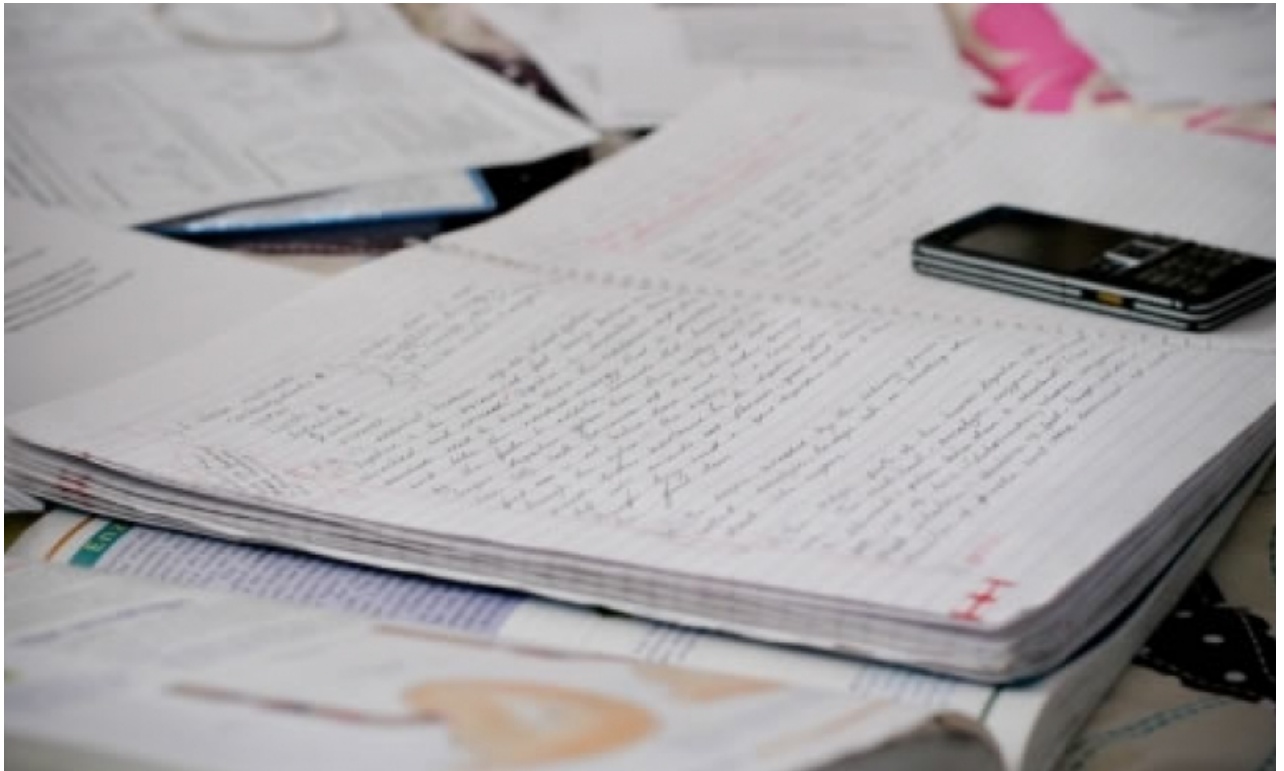


## Massive Open Online Course methodologies in European youth work



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Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) have been receiving a lot of attention of educators from different countries and fields, representing a new way of approaching training that is attracting millions of students all over the world.

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Submitted by iwith.org on Thu, 06/22/2017 - 11:38

**Description:**

She is a Youth Trainer and E-learning Coordinator with many projects and years of experience.

**Vertical photo:**



**Square photo:**



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MOOCs emerged first in the system of **higher education**, then in corporate word and NGOs field. **The number of MOOCs has risen** especially sharply since 2012, which was back then called “the Year of MOOCs”. Currently, there are thousands of MOOCs on different subjects available online. According the [statistics of Class Central](#), one of the first search engine and reviews site for MOOCs, the total number of MOOCs in 2018 available to register is larger than ever

Applying e-learning methodologies in general and MOOCs methodologies in particular to the non-formal **education activities for young people** is becoming crucial. MOOC was mentioned as one of the ways of innovation for youth work within the Consultative meeting on a **Council of Europe youth Sector Strategy** from 2020 to 2030. We live in the knowledge society where e-learning becomes more popular way to transfer knowledge especially for young people who are “digital natives”.

**UNESCO** in the document '[Education in and for the Information Society \(2013\)](#)' underlines the importance of the e-learning approach for education within the phrase “there is no information for all in our information society without education for all”.

Education for all could be reached by **applying technology that helps to make it accessible and inclusive**. Without any doubts, youth NGOs need to apply to their educational work e-learning and MOOC approach in order to reach their goals and public as well as to make their work more inclusive.

But the question is if **youth workers and trainers have enough knowledge** how to do it efficiently and develop high-quality MOOC programmes. **European Commission within Digital Competence Framework** for educators (DigCompEdu) develops theoretical inputs and practical tools on e-learning for the educators from different areas. But, unfortunately, there is no any document that adopts these valuable ideas for the youth field.

There are **only two official documents** in the field of European youth work, that can serve for youth trainers as standards for developing high-quality educational programmes:

- Quality standards in education and training activities of the Youth Department of the Council of Europe (2016),
- European Training Strategy, developed by European Commission (2013).

Both documents do not contain any information about e-learning approach towards education and training in the youth field. Unfortunately, there is no **any official statistics about e-learning activities and MOOCs** that were developed by youth organizations under **Erasmus Plus Programme**.

In the European training calendar, **provided by SALTO**, there is just one MOOC, opened for everyone, that can be found in actual moment. Taking into account all this facts, it is evident, that in the field of **European Youth Work** educational potential of MOOC is not used enough and there is no any methodological support for youth workers that can be used for development of high-quality MOOC programmes for young people.

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