



Plateforme européenne de la société civile pour l'éducation tout au long de la vie  
European Civil Society Platform on Lifelong Learning (EUCIS-LLL)

Brussels, 18 September 2012

### **SUPPORT TO EUROPEAN ASSOCIATIONS IN EDUCATION AND TRAINING STILL NEEDED**

***EUCIS-LLL welcomes in many ways Mrs Pack's draft report on the European Commission's proposal "Erasmus for All". Yet EUCIS-LLL calls the European Parliament to include support for education and training organisations in the binding part of the report, as it is the case for youth organisations.***

*"The European Parliament in its draft report brought support to youth organisations through operating grants for the continuity of the sector. The same arguments prevail for education and training. European organisations in this field are key to reach EU2020 and ET2020 objectives and need specific support as it is the case in the actual funding programme", says Gina Ebner, President of EUCIS-LLL.*

EUCIS-LLL welcomes the new mention of a support to European associations in education and training in Recital 19 of the report; yet it is essential to provide a better guarantee that their future will be clearly secured by including it in the binding part of the regulation, as for youth. According to Gina Ebner, *"it does not necessarily come to operating grants; we are open to negotiate innovative funding schemes as far as we obtain the guarantee of a specific, sustainable administrative and financial support"*.

As for other demands, the draft report contains many constructive amendments that EUCIS-LLL supports such as keeping the name of the programme and the sub-programmes, as "Erasmus for all" may be misleading for the general public. Keeping both the transversal actions proposed by the Commission and a clear division between the sectors' objectives and binding minimum allocations is also a good solution to achieve a systemic impact while preserving each sector's specificity. Yet EUCIS-LLL, supported by the Employment and Social Affairs Committee draft opinion, calls the Parliament to acknowledge the individual and organisational impact of the Programme; small projects should not be downgraded because their impact is not directly quantifiable.

The Employment and Social Affairs Committee draft opinion also backed the mention of EUCIS-LLL in the regulation; as the voice of civil society in education and training and a reference partner for EU institutions, EUCIS-LLL should be recognised as such on a legal basis and involved in a real structured dialogue, starting with a consultative role in the Committee overseeing the Programme.

In this line, civil society should be better associated to the development and implementation of the Programme; as its main users, they can bring a valuable input from the grassroots level to improve it. The Parliament shall make further steps for its accessibility and transparency (also supported by the EMPL Committee draft report); more user-friendly procedures, coherent application forms, less financial burden and a transparent evaluation should be established.

**European associations in the field of education and training are the ambassadors of the Programme and the pillars of a genuine civil dialogue with EU institutions: they need administrative and financial support. Civil society in a broader perspective should be more involved in the design, implementation and evaluation of the Programme, notably by setting up a structure dialogue in the field on the model of youth.**

See EUCIS-LLL amendments to the European Parliament's draft report on our [website](#).

Notes to the editors: The European Civil Society Platform on Lifelong Learning (EUCIS-LLL) gathers 31 European networks working in education and training. Together, they cover all sectors of education and training including networks for secondary and higher education, vocational education and training, adult education and popular education; networks for students, school heads, parents, HRD professionals, teachers and trainers. [www.eucis-lll.eu](http://www.eucis-lll.eu)

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