

The European Civil Society Platform on Lifelong Learning



Issue #21 - January 2011 - EUCIS-LLL Newsletter

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EUCIS-LLL News

For the European Statute for Associations, act now!

On 10 November, five MEPs from the European Parliament launched the Written Declaration WD84/2010 calling on the European Commission to table three proposals for European statutes for foundations, associations and mutuals respectively. Civil society organisations decided to join their efforts, together with mutuals and foundations, to support this declaration through the setting up of an informal "European Alliance for the Statute of the European Association" ([EASEA](#)), which aims at raising an awareness campaign towards deputies. EUCIS-LLL, as a member of this alliance, invites all MEPs to sign the written declaration before 17 February 2011.

First Lifelong Learning Week at the European Parliament!

From 14-17 March 2011 EUCIS-LLL will organise the first "Lifelong Learning Week" at the European Parliament in Brussels. During this week it will organise several meetings, events and activities, such as a Round Table with deputies on the social dimension of education and training and a Public Hearing on mobility at the European Economic and Social Committee.

EUCIS-LLL thematic working groups meeting, February 2011

The [working groups](#) will meet again on the first week of February 2011 in EUCIS-LLL offices. Working group 1 on the "Social dimension of education and training" will meet on 1 February to carry on the discussion on how to better promote inclusion within education and training systems as well as to work on volunteering. On 4 February, the second working group on "EU tools and competences" will analyse the last developments of national qualification frameworks at national and sectoral levels. On 3 February, the last working group on the "Sustainability of lifelong learning" will meet to carry on the discussion on the feasibility of setting up a European Lifelong Learning Institute.

EUCIS-LLL joins the European Year of Volunteering Alliance

2011 is the [European Year](#) of Voluntary Activities Promoting Active Citizenship. Volunteering is a crucial topic for EUCIS-LLL members. It promotes solidarity and social cohesion - a value which is not only in great need in the current economic and social climate - but also one upon which the EU has been built. EUCIS-LLL is willing to contribute actively to the European Year 2011. In this sense, it

joined the [EYV 2011 Alliance](#), an informal group of European networks active in volunteering which will work together on the promotion, advocacy, organisation and implementation of the EYV 2011. The Alliance currently has 33 European networks gathering over 2000 direct member and partner organisations all over Europe and beyond, reaching out to hundreds of thousands of volunteers.

[EUCIS-LLL and the Hungarian and Polish Presidencies of the EU](#)

On 15 December 2010, EUCIS-LLL Steering committee members met Zoltan Loboda Head of the Education section at the Permanent representation of Hungary and Joanna Doberszyc-Toulsaly, Head of the Education section at the Permanent representation of Poland. The goal of these two meetings was to discuss the main priorities in education and training of the future EU presidencies and to see how EUCIS-LLL could contribute to policy developments on lifelong learning and active citizenship in the framework of the future presidencies of the EU.

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[News from the members](#)

[The EAEA Award for Adult Education 2011](#)

Each year, the European Association for the Education of Adults ([EAEA](#)) celebrates innovation and excellence in adult education. The Grundtvig Award highlights project results that produce new ideas, new partnerships, new methodologies and a new understanding of how we can work in adult learning. In 2011, EAEA is looking for projects that tackle Learning Experiences through Volunteering. The projects should either have volunteering as their main topic or enhance their learning potential by a volunteering period. The call for projects is open until 4 April 2011.

[YOUrope needs YOU!](#)

YOUrope needs YOU! is a project of the European Students' Forum ([AEGEE](#)) which aims at empowering high school students in different countries all over Europe to become active citizens of their society. Conducted, usually but not necessarily, by university students, the project intends to raise awareness on European matters, show the practical opportunities Europe offers, and encourage youth to seize these opportunities. The use of interactive non-formal education methods will allow the participating high school students to improve their understanding of common European values and perspectives. After winning the Charlemagne prize in 2009, it received a few days ago the patronage of Jerzy Buzek and the European Parliament.

[EPA conference "Assessment and Evaluation in Schools"](#)

The European Parents Association ([EPA](#)) will hold a conference on "Assessment and Evaluation in Schools" in Budapest, 25-26 March 2011. The conference will discuss fundamental issues related to this topic such as key competences and/or quality in school from the parents' point of view. Moreover, EPA and EUROCLIO, the European Association of History Educators, have had a very successful conference in late November 2010. Around 90 participants from 20 countries took part in a very interesting debate dealing with migration as a topic of history education and focusing on migrant parents as well as the experiences of students in students' exchange programmes. The key message they would like to send to all other EUCIS-LLL members is that they have really enjoyed the "added value" gained by the cooperation of two complementary associations. A complete report will be soon available.

[effe Colloquium on alternative pedagogical methods](#)

The next [effe](#) (European Federation for Freedom in Education) Colloquium will take place in Vienna, Austria, from the 28-30 April 2011. For more than three decades, the educational landscape of Austria has been marked by alternative pedagogical initiatives. Independent schools and children's groups have led the way in showing pioneering new approaches: self-determined, democratic and socially competent. The event will offer an insight into current alternative teaching methods and the related education policy debates through a series of lectures, workshops, discussions, performances and installations. The detailed programme will be published online soon. You can also check their last [newsletter](#).

[EUROCLIO 3rd Historiana initiative seminar](#)

The Third EUROCLIO Seminar within the [Historiana](#) initiative will be focused on the theme "Rights

and Responsibilities” and will take place on July 7-10 2011 in Riga, Latvia. Please check the Historiana website or contact the Event Coordinator [Maria Kazamiaki](#).

European summer University for Lifelong Learning

The Foundation of European Regions for Research, Education and Training (FREREF) will organise the 9th session of its European summer University for Lifelong Learning in Neuchâtel (Switzerland) from 29-31 of August 2011. The thematic is articulated around the initial and continuous training in Lifelong Learning and will focus on the enterprise. The latter is not only an «economic agent» that consumes human resources but also an actor of the economy and of social cohesion. It plays a key role in the development of individuals and of their life pathways and dynamism of their environment. Furthermore, FREREF's latest [newsletter](#) has been published, especially focusing on the last Summer University held at Brussels on last September 2010.

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Institutional news

EU Budget for 2011 adopted

On 15 December the European Parliament accepted the [draft budget](#) presented by the Commission with some minor technical adjustments introduced by the Council. The budget 2011 foresees €126.5 billion in payments (+2.9% compared to 2010), corresponding to 1.01% of the Gross National Income (GNI) of the EU. The Council and the Parliament also adopted a decision on the mobilisation of the flexibility instrument to complement the financing in the 2011 budget, beyond the ceilings of the multiannual financial framework. In this sense, €18 million will be mobilised for the lifelong learning programme. This increase, from €1 009.7 million on the original draft budget 2011 to €1 027.7 million, reflects the EU2020 priorities in relation to the education and training scheme. Compared to the LLL budget in 2010, which was €982.5 million, there has been an increase of €45.2 million for the LLL programme 2011. The Erasmus Mundus and the Youth in Action budgets for 2011 have also increased substantially (EM from €94.2 million to €96.5 million; YiA from €124.1 in 2010 to €129.1 for 2011). However, the Europe for Citizens programme's budget has decreased from €32.2 million in 2010 to €28.3 million for 2011.

Hungary assumes the third leg of the EU “trio” presidency

On 1st January, Hungary took the rotating Presidency of the European Council. The [Hungarian Presidency](#) aims to promote growth, jobs and social inclusion, to strengthen the economic policy coordination of the Member States and to address EU citizen's concerns, especially achieving a breakthrough in the area of Roma inclusion. In the field of education and training, the Hungarian Presidency is to pay special attention to the flagships defined in the EU2020 strategy. Therefore, its priorities will focus on combating early school leaving, improving the level of early childhood education and care, promoting incentives for trans-border mobility in education and improving the quality of mobility related services. Furthermore, the Hungarian Presidency wishes to contribute to the cooperation on the modernisation of higher education, to review the results of the Action Plan on Adult Learning and to take forward the work started by the Belgian Presidency in the field of vocational training.

European Union Structured Dialogue on Sport

EU Institutions and sports sector have started a new collaboration within the framework of the new Sport Council. The Belgian EU Presidency, led by Flemish Minister for Sport Philippe Muyters, brought together representatives of the EU institutions and the sports sector. During this informal meeting, they discussed the future EU collaboration in the area of sport. The exchange of views focused on the results of the Council, the future of the structured EU dialogue and topical issues such as the way in which the EU will give shape to the new competence on sport, the financing for sport, social inclusion in and through sport, volunteering in sport and integrity in sport in various aspects. Read [ISCA Europe statement](#) to the EU Structural Dialogue on Sport.

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Research and Innovation

An NGO guide to EU Policies and Actions

The Open Society Foundation has recently published a very useful guide on EU policies, responsibilities and funding mechanisms related to the education of migrant children and youth within existing EU agendas on human rights, equal treatment, antidiscrimination, integration, social inclusion, and education and training. The publication is available [online](#).

Making Lifelong Learning Tangible!

"The European ELLI Index 2010 - Making Lifelong Learning Tangible!" presents the first results of the European Lifelong Learning Indicators Project and compares Europe's progress in lifelong learning. Besides the country comparison the study illustrates the [ELLI](#) concept and methodology. Read more about how fundamental interrelations between lifelong learning and social and individual wellbeing are taken account for in the index. Have a closer look at the ELLI results on lifelong learning in Europe!

Cedefop's achievements in 2010 and plans for 2011

Cedefop, the EU's agency to support European VET development, has published this month a [review](#) of its achievements in 2010 and its strategic goals for 2011.

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Public consultations

EC consultation on the promotion and validation of non-formal and informal learning

The validation of the skills, knowledge and competences gained through work and life experience has been a foundation of EU lifelong learning policy since 1995, but many steps still need to be taken to make lifelong learning an everyday reality for all European citizens. The European Commission's consultation calls for advice on how to design further action and collecting the views on the promotion and validation of non-formal and informal learning. Get your views heard by contributing to the [consultation](#) by 9 February 2011.

Innovation Union: Commission launches consultation on active & healthy ageing

The Commission has launched a [public consultation](#) on how Europe could scale up innovation to meet the challenges of the ageing population in Europe, and in particular on a pilot European Innovation Partnership (EIP) on active and healthy ageing, as set out in the "[Innovation Union](#)" Flagship. The EIP, which the Commission has proposed should be launched in 2011, to meet 3 goals: to improve the health and quality of life of older people, enabling them to live active and independent lives; to contribute to the sustainability and efficiency of health and social care systems; and to foster competitiveness and business opportunities. The consultation runs until 28 January 2011.

Public Consultation on the Recognition of Professional Qualifications Directive

The public [consultation](#) is aimed at gathering stakeholders' views on a modernisation of the Professional Qualifications Directive (Directive 2005/36/EC). This Directive, adopted in 2005, sets the rules for mutual recognition of professional qualifications between Member States. The consultation is open until 15 March 2011. The result of this work will be taken into account by the Commission in the preparation of the Evaluation Report and a Green Paper in autumn 2011 with the view to a legislative proposal on the modernisation of the Directive in 2012

New Lifelong Learning partners in Europe

From January 2011, Croatia and Switzerland will participate in the European Union's Lifelong Learning and Youth in Action Programme bringing the total number of participating countries up to 33 (the 27 EU member states, Norway, Iceland, Turkey and Liechtenstein).

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EU funding and opportunities

Lifelong Learning Programme – 2011 call for proposals

The general call for proposals for 2011 (EAC/49/10) for the EU's Lifelong Learning Programme has been launched. Both citizens and organisations in the field of school and higher education, vocational training and adult learning can now apply again for the numerous activities supported by the programme.

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Agenda

January 2011

20-21: Official Bologna Seminar, Budapest, Hungary

26: Forum on regional and local authorities in action during the European Year of Volunteering 2011, Brussels, Belgium

27-28: European Parliament's Citizens' Agora on crises and poverty, Brussels

31/01– 02/02: ISCA, SANTE project seminar, Cassino, Italy

February 2011

1: EUCIS-LLL Working group 1 on the social dimension of education and training, Brussels

3: EUCIS-LLL Working group 3 on the sustainability of lifelong learning, Brussels

4: EUCIS-LLL Working group 2 on EU tools and competences, Brussels

7-8: LLL2010 conference "Policy, institutions and learners in lifelong formal learning", Leuven, Belgium

March 2011

14-18 March: Lifelong learning Week at the European Parliament

17 March: Public Hearing on mobility

1: SOLIDAR Silver Rose Awards 2011, European Parliament, Brussels

14-18: EUCIS-LLL Fair at the European Parliament, Brussels

25: European Talent Day, Budapest, Hungary

25-26: "Assessment and Evaluation in Schools", EPA Conference, Budapest, Hungary

April 2011

28-30: *effe* Colloquium on alternative pedagogical methods, Vienna, Austria

May 2011

8: EUCIS-LLL Annual Conference on volunteering

9: EUCIS-LLL General Assembly



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EUCIS-LLL receives the financial support of the European Commission under the Lifelong Learning Programme



