



Plate forme de la société civile pour l'éducation tout au long de la vie
European Civil Society Platform on Lifelong Learning

COMMUNICATION ON THE EDUCATION AND TRAINING 2010 COORDINATION GROUP MEETING, HELD ON OCTOBER 6TH, IN BRUSSELS.

The work programme "Education and Training 2010" is linked to the Lisbon Strategy. It planned that each Member States would adopt a national strategy by the end of 2006, which will not be the case. Now, as the European Parliament has outlined in its report of 6 September 2006 on key competences, **it is really an urgency.**

The European Commission has thus gathered the Education and Training 2010 Coordination Group to evaluate the situation on the implementation of national strategies and notably on learning partnerships.

The EUCIS-LLL platform wishes to share its reactions on the debates that took place.

It reaffirms the need to **put lifelong learning at the core of the political agenda, whether at national or European level.**

It shares the European Commission's will to accelerate the implementation of national strategies by encouraging notably the **creation or the reinforcement of the dialogue between the Ministers, social partners and civil society organisations.**

Indeed, it reminds the need to **recognise the positive input of those actors in the definition as well as in the implementation of national strategies** (ex. Studies of the OCDE, etc.)

The platform thus regrets the **absence of concrete mechanisms to consult stakeholders and the confidentiality of the disposals implemented up to now by most of the public authorities in the Member States.**

EUCIS-LLL

International non-governmental and non-profit association under the Belgian Law (AISBL).

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Figures :

- 43 European countries*
- 54 500 training and education centres,*
- 2 350 000 professionals and volunteers,*
- 62 000 000 persons concerned.*



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The national strategies must nevertheless be coherent and global, which means that they have to include **all the domains** (formal, informal, non formal) and **all the levels of education and training** (pre-primary, primary, secondary, higher education, initial and continuing education, adult education) to be effective. **A large consultation is thus necessary.**

- **The platform is at the disposal of the Ministers to propose its expertise gathered from each of its member organisations at European, national, regional or local level. Members are used to work together on transversal issues within the platform** (ex. the consultation organised by 7 important European organisations in 2004 for the Memorandum on Key competences).

The platform also outlines **the lack of appropriation of this strategy by European citizens.** Very few know about the benefits of lifelong learning and those who do do not always know where to go to have access to it.

To face those challenges, it makes two concrete proposals :

- **The implementation of real «Lifelong Learning National Councils» in each Member State to guarantee an optimal implementation of national strategies.**
- **The organisation of « Lifelong Learning Weeks » in each Member State to raise citizens' awareness, in the manner of what already exists in some countries.**

Finally, the platform is satisfied with the European Commission initiative to relaunch the European dynamic by gathering, for example, Member states and participating countries representatives as well as European civil society organisations representatives to a conference on the priorities for 2010, in 2007.

Jean Marc Roirant,
President of EUCIS-LLL platform,
20 October 2006

Members :

ACC : Association for Community Colleges

AEGEE : European Students' Forum

EAEA : European Association for Education of Adults

ECSWE : European Council for Steiner Waldorf Education

EFFE : European Forum for Freedom in Education

EfVET : European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training

EUCEN : European University Continuing Education Network

EURO-WEA : European Workers Education Association

EVTA/AEFP : European Vocational Training Association

FEEC : European Federation for Education and Culture

IAEC/AIVE : International Association of Educating Cities

SOLIDAR : European platform on social affairs, international solidarity and lifelong learning