

Paper no. 1: European Platform on Learning Mobility in the Youth Field - Programmatical Frame

The International 'Framework, Quality, and Impact of Young Europeans' Learning Mobility' Conference took place from 11 - 13 May 2011 at the European Youth Centre in Budapest. It was initiated and organised through cooperation between the German Ministry for Family, Women, Senior Citizens and Youth, the youth Partnership of the Council of Europe and the European Commission, the National Agencies for YOUTH IN ACTION in Germany (JUGEND für Europa) and Hungary (Mobilitas) and a consortium of German institutions organizing the long-standing 'Research-Practice Dialogue on International Youth Work'. A total of 80 participants from 27 countries were selected, consisting of policy makers, researchers, practitioners, and institutions and organizations in the youth field many of them presenting research or innovative youth projects

The aim of this European conference was to take stock of current debates and research findings on educational youth mobility, exchange insights into quality factors and programme formats that will contribute to the desirable impact of learning mobility schemes for young Europeans and serve to identify common interests, resources, and interfaces as a basis for collaboration projects, studies and further exchanges within a European network of experts.

An important result of the conference was the suggestion to implement a European Platform on Learning Mobility in the Youth Field. An important aim of such a platform is to facilitate a sustainable exchange between policy makers, researchers, practitioners, and institutions and organizations involved in the youth field. A continuous co-operation of these four parties is clearly seen as an added value for the further development, visibility and recognition of Learning Mobility in the youth field.

This **European Platform on Learning Mobility in the Youth Field** is seen as a much needed place to connect political, scientific, institutional and practical activities and knowledge. It is especially important to achieve the aimed for progress in the field of Learning Mobility within the numerous initiatives at European level:

- In its conclusion from November 2008 regarding the mobility of young people the Council sets the target that learning experiences in a foreign country slowly become the rule: "Every young person should have the opportunity to take part in some form of mobility, whether this be during their studies or training, in the form of a work placement, or in the context of voluntary activities."
- In the recommendation of the Council from November 2008 regarding the Europe wide mobility of young volunteers, questions of the development of new possibilities of cross-border-mobility, quality assurance, the recognition of learning outcomes and the improvement of acknowledgement and support of volunteering are addressed.
- In July 2009 the Commission published its green paper 'Promoting the Learning Mobility of Young People'. It raised a number of questions, such as : How can the chances of mobility of young Europeans be enhanced? Which obstacles to mobility need to be tackled? How can all stakeholders form a cooperative partnership for Learning Mobility?
- The Renewed Framework for European cooperation in the youth field (2010-2018) issued in 2009 sees mobility as an overarching issue. it specifically recommends promoting the learning mobility of all young people and of cross-border professional and vocational opportunities, to foster mutual understanding among young people from all over the world through dialogue and by means of supportive actions such as training courses, exchanges, and meetings and to support for the mobility of youth workers and leaders.



JUGEND für Europa
Deutsche Agentur
für das EU-Programm
JUGEND IN AKTION

Council of Europe
Conseil de l'Europe



European Union
Union Européenne

Partnership between the European Commission
and the Council of Europe in the field of Youth



Forscher } Dialog { Internationale
Praktiker } Jugendarbeit

Supported by



Bundesministerium
für Familie, Senioren,
Frauen und Jugend



Education and Culture DG
'Youth in Action' Programme

- The 2009 Youth on the Move flagship initiative within the Europe 2020 Strategy responds to the particular challenges young people face and helps them to succeed in the knowledge economy. Supporting the learning mobility of young people is one main line of action. Youth on the Move reiterates the aspiration that by 2020 all young people in Europe should have the possibility to spend part of their educational pathway abroad.
- The Council Recommendation of June 2011: Youth on the Move - promoting the learning mobility of young people refers to young people in Europe in all learning and training contexts, at school, in vocational training, in tertiary education, as well as in youth exchanges, voluntary activities or internships, inside or outside the Union. The recommendation seeks to encourage member states to promote the learning mobility of young people and to remove obstacles which are impeding progress in this area.
- In the proposal for the Multiannual Financial Framework in June 2011 the Commission proposed an integrated programme for education, training and youth - 'Education Europe', which should bring together the Lifelong Learning Programme, the international aspects of Higher Education, including Erasmus Mundus, and Youth in Action. Within this transnational learning mobility is seen as one of three main lines of action to help as many as 800,000 EU citizens to be mobile each year.
- At the end of 2011 the Council will conclude with a benchmark for learning mobility. Based on the Commission staff working document of May 2011 it will describe a differentiated strategy and specific benchmarks on learning mobility recognising the different starting points, circumstances and data situations of higher education, VET and youth mobility in general.

The following aspects should be the focal points of the **European Platform on Learning Mobility in the Youth Field**:

- What effects has the Learning Mobility of young people, which learning experiences can be made possible? How are both influenced by non-formal and formal Learning conditions?
- How can different aims, personality development and acquisition of key competencies, civic learning and promotion of employability be harmonised?
- What are the preconditions for successful learning in the projects? What is significant in the quality of the mobility measures in the youth area and how can it be guaranteed?
- How can we reach as broad a spectrum as possible of those who do not normally participate in mobility programmes in particular youth with fewer opportunities?
- How can learning experiences in youth mobility be recognised in tune with non-formal and informal learn settings?
- How can the results and effects of the numerous youth mobility projects be made visible and disseminated?
- How can the successful, extensive experiences in youth mobility for learning purposes be given greater recognition?
- How can bridges be built between youth mobility for learning purposes in the non-formal and the formal education sectors recognising the respective preconditions, targets, formats and methods as being on a par with one another?

The German partners have declared their willingness to be the first host of the **European Platform on Learning Mobility in the Youth Field** in 2013 in cooperation with the partners of the Budapest Conference and other interested bodies. Subsequently such a Platform Conference is supposed to take place every two years in a different European country. The whole process will be led by a European Steering Group which is planned to be installed by the beginning of 2012.

For more information: **Research-Practice-Dialogue International Youth Work**
 c/o transfer e.V.
 Christina Plantz
 Tel. +49 221 959219-0
 plantz@transfer-ev.de