

VOLUNTEERING
INFRASTRUCTURE IN EUROPE
PUBLICATION

NO WAY



1. VOLUNTEERING INFRASTRUCTURE CONCEPT DEFINITION

Background and laws

Volunteering is an ingrained part of Norwegian society. For centuries, civil and volunteering associations have played an important role in nation building and supporting the social democratic governance that Norway, like the other Nordic states, is renowned for. Whilst there are currently few legal frameworks which regulate voluntary associations, there have been some attempts made to formalise the infrastructure.

One attempt to define volunteering comes from Act No. 88 of 29. June 2007 *About the registry for voluntary activity*, which defines voluntary activity as a “non-profit activity (*ikke fortjenestebasert* [in Norwegian]), excluding activity that is 1. Organized by the government. 2. Based on cooperatives, which is regulated by the Act on Cooperatives (*Lov om samvirkeforetak* (*samvirkeloven*) [in Norwegian])”^[1].

Report No. 27 to the Storting (1996-97) *About the state’s relationship with non-governmental organisations* sets out 6 categories which define what a volunteering organisation is. Bodies that can be considered as volunteering organisations are as follows, (with their Norwegian terms named in brackets):

1. *Organizations that have goals catering to the common good [allmenntilgjengelige siktemål].*
2. *Organizations with individual membership, or other volunteer organizations (umbrella organizations).*
3. *Businesses [virksomheter] that is catering to the common good (non-profit).*
4. *Foundations [stiftelse] that have goals catering to the common good.*
5. *Non-profit co-operations.*
6. *Spiritual and religious organizations*^[2].

These acts help us to understand what is considered to be a voluntary activity or organisation in Norway by setting out a number of characteristics which imply working towards the public good with little self-interest. We can also see that it is important for Norwegians that the voluntary sector operates outside the sphere of government influence, and that it should be given a significant degree of independence, as further discussed below.

[1] European Commission, 2017, *Youth policies in Norway*, available at: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/sites/youthwiki/files/gdlnorway.pdf>, accessed the 26/06/2019, pp. 99

[2] European Commission, 2017, *Youth policies in Norway*, available at: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/sites/youthwiki/files/gdlnorway.pdf>, accessed the 26/06/2019, pp. 98

Declaration on volunteering

In 2014, the Norwegian government published a declaration on volunteering as part of UN International Volunteer Day. This declaration “sets out fundamental principles and overarching objectives for the government’s interaction with the voluntary sector”[3]. There were 3 sections to this declaration: the basis of the interaction; the framework of interaction; and follow up of the declaration. One of the most important points to draw from this declaration is that the government recognises and values the importance of volunteering in society and for democracy.

However, it wishes to promote the actions of civil society and voluntary organisations without intruding on their freedom and allowing civil society to function as freely from the state as possible. Thus, the government aims to make it easier for NGOs to function by reducing and simplifying the documentation required of them[4].

2. VOLUNTEERING LANDSCAPE

Norway is governed as a Constitutional Monarchy, as determined in the Constitution of 1814. Norway follows a parliamentary system, and in parliamentary elections, 169 members of parliament are directly elected to the Storting using a proportional representation system across 19 constituencies. As of 2019, there is a population of around 5.3 million inhabitants[5] of which, 3.7 million are registered voters[6]. Norway is known for its strong volunteering sector, which has been rooted in Norwegian society since the 19th century. In fact, voluntary associations are often credited with an important role in the development in the Norwegian social democratic state. However, since the end of the “Golden age” of Norwegian volunteering associations in the first half of the 20th century, there has been a decline in memberships and participation in these associations. This is usually related to the development of the comprehensive welfare state which filled the needs of the “at-risk” population. The social and economic development provided by the welfare state after the Second World War meant that non-governmental associations providing for the same needs were made more and more redundant. Nonetheless, Norway is still one of the world leaders in volunteering participation[7].

[3] Government.no, 2014, *Declaration on Volunteering*, available at:

<https://www.regjeringen.no/en/whatsnew/Ministries/kud/press-releases/2014/regjeringens-frivillighetserklaring/declaration-on-voluntary-work--declaration-on-the-governments-interaction-with-the-voluntary-sector/id2350911/>, accessed on 26/06/19

[4] Full declaration available at:

<https://www.regjeringen.no/en/whatsnew/Ministries/kud/press-releases/2014/regjeringens-frivillighetserklaring/declaration-on-voluntary-work--declaration-on-the-governments-interaction-with-the-voluntary-sector/id2350911/>

[5] Statistics Norway, 2019, *Population*, available at <https://www.ssb.no/en/befolkning/statistikker/folkemengde>, accessed 26/06/19

[6] Elections Guide, 2019, *Kingdom of Norway*, available at: <http://www.electionguide.org/countries/id/162/>, accessed on 26/06/19

[7] European Commission, 2017, *Youth policies in Norway*, available at:

<https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/sites/youthwiki/files/gdlnorway.pdf>, accessed the 26/06/2019

In fact, 80% of Norwegians are members of at least one non-profit organisation and 10 million are members of an NGO[8]. These figures do not refer exclusively to participation in volunteering organisations, but instead encompass a variety of institutions including trade unions and political parties. It is true that a proportion of these memberships are passive rather than active.

According to Statistics Norway (<https://www.ssb.no/en>), the national statistics institute in Norway, 42% of adults are active members of organisations[9], which shows that engagement in volunteering isn't guaranteed by membership. However, statistics show that there are more active members than passive, with nearly half (48%) of all adult Norwegians participating in volunteer work annually. This number equates to the time contribution in voluntary projects of 115,000 full time employees[10].

Those most likely to spend time doing unpaid work are in the 45-66 age category range, with 42% of that age population doing so. The 25-44 bracket follows closely, with 41% of this demographic performing unpaid work. 30% of those above 67 years old dedicate time to unpaid work, making them the age category that performs the least. However, it is important to recognise that unpaid work may not refer to volunteering activity necessarily. Statistics Norway, where these statistics are taken from, provides no definition of "unpaid work" and therefore it could refer to essential unpaid labour rather than voluntary activity[11].

Volunteering for a sports organisation is the most popular type of volunteering activity in Norway. In 2017, 15% of Norwegians over the age of 16 worked without payment in a sports organisation. This was followed by participation in music, theatre or art initiatives, reaching 8% of the adult population. Alternatively, involvement in non-religious belief organisations and in political parties is the least popular, gaining 0% and 2% respectively of participation among over 16-year olds[12].

According to Statistics Norway, levels of participation vary depending upon age and family cycle of volunteers. Couples with children between the ages of 7-19 are twice as likely to volunteer for a sports organisation than average, with 30% of this demographic category giving their time. They are followed by single 16-24-year-olds, living with their parents (27%). Single individuals aged 66 or more are the least likely to volunteer in this sector, with just 4% involved. The statistics also show that those who are employed and/or hold higher levels of education volunteer more. 22% of those holding a master's degree or equivalent volunteer for sports organisations, whilst 12% of those holding lower secondary levels of education volunteer in this sector[13].

[8] Frivillighet Norge, date unknown, *About the Association of NGOs in Norway*, available at <https://frivillighetnorge.no/no/english/>, accessed 26/06/19

[9] Statistics Norway, 2017, *Activity in organisations, political participation and social networks, survey on living conditions*, available at <https://www.ssb.no/en/kultur-og-fritid/statistikker/orgakt>, accessed 26/06/19

[10] Frivillighet Norge, date unknown, *About the Association of NGOs in Norway*, available at <https://frivillighetnorge.no/no/english/>, accessed 26/06/19

[11] Statistics Norway, 2017, *Activity in organisations, political participation and social networks, survey on living conditions*, available at <https://www.ssb.no/en/kultur-og-fritid/statistikker/orgakt/hvert-3-aar>, accessed on 26/06/19

[12] Statistics Norway, *Most volunteer work is in sports organisations*, available at: <https://www.ssb.no/en/kultur-og-fritid/artikler-og-publikasjoner/most-volunteer-work-is-in-sports-organisations>, accessed 26/06/19

[13] Statistics Norway, *Most volunteer work is in sports organisations*, available at: <https://www.ssb.no/en/kultur-og-fritid/artikler-og-publikasjoner/most-volunteer-work-is-in-sports-organisations>, accessed 26/06/19

In terms of informal volunteering, Statistics Norway reported that in 2015, 15% of Norwegians over the age of 16 regularly performed unpaid welfare work for the elderly, sick or disabled, a decrease of 1% from 2012[14]. For the general population, this equates to one in six people, but for those aged between 44-66, one in five give unpaid care to relatives, usually to their own aging parents. In contrast, 11% of the younger age groups perform this work, whilst 15% of those who are older than 66 help. Furthermore, those who work part time contribute more than those who work full time. In men this difference is higher, with 13% of men working full-time perform unpaid work, and alternatively 22% of male part-time workers do so. For women, 17% of those working full-time help the sick, elderly and disabled, whilst 20% of part-time workers volunteer. On average, those who provide this care spend 5 hours a week doing so[15].

3.LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR VOLUNTEERING AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION

Although there is no overarching legal framework concerning volunteering in Norway, there are several laws and declarations which help define and regulate the volunteering sector. As discussed, report No. 27 to the Storting (1996-97) defines some key features of the volunteering sector and its interactions with the state. However, it is not technically a law: it was created as a white paper to be passed through government, although it seems not to have been promulgated into law since its creation in the late 1990s. Therefore, we cannot claim that it is truly part of legal volunteering framework.

In terms of concrete law concerning volunteering, Act No. 14 of 26th of March 1999 on taxation (§2-32) decrees that non-profit organisations (NPOs) are exempt from paying income and fortune tax, unlike standard Norwegian residents (people or businesses). Act II (§6-50) legislates that donations and gifts to NPOs are tax deductible[16]. This law also defines the specificities upon which organisations qualify for tax exemptions and deductions. They qualify if their work covers any of the following criteria:

1. Care and health promotion towards children, youth, the elderly, people with disabilities, or other disadvantaged groups or individuals.
2. Child and youth related work with music, theatre, literature, dance, sports, outdoor recreation etc.
3. Religious or spiritual activity.
4. Promotion of human rights, or human aid work.
5. Disaster relief, or accident harm reduction/prevention.
6. Protection of environment/natural habitat, cultural heritage, or animal rights[17]

[14] Statistics Norway, 2016, *Unpaid welfare work, survey on living conditions*, available at <https://www.ssb.no/en/helse/statistikker/omsarb/hvert-3-aar>, accessed 09/07/19

[15] Statistics Norway, 2016, *Middle-aged perform most unpaid welfare work*, available at <https://www.ssb.no/en/helse/artikler-og-publikasjoner/middle-aged-perform-most-unpaid-welfare-work>, accessed 09/07/19

[16] Lampi, C. 2009, *Fiscal treatment for non-profit organisations in Norway*, available at: https://www.frivillighetnorge.no/filestore/Dokumenter/Engelsk/Fiscal_treatment_NPO_Norway.pdf, accessed on 26/06/19

[17] European Commission, 2017, *Youth policies in Norway*, available at: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/sites/youthwiki/files/gdlnorway.pdf>, accessed the 26/06/2019, pp. 99

Another law seeking to advance the fiscal position of NGOs in Norway is the value-added tax (VAT) deduction reform of 1st of July 2001[18]. Currently VAT in Norway is set at 25% for general items, but 15% for food products (July 2019). If a Norwegian NPO sells goods and services which total less than €16,000 a year, they are exempt from adding VAT to sales (this figure is €6000 for for-profit companies[19]). Further, for NPOs, there are some goods and services which are always exempt from added VAT, such as subscriptions and membership fees, and internal economic transactions[20].

The reform of 2001 made exemptions for tax for organisations who can prove that they have organisational structures and perform activities conforming to the characteristics below:

1. Volunteer organizations limited to democratically and membership-based organizations, catering towards the common good.
2. Spiritual and religious organizations that are not under a).
3. Foundations catering to the common good.
4. Volunteer culture and welfare service providers, and co-operations (non-profit).
5. Fundraising organizations that are not under a) - d), and with the documentation that:
 - a) The goal of the organization is to cater to the common good.
 - b) Profit goes solely to the designated beneficiary/purpose.
 - c) All remaining funds go to the designated beneficiary/purpose following the dissolution of the organization[21].

Another piece of legislation concerning volunteering has already been mentioned in this chapter. Act No. 88 of 29. June 2007. *About the registry for voluntary activity*, as discussed in the first section, defines the characteristics by which we can understand volunteering activities.

Its main purpose, however, was to make registering for volunteering status simpler, as a government initiative to support the work of volunteering organisations whilst not eroding the independence of the voluntary sector[22].

[18] European Commission, 2017, *Youth policies in Norway*, available at: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/sites/youthwiki/files/gdlnorway.pdf>, accessed the 26/06/2019

[19] Lampi, C. 2009, *Fiscal treatment for non-profit organisations in Norway*, available at: https://www.frivillighetnorge.no/filestore/Dokumenter/Engelsk/Fiscal_treatment_NPO_Norway.pdf, accessed on 26/06/19

[20] Mondaq, 2003, *Norway: Value Added Taxation in Norway*, available at: <http://www.mondaq.com/x/21987/Corporate+Tax/Value+Added+Taxation+in+Norway>, accessed 26/06/19

[21] European Commission, 2017, *Youth policies in Norway*, available at: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/sites/youthwiki/files/gdlnorway.pdf>, accessed the 26/06/2019, pp. 99

[22] European Commission, 2019, *2.4 Youth volunteering at national level*, available at: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/en/content/youthwiki/25-youth-volunteering-national-level-norway>, accessed 26/06/19, pp. 99

4. STRUCTURE OF THE NON-PROFIT SECTOR INVOLVED IN VOLUNTEERING

Forum Organisations

Because volunteering plays such an important role in Norwegian society, the non-profit sector in the nation is fairly well developed. In terms of a network of volunteering, Frivillighet Norge, or the Association of NGOs in Norway in English, is an umbrella organisation of Norwegian NGOs which has helped to coordinate the relationship between the government and volunteering organisations since 2005. The Association is not necessarily a network of volunteer centres but acts more as an advocacy group to influence and inform. The primary aims of the organisation are to develop the space for civil society by improving the dialogue between the government and NGOs, to encourage more citizens to participate, and to inform and advise their member organisations on relevant issues[23]. This forum is the biggest in Norway, with over 300 NGO members and representing over 50,000 teams and associations from across the country[24].

NGOs

Alongside the Association of NGOs, there are many well established organisations and groups which influence the non-profit sector. Some of these groups are also prominent on an international scale, such as the Norwegian Red Cross, Friends of the Earth, CARE Norway and Caritas. The Norwegian Red Cross was founded in 1865 in order to provide medical care to those injured in battle and has since grown to respond to needs across a wide variety of sectors. For instance, in 2018, there were 43,000 active Norwegian Red Cross volunteers in 380 local associations[25]. Friends of the Earth is Norway's largest environmental conservationist group, with 28,000 members nationally[26]. Other Norwegian-born organisations include the Norwegian Refugee Council (although other countries have their own versions of this), and the Royal Norwegian Society for Development (Norges Vel in Norwegian). Some of these organisations date back to the mid-19th century, with the birth of the volunteering associations. For instance, the Royal Norwegian Society for Rural Development (now the Royal Norwegian Society for Development) was created in 1809[27] which makes it the oldest membership-based NGO in the nation[28]. This shows that the voluntary sector has been an important part of Norwegian civil society for centuries.

[23] Frivillighet Norge, date unknown, About the Association of NGOs in Norway, available at <https://frivillighetnorge.no/no/english/>, accessed 27/06/19

[24] TechSoup Europe, no date, Association of NGOs in Norway, available at: <https://www.techsoupeurope.org/partners/association-of-ngos-in-norway/>, accessed 27/06/19

[25] Norwegian Red Cross, 2018, Annual Report 2018, available at:

https://www.rodekors.no/globalassets/globalt/rapporter-program-avtaler/arsrapporter-rode-kors/rode-kors-arsrapport_2018_eng.pdf, accessed on 27/06/19

[26] Friends of the Earth International, no date, Norway Friends of the Earth Norway / Norges Naturvernforbund, available at:

<https://www.foei.org/member-groups/europe/norway>, accessed on 27/06/19

[27] Kantanka, S., 2012, A comparative study of umbrella organisations for the voluntary sector in Norway and Scotland, available at: https://frivillighetnorge.no/filestore/Dokumenter/Engelsk/Comparative_study_of_umbrellaorganizations_for_the_voluntarysector_SarfoBaffour2012.pdf accessed on 27/06/19, pp. 17

[28] Norges Vel, no date, Norges Vel: about us, available at <https://norgesvel.com/about-us/>, accessed on 27/06/19

5. OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

Government Bodies

Despite the fact that the Norwegian government has made it clear it wishes to allow the volunteer sector to remain independent and free to act upon its own accord, it has implemented several measures to facilitate the functioning of civil society. Several government ministries offer volunteering and funding grants open for applications from all relevant NGOs. For instance, the Ministry of Children and Equality has 15 volunteering grants available every year, the Ministry of Culture has 11 volunteer and funding schemes available per year, and the Ministry of Health and Social Care Services has 10[29].

Youth

The Norwegian Children and Youth Council (LNU), a branch of the Ministry of Culture, is an umbrella organisation of nearly 100 voluntary and democratic youth and children's groups. A variety of activities and interests, as well as political stances, are represented in this council, which works to achieve shared political goals, offer knowledge to its members, and fund projects and provide grants to its members[30]. There is no single government body dedicated to youth volunteering, however, the Norwegian Directorate for Children, Youth and Family Affairs is responsible for dealing with youth issues such as marginalisation which may incorporate volunteering projects or issues. Furthermore, the Ministry of Culture is responsible for scrutinising any policy relating to youth volunteering which falls under its domain, such as music and theatre. Although, it must be said that neither of these bodies have policy shaping power outside of the aforementioned areas[31].

6. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

A large proportion of funding for volunteering organisations comes from private households. In 2016, 43.9% of NGO income came from private households, whilst in 2016 43.4% came from government (27.3% from central government, 16.1% from local associations[32]). The other 21.8% was funded by the private sector. This figure includes philanthropic contributions from individuals and businesses as well as payment for corporate goods and services, but not donations in investment. In 2015, non-profits were given a total of NOK 90.5 billion (EUR 93.5 million) in funding, NOK 40 million of which was privately sourced[33].

[29] European Commission, 2017, *Youth Policies in Norway*, available at:

<https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/sites/youthwiki/files/gdlnorway.pdf>, accessed on 27/06/19, pp. 101-2

[30] LNU (Norwegian Children and Youth Council), no date, *The Norwegian Children and Youth Council*, available at: <https://www.lnu.no/english/>, accessed on 27/06/19

[31] European Commission, 2017, *Youth Policies in Norway*, available at:

<https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/sites/youthwiki/files/gdlnorway.pdf>, accessed on 27/06/19, pp. 101

[32] Statistics Norway, 2018, *Satellite account for non-profit institutions*, available at:

<https://www.ssb.no/en/nasjonalregnskap-og-konjunkturer/statistikker/orgsat>, accessed on 27/06/19

[33] Newhouse, C., 2015, *UN Non-profit Handbook Project; Statistics Norway releases nonprofit funding data for the first time*, John Hopkins Centre for Civil Society Needs, available at: <http://ccss.jhu.edu/norway-nonprofit-funding-data/>, accessed on 27/06/19

7. REGULAR AND SYSTEMATIC RESEARCH

Statistics Norway conducts studies into various aspects of volunteering on a fairly regular basis. It looks into both the rates of participation in organisations among citizens and their various demographic characteristics, as well as the funding of NGOs. However, these surveys are not always conducted annually, which makes this type of research less consistent.

The Centre for Research on Civil Society and Voluntary Sector was created by the Institute for Social Research and NORCE Norwegian Research Centre. The goal of the centre is to “conduct independent and socially relevant research on voluntary engagement and voluntary organisations in Norway”^[34]. The centre publishes reports, scientific articles and chapters in books and is funded by various government ministries. The texts are usually only available in Norwegian but include studies on topics such as ‘Volunteer Basics: Who gives the most time and money to NGOs?’ (Fladmoe, Eimhjellen, Sivesind and Arnesen, 2019)^[35] and ‘Volunteering in public and publicly funded cultural institutions’ (Wollebæk, 2018)^[36] [both titles translated from Norwegian]. The centre publishes new information regularly, and therefore makes important contributions to regular and systematic research in Norway.

There are other information sources which contribute to volunteering knowledge. However, these are published in a more sporadic manner than the publications mentioned above. Nonetheless, some such texts have been consulted in the research for this chapter. They include Youth Policies in Norway, by Youth Wiki (European Commission) and A comparative study of umbrella organisations for the volunteering sector in Norway and in Scotland by Sarfo Baffour Gyimah Kantanka^[37]. These are just a few examples of the research that has been gathered in this subject area. There is a considerable amount of developed information available about the volunteering sector in Norway, however it could still benefit from more systematic productions.

[34] Centre for Research on Civil Society and the Voluntary Sector, 2018, *About the centre*, available at: <https://www.samfunnsforskning.no/sivilsamfunn/english/about/>, accessed on 27/06/19

[35] Fladmoe, A., Eimhjellen, I., Sivesind, K., and Arnesen, S., 2019, *Hvem gir mest tid og penger til frivillige organisasjoner?*, available at: <https://samfunnsforskning.brage.unit.no/samfunnsforskning-xmlui/handle/11250/2583167>, accessed on 27/06/19

[36] Wollebæk, D., 2018, *Frivillighet i offentlige og offentlig finansierte kulturinstitusjoner*, available at: <https://samfunnsforskning.brage.unit.no/samfunnsforskning-xmlui/handle/11250/2574947>, accessed on 27/06/19

[37] Kantanka, S., 2012, *A comparative study of umbrella organisations for the voluntary sector in Norway and Scotland*, available at: https://frivillighetnorge.no/filestore/Dokumenter/Engelsk/Comparative_study_of_umbrellaorganizations_for_the_voluntarysector_SarfoBaffour2012.pdf accessed on 27/06/19

8.ETHICS AND QUALITY STANDARDS FOR VOLUNTEERING

There is no official code of ethics or set of rules upon which volunteering must be conducted in Norway. Because participation in volunteering is a part of the Norwegian culture, it is possible that many organisations regulate themselves in this manner. Furthermore, across most volunteering associations, the value of democracy and inclusivity is upheld. The organisational structure of these NGOs often focuses on ensuring that anyone can be a member, and that all members have a say in the governing of the association. This helps to ensure that the organisations fulfil their role of acting to create a better civil society.

9.AWARENESS OF VOLUNTEERING OPPORTUNITIES

One could say that most people are aware about volunteering opportunities in Norway. Norway already has some of the highest rates of participation in the world because the voluntary sector is so embedded, as discussed earlier in this chapter.

There is no official database demonstrating neither volunteers nor organisations. However, there have been efforts to create such a document. For instance, The Approval Registry is a database compiled by the Norwegian Control Committee for Fundraising in which organisations raising funds for charity can register. In order to be considered, at least 65% of funding from non-public sources must be given to the original charitable pursuit. Furthermore, the Committee has released a watch list of organisations that have applied but have failed to comply with this criterion because of the lack of transparency^[38].

10.ADDITIONAL COUNTRY SPECIFICS

Norway is not a member of the European Union, but it is a member of the European Economic Area (EEA). Thanks to the relationship formed between Norway and the EU, there are more readily available and accessible volunteering opportunities for Norwegians abroad and European citizens in Norway alike. These programmes include Erasmus +, in which students can volunteer abroad, and the European Solidarity Corps.

[38] Innsamlings Kontrollen, no date, *The Norwegian Control Committee for Fundraising*, available at <http://www.innsamlingskontrollen.no/en/about-us/>, accessed 27/06/19

11.RECOMMENDATIONS

Even though Norway has one of the highest levels in engagement in volunteering, there are still areas which could be improved. For example, whilst there is a significant amount of research on volunteering and its impacts being conducted in Norway, the collection of official data on criteria such as how many people volunteer and how much time they give is still somewhat inconsistent. Although the studies conducted by Statistics Norway are in-depth and extensive, not all surveys concerning volunteering are conducted annually. Data concerning levels of participation in civil society groups tends to be published every three years (2017, 2014, 2011)[39]. An annual overview of volunteering would help to make our understanding of the state of volunteering in the country much more precise.

(((For instance, the fact that developed data on volunteering was not collected consistently every year by Statistics Norway, and if this became more regular, our outlook on the Norwegian volunteering sector could be much more precise.)))

Furthermore, the creation of an official volunteering database could help match perspective volunteers to organisations in need. Some attempts to do this have been made[40], although they are not particularly well known. Making an official database may accelerate participation and engagement in volunteering work by facilitating connections.

[39] Statistics Norway, search for 'Volunteering participation, available at: <https://www.ssb.no/en/sok?sok=volunteer+participation>, accessed 09/07/19

[40] Attempts include lists of approved organisations (<http://178.79.136.101/nb/innsamlingsregisteret/>) and organisations placed on the warning list (<http://178.79.136.101/nb/obs-liste/>) compiled by The Norwegian Control Committee for Fundraising (Innsamlings Kontrollen, in Norwegian)

Resources

- Attempts include lists of approved organisations (<http://178.79.136.101/nb/innsamlingsregisteret/>) and organisations placed on the warning list (<http://178.79.136.101/nb/obs-liste/>) compiled by The Norwegian Control Committee for Fundraising (Innsamlings Kontrollen, in Norwegian).
- Centre for Research on Civil Society and the Voluntary Sector, 2018, *About the centre*, available at: <https://www.samfunnsforskning.no/sivilsamfunn/english/about/> [accessed on 27/06/19].
- Elections Guide, 2019, *Kingdom of Norway*, available at: <http://www.electionguide.org/countries/id/162/>, [accessed on 26/06/19].
- European Commission, 2017, *Youth Policies in Norway*, available at: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/sites/youthwiki/files/gdlnorway.pdf> [accessed on 27/06/19].
- European Commission, 2019, *2.4 Youth volunteering at national level*, available at: <https://eacea.ec.europa.eu/national-policies/en/content/youthwiki/25-youth-volunteering-national-level-norway> [accessed 26/06/19].
- Fladmoe, A., Eimhjellen, I., Sivesind, K., and Arnesen, S., 2019, *Hvem gir mest tid og penger til frivillige organisasjoner?*, available at: <https://samfunnsforskning.brage.unit.no/samfunnsforskning-xmlui/handle/11250/2583167>, [accessed on 27/06/19].
- Friends of the Earth International, no date, *NorwayFriends of the Earth Norway / Norges Naturvernforbund*, available at: <https://www.foei.org/member-groups/europe/norway>, [accessed on 27/06/19].
- Frivillighet Norge, date unknown, *About the Association of NGOs in Norway*, available at <https://frivillighetnorge.no/no/english/>, [accessed 27/06/19].
- Full declaration available at: <https://www.regjeringen.no/en/whatsnew/Ministries/kud/press-releases/2014/regjeringens-frivillighetserklaring/declaration-on-voluntary-work---declaration-on-the-governments-interaction-with-the-voluntary-sector/id2350911/>.
- Government.no, 2014, *Declaration on Volunteering*, available at: <https://www.regjeringen.no/en/whatsnew/Ministries/kud/press-releases/2014/regjeringens-frivillighetserklaring/declaration-on-voluntary-work---declaration-on-the-governments-interaction-with-the-voluntary-sector/id2350911/>, [accessed on 26/06/19].
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