

Classification of in-country Awareness and Policy Responses to Young Carers

Eurocarers Workshop Supporting Young Carers in Europe

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Classification of in-country Awareness and Policy Responses to YC

Programme

1. Introduction
2. Classification
3. Key factors that influence a country's awareness and response to YC
4. Young Carers Research in Switzerland
5. Discussion

Classification of in-country Awareness and Policy Responses to YC

Introduction

Why is it important **to identify** YC and **to influence** a country's awareness and responses to YC?



Classification of in-country Awareness and Policy Responses to YC

Introduction

Importance of country's awareness and responses:

YC constitute a distinct group of individuals with high vulnerability and complex family needs, because

- ✓ YC carry out a role that in the general workplace is performed by trained and skilled adults;
- ✓ YC role involves a high level of responsibility, specialist skills, knowledge and may involve risk;
- ✓ YC are not paid, and by not being paid they save a substantial amount of money for health and social care services;
- ✓ YC role does not end when they reach adulthood.

Classification of in-country Awareness and Policy Responses to YC

Introduction



Classification of in-country Awareness and Policy Responses to YC

Classification

	Classification of country-level responses to YC	
Level 1-7	Characteristics	Country Example
1 Incorporated/ Sustainable	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extensive awareness at all levels of government and society of the experiences and needs of young carers • Sustained and sustainable policies and interventions aimed at meeting young carers' needs and promoting their health, well-being and development • Responses and law built on a foundation of reliable research evidence and clear legal rights 	None
2 Advanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Widespread awareness and recognition of young carers amongst public, policy makers and professionals • Extensive and reliable research base, and growing • Specific legal rights (national) • Extensive codes and guidance for welfare professionals and national and local strategies • Multiple dedicated services and interventions nationwide 	United Kingdom

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Classification

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Level 1-7	Characteristics	Country Example
3 Intermediate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Some awareness and recognition of young carers among public, policy makers and professionals • Medium-sized research base, and growing • Partial rights in some regions • Small but developing body of professional guidance • Some dedicated services and interventions, mostly local but a few nationwide 	Australia
4 Preliminary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Little public or specialist awareness and recognition of young carers • Limited research base, but growing • No specific legal rights but other laws may be applicable • Few, if any, dedicated services or interventions at national or local levels 	Austria Canada Germany Ireland Norway Sweden The Netherlands United-States

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Classification

	Classification of country-level responses to YC	
Level 1-7	Characteristics	Country Example
5 Emerging	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Growing public or specialist awareness of young carers • Small but growing research base • No specific legal rights but other laws may be applicable • No dedicated services or interventions for young carers, but other services may be applicable 	Belgium Italy New Zealand Sub-Saharan Africa Switzerland
6 Awakening	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Embryonic awareness of young carers as a distinct social group within the «vulnerable children» population 	Greece Finland France
7 No-response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No apparent awareness of policy response to young carers as a distinct social group 	All other countries

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Key factors

Key factors that influence a country's awareness and response to YC



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Key factors

Key factors that influence a country's awareness & response to YC

- ✓ Role of individuals and young carers themselves
<https://tube.switch.ch/videos/b5882df9>
- ✓ Learning from other countries
- ✓ Reliable research base - a «door opener» for policy transfer
- ✓ Legislation and initiatives - a commitment to children's rights
- ✓ Leading role of key NGOs and media

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Key factors

Learning from other countries



Prof. Dr. Saul Becker, Pro-Vice-Chancellor and Head of the College of Social Sciences, University of Birmingham (UK)

Prof. FH Dr. iur. Agnes Leu, Program Director, Kalaidos University of Applied Sciences, Department Health Science (CH)

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Key factors

Learning from other countries

- 1997** Working with Adult Carers, President of Health Organization
Development and implementation of innovative employment models for carers
- 2013** SNF-Short Visit, Nottingham University, Saul Becker
Kick-off publications in specific national and international journals
- 2014** Highfield Fellowship, Nottingham University, Saul Becker
Application to the SNF (Money Follows Cooperation Line CH-UK)

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Key factors

Learning from other countries

2014 Swiss Federal Council report on the situation of carers

“Action plan for support and respite of relatives providing care”

→ Federal Council is aware of the situation of young carers

→ Federal Council does not propose measures because
“this blows up the framework of its political orders”

2015 NZZ article in Switzerland: Tipping point for contacts with

Swiss politicians leading to postulate in the Swiss National Council

2016 Meeting with Members of the National Council

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Key factors

Reliable research base – a «door opener» for policy transfer



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YC-Research in Switzerland

Careum Research, Research Institute of Kalaidos University of Applied Sciences, Department Health Science, Zürich

Key strategies of Kalaidos University of Applied Sciences are:

- flexibility
- individual study pathways
- collaborations with practice partners and our own high-qualified, responsible employees

2016: Innovation Award for Kalaidos Education Group

<http://www.kalaidos-fh.ch/Departement-Gesundheit>

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YC-Research in Switzerland

Careum Research – Strategic Aims

Careum Research is oriented towards the competence and participation of patients, relatives and professionals in healthcare and social services.

Its main focus is on new forms of care provision and housing, particularly in relation to providing healthcare services in private households.

<http://www.careum.ch/web/guest/forschung>

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YC-Research in Switzerland

Four main research areas – caring across the lifespan

- 1) **Patient education** – Dr. Jörg Haslbeck
Self-management and patient empowerment
<http://www.careum.ch/patientenbildung>
- 2) **Learn & Care** – Prof. Dr. iur. Agnes Leu
Reconciling school, vocational training, studies and caring role
<http://www.careum.ch/youngcarers>
- 3) **Work & Care** – Prof. Dr. Iren Bischofberger
Reconciling employment and caring role
<http://www.careum.ch/workandcare>
- 4) **Ageing & Care at Home** – Prof. Dr. Ulrich Otto
Enabling people to live in private homes, involving all providers of support in a co-productive way
<http://www.careum.ch/ageing>

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YC-Research in Switzerland

Ongoing Research Projects

Ebnet (sub-project 1, 2)

- 30 qualitative interviews with YC and YAC
- Development of practice tool for health professionals
<http://www.careum.ch/youngcarers-ebnet>

SNF Money Follows CH-UK (sub-projects 3, 4 and 5)

- Online survey to investigate the knowledge of professionals concerning YC and YAC (n=1'000)
- Online survey with 3,900 pupils
- 40 semi-structured qualitative interviews with young carers and their relatives
<http://www.careum.ch/youngcarers-snf>

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YC and YAC Research Programme (learn&care)

Submitted Research Projects

SBFI (SERI)

- Equal chances for YC and YAC regarding vocational training in Switzerland

SNF Money Follows CH-UK, Legal Part

- YC & YAC in Switzerland - A transnational comparison of legal and policy frameworks for providing services and protection

NFP 74 (National Research Programme "Smarter Health Care")

- Health Care Professionals' Awareness of Young Carers in Switzerland – Evaluation of Practice Tools

Work in progress:

Dreiländerantrag D-A-CH

- Lead Agency project in collaboration with Germany and Austria: Participation of YAC in Higher Education

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Discussion



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Discussion

Key factors that influence a country's awareness & response to YC

- a) Check it out in your country 😊
- b) Has Switzerland done their homework?

Key Factors	Action, Measures	Yes / No : In-country awareness & policy responses
Role of individuals and young carers themselves	...	
Learning from other countries	...	
Reliable research base	
Leading role of key NGOs and media	...	
Legislation and initiatives	
....		

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Selected literature (find more <http://www.careum.ch/yc/publikationen>)

- LEU A., FRECH M. (2015) Pflegende Kinder, Jugendliche und junge Erwachsene - Noch unsichtbar, aber nicht vergessen. *Krankenpflege* 8/2015, p.9-11.
- LEU A., SCHERRER A. (2015) Pflegende Kinder und Jugendliche leisten äusserst wertvolle Dienste. *Clinicum*, 12(2), 52–53.
- BECKER S., LEU A. (2014), Young Carers, in: Oxford Bibliographies in Childhood Studies. Heather Montgomery (Hrsg). New York: Oxford University Press.
- LEU A. (2014) Identifikation pflegender Schülerinnen und Schüler – eine neue Herausforderung für die Bildungsinstitutionen in der Schweiz? *Schweizerische Zeitschrift für Heilpädagogik* (SZH), Jg. 20, Nr. 9.
- LEU A. (2013) Caring without worrying – pflegende Kinder und Jugendliche in der schweizerischen Hausarztpraxis, *Primary Care* 4/2013.
- LEU, A., & BISCHOFBERGER, I. (2012). Pflegende Angehörige als Angestellte in der Spitex: Eine Annäherung aus rechtlicher, qualifikatorischer und konzeptioneller Perspektive. *Pflegerecht*, 1(4), 210–218.

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Questions



Thank you for listening!

Contact

Further information <http://www.careum.ch/youngcarers>.

Please comment on our BLOG: <http://blog.careum.ch/blog/familycare-2/>.

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