

## The European Civil Society Platform on Lifelong Learning



Issue #18 - October 2010 - EUCIS-LLL Newsletter

### EUCIS-LLL News

EUCIS-LLL and the European Youth Forum co-organise the third Stakeholders' Forum with DG EAC, 28-29 October

The third edition of the Stakeholders' Forum will take place on 28-29 October in Brussels. This Forum aims to consult European stakeholders on the future of the Youth in Action, Erasmus Mundus and Lifelong Learning Programmes. It will also be an opportunity to discuss the impact of the "Youth on the Move" initiative on the future programmes. More [info](#).

EUCIS-LLL thematic working groups, Brussels, 28 October

After the success of the first encounter in Barcelona during EUCIS-LLL General Assembly, the working groups will meet again on the 28 October 2010. The event will take place in EUCIS-LLL offices from 9-12 am just before the Stakeholders' Forum. More on our [working groups](#).

EUCIS-LLL conference report on the "Social Dimension of Education and Training in Europe" now available!

EUCIS-LLL conference on "*The social dimension of education and training*" took place in Barcelona, on 14 April 2010. It gathered more than 90 civil society representatives from around Europe in order to exchange and put forward some recommendations to policy-makers in the framework of the new "EU2020" Strategy. Check out the [general report](#), it contains interesting recommendations and good practices!

EUCIS-LLL participates in EP Public Hearing on the European Citizens' Initiative "Take the initiative!", 15 September

EUCIS-LLL participated in a public hearing on the European Citizen's Initiative (ECI) organised by the European United Left / Nordic Green Left (GUE/NGL) on 15 September at the European Parliament in Brussels. Maroš Šefčovič, vice-president of the European Commission, MEPs from different groups and relevant Civil Society Organisations, including SOLIDAR, participated in an intense debate on the

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### *agenda*

#### October

13-16: EfVET annual conference "VET in Europe. We can do it! But even better!", Lisbon, Portugal

18-19: Building together a society for all - A circus against exclusion, Brussels

20-24: ISCA Congress "Sport for all and health, a strategic partnership, Frankfurt, Germany

28-10: EUCIS-LLL working groups meeting, 9h-12am, EUCIS-LLL Office, Brussels

28-29: 3rd Stakeholders Forum, 28-29 October 2010, Brussels, Belgium

#### November

4-6: ESHA 2010 Conference, Limassol, Cyprus

implementation of the ECI. Commissioner Šefčovič defended the EC's proposal but many participants expressed their concern that this excellent initiative for participatory democracy may produce a bureaucratic monster or become a toothless tiger. One of the main points of discussion turned around personal data protection, specifically concerning the provision of the ID card or Passport number. Other issues were the admissibility procedure, its transparency and the funding. Many questions remain open today. The European Parliament and Council are expected to reach an agreement on the regulation towards the end of 2010. We do hope that the ECI becomes a real tool for European democracy and not a bureaucratic instrument that will have the opposite effect. More [info](#).

[The civil society organisations member of the Liaison Group met future EESC President, 21 October](#)

Audrey Frith represented EUCIS-LLL at the last European Economic and social Committee (EESC) Liaison Group meeting, on 20 September. This meeting was a great opportunity to discuss the future functioning of the Group with the next EESC President, Staffan Nilsson, who is starting his presidency on 21 October 2010. The Civil Society Organisations (CSO) widely agreed on the necessity to strengthen the cooperation within the EESC in order to guarantee a more systematic consultation and regular dialogue between them and the EESC. Mr. Nilsson shared this need and announced his intention of reorganising the LG in order to make it more functional. He encouraged CSO to identify topics of common interests for which they can be a pole of expertise and enrich EESC contributions in the European policy agenda. The CSO also discussed about the written declaration for the statutes of the European Association, Mutuality and Foundation and the organization of the next Citizen's Agora: "Crisis & poverty crisis", organized this autumn at the European Parliament.

[EUCIS-LLL participates in Belgian EU presidency conference "Social inclusion in and through education" 28-29 September](#)

On 28-29 September 2010, the Belgian Presidency of the Council organised a conference on social inclusion in and through education and training in Gant. During two days policy-makers, social partners, researchers, education and training providers examined European, national and regional educational policies and practices. The central focus was equality and inclusion at all education levels. The workshops treated several issues regarding social inclusion. Gina Ebner, EUCIS-LLL President, participated as a discussant in one of them focused on "Low skilled and adult learners". EUCIS-LLL really welcomes more cooperation at EU level on the social dimension of Education and Training and very much appreciated that the Belgian Presidency organized such an event. Two interesting researches were presented during the opening session and the focus was very much on a lifelong learning perspective. For further information, you can consult the following documents: [Council conclusions](#) on the social dimension of education and training of 11 May 2010, Belgian Presidency [website](#). You can also have a look at the results of our working group and [Barcelona conference](#).

[12-14: EUROCLIO Historiana Seminar, The Hague, The Netherlands](#)

[18-19: 40th EUCEN Conference, Lille, France](#)

[18-20:, 33rd EFFE Colloquium on Sustainability and Responsibility in Education and Health Promotion, University Witten/Herdecke, Germany](#)

[19: Human Ring Against Poverty around European Parliament, 12:15 am, Brussels](#)

[23-24:, 2nd MOBIVET-REGIO Forum, Brussels, Belgium](#)

[25-26:, EAEA / NVL 2010 Conference, Brussels, Belgium](#)

[25-28: European Education Fair, Paris, France](#)

[29-30: FREREF European symposium, "Young people transitions: from school to work", Brussels, Belgium](#)

[More events on our website...](#)

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## Belgian EU presidency conference “Youth on the Move: Achieving mobility for all!”, Antwerp, 5-6 October

In cooperation with the DG EAC, the Belgian presidency organised a conference that dealt with the challenges of European and global mobility. In addition to presenting the results of the Green Paper consultation on the promotion of learning mobility of young people, the EU flagship initiative “Youth on the Move” featured prominently on the agenda. Included in the EU 2020 strategy it is aimed at helping young people to gain the knowledge, skills and experience they need to make their first job a reality. Around 450 participants, including EUCIS-LLL Director, Audrey Frith, from all over Europe participated in the conference.

The workshops tackled various aspects of mobility, such as incentives, finance, quality or links with the labour market. We very much regret that the majority of the speakers came from the higher education sector (more than 20) while 3 came from the VET sector and only 1 from the non-formal sector. The title of the conference “mobility for all” seemed to mismatch the reality of the debates that took place in Gant – essentially focused on students’ mobility. We believe that in order to give everyone a chance to access learning mobility it shall happen in all sectors. Not much time was left for discussions, which did not leave the opportunity to really open the debates. Many participants *did* point out that mobility should concern everyone and that it should not only aim at better employability: it contributes to personal development, to a better understanding of differences, to a more active participation within society and more generally it improves social cohesion. As one of the speakers mentioned, the persons who contributed to the financial crisis were highly qualified and came out from the best schools in Europe. Focusing too much on a labour market / competitive approach without looking at ethics can lead to very negative effects. The European Commission reassured that “Youth on the Move” was intended as being cross-sectoral and cross-ages. This requires a strong political and financial commitment from the Members states at national level but also in the framework of the future EU Budget negotiations. Youth on the Move [website](#).

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## News from the members

### EUCEN: final dissemination conference on the OBSERVAL Network project

On 13 October the European University Continuing Education Network (EUCEN) presented the results of the OBSERVAL project in Brussels. The “European Observatory on Validation Practices of Non-formal and Informal Learning” in European countries is the key product of this project. It involved partners from 24 EU countries representing the different sectors in education and training. [OBSERVAL](#) provides a global resource for actors in charge of validation, for policy makers, for social partners and education and training organizations. Gina Ebner,

EUCIS-LLL President, participated in a panel discussion on the sustainability of the Observatory and proposed the creation of a European Lifelong Learning Institute to foster further development in research and innovation in the field. She also mentioned the need for the European Commission to find solutions in the future programmes to ensure the sustainability of good projects like the OBSERVAL.

#### ISCA: Congress "MOVE 2010!"

The International Sport and Culture Association (ISCA) is organising the "MOVE 2010 Congress on Sport for All and Health: A Strategic Partnership", which will take place from the 20-24 October 2010 in Frankfurt. MOVE 2010 will bring stakeholders from the Sport for All and Health sector together to elaborate strategies for the benefit of all citizens. The congress will address critical issues related to the development of the Sport for All and Health sectors, such as creating successful campaigns, developing strategies for organisational and programme development, networking at all levels and recognising and developing quality programmes. National and international speakers will present new strategies and understandings, as well as best-practice examples from and for organisations operating in the field of health enhancing physical activity. You can still [register!](#)

#### EUROCLIO: Historiana Seminars - Register now!

EUROCLIO is pleased to announce the upcoming First Seminar within the *Historiana.eu* initiative taking place in November 12-14 2010 in the Hague, the Netherlands. The [intensive Programme](#) will offer lectures by Dr. Robert Stradling, University of Edinburgh and Dr. Leo Lucassen, Leiden University; training sessions by the Historiana Editors Dzintra Liepina from Latvia, Mire Mladenovski from Macedonia, Dr. Yosanna Vella from Malta on the use of innovative learning through an exemplary case studies developed on the theme "*People on the Move*". Contributors from 10 different countries will meet to develop case studies on the theme of "*Rights & Responsibilities*". Moreover, the Programme for the Second Historiana Seminar is under development and will take place in January 20-23 2011. *Historiana.eu* is an initiative of EUROCLIO, in which an online, interactive, multimedia tool will be developed as an alternative to a European textbook. The registration for both seminars is open and you are more than welcome to contact [Maria Kazamiaki](#) for background information and please visit the [Historiana website](#).

#### EFFE: 33rd Colloquium on Sustainability and Responsibility in Education and Health Promotion

Between 18-20 November 2010, the European Forum for Freedom in Education (EFFE) organises a colloquium on "For a Healthy School: Sustainability and Responsibility in Education and Health Promotion" in the University Witten/Herdecke, Germany. This international event will tackle questions concerning the connection between education and health and how they complement each other. If you would like to attend the event, please fill in the registration form available at EFFE's [website](#) before 12 November 2010.

#### FREREF: second MOBIVET REGIO Forum!

The second MOBIVET REGIO Forum will be organised on 23-24 of November 2010 in Brussels. The MOBIVET-REGIO forum was set up with a twofold objective: to allow training centres in different parts of Europe to meet and forge partnerships for mobility; and to support these training centres in the organisation of mobility with practical tools and experiences. FREREF invites you to think of a regional delegation composed of young people, economic actors and trainers. If you need further information, please contact [Adeline Devore](#) and check FREREF [website](#).

#### SOLIDAR/EVTA: project on VET solutions for e-Inclusion facilitators

A two-year Leonardo project, VET4e-Inclusion aims for the recognition of the eFacilitators professional profile, workers who develop empowerment of users at risk by facilitating their use of ICTs in on-line centres. La Ligue de l'enseignement, member of SOLIDAR, is currently working on this project together with seven European partners. The consortium is currently developing a training curriculum of eFacilitator, that includes 15 learning modules among which 10 will be tested in 4 countries, through e-learning. Volunteer students will test these pilot courses, after following an on-line registration process (open in January 2011). If you are interested please contact [Natacha Moquet](#) and check the project [website](#).

#### EAEA: 2010 Grundtvig Award publication available!

EAEA is annually awarding a Grundtvig Award for an outstanding product/project result in adult learning. The award focuses on different themes each year. In 2010 the theme was "Innovative Approaches in Adult Education and Learning - Key competences for social inclusion". EAEA was looking for projects that demonstrate that the learning of key competences can contribute to social inclusion. In June 2010 two associations were awarded during the EAEA General Assembly in Yerevan, Armenia: "Little Stories, Great Hopes" from Belgium and "Community-based Alternative Learning and Development Program" from Philippines. EAEA has just published the Grundtvig Award 2010 publication, presenting the nominated projects, and of course, the winners. The publication is [available](#) free of charge.

#### EAEA: Comenius-Grundtvig Seminar on Learning in Later Life

In the context of an ageing society young and old are more and more faced with new learning needs of older adults and vice versa. Older adults, even if they are not willing to learn, are forced to cope with the changes of modern life to keep social contacts. It brings chances and challenges, but also risks and threats for young and old. This is a complete new challenge to adult educators, teachers, trainers, facilitators, as well as to learners and students from all ages. Special competencies are therefore needed. The Cyprus Adult Education is organizing a seminar on Learning in later life – Generational Cooperation in Limassol, Cyprus, from 25-29 May 2011. If you need further information, you can contact [Klitos Symeonides](#), President of the Cyprus Adult Education Association .

## ESHA Magazine vol.4, September 2010

The ESHA Magazine No. 4, September 2010, is out. You can read it [online](#) or download from ESHA website.

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## Institutional news

### European Commission launches "Youth on the Move"

On 15 September, the European Commission launched Youth on the Move, a new flagship initiative aimed at helping young people to gain the knowledge, skills and experience they need to make their first job a reality. Part of the Europe 2020 strategy, Youth on the Move proposes 28 key actions aimed at making education and training more relevant to young people's needs and encouraging more of them to take advantage of EU grants to study or train in another country. The European commission opened a specific [website](#).

### Lifelong learning Directors' meeting on 20-21 October

The directors of all national agencies responsible for the lifelong learning programme will be meeting in Eupen, the capital of Belgium's German-speaking Community, and will present a Lifelong Learning Award for the best initiatives. More [information](#).

### European Talent Day 2011

The first European Day of Talented and Gifted will be held during the Hungarian EU Presidency, in Spring 2011. All EU and non-EU countries are welcome to join the movement. The first meeting of the international organizing committee will be held in October 2010. The organization of this event welcomes your contribution, suggestions and any help or cooperation you can offer. Please [contact](#) or check the [website](#)

### Public consultation on the next-generation EU programmes – education, training and youth

The European Commission is launching public consultations on the [Lifelong Learning Programme](#), [Youth in Action](#) and [Erasmus Mundus](#). In the consultation questionnaires, the European Commission asks for your views on the development and design of the programmes and on how they can contribute to the Europe 2020 strategy for smart, sustainable and inclusive growth – and especially two of the strategy's flagship initiatives: Youth on the move and An Agenda for new skills and jobs. The consultations will be open until 30 November 2010. Results of the consultations will be published on DG EAC's website.

### Ombudsman: New strategy for greater involvement of citizens and civil society

The European Ombudsman, P. Nikiforos Diamandouros, has adopted a [strategy](#) designed to raise the quality of the EU

administration and to ensure that EU citizens enjoy their rights fully. The strategy will form the basis for the Ombudsman's work during his new mandate (2009-2014). It outlines the Ombudsman's intention to meet the expectations of complainants and of other stakeholders, to increase his institution's effectiveness as an alternative means of resolving disputes with the EU administration, and to be recognised as the driving force in putting citizens at the centre of the Union's administrative culture.

### European Commission Communication on Smart Regulation

On 8 October, the European Commission has set out plans to further improve the quality and relevance of EU legislation. It will evaluate the impact of legislation during the whole policy cycle: when a policy is designed, when it is in place, and when it is revised. The Commission will work with the European Parliament, Council and Member States to encourage them to apply "[smart regulation](#)" in their work. Finally, to strengthen the voice of citizens and other stakeholders, the Commission has decided to increase the period of its public consultations from 2012 onwards.

### European Year 2010 for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion Newsletter

The third [Newsletter](#) of the EY2010 is now available. It gives an overview of activities taking place within the framework of the European Year and highlight key topics, events and activities going on before, during and after the Year.

### European Year of Volunteering 2011 Newsletter

2011 is the European year of volunteering. The overall purpose of the year is to encourage and support the efforts of the European Union, the Member States, local and regional authorities, to create conditions conducive to volunteering in the European Union and to increase the visibility of voluntary activities in the EU. Read it [online!](#)

### 2012 to be the European Year for Active Ageing

The European Commission has just proposed that 2012 be designated as the "European Year for Active Ageing". The initiative aims to help create better job opportunities and working conditions for the growing numbers of older people in Europe, help them take an active role in society and encourage healthy ageing. It comes as Europe's policymakers grapple with a steadily ageing population and its impacts on public services and finances. The European Parliament and Council are expected to endorse the initiative by the beginning of next year. Proposal for a [Decision](#) on the European Year for Active Ageing (2012).

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## Research and Innovation

ELLI - European lifelong learning indicators: making

### [lifelong learning tangible!](#)

Scientists at the JRC's Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen (IPSC) have carried out an independent audit of the European Lifelong Learning Indicators (ELLI) Index, a new aggregate measure for the country-level assessment of lifelong learning in the EU Member States. The audit concludes that the ELLI-Index is built according to sound statistical methodology and has the potential to open up ideas and dialogues relating to lifelong and life-wide learning to a wider population within and outside Europe. ELLI is an initiative led by the *Bertelsmann Foundation* and this index represents a first step towards making lifelong learning more tangible and measurable. The conceptual framework for the [ELLI-Index](#) is loosely based on UNESCO's International Commission on Education for the 21st Century and identifies four major dimensions of learning.

### [Is the design and management of the mobility scheme of the Leonardo da Vinci programme likely to lead to effective results? Special Report from the Court of Auditors](#)

The audit focused on mobility activities funded by the Leonardo programme. The overall objective was to assess whether the design and management of the Lifelong Learning Programme's (2007–13) Leonardo da Vinci mobility scheme is likely to lead to effective results. The [audit](#) covered the preparation of the Lifelong Learning Programme, which started in 2004, and the actual execution of the programme in 2007-08.

### [Statistics on education, lifelong learning and vocational training in enterprises - Commission Regulations](#)

The European Commission has just released two new regulations regarding: 1) statistics relating to vocational training in enterprises, as regards the data to be collected, the sampling, precision and quality requirements; 2) statistics on education and lifelong learning, as regards statistics on the participation of adults in lifelong learning. Statistics relating to [vocational training](#) in enterprises and statistics on education and [lifelong learning](#).

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## [EU funding and opportunities](#)

### [CEDEFOP Call for tenders: Assessing Learning Outcomes in VET](#)

The aim of this invitation to tender is to commission a study, which will map and comparatively analyse the implications of learning outcomes approaches on assessment methodologies in initial vocational education and training. Deadline for submitting [tenders](#): 25/10/2010.

### [Call for tenders: a study on Active Citizenship in the EU \(EACEA/2010/02\)](#)

The Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) launched a [tender](#) for a study on Active Citizenship in

the EU. Deadline: 29 October 2010.

### Call for flagship projects in the framework of the European Year of Volunteering 2011

The purpose of this call is to support one or two flagship projects per Member State, which will receive a [grant](#) from the European Commission, in order to test and develop new and innovative schemes and approaches with a view to build long-term partnerships between civil society organisations operating in the area of volunteering. Deadline: 12 November 2010.

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