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Outline of the adult education programme
adopted by the
Committee on Out-of-school Education
at its first meeting (20th - 23rd March 1962)



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OUT-OF-SCHOOL EDUCATION PROPER

It emerged that in the sphere of out-of-school education the signatories of the European Cultural Convention, or at any rate most of them, had many problems in common.

These problems, which could be taken as the broad headings of a work programme, are enumerated below, followed in each case by initial measures relating to them directly or indirectly, in part or in whole.

- I. The need to raise the prestige of adult education so that it is regarded as an integral part of the educational system with as valid a claim on public esteem, funds and attention as academic education or occupational training.
- II. The need to secure recognition of the principle of financing adult education from public funds with a minimum of control over its courses and methods.
- III. The shortage of adult education instructors with suitable academic and personal qualifications.
- IV. The need for sociological and pedagogical research into the nature and extent of adult education requirements and the best means of attracting and educating adults whose education is incomplete.
- V. The need to provide adult education premises either by erecting special buildings or by adapting premises used for other purposes.
- VI. The need to counteract the debasing influence of certain types of mass entertainment and publicity.
 - (1) the role of television in adult education
 - (2) the use of leisure
- VII. The need to educate the public in European citizenship and foster a consciousness of Europe's cultural unity (European civic education).
- VIII. Adult education in social responsibilities
- IX. Need for the intensification in certain countries of the campaign against illiteracy.