



Education Newsletter



Editorial

Autumn is with us and the Education Newsletter, attuned to the changing seasons, has cast away the green of springtime and assumed more russet tones. Judging by the reactions received by the Education Directorate, the Newsletter's new format and our recent special issue on "Remembrance" have met with widespread approval. This success has strengthened our commitment to keep you regularly informed of our many and various activities.

The Newsletter is not alone in changing colours. The Ministerial Conference that launched the celebrations to mark the 50th Anniversary of the European Cultural Convention was held in December 2004 in Wroclaw under the red and white banner of the Polish Chairmanship of the Council of Europe's Committee of Ministers. The Conference signalling the close of those celebrations will be held in Faro on 27 and 28 October and swathed in the green and red of Portugal.

In their Declaration at Wroclaw, the Ministers responsible for culture, education, youth and sport recognised and reaffirmed the importance of the original political objectives of the Cultural Convention and set out "Lines of action for a Europe without dividing lines", in which they emphasised the need "to promote dialogue and harmony between Europe and its global environment". They recommended, inter alia, taking action aimed at empowering individuals to act as responsible citizens in their

...(continued page 2)



The European Year of Citizenship through Education within the Council of Europe

Bringing up democratic citizens cannot be done by schools alone. Families, NGOs, media, governments and parliaments – all have a role to play. From the very beginning of the "Year", the Council of Europe has taken a view that all relevant actors should be brought together in the framework of this initiative.

...(continued page 3)

History Teaching activities of the Council of Europe in Cyprus

The Council of Europe started its work on history teaching in Cyprus in 2003 on the initiative of the Secretary General and with the agreement of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus. Since then five activities have been organised, among these, seminars, workshops and

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daily lives and promoting intercultural and religious dialogue, and stressed the right to education as a means for fighting exclusion and building equitable societies. These priorities were echoed at the Council of Europe's Third Summit in Warsaw, 16 and 17 May 2005, at which the Heads of State and Government declared their resolve "to strengthen the cohesion of our societies in its social, educational, health and cultural dimensions". In their corresponding Action Plan, they pledged to make full use of the opportunity to raise public awareness of European standards and values promoted by the "European Year of Citizenship through Education", to build on the work being done on the recognition of diplomas and qualifications and language education, and to encourage the training of educators in the fields of education for democratic citizenship, human rights, history and intercultural education.

The importance here is being placed on transversality. Democratic citizenship, knowledge of languages and history, permeate life in school and out of it. As well as being subjects in themselves, they teach individuals about the other, they encourage tolerance and understanding, they open our eyes to new visions of the world and its inhabitants. They can play a vital role in helping us to decentre and take a new perspective on other people and other cultures.

The truth of this is demonstrated in this issue. The success of the Black Sea Teaching Pack in establishing intercultural dialogue in the Caucasus has already been widely recognised and it is now drawing interest as a possible model for history education in Cyprus. The Year of Citizenship through Education has stimulated intersectoral co-operation and highlighted the fact that education is not something that can be treated in isolation from other aspects of society. New work on the language(s) of education will contribute to building social cohesion, and the Council's long-standing work on the recognition of qualifications will facilitate the mobility of students throughout Europe.

As part of the celebrations marking the 50th Anniversary of the Cultural Convention, the Council of Europe, the French Ministry of Culture and Communication and the City of Strasbourg recently organised a colloquium on "European Culture: Identity and Diversity", at which intellectuals from all over Europe discussed such themes as mutual respect between cultures, the emergence of new cultural communities and culture as a form of coherence. Culture and education are inseparable allies in our efforts to foster agile minds that will not accept blanket dogmas and facile demagogic "solutions" to complex issues.

If dialogue is genuinely the road to empathic understanding, even though it may be a long and arduous one, the Faro Conference is aptly titled: "Intercultural Dialogue: The Way Ahead". It is our duty not only to listen to one another, but to talk about difficult issues, explain our fundamental values and be open to the views, beliefs and practices of others. The challenge for educators is to work together in a transversal approach that supports learners in developing the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to act as mediators between different cultures.

Like the different cultures of Europe, the colours of autumn are many and beautiful. But when they come together and enhance one another, their beauty turns to splendour.

The European Year of Citizenship through Education within the Council of Europe (*continued*)

While the organisation of the “Year” is coordinated by the Division for Citizenship and Human Rights Education, a wide range of activities contributing to the objectives of the “Year” is being organised by other Council of Europe departments throughout 2005. Here are some examples of such activities:

- A conference on “Higher Education Governance: between democratic



culture, academic aspirations and market forces” was organised on 22-23 September 2005 by the Directorate of Education. The aim of the conference was to share information, to define priorities for future work and to develop a concrete input for the Bologna Ministerial Conference to take place in 2007.

- Three training modules on European citizenship have been organized by the Directorate of Youth and Sport. The aim of the training modules was to support the professional development of youth workers and youth leaders by extending their competencies to integrate elements of European citizenship within their projects and practice and support their role as multipliers with young people.
- Substantial funding has been made available for youth projects devoted to citizenship and human rights education by the European Youth Foundation. The aim of the Foundation is to encourage co-operation among young people in Europe.
- This year’s Council of Europe “Young Active Citizens Awards” will focus on concrete examples of educational methods and tools which are used for promoting young people’s active citizenship, and raise awareness of European citizenship.
- An updated version of the study on “Heritage Education and Democratic Citizenship” will be published by the Directorate of Culture before the end of 2005. This study will discuss possible contribution of heritage education to the formation and

development of social cohesion and citizenship, and make suggestions for future action.

- A Guide on indicators of social cohesion, giving high priority to citizenship and education, is being produced by the Directorate General of Social Cohesion.
- The Council of Europe Information Centre in Albania organised a campaign “Your Vote – Our Citizenship”, in co-operation with the Embassy of the United Kingdom in Albania and the Albanian Youth Parliament. Following a special class on understanding and exercising democracy and citizenship, forty thousand schoolchildren were invited to write a message to their parents on a special post-card, asking them to participate in elections and to contribute to build their citizenship of tomorrow.

Overall, the “Year” has been successful in bringing together various actors and creating links between related initiatives. It is now important to build on these achievements.

Further information about the activities organised in the framework of the European Year of Citizenship through Education is available on our website at the following address:
<http://www.coe.int/eyce>.



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History Teaching activities of the Council of Europe in Cyprus (*continued*)

meetings of experts which brought together about 500 participants from different communities reflecting the fact that Cyprus is multicultural. The first seminar was organised in co-operation with the Cyprus JW Fulbright Commission while the other activities were implemented with the help of a non-governmental body: the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research which is made up of history educators from the whole of Cyprus.

The activities provided an opportunity for an exchange of views on the preparation of new teaching materials as well as on teacher-training issues. As one of the main challenges of education today in Europe concerns teaching about diversity, one of the main goals was to supply the participants with information on such practical approaches in teaching history as multiperspectivity. This approach is reflected in the Recommendation Rec(2001)15 on history teaching in twenty-first-century Europe adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 31 October 2001.

As a follow-up to the above-mentioned activities, the Council of Europe financed the publication on *Multiperspectivity in teaching and learning history* based on the discussions held in Cyprus. This booklet was published in English, Greek and Turkish and was disseminated in all 1200 schools in Cyprus. It contains practical methodological information which could be used by teachers in their everyday classroom practice.

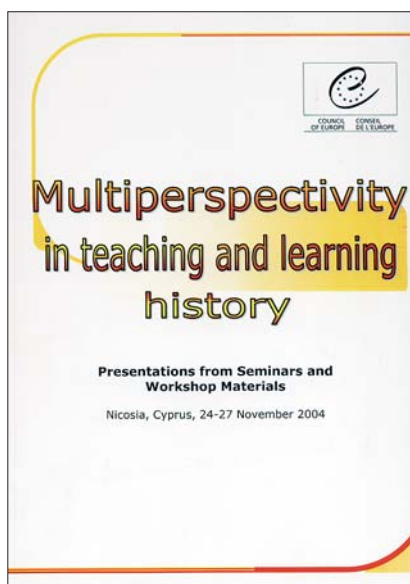
The participants emphasised the importance of continuing the activities on history teaching initiated by the Council of Europe as there is neither special initial nor in-service training for history teachers in Cyprus and there is an urgent need for supplementary teaching materials which could be used by different communities throughout Cyprus.

It was pointed out that the Council of Europe is the only organisation which has built up considerable experience in teaching history when working in different parts of

Europe, including in countries in conflict, and that these experiences could be of a great help for history educators in Cyprus.

Following this request, the first meeting of experts to discuss the preparation of a pedagogical set was organised in Nicosia in June 2005. Participants greatly appreciated the results achieved by the Council of Europe in regional co-operation, aimed at the development of new approaches in teaching the history of neighbouring countries on the basis of mutual respect and tolerance and which are reflected in the Black Sea Teaching Pack. They pointed out that it would be useful to have similar teaching materials for Cypriot schools and proposed to start the preparation, under the auspices of the Council of Europe, of a set of pedagogical materials on historical issues which reflect the past of Cyprus as a whole and which will be based on social, economic, cultural and everyday history. They were convinced that such supplementary teaching tools will help to strengthen the reconciliation process and equip young people with new competencies for life in the present-day multicultural context. History teaching activities of the Council of Europe in Cyprus will be continued in November 2005. This time the Workshops on "The use of sources in teaching and learning history" will bring

together 120 Cypriot history educators to discuss such important issues as the use of textual and visual historical sources, how to select different historical sources and provide effective learning in history, how to use sources in a process-oriented concept of history teaching.



Translated into Greek and Turkish



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European Centre for Modern Languages turns 10!

The European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML) celebrated its 10th anniversary on 16 September 2005. The Centre, a Partial Agreement with 33 member states based in Graz, Austria, is a pan-European platform to promote language education in Europe.

Aims and activities

The ECML's mission is to encourage excellence and innovation in language teaching and to help Europeans learn languages more efficiently. In a message to the Centre, Council of Europe Secretary General Terry Davis congratulated the ECML on its "valuable contribution to ensuring that the language policies and instruments developed by the experts are transmitted to the people who count the most: the language teachers and language learners of Europe".

The hallmark of the ECML is the organisation of international language education projects. Run by international teams of experts, these projects primarily target teacher trainers, researchers and key multipliers in the field. The projects essentially aim at raising awareness on critical issues and at providing training to language education practitioners and facilitating networks of specialists. Workshops bring together participants nominated by the 33 member states to work on common approaches to mutual problems.

The Centre's projects are organised in the framework of a medium-term programme. The current one (2004-2007) groups 22 activities under the title *Languages for social cohesion*

– *language education in a multilingual and multicultural Europe.*

The ECML's work gives rise to tangible outcomes designed to be of practical use to language teachers, administrators and curriculum developers alike. In its short lifetime, the Centre has published some 40 books and CD-Roms, all of which are available free of charge to the general public.

Europe's work on language education for over 35 years. Dr Trim, who received the Council of Europe's *Pro Merito* medal from the Deputy Secretary General, has donated to the ECML his collection of books and documents relating to his lifetime's work. Dr Trim inaugurated this collection in the ECML's Documentation and Resource Centre.



On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the ECML, John Trim received the "Pro Merito" Medal from the Council of Europe Deputy Secretary General

Further information may be found on the Centre's website: <http://www.ecml.at>

The anniversary ceremony, 16 September 2005

The ECML marked its anniversary with a ceremony in Graz attended by Council of Europe Deputy Secretary General Maud de Boer-Buquicchio.

The ceremony was also the occasion to salute the work of John Trim, who has contributed to the Council of



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Policies and Standards in Language(s) of School Education

The Language Policy Division in Strasbourg is launching a new activity with a view to promoting social cohesion in the follow-up to the 3rd Summit of Heads of State and Government. It is concerned with the development of effective reading and writing skills in the language(s) of instruction which are essential for successful learning across the whole curriculum.

The project will analyse and define approaches to curricula for language(s) of school education, taking into account the language skills needed for study across the curriculum; it will also examine possible links with learning, teaching and assessment in foreign (and other) languages in order to promote a coherent approach to language education.

The results are expected to lead to proposals for a common instrument offering benchmarks for describing and assessing competence in the language(s) of school education. A further outcome will include possible policy strategies and variations in curricula for language(s) of school education so as to cater for the specific needs of disadvantaged native speakers and non-native speakers, such as minorities and migrants.

The Steering Committee for Education has given its approval for preliminary work and it is expected that the project will be developed within the next medium-term programme (2006 – 2009) as part of a wider interrelated programme on language policies and standards.

Planned events:

- Seminar, Strasbourg
21-23 November 2005
- International Conference
“Towards a Common European Framework of Reference for Languages of School Education?”,
Kraków, Poland,
26-29 April 2006

For further information:

<http://www.coe.int/lang/>



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New joint programme for the Russian Federation

A new Joint Programme between the Council of Europe/European Commission and the Russian Federation became operational at the beginning of 2005. This two-year programme was designed to enhance co-operation between the Council of Europe and the Russian Federation in various fields: human rights, legal reform, penitentiary reform, etc. The projects in the field of education development have become a stable part of the Joint Programmes as well.

In particular, the initialisation of this Joint Programme allowed the implementation of new cross-sectoral projects on inter-cultural and inter-faith dialogue through education. The project covers various subjects in

order to develop policy guidelines for management of cultural, linguistic and religious diversity through education

development of skills which would enable children to live together in a multi-ethnic and a multi-cultural



The Minister, Ms Feodosia Gabysheva, welcomes the participants to the seminar, Yakutsk Airport

since it is at school that children learn about culture, history and the beliefs of different people. The

society is a very important issue for any modern society, including that of the Russian Federation.

New joint programme for the Russian Federation *(continued)*



Visit to a school in Yakutsk

In autumn 2005 seminars on language policy and teaching of world religions at school were held in Vladivostok (September) and Elista (October)

Some of the complementary activities were made possible thanks to a generous grant received from the Dutch Foreign Ministry (Matra).



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Management of cultural and religious diversity through education, 20-27 June 2005, St Petersburg

For Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education (EDC/HRE), the project covers areas such as multiperspectivity in teaching history and language policy, and is looking into the possibility of teaching the history of world religions.

The launching conference took place in Yakutsk on 19-20 May 2005 and brought together some 120 participants representing more than 20 regions from the Russian Federation, as well as experts from Germany, The Netherlands, Switzerland, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. Since then thematic activities have taken place in Pyatigorsk and St. Petersburg.



*Blessing of the seminar
at the Bank of Lena River*



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The joint project of the European Commission and the Council of Europe “Modernising Management and Governance Capacities of Universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina” August 2003 – October 2005



Final Conference, Sarajevo, 14-15 September 2005

The Bologna process that Bosnia and Herzegovina joined in September 2003 serves as the framework for reforms across Europe to ensure competitiveness of European higher education on a world scale.

In Bosnia and Herzegovina far-reaching reforms lie ahead. The Council of Europe and the European Commission therefore decided to assist Bosnia and Herzegovina in this process by launching a large-scale, two year project: “Modernising Management and Governance Capacities of Universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina”.

As a first step, Institutional Reviews were carried out for each university in Bosnia and Herzegovina together with the European University Association. These peer reviews resulted in a cross-cutting analysis of the current state of universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in recommendations for priorities in the transformation process.

In a second step, these recommendations led to a series of support measures to develop tools and institutions for the implementation of the reform:

- the establishment of a Bosnia and Herzegovina Rectors’ Conference in Spring 2005, an independent umbrella organisation of all Bosnia and Herzegovina universities;
- the development of a prototype statute for Bosnia and Herzegovina universities in accordance with European Trends and the pending legal provision for the integration of universities to become one legal body. All universities endorsed the final product in June 2005;
- a series of training sessions for managers and staff from all Bosnia and Herzegovina universities, on issues related to institutional management in preparation of a comprehensive institutional development strategy;
- the establishment of the future Bosnia and Herzegovina National

Information office (ENIC) in June 2005, an office providing relevant information for the recognition of qualifications from Bosnia and Herzegovina and abroad.

The Final Conference for the project was held in Sarajevo from 14-15 September 2005 and included all the main stakeholders in Higher Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina (<http://www.coe.ba>). A follow-up Council of Europe-European Commission project is expected, an opportunity to build upon the successes of this work and to ensure that Bosnia and Herzegovina will be an integral member of the European family.



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The Council of Europe launches the South Eastern Europe ENIC/NARIC network

Fair recognition of qualifications is a growing concern as students and professionals increasingly study and work abroad. The Council of Europe-UNESCO Lisbon Recognition Convention addresses this very issue by foreseeing the establishment of an ENIC (National Information Centre) to facilitate the recognition of degrees and qualifications in each of the signatory countries.

In South East Europe (SEE), the need to facilitate recognition of qualifications is of particular importance. Many young people from SEE wish to return to their home countries with foreign qualifications or to study abroad. Experience has shown that this process, however, is not as easy as it should be. This is why in May 2005, the CoE and the Ministry of Civil Affairs, with assistance from the Austrian Government, launched the First Regional Seminar of National Information Centres on Academic Mobility and Recognition in Mostar from 31 May – 1 June 2005. The seminar brought the centres together for the first time and provided a valuable impulse to further regional networking. Reactions from the participants, ministries and the press



ENIC seminar participants in Mostar

were extremely positive and a request was made for continuation of this initiative.

The Council of Europe therefore launched a series of training seminars in Sarajevo during the summer of 2005, starting with the First Regional Training Course for the South Eastern European ENIC/NARIC Network. The course design follows the training priorities identified at the Mostar Conference in May and the Directors of the Slovenian and Estonian ENICs provided expertise. A second training seminar was organised later in the summer as well as a study visit for the BiH ENIC team to Estonia and Finland. These activities

are sponsored jointly by the CoE and the European Commission within the context of a two year project supporting higher education reforms.

In addition to the technical expertise, the Council of Europe will continue to facilitate dialogue on recognition issues at the ministerial level. In April 2004, at the Informal Meeting of Ministers of Education of Former Yugoslavia in Istanbul, the Ministers decided that one of their priorities was to support co-operation between the ENICs in the region.

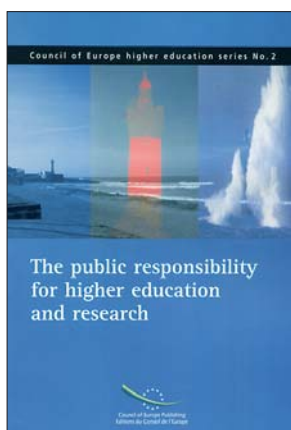
The next Ministerial Conference, tentatively scheduled to be held in the first half of 2006, will also be an opportunity to ensure that these initiatives are fully supported at the highest level, thereby maximising the opportunities for the young people of South East Europe.



"Stari Most", the Old Bridge of Mostar rebuilt after the war and inaugurated in July 2004.

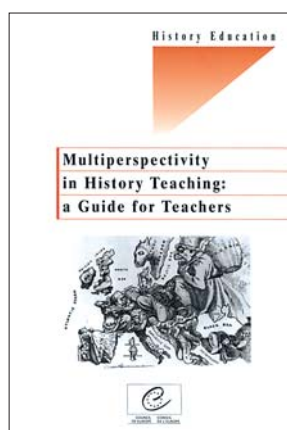
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Books in brief



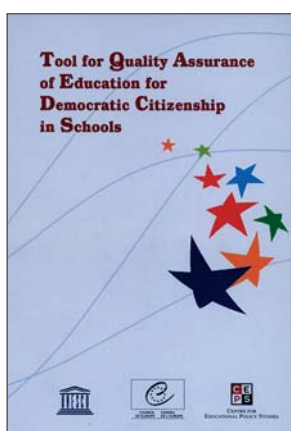
The Public Responsibility for Higher Education and Research

Luc Weber
and Sjur Bergan (eds.):
(Strasbourg 2005:
Council of Europe Publishing:
Council of Europe Higher
Education Series, vol. 2,
ISBN 92-871-5679-4.



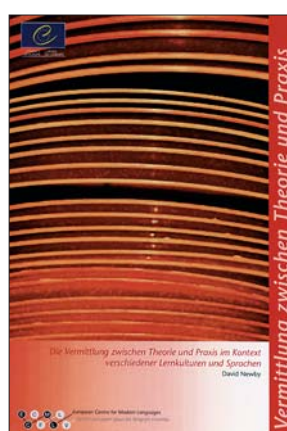
Multiperspectivity in History Teaching: a Guide for Teachers

Robert Stradling, (translated
into Albanian, Bosnian,
Bulgarian, Croatian, French,
Greek, Macedonian,
Romanian, Russian, Serbian,
Slovenian, Turkish,
Ukrainian and Arab)



Tool for Quality Assurance of Education for Democratic Citizenship in Schools

Drafted by UNESCO, Council
of Europe and
Centre for Educational Policy
Studies (CEPS) -
(English available
without ISBN)



Die Vermittlung zwischen Theorie und Praxis im Kontext verschiedener Lernkulturen und Sprachen

Newby, David, Europäisches
Fremdsprachenzentrum,
Europarat in Kooperation mit
dem Österreichischen Sprachen-
Kompetenz-Zentrum (ÖSZ)
und dem Bundesministerium für
Bildung, Wissenschaft und
Kultur, 2005,
ISBN 3-85031-040-X
(the English version was
published in 2003)

Mediating between theory and practice in the context of different learning cultures and languages

Newby, David, European Centre for Modern Languages, Council of Europe, 2003, ISBN 92-871-5270-5.

Online:e-book and abstract <http://www.ecml.at/doccentre/abstract.asp?r=44&l=e>

Flash info

Conference on the Bologna Process: European Higher Education Policies and Reform, (Baku, Azerbaijan, 20 – 21 April 2005)

Organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Education of Azerbaijan, this seminar brought together international experts, representatives of the Ministry of Education, including the Deputy Minister Mr. Elmar Qasimov, and of higher education institutions. It was intended to support the preparation of the implementation of the key policies of the EHEA in Azerbaijan following this country's expected accession to the Bologna Process in May 2005.

The conference provided participants with a solid overview of the main elements of the Bologna Process and allowed ample opportunities for discussion. This was followed by a one-day seminar on 22 April on the recognition of qualifications for representatives of the Ministry of Education of Azerbaijan to help improve the recognition of foreign qualifications by giving an overview of the international legal framework for the recognition of qualifications, the role of national information centres and the ENIC Network and an overview of current best international practice.

From 30 May - 1 June the **Regional ENIC Conference** sponsored jointly by the Council of Europe and the Ministry of Civil Affairs, with support from the Austrian Government, took place in Mostar. Directors of National Information Centres from ex-Yugoslavia and university representatives from BiH met to discuss increasing co-operation among the Centres on a regional level with a view to facilitating recognition of degrees and qualifications. A joint statement for future co-operation was adopted by the participants, an initiative which should be the basis for future regional co-operation in this area.

From 2 to 4 June, Brčko, the Council of Europe team of EDC experts held three consecutive seminars with the **teachers of children's rights** in the Republika Srpska, the **Practicum Development Group** and a group of 40 pilot series secondary school teachers testing **the practicum portfolio**.

Seminar on the pilot project for a manual to "Link language examinations to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages", Strasbourg, 9 - 10 June 2005

There is a great deal to be gained from calibrating diplomas with the common scale; in order to ensure that calibrations are reliable, the Language Policy Division has produced a manual setting out a series of procedures together with DVDs and CD-Roms illustrating the six levels of the CEFR in several languages. The meeting enabled the participants to see how far the pilot project



had come and establish a synergy between the various teams. A discussion was also held on a policy regarding the validation of calibrations of diplomas.

From 10-11 June, Neum –The **prototype statute for integrated BiH universities** was finalised and endorsed by the drafting group members at the fifth and last workshop held in the framework of the joint European Commission/Council of Europe higher education project.

The drafting group also issued a statement, calling upon all relevant stakeholders in Bosnia and Herzegovina to provide the necessary framework conditions to implement Bosnia and Herzegovina's obligations in the Bologna Process and to integrate Bosnia and Herzegovina's universities in the European Higher Education Area.

Annual meeting of the ENIC/ NARIC network, 12 - 14 June, Dublin

The objective of the annual joint meeting of the ENIC and NARIC Networks was to review developments in the recognition of higher education qualifications, in particular the implementation of the Council of Europe/UNESCO Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region (ETS 165) and recognition policies in the context of the Bologna Process aiming to establish a European Higher Education Area by 2010.

Mr Yves Beaudin (Canada) was elected President and Ms Carmel Kelly (Ireland) and Ms Nadežda Uzelac ("the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia") were elected Vice Presidents of the ENIC Network.

The next ENIC/NARIC annual meeting will take place in Tallinn in June 2006.

Teacher training

One of the aims of the 2005 European Year of Citizenship through Education of the Council of Europe is a framework and tools for teacher training in EDC/HRE. From 15 to 17 June 2005 in Strasbourg, teacher trainers from nearly all member states participated in a Conference on this subject.

The participants discussed what support structures and mechanisms are needed for putting effective EDC/HRE teacher training into practice, and made proposals for a Council of Europe strategy on teacher/trainer training in EDC/HRE. Particular attention was paid to the teacher competences and roles needed to promote participatory learning. The results of the Conference will be a major



Conference on Teacher Training, Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Council of Europe Director General of Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport and Ms Mady Delvaux-Stehres, Luxembourg's Minister for Education and Vocational Training

contribution to the 4th Prague Forum (21-23 November 2005)¹, which will be devoted to key competencies of teachers.

More information on the Council of Europe activities
in the field of Higher Education
<http://www.coe.int/higher-education>

Luxembourg, 20 - 25 June 2005: 1st visit by the Council of Europe experts with a view to preparing a **"Language Education Policy Profile" for Luxembourg**, in co-operation with a team of national experts. The visit was preceded by a national report and will be followed by a roundtable discussion on the experts' report in December 2005.

On 23 June, East Sarajevo – A **meeting of all the Rectors of Bosnia and Herzegovina** was convened by the CoE to discuss the joint European Commission/Council of Europe project and suggestions for the future project. The Rectors expressed their appreciation of the efforts of the Council in the field of higher education and gave their support to a follow-up project.

On 23 June, Sarajevo – A meeting between the **OSCE Head of Mission and the Council of Europe Director**

of Education and staff was held to discuss the positive co-operation between the two organisations in education and priorities for the future.

23-25 June 2005, Graz, Austria – Workshop 3/2005 **"Linguistic diversity and literacy (LDL) in a global perspective. A comparative look at practice in countries of Europe and Africa"**

On 24 June, Sarajevo – the Council of Europe Director of Education met with the **four Education Ministers** who are part of the Co-ordination Body of the Conference of Education Ministers. The Ministers agreed that meetings of all 14 Ministers of Education should be convened by the Bosnia and Herzegovina Ministry, the Ministry of Civil Affairs.

From 24 to 25 June, Sarajevo, the **Final Evaluation and Review of the Programmes for Education for Democratic Citizenship** undertaken in co-operation with the European Commission and the education authorities in Bosnia and Herzegovina was held. The results of the programme materialised in the teacher's books produced for teachers of children's rights, and primary and secondary school teachers of Democracy and Human Rights were promoted and praised by the teachers who tested them in schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Representatives of Ministries of Education of Serbia, Montenegro and Kosovo as well as representatives from the International Community also participated.

1. The Prague Forum is a high level debate by senior officials on education policies in the Council of Europe member states. The Forum is organised at regular intervals. The latest Prague Forum was held in 2003 and focused on the issue of quality assurance in education.

Meeting on “Policies and common standards for languages of instruction/national languages”, Strasbourg, 28-29 June 2005

A number of experts who are responsible for the curricula for teaching the language(s) of instruction or who are active in the international networks in the field met to identify objectives, studies to be commissioned and language, tools to be developed. A draft proposal was prepared for approval by the Steering Committee for Education.

On 1 July, Sarajevo – the Council of Europe and the Ministry of Civil Affairs convened the bi-monthly Higher Education Working Group/**Bologna Committee for Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH)** in the BiH Parliament. Participants discussed Bologna reforms within BiH, in particular quality assurance, and how they could be implemented within BiH.

Expert meeting on the Romani language, Strasbourg, 4 - 5 July 2005

An Authoring Group began to outline a reference framework for school curricula in the Romani language and agreed on a schedule of work to be done by the following meeting in November.

From 3 to 8 August, Skopje, “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (fYRoM) – Bosnia and Herzegovina and Serbia and Montenegro (SCG) Education Project Managers conducted an **EDC Fact-Finding Mission to Skopje**, fYRoM. This visit was used to make a comparison of the development of EDC in the countries that recently completed the joint programmes run by the European Commission and the Council of Europe. Representatives of EDC experts from BiH, SCG and fYRoM were also present at the team-building session for EDC experts in the region. This session resulted in a report on the shared interest among the EDC experts to prepare joint strategy guidelines on the introduction and development of EDC in schools in the region.

Regional ENIC Training Course, Sarajevo, 15/16 and 25/26 August 2005

In August 2005 the Council of Europe held the first regional training course for the South Eastern European ENIC/NARIC Network in Sarajevo, sponsored jointly by the Council of Europe and the European Commission.

The course design followed the training priorities identified at the first regional ENIC/NARIC Conference in Mostar on 31 May 2005.

The main objectives were:

- to improve the functioning of National Information Centres in South East Europe;

- to improve their integration into the ENIC Network (European Network of National Information Centres on academic mobility and recognition);
- to improve networking between information centres in the region;
- to integrate the newly established Bosnia and Herzegovina ENIC;
- to introduce Bosnia and Herzegovina universities to the ENIC concept and mission.

From 21 to 24 August, Tallinn, Helsinki – The **future BiH ENIC staff** (3 persons), accompanied by the Higher Education project officer, visited the ENIC/NARIC offices in Estonia and Finland as a part of their preparatory training to assume future tasks related to the recognition of academic qualification.

Throughout July and August discussions were held with the European Commission delegation in Bosnia and Herzegovina on the contents of a future joint European Commission/Council of Europe project in Higher Education in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Visit the new Council of Europe office in Bosnia and Herzegovina's new website: <http://www.coe.ba/>

14-15 September, Sarajevo. The final conference '**Higher Education Governance and Reform in Bosnia and Herzegovina**' was held, capping the end of the two-year joint Council of Europe/European Commission project “Modernising the Management and Governance Capacities of Universities in Bosnia and Herzegovina”. The conference was designed to offer a platform for review of the work and achievements of the joint project, and to present them to a broader public. The event also provided the opportunity to outline next steps for South Eastern Europe's integration into the European Higher Education Area, and to bring together representatives of local and international institutions and organisations and other stakeholders in Higher Education

15-16 September, Sarajevo. Visit of Council of Europe language experts to discuss future activities to implement the **new modernised curricula for foreign languages**.

19 September 2005, Higher Education Working Group/**Bologna Committee for Bosnia and Herzegovina**, co-chaired by the Council of Europe and the Ministry of Civil Affairs, Banja Luka. Focus was given on Bologna reforms at Banja Luka University.

Calendar of events - non exhaustive

September

- 1-3, Helsinki Participation in the Conference
"Bi-and multilingual universities challenges
and future prospects"
Contact: Joe Sheils
-
- 5, Vladivostock Education and management of diversity
Contact: Gennadiy Kosyak
-
- 16-17, Graz Workshop 4/2005 "Central event to celebrate
the 10th Anniversary of the ECML"
Contact: Adrian Butler
-
- 22-23, Strasbourg Council of Europe Forum
on Higher Education Governance
Contact: Sjur Bergan
-
- 26-27, Paris Seminar on "Linguistic and occupational
integration of adult migrant in Europe" with
DGLFLF (*General delegation for the French
language and the languages of France*), Ministry
of Culture and Communication.
Contact: Joe Sheils
-
- 28, Strasbourg Meeting of the CDESR Bureau
Contact: Sjur Bergan
-
- 29-30, Strasbourg CDESR Plenary session,
Contact : Sjur Bergan
-
- 29 Sept. -1 Oct.,
Moscow Annual Seminar on the European
Language Portfolio
Contact: Joe Sheils
-
- Banja Luka, BiH
(dates to be confirmed), Seminar for trainers and teachers in
co-operation with OSCE on the new Core
Curriculum for Modern Languages
Contact: Joe Sheils

October ...

- 5, Strasbourg, Meeting of the Council of Europe Expert
Group to discuss the first draft report with a
view to preparing a "Language Education Policy
Profile" for Slovakia.
Contact: Joe Sheils

October (continued)

- 6, Strasbourg Meeting of Council of Europe Expert Group
and members of the Luxembourg team of experts
to discuss the first draft report with a view to
preparing a "Language Education Policy Profile"
for Luxembourg
Contact: Joe Sheils
-
- 6-8, United Kingdom Regional event "A Training Guide for Quality
Assurance" (QualiTraining)
Contact: Adrian Butler
-
- 10-11, Elista Conference on "Management of cultural
and linguistic diversity through education"
Contact: Gennadiy Kosyak
-
- 10-15, Dublin First visit by the Council of Europe Expert
Group with a view to preparing a "Language
Education Policy Profile" for Ireland in
co-operation with a team of national experts.
Contact: Joe Sheils
-
- 12-13, Manchester Meeting of the Bologna Follow-Up Group
Contact: Sjur Bergan
-
- 14-15, Nalchik Conference on "Management of cultural and
religious diversity through education"
Contact: Gennadiy Kosyak
-
- Serbia
(dates to be confirmed) Regional Bologna seminar
for the south-east of Europe
Contact: Sjur Bergan
-
- Georgia
(dates to be confirmed) National seminar on recognition issues
Contact: Sjur Bergan
-
- 26-29, Moscow Seminar on Assessment and examinations
of native languages in relation to the Common
European Framework of Reference for
Languages (with representatives from the
Chechen Republic)
Contact: Joe Sheils
-
- 27-29, Graz Workshop 5/2005 "Intercultural competence
for professional mobility. Developing plurilingual
and pluricultural dimension in language teacher
education." (ICOPROMO)
Contact: Adrian Butler

Calendar of events - non exhaustive - (continued)

October (continued)

Autumn, Strasbourg. Study visit to the CoE by the Debate Clubs from Mostar Gymnasium and the two universities in Mostar in order to foster intercultural understanding among the young people of Mostar.
Contact: Sarah Keating

November (continued)

Mostar Higher Education Working Group/Bologna
(Dates to be confirmed,) Committee for Bosnia and Herzegovina, co-chaired by the Council of Europe and the Ministry of Civil Affairs.
Contact: Sarah Keating

November...

2-3, Strasbourg Authoring group for the development of a reference framework for school curricula in the Romani language
Contact: Joe Sheils

2-4, Strasbourg 12th Meeting of the European Validation Committee for the ELP
Contact: Joe Sheils

3-5, Graz Workshop 6/2005 "The CLIL quality matrix. Achieving good practice in Content and Language Integrated Learning/bilingual education."
(CLILmatrix)
Contact: Adrian Butler

7, Strasbourg Meeting of the Council of Europe Expert Group and representatives of the Lombardy team of experts to discuss the first draft report with a view to preparing a "Language Education Policy Profile" for Lombardy
Contact: Joe Sheils

21-23, Strasbourg Seminar on "Policies and common standards for languages of instruction/national languages"
Contact: Joe Sheils

21-23, Prague The 4th Prague Forum: Teacher Education in Europe: achievement, trends and prospects"
Contact: Carole Reich

23-26, Graz Workshop 7/2005 "Web Journals in Language Education. A peer-to-peer collaborative writing platform for language learning." (BLOGS)
Contact: Adrian Butler

Armenia National seminar on Bologna and recognition-related issues
Contact: Sjur Bergan

December

1-2, (provisional dates), Round Table with a view to finalising
Luxembourg the "Language Education Policy Profile:
Luxembourg"
Contact: Joe Sheils

5 - 6, Strasbourg Meeting on the development of "Reference Level Descriptions for national and regional languages" and their role for linking examinations to the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages
Contact: Joe Sheils

8-10, Bulgarie Regional event "A Training Guide for Quality Assurance" (QualiTraining)
Contact: Adrian Butler

12-17, Warsaw First visit by Council of Europe Expert Group with a view to preparing a "Language Education Policy Profile" for Poland
Contact: Joe Sheils

14-17, Graz Workshop 8/2005 "Whole-School Language Profiles and Policies" (ENSEMBLE)
Contact: Adrian Butler

Brussels ENIC Bureau / NARIC Advisory Board,
(Dates to be confirmed,) Contact: Sjur Bergan

First half of 2006 Informal Meeting of Ministers of Education
(Venue to be determined) of Former Yugoslavia

Inter-institutional co-operation with the international Organisations/Institutions in the framework of the 2005 European Year of Citizenship through Education

Since the beginning of 2004, special efforts have been made in order to strengthen relations with international governmental Organisations/Institutions and NGOs. Three meetings in Strasbourg and a round table discussion during the Launching Conference of the "Year" in December 2004 were held on this subject. The representatives of international organisations expressed their commitment to this co-operation in 2005 and beyond. As a good example of long-term collaboration between the Organisations, a publication on quality assurance and self-evaluation in EDC was developed by the Council of Europe, UNESCO and the Centre for Educational Policy Studies (Slovenia).

The inter-institutional meeting in Strasbourg on 2-3 June 2005 strengthened this co-operation. In the light of the UNESCO proposal made at the Launching Conference of the "Year" for the Council of Europe to coordinate the Action Plan for the first phase of the United Nations

World Programme for Human Rights Education (WPHRE), the Council of Europe is in a good position to play the leading role in the field of EDC in Europe over the next few years. Co-operation in the framework of the United Nations Decade of Education for Sustainable Development (2005-2014) could be another interesting dimension in the follow-up to the "Year". It is expected that the organisations/institutions having worked with the Council of Europe will participate actively in the Conference on Education for Democratic Citizenship: The Way Ahead (Romania, 27-28 April 2006).



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How to contact us

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