

Youth Partnership News

European Commission and Council of Europe
www.youth-partnership.net



COUNCIL OF EUROPE & EUROPEAN COMMISSION

The « Training-Youth » Partnership

In 1998, the Council of Europe and the European Commission decided to combine their respective experience and strengths to **promote democratic values and the notion of European Citizenship in the youth field**. This was the origin of the Partnership on Training of Youth Workers/Youth Leaders.

Both institutions are indeed convinced that European identity is defined by a set of democratic values and that the future of democracy lies in many respects in the hands of young people.

Since its creation, the "Training-Youth" partnership therefore pursued the following aims throughout all its activities:

- the promotion of **European Citizenship** and human rights;
- the development of high **quality** training modules at European level;
- the **recognition** of non-formal learning in youth work;
- the **publication of reference documents** in the field of youth (Training Kits, Coyote magazine).

The European Citizenship Training Modules Series

The "Training-Youth" Partnership regularly organises **short-term training Modules** that address various aspects of European Citizenship.

In 2006, the Partnership offers six training Modules (see calendar below), which are **co-organised and hosted by six National Agencies** of the YOUTH Programme of the European Commission.

These Modules aim at **supporting the professional development of youth workers and youth leaders** by extending their competencies and by encouraging them to integrate elements of European citizenship within their daily projects and practice.

Each training module focuses on one important aspect closely related to the concept and practice of European Citizenship (e.g. human rights, intercultural learning), while the methodology of the training remains the same across all modules. Each Module gathers 25 participants

from all over Europe for five full training days.

The first two Modules took place before the summer and were successful. The following four Modules take place in September-October 2006.

With approximately 700 applications and 150 participants in total, the training Modules organised in 2006 undoubtedly raised a **high interest among European youth workers and youth leaders**. These trainings indeed provide them with a unique opportunity to exchange ideas and discuss on European citizenship and other matters of interest for young people.

Through the Modules, these youth workers and youth leaders learn to **prepare themselves to actively participate in democratic life at the European level**. This positive experience encourages the Partnership to develop other innovative training projects in the future.

Partnership WebSites:

www.youth-partnership.net

www.training-youth.net

www.youth-knowledge.net

eycb.coe.int/eycbwwwroot/Euro-Med/index.html

European Citizenship training Modules 2006: calendar

Module 1: "Institutions and Politics" (Budapest, Hungary): 29 May – 4 June 2006.

Module 2: "Visions and Concepts of Europe" (Bonn, Germany): 27 May – 2 June 2006

Module 3: "Citizenship" (Bern, Switzerland): 4 – 10 September 2006.

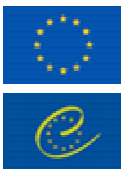
Module 4: "Intercultural Learning" (Cardiff, UK): 25 September – 1 October 2006.

Module 5: "Human Rights" (Eisenborn, Luxembourg): 23–29 October 2006.

Module 6: "Role of Youth Work in Participation" (Rome, Italy): 23 – 29 October 2006.



European Citizenship training Module 1 (Budapest, Hungary–June 2006)



Towards a new curriculum for European Citizenship trainings

Ever since their creation in 2001, the format and practice of the European Citizenship training Modules has **constantly evolved** in order to adapt to changing needs, even if their aim and educational methodology remained the same.

The main aim of the training Modules on European Citizenship is "to develop a **sense of space** and place in contemporary Europe, the **skills** required to be active agents of change and development, and the **knowledge** required to make choices within this context".

The training modules apply the principles and **practice of non-formal education**: they are learner-centered, based on personal responsibility for learning and they enable participants to transfer what they learned to their youth work practice.

Three long-term (9 days) pilot training courses on European Citizenship were initially organised by the Partnership between 2001 and 2003. Based on the need for a higher number of training activities and a **wider outreach** in this field, the Partner-

ship then developed short-term, 5-day European Citizenship training Modules. These modules were jointly developed and implemented with representatives of National Agencies of the YOUTH programme.

In view of the intended future decentralisation of the EC Modules to the YOUTH Programme's National Agencies network in 2008, the **format and programme of the Modules will be further adapted**. A new curriculum needs to be developed to support the National Agencies network and the future trainers in implementing the new Modules.

A brief Curriculum Development seminar gathering the main stakeholders of the Partnership will try and clarify the concept of the European Citizenship training courses for the future.

Further to this seminar, three educational consultants will **develop a new curriculum**, which could be tested in two pilot courses on European Citizenship organised by the Partnership in 2007.



www.training-youth.net

"It is impossible to speak of citizenship in Europe without posing the question of the current weakening of democracy within each of our countries".

(Jacques Delors, former President of the European Commission)

"Democracy cannot be taught "from the top". It must be learned through experience".

(Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe)

Regional co-operation with Eastern Europe and Caucasus

In 2006, a "Training for the youth Trainers on co-operation with **Eastern Europe and Caucasus Region**" is organised by SALTO EECA Resource Centre, in co-operation with the Partnership.

The objectives of the Training are to **improve the quality of training activities** in EECA countries and

to **create a network of trainers** which will work within the Region.

The first training stage is organised in Lviv, Ukraine (25-31 August), the second stage in the European Youth Centre Strasbourg, France (11-17 November 2006).

Next important meetings on European Citizenship



Curriculum Development Seminar (Strasbourg, 5 September, 2006): see details above.

Partnership Sectorial Group Meeting on « European Citizenship, Quality and Recognition » (Strasbourg, 13 September, 2006).

Evaluation Seminar of the European Citizenship Modules 2006 (Bonn, 31 October-2 November 2006): the meeting will be preceded by a « Youth in Action Day » organised by SALTO Training & Co-operation RC.

Council of Europe
 Directorate of Youth and Sport
 European Youth Centre
 30, rue Pierre de Coubertin
 67000 Strasbourg - France
 Tel: (33) 3 88 41 23 00
 Fax: (33) 3 88 41 27 77
 Web: www.coe.int/youth

European Commission
 Directorate General for Education and Culture
 Youth : Policies
 rue de la Loi 50
 B-1049 Brussels - Belgium
 Tel: (32) 2 296 2009
 Fax: (32) 2 299 40 38
 Web: <http://europa.eu.int/comm/youth>



The Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe