

Youth Partnership News

European Commission
and Council of Europe



Update on European Citizenship

Success of the new training courses on European Citizenship

Date	Course title and location	Hosting National Agency
15 - 21 October, 2007	EC-UK in Cardiff, United Kingdom	British National Agency
29 October - 4 November, 2007	EC-TR in Antalya, Turkey	Turkish National Agency
12 - 18 November, 2007	EC-DK in Helsingor, Denmark	Danish National Agency, in co-operation with Liechtenstein
26 November - 2 December, 2007	EC-HU in Budapest, Hungary	Hungarian National Agency
28 January - 3 February 2008	EC-PL in Poland	Polish National Agency
4 - 10 February 2008	EC-IT in Italy	Italian National Agency
7 - 13 April 2008	EC-DE in Germany	German National Agency

From October 2007 to April 2008, the Partnership will organise 7 new **training courses on European Citizenship** in co-operation with the SALTO Training and Cooperation Resource Centre.

A **new curriculum** was developed by the Partnership for these network training courses, which will be implemented by the National Agencies of the Youth in Action programme.

The curriculum (contents and methodology) will be the same for all the training courses. It will favour a **smooth implementation of the training courses** and ensure that all trainings are based on the **same quality standards** across Europe.

Aim of the training courses

The courses aim to support the professional development of youth workers and youth leaders by enabling them to **better integrate European Citizenship** in their youth work.

These courses are intended for participants who have experience in **managing projects with and for young people** and are committed to work directly with these young people on issues related to European Citizenship.

Profile and number of participants

Each training course will be attended by 28 or 29 participants. There will therefore be approximately **200 youth workers and youth leaders** who will attend the courses until April 2008, and many more who will indirectly benefit from them thanks to the multiplying effect.

Six training courses were initially foreseen. However, given the huge interest shown by potential participants and by the network of NAs, an additional 7th Training Course will be organised in Germany in April 2008.

Strong regional focus

As usual, the Partnership will **strongly support** the participation of candidates from the **Neighbouring Partner Countries**, where there is no National Agency of the Youth in Action programme. These countries are located in Eastern Europe and Caucasus (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Ukraine) and South East Europe (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia).

In total, **56 participants from South East Europe, Eastern Europe and Caucasus** were actually selected by the Partnership for the 7 training courses (8 participants per TC). There was a very substantial interest from candidates from this region to participate in the courses on European Citizenship. The Partnership indeed received a total of 420 individual files representing **820 applications** (each applicant had the opportunity to apply for two training courses, by choosing a 1st and 2nd priority).

The TC will indeed constitute a unique opportunity for Neighbouring Partner Countries participants to exchange ideas and possibly to develop future projects with participants from Programme Countries (i.e. countries, mainly in the European Union, where the Youth in Action Programme directly applies). The **training courses** will thus **bring together participants from all member states of the Council of Europe**, in accordance with the regional focus of the Partnership.

The selection process for **Programme Countries participants**, which is directly managed by the National Agencies, is still on-going. However, there were already **1366 application forms** which were downloaded by Programme Countries candidates until now. Even if they might not all lead to formal applications, this is also a very good indication of the great success of the training courses on European Citizenship.

European Citizenship Valorisation Seminar (Luxembourg, 15-17 November 2007)



In 2005-2006, the Partnership already organised 12 training Modules on European Citizenship, which were attended by 300 youth workers and youth leaders. For most of them, these Modules proved to be a useful experience, which supported their professional development and encouraged them to integrate elements of European Citizenship in their daily projects and practice.

In order to follow-up and build on the experience gained in the Modules on European Citizenship, the Partnership will soon organise a "European Citizenship Valorisation Seminar" for 25 previous Modules participants, in co-operation with the Luxembourg National Agency (Service National Jeunesse), which will be hosting the activity.

Aim and objectives

The seminar aims to valorise the experience of the Modules on European Citizenship and to support former participants in their role of active multipliers.

The objectives of the seminar are the following, among others:

- To encourage participants to share practices and experiences on their European Citizenship projects;
- To critically review the quality of these projects in their contexts;
- To explore possible means and ways of valorising European Citizenship projects;
- To motivate participants to use the opportunities of the Youth in Action Programme in the field of European Citizenship.

Valorisation

According to the Youth in Action programme guide, "valorisation can be defined as the process of disseminating and exploiting the results of projects with a view to optimising their value, strengthening their impact and making the largest possible number of young people in Europe benefit from it". The implications of this new concept will be explored during the seminar.

Profile of participants

The seminar will bring together 25 former participants in the European Citizenship Modules (2005-2006) who have been active in developing European Citizenship projects since the end of the Modules.

Up to 15 participants will come from Programme countries, while the Partnership will support the participation of 10 candidates from South East Europe, Eastern Europe and Caucasus.

Expected outcomes

A publication with best practices and recommendations for European Citizenship practitioners, based on the experience of the participants in the seminar, will be issued after the seminar. This publication might underline the most relevant or interesting projects of participants, with their relevance for European Citizenship education.



**Council of Europe
Directorate of Youth and Sport**

1, quai Jacoutot
67000 Strasbourg - France
Tel: (33) 3 88 41 23 00
Fax: (33) 3 88 41 27 77
Web: <http://www.coe.int/youth>



**European Commission
Directorate General for Education
and Culture/ Youth : Policies**
rue de la Loi 200
B-1049 Brussels - Belgium
Tel: (32) 2 296 2009
Fax: (32) 2 299 40 38
Web: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth>