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Learning Democracy and Human Rights

Evaluation 2006-2009
and the way ahead

Strasbourg, 15-16 April 2010, Room G03, Agora Building

Programme

Conference organised in the framework
of the Swiss Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers
of the Council of Europe

*Learning and living
democracy for all*



Wednesday, 14 April 2010

17.00-19.00 Preparatory meeting for moderators, rapporteurs, chairs, speakers and general rapporteur

Thursday, 15 April 2010

Programme of Activities 2006-2009 – Results achieved and lessons learned

09.00-09.30 **Registration**

09.30-10.30 **Opening**

Chair: Ms Reinhild Otte, Chair of the ad hoc Advisory Group on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights

Video “Learning and living democracy for all”

Mr Klaus Fischer, Member of the State Council of the canton of Solothurn, Director of Education, Culture and Sport, on behalf of the Swiss Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers (10 minutes)

Ms Olöf Olafsdottir, Acting Director of Education and Languages, Council of Europe (10 minutes)

Programme of Activities 2006-2009 – Results achieved and lessons learned (10 minutes): Ms Sarah Keating, Division for Citizenship, Human Rights and Diversity Education, Council of Europe

EDC/HRE Pack – series of manuals on citizenship and human rights education (10 minutes): Ms Yulia Pererva, Division for Citizenship, Human Rights and Diversity Education, Council of Europe

10.30-11.00 **Coffee break**

11.00-12.30 **Workshop I: Programme of Activities 2006-2009 – Results achieved and lessons learned:** 6 parallel groups on the following themes:

1. Education policy development and implementation for democratic citizenship and social inclusion
2. New roles and competences of teachers and other educational staff
3. Democratic governance of educational institutions

12.30-14.00 **Lunch**

14.00-15.30 **Workshop I: Programme of Activities 2006-2009 – Results achieved and lessons learned** – continued (on the same topics, with different groups)

15.30-16.00 **Coffee break**

16.00-17.30 **Plenary:** Chair: Mr César Bîrzéa, Member of the Bureau of the ad hoc Advisory Group on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights

Building partnerships for citizenship and human rights education: Round Table (30 minutes)

- Ms Maria Stavrositu, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- Mr Alexander Bartling, Secretariat of the Council of Europe Congress of Local and Regional Authorities
- Mr Dennis Van-der-Veur, Advisor to the Human Rights Commissioner of the Council of Europe
- Mr Alain Mouchoux, Vice-President, Conference of International NGOs of the Council of Europe

The role of international institutions in supporting sustainability of citizenship and human rights education: Round Table (30 minutes)

- Mr Pavel Chacuk, Human Rights Advisor, OSCE/ODIHR
- Ms Aydan Iyigüngör, Human Rights Education Coordinator, EU Fundamental Rights Agency
- Ms Martha Santos, Programme Manager, UNICEF
- Mr Kazunari Fujii, Chair of the NGO Working Group on Human Rights Education and Learning, Conference of NGOs in Consultative Relationship with the UN

Discussion

17:30-19:00 **Reception** co-hosted by the Swiss Chairmanship, and Ms Olöf Olafsdottir, Acting Director of Education and Languages, Council of Europe

Friday, 16 April 2010

Learning democracy and human rights: the way ahead: 2010-2014

09.00-09.50 **Plenary:** Chair: Mr David Kerr, member the ad hoc Advisory Group on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights

Council of Europe Programme for 2010-2014: Mr Villano Qiriaz, Acting Head of Division for Citizenship, Human Rights and Diversity Education, Council of Europe

Exchange and co-operation - the role of EDC/HRE coordinators: Round Table (30 minutes)

Mr Aidan Clifford (Ireland), Ms Bojka Djukanovic (Montenegro), Ms Kristina Kaihari-Salminen (Finland), Mr Einar Värä (Estonia), Ms Rayisa Yevtuschenko (Ukraine)

Discussion

09.50-10.50 **Workshop II: Putting CoE instruments into practice through partnerships and networking** 6 parallel groups

Suggested topics: 1) Priorities for action (dissemination, promotion, piloting, development of new instruments), 2) Co-operation models (regional, thematic, between all levels of education, with specialised media, among international institutions and organisations, among and within networks of professionals and institutions, 3) Scope for synergies (among instruments developed by various actors)

10.50-11.20 **Coffee Break**

11.20-13.00 **Workshop II: Putting CoE instruments into practice through partnerships and networking – continued**

13.00-14.30 **Lunch**

14.30-16.00 **Closing:** Chair: Ms Roy Chourdaki, Chair of the Steering Committee for Education

Key messages from the Third Phase of the Council of Europe Programme on Citizenship and Human Rights Education

- Ms Meral Hacipaşaoğlu, Ministry of National Education of Turkey
- Ms Anne Brasseur, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
- Ms Antonia Wulff, Chair of the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth

Discussion

Closing remarks (10 minutes)

Ambassador Paul Widmer, Permanent Representative of Switzerland

Ms Olöf Olafsdottir, Acting Director of Education and Languages, Council of Europe

Conference on “Learning Democracy and Human Rights: Evaluation 2006-2009 and the way ahead”

The Conference will bring together representatives of the States Parties to the European Cultural Convention, decision makers in the field of education, education practitioners, civil society representatives and other partners with a view to taking stock of the results achieved under the Programme 2006-2009¹ and of planning future co-operation in the field of Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights (2010-2014). The discussions will also contribute to the preparation of the 23rd session of the Council of Europe Standing Conference of Ministers of Education (Slovenia, 4-5 June 2010).

Background information

The Council of Europe Programme “Learning and living democracy for All” 2006-2009 aimed to support policy development and implementation in the field of citizenship and human rights education in the states party to the European Cultural Convention.

The main goals and objectives of the Programme were as follows:

- to continue and strengthen policy development and implementation of EDC/HRE, with a particular focus on social cohesion, social inclusion and respect for human rights, and, in this context, pay special attention to the democratic governance of educational institutions, especially schools;
- to strengthen the capacity for teacher training and development within and across member states both in education and in partnership with those in civil society, particularly communities and NGOs;
- to improve communication and information sharing with specific focus on the collection, referencing and dissemination of know-how and successful practice in EDC/HRE in order to lay the foundations for building a strong evidence base;
- to develop and promote sustainable frameworks and mechanisms that make EDC/HRE part of everyday practices and processes at all levels of society;

¹ The EDC project was launched in 1997 by the Second Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe member states. The first phase (1997-2000) was devoted mainly to the clarification of concepts and development of strategies to promote EDC. The setting up of “Sites of citizenship” in communities was also supported. The results of this phase were endorsed by the European Ministers of Education at the 20th session of their standing conference in Krakow (Poland, October 2000). The focus of the second phase (2001-2004) was on the dissemination of the results of the first phase through networking and communication activities. Recommendation (2002)12 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on EDC is one of the main outcomes of this phase. The network of EDC/HRE co-ordinators was developed and became the cornerstone of the project. The “All-European Study on Policies for EDC” conducted during this phase has become a reference document in this field, as it gave a clear account of the situation in the different regions of Europe and revealed the “compliance gap” between policy and practice in many countries. The aim of the 2005 “European Year of Citizenship through Education” was to reach a broader public, and to draw attention to the vital role education plays in fostering citizenship and to the need for citizen participation in any truly democratic society. The Programme of Activities “Learning and Living Democracy for All” (2006-2009) constituted the third phase of the project, and was based on the experience of the first two phases and of the “Year”, as well as on the commitment of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe member states, expressed at their Third Summit (Warsaw Action Plan, III.3). It was devoted to the following three Lines of Actions: 1) Education policy development and implementation for democratic citizenship and social inclusion; 2) New roles and competences of teachers and other educational staff in EDC/HRE; 3) Democratic governance of educational institutions.

- to promote working methods based on sharing of information and successful practice, through a multidisciplinary and transversal/cross-sectorial approach, with partners such as member states, international/European/national/local organisations and institutions

The Evaluation Report on the Council of Europe Programme of Activities “Learning and Living Democracy for All” for 2006-2009 provides an overview of the main results achieved and makes recommendations for the future co-operation activities Council of Europe activities in the field of EDC/HRE.

Aims and objectives of the Conference

The aim of the Conference is to bring together representatives of the states party to the European Cultural Convention, education practitioners, civil society representatives and other partners with a view to taking stock of the results achieved and of planning future co-operation. The objectives are as follows:

- To disseminate and promote the outcomes of the programme 2006-2009
- To receive feedback from partners on these outcomes
- To receive input for the planning of future activities 2010-2014, including indications on priorities, needs and working methods
- To reinforce partnerships and co-operation.
- To provide input for the 23rd session of the Council of Europe Standing Conference of Ministers of Education (Slovenia, 4-5 June 2010), which will be devoted to the theme of “Education for sustainable society: the role of teachers”.

Date and place

Strasbourg, 15-16 April 2010

Participants

The participants of the Conference will be officials from the 49 states party to the European Cultural Convention, representatives of international institutions, civil society and foundations active in the field of EDC/HRE. From 150 to 200 participants are expected to attend the Conference.

Request for nominations will be addressed to the member states asking them to nominate up to 2 high level officials dealing with citizenship and human rights education.

Also will be invited:

1. Members of the Ad hoc Advisory Group on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights (ED-EDCHR)
2. EDC/HRE coordinators
3. International NGOs;
4. Human rights institutions;
5. International institutions;
6. Foundations dealing with EDC/HRE;
7. Council of Europe bodies concerned.

Travel and subsistence expenses of all participants will have to be covered by their organisations / institutions.

Expected Outcomes

- The results of the Programme of Activities 2006-2009 (Third Phase) are promoted and disseminated.
- The knowledge of these activities is improved and member states' support is reinforced
- Feedback on the above-mentioned results is collected.
- Suggestions for future co-operation in the field of EDC/HRE are put forward
- Partnerships and networking are promoted and reinforced.

Documents:

- Meeting report (possibly, a publication)

Organisers

The Conference will be organised by the Council of Europe Department for Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights, in close co-operation with Switzerland, which has kindly agreed to support this conference in the framework of the Swiss Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the CoE.

Organisation and working methods

The conference is conceived as a working event, targeting actors involved in citizenship and human rights education related activities at the operational level. The number of speeches will be kept to a minimum, and the workshops will aim to produce practical outcomes. For this purpose, detailed guidelines for the moderators will be prepared.

An Information Market will be organised in parallel with the meeting (i.e. materials and publications will be put on display, promoted and distributed by the organisers and participants).

The working languages will be English, French and Russian.

Background documents

1. Council of Europe Programme of Activities in the field of EDC/HRE 2010-2014
2. Evaluation Report on the Council of Europe Programme of Activities "Learning and Living Democracy for All" for 2006-2009
3. Council of Europe EDC/HRE Pack – a set of materials for different target audiences on various aspects of citizenship and human rights education
4. Report of the Regional European Meeting on the World Programme for Human Rights Education (Strasbourg, 5-6 November 2007)
5. Report of the Forum on "Civic Partnerships for Citizenship and Human Rights Education" (Strasbourg, 9-10 October 2008)
6. Report of the 2008 Prague Forum on "The right to quality education"
7. Conclusions of the Forum on Human Rights Education with Young People (Budapest and Strasbourg, 14-18 October 2009)
8. PACE Recommendation 1849 (2008) "For the promotion of a culture of democracy and human rights through teacher education",
9. CoE Human Rights Commissioner's viewpoint on "Human Rights education is a priority – more concrete action is needed" (2008)
10. Information document on the 23rd session of the Council of Europe Standing Conference of Ministers of Education (Slovenia, 4-5 June 2010)
11. The European Wergeland Centre – Strategy Plan 2009-2012