and support tools to the administrative procedures relating both to single acts and to planning and programming technically complex acts. We can mention the environmental impact assessment (Valutazione di Impatto Ambientale, VIA) or the strategic environmental assessment (Valutazione Ambientale Strategica, VAS), in which the sectorial national legislation explicitly provides concentration as modality for shared decision in the definition of objectives and in the allocation of funding resources.

The use of prior consultation of the interested parties, as a tool to support the compulsory regulation impact analysis (analisi di impatto della regolamentazione, AIR), pursuant to the law of July 29th 2003, no. 229, is also envisaged for the independent administrative authorities to whom the law attributes control, supervision or regulation functions.

There are also participation tools promoted on a voluntary basis by the public administration. These participatory instruments are held on the basis of informal or formal operational methods not regulated by specific norms and offer the advantage of being more flexible and adaptable both in terms of design and management, in function of the objectives and times of the project, and in promoting actors and of the subjects involved. Among the most well known are: local agendas, participatory town planning workshops, participatory budgets and discussion tables.

Participatory collaborative practices between public administration and citizens, stakeholders and involved actors, users of the services provided by the public administration, are referred to in many of the regulations relating to transparency, prevention of corruption, performance cycle, reform and modernization of the public administration.

Transparency in fact supports citizen participation in public administration activities. The legislator identifies transparency and participation as key elements for assessing the performance of a public administration. Transparency is identified through forms of participation, such as the transparency days, public consultations, collection of feedback via the web, the opening of thematic discussion tables, the intervention of citizens and stakeholders both in the design phase and in the correction or rethinking of plans, programs, acts and / or measures that public administrations are required to adopt.

With the entry into force of the anti-corruption Law (Law 190/2012) and of legislative decree 33/2013 "Reorganization of the discipline concerning the obligations of publicity, transparency and disclosure of information by public administrations" (Riordino della disciplina riguardante gli obblighi di pubblicità, trasparenza e diffusione di informazioni da parte delle pubbliche amministrazioni), the use of forms of consultation of citizens also for

the administrative documents and procedures related to the implementation of the obligations established by the relevant legislation (for example, for the adoption and periodic updating of the three-year plans for the prevention of corruption and the three-year programs for transparency and integrity) is foreseen.

The Tuscany Region is the first of the Italian region to have adopted a regional law to introduce participatory practices attributable to the principles of deliberative democracy within its institutional activities.

As far as youth policies are concerned, the participatory process uses first of all the agreements in a unified conference between the state, the regions and the territorial autonomies, that establish each year the strategy, objectives and destination of available resources.

The discussion tables between the central State and the Regions are important participatory tools (they are held periodically in the field of Universal civic service), together with the memoranda of understanding, the agreements and the partnerships with which the projects of public interest in the field of youth policies promoted by stakeholders are supported. For example, starting from 2013, the department of youth policy and universal civil service has signed agreements with the regions for implementing interventions that aim at applying projects relating to youth policies, with a very important focus on the promotion of tools and projects for the participation of young people.

There are many councils through which participation in youth policies is ensured: the National Council for the Civic Service, the regional councils (the first regional youth council was established by Molise, with the [regional law 21/1980](#)) and other participatory bodies of young people that have been activated in almost all regions and in many municipalities. These tools aim to promote the active citizenship of young people and provide them with spaces for experiment to increase awareness of their role as citizens.

With the 2019 budget law, the National Youth Council was established, an important body that through second-level participation actively collaborates with the Government on youth policies. The Council undertakes to recognize and promote dialogue between youth organizations and institutions. It also promotes the active citizenship of young people and, to this end, supports the activity of youth associations, promoting the exchange of good practices and increasing networks among them. It facilitates the training and development of advisory bodies for young people at local level, collaborates with public administrations, develops studies and prepares reports on youth conditions, useful for defining policies for young people, expresses opinions and formulates proposals on government initiative legislative acts on matters affecting young people. In addition to that, it participates in European and international association forums, thus interacts with the president of the council of ministers or by the delegated political authority, on matters and policies that have an impact on younger generations.

## 5.1 General context

### Main concepts

The right of participation is enshrined in Art. 3 of the [Constitution](#): "It is the duty of the Republic to remove those obstacles of an economic or social nature which constrain the freedom and equality of citizens, thereby impeding the full development of the human person and the effective participation of all workers in the political, economic and social organisation of the country."

The Constitution also enshrines the freedom of association, the right to establish political parties, as well as trade unions.

The Italian institutional system contains tools for direct democracy such as the referendum, the petition, and the bill of popular initiative.

## Institutions of representative democracy

Italy has been a parliamentary democratic Republic since June 2nd, 1946, when the monarchy was abolished through an institutional universal suffrage referendum, participated in for the first time also by women. On 1 January 1948, the Constitution came into force.

The President of the Republic is the Head of the State and represents its unity. He/she is elected by the Parliament in a joint session.

The President, among other responsibilities, appoints the Prime Minister and the Ministers, chairs the Supreme Judicial Council, the Supreme Defense Council, and commands the Armed Forces.

The President is responsible for calling the elections and the referendum.

The legislative power is exercised by the Parliament, composed by the Chamber of Deputies (630 members) and the Senate of the Republic (315 members), which are elected every 5 years.

The national Government is composed of the President of the Council and the Ministers. According to Art. 95 of the Constitution "The President of the Council conducts and holds responsibility for the general policy of the Government. The President of the Council ensures the coherence of political and administrative policies, by promoting and co-ordinating the activity of the Ministers."

In addition to the executive power, in case of necessity and urgency, the Government may adopt a decree having force of law. However, within sixty days of its publication, the decree must be transposed into law by Parliament.

The President of the Council and the Ministers are appointed by the President of the Republic, and must receive the Parliament's vote of confidence.

The Italian Constitution grants the universal suffrage to all citizens of age, and defines the right to vote as a "civic duty" (Art. 48). No sanction is applied in case of abstention.

The vote is cast by secret ballot. Citizens residing abroad may vote by mail through the Embassy.

Voting by proxy is not allowed.

According to the Constitution (art.114) "The Republic is composed of the Municipalities, the Provinces, the Metropolitan Cities, the Regions and the State. Municipalities, provinces, metropolitan cities and regions are autonomous entities having their own statutes, powers and functions in accordance with the principles laid down in the Constitution."

The Law on local authorities, approved with [legislative decree 267/2000](#) and subsequent amendments contains the principles and provisions regarding the organization of local authorities. Furthermore, [law 56/2014](#) contains provisions relating to metropolitan cities, provinces, unions and mergers of municipalities.

Italy is composed of 20 Regions (Art. 131 of the Constitution). Five of them - i.e. Friuli Venezia Giulia, Sardinia, Sicily, Trentino-Alto Adige, and Valle d'Aosta - have a "special statute", which grants them special forms and conditions of autonomy. The Trentino-Alto Adige Region is composed of the autonomous Provinces of Trento and Bolzano, which have legislative powers similar to those of the Regions.

According to Art. 121 of the Constitution, the bodies of the Region are:

- the Regional Council (Consiglio regionale), which exercise legislative powers attributed to the Region;
- the Regional Executive (Giunta regionale), which is the executive body;
- the President of the Executive (Presidente della Giunta regionale), who represents the Region directs the policymaking of the Executive and is responsible for it, promulgates

laws and regional statutes, directs the administrative functions delegated to the Region by the State, in conformity with the instructions of the Government of the Republic.

The provinces are territorial entities governed by [law 56/2014](#) (para. 51 to 100).

The bodies of the Province are the following:

- the President of the Province;
- the provincial Council;
- the Assembly of Mayors.

According to the Constitution (Art. 114), the Municipality is an autonomous entity having its own statute, powers and functions.

The bodies of the Municipality are the following:

- the municipal Council;
- the municipal Executive, chaired by the Major and composed of Councilors, appointed by the Major;
- the Major;
- the municipal Secretary.

The Major and the municipal Council are elected by the citizens every 5 years.

## 5.2 Youth participation in representative democracy

### Young people as voters

All Italian citizens who have reached the age of 18 are automatically registered in the voter's lists. This age limit applies to all elections (national, local, European) and referendum, except for the Senate, where the age of the passive electorate rises to 25 years.

All citizens who are unable to reach the pooling place (sick people, prisoners) have access to facilitations in order to exercise their voting right.

Italian citizens residing abroad, who are enrolled in the Public Register of Italian Residents Abroad (Anagrafe Italiani Residenti all'Estero) may vote by correspondence through the Embassy. This applies to national and European elections, as well as referendum. For local elections, they may obtain a discount on public transportation (plane, rail).

In case of elections, the volunteers of the universal Civic Service deployed outside their place of residence are given permits and free transport to reach the pooling place ([Disciplina dei rapporti tra enti e operatori volontari del Servizio civile universale](#)). Volunteers may also obtain permission to act as President or Secretary of the pooling station, scrutinizer or list representative.

The Italian pool turnout figures for political elections are aggregated, therefore there are no official data regarding youth participation.

Eurobarometer reports "[Review of European and National election results](#)" the following data based on a post-election survey of the 2019 European Parliament elections:

Total turnout	Turnout 18/24 years old	Turnout 25/39 years old
54,50%	43,60%	57,20%

### Young people as political representatives

The minimum age to run as Member of Parliament is 25 years for the Chamber of Deputies, and 40 years for the Senate.

The minimum age to join a political party varies from 14 to 16 years depending on the different statutes and internal regulations of the party. There are no "quotas" or specific arrangements in favour of young candidates.

Composition of the Chamber of Deputies by age group:

Age group	Total
25-29	19 (3,01%)
30-39	189 (29,95%)

Composition of the Senate by age group:

Age group	Total
40-49	66 (19,35%)

The average age in the Chamber of Deputies is 44 years, while in the Senate 52.

Data refer to the 2018 Parliamentary elections.

## 5.3 Youth representation bodies

### Youth parliament

In Italy there are a number of organizations representing young people in different areas, but there is no youth parliament.

However, young people can participate in simulations of parliamentary sessions as an educational tool through the [democracy project \(CW4D\)](#) which allows approximately 500 students from all Italian Regions to participate in the simulation of the Italian parliamentary works.

### Youth councils and/or youth advisory boards

The [National Youth Council](#) is the new advisory and representative body of young people, which replaced the National Youth Forum. It was set up by law in 2019 ([law, n.145/2018](#) Art. 1 paragraphs 470 to 477) which allocated € 200.000 for its operations in 2019.

In order to encourage the participation of young people to the political, social, economic and cultural development of the Country, the National Youth Council shall promote:

- the dialogue among institutions, youth organizations and young people;
- the overcoming of obstacles to the participation of young people in the mechanisms of representative and direct democracy;
- the active citizenship of young people and, to this end, supports the activities of the youth associations, encouraging the exchange of good practices and their networks;
- the development of youth advisory bodies at local level.

The Council collaborates with the public administrations drafting studies and reports on the situation of youth, expresses opinions and formulates proposals on legislative acts that deal with youth issues.

Participatory bodies of young people are active in almost all Regions in different forms: forums, tables and councils. Each of these bodies has its own rules and objectives based on regional laws.

#### Abruzzo

[Regional Law 19/2002](#) and [Regional Law 77/2001](#) Provisions relating to youth communities and the establishment of the regional youth council (register of associations)

**Basilicata**

[Regional Law 11/2000](#) Recognition and promotion of the role of the younger generations in regional society (regional forum); [Regional Law 2/2000](#) Youth project regional council (register of associations)

**Campania**

[Regional Law 14/2000](#) Promotion and incentives for youth information services (InformaGiovani) and establishment of their territorial network; Regional Law 26/2016 Building the future. New policies for young people. (Forum)

**Emilia Romagna**

[Regional Law 14/2008](#)

Policy provisions for young generations (Forum, regular conference)

**Friuli Venezia Giulia**

[Regional Law 12/2007](#) Promotion of youth representation, coordination and support of youth initiatives

[Regional Law 5/2012](#) Law for the autonomy of young people and the guarantee fund for their opportunities. council, Triennial conference and register of associations

**Lazio**

[Regional Law 29/2001](#) Promotion and coordination of youth policies

[Regional Law 20/2007](#) Promotion of the means for institutional participation of the younger generations in local political and administrative life ("[Regional network of young councils](#)".)

**Liguria**

[Regional Law 6/2009](#) Promotion of policies for minors and young people (Forum)

**Lombardia**

[Regional Law 45/1986](#) Regional interventions for the promotion of youth socio-cultural exchanges

DGR 2679 of November 21, 2014 and Decree No. 6507 of July 31, 2015

**Marche**

Regional law 46/1995 and amendments with regional Law 2/1997 and [9/2003](#)

Promotion and coordination of intervention policies for young people and adolescents

[Regional Law 24/2011](#) Youth policy normes (Council and list of associations)

**P.A. Bolzano**

[DPR 6/2012](#) Simplification of the procedures for the promotion and implementation of interventions in the youth sector and the functioning of the provincial council of youth service for the Italian language group

**P.A. Trento**

[Provincial Law 5/2007](#) Development, coordination and promotion of youth policies, provincial civil service discipline (Council) [Provincial Law 7/2009](#) Establishment of the provincial youth council

**Piemonte**

[Regional law 16/1995](#) (integration with L.R. 5/2001) Coordination and support of activities for young people ([Consulta](#))

## Sardegna

[Regional Law 11/1999](#) Initiatives and coordination of activities for young people (consult, [Chart](#) and [Network](#))

## Toscana

[D.G 257/2016](#) Consultation Table of Youth ([Tavolo Giovani](#)) of the project *Giovanisi*

## Umbria

[Regional Law 1/2016](#) Youth policy rules (Concil)

## Valle d’Aosta

[Regional Law 12/2013](#) Promotion and coordination of youth policies (Forum)

## Veneto

[Regional Law 17/2008](#) Promotion of youth protagonism and participation in social life (Forum).

## Higher education student union(s)

The [national council of university Students](#) (*Consiglio Nazionale degli Studenti Universitari*, CNSU) is an advisory body of the Ministry of Education, University and Research established with the D.P.R. 491/1997. The CNSU is composed of twenty-eight members elected by the students of the third-year and specialist degree courses, by specializing and research doctoral candidates. Elections take place every three years. The Council may issue opinions and proposals to the Minister of Education, University and Research concerning the university (implementation of the reforms, right to study, funding, news of national relevance regarding national universities). Finally, the Council elects among its members, eight representatives who sit on the National University Council (*Consiglio Universitario Nazionale*, CUN), the highest representative body of the Italian academic system.

## School student union(s)

The [Provincial Student Council](#) (*Consulta Provinciale degli Studenti*, CPS) is an institutional body of student representation on a provincial basis composed of two students for each secondary school in the province. The representatives are elected by the students of the belonging school and remain in office for two years.

**The Council has their own funds** to be used for events and projects aimed at supporting student participation in their local area. They create moments of coordination and representation at regional level, concretizing, at national level, the formulation of their requests through the national council of councils’ presidents (*Consiglio Nazionale dei Presidenti di Consulta*, CNPC). The councils encourage the exchange of information and experiences in the area, design projects to be integrated, discuss the crucial issues common to the CPS and dialogue with ministry of education, university and research by drafting opinions and proposals.

## Other bodies

[ANCI Giovani](#) is the national council of young local administrators “under 35” in Italy, which represents all the young administrators of the municipalities belonging to the National Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI). ANCI Giovani fosters the meeting and exchange of opinions and the different local experiences of young administrators. The goal is to create, in agreement with ANCI and through the structures connected to it, a network made up of the new local ruling class. The networks aim at not only the understanding and monitoring of the phenomenon related to the presence of young people in local administrations, but also contributing, as a young and innovative soul of the association, to the definition of public policies that affect local authorities, in terms of proposals and content to be shared.

In addition, ANCI Giovani promotes training activities for the new local managerial class (ANCI school of young administrators) also through the organization of specific events and appointments that encourage continuous training and effective updating on many issues, techniques and regulations, related to local authorities. These purposes are to be implemented throughout the national territory, also operating as a link with the regional realities and in collaboration with all the ANCI local representatives.

## 5.4 Young people's participation in policy-making

### Formal Mechanisms of Consultation

The **national youth council** is an advisory and representative body of young people which has the task of encouraging the participation of young people in the country's political, social, economic and cultural development.

The representation of young people in the dialogue with the institutions for any discussion on the policies that concern the youth world is delegated to the national youth council, established with the 2019 budget law (law December the 30<sup>th</sup> 2018, n.145, article 1, paragraphs 470 to 477)

The national youth council is heard on the issues that the president of the council of ministers or the delegated political authority considers appropriate to submit for its examination. The national youth council may also be heard, at the request of the competent ministers and in agreement with the president of the council of ministers or with the delegated political authority, on matters and policies that have an impact on the younger generations.

### Actors

**Relevant youth actors** in case of consultation are:

- National youth council (see 5.3);
- Councils, forums and discussion tables established at regional level (see 5.3);
- Provincial student council (see 5.3);
- Youth associations (see 5.5) and student associations.

**Relevant public actors** in case of consultation are:

- The department of youth policy and the universal civil service;
- Regions, provinces and municipalities;
- Ministry of education and research;
- Ministry of labour and social policies;
- Ministry of justice.

### Information on the extent of youth participation

Standard procedures for collecting quantitative and qualitative information on the participation of young people at different levels have not been identified.

ISTAT, the national statistical institute that serves the community through the production and communication of high-quality statistical information, analysis and forecasts, has a specific channel for data analysis on young people: [#giovani](#). The information system collects the data that ISTAT produces on teenagers and young people in a unique place, and also identifies ad hoc indicators that encompass the different dimensions of the young people daily life.

## Outcomes

In the last ten years, the national youth forum, representing a body of the most important Italian youth associations, has consistently carried out a consultation activity of the young generations on the most relevant issues that interested and invested in young people. This activity was also carried out thanks to the constant support of the department of youth policy and universal civil service, which, through specific agreements, has financed projects specifically aimed at detecting the orientation of young people. The amount of funding that the department has insured was on average 400,000.00 € for each year.

The forum, in 2019, was incorporated by merger into the National Youth Council.

### Large-scale initiatives for dialogue or debate between public institutions and young people

The Council is a newly established body and is therefore evaluating the launch of a series of activities to ensure the consultation of young people. The activities include:

- the establishment of a national working table between the National Youth Council and other institutional actors to ensure a constant and periodic dialogue about youth policies, similarly to what takes place in the context of the "**EU Dialogue with young people**", which is the venue for consultation and reflection between the commission, governments and youth organizations;
- the announcement of the "general states of youth policies", a moment of meeting and reflection between youth associations for the elaboration of concrete proposals on the activities to be developed;
- the creation of a generational budget to understand the needs of young people and define the programmatic agenda with them.

The activity would start with the set up of some questionnaires together with local stakeholders, in order to involve a larger number of young people.

## 5.5 National strategy to increase youth participation

### Existence of a national strategy to increase young people's political and civil participation

The current government has focused on establishing a specific youth representation body (the National Youth Council) to ensure and increase the participation of young people in civil and political life. The law established by the council therefore represents a strategic document, which its main objective - in addition to ensuring the representation of young people - is to spread and increase youth participation.

The strategy on the theme of participation is also designed, as well as for all policies in favour of young people on which there is a shared competence between the state and the regions, through the agreement between the two parties and other territorial actors (ANCI and UPI). This agreement represents a form of institutional dialogue between the government and local authorities in which the financial resources, objectives and priorities for intervention are defined.

Every year, during the "unified conference", the government, the regions and the autonomous provinces, by signing a formal agreement, establish the frame of reference for the objectives to be achieved and the projects dedicated to young people to be developed, including activities that promote their participation in political and social life. The agreements contents' coherence (objectives, economic resources and intervention priorities) that have followed one another over the last 6 years clearly define the strategic plan adopted by the Italian institutions on youth policies.

In the agreement of 13 February, [CU-14/2019](#), one of the agreed priorities was "the promotion of an **inclusive participation** in the social and political way, also in order to allow young people to participate in the decision-making process and to be able to direct policies addressed to a target audience".

Following the agreement, the [Department for Youth Policy and the Universal Civic Service](#), as the authority responsible for the connection of youth policies, has signed collaboration agreements with each Region. These agreements identify:

- the objectives to be implemented, in accordance with the understanding mentioned above;
- the interventions' monitoring methods proposed by the territorial administrations;
- the amount of resources transferred from the National Fund for Youth Policies.

The collaboration agreement contains the regional project, which can also have a two-year duration, which also indicates the indicators of achievement and / or impact

The regions are fundamental actors in promoting the active participation of young people through the dispositive provided by various regional laws. Many municipalities have also developed local projects (for example, the municipal councils for youth) to involve more young people in the public life of cities.

Youth associations are another important tool for the expression and exercise of youth participation, often involved by public, regional and municipal administrations, through selection calls for the development of project ideas.

## Scope and contents

The described system of institutional collaboration between the state and local autonomies supports the development of a considerable number of territorial interventions, defined and developed by the administrations with the involvement of youth associations and third sector.

The contents of these localized interventions about participation vary in relation to the needs of the local communities and can be divided into these macro areas:

- Knowledge of the functioning of state and regional institutions, their participatory processes and related bodies.
- Promotion of values and attitudes to become responsible citizens.
- Development of critical thinking about different life contexts and content offered by mass media and social media.
- Promotion of active participation in school and local communities.
- Development of relationships that reinforce the dimension of trust, a sense of belonging and a sense of community.
- Promotion of representation and active citizenship, experimenting with new forms and opportunities for participation.
- Promotion of opportunities to encourage co-planning between different actors, making young people main actors in the project conception phase.

## Responsible authority for the implementation of the strategy

The authority responsible for youth policy link is the [Department for Youth Policy and the Universal Civic Service](#)

## Revisions/Updates

As described above, the national strategy is designed by the state, regions and local autonomies agreement, which is signed every year at the Unified Conference .The strategy aims at achieving a common purpose of the government and regions.

Through the agreement, the objectives are updated and the intervention priorities are redefined on the basis of the financial resources available in the reference year of the national fund for youth policies.

This system, based on the institutional dialogue between the government and territorial autonomies, ensures considerable flexibility in redefining the overall strategy, also in terms of youth participation, and allows the authority responsible for implementing the strategy to adapt choices and investments by virtue of the priorities that can be determined following economic crises or social emergencies.

## 5.6 Supporting youth organisations

### Legal/policy framework for the functioning and development of youth organisations

The rules governing the criteria and functioning of youth organizations can be found in the Constitution, articles 3 and 18, in the civil code, in the recent legislation on the third sector referred to in legislative decree 117/17. On a subsidiary basis, it is possible to refer to the criteria present in regional laws on youth policies (see 5.3) and in national calls for projects issued by the Department for youth policy and universal civil service.

At a general level, it should be highlighted that the agreement that is signed every year in the Unified Conference represents a participatory design tool also for the purposes of the definition of the operating and development strategies of youth organizations. The agreement defines the financial resources, objectives and priorities for interventions in support of youth organizations. The ministerial decree, which is issued annually by the delegated political authority in the field of youth policies, represents the final act of the planning and destination of the fund for youth policies, whose resources are significantly allocated to youth organizations, either directly or indirectly through the interventions of local authorities.

In 2019, for example, the "[Fermenti](#)" call was issued, a measure promoted by the department for youth policy and the universal civil service, with use of the resources of the aforementioned fund. This measure recognizes the role of young people as key players in the activation of change-oriented processes and encourages synergies as a lever for cohesion and social development. Within the call, subjects who could present projects and receive funding are identified as follows:

- "Informal groups", ie groups with a minimum of three and a maximum of five people between the ages of eighteen and thirty-five.
- "Temporary associations of purpose" (ATS) between people who, on the basis of current legislation, are qualified entities of the third sector, consisting of a maximum of three entities, with a governing body consisting of a majority of young people between eighteen and thirty-five years (note that also in regional laws (see 5.3) there are similar identification criteria - as well as in [law 95/95](#) - regarding youth enterprise: "Youth enterprises are considered enterprises whose participation of control and ownership is mainly held by people of age under 35 years old".)

The financial envelope for the implementation of the measure in 2019 is equal to 15,950,000.00 euros. As part of the European community objective of reducing the distance between young people and European institutions, harmonizing the policies of the member countries in the field of youth and directly involving young people in the decisions that affect them closely, the Erasmus + program allows with [Action Key 3 - Support for policy reforms](#) - the meeting between young people and youth policy makers.

It is possible to present a project of dialogue between young people and political decision makers to the [National Youth Agency](#) of an association, a local authority or an informal group of young people.

## Public financial support

According to the provisions of the Unified Conference of 13 February 2019, [CU-14/2019](#), the fund share for 2019 directed to the Regions and the local government system equals 51% of the total of approx. 37 million euro of the fund for youth policies, was aimed at co-financing territorial interventions in the field of youth policies. These interventions are aimed at promoting:

- the inclusive participation of young people in the social and political life of the territories, allowing young people to contribute to the decision-making process and to be able to direct the policies addressed to the target audience;
- projects that meet the expectations of autonomy and fulfilment of young people;
- multilevel orientation and dissemination activities, also carried out in the cultural sector, and / or aiming to the prevention of the phenomenon of new addictions linked to young people.

According to the above mentioned understanding of the 13 February 2019 provisions, the local authorities send the project proposals to the Department for youth policy and Universal civil service, relating to the interventions that are intended to be carried out, for the purpose of signing the collaboration agreement.

## Initiatives to increase the diversity of participants

The proposed initiatives and calls are open to all categories of young people. Generally, the members of the groups of young people are expected to be Italian citizens or citizens of a member state of the European Union, regularly resident in Italy or citizens of a state not part of the European Union, and long-term residents in Italy.

## 5.7 “Learning to participate” through formal, non-formal and informal learning

### Policy Framework

In Italy, the development of social and civil skills is for the most part entrusted to schooling.

The ministry of education, university and research (MIUR) offers schools a reference framework for preparing an educational offer that enhances education in civil society and legality.

In order to implement the guarantees that the constitution of the Italian republic provides, these are the educational paths for the full development of the person and citizenship rights. Education for democracy and legality aims to make students protagonists. Meaning making them capable of exercising their rights and duties of citizenship.

### Formal learning

The MIUR proposes, to schools of all levels and degrees, educational programs that can be carried out during the school year in the context of the teaching of citizenship and constitution (according to the provisions of [law 169/08](#) and [article 1 paragraph 7 of law 107 / 15](#)). Specifically, these are education courses about legality, education for active citizenship, control and stopping mafia and organized crime phenomena.

[Law 92/19](#) introduced school education in civil education. Article 3 provides, among the reference themes for the development of specific learning skills and objectives, education in the legality and stopping or fighting the mafias, knowledge of the constitution, and the institutions of the Italian state, the European Union and international bodies.

The platform [www.cittadinanzaecostituzione.it](http://www.cittadinanzaecostituzione.it) proposes projects, competitions and didactic proposals to enrich the educational offer, creates innovative didactic courses and

connects to local territory, making use of the resources offered by the senate, chamber and MIUR. Among the proposed projects for the 2019/2020 school year is the following:

- The competition "From parliamentary rooms to classrooms". Constitution lessons addressed to secondary schools in order to reward projects (videos, e-books, websites and blogs) capable of enhancing the constitution by demonstrating research skills, originality, didactic effectiveness and communicative competence.
- The "One day in the senate" competition: visits and educational activities organized at the senate and the chamber of deputies;
- The "Training days" project: visits organized at the chamber of deputies to allow young people to enter the places of the parliamentary institutions directly and learn more about their role and functions.
- The competition "Parlawiki-build the democracy vocabulary" created by the chamber of deputies and MIUR for the fifth grades of primary schools and for the secondary schools, to illustrate some "keywords" of democracy through multimedia language.
- "I would like a law that ...", initiated by the collaboration between the senate and MIUR to invite primary school students to develop their own law proposal and illustrate it in a creative way.

In addition, the chamber continues its training activities on the territory and in schools of penitentiary institutions through the renewal of the [memorandum of understanding](#) between the chamber of deputies, MIUR and the ministry of justice - Department of prison administration (D.A.P.).

## Non-formal and informal learning

Participation within schools is guaranteed by the [text of legislative decree 297/94](#) which defines the roles of student representation at school level.

According to art 5 of legislative decree 297/94, each class of every educational institution has the right / duty to elect a class representative who is called to represent the students of his/her class within the class council (*Consiglio di Classe*, CoC) and in the student committee (*Comitato Studentesco*). Each classroom elects two representatives with voting rights within the CoC in almost all school issues except for didactic assessments. The class representative calls and manages the class assemblies, takes care of the relationship between the class and the teachers and other tasks of representation and emergence of needs.

Article 13 of legislative decree 297/94 also establishes the student committee in which all the present representative bodies within the school can participate. Its main role is to ensure participation in the school and to create a link between class representatives, school representatives and consultants. The committee is required to appoint an adult student as their representative within the school's guarantee body. Among the main roles of the student committee, is that of making proposals to the institute council concerning the main topics envisaged in presidential decree 567/96.

The same art. 13 of legislative decree 297/94 establishes the right to student assemblies in secondary schools which constitute an opportunity for democratic participation for the deepening of schools and society's problems in order to support students' cultural and civil education.

The [law 285/97](#) regulates the activity of the municipal councils of young people, an instrument for promoting active citizenship. There are small differences between the municipal regulations for defining the municipality's elective modalities tasks, often carried out in collaboration with schools in the area.

The councillors are usually in the order of twenty (divided by representatives of primary and secondary school of first degree) and elect the president of the youth council and their mayor always in accordance with the municipal regulation. The young people are called to

plan and implement concrete actions, to make commitments and to take responsibility. They identify and suggest solutions to problems affecting the area in which they live. They experiment forms of democracy that promote their value and respect.

The [ANCI](#) (National Association of Italian Municipalities), in implementation of the agreements stipulated with the presidency of the council of ministers, the department for youth policy and the universal civil service relating respectively to the use of the 2017 and 2018 allocations of the youth policy fund, promotes an initiative of [administrative twinning between municipalities](#) in the field of active participation. This initiative aims at strengthening and transferring the best practices already implemented through the projects financed by the previous public tenders on youth policies.

The total amount for the 2019 call is 1,980,000.00 €

### **Quality assurance/quality guidelines for non-formal learning**

As a specific guide to guarantee the quality of participation processes within non-formal education courses, we can mention the recent presentation of the Italian translation of [the ministers' committee of the European council's recommendations to the member states CM / Rec \(2017\) 4](#) about youth work (*Animazione Socio Educativa*). The recommendations provide guidelines for an approach to quality non-formal education with particular attention to the role of "youth worker" (*animatore socio-culturale*), agent and promoter of participatory community processes.

The document proposes precise recommendations to be applied at a national level to guarantee the quality of socio-educational animation and the application of non-formal education.

### **Educators' support**

In-service training of teachers is mandatory, permanent and structural (paragraph 124 of law 107 of 2015). Each educational institution defines the training activities in accordance with the three-year plan of the educational offer, with the results emerging from the improvement plans of the schools (provided by the regulation contained in decree 80 of the republic president of 28 March 2013), based on the priorities indicated in the national training plan. This plan is adopted every three years by decree of the minister of education, university and research, after hearing the trade unions representing the category.

A regulation is currently being drafted governing a permanent and structural training proposal for youth workers (socio-cultural animators), there are also training proposals at the European level implemented in Italy through the Erasmus + Youth Program.

## **5.8 Raising political awareness among young people**

### **Information providers / counselling structures**

In Italy, as mentioned in chapter 5.7, the [ministry of education, university and research \(MIUR\)](#) - general directorate of students, integration and participation, offers schools of different order and degree a reference framework to prepare training and information activities on rights, duties and democratic participation.

The [migration integration portal](#) has been launched in 2012, In order to disseminate information for young people with a migrant background, under the coordination of the general directorate of immigration and integration policy of the ministry of labor and Social Affairs, now ANPAL Servizi SpA. The portal promotes access to integration services, ensures correct information for citizens. "New Generations" is the area dedicated to young people with a migration background, to their associations, projects and activities. This area has the objective of collecting and disseminating information, in-depth articles, studies and research, reports relating to specific projects that have specifically addressed the issue of young people with migratory backgrounds, their rights and duties.

## Youth-targeted information campaigns about democratic rights and democratic values

The platform <https://www.cittadinanzaecostituzione.it> offers projects, annual awareness campaigns, competitions and educational proposals to enrich the educational offer of schools and to create innovative educational paths on the themes of active participation and to promote knowledge of the forms of government in Italy using the resources offered by the senate, Camera and MIUR (Chapter 5.7).

[Europe = Noi](#) is an educational project promoted by the department for European policies, in collaboration with the European commission, the European parliament and the ministry of education, university and research. [Europa = Noi](#) is an educational platform that offers teachers and students of all primary and secondary Italian schools a multimedia and interactive journey to discover European history, values, institutions and programs, with particular attention to rights and duties related to citizenship and to the treaties which have allowed the establishment and development of the European Union over time. According to the website, [the Department for European Policies](#), over 11 thousand teachers already use the digital platform.

Among the projects in place for the 2019 school year is the following:

- Communication campaign "[Knowing the treaties for a stronger and fairer Europe](#)": an initiative addressed to secondary schools to promote a thorough deepened reading and critical reflection on the current European treaties.
- [National competition for II grade secondary school students](#): the aim is to stimulate the production of research or essays on which idea of united Europe is considered useful for the social and economic progress of the member states and proposals for a new *politeia* presented by the Italian government. A visit to the European institutions is at stake.
- "[Europa = Noi](#)" and "[A scuola di OpenCoesione](#)", a new partnership to reinforce the didactic path: the didactic materials and tools of Europa = Noi are available to schools participating in the project promoted by the department for European policies.

## Promoting the intercultural dialogue among young people

The [Ministry of Education, University and Research](#) (MIUR) in the context of supporting integration paths promotes:

- [Protagonisti! the new Italian generations speak about themselves](#);
- [Costruttori di ponti](#) (Bridges Builders).

ISMU (Initiatives and Studies on Multi-Ethnicity) has a documentation center (DocCe) on international migration and inter-ethnic coexistence with over 12,600 titles between books and videos, more than 150 thematic periodicals. The main recipients of the projects are: teachers and educators, public officials and policy makers, immigrants and migrant associations, asylum seekers and refugees, journalists and information workers, non-profit organizations and businesses, students and researchers.

ISMU has published numerous notebooks to support intercultural projects.

## Promoting transparent and youth-tailored public communication

It should be noted that in the process of changing the public administration, the legislator considers public communication as an integral part of the action of public administrations.

In accordance with the provisions of law 150/2000, the communication plan acts as one of the tools that allows public administrations to achieve their objectives and reference audiences, combining communication strategies and actions according to an organic and rational plan. In this sense, each ministry or presidency department of the council of ministers has its own annual communication strategy that can also involve young people

as a specific target (for example, for the Department for Youth Policies and Universal Civil Service or the MIUR ).

## 5.9 E-participation

Italy is the 25th country in Europe by number of Internet users (59%) and 23rd in basic digital skills (47%). As for students, the data from the OSCE 2014 report indicate that every 15-year-old Italian uses the computer in the classroom 19 minutes a day, against an OECD average of 25 minutes.

The [National Digital School Plan](#) (law 107/2015) is the guiding document of the Ministry of Education, University and Research for the launch of an overall innovation strategy of the Italian school and for a new positioning of its educational system in the digital era.

The [DialogoGiovani.eu](#) portal, managed by the National Youth Council with the support of the Department for Youth Policy and the Universal Civil Service and the National Youth Agency, allows the involvement of young people at all levels of the EU Dialogue process with young people through online consultation procedures.

The Department for Youth Policy and the Universal Civic Service provides that young people who want to apply for participation in the Universal Civil Service must equip themselves with a digital identity. Even for participation in the Department's calls for tenders, young people must have a PEC and digital signature.

In addition, the department has started the development of a digital **hub** addressed to young people aged between 14 to 35. The hub will be the single point of access for young people to the opportunities dedicated to them throughout the national territory and which will allow the enhancement of human, civic and professional experiences by young people in the use of opportunities, through specific IT solutions that support the creation of participatory networks among young people.

## 5.10 Current debates and reforms

### Forthcoming policy developments

Law 92/2019 was introduced in schools of all levels and degrees of the national educational system, starting from the 2020/2021 school year, the transversal teaching, among others, of civil, financial and environmental sustainability education.

In order to adequately and effectively prepare the introduction of civil education in school courses of any level and grade starting from September 2020, a Scientific Technical Committee will design guidelines as required by art. 3 of Law 92/2019, carrying out stakeholder consultation, and will initiate appropriate accompanying activities for schools.

On the basis of the guidelines, educational institutions will have to develop specific didactic projects for the offer of a transversal teaching plan of at least 33 hours per year, to be carried out within the compulsory schooling timetable. The didactic projects will aim to develop students' knowledge of the Italian constitution and the institutions of the European Union to increase, in particular, the sharing and promotion of the principles of legality, active and digital citizenship as well as financial education and environmental sustainability.

### Ongoing debates

Currently, there are no ongoing debates on the topic.

## GLOSSARY

---

### **Accordo di partenariato 2014-2020**

Document approved by the European Commission and prepared by Italy in collaboration with central and local government and the economic and social partners, which defines the strategies, procedures, and spending priorities of funding co-financed by the European Structural and Investment (ESI) Funds. In accordance with Regulation (EU) 1303/2013, the agreement establishes the strategic guidance for 11 thematic objectives organised into actions and expected results. In February, the technical adjustment for years 2017-2020 of the European 2014-2020 Multiannual Financial Framework (as envisaged under Article 92(3) of the EU Regulation) resulted in a revision of the Partnership Agreement.

### **Adriatic Ionian Initiative**

The Adriatic Ionian Initiative (IAI) is an international organization founded in 2000 and which brings together some of the countries bordering the Adriatic and Ionian Seas. It is an intergovernmental forum for regional cooperation in the Adriatic Ionian Euroregion. Its permanent secretariat is based in the city of Ancona, a historic outpost between Western Europe, Greece and the Balkans, in the sixteenth-century Citadel, also called Ancona Fortress.

### **Agenzia Nazionale per i Giovani (ANG)**

In January 1, 2014, the national youth agency (ANG) is the implementing body in Italy of the youth chapter of the new ERASMUS + Program, for the period 2014-2020. Since December 2018 it has also become the body that in Italy manages, in every phase, the European program aimed at young people: European Solidarity Corps. The ANG therefore promotes the new European solidarity corps program that offers young people job, internship and volunteering opportunities, in their own country or abroad, as part of projects designed to help communities or populations in Europe.

### **Agenzia Nazionale per le Politiche Attive del Lavoro (ANPAL)**

With the Legislative Decree 150/2015, the National Agency for Active Labor Policies (ANPAL) was established, aimed at coordinating the network of services for the unemployed and a single Inspectorate for controls on safety and regularity of work. The task of ANPAL is to coordinate labor policies for job seekers and the relocation of the unemployed. For this reason, it provides tools and methodologies to support public and private operators in the labor market. The Agency coordinates the national network of employment services, which promotes the rights to work, training and professional elevation.

### **Agenzie per il lavoro**

Employment Agencies are private structures (partnerships, corporations, and cooperatives) authorized by the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies to offer services related to labor supply and demand. They deal with: research and selection of personnel, intermediation between demand and supply of labor, supply of labor to companies.

### **Ammortizzatori sociali**

The social safety net is a collection of services provided by the state or other institutions such as friendly societies. It includes welfare, unemployment benefit, universal healthcare, right to healthcare, free education, right to housing, legal aid, victims' rights, mutual funds, superfund for pensioners and veterans, workers compensation, severance package, consumer protection, social credit, private electricity, homeless shelters, and sometimes subsidized services such as public transport, which prevent individuals from falling into poverty beyond a certain level.

### **Analisi di impatto della regolamentazione (AIR)**

Analysis of the impact of the regulation - AIR, consists in the preventive evaluation of the effects of hypotheses of regulatory intervention falling on the activities of citizens and businesses and on the organization and functioning of public administrations, by comparing alternative options. This assessment is entrusted to the Department for Legal and Legislative Affairs based on the Prime Minister's Office.

### **ANCI (Associazione Nazionale dei Comuni Italiani).**

The [National Association of Italian Municipalities \(ANCI\)](#) is a non-profit association. Its fundamental objective is to represent and protect the interests of the Municipalities before Parliament, Government, Regions, public administration bodies, European bodies, Committee of the Regions and any other Institution that exercises public functions of local interest. ANCI Youth (ANCI Giovane). It is part of the National Association of Italian Municipalities and gathers local administrators' under-35 years of age.

### **ANCI Giovane**

[ANCI](#) Giovani is the national council of young local administrators "under 35" in Italy, which represents all the young administrators of the municipalities belonging to the national association of Italian municipalities (ANCI). ANCI Giovani aims to be a tool that fosters and stimulates the meeting and exchange of opinions and the different local experiences of young administrators. The goal is to create, in agreement with ANCI and through the structures connected to it, a network made up of the new local ruling class.

### **Assegno di ricollocazione (AdR)**

The relocation allowance (ADR) is a tool that helps people improve their chances of replacing themselves in the labor market and consists of an amount to be used by those who provide personalized intensive care services for finding employment (employment centers or accredited bodies for employment services), which they intend to follow provided they meet the relevant requirements.

### **Associazione temporanea di scopo (ATS).**

The Temporary Non-Profit Association (ATS) is an agreement according to which Third sector entities give one of them a mandate of representation towards a lender for the realization of a project of common interest.

### **Atlante del Lavoro e delle Qualificazioni**

The Atlas of Work and Qualifications is a detailed map of work and qualifications, described according to a common language shared between the institutions.

### **Autonomia locale (Ente locale)**

In the Italian legal system, the term local authority is used, as well as with the more general meaning mentioned above, with a more specific meaning, derived from the use that the legislator makes of it, to refer to territorial autonomies other than the region: municipalities, provinces and metropolitan cities, foreseen by art. 114 of the Constitution, as well as mountain communities, island communities, unions of municipalities.

### **Centri di servizio per il volontariato**

The service centres for volunteering (CSV) is instituted on the basis of the framework law on the voluntary service no 266/1991 and following reform of the third sector legislative decree 117/17 - third code sector. It was created for the development and the growth of the volunteering at regional level, supplying services to the volunteering organisations and to the third sector in the field of promotion, advice, training and communication. The service centres are present in all the Italian regions. In order to ensure the stable financing of the CSV, the National Sole Fund (Fondo Unico Nazionale, FUN) was constituted and is financed by bank foundations. One of the principal objectives of the service centres is promoting the culture of volunteering service between youth.

**Centri InformaGiovani:**

Through the [youth information centers](#) (Centri InformaGiovani, local information centers), young people can obtain initial information and guidance, in order to facilitate their choices for the future. The subjects covered are various such as work, training, volunteering, leisure and sport, voluntary civil service.

**Centri per l'impiego**

The Employment Centers are public structures which, on the mandate of the Regions and Provinces, favor the meeting between the demand and supply of work in the territory, informing, orienting and giving free advice to those who are looking for a job. They also carry out administrative activities such as enrolment on mobility lists and lists and rankings of protected categories, registration of recruitment, transformation and termination of employment relationships with private companies and public bodies.

**Terzo settore**

The voluntary sector or civic sector is the duty of social activity undertaken by organizations that are non-governmental nonprofit organizations. This sector is also called the third sector, community sector, and nonprofit sector, in contrast to the public sector and the private sector. Civic sector or social sector are other terms for the sector, emphasizing its relationship to civil society. Given the diversity of organizations that comprise the sector, Peter Frumkin prefers "non-profit and voluntary sector".

**Città Metropolitana**

The metropolitan city is one of the local territorial bodies present in the Italian Constitution, in article 114, after the 2001 reform (constitutional law n. 3/2001).

**Comune**

A municipality is a territorial body, endowed with administrative autonomy, dedicated to the interests of the local population. It is the administrative body closest to the citizen (vertical subsidiarity principle).

**Comunità montane.**

The mountain community is a public body, set up among mountain municipalities, belonging to different provinces. The aim is the enhancement of mountain areas.

**Conferenza Stato-Regioni e autonomie locali.**

The Permanent Conference between the State, the Regions and the autonomous Provinces of Trento and Bolzano (also called the State-Regions Conference) is a collegial body aimed at promoting institutional collaboration between the State and local autonomies.

**Conferenza Stato-Regioni**

The Permanent Conference for relations between the State, the Regions and the autonomous Provinces of Trento and Bolzano (also called the State-Regions Conference) is an Italian collegial body aimed at institutional collaboration between the State and local autonomies.

**Conferenza unificata / Conferenza Stato Regioni e autonomie locali**

The Unified Conference is an Italian legal institution. It participates in decision-making processes involving matters falling within the competence of the state and the regions, in order to foster cooperation between state activity and the autonomy system, examining the subjects and tasks of common interest, also carrying out consultative functions.

**Consiglio Nazionale dell'Economia e del lavoro (CNEL)**

The National Council for Economics and Labour (in Italian, Consiglio nazionale dell'economia e del lavoro or CNEL) is a constitutional organ provided for by Article 99 of Constitution of Italy and established in 1957. The CNEL is an assembly of experts that

advises the Italian government, Parliament and the regions, and promotes legislative initiatives on economic and social matters.

### **Consiglio Nazionale dei Giovani**

The [national youth council](#), established with the 2019 budget law (law December the 30th 2018, n.145 art. 1 subsections from 470 to 477) is the advisory body to which the representation of young people in relations with the institutions is delegated for any confrontation on policies affecting the world of youth. The government has allocated a special fund for financing the activities attributed to the council by law; for 2109 the resources amount was up to € 200,000.

### **Contratto di apprendistato**

The apprenticeship contract, in Italian labor law, indicates a type of contract and employment relationship aimed at professional training and insertion into the world of work.

### **Corsi di Istruzione e Formazione Tecnica Superiore (IFTS)**

Higher Technical Education and Training courses (IFTS): are post-diploma high-level vocational training courses, carried out in synergy between vocational training centers, higher education institutions, companies and universities. The IFTS is the Italian equivalent of post-secondary vocational education, attributable to the 4th level of the European qualifications framework.

IFTS courses are aimed at young people and adults, with or without work commitments, in respect of equal opportunities. Access to the IFTS courses is allowed to graduates, as well as those who do not have a secondary school diploma, but prove to have the minimum cultural requirements for access.

### **Corte dei Conti**

The Court of Audit is an Italian Court of Audit, an institution of constitutional importance, established by Articles 100 & 103 of the Constitution of Italy, which is among the supplementary institutions of the government. The Court of Audit has consultative, review, and jurisdictional functions.

The Court of Audit is a multi-functional institutions. Particularly important is the jurisdictional function in the realm of public administration. The Court of Audit is the special administrative judge mentioned in Article 103 of the Constitution. In this role it has jurisdiction over matters of public accounts and matters governed by the law. The Court of Audit is called upon to make decisions in cases of controversy concerning public accounts and in particular on actions of the administration relating to public employees and public administrators, as well as administrators and officials of societies under public control and controversies about pensions.

### **Decreto-legge**

A decree-law, in the Italian legal system, is a provisional regulatory act having the force of law, adopted in extraordinary cases of necessity and urgency by the Government, pursuant to art. 77 and 72 of the Constitution of the Italian Republic

### **Decreto legislativo**

A legislative decree is, according to Italian constitutional law, a legislative act having the force of law adopted by the executive power (Government) by express and formal delegation of legislative power (Parliament).

### **Dipartimento per le Politiche Giovanili e il Servizio Civile Universale**

The Department for Youth Policy and the Universal Civic Service constitutes the operating arm. Its mandate includes:

- The implementation and coordination of the youth strategy;

- The promotion of youth rights;
- The management and implementation of the national civic service programme;
- Support to the supervisory functions of the political delegated authority on the Erasmus+ National Youth Agency;
- The representation function at European and international level for youth policy matters.

### **Dis.Coll**

It is a special monthly unemployment for workers with collaboration contracts, who will have an unemployment allowance of a maximum duration of six months, if they lose their job and have paid more than three months of contributions in the calendar year and at least one month in the year prior to the time they lost their job

### **Elettorato attivo**

It is the right to vote guaranteed by the principle of universal suffrage. The Italian Constitution classifies voters' exercise of voting rights as a "civic duty".

### **Elettorato passivo**

Passive electorate means the ability of an Italian citizen to hold elective positions. Article. 51 of the Italian Constitution governs this institution in the system, considering all Italian citizens capable of accessing public offices according to the requirements expressed by law and with particular attention to equal opportunities between the sexes.

### **Eurodesk Italia**

Eurodesk Italia is the official network of the Erasmus + program for information on programs and initiatives promoted by European institutions for young people. Realised with the support of the European Commission - DG EAC (Education and Culture) and the national youth agency, Eurodesk works to promote access for young people to the opportunities offered by European programs in various sectors, in particular: international mobility, culture, formal and non-formal training, work and volunteering.

### **Fondo Servizio civile universale**

The Universal Civic Service Fund, with an endowment of approximately € 231 million in the year 2019, finances the civic service programme. It is based on an annual planning agreed upon in the "Conference between the State and the Regions" (Conferenza Stato-Regioni), and operates under a special accounting regime as required by the legislation.

### **Fondo nazionale per le politiche giovanili**

Since 2006, youth policies have been funded mainly by the National Fund for Youth Policies, established by art. 19, paragraph 2, of Decree-Law 223/2006. The Fund aims at promoting the right of young people to cultural and vocational training, inclusion in social life, including housing, to facilitate access to credit. Each year the Fund is financed through the national budget law. In 2019, over €37 million were allocated for national, regional and local interventions by law 145/2018 (2019 Budget Law).

Part of the national interventions find financial support from other specific dedicated funds, for example the Youth Credit Fund and the Guarantee Fund for mortgages for the first home (the latter managed by the Ministry of Economy and Finance).

### **Fondo per il credito ai giovani (Fondo studio)**

The "Youth Credit Fund ("Fondo per il credito ai giovani")" was set up at the presidency of the council of ministers. This fund allows worthy young people, without sufficient financial resources, to undertake a course of study or complete their training thanks to a loan guaranteed by the state.

### **Fondo di Garanzia Mutui Prima Casa**

The "First Home Mortgage Guarantee Fund" (Fondo di Garanzia Mutui Prima Casa) was recently refinanced with the "Decreto Crescita" (art. 19, DL 30 April 2019, n. 34). The Fund provides guarantees for first demand on mortgages' granting, of a maximum amount of 250 € thousand, for the purchase, with restructuring interventions provided that with an increasing in the energy efficiency, of real estate units located on the national territory to be used as the main home of the borrower.

### **Fondo per il contrasto della povertà educativa minorile:**

At the end of April 2019, the government and Bank Foundations signed a Memorandum of Understanding for the management of the Fund to fight against the child educational poverty, which is intended "to support experimental interventions aimed at removing economic, social and cultural obstacles that prevent the full use of educational processes by minors".

The Fund is financed by the banking foundations, which will benefit from a tax credit. Economic poverty is often caused by educational poverty: the two feed one another and are transmitted from generation to generation and do not favour inclusion projects.

### **Indennità mensile di disoccupazione (NASPI)**

The New Social Insurance for Employment (acronym NASpI) is a measure, provided for by the Italian legal system, aimed at guaranteeing continuity of income for those who run into a period of involuntary unemployment.

### **Indicatore della Situazione Economica Equivalente (ISEE)**

ISEE is the tool introduced by art. 1 of Legislative Decree 109/98, as a measure of the economic condition of a person who intends to benefit from facilitated social benefits, both on national and local territory. In particular, it is used for access to the following social-welfare services.

### **Invitalia**

Invitalia - National Agency for the attraction of investments and business development S.p.A., is an Italian joint-stock company wholly owned by the Ministry of Economy. Invitalia manages almost all state concessions for innovative companies and startups and provides technical and operational support to the public administration in particular as well as to the Ministry of Economic Development and provides for the implementation of program agreements for projects financed by the European Union.

### **Ispettorato Nazionale del Lavoro (INL)**

The National Labor Inspectorate (INL) is an agency of the Italian government established on the basis of Legislative Decree 14 September 2015, n. 149 which deals with protection and safety at work.

### **Istituto Nazionale per la Previdenza Sociale (INPS)**

The Istituto nazionale della previdenza sociale ('National Institute for Social Security') is the main entity of the Italian public retirement system. All waged labourers and most of self-employed, without a proper autonomous social security fund, must be subscribed to INPS. The entity is under the supervision of the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies. Its main activity is to guarantee the public service related to social security benefits according to art. 38 of the Italian Constitution and the special laws about the mandatory social insurances.

### **Istituto Nazionale per l'Assicurazione contro gli Infortuni sul Lavoro (INAIL)**

The Istituto Nazionale per l'Assicurazione contro gli Infortuni sul Lavoro or INAIL ('National Institute for Insurance against Workplace Accidents') is an Italian statutory corporation overseen by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies. Its headquarters is in the INAIL Tower in the EUR, Rome. INAIL, along with the insurance and protection of workers, has

extended the mandatory insurance for whom, male or female with age between 18 and 67 years old, [16] has an exclusive, not occasional, free work without subordination constraints and dedicated on the care of the family and the house.

### **Istituto nazionale di statistica (ISTAT)**

The Italian National Institute of Statistics (Italian: Istituto Nazionale di Statistica; Istat) is the main producer of official statistics in Italy.[2] Its activities include the census of population, economic censuses and a number of social, economic and environmental surveys and analyses. Istat is by far the largest producer of statistical information in Italy, and is an active member of the European Statistical System, coordinated by Eurostat.

### **Istituto Nazionale per l'Analisi delle Politiche Pubbliche**

The National Institute for the Analysis of Public Policies (INAPP) is a public research body which carries out analysis, monitoring and evaluation of employment policies and services for employment, education and training policies, policies social and all public policies that have effects on the labor market.

### **Istituti Tecnici Superiori (ITS)**

The Higher Technical Institutes (ITS) are the new "special schools of technology". The ITS represent a new post-secondary training channel parallel to the university. In these courses "superior technicians" are trained in technological areas considered strategic at national level. The courses are carried out, on the proposal of a technical institute or a professional institute, based on a regional planning constituting a foundation of participation with various realities.

### **Osservatorio Nazionale per il Volontariato**

The national observatory of volunteering instituted in 1990, is chaired by the minister of labour and social policy and is composed of ten representatives of organisations and volunteering associations active in at least six regions, two experts and three representatives of the most representative union organisations. The observatory has the task of providing the census of volunteering associations, promoting researches, approving pilot projects and offering advice.

### **Osservatorio Nazionale per l'infanzia e l'adolescenza**

The National Observatory on Childhood and Adolescence (Osservatorio Nazionale per l'Infanzia e l'Adolescenza) was established with law 451/1997.

It consists of about 50 members, representing the various central Administrations responsible for childcare policies, the Regions and Local Autonomies, ISTAT, other relevant institutions, as well as of eight associations and eight experts.

### **Paniere di povertà assoluta**

Represents the set of goods and services which, in the Italian context, they are considered essential for a given family to achieve a standard of living minimally acceptable.

### **Patronato**

The patronage is an institution present in Italy, which exercises assistance and protection functions for workers, pensioners and all citizens present on the territory of the State; it is a direct emanation of a trade union, employer or association organization, be it employees, self-employed workers or both categories

### **Piano Nazionale Scuola Digitale**

The National Digital School Plan (PNSD) is the address document of the Ministry of Education, of the University and Research for the launch of an overall innovation strategy of the Italian school and for a new positioning of its education system in the digital age.

## **Piano sociale nazionale 2018 - 2020**

The National Fund for Social Policies (FNPS) is a fund intended for the Regions for the development of the integrated network of social interventions and services. It is a Fund in which the State intervenes, within the framework of its own competences, distributing the shares to the Regions in charge of the interventions. These are therefore funds that do not finance specific projects but the ordinary network of social interventions and services.

### **PON Inclusionione**

The PON Inclusion aims to contribute to the process that aims to define the minimum levels of some social benefits, so that they are guaranteed uniformly in all Italian regions, overcoming the current territorial inhomogeneity.

### **POR:**

A Regional Operational Program is a document proposed by a region and approved by the European Commission for the purpose of implementing Community programming in that Region. The operational programs (OPs), whose territorial structure takes into account the subsidiarity principle, differ according to the seven-year programming period.

### **Portale dell'Integrazione migranti:**

The Italian Website on Integration ("Portale Integrazione migranti") has been developed by the Ministry of Labour and Social Policies with the collaboration of the Ministry of the Interior and the Ministry of Education.

The Web Portal, online since 2012, represents a tool aimed at promoting integration of migrants through information; it is addressed to institutions responsible for migration and integration, as well as operators dealing with migrants. The main objective is to disseminate information on integration services for migrants throughout the national territory.

### **Povert  relativa**

The families that have a consumption expenditure below a conventional relative poverty line (poverty line) are considered poor. Families of two people who have a monthly expense equal to or less than this value are classified as poor. For families of different amplitude the value of the line is obtained by applying an appropriate scale of equivalence, which takes into account the economies of scale achievable as the number of components increases.

### **Provincia**

The province, in Italy, is a local territorial body of vast area whose territory is smaller in extension than that of the region to which it belongs, and is higher than that of the municipalities that are included in its constituency.

### **Quadro Nazionale delle Qualificazioni (NQF)**

The National Qualification Framework (NQF) unequivocally defines for our country a series of descriptors for the 8 levels of the Qualifications, identifying which type of knowledge, skills and autonomy / responsibility are attributable to each level.

### **Reddito di Cittadinanza**

From the age of 18 they also have the right to receive, the so-called active policy instrument, [Reddito di Cittadinanza](#), a new measure of active labor policy and combating poverty, inequality and social exclusion. It has a double meaning: it is an economic support for the integration of family incomes and an active policy measure also considering the involvement of services for work. The Citizenship Income, if the young person is able to work, is associated with a training, work and social reintegration pathway, through the signing of a Labor Pact or a Pact for social inclusion at the Employment Centers. As established by the D.L. 4/2019, citizens can apply for it starting from 6 March 2019, obliging themselves to follow a personalized path of job placement and social inclusion.

### **Repertorio nazionale dei titoli di istruzione e formazione e delle qualificazioni professionali**

The national directory of education and training titles and professional qualifications is established, and becomes the unitary reference framework for the certification of skills in Italy.

### **Repertorio nazionale degli incentivi**

The Anpal publishes the National Repertoire of the incentives granted to employers in relation to the hiring of specific categories of workers (Article 30 of Legislative Decree No. 150/2015).

### **Rete Eures Italia**

Eurodesk is the official network of the European Erasmus + program for information on the programs and initiatives promoted by the Community institutions in favor of young people.

Realized with the support of the European Commission - DG EAC (Education and Culture) and of the National Youth Agency, Eurodesk works to encourage the access of young people to the opportunities offered by European programs in various sectors, in particular: international mobility, culture, formal and non-formal training, work, volunteering.

### **Servizi territoriali**

Territorial services include home care services, with a health care or socio-welfare nature, provided by the Municipalities; semi-residential assistance, provided for example through day centers; personal services.

### **Servizi residenziali**

Residential services they are provided by non-hospital residential structures (therefore excluding the interventions provided by hospitals and health facilities), such as for example nursing homes (RSA), retirement homes or housing communities

### **Sistema Informativo Excelsior**

The Excelsior Information System, created by Unioncamere and the ANPAL, has been one of the major sources available in Italy on labor market and training issues since 1997 and is included among the official surveys with response obligations provided by the National Statistical Program (SISTAN).

### **Sistema statistico nazionale (SISTAN)**

The National Statistical System (SISTAN) is the network of public and private entities that provides official statistical information in Italy.

### **Sistema informativo unitario delle politiche del lavoro (SIUL)**

The unitary information system of labor policies (SIL) by express legislative definition consists of "the set of organizational structures, hardware and software and network resources for the purposes of the aforementioned tasks". SIL makes use of the public connectivity system and its precursor the unitary network of the public administration, in order to carry out institutional tasks and services through modern forms.

### **Soglia di povertà relativa**

The relative poverty line for a family of two is equal to the average expenditure for person in the country (i.e. per capita expenditure and is obtained by dividing the total consumption expenditure of households for the total number of members). In 2017 this expenditure was equal to 1,085.22 euros per month.

### **Soglia di povertà assoluta**

It represents the minimum expenditure necessary to acquire the goods and services inserted in the basket of absolute poverty. The absolute poverty line varies by construction

based the size of the family, its composition by age, geographical distribution and size of the municipality of residence.

### **Tirocinio**

An internship (tirocinio) is a period of work experience offered by an organization for a limited period of time. Once confined to medical graduates, the term is now used for a wide range of placements in businesses, non-profit organizations and government agencies. They are typically undertaken by students and graduates looking to gain relevant skills and experience in a particular field

### **Unioncamere**

The Italian Union of Chambers of Commerce, Industry, Crafts and Agriculture (Unioncamere) is the public body representing the Italian chamber system vis-à-vis territorial, national and international governing bodies.

### **Valutazione di Impatto Ambientale (VIA)**

Environmental assessment (EA) is the assessment of the environmental consequences (positive negative) of a plan, policy, program, or actual projects prior to the decision to move forward with the proposed action. In this context, the term "environmental impact assessment" (EIA) is usually used when applied to actual projects by individuals or companies and the term "strategic environmental assessment" (SEA) applies to policies, plans and programmes most often proposed by organs of state.

### **Valutazione Ambientale Strategica (VAS)**

Strategic environmental assessment (SEA) is a systematic decision support process, aiming to ensure that environmental and possibly other sustainability aspects are considered effectively in policy, plan and program making.

## REFERENCES

---

### Legislation and official policy documents

#### Youth Policy Governance

The [Italian Constitution](#)

Basilicata Region: [Regional law 11/2000](#), concerning the recognition and promotion of the role of the young generations in society (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Campania Region: [Regional law 26/2016](#), relating to the establishment of youth Policies and youth Forums in Campania (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Emilia Romagna Region: [Regional law 14/2008](#), related to Youth policies (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Friuli Venezia Giulia Region: [Regional law 5/2012](#), related to youth autonomy and the Guarantee Fund for youth opportunities (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Lazio Region: [Regional law 20/2007](#), related to the promotion of youth participation in political and administrative life (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Liguria Region: [Regional law 6/2009](#), related to the promotion of children and youth policies (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Marche Region: [Regional law 24/2011](#), on youth policies (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Bolzano Autonomous Province: [Provincial law 13/1983](#), relating to the creation of a bureau for youth services (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Trento Autonomous Province: Provincial laws [5/2007](#) relating to the development, coordination and promotion of youth policies; the provincial civic service (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Trento Autonomous Province: Provincial laws [7/2009](#), relating to the Provincial Youth Council (In 2018, [Provincial law 8/2008](#) modified some provisions of the previous legislation on youth) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Piemonte Region: [Regional law 6/2019](#), regarding new legislation on youth policies (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Sardegna Region: [Regional law 11/1999](#), relating to initiatives and coordination of activities for youth (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Sicilia Region: [Regional law 6/2019](#), relating to youth policies, the establishment of a Regional Youth Forum and a Regional Observatory on Youth Policies (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Law 451/1997](#) that established National Observatory on Childhood and Adolescence (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Action and Intervention Plan](#) (Piano d'Azione Nazionale) for the protection of the rights of children / young people from 0 to 18 years drawn up by the National Observatory on Childhood and Adolescence (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Decree-Law 223/2006](#), art. 19, paragraph 2, which established the National Fund for Youth Policies (last accessed 17/02/2020).

(AII) [Adriatic Ionian Initiative](#): the Adriatic Ionian Initiative established in May 2000 through the "Ancona Declaration" (last accessed 17/02/2020).

#### Voluntary Activities

The Third Sector Code ([Legislative Decree 117/17](#)) is the law that applies to youth volunteering (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [legislative decree 40/2017](#), the law that transforms "national" civil service into "universal" civil service (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The European program aimed at young people: [European Solidarity Corps](#). (last accessed 17/02/2020).

CSV-Net- National association of voluntary service centers. [Volunteer Charter of Values](#) (2001) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

CSV-Net- National association of voluntary service centers. [Charter of representation](#) (2008) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Law 147/13](#) (2014 Stability Law). Provision of a pilot measure for the contingent of the Civil Peace Corps intended for the training and testing of young volunteers to be engaged in non-governmental peace actions in areas of conflict or at risk of conflict or in areas of environmental emergency both abroad and in Italy (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Legislative Decree 13/13](#). General rules of the services for the identification and validation of the validity of non-formal and informal learning and the minimum service standards of the national system of certification of skills. (last accessed 17/02/2020).

### **Employment & Entrepreneurship**

[Delegated Law 183/14](#) (the the reform of the Jobs Act) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Legislative Decree 150/2015](#). Law establishing the National Agency for Active Work Policies (ANPAL), to coordinate the network of services for the unemployed (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Piano "[Garanzia per i giovani](#)" (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Ministerial Decree June 28 2019](#). Adoption of the extraordinary plan to strengthen employment centers and active employment policies (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Annual plan for setting targets to reduce the average duration of unemployment, service times, the share of intermediation between job supply and demand](#) (January 29, 2019) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Excelsior Information System](#). Managed by Unioncamere and ANPAL. Source of information on the labor market, included among the official surveys with response obligations foreseen by the National Statistical Program (SISTAN) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Law 92/2012](#) provisions on labor market reform in a growth perspective, with reference to art. 4 paragraph 58 (to paragraphs from 51 to 61 and from 64 to 68, relating to lifelong learning) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Legislative Decree 167/2011](#) the national law of the apprenticeship, with reference to Article 6 (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Legislative Decree 13/2013](#), definition of general rules and essential levels of services for the identification and validation of non-formal and informal learning and the minimum service standards of the national system of certification of competences, pursuant to Article 4, paragraphs 58 and 68, of the law of 28 June 2012, n. ninety two (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Law 4/2013](#), provisions concerning unorganized professions (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Interministerial Decree of 13 February 2013](#) transposing the [State - Regions Agreement 252/2012](#) on referencing the Italian qualification system to EQF (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Legislative Decree 81/2015](#), organic regulation of employment contracts and revision of the legislation on duties, pursuant to article 1, paragraph 7, of the law of 10 December 2014, n. 183, with reference to Chapter V Apprenticeship (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Ministerial Decree 30 June 2015](#), definition of an operational framework for the recognition at the national level of regional qualifications and related competences, within the national Directory of education and training titles and professional qualifications referred to in Article 8 of the Legislative Decree 16 January 2013, n. 13 (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Agreement 86/2017](#), agreement between the Government, the Regions and Autonomous Provinces of Trento and Bolzano on the document entitled "Guidelines on the subject of training and orientation", pursuant to article 1, paragraphs 34 to 36 of the law June 28, 2012, n. ninety two (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Ministerial Decree of 8 January 2018](#), establishment of the National Qualifications Framework issued within the framework of the National System for the certification of competences pursuant to Legislative Decree 16 January 2013, No. 13 (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Interministerial decree concerning the definition of an operational framework for the recognition at national level of regional qualifications](#), 30 June 2015 (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[National Industry 4.0 Plan](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[State-Regions Conference Agreement](#), 24 September 2015. Introduction of the dual system in the school network (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[The Growth Decree](#) (Legislative Decree April 30, 2019, No. 34 converted into law with amendments by Law June 28, 2019, No. 58) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Law 107/15](#) - Reform of the national education and training system and delegation for the reorganization of current legislative provisions (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Project "YES I Start Up"](#). Initiative under the Youth Guarantee program. It is a path to train young people in self-employment through courses that transmit the skills necessary to build their business idea (last accessed 17/02/2020)..

Promotion of an entrepreneurship education course in State and Equality II degree schools in Italy and abroad, Ministry of Education - Ministry of University and Research (2018) ([Promozione di un percorso di Educazione all'imprenditorialità nelle scuole di II grado Statali e Paritarie in Italia e all'estero](#)) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Spin - Scaleup program of the Invitalia network](#). Activity dedicated to the development of the business of innovative SMEs, innovative start-ups and university spin-offs with activities in Basilicata, Calabria, Campania, Puglia and Sicily (last accessed 17/02/2020).

## **Social Inclusion**

[2018-20 National Social Plan](#) (Piano sociale nazionale 2018-20) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Plan for interventions and social services to contrast poverty](#) (Piano per gli interventi e i servizi sociali di contrasto alla povertà) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Law 33/2017](#) "Mandate containing rules concerning the contrast to poverty, the reorganization of services and the system of interventions and social services" (Delega recante norme relative al contrasto della povertà, al riordino delle prestazioni e al sistema degli interventi e dei servizi sociali) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[The National Social Plan of the 2018-2020](#) three-year period (National Social Plan of the 2018-2020 three-year period). Attached to the decree of 26 November 2018 for the division of the National Social Policy Fund (FNPS) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Legislative Decree 15 September 2017, n. 147](#) "Provisions for the introduction of a national measure to contrast poverty" (Disposizioni per l'introduzione di una misura nazionale di contrasto alla povertà) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[First Home Mortgage Guarantee Fund](#) (Fondo di Garanzia Mutui Prima Casa). It provides for the granting of first demand guarantees on mortgages for the purchase with restructuring interventions (last accessed 17/02/2020).

## Participation

[Decree of the President of the Republic 10 October 1996, n. 567](#). Regulation containing the discipline of complementary initiatives and supplementary activities in educational institutions. The law provides for the Provincial Student Council (Provincial Student Council, CPS) as an institutional body of student representation on a provincial basis (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[CU-14/2019](#). Agreement of 13 February 2019 in the Unified Conference for the distribution of the National Fund for youth policies on the themes of promoting inclusive participation in the social and political way, also in order to allow young people to participate in the decision-making process and to be able to target policies aimed at a target audience (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Legislative Decree 297/94](#) which defines the roles of student representation at school level (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[CM/Rec \(2017\) 4](#). Committee of Ministers of the European Council. Recommendations to member states about youth work (socio-educational animation) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Digital School Plan](#) (law 107/2015), Ministry of Education, University and Research. Guide document for the launch of a global innovation strategy of the Italian school and for a new positioning of its educational system in the digital age (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[DialogoGiovani.eu portal](#), (National Youth Council). It allows the involvement of young people at all levels of the EU dialogue process with young people through online consultation procedures (last accessed 17/02/2020).

## Data and statistic

### Youth Policy Governance

The [#GIOVANI](#) information system collects data on young people in the 15 to 34 age group (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Statistical analysis on the labor market, social security and social protection](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Analysis of Active Policies and methodology development](#), ANPAL (2018), (last accessed 17/02/2020).

### Employment & Entrepreneurship

[2019 Annual Report on the Performance of the Labor Market in Italy](#). Published by the National Statistical Institute, 2019 (ISTAT) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

### Social Inclusion

["Poverty in Italy 2018"](#), ISTAT. Statistical research on absolute and relative poverty, based on the survey on household consumption expenditure (last accessed 17/02/2020).

National Operational Program "Investments for growth and jobs" ([Programma Operativo Nazionale "Investimenti in favore della crescita e dell'occupazione"](#)) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

## Studies, reports and academic publications

### Employment & Entrepreneurship

[Trainee Manual](#): practical guide to extracurricular traineeship, INAPP (2014) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Joint annual report on active employment policies in Italy](#), ANPAL (2019) activities of ANPAL, Regions and autonomous Provinces that make up the Labor Policies Committee established by Decree of DG Anpal n. 428 of 21/12/2017 (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Youth Assurance Assessment Report](#), ANPAL (2019). Results of the research activity carried out by ANPAL, as foreseen in the evaluation plan of the national Youth Employment Initiative Operational Program (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Eighth Annual Report](#) - Foreigners in the labor market in Italy (2018). Directorate General for Immigration and Integration Policies of the Ministry of Labor and Social Policies (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Cedefop](#), (2016) Country report Italy update to the European inventory on validation of non-formal and informal learning (last accessed 17/02/2020).

## Official websites

### Youth Policy Governance

[Department for Youth Policies and the Universal Civic Service](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020)

[Universal civic service programme](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020)

The [National Association of the Italian Municipalities](#) (Associazione Nazionale dei Comuni Italiani - ANCI) (last accessed 17/02/2020)

The [Union of the Italian Provinces](#) (Unione delle Provincie d'Italia - UPI) (last accessed 17/02/2020)

The National Statistics Institute ([ISTAT](#)) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Youth Agency](#) (ANG) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Department for equal opportunities](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Department for anti-drug policies](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Department for family policies](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Office for sport](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Department for cohesion policies](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Department for information and publishing](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Ministry for education, universities, and research](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Ministry for labour and social policies](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Ministry for economic development](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Ministry of Health](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Ministry for Cultural Heritage and Activities, and for Tourism](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Observatory on Childhood and Adolescence](#) (Osservatorio Nazionale per l'Infanzia e l'Adolescenza) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Center for Documentation and Analysis for children and adolescents](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Institute for the Analysis of Public Policies](#) (Istituto Nazionale per l'Analisi delle Politiche Pubbliche INAP) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Council of Economy and Labour](#) (Consiglio Nazionale dell'Economia e del lavoro CNEL) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[The Institute for Research on Population and Social Policies](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

## Voluntary Activities

The [National Observatory for Volunteering](#) (l'Osservatorio Nazionale per il Volontariato) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[New ERASMUS + Program](#), for the period 2014-2020 (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Association of local information centers for young people](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Eurodesk Italia](#), the official network of the Erasmus + program for information on programs and initiatives promoted by European institutions for young people (last accessed 17/02/2020).

## Employment & Entrepreneurship

The [National Agency for Active Labor Policies](#) (ANPAL) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Labor Inspectorate](#) (INL) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Institute for the Analysis of Public Policies](#) (INAPP) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National directory of education and training titles and professional qualifications](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National incentive directory](#) - ANPAL (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Repertoire of the incentives](#) - ANPAL (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Citizenship income, [Reddito di cittadinanza](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Progetto [Equality for work and life](#) - ANPAL (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Stage4eu website](#) and app. Tools designed by ANPAL for university students and graduates who intend to acquire an internship experience in Europe, and to have information on the transnational mobility opportunities offered by the Erasmus + VET program (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [Integration of migrants portal](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Unioncamere](#) last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Invitalia](#) last accessed 17/02/2020).

[AdEPP](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

National body for microcredit ([Ente nazionale per il microcredito](#)) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[SELFIEmployment project](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Project "Resto al sud"](#). Economic incentive that supports the creation of new entrepreneurial activities initiated by individuals under the age of 46 in the Southern regions of Italy (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The national association for young entrepreneurs, [Associazione nazionale per la giovane imprenditoria](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The Confindustria Young Entrepreneurs, [Giovani imprenditori di Confindustria](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

CNA-young-entrepreneurs, [CNA-giovani-imprenditori](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

National Young Farmers Association, [Associazione nazionale giovani agricoltori](#) (last accessed 17/02/2020).

## Social Inclusion

[Credit fund for young people](#). Established by the Presidency of the Council of Ministers (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Youth for the social 2018](#), (Giovani per il Sociale 2018) an initiative that promotes social inclusion and personal growth, employability, activation, integration, inclusion and social innovation policies, in less developed regions (last accessed 17/02/2020).

### **Participation**

[The democracy project](#) (CW4D) planned for around 500 students from all regions of Italy (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Youth Council](#). Established with the law 30 December 2018, n. 145, art. 1 paragraphs 470 to 477), is the advisory body to which the representation of young people in relations with institutions is delegated (last accessed 17/02/2020).

The [National Council of University Students](#) (National Council of University Students, CNSU). Advisory body of the Ministry of University and Research, established with the D.P.R. December 2, 1997, n. 491 (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[ANCI Giovani](#). The national council of young local administrators “under 35” in Italy (last accessed 17/02/2020).

Platform [www.cittadinanzaecostituzione.it](http://www.cittadinanzaecostituzione.it) (MIUR). It proposes projects, competitions and didactic proposals to enrich the training offer (last accessed 17/02/2020).

[Europe = Noi](#). Educational platform that offers teachers and students of all primary and secondary Italian schools a multimedia and interactive journey to discover European history, values, institutions and programs (last accessed 17/02/2020).