

# **NORTH-SOUTH CENTRE / CENTRE NORD-SUD**

**EUROPEAN CENTRE FOR GLOBAL  
INTERDEPENDENCE AND SOLIDARITY  
COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

**CENTRE EUROPÉEN POUR L'INTERDÉPENDANCE  
ET LA SOLIDARITÉ MONDIALES  
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

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## **Annual Report 1999**

**January – December 1999**

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## **2.300 North-South Centre Projects**

### ***2.310 Education***

#### **NSC Project 2.311 (GEN / Campaign / Education)**

“Europe in the World – the World in Europe: The challenge of global education in the era of globalisation” (1999-2001 PoA, page 41)

As part of the Council of Europe Global Solidarity Campaign, an international seminar was held at the European Youth Centre in Budapest (Hungary) from 3 to 5 June 1999. Nearly 80 participants (ministries of education, teachers and NGOs working in the area of global education) from throughout Europe (26 countries in all), as well as from Asia and Africa, discussed the concept of global education and the preparation of a "Europe-wide School Week" scheduled for 15 to 20 November 1999 on the topic "Linking and learning for global change".

The Worldaware Award ceremony also took place during the Budapest meeting (see item 2.411).

The final report of the meeting was drawn up in the summer and is available in English and French; it presents the five Worldaware Award laureates and contains a brief description of other projects which have been submitted for the Award, and it also launches the year 2000 Award.

The education page of the North-South Centre's web site ([www.nscentre.org](http://www.nscentre.org)) is regularly updated and offers internet surfers a whole range of information on the programme's activities.

#### **NSC Project 2.312 (GEN / Campaign / Education)**

Ocean of Ideas (Education programme) – contribution to the Campaign: Europe in the World - the World in Europe: Against Poverty and Social Exclusion. (1999-2001 PoA, page 44)

This project was presented at the Budapest seminar (item 2.311) to the participants, who were asked to encourage the young people they work with to forward their messages to the North-South Centre, which would circulate them initially at the Global Forum for Poverty Eradication, held in Strasbourg from 14 to 16 October 1999. This information has also appeared in the Global Education Special of *The Interdependent*, No. 80, which can be found on the Centre's web site.

Messages from students from Cyprus and Latvia were addressed to the participants of the Forum.

### **NSC Project 2.313 (GEN / Education)**

Eco Global Education pilot project *(1999-2001 PoA, page 45)*

Preliminary research, inter alia on the Internet, has been conducted so as to identify partners. The Centre has established contacts with the Council of Europe's Naturopa Information Centre for the purpose of co-producing a compilation of good practices in the area of environmental education. The Foundation for Environmental Education in Europe (FEEE) would also like to be involved in this project.

## ***2.320 Training***

### **NSC Project 2.321 (GEN / Youth)**

Fifth North-South Training Course for Youth Organisations  
*(1999-2001 PoA, page 46)*

The fifth North-South Training Course took place from 7 to 14 November in the Euro-Latin-American Centre in Molina (CEULAJ), Spain, thanks to the support of the European Union and the Spanish Government. The Centre received over 300 applications for participation in this training course, from which 30 participants from Europe, Latin America, Africa and Asia were selected. The effectiveness of this training course can be assessed on the basis of the effect it has on participants, the number of spin-off projects that result from it and the motivation that the youth organisations might gain to start or continue working on North-South issues. The results are not immediately measurable but are part of a process that can take years to show. The programme of the Course, inspired by the previous editions, proved to be very efficient and was highly appreciated by the participants.

This training course has been established as a permanent feature of the North-South Centre; its quality is improving with every year that passes, and its reputation among youth NGOs worldwide is growing steadily.

The success of this course is very closely connected to the quality of the team of trainers.

### **NSC Project 2.322 (Youth/HR)**

International Workshop on "The Role of Young People in Building Peace"  
*(1999-2001 PoA ADDENDUM, page 2)*

A preparatory meeting was held in Brussels from 13 to 14 March 1999, at the head office of the European Union's Youth Forum. This project is postponed to the year 2000.

## **2.330 Policy Dialogue**

### **NSC project 2.331 (MED / Human rights)**

Citizenship in the Mediterranean (*1999-2001 PoA, page 47*)

The Colloquy on citizenship and human rights in the Mediterranean, which was scheduled to take place in Madrid in mid-November 1999, has been postponed until the year 2000. The Colloquy's objective is to review the situation of citizenship and human rights in the countries of the Mediterranean region (on the European and southern shores of the Mediterranean) with the help of studies and personal experiences. Representatives of governments, parliamentarians, voluntary organisations (women, young people) and human rights organisations will take part in this event. A publication will be produced on this theme. However, as the theme of this colloquy is linked to that of the Lisbon Forum, it seemed logical to merge the project "Citizenship and human rights in the Mediterranean" with the Lisbon Forum, in terms of both the items on the agenda and the participants. The theme of the Colloquy in 2000 will be "Citizenship and education".

### **NSC Project 2.332 (MED / Human rights)**

Contact Group: Reconciliation and Reconstruction in the Middle East  
(*1999-2001 PoA, page 49*)

The Middle East Contact Group meeting, which should have been held in Ramallah at the end of November/beginning of December, was postponed to 10 and 11 February 2000. The members of this group are responsible for drawing up projects on intercultural dialogue, young people and education. The projects will be carried out jointly by Israelis and Palestinians with the support of Europeans and will form part of a "people to people" programme.

### **NSC Project 2.333 (GEN / Youth)**

Second International Roundtable on Youth Policy and Global Interdependence (*1999-2001 PoA, page 50*)

Implementation to be carried out in the year 2000.

### **NSC Project 2.334 (GEN / Human rights)**

Lisbon Forum (*1999-2001 PoA, page 51*)

The Lisbon Forum took place in Lisbon on 29, 30 and 31 October 1999 and discussed "The Present State of Human Rights in the Mediterranean Region". Representatives of governments, parliamentarians, civil society and media from Europe and the southern border of the Mediterranean region were invited to analyse the state of human rights in a constructive way, by emphasising issues such as the human rights dimension in the Israeli-Palestinian issue, women's rights and the importance of civil society.

### **NSC Project 2.335 (AFR, ASI, LAT / Human rights)**

Third workshop on regional human rights protection systems  
(1999-2001 PoA, page 52)

The Third Workshop, scheduled to take place in Strasbourg on 9 and 10 December, in collaboration with the Centre for Justice and International Rights (Washington), the European Court of Human Rights and the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, has now been postponed to October 2000. The following issues are on the agenda: evaluation of the exchanges between the three systems since the Second Workshop; analysis of the reforms undertaken within the three systems since the Second Workshop (i.e. the European Court of Human Rights, future African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights) and specific items (effectiveness, selection and guarantees for independence of the members of the systems, the question of admissibility, the role of non-governmental organisations and civil society in the improvement of the regional systems of human rights protection, the European Social Charter: what progress is there in human rights protection, budget); Recommendations and conclusions: setting up and reinforcement of working relations between the three systems.

### **NSC Project 2.123 (PoA 1997) – Community of Portuguese-speaking countries (CPLP)/Education**

Between April and June 1999, emphasis was placed on reviewing and finalising the project to publish a book on *Global Education in Portuguese-speaking Countries*.

During these three months, the work consisted in updating the list of contacts obtained from the seven member states of the Community of Portuguese-speaking countries (CPLP – Angola, Brazil, Cape Verde, Guinea-Bissau, Mozambique, Portugal and São-Tomé and Príncipe).

The second phase, since August 1999, consisted in preparing the book's overall form (layout, indexes) and translating the texts into French. After revising the texts, the Portuguese version should be ready at the beginning of 2000.

## ***2.340 Advocacy***

### **NSC Project 2.341 (GEN / Human rights)**

Lisbon North-South Prize (1999-2001 PoA, page 53)

28 January 1999: Ceremony for the award of the 1998 North-South Prize to Mrs Graça Machel (Parliamentary Assembly session of the Council of Europe, Strasbourg).

H.E. Youssoufi Abderrahman, Prime Minister of Morocco, and Mrs Emma Bonino, former European Commissioner received the 1999 North-South Prize during an official ceremony which took place at the Portuguese Parliamentary Assembly on 29 October 1999.

## **NSC Project 2.342 (AFR, ASI, LAT / Campaign)**

Various Campaign related activities *(1999-2001 PoA, page 54)*

**The European School Week** on Global Education, which took place between 15 and 20 November 1999, was implemented and had an important impact in half of the member States of the Council of Europe. An on-line update is still available at the main page of the North-South Centre. Some national contacts provided e-mail addresses for the schools participating in the Week, which could be the basis for a network on Global Education schools. Although the Week was targeted primarily at secondary schools in Portugal, it was also tested at the University of Lisbon. So far one evaluation form (from the Bulgarian national contact) has been returned to the North-South Centre.

Please see NSC Project 2.311

### **Civil/Global Fora for Poverty Eradication (14 to 16 October 1999)**

The Global Forum for Poverty Eradication (15 to 16 October), preceded by a Civil Forum was organised at the Council of Europe headquarters in Strasbourg with the support of the governments of the Netherlands and Norway, and the Risho Kosei Kai Fund for Peace of Japan. It was attended by over 300 participants (parliamentarians, government officials, NGOs and media representatives) from over 70 countries in Europe, Africa, Asia and Latin America, making it the largest global event to date organised by the Council of Europe. The United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, UNDP, ILO, the World Bank, the World Trade Organisation and OECD also participated actively.

The Global Forum reached several milestone conclusions and recommendations:

- Firstly, the Global Forum concluded that the existence of extreme poverty is a violation of human rights. The Forum recommended that, along with human rights organisations like 'Amnesty International' which protect and promote civil and political rights, an organisation called 'Dignity International' should be established to promote and protect the social and economic rights of individuals worldwide.
- Secondly, the Forum recognised that there are enough resources in the world to eradicate poverty and that it is necessary to mobilise political will within member States of the Council of Europe, to ensure that governments live up to the various international commitments that they have made.
- Thirdly, the Global Forum called for a shift in strategy at the national, regional and international level, to ensure that those who are directly experiencing poverty and social exclusion become leaders in the movement in a partnership framework to eradicate poverty.

The North-South Centre, together with partner organisations, is now working on the follow-up to the Global Forum, in particular in the area of promoting and protecting social and economic rights.

### **South-East European Forum For Poverty Eradication (10 to 11 December 1999, Sofia)**

As part of the Global Forum process, the Anti-Poverty Information Centre in Bulgaria organised a South-East European Forum for Poverty Eradication in Sofia. The meeting brought together approximately 50 participants from the region to exchange information and research results on the current situation of poverty and social exclusion of the transition and east European countries. A publication based on the information presented at the Forum will soon be available. The Forum was the first meeting of this type of network for poverty eradication. A follow-up meeting with greater involvement of NGOs has been proposed for the year 2000 in Romania.

## **2.400 Partnership Projects**

### ***2.410 Education***

#### **Partnership project 2.411 (GEN / Campaign / Education)**

“Worldaware Award for Global Education”. A partnership project of the Dutch Committee for Sustainable Development Education (NCDO) and the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe (*1999-2001 PoA, page 56*).

Thirty-three project applications were submitted to the North-South Centre, which is more than the number of projects received for the 1999 Award. Part of the projects come from countries who did not submit projects for the 1999 Award and from Central and Eastern Europe. All projects have been forwarded to the jury for screening. Results are expected by mid-January 2000.

NCDO confirmed its funding and the timing of the 2000 Award. KommEnt is also funding the 2000 Worldaware Award for education for global citizenship.

#### **Partnership Project 2.412 (MED / Human rights)**

Education for democratic citizenship – Mediterranean project  
(*1999-2001 PoA, page 61*)

The objective of this project, to be conducted jointly by the North-South Centre and the Palestinian NGO Panorama, is to study the impact of democratic transition in a number of societies in the southern Mediterranean. In a second stage, projects on education for democratic citizenship will need to be drawn up to ensure that this transition takes place in a constructive manner and enables a genuine democratic process to be established. Given its scale, the project cannot be carried out without a financial contribution from the European Commission, which is pending.

### **Partnership Project 2.413 (MED / Education)**

Euro-maghreb co-operation for the strengthening of democracy, education and culture *(1999-2001 PoA, page 63)*

This project is associated with the Parliamentary Assembly's decision to organise a discussion in the Council of Europe between European parliamentarians and representatives of the Moroccan government, Moroccan parliamentarians and prominent figures in civil society. The North-South Centre's contribution concerns the workshop's content and programme.

### **Partnership Project 2.414 (GEN / Education)**

Joint meeting of the Development Education Forum of the Liaison Committee of development NGOs to the European Union and the Global Education Advisory Group *(1999-2001 PoA, page 63)*

The Development Education Forum has been approached to explore co-operation in the preparation of the Summer School (NSC participation in the Steering Committee) and in the Edinburgh Development Education Forum. Initial reaction suggests that there is a need to draft a partnership agreement framework.

### **Partnership Project 2.415/1 (GEN / Education)**

“Special show on Global Education” at Interschul/Didacta '99 (Sonderschau Globales Lernen) *(1999-2001 PoA, page 64)*

This project, initially scheduled for Stuttgart in March 1999, has been postponed until February 2000 and should take place during the Interschul/Didacta 2000 Fair in Cologne. The North-South Centre has offered its co-operation in promoting selected materials and contacts, but was not able to participate in preparatory meetings.

### **Partnership Project 2.415/2 (GEN / Education)**

“Global Education and the impact of school links” *(1999-2001 PoA, page 65)*

The Centre has included a specific School Links focus in the framework of the European School Week. A meeting including LSO (NL), Central Bureau, DEA (UK), CIDAC (Portugal) and the Centre took place in Lisbon on 1 and 2 October to plan activities for 2000, among which an international seminar to be held in the Spring with the support of DG VIII of the European Commission. The Centre has been asked for a contribution of 15.000 Dutch Guilders to secure the participation of Southern partners. The Directorate General of Education, Culture, Youth and Sport, Environment of the Council of Europe was contacted and briefed about the planning.

### **Partnership Project 2.416 (GEN)**

North-South Media Encounters: South-North Prize *(1999-2001 PoA, page 66)*

The North-South Media Encounters took place in Geneva from 3 to 7 May. The South-North Prize, offered by the North-South Centre for the best work by the south on the theme of development, interdependence and solidarity, was awarded to an Algerian project on social problems facing young people.

## ***2.420 Training***

### **Partnership Project 2.421 (MED / Youth)**

Training Course for Youth Organisations on Mediterranean Co-operation *(1999-2001 PoA, page 67)*

This course is organised jointly with the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg in co-operation with DG XXII from the European Commission, the Mediterranean Youth Forum and the European Youth Forum. The course will take place in Strasbourg at the European Youth Centre from 19 to 30 January 2000. The North-South Centre signed the contract with the European Commission in December.

A technical meeting between the then Youth Directorate and the North-South Centre to prepare this project took place on 15 March 1999. A team of trainers has been established, including two European trainers and two trainers from the southern basin of the Mediterranean. Two preparatory meetings for trainers have been organised, one held in Strasbourg on 23 and 24 October and the second held in Beirut in December. The Programme of the course reflects the follow-up to the Peace Cruise as well as the Euro-Arab Youth Dialogue.

### **Partnership Project 2.422 (MED / Youth)**

Peace Cruise *(1999-2001 PoA, page 68)*

This project was organised by the World Scout Organisation in co-operation with the North-South Centre, the European Youth Forum, UNESCO and the European Commission DGXXII. The project was very successful and attracted considerable attention from the media. The "peace sailors" took part in a very intense political and training programme. A number of Peace Events were organised at the different stops of the Cruise. The yacht reached its final destination in Greece on 22 September. A number of follow-up events are foreseen for 2000.

## **2.500 Publications and Information Activities**

### **Publication 2.501 (GEN)**

The Interdependent (*1999-2001 PoA, page 70*)

The Interdependent, the North-South Centre's monthly newsletter, was published throughout the year. Its distribution is of about 10.000 copies. An electronic version is available on the Centre's web site.

### **Publication 2.502 (AFR, ASI, LAT, GEN)**

*Terra Viva monthly (1999-2001 PoA, page 70)*

*Terra Viva monthly* has been published every month of the current year. The February edition included a special dossier on the "Lomé Convention"; in March it featured a special dossier on the "Rights of Children", and in April a special dossier on "Drugs". In May, a special issue on "Conflict Prevention" came out. June focused on "Peace Education", July on "Social Development", and August on "The State of the Environment in the Mediterranean". September's special dossier focused on "Food and Agriculture", October's on "Population", November's on "Poverty Eradication" while December's special dossier highlighted the question of "Human Rights in the Mediterranean". Its distribution is of about 3.000 copies. The North-South Centre and its partner, IPS, are working together on the implementation of an electronic version.

### **Publication 2.503 (GEN)**

North-South Centre information material (*1999-2001 PoA, page 71*)

A postcard for the promotion of the North-South Centre's Internet site was published at the beginning of the year.

### **Publication 2.504 (GEN)**

Activity reports, conference reports and follow-up to activities  
(*1999-2001 PoA, page 71*)

The following were published:

- Intercultural Dialogue: Basis for Euro-Mediterranean Partnership, in English and French.
- Funding sources for North-South Programmes of Youth Organisations, internet version
- Budapest Meeting Report: Linking and Learning for Global Change

### **Publication 2.505 (MED / Education)**

Publication: "Education for Global Citizenship in the Mediterranean"  
(1999-2001 PoA, page 71)

The project outlines have been prepared in detail and will be sent to potential donors for partial voluntary contributions.

### **Publication 2.506 (GEN / Education)**

Publication: "The Portrayal of the "Other" in school textbooks"  
(1999 - 2001 PoA, page 72)

This project will be converted into the "Best Practices Manual on Global Education" for the year 2000.

### **Publication 2.507 (GEN / Human rights)**

Publication on best practices for confidence building among young people in former and current conflict areas (1999-2001 PoA, page 73)

This publication is linked with the conclusions of NSC Project 2.322.

### **Publication / Information project 2.508 (GEN)**

The North-South Centre on-line (1999-2001 PoA, page 74)

After existing for one year, the North-South Centre's web site is in an evaluation and up-dating phase, aimed at continuously proposing quality information. A selection of sites specialising in the same working areas as the North-South Centre is also in preparation. In addition to these up-dating actions, a log file was installed in the Centre's server, allowing the Centre to have precise information on the consultation of its web pages.

### **Publication 2.509 (Human rights) *New to PoA 1999-2001***

"The Present State of Human Rights in Africa", 1998 Lisbon Forum meeting

## **2.600 Documentation and Data Bases**

### **Project 2.601/1 (GEN)**

The data base of the Documentation Centre (1999-2001 PoA, page 75)

With the aim of improving the management of documents available in the Documentation Centre, the North-South Centre foresees the purchase of a documentary data base, during the second half of the year 2000. The purchase of this software log file depends on the funds available.

### **Project 2.601/2 (GEN)**

Data base on NGOs involved in sustainable development  
(1999-2001 PoA, page 76)

Euforic, in collaboration with the European Centre for Development Policy Management (ECDPM), the OECD Development Centre, the Liaison Committee of Development NGOs to the European Union, One World Europe, the International Cooperation for Development and Solidarity and the North-South Centre, has launched a pilot project to create an on-line service on the Centre's web site providing information on the main actors in the field of international co-operation in Europe. All partners are invited to contribute to the development of this communal data base.

### **Project 2.602 (GEN)**

Acquisitions of the Documentation Centre (1999-2001 PoA, page 76)

It is still with the aim of helping programme co-ordinators develop their activities that reference documents should be purchased. The Documentation Centre has already purchased, in 1999, many publications in order to respond to these precise needs.

## **2.700 Tutorship and Placement of Trainees**

Six trainees worked with the Centre in 1999.

## **2.800 Statutory Meetings and Activities**

### **2.810 Executive Council Meetings (1999-2001 PoA, page 78)**

Spring meeting: 28 May, Strasbourg.  
Autumn meeting: 30 October, Lisbon. In conjunction with the Lisbon Forum and the North-South Prize.

### **2.820 Bureau Meetings (1999-2001 PoA, page 79)**

Spring meeting: 13 September 1999 in Strasbourg.  
Autumn meeting: 30 October 1999 in Lisbon.

### **2.830 Meetings of the Committee of Representatives of the Member States (1999-2001 PoA, page 80)**

Spring Meeting: 23 April in Santiago de Compostella, Spain, following an invitation of the Spanish Permanent Representation to the Council of Europe and the "Xunta" de Galicia, and in Strasbourg on 27 May.

Autumn Meeting: 11 October in Strasbourg.