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## **European Civil Society Platform on Lifelong Learning - EUCIS-LLL Newsletter #28 - September 2011**

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

#### **EUCIS-LLL public presentation on the “European Institute on Lifelong Learning”, 9 November**

On 9 November 2011, EUCIS-LLL will organise a [seminar](#) in Brussels to present its idea of setting up a Lifelong Learning Institute at European level on the basis of the feasibility study it recently published but also of the discussions that took place within its constituency. The aim is to share our views with other stakeholders – public authorities, research institutes, civil society organizations and social partners – on the added value of this Institute at European, national and local level.

#### **Stakeholders’ Forum 2011 on priorities of the ET2020 second cycle (2012-2014)**

The IV [Stakeholders' Forum](#) on EU cooperation in education and training will focus on ET2020 priorities for the 2nd cycle (2012-2014). Key messages from this Forum will be used by the Commission in drafting its proposal for the 2012 Joint progress report on the implementation of ET2020, which will be adopted by the Council and the Commission in February 2012. The Forum will take place on 26-27 September and is organised by the Commission with the support of EUCIS-LLL.

#### **EUCIS-LLL Annual Conference report on volunteering is out!**

EUCIS-LLL has just published its [conference report on “The role, place and value given to volunteering in education and training”](#), which took place in Krakow on 9th May 2011. Around 60 practitioners and experts in education and training from all around Europe got together to discuss and push forward some key messages on this crucial topic. In this publication you will find their contributions on 6 thematic priorities as well as examples of good practices. Some of these elements are taken into account in the [Commission's Communication](#) "EU policies and Volunteering: Recognising and Promoting Crossborder Voluntary Activities in the EU" that was published today. It states that "recognising volunteering as a form of learning is a priority of EU action in education and training" and highlights the upcoming proposal for a Council Recommendation on the validation of non-formal and informal learning that includes the volunteering dimension.

#### **2013 will be the “European Year of Citizens”**

The Commission proposed to make [2013 the “European Year of Citizens”](#) to mark the 20th anniversary of the establishment of union citizenship (Maastricht Treaty). The aim is to raise citizens' awareness of their right to reside freely within the EU and of how they can benefit from them. EUCIS-LLL welcomes the initiative that can give a stronger focus to topics that are crucial for our networks such as recognition and validation of diplomas and qualifications. However, EUCIS-LLL vision on what European Citizenship implies goes beyond and includes important topics such as education to (European) citizenship or civil dialogue and participatory democracy that are so crucial to re-connect citizens to the EU project especially one year before the European elections. EUCIS-LLL will join a coalition of NGOs led by the European Civic Forum to push the European institutions to broaden their

perspective but also to allocate a proper budget to the EY2013 as the initial proposal of the Commission is only 1 million EUR.

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

#### **OBESSU is looking for a Project and Policy Officer**

OBESSU is looking for a [Policy and Project Officer](#) to join its team in Brussels. The deadline for applications is 26 September.

#### **ESNSurvey 2011: Exchange, Employment and Added Value**

[ESNSurvey 2011](#) aims to explore the line "The mobile students of today will be the mobile labour market participants of tomorrow" and will also investigate the impact of student mobility on the environment, satisfaction with student organisations and their impact on volunteering. The survey is open until the end of November.

#### **Engaging in Lifelong Learning: Shaping Inclusive and Responsive University Strategies**

EUA project "Engaging in Lifelong Learning: Shaping Inclusive and Responsive University Strategies (SIRUS)" explored the different factors that enable universities across Europe to develop successful lifelong learning strategies. The [report](#) is now available.

#### **European Civil Society virtual house launched**

Last 1st of September the European Citizens Action Service (ECAS) officially launched [Citizenhouse.eu](#). The project is meant to make citizens and Civil Society Organisations know, understand and use the instruments enabling them to interact with European institutions...

#### **European Youth Forum - II Youth Convention on Volunteering**

From 7-11 September 2011, the European Youth Forum organised the [II Youth Convention on Volunteering](#). One of the main successes of the Convention has been the Stakeholder Conference "The Rights of the Volunteer" that took place on 7 and 8 September.

### /// INSTITUTIONAL NEWS ///

#### **Crisis reinforced the importance of education, says OECD**

On 13 September 2011, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and the DG Education and Culture presented the key results of their annual ["Education at a Glance" report](#). At a time when austerity measures are increasing pressure on cutting educational and social expenditure, the OECD underlines that, particularly in times of crisis, education should be reinforced as it yields high economic and social returns. "Despite strained public budgets, governments must keep up their investment to maintain quality in education, especially for those at risk".

#### **Making integration a win-win situation**

EU citizens and migrants alike agree that integration requires language skills, employment, respect for the local culture and an unambiguous legal status. Last 25 July 2011, the Commission proposed a [new package of measures](#) that would facilitate integration through language learning, easier access to employment, education and training, plus efforts to fight discrimination.

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

**Learning for Well-being Policy Glossary consultation**

A consortium of European Foundations is developing a [policy glossary](#) "Learning for well-being: a policy priority for children and youth in Europe". Professor Ilona Kickbusch was commissioned to author this work, designed to provide conceptual understanding for policy makers in Europe.

**CEDEFOP Lifelong guidance and Quality in Education and Training across Europe**

CEDEFOP has recently published two reports. "[Lifelong guidance across Europe: reviewing policy progress and future prospects](#)" reviews progress made across Europe in 2007-10 in developing guidance policy coordination, quality assurance mechanisms, access to services and career management skills. The new "[Glossary of terms on quality in education and training](#)" takes into account recent EU policy developments.

**Eurydice Publication - Higher education must change path to make the best use of Europe's talent**

There is an urgent need to address the social dimension of higher education more forcefully and coherently, particularly in view of the economic downturn across Europe. This is the conclusion of the new Eurydice report, "[Modernisation of Higher Education in Europe: Funding and the Social Dimension 2011](#)", which looks at national policies on access to higher education, funding and student support.

**How to promote active ageing in Europe - EU support to local and regional actors**

The Committee of the Regions, AGE Platform Europe and the European Commission just issued a [brochure](#) presenting EU funding possibilities for regional and local initiatives to promote active ageing and solidarity between generations. The brochure aims to make a particular contribution to the European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations 2012.

**Reducing early school leaving in the EU - a study by the European Parliament**

This [study](#) reviews the scale and nature of the problem of early school leaving in the EU. It examines in detail how countries are trying to tackle this problem and identifies characteristics of effective policies, leading to a range of recommendations for European and national level actors in the future.

**EQF latest Newsletter out**

A new issue of the [EQF Newsletter](#) has been published. It includes a couple of interesting articles on referencing the NQF to the EQF.

**CEDEFOP "VETAlert" September 2011**

Cedefop's latest issue of "VETAlert" is available for [download](#).

**/// FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES ///****Lifelong Learning Programme – 2012 call for proposals published**

The Commission has recently published the general [call for proposals](#) for 2012 for participation in the Lifelong Learning Programme.

**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.

### **/// PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS///**

#### **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).

### **/// AGENDA ///**

#### **September 2011**

**21:** SOLIDAR [Final conference](#) of the "Network of European Labour and Social Academies - Better Information and Training for Trade Unionists", Brussels, Belgium

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

**22-23:** EDEN [Seminars](#) on “Web 2.0 for Social Inclusion” and “Entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity”, Budapest, Hungary

**23:** [Conference](#) on “Quality Assurance in Continuing Education Programmes at Higher Education Institutions: tools developed in a European perspective”, Brussels, Belgium

**23-24:** ESHA Hungary Regional [Conference](#) “New Skills in Leadership”, Budapest, Hungary

**23-25:** Second ISCA - EUROVOLNET [Seminar](#), Riga, Latvia

**26-27:** [4th Stakeholders' Forum](#) on EU cooperation in education & training, Brussels, Belgium

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

**28:** EU Polish Presidency [conference](#) on “Multilingual competences for professional and social success in Europe, Warsaw, Poland

#### **October 2011**

**5-6:** EU Polish Presidency [conference](#) on “Innovation for digital inclusion”, Gdansk, Poland

**10-13:** [OPEN DAYS 2011](#) – Investing in Europe's future: Regions and cities delivering smart, sustainable and inclusive growth, Brussels

**17:** EU Polish Presidency [conference](#) on “Mobility as a tool to acquire and develop competences from childhood to seniority”, Sopot, Poland

**17-18:** First [Annual Convention](#) on the European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion, Krakow, Poland

**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:** [European Culture Forum](#) 2011, Brussels, Belgium

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

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

**21 & 28:** [LLP Infodays 2012](#), Brussels, Belgium

**23:** EU Polish Presidency [conference](#) on modernisation of higher education, Sopot, Poland

**26-29:** 20TH Annual EfVET [Conference](#) “Towards ET2020. Positive action to enhance Vocational Education and Training within a Lifelong Learning Agenda”, Malta

**27-29:** EDEN [Conference](#) “Inclusive Excellence, Innovative Technologies and Transformed Schools as Autonomous Learning Organisations”, Athens, Greece

**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

**7-8:** [“Volunteering as a means to fight social exclusion in Europe today”](#), Brussels, Belgium

**9:** EUCIS-LLL [Presentation Seminar of the EILL](#), European Institute on Lifelong Learning, Brussels, Belgium

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

**9-10:** [Competence Modeling for European HR and Policies: Bridging Business, Education and Training](#), Brussels, Belgium

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

**10-13:** 2nd European Physical Education Association (EUPEA) [Symposium](#), Brussels

**13-15:** [ESN - final conference, PRIME](#) (Problems of Recognition in Making Erasmus), Brussels, Belgium

**16:** EU Polish Presidency [conference](#) on “Effective policies for the development of competencies of the Youth in Europe”, Warsaw, Poland

**16-17:** [Peer learning Euroapprenticeship network seminar](#) “The role of firms in the mobility of apprentices”, CFWB, Brussels, Belgium

**17-19:** Closing the empowerment gap through citizenship education: How to address educationally deprived groups, NECE [Annual Conference](#), Warsaw, Poland

**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:** MEDEA [Awards 2011](#), Brussels, Belgium

**28:** Eastern Partnership Civil Society [Forum](#), Poznan, Poland

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

### December 2011

**11-14:** [Research seminar](#) on “Mobility of young people – Opportunities and obstacles for cross-border volunteering for young people, particularly with fewer opportunities”, Strasbourg, France

**12:** [EUCIS-LLL Seminar on Validation](#), Brussels, Belgium

**12-13:** [Remember for the Future: The Role of Youth and Adult Education in Working with the Past and Reconciliation Processes](#), Bonn, Germany

**14:** EUCPN Best Practices [Conference](#) on “Sport, Science and Art in Combating Juvenile Crime”, Warsaw, Poland

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