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#### THIRD CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN MINISTERS RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUTH

Lisbon, 20-21 September 1990

# YOUTH MOBILITY IN EUROPE

#### REPORT FINAL TEXT LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

Strasbourg 1990

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#### <u>REPORT</u>

The Third Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth met in Lisbon on 20 and 21 September 1990, following an invitation issued by the Portuguese Government at the second Conference and confirmed by Mr. Fernando Couto dos Santos, Deputy Minister to the Prime Minister and Minister for Youth.

The Conference was attended by representatives of all the Contracting Parties to the European Cultural Convention. The German Democratic Republic and the USSR, represented by their Ministers for Youth, attended as observers.

The Parliamentary Assembly was represented by the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Youth and Sport of the Committee on Culture and Education. The Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe (CLRAE) was epresented by the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Social Affairs and Health and the Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Youth. The Chairman of the Governing Board of the European Youth Centre and the European Youth Foundation, and the Chairman of the Advisory Committee also attended the Conference. The Comission of the European Communities was also present, and the Conference of Ibero-American States was represented by its Chairman.

Amongst the international organisations, the United Nations Organisation for Education, Science and Culture (UNESCO), the World Health Organisation (WHO), the Nordic Council of Ministers and the Franco-German Youth Office were represented as observers. At youth level, the European Co-ordination Bureau of International non-governmental Youth Organisations (ECB), the Council of European National Youth Committees (CENYC) and the Youth Forum were each represented by a delegation.

The full list of participants is given in Appendix III.

The Conference was opened on behalf of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe by Mr. Franco Marziale, Director of the European Youth Centre, who welcomed the participants and greeted the President of the Republic of Portugal, Mr. Mario Soares, who delivered an address stressing Portugal's place in the history of Europe and highlighting the challenges Portugal had to face in the building of Europe. The Portuguese Minister was elected Chairperson on a proposal by the French Minister. The Ministers from Iceland and Luxembourg were elected Vice-Chairpersons.

On behalf of the host country to the second Conference, the Minister of Church and Culture Affairs of Norway, responsible for Youth, presented a report on the follow-up to the recommendations of the first and second Conferences. The Minister took stock of youth participation in social life and reviewed the different types of structure through which young people could become involved in youth policies. She also mentioned the difficulties that had been encountered in implementing policies in favour of marginalised youth and young women. Finally, she presented youth research and youth exchange schemes as developing phenomena that should be supported.

The Permanent Representative of Portugal to the Council of Europe, speaking in his capacity as Chairman of the Rapporteur Group on Youth of the Ministers' Deputies, described the Committee of Ministers' efforts to support youth policy within the Organisation by implementing all the recommendations the second Ministerial Conference had made to it. The development of new structures within the EYC and the EYF had confirmed the importance the Council of Europe attached to the continuance and development of co-management. Finally, the Committee of Ministers had attached great importance to the adoption of Recommendation No. (90) 7 concerning information and counselling for young people in Europe.

The youth organisations co-operating with the Council of Europe also presented a report assessing the situation and stating their own points of view, both at international level, through organisations belonging to the ECB, and at national level, with the help of the national committees grouped together in the CENYC. This new practice of having youth organisations participate in the evaluation process was appreciated by all concerned as a much-needed opportunity for dialogue; it would be repeated at the next Conference. The debate revealed that progress had been made in certain areas of youth policy. Difficulties still remained, however, in the youth employment and housing sectors and in respect of equality between young women and young men.

The specific theme of the Conference was "Youth mobility in Europe".

The Portuguese Minister introduced the subject with a run-down on the current youth mobility situation in Europe and sketched the broad outlines of a youth mobility policy covering economic, social, cultural, legal and administrative aspects, health and housing, training and information, all in the context of building a Europe for all Europeans.

More specific contributions were then heard on different aspects of this same theme:

- mobility: solidarity with the South and the development of a training and guidance policy, by the Minister for France;

- mobility: equal opportunities for all young Europeans, by the Minister from Sweden;

- information and mobility, by the Minister from Luxembourg;

- health and mobility, by the Minister from San Marino.

The ensuing discussion, in which all the delegations took part, brought to light the converging need for the Ministers to draft an international legal instrument as early as possible to encourage and facilitate the mobility of all young people, without discrimination. Until this could be done, the Ministers undertook certain commitments and initiatives, listed in the Conference's Final Text in Appendix II.

They include the need for co-ordination and harmonisation of the Youth Card scheme. A mandate was given to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, in conjunction with the European Youth Cards Conference, to invite the governments concerned and experts from the organisations or bodies managing the Youth Card system to a meeting with a view to discussing the technicalities of a partial agreement within the Council of Europe (Appendix II, para. 53).

The third part of the Conference took the form of an informal discussion of the situation of young people in Europe today. The debate was introduced by:

- the Minister from Hungary, on the development of democratic structures in the youth field in Central and Eastern Europe, and young people's aspirations regarding European co-operation; - the Secretary of State from the Federal Republic of Germany, on the situation of young people in Central and Eastern Europe: a challenge to European co-operation in the youth field;

- the head of the Austrian delegation, on mobility: future prospects in the new Europe.

The Czech and Slovak Republic and Hungary offered to host the second European Youth Centre mentioned in para. 24 of the Final Text. All delegations agreed that the proposed feasibility study on this second centre was an important and worthwhile initiative.

The representatives of the Commission of the European Communities underlined the progress that was being made through youth mobility programmes, and on the gradual increase in co-operation with certain Central and Eastern European countries. The Ministers, representatives of the Commission of the European Communities and the Secretary General of the Council of Europe all highlighted the need for increased co-operation in the youth field between Community bodies and those of the Council of Europe, particularly with regard to the policy of training leaders and supervisors in the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and to the training policy for young people in charge of youth mobility projects.

In the course of the debate, the Secretary of State from the Federal Republic of Germany suggested organising a meeting in Munich in autumn 1991 to take stock of multilateral and bilateral co-operation in the youth field between Eastern, Central and West European countries, and perhaps to promote increased co-ordination and harmonisation. It would be a meeting for experts, but also for representatives of various youth organisations, and it could be organised jointly by the German authorities, the European Community and the Council of Europe, with these two organisations providing the Secretariat.

The Secretary General described the progress made in the Council of Europe's relations with the countries of Central and Eastern Europe where the democratic process had been set in motion. She stressed the importance of the youth sector in this area and thanked the Hungarian and Czech and Slovak delegations for their kind offer to host a second European Youth Centre, the establishment of which was in the Intergovernmental Programme of Activities of the Council of Europe for 1991. She also expressed her keen interest in and gratitude for the German Minister's suggestion of organising a meeting in Germany in 1991 on multilateral and bilateral co-operation in the youth field between the states of Central, Eastern and Western Europe.

The Final Text and its appendix, which form Appendix II hereto, were adopted. All the delegations approved the Final Text, with the exception of the United Kingdom. The United Kingdom submitted a declaration explaining its abstention (Appendix I), requesting that it be included in the report submitted to the Committee of Ministers.

The Conference expressed its warmest thanks to the Austrian delegation for having confirmed the Austrian Government's invitation to the Committee of Ministers to hold the fourth Conference in Austria in 1993, and took note with satisfaction of the invitation from the Turkish Minister of State for Youth regarding the fifth Conference.

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The Conference was complemented by a "Youth Event" in the form of an exhibition-forum on the work done amongst young people by youth organisations. All the Conference participants visited this exhibition. Various other activities geared to themes covered by the Conference were organised in this context, including:

- a dinner-debate on mobility, chaired by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe; it was attended by most of the Ministers present at the Conference, representatives of the local population and all the young people present at the Event;

- a round table discussion on associations, participation and democracy, chaired by the Portuguese Minister of Culture and conducted by the Chairman of the Youth Committee of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal.

During the dinner-debate, the Secretary General spoke of what the Council of Europe had achieved in terms of the mobility of labour, and stressed the need to bridge certain gaps that existed in the field of non-occupational youth mobility.

These two discussions provided an opportunity to take a more detailed look at the themes covered by the Conference with the young people present. In their opinion, the greatest obstacles to travel were of an administrative nature (visas, cost of passports). Amongst other proposals, the delegation of the French-speaking community of Belgium suggested looking into the possibility of a form of European civilian service as an alternative to military service, arguing that this would be an extremely positive form of youth mobility and co-operation. The question of housing for young people (social, cultural, economic aspects, etc) was considered to be an area for priority action at the European level.

The participants at the Third Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth extended their warmest thanks to the Portuguese Government, and in particular the Minister for Youth, for their hospitality and the perfect way in which the Conference had been organised, and to the Portuguese Youth Institute for co-ordinating and organising the Youth Event.

#### APPENDIX I

## **DECLARATION FROM THE UNITED KINGDOM**

The United Kingdom recognises, in principle, the potential benefits of freedom of movement among peoples in Europe, and, therefore, is generally in agreement with the broad aim underlying the document considered at the third Conference of Ministers at Lisbon on 20-21 September 1990. However, the detailed proposals, and assumptions about specific matters enshrined in it, present difficulties for the United Kingdom.

The United Kingdom is not willing to sign agreements unless it believes that it will be able to implement them fully and unreservedly.

The United Kingdom would be prepared to explore through the appropriate forum, at official level, how best to mitigate or overcome specific barriers to youth mobility. The United Kingdom, however, does not consider that formal, international legal instruments should be necessary to achieve this. In this context, it is the United Kingdom's belief that its laws that affect the movement of peoples are generous, and it could not make them more so, having regard to the need to safeguard both national security and the welfare of its own people.

The United Kingdom also places considerable emphasis on the development of the individual's personal sense of responsibility and initiative. It seeks to minimise the intervention of the State, whether in policy or financial terms, and prefers to encourage a free, deregulated market economy. This approach provides such a degree of freedom and flexibility that the United Kingdom has a long tradition of mobility and exchanges of individuals and groups for all manner of purposes, in which the State does not have a role. The text on which the United Kingdom is abstaining implies a level of State intervention which the United Kingdom is not able to accept in principle. Moreover, with the United Kingdom's decentralised system, it could not be implemented, in full and unreservedly, in practice since the appropriate powers and responsibilities lie outside central government and, in many instances, outside even the scope of local government. If the proposed recommendations had been less prescriptive and more exhortatory, and had recognised throughout the constraints of existing constitutions, legislation and carefully negotiated arrangements, the United Kingdom might have been in a position to agree. The United Kingdom understands that some other countries do not find such a short general statement of principle acceptable. The United Kingdom, therefore, wished its colleagues well in their endeavours at the Conference in Lisbon, but had to make clear its position by abstaining.

#### APPENDIX II

#### FINAL TEXT

#### INTRODUCTION

1. The first Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth was held in Strasbourg in 1985, International Youth Year, on the initiative of the French Government. It had four objectives:

i. to improve the processes by which young people participate in the life of the community a time when they are hard hit by the economic crisis;

ii. to raise questions concerning young people to the status of matters of universal significance, whereas they are all too often dealt with by piecemeal measures and policies;

iii. to be questioned by young people on the relevance of the policies proposed to meet their aspirations;

iv. to reinforce the structures of the European Youth Centre and European Youth Foundation to enable more young people to participate and benefit from their facilities.

2. The Norwegian Government invited the European Ministers responsible for Youth to hold their second conference in Oslo in 1988. The purpose of this conference was to draw up "strategies for European youth policies towards the year 2000". This entailed spelling out the main principles adopted by the first conference for gradually ensuring the full integration of young people by helping them to find their place in a society within which they may play an effective part.

3. Subsequently the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe decided to make the Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth into a periodic event.

4. The first such Conference laid down principles and put forward recommendations aimed at fostering the participation of young people in society and implementing comprehensive youth policies. It also made a series of recommendations designed to foster more effective European co-operation in the youth field.

5. The second Conference drew up the basic criteria for a youth policy at local, regional and national levels. It particularly directed its attention at the situation of girls and young women in society as well as at that of disadvantaged and/or marginalised young people, proposing ways of improving their social and occupational integration. Lastly, it submitted to the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe a number of recommendations on research into young people's problems, youth exchanges and the circulation of information designed to improve the effectiveness of international co-operation in the development of youth policies.

6. The European Ministers responsible for Youth, assembled in Lisbon for their third Conference, express their deep content that with the recent developments and changes in Central and Eastern Europe, a whole era of division and ideological confrontation has ended and a new dimension of co-operation based on the principles of pluralistic democracy and the respect of Human Rights has begun. They underline the important role played by young people in this peaceful process.

7. The European Ministers responsible for Youth, conscious of the role that the dialogue between parliamentarians and representatives of youth organisations can play in the developing process of European co-operation, welcome the holding in Strasbourg of the first two round-tables organised on the initiative of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on the participation of young people in improving East-West co-operation in Europe, and strongly encourage the Assembly to continue and develop such initiatives in this field on the basis of all the countries of Europe.

8. This development of European co-operation demands a new approach of both national and international youth policy. The Youth Ministers express their will to meet the changes and challenges and hereby take into account the expectations of young people who, from East to West and from North to South, want to be the youth of a Europe having achieved its full dimension.

# Part I: Evaluation of the results of the first and second Conferences of European Ministers responsible for Youth

#### 9. The Conference,

10. Welcoming the new procedures for participation by youth organisations and associations in the evaluation of the Conferences, as established at the second Conference and developed at the third Conference, which are in line with the Council of Europe's wishes concerning the role of young people in the taking of decisions affecting them;

11. Noting with satisfaction that the various organs and/or authorities of the Council of Europe, notably the Committee of Ministers and the Standing Conference of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe, have acted favourably on the recommendations addressed to them, and having learned that the Parliamentary Assembly and the various Committees of governmental experts have pursued activities along the lines advocated by the first two Conferences;

12. Reaffirming that youth policies should be based on a comprehensive rather than a sectorial approach, which presupposes the establishment in each country of a permanent and specific co-ordinating body able to deal with all youth activities in a comprehensive manner;

13. Having regard to the positions previously taken up in favour of voluntary organised activities; being aware of the increasing role of youth organisations and associations in local and regional community life; and considering that their recognition and promotion necessitate the impetus of financial support and appropriate resources;

14. Noting that in a democratic and pluralistic society voluntary organised activities cannot devlop unless there is freedom of choice regarding sectors and projects;

15. Noting that substantial progress can been made in the field of youth information by the implementation of Recommendation No. R (90) 7 of the Committee of Ministers to member States concerning information and counselling for young people in Europe;

16. Having regard to the conclusions of the evaluation reports on follow-up to the results of the first two Conferences of European Ministers responsible for Youth, and notably the items concerning the situation of young women, marginalised young people and those from ethnic minorities or immigrant communities and reaffirming on this occasion the fundamental principle of participation which must be at the centre of all youth policy;

17. Conscious of the legal, administrative and other difficulties met by young people involved in voluntary service and development projects during a medium- or long-term stay abroad;

18. Supporting the basic proposals of Recommendation 1089 (1988) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on improving community relations and the conclusions of the second Conference on Intolerance, and having regard to the important projects of the Council of Cultural Co-operation concerning the role of intercultural education as a key factor in combating discrimination in all its forms and eliminating racism and xenophobia;

19. Welcoming the initiatives taken by the CDEJ to study and develop models of youth participation in local youth policies and combat marginalisation and aiming at involving young people at risk in these policies and in programmes concerning them;

20. Disturbed at the widespread shortage in Europe of housing for young people in both the public and the private sector and considering that Recommendation 33 (b) of the first Conference concerning the holding of a conference on accommodation for young people has not been implemented; 21. Convinced that, in order to improve the planning, drawing up and implementation of youth policies at European as well as regional or local level, it is necessary to promote relevant youth research and studies involving researchers, decision-makers and young people, together with their organisations;

22. Underlining the importance of the recent development of democracy in Europe and strongly stressing its commitment to take into account the expectations of young people who, from East to West and from North to South, want to be the youth of a Europe having achieved its full dimension,

23. RECOMMENDS that the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe continue to strengthen youth policy within its institutions and other relevant bodies, in particular by deciding:

24. to charge the Governing Board of the EYC and EYF in collaboration with the CDEJ to carry out, on the basis of the fundamental principles of the Council of Europe's youth policy, a feasibility study on the creation of a second European Youth Centre in a Central or East European country, which should notably foster:

- i. the development of associative life in the framework of democratic and pluralistic structures,
- ii. the training of leaders of youth organisations

iii. intercultural education,

iv. youth mobility, facilitated by direct contacts between young Europeans;

25. to foster the youth research that is in progress within the EYC, especially an analysis of quantitive and qualitative data provided by governments and qualified bodies, both public and private, which enables young people and their organisations to become active in community life; this should result in the development of a documentation, information and research unit consisting of one or more data banks and in the stimulation of appropriate networks amongst researchers; 26. **RECOMMENDS** to the Intergovernmental Committee of the European Youth Foundation:

27. to increase considerably the resources of the European Youth Foundation to enable the latter to carry out new tasks linked with recent developments in Central and Eastern Europe taking into account the study recommended by the second Conference of European Ministers responsible for Youth and carried out by the Governing Board on "the evaluation of the European Youth Foundation's action" and "the future prospects of the European Youth Foundation";

28. **RECOMMENDS** that the States signatories to the Council of Europe's Cultural Convention:

29. create permanent structures, where none already exist, for the purpose of dealing with youth policies and effectively coordinating the various bodies, both governmental and regional, concerned by such policies;

30. provide youth organisations with the technical and financial support essential to their functions as well as to their place in the social life of a municipality or region;

31. foster the creation or development of consultation or co-management structures at national, regional and local level for the purpose of involving young people and their organisations in the taking of decisions affecting them, due regard being had to the autonomy of voluntary organisations and the prerogatives of public authorities;

32. support efforts to secure equality of opportunity in all sectors of economic, social, cultural, industrial, political and associative life and, in that context, it is desirable:

- i. to promote the active participation of young women in positions of responsibility in all dimensions;
- ii. to envisage measures of positive, concrete action in favour of young women wherever legal equality provides no compensation for their de facto disadvantages;

33. give special support to programmes aimed at preventing and combating racial prejudice and xenophobia and fully involve youth organisations and services at local, regional, national and international level in programmes of intercultural education;

34. involve youth organisations, social workers and specialised educators in all primary prevention campaigns, particularly in those relating to risk factors, so that the messages transmitted are acceptable and intelligible to young people and can be positively received and adopted by them;

35. develop educational structures and training programmes aimed at enabling young immigrants, refugees and members of ethnic minorities to play their full part in society, thus bearing in mind the recommendations of the second Conference on Intolerance;

36. create or reinforce services, agencies or organisations which specialise in work with marginalised and disadvantaged young people and which try to provide them with employment and decent housing as well as integrate them into society.

# Part II : Specific theme: the promotion of youth mobility in Europe

37. Considering that youth mobility based on intercultural learning and deepening the understanding between people, contributes to the personal and social development of young generations and of societies as a whole, requires to be fostered and for this reason to be made available to all young people;

38. Bearing in mind the importance already attached to promoting youth mobility by the Conferences of European Ministers responsible for Youth (first Conference, recommendations 27-31; second Conference, section 2.2) and the vital role of youth organisations in this field;

39. Considering that the definition of national youth policies should include a European dimension and, consequently, the importance of mobility;

40. Conscious that this Conference should start a process within the Council of Europe for negotiating international legal instruments or others on specific topics;

41. Welcoming the expansion of youth mobility from and to Central and Eastern Europe as a result of the recent stimulating developments;

42. Conscious, nevertheless, that this youth mobility from Central and Eastern Europe creates new approaches and responsibilities;

43. Stressing the fact that only a coordinated policy between the Council of Europe and the European Community can remove barriers to youth mobility and recalling the recommendations of the first and second Conferences that the mobility projects of the European Community be accessible to the young people residing in all the countries signatory to the European Cultural Convention; 44. Aware of the administrative and legal difficulties young men and women still face when engaging in long-term voluntary projects abroad;

45. Recognising the value of certain initiatives which have already been taken with a view to granting advantages and facilities to young people who travel in the framework of the "Youth Card" system;

46. Bearing in mind Recommendation No. R (90) 7 of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers concerning information and counselling for young people in Europe;

47. Conscious that the development of mobility passes via a constant dialogue between decision-makers, mediators and young people, and in particular their organisations as specific partners;

48. Bearing in mind the policy defined by the Council of Europe during the North-South Campaign and conscious of the necessity to safeguard the experience acquired and develop parallel mobility actions in a North-South context;

49. Conscious of the importance of voluntary organised activites in a democratic and pluralistic society and recalling the role of the European Youth Centre and European Youth Foundation in the training of leaders of youth organisations, in particular through intercultural education,

50. RECOMMENDS TO THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE:

51. to include in the Intergovernmental Programme of Activities for the coming years, the elaboration of international legal instruments or others on youth mobility based on the principles contained in the attached appendix, and stresses the fact that, in recommending such an activity, only an international legal instrument could provide sufficient guarantees to ensure the implementation of harmonised measures to promote youth mobility in the framework of a European youth policy;

52. to promote exchanges of staff and professionals by means of fellowship programmes, particularly through exchange of schemes and techniques adopted by the different agencies and services and through

training periods spent in the appropriate services of the signatory States to the European Cultural Convention;

53. to support the efforts undertaken by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to examine the possibilities of co-operation between the European Youth Cards Conference and the Council of Europe and, to this end, invite the governments concerned and the experts of the organisations or bodies managing the Youth Card system which grants advantages to young people in the field of mobility, to a meeting with a view to discussing the technical conditions of a partial agreement within the Council of Europe or any appropriate institutional means to promote their coordination and harmonisation while respecting the autonomy of the agencies involved;

# 54. RECOMMENDS TO THE STANDING CONFERENCE OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES OF EUROPE:

55. to continue its action in the framework of the network of New European Journeymen, in view of the importance of mobility in the training of young workers and its role in their social and professional integration.

56. DURING THE PERIOD BEFORE THE ELABORATION AND THE ENTRY INTO FORCE OF THE ABOVE INSTRUMENTS, THE MINISTERS RECOMMEND TO THE SIGNATORY STATES OF THE EUROPEAN CULTURAL CONVENTION

57. a) to reach the following objectives:

58. make mobility possible and accessible for all young people, regardless of their economic, social or geographical situation or their level of education and training and, in particular, recognise and foster the specific role of youth organisations in the field of youth mobility, notably by increasing support to these organisations, directly or indirectly;

59. reinforce cooperation among European governments with a view to eliminating barriers to youth mobility;

60. avoid any difference of treatment based on nationality which would run counter to the principles of equal treatment and encourage the implementation of measures allowing young visitors engaged in mobility projects to benefit as far as possible on the same basis as young nationals;

61. create a European programme to foster the long-term engagement of young volunteers abroad;

62. make the relevant information available to all young people, as well as to the local, regional and national authorities concerned, thus putting into full effect Recommendation No. R (90) 7 of the Council of Europe;

63. offer and support mobility projects and projects including reception, accommodation and socio-cultural provisions of definite quality;

64. ensure qualitative follow-up to all mobility programmes with the aim to maximise the positive effects and ensure a correspondence between young people's aspirations and the objectives of the programmes;

65. develop mobility projects enabling each young person's cultural identity to flourish within a common European mould.

66. b) to rapidly undertake the following measures:

67. create in each country a coordination responsible for collecting and making available at national and European level, all information concerning the promotion of youth mobility and relevant initiatives;

68. support the youth organisations' initiatives concerning mobility, and consult and/or associate them in the elaboration, implementation and evaluation of projects organised by public institutions or those similar to them;

69. implement and/or develop mobility programmes specially devised for disadvantaged and/or disabled young people, including marginalised youth; as far as possible these groups should be integrated into programmes of a non-specific nature; 70. set up or develop forms of reception, accommodation and sociocultural provisions which promote the implementation of youth project and intercultural life and structures which are affordable to all young people;

71. support the organisation of appropriate language courses for organisers, members of leadership teams, information and counselling agency personnel and participants in mobility projects;

72. promote and support training schemes aimed at improving the quality of mobility projects and addressed to the organisers, members of leadership teams, information and counselling agency personnel - professional or volunteers - and participants. Moreover, promote exchanges of staff and professionals by means of fellowship programmes, particularly through exchange and discussion of schemes and techniques adopted by the different agencies and services and through training periods spent in the appropriate services in the signatory States to the European Cultural Convention;

73. support the "Youth Card" system of cooperation as a means of promoting youth mobility, through the provision of advantages and facilities, particularly financial ones;

74. take appropriate administrative steps to lift legal, administrative and financial barriers existing for young people in their usual place of residence and abroad, without compromising the general objectives of the legislation which at present creates such barriers, and study the possibility of issuing to young people participating in mobility projects, an appropriate document which would lift these barriers;

75. recognise solidarity actions carried out by young volunteers as mobility projects, and promote and facilitate by legal, administrative and financial measures, other activities carried out by young volunteers abroad, such as social work, development cooperation, protection of the environment.

76. promote, develop and support priority mobility and exchange projects with countries of Central and Eastern Europe which aim at promoting the development of knowledge of associative life based on democracy and pluralism, consolidate experience acquired and facilitate dialogue between all the bodies representing young people at European level; 77. continue the efforts undertaken to carry out the objectives defined in the framework of the Council of Europe's North-South campaign, which give importance to mobility projects aiming at the training of youth leaders from countries of the South, economic, social and cultural development actions carried out in the countries of the South by organisations or young European volunteers. The actions should be developed in the framework and with the support of the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity of the Council of Europe, in which all the parties concerned are represented and have the right to propose initiatives, including the co-ordinating bodies of youth organisations.

#### APPENDIX

# YOUTH MOBILITY IN EUROPE: PRINCIPLES, OBJECTIVES AND STRATEGIES

#### INTRODUCTION

The term "mobility" covers here any period spent abroad of an educational nature and fostering international understanding through the use of intercultural learning. The term includes individual or collective projects, including youth exchanges, organised in one or more host countries:

- i. for school, university or linguistic reasons;
- ii. with a view to voluntary work, training, intercultural learning, cultural or sporting activities;
- iii. with a view to carrying out socio-cultural, leisure, protection of the environment or development co-operation projects;
- iv. with a view to creating or participating in works of an artistic or cultural nature.

The term excludes taking up permanent residence in another country (migration) and periods spent on the national territory, as well as any form of paid work. Professional training can come within the scope of this definition insofar as it corresponds to concrete offers and to real training programmes. The particular case of young "au pairs" is covered by a specific international instrument of the Council of Europe.

However, in the countries with a federal structure and where recognised cultural communities exist, this definition of mobility could also apply to mobility and exchange projects among young people of these cultural communities in the same country; The amount of time spent abroad for mobility reasons can only be appreciated in relation to the project or programme at the origin of the visit. The time spent abroad, which is inevitably limited, should be in conformity with the individual or collective goals of the mobility project or with the objectives of the exchange programmes.

Any mobility programme should include social protection against major risks (with the exclusion of long-term benefits), either in the framework of agreements between countries or by taking out individual or collective insurance (social security or private), including civil liability in particular.

Lastly, this definition of mobility shall not prejudice other definitions used by States or in international legal instruments, which are more favourable to young people participating in mobility programmes.

#### (1) PRINCIPLE: Promoting and facilitating youth mobility

#### **OBJECTIVE**:

To make mobility possible and accessible for all young people, regardless of their economic, social or geographical situation or their level of education and training.

#### **STRATEGIES**:

a) supporting non-profit-making bilateral, and in particular multilateral, mobility projects and exchanges of definite quality which contribute to intercultural learning and, preferably, are managed by young people themselves or their associations.

b) reducing all barriers to youth mobility, eg through the introduction of an appropriate youth exchange document of a specific kind.

c) compensating for the de facto disadvantages suffered by under-privileged and disabled young people, by introducing measures of positive action.

d) supporting the "Youth Card" system as a means of promoting youth mobility, through the provision of advantages and facilities, particularly financial ones.

e) encouraging countries to promote mobility programmes enabling young people already engaged in occupational life to carry out a cultural or social project during a period of sabbatical or other leave.

# (2) PRINCIPLE: Promoting youth mobility in co-operation with young people

#### **OBJECTIVE**:

To recognise and foster the specific role of youth organisations in the field of youth mobility.

#### STRATEGIES:

a) taking account of young people's initiatives and those of their organisations and enabling them to participate in the preparation and execution of local, national and European mobility programmes.

b) encouraging youth organisations to collaborate with informal youth groups in the elaboration, preparation, management and evaluation of mobility projects.

# (3) PRINCIPLE: Any policy to promote youth mobility requires concerted action at European level

#### **OBJECTIVE**:

To intensify cooperation among European governments with a view to gradually eliminating barriers to youth mobility.

#### **STRATEGY**:

Gradually orientating the relevant bilateral and multilateral agreements already in force or to be negotiated between European governments, towards consistency with the Council of Europe's policy concerning mobility.

#### (4) PRINCIPLE: Encouraging each host country to promote equality of treatment between young residents and young visitors involved in mobility projects

#### **OBJECTIVE**:

To avoid any form of discrimination based on nationality.

#### **STRATEGY**:

Initiating a process of transition from the principle of mere reciprocity to the wider concept of full legal equality of treatment through the adoption of legislative measures, the adaptation of legislation or practice and the harmonisation of international bilateral agreements.

## (5) PRINCIPLE: Recognising young people's right to be suitably informed of the possibility of participating in individual or collective mobility projects

#### **OBJECTIVE**:

To make the relevant information available to all young people.

#### STRATEGIES:

a) creating coordination in each country for the purpose of publicising and promoting at national and European level the national, regional and local schemes initiated by public authorities and/or by non-governmental youth organisations or youth groups involved in a mobility project.

b) providing information and counselling in accordance with the principles laid down in Recommendation No. R (90) 7 of the Council of Europe.

c) promoting the introduction of new technologies in information and counselling agencies and services in order to facilitate direct access by young people to information and counselling.

#### (6) PRINCIPLE: Offering and supporting mobility projects and projects including reception, accommodation and socio-cultural provisions of definite quality

#### **OBJECTIVES**:

a) to ensure the availability of trained and qualified personnel able to organise, manage and monitor mobility projects and projects including reception, accommodation and socio-cultural provisions of definite quality.

b) to provide young people involved in mobility projects with reception and accommodation facilities placing emphasis on socio-cultural activities of definite quality, and affordable by the young people concerned.

#### **STRATEGIES**:

a) supporting the organisation of appropriate language courses for organisers, members of leadership teams, information and counselling agency personnel and participants in mobility projects.

b) training youth leaders, volunteers and professionals with a view to giving them the skills required to run, supervise, organise, manage and evaluate mobility projects and projects including reception, accommodation and socio-cultural provisions.

c) periodically updating the skills of the target groups mentioned in (a) and (b) above.

d) promoting exchanges of staff and professionals or volunteers by means of fellowship schemes.

e) making more flexible the criteria for admission to the reception and accommodation facilities.

f) enabling young people residing in the reception and accommodation facilities to participate actively in the programmes of socio-cultural activities.

g) following appropriate policies which enable reception and accommodation conditions to be available to young people at a price they can afford.

# (7) PRINCIPLE: Providing all young Europeans with certain specified advantages

#### **OBJECTIVE**:

To give young people access to a series of benefits and facilities in the cultural, recreational, sporting and social spheres and to grant them preferential rates for insurance, transport and accommodation through a non-profit-making card/system within the context of national legislation.

#### STRATEGY:

Facilitating the coordination of all existing systems of advantages granted to young people for mobility purposes (benefits, facilities and preferential rates) with a view to harmonising them, improving their effectiveness and making them available to a maximum number of young people.

# (8) PRINCIPLE: Monitoring developments in youth mobility in order to respond better to young people's requirements

#### **OBJECTIVES**:

- a) to reinforce international cooperation in the youth field.
- b) to facilitate decision-making.
- c) to adapt mobility projects to young people's wishes.

#### **STRATEGIES**:

a) creating comparable data and compatible and up-to-date databases on youth mobility.

b) supporting qualitative and quantitative studies in the fields concerned at national and international level.

c) maintaining and reinforcing a dialogue between decision-makers, organisers and beneficiaries of mobility programmes.

# (9) PRINCIPLE: Developing mobility projects enabling each young person's cultural identity to flourish within a common European mould

## **OBJECTIVE**:

To promote an intercultural life without detriment to diversity.

#### STRATEGIES:

a) preparing each individual or collective mobility project in such a way that the encounter with other cultures is experienced as a source of enhancement rather than conflict.

b) developing intercultural learning to combat cases of exclusion and rejection.

c) fostering a better knowledge of history and geography by supporting curricula based on a European approach.

# (10) PRINCIPLE: Making the youth structures of the Council of Europe more operational to take account of the development of mobility in Europe

## **OBJECTIVE**:

To reinforce the structures of the European Youth Centre and European Youth Foundation and increase their resources.

#### STRATEGIES:

a) creating at the EYC a documentation unit and a data and information bank with a view to improving the training of leaders of youth organisations and developing youth research.

b) studying the feasibility of a second European Youth Centre in a Central or East European country, which should notably foster the development of associative life and the training of leaders of youth organisations. This Centre would be of the same nature as the EYC and work in close liaison with the latter. It would be open to all young Europeans and should have an impact on the development of North-South relations.

c) in the framework of the European Youth Foundation, offering an even more efficient structure and increased resources enabling it to give financial support to youth mobility projects.

## APPENDIX III / ANNEXE III

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# LIST OF PARTICIPANTS / LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

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	ETIENNE GROSJEAN	DIRECTEUR GENERAL DE LA CULTURE
	COMMUNAUTE FLAMANDE	
	M WILFRED BELLEMANS	MEMBRE DU CABINET DU MINISTRE DE LA CULTURE FLAMANDE
	MAURICE CHRISTIAENS	MINISTERE DE LA COMMUNAUTE FLAMAND
	JENNY MAXIMUS	REPRESENTANT DES ASSOC DE JEUNES
	COMMUNAUTE GERMANOPHONE	
	M MATHIEU GROSCH	MINISTRE DE LA JEUNESSE DE LA COMMUNAUTE GERMANOPHONE DE BELGIQUE
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	HEINZ-GEORG EVERTZ	CONSEILLER ADJOINT AU MINISTRE

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BELGIQUE	MICHEL HERCKENS	DIRECTION DES AFFAIRES EUROPÉENNES
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	M MICHEL BOUCHAREISSAS	CONSEILLER TECHNIQUE
	MME MARIE RICHARD	DIRECTEUR DE LA JEUNESSE ET DE LA VIE ASSOCIATIVE
	M. JEAN PACHOT	CHEF DE SERVICE, ADJOINT AU DIRECTEUR DE LA JEUNESSE ET DE LA VIE ASSOCIATIVE
	M. JEAN DEROY	CHEF DU DEPARTEMENT DES RELATIONS EXTERIEURS
	M JEAN-MARIE CHARRIEZ	MINISTERE DES AFFAIRES ETRANGERES

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DL <b>OV</b> OS	COMPUTERS DEPT OF GENERAL SECRETARIAT FOR YOUTH
IO ANGELONI	NONCE APOSTOLIQUE
SLAW RYLKO	CHEF DE LA SECTION JEUNESSE DU CONSEIL PONTIFICAL POUR LES LAICS
J M DA MOTA	NONCIATURE DE LISBONNE
SS	MINISTER WITHOUT PORTFOLIO RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUTH
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GESTSSON	MINISTER OF CULTURE AND EDUCATION
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	ANE KRAJEWSKI ED DETTLING

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