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**European Civil Society Platform on Lifelong Learning - EUCIS-LLL  
Newsletter #26 - JUNE 2011**

**/// NEWS FROM THE PLATFORM ///**

**MFF: campaign on the future programmes for education, training and youth to be followed!**

EUCIS-LLL and 26 major stakeholders in education and training adopted a [common position](#) paper entitled “Investing in People through Sustainable and Inclusive EU Programmes” in April. It very much welcomes the proposal of the Commission to raise the budget allocated to these programmes by 68% in its [Communication on the future of the MFF](#). EUCIS-LLL is nevertheless skeptical about merging the different programmes under the heading “Education Europe”. “Lifelong Learning” would have been much more appropriate as it covers education and training, non-formal and informal learning and should reflect the overall policy goals of Europe 2020. EUCIS-LLL also expects clarifications on what will happen with the sub-programmes of the current programmes. It will continue to work with its members and partners to make stakeholders’ voice heard in the legislative process that will lead to the adoption of the new programmes by the end of 2012.

**EUCIS-LLL at the Digital Agenda Assembly, June 2011**

Georges Van Steene, EUCIS-LLL Vice-President, participated in a panel discussion on '[Mainstreaming eLearning in education and training](#)' during the [Digital Agenda Assembly](#) on 16th June in Brussels together with other member representatives from OBESSU, EPA and ETDF. Participants highlighted the need for an educational reform together with further stakeholders’ involvement. They agreed that ICT is not a goal itself; it is about the learner and making learning more efficient, relevant, inclusive and fun. OBESSU, ETUCE and EPA - representing students, teachers and parents - launched a joint [press release](#) after the conference.

**European civil dialogue and the role of civil society in the Arab Spring discussed at the Liaison group, 27 June**

On 27th June, the [Liaison Group](#) met Mr. Libor Roucek, Vice-President of the European Parliament (EP), to discuss about concrete mechanisms of cooperation between EU institutions and civil society organizations (CSO) in view of article 11 of the Lisbon Treaty. Audrey Frith, EUCIS-LLL Director, highlighted the need for the EESC and EP to put pressure on the Commission to move on the statute of European associations as well as on a Green Paper on Article 11 concrete implementation. In a second session representatives from North African CSOs were invited to exchange on the role of OSC in the Arab Spring. The clear message was that there is no democracy without a strong civil society. Participants also outlined the need to revise EU external funds as regards governance, OSC participation, regional scope and human rights.

**CSO calls on the Commission not to suppress Europe for Citizens Programme in the next MFF**

On 21-22 June, the European Commission DG Communication hosted the 2nd Structured Dialogue Meeting on the [“Europe for Citizens” Programme](#) in Brussels. Concerns were expressed about the future of this programme. The DG announced that a Communication would be published on the outcomes of the EY2011 and that [the next thematic conference on quality of volunteering](#) will be held in Athens from 3-4 November 2011.

### **Stakeholders’ dialogue of the European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion**

On 22nd June, Audrey Frith participated in the first Stakeholders’ Dialogue meeting of the [European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion](#). Launched in 2010, the platform is part of the Europe 2020 strategy and aims at creating a joint commitment among the Member States, EU Institutions and the key stakeholders to fight poverty and social exclusion. It is a concrete result of the European Year 2010. An annual Convention will be organised in Krakow on 17-18 October 2011.

### **Campaign for a European Statute of European Association (EASEA)**

Members of the [EASEA Alliance](#) met last 16 June in Brussels willing to pursue their collective action to ensure that the European Commission launches the legislative process towards the adoption of a European Statute for European Associations. As the EC did not respond to the strong political message sent by CSO and the Parliament with the adoption of the [Written declaration 84/2010](#), they agreed to carry on their efforts.

## **/// NEWS FROM MEMBERS AND PARTNERS ///**

### **How can LLL strategies be developed and implemented in higher education institutions?**

EUCEN is organising the dissemination event for the [ALLUME project](#) from 12-13 September 2011 in Barcelona. The ALLUME project developed a self-reflexive set of guidelines which intends to facilitate universities’ strategic development in the area of lifelong learning.

### **Apply for a Comenius and Grundtvig grants to attend next EUROCLIO 2012 Annual Conference!**

EUROCLIO in cooperation with the Association of History Educators of Turkey organises its [19th Annual Conference](#) on the theme "Looking at History Through a Variety of Lenses" in Antalya, Turkey on April 1st-7th 2012. Participants can apply for [Comenius and Grundtvig Grants](#). EUROCLIO is also organising a [Historiana Training Seminar](#) “History Online” in Fehérvárcsurgó, in Hungary on October 27-30th 2011.

### **The registration for the European summer University for Lifelong Learning is now open!**

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 29th-31st August 2011.

### **UNIQUE’s training course “How do I learn best”**

UNIQUE network organises a [training course for educators](#) in Amendolea, Calabria (Italy) from 27th October until 2nd of November 2011. The 'How do I learn best' training course wants to explore "learning" questions in order to help participants to raise their awareness about their own learning and to improve their competences as facilitators of others’ learning.

### **EAEA response to the “Agenda for New Skills and Jobs”**

EAEA welcomes the initiative of the European Commission for this communication, especially the attention given to Adult Education and Lifelong learning. Here you can find the [EAEA response and recommendations](#) to the Agenda for new skills and jobs flagship initiative.

### **ISCA Europe Position Paper "Developing the European Dimension in Sport"**

ISCA Europe published its [position paper](#) addressing the Commission's communication on "Developing the European Dimension in Sport". ISCA is calling to prioritize the sport and physical activity sectors that are close to and directed at European Citizens' daily life.

### **ECSWE and OBESSU Newsletter are out!**

[ECSWE Newsletter](#) includes an interesting article on education and health and on the Wow-Day project, which was recently presented in EUCIS-LLL international conference on volunteering in education and training. [OBESSU Newsletter](#) is an informing collecting of news and especially events you can participate in.

## **/// INSTITUTIONAL NEWS ///**

### **Employment Council: E&T system has to reflect the needs of the employment market**

On 17th June, the [27 Employment and Social Affairs Ministers](#) met to discuss the directive on maternity leave as well as 2012 as the year of active ageing and solidarity between generations. Ministers adopted conclusions in support of fostering work amongst young people.

### **MEPs request an increase of 5% in the next EU budget post-2013**

On 8th June MEPs approved the [report](#) of the Special Committee on "policy challenges and budgetary resources for a sustainable EU after 2013". They are requesting an increase of 5% of the next MFF or invite Member States to tell which policy priorities they want to cut. The [proposal of the Commission](#) published on 29th June mentions an increase of 2,23%... it opens the legislative negotiations.

### **EU budget 2012: Key investments in education and social inclusion to cope with EU2020 priorities**

On 23rd June MEPs adopted their [position on the Union's 2012 budget](#), supporting the Commission's proposal to raise payment appropriations by 4.9%. They warn Member States against any horizontal budgetary cuts exhorting them to assess real needs precisely. The Parliament wants the budget to better reflect the priorities of the Europe 2020 by continuing key investments in education and social inclusion, the reduction of poverty and the development of a knowledge society.

### **EU transparency register for lobbyists, moving a step forward?**

On 23rd June the Parliament and the Commission decided to establish a [common transparency register](#) for lobbyists and other interest groups. The latter merges the existing registers of the two institutions. Registration will be obligatory for lobbyists who want to access the Parliament buildings. Moreover this register should allow citizens to have information about lobbyists more easily. This register should also set procedures to deal with complaints and sanctions.

### **Pilot European Innovation Partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing**

The European Commission set up a [high level steering group](#) to assist with preparatory work for the pilot partnership on Active and Healthy Ageing. This group is jointly chaired by Vice President Neelie Kroes and Commissioner John Dalli and includes Member States, regions, industries, health and social care professionals, elderly and patient organisations and other interest groups. It is mandated with drawing up recommendations for a Strategic Implementation Plan, on the basis of which initiatives would be launched for piloting the partnership.

### /// CONSULTATIONS ///

#### **Which way forward for education, training and youth programmes?**

The Commission published the results of the public consultations on the future EC programmes for [education and training](#) and for [youth](#). The results will feed into the Commission's preparation on the architecture of the future programmes in the framework of the recently published MFF proposal.

#### **Modernising the Professional Qualifications Directive, deadline: 20 September**

The [Green Paper](#) is aimed at gathering stakeholders' views on a modernisation of the Professional Qualifications Directive (Directive 2005/36/EC).

### /// RESEARCH AND INNOVATION ///

#### **Helping teachers in building WINGS for Lifelong Learning for their students**

The [lifelong learning wings](#), LLWINGS, is a European project aimed at promoting a new vision of school as a bridge to lifelong learning and active citizenship by focusing on joy of learning and learning to learn skills. It will develop and pilot an e-learning community to support teachers. FREREF and ESHA are project partners of this interesting initiative.

#### **How ICT can make a difference in schools**

Eurydice published a [report](#) on how ICT are used to promote innovation in the classroom and to foster pupils' creative development. The 2011 edition of "Key data on learning and innovation through ICT at school in Europe" provides a set of indicators and insights which can be used to strengthen the impact of ICT use; a priority area of the Education and Training 2020 work programme.

#### **New publication on the 2011 European Year on Volunteering**

The Europe for Citizens contact Point in Italy published a [publication](#) entitled "Fostering the dialogue between citizens, civil society organisations, National and European Institutions. An introduction to the European Year of Voluntary Activities Promoting Active Citizenship".

#### **Europe gradually raising education levels, but still a quarter of all adults left school with a low qualification**

In the EU, around 74 million adults have a low qualification, 27% of the population aged 25-64. [Cedefop forecasts](#) indicate a considerable drop in the demand for low qualified workers between 2010 and 2020. Developing a skilled workforce responding to labour market needs is an important element of the EU guidelines for employment policies.

### /// FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES ///

#### **Call for candidates for European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps: before 3rd July**

DG ECHO launched the pilot phase of the European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps. Save the Children UK is recruiting the first 30 European Humanitarian Volunteers.

#### **ReferNet call for proposals, before 8th July 2011**

ReferNet, European network for VET, aims at selecting one applicant from each eligible country with whom Cedefop will conclude a four-year framework partnership and grant agreement for a work plan to be carried out in 2012.

#### **Call for tender: Learning from second chance education to prevent early school leaving, before 20 July**

In order to support Member States' ambitions to reduce early school leaving, the European Commission will launch a study on good practices in second chance education, their success factors and their transferability into initial education and training.

#### **PROGRESS: Exchange of good practices implementing the skills dimension of two flagship initiatives, before 29 July**

The main objectives are to encourage mutual learning at all levels and enhance transferability of the most effective policies to: 1) implement the skills dimension of the flagship initiative "An Agenda for New Skills and Jobs" and 2) implement the flagship initiative "Youth on the Move".

#### **Call for Proposals - Preparatory Action in the field of sport, before 29 July**

This call for proposals serves to implement the Preparatory Action in the field of sport in accordance with the Commission Decision adopting the 2011 annual work programme on grants and contracts for the Preparatory Action in the field of sport and for the special annual events.

#### **Youth Support Systems — Enhancing youth workers' learning mobility and youth work support to unemployed young people, before 1st September**

The purpose of this call is to support youth workers' mobility and exchanges with a view to promoting the acquisition of new skills and competences in order to enrich their profile as professionals in the youth field.

#### **Call for tenders - Cooperation between education and training and the labour market in renewing VET, before 21 September**

The overall objective of this study contract is to map and analyse how the education and training system and the labour market cooperate and communicate in the process of defining and renewing the content and profile of VET provisions and qualifications.

#### **LLP - European Policy Network on the Implementation of Key Competences in School Education, before 30 September**

The overall aim of this [call](#) is to establish a Europe-wide network to develop policy advice for the implementation of the 2006 Recommendation on key competences for lifelong learning in schools.

#### **European Policy Network on the education of children and young people with a migrant background, before 14 October**

The purpose of this [call](#) is to strengthen cross-European collaboration between high-level decision makers, academics and practitioners for raising the educational attainment of children and young people with a migrant background.

### /// AGENDA ///

#### July 2011

**6-7:** [Conference](#) on the Eastern dimension of mobility, Warsaw, Poland

**7-10:** Third EUROCLIO [Historiana Seminar](#), Riga, Latvia

**8:** ALDA International [Conference](#) on “Local governance, volunteering and civic participation: a challenge for local authorities and civil society”, Bydgoszcz, Poland

**11-13:** 9th International ePortfolio & Identity [Conference](#), London, UK

#### August 2011

**23-25:** [Engagement Summer University](#) of the AFEV, Lyon, France

**29-31:** [European Summer University](#) for Lifelong Learning, Contribution of firms to Lifelong Learning, Neuchatel, Suisse

**31-Sept 3:** [European University for Voluntary Service](#), 31st Aug– 3rd Sept 2011, University of Basel, Switzerland

#### September 2011

**3-5:** 64TH Annual UN Department of Public Information NGO [Conference](#) “Sustainable societies; responsive citizens”, Bonn, Germany

**7-11:** II [Youth Convention](#) on Volunteering, European Parliament, Brussels

**12-13:** EUCEN dissemination event for the [ALLUME project](#), Barcelona, Spain

**12-16:** Executive [Summer School](#) in International and Comparative Education, University of Geneva, Switzerland

**14-16:** [EFQUEL](#) Innovation Forum, Oeiras, Portugal

**21-22:** [CEDEFOP Seminar](#) Learning later in life – uncovering the potential of investing in an ageing workforce, Brussels, Belgium

**27:** EESC [Public Hearing](#) on Legal Framework for volunteering, Brussels, Belgium

#### October 2011

**19-21:** CEV [Symposium](#) “Volunteering and Active Citizenship – two sides of the same coin?”, Berlin, Germany

**19-23:** MOVE2011 World [Congress](#) – Think global, MOVE local, Paris, France

**20-21:** [International Conference](#) ICT for Language Learning, Florence, Italy

**20-23:** 20th Annual Volonturope [Conference](#), "Make a difference by volunteering" Edinburgh, UK

**27-30:** EUROCLIO [“History online” seminar](#), Fehérvárcsurgó, Hungary

**27-Nov 2:** UNIQUE’s [training course](#) “How do I learn best”, Amendolea, Calabria (Italy)

#### November 2011

**3-4:** 3rd EYV [Thematic conference](#) on “Quality of volunteering”, Athens, Greece

**9:** EESC [Public Hearing](#) on Employee volunteering

**10-11:** ENIL - European Network for Intergenerational Learning [conference](#) on “Intergenerational Learning and Volunteering”, Rome, Italy

**17-19:** 8th European [Conference](#) on the self-training: the learning city, Lille, France

**17-19:** 6th European Quality Assurance [Forum](#) “Quality and Trust: at the heart of what we

do", Antwerp, Belgium

**23-25:** EAPRIL [Conference](#) on "Balancing workplace learning and practitioner research across professional fields", Nijmegen, The Netherlands

**24-25:** [Media & Learning](#), Brussels, Belgium

**30-2:** [17th International conference](#) on Technology supported learning & training, Berlin, Germany

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