

1 Introduction	1
1.1 Standing Together Against Transnational Crises: the EU	2
1.2 A European Answer to Problems of Young People?	3
1.3 Research Questions	6
1.4 Plan of the Study	6
2 (European) youth policy and why research it	9
2.1 Youth policy	9
2.1.1 Historical background	10
2.1.2 Youth policy in Europe	12
2.1.2.1 Transition regimes	13
2.1.2.2 Intervention regimes	15
2.1.2.3 Policy types	16
2.2 European Youth policy	17
2.3 European Youth Strategy	22
2.4 Different impacts of the EU Youth Strategy	26
2.5 Research on the EU Youth Strategy	31
3 Europeanisation and Soft Law	35
3.1 Europeanisation of Hard Law	35
3.2 Soft Europeanisation: the Open Method of Coordination	38
4 EU Youth Strategy and fsQCA	43
4.1 What is QCA?	44
4.1.1 Set Logic	44
4.1.2 fsQCA as a Research Method	46
4.1.3 QCA in Research	47

4.1.4	Conclusion	49
4.2	Preparation of the Analysis	50
4.2.1	Conditions Impacting the Adoption of the EU Youth Strategy	50
4.2.1.1	Goodness of Fit	51
4.2.1.2	Fiscal Situation	52
4.2.1.3	Cross-Sectoral Mechanism	53
4.2.1.4	Pro-European Government	54
4.2.2	The Impact of the EU Youth Strategy	57
4.2.2.1	The General Perception of the EU Youth Strategy	57
4.2.2.2	Innovation through the EU Youth Strategy	57
4.2.2.3	The Level of Detail	59
4.2.2.4	The OMC-influence-index for the EU Youth Strategy	59
4.2.3	Calibration of the Data	60
4.2.3.1	Outcome	61
4.2.3.2	Condition DEBT	64
4.2.3.3	Condition FIT	67
4.2.3.4	Condition CROSS	69
4.2.3.5	Condition PARTYEU	71
4.3	Analysis of the Reports	73
4.3.1	2012-reports	73
4.3.1.1	Analysis of Necessity	73
4.3.1.2	Analysis of Sufficiency	77
4.3.1.3	Analysis of the Truth Table	81
4.3.1.4	Minimisation: Standard Analysis	85
4.3.1.4.1	Conservative Solution	87
4.3.1.4.2	Parsimonious Solution	90
4.3.1.4.3	Intermediate Solution	92
4.3.1.5	Minimisation: Enhanced Standard Analysis	93
4.3.1.5.1	Enhanced Parsimonious Solution	94
4.3.1.5.2	Enhanced Intermediate Solution	96
4.3.2	2015-reports	98
4.3.2.1	Analysis of Necessity	98
4.3.2.2	Analysis of Sufficiency	100
4.3.2.3	Truth Tables	103
4.3.2.4	Minimisation: Standard Analysis	107

4.3.2.4.1	Conservative Solution	107
4.3.2.4.2	Parsimonious Solution	109
4.3.2.4.3	Intermediate Solution	111
4.3.2.5	Minimisation: Enhanced Standard Analysis	114
4.3.2.5.1	Enhanced Parsimonious Solution	114
4.3.2.5.2	Enhanced Intermediate Solution	115
4.4	Discussion	117
4.5	Conclusion	122
5	Case Study Analysis	125
5.1	Analytic Framework	125
5.1.1	Openness	126
5.1.1.1	Compliance/Compatibility	126
5.1.1.2	Capacity	127
5.1.2	Motivation	128
5.1.2.1	Endeavour	129
5.1.2.2	Problem pressure	130
5.1.3	Synthesis	130
5.2	Analysis of the EU Youth Strategy	132
5.2.1	Germany	132
5.2.1.1	Openness	132
5.2.1.1.1	Compliance/Compatibility	132
5.2.1.1.2	Capacity	138
5.2.1.1.3	Conclusion	139
5.2.1.2	Motivation	140
5.2.1.2.1	Endeavour	140
5.2.1.2.2	Problem Pressure	143
5.2.1.2.3	Conclusion	145
5.2.1.3	Summary	146
5.2.2	Ireland	147
5.2.2.1	Openness	147
5.2.2.1.1	Compliance/Compatibility	147
5.2.2.1.2	Capacity	155
5.2.2.1.3	Conclusion	156
5.2.2.2	Motivation	156
5.2.2.2.1	Endeavour	156
5.2.2.2.2	Problem Pressure	157

5.2.2.2.3 Conclusion	159
5.2.2.3 Summary	160
5.3 Results of the analysis	160
5.4 Discussion of the Framework	161
6 Conclusions	165
6.1 Summary	165
6.2 Future Research Agenda	168
References	173