



## **The Centre**

for Children and Young People's Participation

[www.uclan.ac.uk/cypp](http://www.uclan.ac.uk/cypp)

Seminar Series 2014:  
Children and Social Justice, part 2

**Thursday 8 May 2014**  
**4-5.30pm, Brook Building Room 105**

### **Youth participation in France: current initiatives and challenges**

**Patricia Loncle, French School of Public Health**

This seminar will be divided into two parts: first, the current state of youth participation in France and then an analysis of the recent initiatives to support formal and informal forms of youth participation in Brittany.

Youth participation has never been so high on the agendas of public authorities in France. Since the adoption of the "Youth Priority" in March 2013, which introduced the necessity of youth participation at a national and transversal level, the Regions (both devolved and decentralized) have to adopt youth strategies that include a process of youth participation. Currently, all public authorities are mobilised to imagine the forms these processes will concretely take. During the seminar, Patricia will explain the content of "Youth priority", in particular from the point of view of participation, and explore the methodology being mobilised to organize this participation.

Patricia will present recent experiences in Brittany of supporting youth initiatives through formal and informal participation: the kinds of support, the types of project, youth workers approaches, the profiles of targeted young people and the types of young people who actually get involved. Patricia will then propose an analysis of the potential power young people acquire through these experiences.

Drawing on these perspectives from France, we will reflect on the following questions:

- What are the similarities between participatory practices with young people in different European countries?
- What are the key challenges we face in making participation meaningful, in the sense of involving real opportunities to exercise influence and bring about change?
- How can we learn from these experiences and develop our participatory practices?

**Patricia Loncle is responsible for the** Research Chair on Youth and for the Master's degree "Youth: policies and care", she works at the French school of public health which is located in Rennes. She is also a member of the Centre of Research on Political Action in Europe where she co-directs the team on mobilisations, citizenship and political life. Her main fields of research are youth policies, sociology of youth, territorialisation of social and health policies. She is widely published and has edited (with others) several books on youth, among the latest are: *Youth participation in Europe* (2012) <http://www.policypress.co.uk/display.asp?ISBN=9781447300182> and *Politiques de jeunesse, le grand malentendu [Youth policies: the wide misunderstanding]* (2012).

The seminar is free and refreshments are provided. Seminars usually finish by 5.30pm and are followed by an informal meeting of The Centre, at which all are welcome. To reserve a place go to EventBrite at <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/the-centre-seminar-youth-participation-in-france-tickets-10332481731> ; this will assist with ordering refreshments and notifying you of late changes.