



When a young person aged from 12 to 17 violates the penal Law, he commits an **offence**. The YCJA (Youth Criminal Justice Act) provides for a set of measures that take into account the young age of the offender.

During the **arrest**, the youth has rights, as to remain silent or to speak to a lawyer, and the police shall inform his parents as soon as possible.

The police decides of the follow-up of the infringement according to the seriousness of the offence. The **extrajudicial measures** are designed for effective and timely interventions for a non-violent first offence.

If the police decides to proceed to a **referral**, the youth is referred to Trajet for a legal awareness education or drug addiction measure, depending on the kind of offence.

If the police decides to institute proceedings, the file is referred to the **Attorney General** who decides, depending on the type and the seriousness of the offence, of the follow-up to be given.

The **extrajudicial sanctions** are decided by the CIUSSS. They are designed to raise the awareness, the education and the accountability of the youth.

The **youth sentences** are decided by the Youth Justice Court. They are intended to be fair, to protect the public and to promote the rehabilitation and reintegration of the youth.

The **measures** referred to Trajet, youth sentences or extrajudicial sanctions, are essentially the same. A youth worker supports the youth throughout the realization of his measure.

When the measure is **completed**, the file is closed and the procedure ends.

When the measure of an extrajudicial sanction is **not completed**, the youth delegate can decide to send the file back to the Attorney General, who can refer it to the court.

When the measure of a youth sentence is **not completed**, the youth shall appear in court again.