

# LIFELONG LEARNING PLATFORM

EUROPEAN CIVIL SOCIETY FOR EDUCATION

BUILDING INCLUSIVE, DEMOCRATIC,  
ACCESSIBLE, QUALITY AND MODERN  
EDUCATION SYSTEMS FOR ALL



LIFELONG LEARNING PLATFORM  
EUROPEAN CIVIL SOCIETY FOR EDUCATION

# ACTIVITY REPORT 2018

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The LLLPlatform benefits from the financial support of the European Union through the Erasmus+ Programme. The content of this publication is the sole responsibility of the LLLPlatform and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union.



Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union

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# INTRODUCTORY WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT



## FOREWORD

In our ever-changing landscape, 2018 has been a year of transition: a large part of the year was dedicated to the legacy of the Juncker's Commission, and this process is continuing in the first months of 2019. Because of this, 2018 was a year full of opportunities for the Lifelong Learning Platform, its members, partners, and Europe at large, to assess the state of play of education in Europe and most of all to collectively steer the direction that we want to take. In 2018 we received and discussed the proposals for the next Multiannual Financial Framework (and in particular the new Erasmus+ programme), we discussed the second package of measures for the European Education Area, the one for the Future of Learning and, as LLLP, took stock of the solid partnership between Education and Culture.

As the European Civil Society Platform for Education, we believe that high-quality and inclusive education is at the heart of the solution to Europe's problems, since there can be no future without a substantial investment in education and training. This was a view shared throughout 2018 by most EU Member States, as outlined in the first-ever European Education Summit.

Aware that common issues ought to be solved through a shared approach, we actively engaged with the European Commission, the European Parliament, and the Council of the EU as well as other relevant institutional stakeholders throughout the year. We welcomed the packages of measures that seek to bring the European Education Area to life and look forward to their application. We appreciate the place



given to inclusive education and to the synergies of education with other fields and particularly culture given by the Bulgarian and Austrian presidencies - the cornerstone of both our LLLWeek and Annual Conference.

We strengthened ties with important actors of civil society - especially in the social investment sector - joined the EU Alliance for Investing in Children, and launched a project with institutional actors such as UNESCO UIL, Cedefop, EESC. Our work was given a new impetus thanks to the proposal for a renewed and increased budget for the Erasmus+ programme.

Drawing from our experience, building on our membership's expertise, pooling resources and fighting for what we stand for, we are ready for the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead. Because of current challenges and now even more than ever, education in its universal scope shall be recognised as the foundation upon which to build an open and fair society in Europe and beyond.

**Gina Ebner,**  
**President of the LLLPlatform**



# HIGHLIGHTS OF 2018

## OUR YEAR IN A NUTSHELL

### 2018 IN A NUTSHELL



**7** publications

*...including*  
**2** reports

**6** policy statements and reactions

*...of which*

**1** joint statement within the Erasmus+ Coalition  
**1** position paper



**20** external newsletters

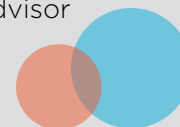
**12** internal advocacy newsflashes

**12** calls for actions

**4** internal news for members  
**527** messages in the internal Basecamp platform

**11** EU-funded projects as partners

**4** as special advisor



**248** external representations

*...including*

**18** project meetings  
**2** team-building activities

*...and*

**10** LLLWeek events  
**10** Erasmus+ Coalition meetings  
**7** working group meetings  
**3** LLL-IG meetings  
**3** LLLAwards  
**1** Annual Conference

*...and countless bilateral meetings with MEPs and PermReps*

**3** social media

**150+** Facebook posts  
**500+** tweets

*...and a bunch of VIPs' retweets*



## JANUARY

LLL Interest Group of the European Parliament meeting  
"Taking stock of lifelong learning in Europe"

EU events  
First European Education Summit

## FEBRUARY

LLL Interest Group of the European Parliament publication  
"Guiding principles for a European LLL Area"

LLL awarded as top 25 websites on adult education!

## MARCH

Awareness raising event  
"Culture and education for all!"

Reaction statement on the "Future of Learning Package"

## MAY

EESC partnership event  
Civil Society Days 2018

Statement  
«An EU budget that empowers its citizens through learning and cooperation»

LLL Interest Group of the European Parliament meeting  
«How do we define the learning environments for the 21st century?»

## JUNE

European Youth Event  
LLL as partner at the EYE and Yo!Fest in Strasbourg!

## DECEMBER

LLLAwards19  
- Learning environments  
- Validation  
- Active citizenship

LLLWeek19  
«Lifelong Learning Culture»

## NOVEMBER

ReSET Network  
Project Development Workshop «Education rethought»

## OCTOBER

Raising awareness  
European conference on validation assessment methods (InnoVal)

Statement  
«The future of the Erasmus+»

## SEPTEMBER

Publication  
«Feasibility study on national lifelong learning platforms»

## AUGUST

Reaction statement  
«Building a stronger Europe: the role of youth, education and culture policies»

## JULY

Raising awareness  
LLL Annual Conference in Vienna  
«Lifelong Learning Culture»

Capacity building  
LLL General Assembly  
DLearn and UNIMED joined the LLL Family!

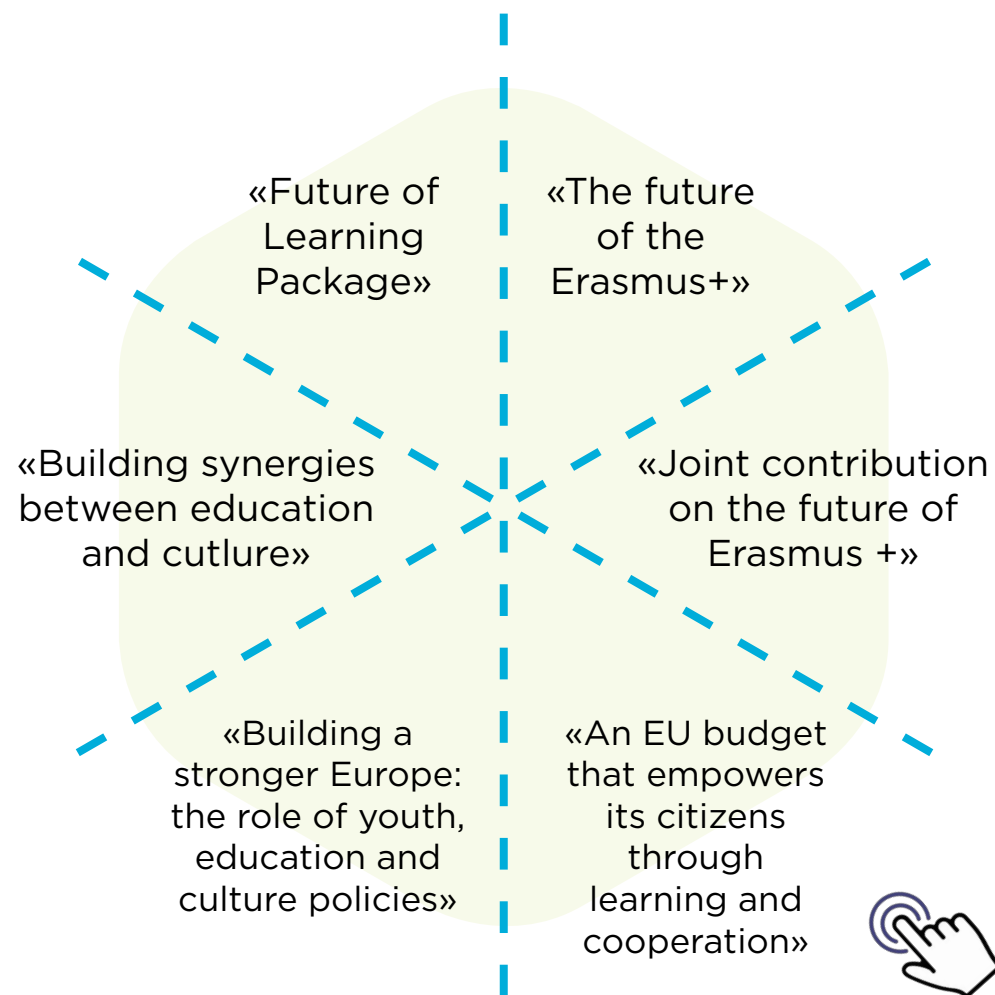


## POLICY

### LLLP, A KNOWLEDGE HUB

## POSITIONS AND STATEMENTS

In 2018, the LLLPlatform released statements on a number of EU policy initiatives to highlight civil society's views on the issues at stake. Most of the LLLP advocacy activity was centred on the negotiations for the next Multiannual Financial Framework, and in particular for the advancement of the Erasmus+ as European flagship programme. All LLLP statements are produced in constant consultation with the membership and contribute to the shaping of LLLP's own political identity.





## POLICY FOCUS LIFELONG LEARNING CULTURE

LLLPL dedicated two large **awareness-raising events** to this topic. In spring, together with Culture Action Europe, we gathered civil society organisations from different sectors to understand the needs of the ground and create real synergies between education and culture. In our milestone event «**Culture and education for all!**» we discussed teachers' education, digital learning, EU programmes and defined the pathway for our thematic year.

During the **Annual Conference** in Vienna, in July, we then explored the policy implications with our membership and EU actors, to better understand how to position the need for substantiated synergies within the European Agenda.

Discussions during these events informed the revisited **position paper «Building synergies between education and culture»**, which aims to outline the current challenges and the future opportunities that breaking the silos would bring to learning.

On top of this, the LLLPlatform gave the floor to its members to discuss the topic deeper. The **LLLWeek18** sought to develop the topic even further, with members and partners in the front row. Ten different events tackled the many nuances of "Lifelong Learning Culture», from active citizenship and consumer education, and from learning environments to career guidance.

The need to conjugate education and culture under the umbrella of learning activities informed of course the **LLLAwards18** as well! Under our umbrella, we gathered the best practices that contributed to the creation of a knowledge hub in the field.



## MULTIANNUAL FINANCIAL FRAMEWORK



In May 2018, the European Commission released its proposal for the 2021-2027 **EU Multiannual Financial Framework** (MFF). The MFF will impact the next financial period, defining the key areas of spending that the EU deems as priorities. The LLLPlatform has worked extensively to advocate for education to play a bigger role in the next budget, also through the Erasmusx10 campaign.

The Lifelong Learning Platform welcomes the steps towards a rational adjustment of spending and the commitment to double the budget of Erasmus+ - a commendable first step to boost the inclusiveness and accessibility of this iconic EU programme in the field of education, training and lifelong learning. However, LLLPL has been calling EU leaders to focus on **empowering citizens**. Such empowerment can only be achieved if citizens rights are fulfilled through **an EU budget that puts learning at its heart**; we call upon the EU to base its future financial framework on the following principles:

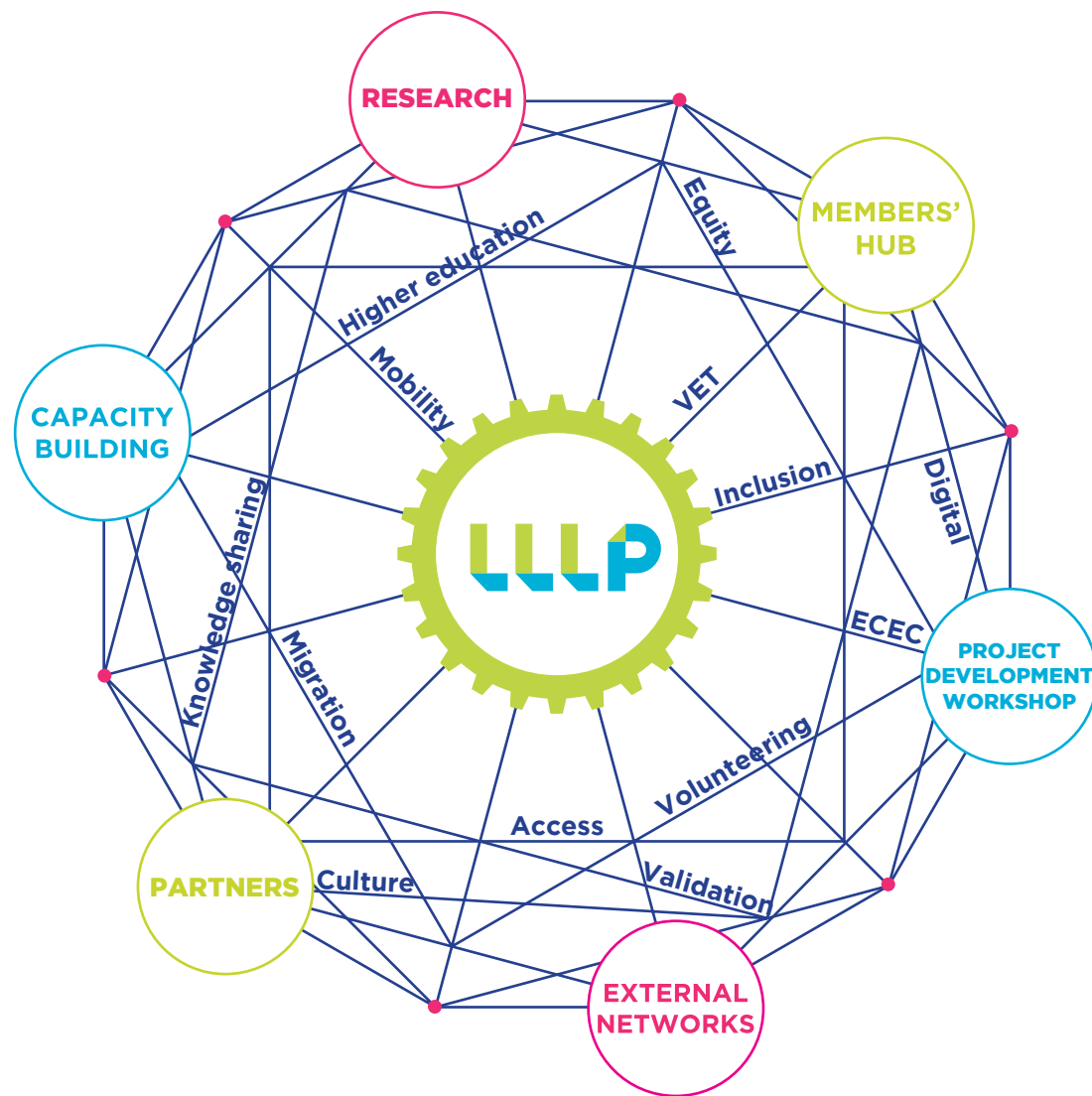
1. Education, research and innovation as the only viable long-term vision for the EU;
2. Well-coordinated cooperation and peer learning between Member States and all relevant stakeholders;
3. Quality learning mobility and culture awareness for learners of all ages and backgrounds
4. Adequate funding for pan-European civil society organisations to support their valuable work with and outreach to citizens.



# PROJECT COOPERATION THE NETWORK FOR EU PROJECTS



## THE NETWORK FOR EU PROJECTS



The Lifelong Learning Platform is the special network where capacity-building and knowledge-sharing take place! We leverage on the strengths of our network to build a knowledge hub, cooperate on

projects, share results, mutually reinforce each other claims, and find synergies to work together in the future. We enable our members to create common goals and empower them to achieve them.



## PROJECT COOPERATION ADVOCACY THROUGH ERASMUS+

**DIGIT** (KA2) will last until the end of 2019 and seeks to boost digital competences for a responsible use of online identity by adults. DIGIT will provide the necessary educational instruments and supporting tools for adult educators.

Through project **COMANITY** (KA3), LLLP will develop a new 'Community Animateur' role and training programme, which aim is to bridge the existing gap between marginalised young people and public institutions such as youth services.

Coordinated by LLLP, **InnoVal** (KA2) identified innovative and reliable assessment methods that can allow all learners to have a chance at validation, with a special focus on the needs of disadvantaged groups such as refugees, long-term unemployed and early-school leavers. A European Conference on assessment methods in September served as final event.

In 2018, LLLP, EAEA and EARLALL could benefit from mobility learning through the **ODESEA** (KA1) project.



## PROJECT COOPERATION NEW PROJECTS IN 2018

Robotics as an introductory channel to coding is the focus of **CODESKILLS4ROBOTICS** (KA2), a project that will seek to facilitate the development of programming in primary schools.

**DIMELI4AC** (KA2) will develop a toolbox to boost digital media competences, critical thinking and democratic values among students aged 10 to 15.

What has the EU done for the validation of volunteering? A synthesis of this work is the objective of **ImproVal** (KA2), that will bring together the best practices from previous successful EU projects.

Mindful of inclusion issues, LLLP is partners in **TAMPADA** (KA2), that aims to develop an outreach mechanism to track long-term outcomes of disadvantaged learners participation education.

In the **IN-QUAL** project (KA2), LLLP supports the implementation of quality assurance mechanisms within training and work-based learning pathways for entrepreneurship education.

LLLP's project **Job Bridge** (KA2) will improve the recognition and the validation of volunteers' experiences and competences in a valuable way for employers too.

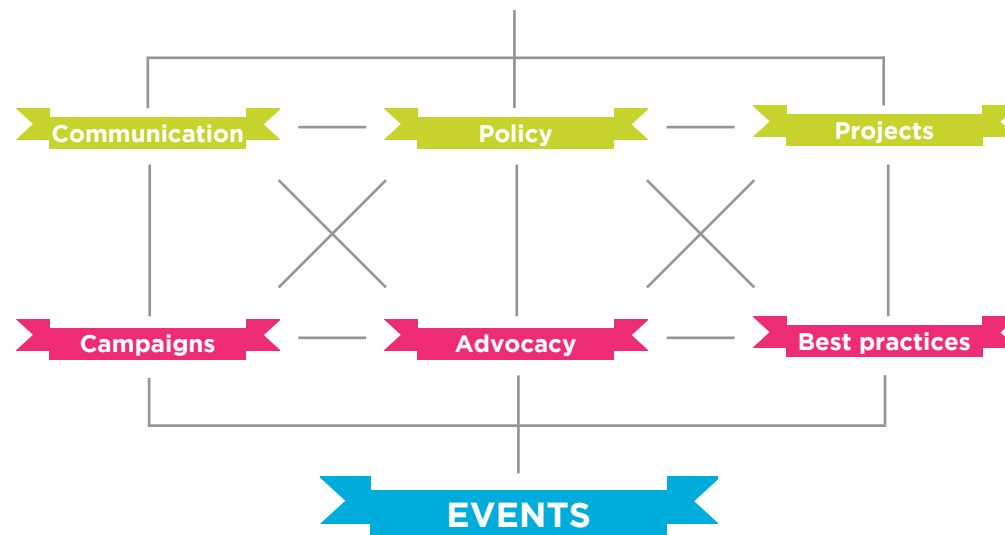
**Open Your Eyes** (KA2) seeks to improve the digital literacy of adult learners by providing them with tools to identify fake news and fight the spread of disinformation online.

# OUR EVENTS

## RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT LLL



### LLLP MISSION



Why events? Our events step up our work and help us raise awareness of lifelong learning. The Lifelong Learning Platform thinks of meetings and events as strategic parts of its mission. We carry out all our activities in a holistic way that makes them deeply interconnected, so that we can leverage on the different and many strengths of the network. Because of this, events are a transversal and crucial tool for our activities, and help us capitalise on the knowledge built by LLLP and its members. Events serve as focal point to then pour this knowledge

on to influence the policy work of the European institutions.

As varied as they come, events stem from the large Annual Conference to restricted policy meetings, from informal gatherings to the iconic LLLWeek. Some events are organised and implemented solely by the LLLPlatform, some others can benefit from fruitful partnerships. Each of them has a unique purpose and each of them is a tool that we exploit to make sure our mission is fulfilled.



In March 2018 we organised, together with Culture Action Europe, a European debate on **«Culture and Education for all»**. The event, gathered European and international institutions as well as civil society representatives, and laid the foundation for the update of LLLP position paper on «Building synergies between education and culture»



LLLp was also a partner in the **Yo!Fest** and took part to the **European Youth Event** in Strasbourg, focusing our contribution on digital learning and inclusion!



ReSET **Project Development Workshop**

The flagship event of LLLP, the **LLLWeek**, took place on 3-7 December in the European Parliament in Brussels. Ten events on the different aspects of Lifelong Learning Culture were organised, with a great turnout of public: the perfect humous to build on existing partnership and create fertile ground for new ones.

...and 10 Erasmus+ Coalition meetings!

In 2018 we had 7 internal Working Group meetings!

In June we partnered with the European Economic and Social Committee for the Civil Society Days. Here we organised an interactive debate on **Education and Culture: a synergy for European identity in all its diversity**

**InnoVal** final conference

LLLp **Annual Conference** was held in Vienna, thanks to the partnership with the Austrian Presidency of the Council of the EU. «Lifelong Learning Culture» was declined with EU representatives, education practitioners and civil society organisations, to address the policy challenges of a renewed partnership.

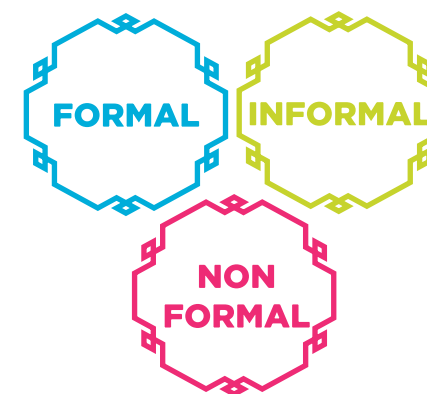




# ABOUT LLLP

## WHO WE ARE AND WHAT WE DO

The Lifelong Learning Platform is the **unique non-profit umbrella organisation** representing European Civil Society for Education. We bring together **42 European and international organisations active in the field of education and training** promoting a holistic approach to education. We represent all sectors: formal, non-formal and informal learning.



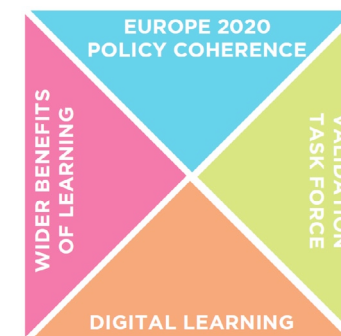
### OUR VISION

The LLLPlatform promotes a **holistic vision of lifelong learning**, “from cradle to grave”. We believe education is the key to foster equity, social cohesion and active citizenship. **The objectives of education and training should not only be described in terms of employability or economic growth but also as a framework for personal development.** The LLLPlatform believes education should not be limited to formal systems but should emphasise non-formal and informal learning as well.



### OBJECTIVES

- Pursue an active dialogue with European institutions
- Enable exchanges of best practice, experiences and expertise
- Disseminate information on key issues in the lifelong learning sector
- Organise events and develop activities on transversal lifelong learning topics
- Promote a more democratic, civic and social Europe.



# PARTNERSHIPS

## BROADENING THE HORIZONS



# LLL IN NUMBERS

## OUTREACH



 → **7.1k likes**  
**210k reach**  
**15k engagements**

 → **7.1k followers**  
**900k impressions**  
**14k engagements**

 → **1.1k followers**  
**30k impressions**  
**1k engagements**

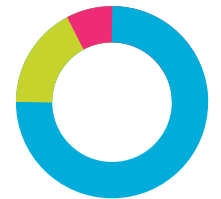
 → **115k page views**  
**63k sessions**  
**51k users**

 → **7.6k subscribers**

## FUNDING

**Income** **408.242**

Grants	339.742
Membership fees	48.968
Others	19.532



**Expenditures** **405.670**

Personnel	301.795
Administration	90.327
Others	13.548





## THE LLLPLATFORM AND OUR STRUCTURE

## THE LLLPLATFORM A GROWING NETWORK



**UNIMED** joined the LLLPlatform to increase contacts with the European lifelong learning community, and to provide our members - universities from the Mediterranean region - with more “intelligence” on what is happening in the different Brussels circuits of influence. This is particularly important in this moment, as UNIMED is involved in the Erasmus+ Virtual Exchange project, an initiative with high policy relevance where we need to reach out not only to higher education stakeholders but also to youth and lifelong learnings actors.



**Marcello Scalisi, UNIMED**



# THE PLATFORM

## OUR MEMBERSHIP

### FULL MEMBERS

#### AEGEE

Association des États Généraux des Étudiants de l'Europe

#### ALL DIGITAL

(formerly Telecentre Europe)

#### DARE

Democracy and Human Rights Education in Europe

#### D-Learn

European Digital Learning Network

#### EAEA

European Association for the Education of Adults

#### ECSWE

European Council for Steiner Waldorf Education

#### EDEN

European Distance and E-learning Network

#### EEE-YFU

European Educational Exchanges Youth for Understanding

#### EFFE

European Forum for Freedom in Education

#### EfVET

European Forum of Technical and Vocational Education and Training

#### EPA

European Parents' Association

#### ESN

Erasmus Student Network

#### ESU

European Students' Union

#### EucA

European University College Association

#### euцен

European University Continuing Education Network

#### EUNET

European Network for Education and Training

#### EURASHE

European Association of Institutions in Higher Education

#### EUROCLIO

European Association of History Educators

#### EVBB

European Association of Institutes for Vocational Training

#### EVTA

European Vocational Training Association

#### FEECA

European Federation for Catholic Adult Education

#### FICEMEA

International Federation of Training Centres for the Promotion of New Education

#### OBESSU

Organising Bureau of European School Student Unions

#### SOLIDAR

Advancing Social Justice in Europe and Worldwide

#### Volonteuropе

Volunteering, Social Justice, Active Citizenship

#### WOSM

World Organization of the Scout Movement

#### YEU

Youth for Exchange and Understanding

### ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

#### ATEE

Association for Teacher Education in Europe

#### EAPRIL

European Association for Practitioner Research on Improving Learning

#### EARLALL

European Association of Regional and Local Authorities for Lifelong Learning

#### ECNAIS

European Council of National Associations of Independent Schools

#### EFIL

European Federation for Intercultural Learning

#### ESHA

European School Heads Association

#### EUF

European University Foundation

#### FEDEC

European Federation of Professional Circus Schools

#### FREREF

European Regions Foundation for Research in Education and Training

#### ICC

The International Language Association

#### ISCA

International Sport and Culture Association

#### L4WB-F

Learning for Well-Being Foundation

#### RICM

Réseau International des Cités des métiers

#### SIRIUS

Network on Migration Education

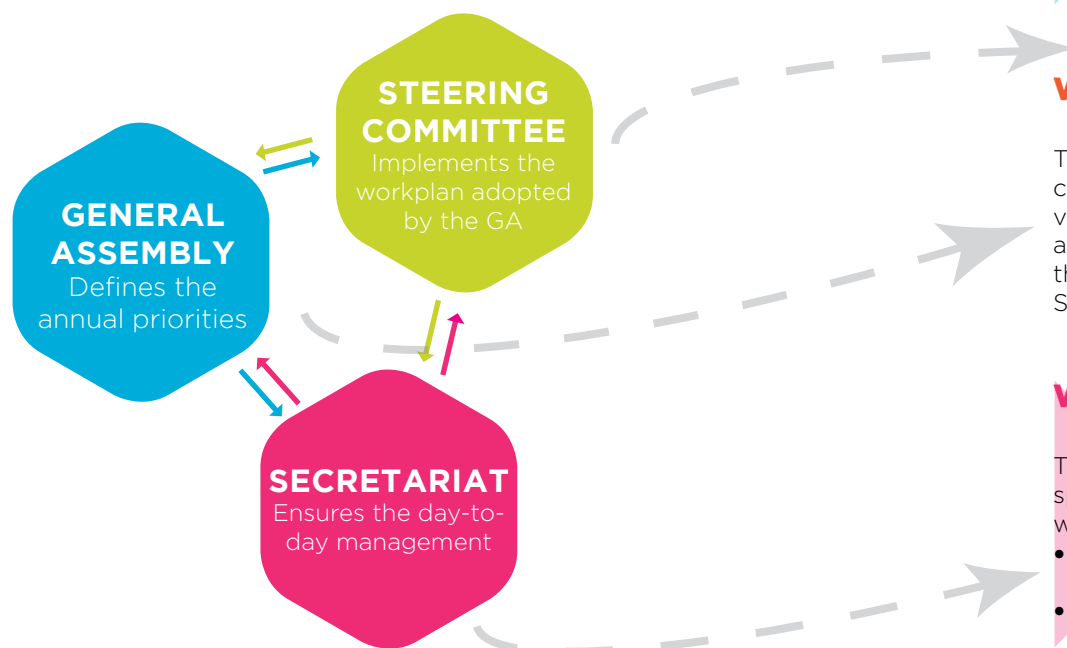
#### UNIMED

Mediterranean Universities Union

...AND MANY MORE TO COME!

## THE PLATFORM OUR STRUCTURE

The LLLPlatform pivots around the collaboration of the General Assembly, the Steering Committee and the Secretariat. The **General Assembly** is the highest body of the association, it defines the annual priorities and objectives of the LLLPlatform and its work programme. Headed by the President, its annual meeting is attended by all the members.



The **Steering Committee** is the administrative body of the LLLPlatform. It is composed of a maximum of nine representatives from the network. The Steering Committee is in charge of the administrative tasks of the association and of the implementation of the work programme adopted by the General Assembly. In 2018, Gina Ebner was elected to replace the outgoing LLLP President David López, whom we wholeheartedly thank for its work and dedication.

The **Secretariat** ensures the day-to-day management of the LLLPlatform, and it is based in Brussels.

## WORKING GROUPS

### WG EU2020

The LLLP **Working Group on Europe 2020** shares expertise on issues related to the Europe 2020 Agenda.

- On May 3rd, the WG discussed the Platform's 2018-2020 **Advocacy Strategy**
- On July 7th, LLLP shared updates about the **Education and Training Monitor, European Pillar of Social Rights** and proposal for a **European Education Area**. A representative of the Bulgarian EU Presidency presented their priorities for education.

### WG DIGITAL LEARNING

The LLLP **Working Group on Digital Learning**, aiming to build members' capacity to contribute to the EU's digital agenda, met in October to exchange views, experiences and best practices on **innovative learning environments**, access to ICT and **media literacy**. Members also discussed the ongoing work of the **Digital Skills and Jobs Coalition**, one of the initiatives included in the New Skills Agenda.

### WG WIDER BENEFITS OF LEARNING

The LLLP Working Group on **Wider Benefits of Learning** seeks to create a space for members to exchange views about the wider benefits of learning, with a strong focus on learners.

- On July 7th, members discussed how to address wider benefits of learning from an early age, tackling **early childhood education and care**.
- On December 4th, the WG assessed the state of play of the briefing paper on **Community Lifelong Learning Centres**.

### VALIDATION TASK FORCE

The **Validation Task Force** brings together members and other partners (CEV, YFJ, EESC, Cedefop) around the topic of validation of non-formal and informal learning.

- On September 13th a Peer Learning Activity for the **EQF Advisory Group** was organised on the role of stakeholders in VNFIL.
- On December 5th and during the LLLWeek, the Task Force met to prepare an advocacy plan for **VNFIL** post 2018 and shared project examples.

## OUR PEOPLE

### LLLPL STEERING COMMITTEE



Gina Ebner,  
President,  
EAEA



Giuseppina Tucci,  
Secretary-General,  
OBESSU



Luis Costa,  
Treasurer,  
EfVET



Jean-Marie Dujardin  
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The LLLPlatform would like to thank **David López**, **Mare Oja** and **Eszter Salomon**, who terminated their mandates in 2018.

The LLLPlatform would like to thank **Elsa Predour**, Project and Communication Assistant, and **Marina Vidiz**, Policy and Research Assistant throughout 2018.



# LIFELONG LEARNING PLATFORM

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