

# Youth Partnership News

European Commission and Council of Europe  
[www.youth-partnership.net](http://www.youth-partnership.net)



## Partnership Management Activities

As from May 2005 the Partnership Agreement has set up a new management structure. Besides the **Secretariat the Partnership Management Board** is seen as an instrument of the two partners to co-ordinate activities, to prepare decisions and to consult each other.

In addition, **four Partnership Sectorial Groups** on the specific thematic areas invite the various stakeholders and partners in the field in order to contribute to the definition of content and operational management.

Finally, a **Partnership Consultation Meeting** gathering members of the Management Board and the Sectorial Groups takes place once a year for an exchange of information and with the aim to increase synergies among the various partners involved.

At the end of March (20th and 21st.) two Partnership management meetings have taken place in Brussels. As follows a short summary of the main points of these meetings. Comprehensive reports are provided on the partnership web portal.

### Partnership WebSites:

[www.youth-partnership.net](http://www.youth-partnership.net)

[www.youth-knowledge.net](http://www.youth-knowledge.net)

[www.training-youth.net](http://www.training-youth.net)

<http://eycb.coe.int/eycbwwwroot/Euro-Med/index.html>

## 3rd Partnership Management Board (PMB)

After reporting on the main activities organised in 2005 the different strands of the Partnership Secretariat gave an overview on the current activities.

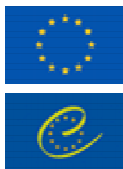
Within the **EURO-MED** strand two **Training courses on human rights education** have been organised in Amman and Alexandria, in cooperation with local and regional partners. A third course should be organised in the *Maghreb region* in 2007. Additionally a *Youth Research seminar* is being planned for November in cooperation with the Swedish Youth Board and the Swedish Institute in Alexandria (following similar event on youth policy in 2005). For a better visibility and following the unification of the Partnership strands, the Euro-Med portal will be integrated in the Partnership portal.

In **RESEARCH** a new discussion platform "**Youth-Debate**" has recently been launched. This tool, which for the moment is operated as a pilot phase, is a further development of the EKCYF-discussion forum and allows for active discussions on current activities of the Research Partnership.

A **research seminar on Diversity, Human Rights and Participation** and a **study on the economic dimension of youth work** integrate the research agenda of the partnership grant agreement 2006. The **European Knowledge Centre for Youth Policy** has entered the 2nd phase. A strategy paper emerging from a meeting on the further developments of this tool has been prepared.

In the **TRAINING** strand a recent Evaluation Seminar assessed the previous three **Training Modules on European Citizenship** positively. Six further modules are going to be implemented in 2006, a seminar on European Citizenship is to take place in autumn. A further discussion on this topic would be necessary, not only in order to build a clear curriculum for future Training Modules but also to avoid the spread of a predefined (but unclear) conception. The partners also agreed for this purpose to draft a *joint position paper on European Citizenship* (Education).

The next PMB has been scheduled for the 4th of October 2006.



## 1st Partnership Consultation Meeting (PCM)

The **1st Partnership Consultation Meeting** took place in Brussels on the 21st of March 2006. The Partnership Secretariat, together with the stakeholders and cooperation partners informed about the *activities organised in 2005* and discussed *priorities and further perspectives for 2007* and beyond. The *performance* of the Partnership was also evaluated.

For the second phase of the 2nd Covenant the following **new activities** have been communicated:

- the elaboration of a *joint working paper on citizenship* in order to provide this concept with a more coherent definition.
- the organisation of a *policy seminar with Russia* and, in early 2007 *Ukraine*
- a *workshop on networking and dialogue building* between researchers, policy makers and trainers
- a *study on the economic dimension of youth work*
- cooperation in the organisation of a *Master of Arts course on European Youth Studies*.

An important **priority for 2007** and beyond is the extension of the policy activities to *South East Europe*. Future co-operation with *East Europe and the Caucasus region* has to be explored.

With regard to the joint discussion on the future work and priorities the Partnership Coordinator has drawn the following conclusions:

### The Partnership should

- be innovative, anticipate upcoming needs and raise new questions rather than taking up current issues
- improve its communication vis a vis the relevant players in the field.
- focus on a reduced number of activities in order to keep a high quality standard.
- further include the national and regional levels
- show better “who” is behind the partnership and how the tasks are fulfilled
- increase synergies with the cooperation partners



« *The Partnership should be innovative, anticipate upcoming needs and raise new questions.* »

## Timing of management activities 2006

In the future the **Partnership Consultation Meeting** should take place before the Partnership Management Board in order to guarantee that the proposals from stakeholders are adequately considered in the Management Board.

All **Partnership Sectorial Groups** should meet before the next Partnership Management Board.

Next dates for the PSG :

- “Euro-Med, Human Rights Education and Intercultural Dialogue”: 11th September 2006
- “European Citizenship, Quality and Recognition” 13th September 2006
- “Better Understanding of Youth and Youth Policy”: 29th September 2006
- “Information and Publication”: 5th October 2006.

The next Partnership Consultation Meeting should take place in spring 2007.

**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](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>

