

## **UBC Commission on Youth Issues report at UBC Executive Board meeting Rakvere, May 2012**

### **Summary**

Commission on Youth Issues gathers 2 times a year – first meeting in 2012 was held in February in Kemi, Finland. Altogether there were 28 participants from 14 cities. Civil servants, youth workers and youth came from Finland, Sweden, Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany. The main topic for Commission meeting was new strategy and development plan until 2015. In the format of brain storms, different kind of group works and tasks, participants came up with goals and activities for next period, also discussing who and how should take more responsibility in what to implement the plan.

Next meeting will take place in Poland, Gdynia between weeks 43-45, 2012. During the next meeting new chair and vice chair of the Commission will be elected and preparation of the new youth conference of 2013 will start.

Joint project “Life, Media, Participation – Youth in Baltic Sea Region” with 8 participating cities has started this spring and on May 15-16<sup>th</sup> there will be a preparatory meeting held for partners in Tallinn. Next steps in project are international youth seminar on democracy topics (also including topics such as starting and running youth councils, conducting youth democracy campaigns), local round tables and media workshops, campaign and international media contest on democracy issues. The project will run until June 2013.

During the period 2009-2011 18 cities from 8 countries have been participating in Commission’s work actively and regularly. Within 2011-2012 there are 4 new cities, who have signed Letter of Intent to show their strong decision and commitment to work with UBC Commission on Youth Issues. Altogether there are 12 cities now, which could be called core group of the Commission.