

Youth Partnership News

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



European Youth Campaign
for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation

Partnership WebSites:

www.youth-partnership.net

www.youth-knowledge.net

www.training-youth.net

<http://eycb.coe.int/eycbwwwroot/euromed/index.htm>

Campaign WebSite:

<http://alldifferent-allegal.info/>

The Partnership and the European Youth Campaign “ALL DIFFERENT – ALL EQUAL”

In 2005, the European Commission agreed to support the Council of Europe’s European Youth Campaign for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation “All Different – All Equal” running from June 2006 to September 2007.

This support is realised through additional actions within the Partnership Agreement between the two European institution in the youth field. This agreement aims to promote understanding of and respect for cultural diversity by fostering European citizenship and intercultural dialogue.

In 2006 the European Commission allocated an extra grant of 250.000 euros to the regular budget of the annual Partnership Programme to

organise **five concrete additional actions** :

- The launching event of the campaign
- A Fan Convention on Fair Play in Sports
- The symposium “Diversity Youth Forum”
- The European Youth Event for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation
- A training course for young campaign activists.

Furthermore, within the regular annual Partnership Programme...

- a **Research Seminar** was organised on the topics of the campaign
- an issue of the **COYOTE magazine** will focus on the educational dimension of the campaign themes.

The launching and official opening event of the campaign

The campaign was officially launched on **29 June 2006 in Strasbourg**; the opening event comprised a series of activities in cooperation with different partners:

- a joint session with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.
- a public open air launch. Speeches: Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Pascal Lejeune, Head of Unit of the European Commission, Bettina Schwarzmayr and other prominent partners and campaign supporters.

- Flying balloons, cutting of a ribbon and percussion music.
- An exhibition on campaign activities and a cultural programme to demonstrate the cultural diversity of Europe.

Participants:

Delegates of National Campaign Committees, youth initiatives supporting the campaign from numerous member states of the Council of Europe, members of the European Steering Group, campaign supporters, NGO’s and guests from civil society, etc.

The Fan Convention on Fair Play

The Sport Department of the Council of Europe, in collaboration with Europa-Park in Rust, Germany, hosted a four-day **European Fan Convention on 4-7 June 2006**.

The convention brought together around 150 fans from the 14 European teams participating in the finals phase, as well as fans from non-European countries.

The Fan Convention organized interactive workshops on important subjects like fair play, discrimination, spectator violence prevention, developing

supporter charters in Europe, the promotion of fair play, etc.

The Youth Directorate of the Council of Europe had prepared these workshops as part of the campaign in co-operation with international non-governmental organisations.

The Fan Convention also included a fan football tournament and other social and non-competitive sport activities so the fans could share experiences and of course watch the games. They also enjoyed the “Europa-Park” attractions.



The Symposium “Diversity Youth Forum”

Partners agreed to hold during the campaign symposia to deepen and explore the concepts, issues and threats to **Diversity, Human Rights and Participation** in Europe today and the youth work and youth policy responses required to address them.

A **Symposium on Diversity** will be held 25-29 October 2006 in Budapest. This Symposium will bring together 100 participants representing the diversity of minorities and majorities across Europe.

The **Diversity Youth Forum** should result in a common understanding from the perspective of young people of the campaign objectives relating to Diversity and suggest ways to deal with the theme in national campaign committees and at European level.

In this respect, the symposium will seek links with other initiatives in the Council of Europe, as well as with the European Commission.

*Mark it in your diary:
2007: European Year of
Equal Opportunities for all
2008: European Year of
Intercultural Dialogue*

The European Youth Event for Diversity, Human Rights and Participation

In the framework of the Russian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, a major European youth event on Diversity, Human Rights and Participation will be held in **St. Petersburg, 22-24 September 2006**.

400 Participants:

- 125 youth leaders and 25 youth experts from all over Europe.
- 100 participants from Russia
- 100 young people from St. Petersburg
- 50 guests including the organising committee.

The topics of diversity, human rights and participation are of specific interest for the Russian Government. The **main aims** are

- to encourage youth participation in community life and in building peaceful societies,
- to promote social cohesion in Europe, based on diversity, integration and in the spirit of respect, tolerance and mutual understanding, according to the principles of human rights and pluralistic democracy
- and to promote mobility, mutual understanding and dialogue between young people, youth NGO's and youth policy makers.

Outlook 2007

First reflections and exchange of views have taken place between the two European institutions on future activities and working priorities in 2007 and beyond. So far a further support of the campaign can be envisaged especially when it comes to the implementation of the other two symposia and the closing event in September 2007.

The Training Course for young campaign activists

A range of training courses aim at providing national campaign committees with a **pool of resource people and multipliers** that can promote and present the campaign's issues, objectives and approaches.

In the framework of the Partnership Programme a specific **training course** aims at representatives of national committees in charge of **awareness-raising, communication and cultural and educa-**

tion activities; participants will be strongly involved in the design of the training course in order to satisfy needs and demands identified by campaign activists and national campaign committees. The course will also provide a fundamental insight into the three campaign issues and values and contributes to a greater interaction and mutual learning among campaign committees. The course will take place **6-8 December 2006 in Budapest**.

Co-operation in the European Steering Group

The European Steering Group of the campaign advises and oversees the implementation of the European Youth Campaign. Members of the group are members of the statutory bodies of the Council of Europe, and - without the right to vote - the European Youth Forum and the European Commission, which both play an important role in monitoring the progress made in the campaign.

Council of Europe
Directorate of Youth and Sport
European Youth Centre
Web: www.coe.int/youth

European Commission
Directorate General for Education and Culture
Youth : Policies
Web: http://ec.europa.eu/youth/index_en.html

European Youth Campaign
<http://alldifferent-allequal.info/>



The Partnership between the European Commission and the Council of Europe