# Eurodesk Brussels Link Bulletin June 2011



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# Deadlines up to 01 October 2011

#### Deadline Reminder: <u>http://www.eurodesk.eu/edesk/SearchDb.do?go=1</u>

Reference number	Deadline	Programme Title
EU001000063	7 June 2011	European Union Contest for Young Scientists
EU001000028	9 June 2011	EU-Japan Training programmes
EU0010000451	10 June 2011	Henkel Art Award 2011
EU0010000447	13 June 2011	Kodak Scholarship Programme
EU0010000372	14 June 2011	Euro-Med Youth Programme
EU0010000010	15 June 2011	<u>MEDIA (2007-2013) – Training</u>
EU0010000382	15 June 2011	Traineeship at the European Medicines agency
EU0010000387	15 June 2011	Traineeships at the European Maritime Safety Agency
EU0010000455	17 June 2011	Intensive English Language Training for Young Roma University Graduates
EU0010000050	22 June 2011	People (FP7) - Marie Curie Actions
EU0010000454	25 June 2011	Charles V European Award-Javier Solana Madariaga
EU0010000452	27 June 2011	Henkel CEE Artists Studentship 2011
EU0010000309	30 June 2011	<u>UNESCO-L'ORÉAL Co-Sponsored Fellowships for</u> Young Women in Life Sciences
EU0010000336	30 June 2011	International Essay Contest for Young People
EU0010000361	30 June 2011	<u>Lifelong Learning - Policy Co-operation and</u> Innovation in Lifelong Learning (Key Activity 1)
EU0010000427	30 June 2011	Global Junior Challenge Award
EU0010000449	30 June 2011	Pilot projects for the Development of Knowledge Partnerships
EU0010000453	30 June 2011	<u>I live therefore I move/ I move therefore I live-Photo</u> <u>Competition</u>
EU0010000184	1 July 2011	EUROPRIX Multimedia Awards
EU0010000332	15 July 2011	Mediterranean Journalist Award
EU0010000351	15 July 2011	New Zealand International Doctoral Research Scholarships
EU0010000358	15 July 2011	Internship at the European Commission Delegation to the United Nations in New York
EU0010000450	15 July 2011	Most Youth Friendly European Region Award 2011

EU0010000096	18 July 2011	<u>LIFE + (2007-2013)</u>
EU0010000445	24 July 2011	EU Health Prize for Journalists
EU0010000425	29 July 2011	Preparatory Action in the field of Sport
EU0010000147	31 August 2011	Traineeships at the European Ombudsman
EU0010000297	31 August 2011	Lorenzo Natali Prize
EU0010000072	1 September 2011	Traineeships at the European Commission - Administrative in- service training periods
EU0010000090	1 September 2011	<u>Traineeships at the European Commission -</u> <u>Translation traineeships</u>
EU0010000199	1 September 2011	ECF Project Grants Scheme
EU0010000210	1 September 2011	Young European of the Year Award - Travel Fellowships & InterRail-Global-Passes
EU0010000091	15 September 2011	Traineeships at the Council of Europe
EU0010000031	16 September 2011	Lifelong Learning – COMENIUS
EU0010000069	16 September 2011	Lifelong Learning – GRUNDTVIG
EU0010000020	30 September 2011	Traineeships at the Committee of the Regions
EU0010000192	30 September 2011	Traineeships and Fellowships at the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML)
EU0010000394	30 September 2011	Xperimania IV Equality Competitions
EU0010000021	1 October 2011	Traineeship at the Council of the European Union
EU0010000085	1 October 2011	European Youth Foundation- Grants for international youth activities
EU0010000152	1 October 2011	Traineeships at the Economic and Social Committee
EU0010000180	1 October 2011	Traineeship at the Court of Justice
EU0010000205	1 October 2011	<u>EU prize for Cultural Heritage / Europa Nostra</u> <u>Awards</u>
EU0010000229	1 October 2011	International youth activities held in co-operation with the European Youth Centres

# **Documentation**

#### **Eurobarometer on Youth on the Move**

Two Eurobarometer surveys have been commissioned as part of the EU's "Youth on the Move" flagship initiative. The aim of the Flash Eurobarometer survey "Youth on the Move – 319a" studied young EU citizens' participation in society. Flash Eurobarometer survey "Youth on the Move – 319b" looked at young Europeans' mobility with respect to education and work. The research also looked at young people's concerns when seeking employment, and their entrepreneurial ambitions. For example, almost one third of young people in the EU had been active in a sports club in the year prior to the survey. About a sixth had been involved in a youth organisation and roughly one in seven had participated in the activities of a cultural organisation. In terms of work, only slim majority of young adults said they were willing – or would like – to work in another European country. Equal shares would like to work abroad for a limited amount of time (28%) and for a longer period (25%). More than 4 in 10 (44%) young people were not willing or would not like to work in another European country. Read more about the findings on:

Youth on the Move – 319a: <u>http://ec.europa.eu/public\_opinion/flash/fl\_319a\_en.pdf</u> Youth on the Move- 319b: http://ec.europa.eu/public\_opinion/flash/fl\_319b\_en.pdf

### Results of public consultations on the future generation of EU programmes for education and youth from 2014

Between September and November 2010, anyone interested was invited to give their opinions on the design of the funding programmes under the next multiannual budget of the European Union. The consultations on future programmes in education and training, youth and international co-operation in higher education together received more than 8700 responses via online questionnaires and written contributions. Most of the respondents were from Europe and active in the fields of education and youth policy. The results of these consultations will feed into the Commission's preparations for the next generation of education and youth programmes. The European Commission will propose an outline of the post-2013 budget at the end of June and present a proposal for new education and youth programmes in the autumn 2011.

- Results of the public consultation on the future European programme on education and training (current Lifelong Learning Programme): <u>http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education\_culture/consult/llp/report\_en.pdf</u>
- Results of the public consultation on the future European youth programme (currently Youth in Action):

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education\_culture/consult/yia/report\_en.pdf

 Results of the public consultation on the future EU programme for international co-operation in higher education and human capital development (currently Erasmus Mundus):

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education\_culture/consult/higher/report\_en.pdf

#### Elearning Europa – re-launched elearningeuropa.info

The European reference portal on education and technology has just been relaunched on a brand new platform and with new features. Available in 21 languages, the portal is a key forum to generate and present ideas. With more than 35.000 registered users with an average of 16.000 monthly visits, it provides great



opportunities for research and exchange of ideas and information amongst researchers, practitioners, students and policy makers across Europe.

The re-launched portal presents its online journal 'eLearning Papers' in a new visual identity and structure. It has new functionalities which will allow the creation of blogs, to offer users the chance to express their opinions and insight. The portal will also feature a dedicated TV channel which gives visitors the possibility to find the most relevant and best videos about education and technology in one place. To visit the portal go to: http://www.elearningeuropa.info

#### EU quality assurance in vocational education and training - Online tool

The aim of this tool is to make vocational education and training more attractive across Europe by ensuring that courses respond to the needs of the labour market and today's high quality standards. The new online tool provides guidance on how to build and monitor a quality assurance system in vocational training. It is based on examples of different approaches from EU countries. The tool has been developed by quality assurance experts from 33 European countries participating in the EQAVET network.

More information on quality assurance in vocational education and training is available on:

http://www.eqavet.eu/qa/gns/home.aspx

#### **Comparing European Qualifications - new website**

The European Qualifications Framework for lifelong learning (EQF) provides a common reference framework which assists in comparing the national qualifications systems, frameworks and their levels. It serves as a translation device to make qualifications more readable and understandable across different countries and systems in Europe, and thus aiming to promote lifelong and life-wide learning, and the mobility of European citizens whether for studying or working abroad.

The European Qualifications Framework is currently being rolled out across Europe as countries relate their national qualifications systems to the eight-level European framework. Currently in English, the portal will gradually be made available in 27 languages by next year. A search function that will provide access to national databases with information on qualifications is also planned.

Website of the European Qualifications Framework: http://ec.europa.eu/egf/home\_en.htm

### European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) Opinion on the Youth on the Move Initiative

The EESC recognizes the utility of the Youth on the Move initiative and it is ready to contribute to its implementation, together with the social partners and civil society organisations and by identifying existing gaps in the initiative. Also, The EESC backs the Commission's efforts to identify the most effective ways of supporting youth employment, by using and enhancing dialogue with civil society. Furthermore, the EESC considers it a priority to maintain and strengthen the existing Youth in Action programme. With all this, the EESC regrets that activities which strengthen and build up the social and civic dimension of youth in Europe were not extended more in the initiative. Finally, the EESC stressed out the need to ensure that the talents of today's younger generations are better utilised and not wasted.

The full text of the Opinion can be found on: <u>http://eur-</u> <u>lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2011:132:0055:0062:EN:PDF</u>

## Report of the Reflection Group ("Comité des Sages") on Bringing Europe's Cultural Heritage On-line

The report, presented by the Reflection Group last January, urges EU Member States to step up their efforts to put online the collections held in all their libraries,

archives and museums. It stresses the benefits of making Europe's culture and knowledge more easily accessible. It also points to the potential economic benefits of digitisation, including through public-private partnerships, for the development of innovative services in sectors like tourism, research and education.

The full report, with the executive summary, is now available in all EU languages: <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/information\_society/activities/digital\_libraries/comite\_des\_sages/index\_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/information\_society/activities/digital\_libraries/comite\_des\_sages/index\_en.htm</a>

# Erasmus higher education: *Fostering internationalization at European Universities: European success stories*

The brochure highlights some of the universities which are at the forefront of Erasmus excellence. Among the success stories are also the first multilateral projects from Erasmus under the new Lifelong Learning Programme which bring together partners from different countries around a common aim. It provides interesting insights on how Erasmus has impacted university life and has contributed to the modernization of European education.

The brochure can be downloaded from the EU Bookshop website:

http://bookshop.europa.eu/is-bin/INTERSHOP.enfinity/WFS/EU-Bookshop-Site/en\_GB/-/EUR/ViewPublication-Start?PublicationKey=NC3210261

## European Commission plans for new European targets on the employability and the mobility of students

The two new benchmarks, which still need to be formally adopted by the Council, would complete a set of joint targets which EU countries have pledged to achieve by 2020. They include reducing early school leaving, increasing the share of higher education graduates, and getting more adults to participate in lifelong learning. A new benchmark on the mobility of students would measure the share of young people with learning experiences abroad. For instance, in the field of higher education, it would seem most appropriate to align an EU benchmark with the existing Bologna benchmark agreed in 2009, namely that by 2020, 20% of EU tertiary graduates should have had a study or training period abroad. In a possible approach to framing a benchmark on education and training for employability by 2020, the Commission considers that there should be an increase by at least 5% in the employment rate of graduates (20-34 year olds) having left education, measured as an average of employment rates 1, 2 and 3 years after graduation. Commission staff working paper on the development of benchmarks on education and training for employability and on learning mobility:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc/sec670\_en.pdf More on EU benchmarks in education and training:

http://ec.europa.eu/education/lifelong-learning-policy/doc34\_en.htm

#### A glimpse of how is it to be an Erasmus student

Realised by Erasmus Student Network (ESN) Members Ruben Alonso (ESN Barcelona, Spain) and Marge Taivere (ESN Tartu, Estonia), the small documentary aims to show on the one hand the prejudices and main impediments for students on accessing the Erasmus exchange programme, and on the other hand, the challenges and positive impressions of how it is to be an Erasmus student. http://esn.org/article/erasmus-video-about-erasmus-and-about-esn

# Thanks, but no thanks! Young people fighting against precarious internships

The European Youth Forum defines internships as "a form of learning in a real work situation which can either be part of a formal education programme or be done voluntarily outside formal education, with the aim of acquiring competencies through executing 'real' work tasks whilst being financially compensated and having access to according social protection." Thus, internships can play a key role in facilitation the transition from education to the labour market, provided that the

learning dimension of internships is ensured and that internships do not replace paid work. The following blog entry, present on the OECD 50th anniversary website, briefly examines the situation of interns in Europe and expresses different calls for improving their life:

http://oecdinsights.org/2011/05/04/thanks-but-no-thanks-young-people-fightingagainst-precarious-internships/

#### **Global Youth Helpdesk & Research Network**

The Global Youth Help Desk is a UN-Habitat initiative, developed in collaboration with partners, to provide up-to-date information on urban youth issues, regionally and globally. The site aims to promote best practices, knowledge sharing and action on urban youth issues. This initiative is an outcome of the UNHABITAT Youth Opportunities Fund. The site contains several interesting resources on youth and information on various worldwide youth projects.

http://www.globalyouthdesk.org/Home/Index.aspx

#### UN International Year of Youth: calendar of activities

The United Nations has assembled a calendar with worldwide youth activities taking place during the International Year of Youth (August 2010 – 2011). Currently there are 330 registered events. Find out more about events that celebrate youth close to you or all over the world on:

http://social.un.org/absolutewc/default.aspx

#### World Assembly of Youth (WAY)

The World Assembly of Youth is the international coordinating body of national youth councils and organisations. The full members of WAY are national youth councils. WAY has 120 member organisations from all continents. WAY works for promotion of youth and youth organisations in programme areas such as: youth employment, environment, human rights, democracy, population, health, drugs, community development and leadership training. The resources on the website may be important to those working with young people grouped in national youth councils.

http://www.way.org.my/

#### Global Youth Coalition on HIV/AIDS (GYCA) e-courses

GYCA seeks to improve HIV and AIDS policies and programming geared toward young people by facilitating the inclusion of skilled young leaders in decisionmaking that affects our lives. The organisation offers online courses for free in the following areas: project management, political advocacy and grant writing/ fundraising.

http://www.gyca.org/ecourses/

#### Youth Employment Inventory (YEI)

YEI is the first comprehensive database to provide comparative information on youth employment interventions worldwide. Comprising more than 300 youth employment programs from around 90 countries, YEI documents program design, implementation, and achieved results. The programs included range from interventions for improving the labor market information base (counseling, job search skills) to programs that aim at increasing the demand for youth labor (wage subsidies and public works) and those focusing on improving chances for young entrepreneurs (providing financial, technical, and training assistance). To browse through the inventory and to find programmes in your country go to: <a href="http://www.youth-employment-inventory.org/">http://www.youth-employment-inventory.org/</a>

#### **Education of Adults - Country Presentations**

The Country Presentations part of the European Association for the Education of Adults website contains short presentations in English about the state of play of

Adult Education and Lifelong Learning for each member countries. The reports are divided into two sections, 'Policy and Politics' gives an overview of the key policy currently in force, and also outlines the main legislation or political situation in the country. 'Structure and Providers' gives a more detailed look at the specific structure of organisation, and also outlines the main adult education providers, including non-formal learning, NGOs, e-learning and formal learning. http://www.eaea.org/country

# **European Opportunities**

#### Lawyer linguists for the European Union – EPSO (AD7)

EPSO is organising open competitions to select lawyer-linguists of the following languages: Bulgarian; Estonian; Hungarian; Maltese; Polish; Slovenian; Swedish Some competitions include two channels, while others have only one: Court of Justice channel or the Parliament/Council channel.

Candidates may apply for only one of the seven competitions and only one channel. Eligible candidates must be a citizen of an EU country; have a degree in Bulgarian, Estonian, Hungarian, Maltese, Polish, Slovenian or Swedish law; meet the profile relevant to the duties; know three languages: a main language and two source languages. You can find all possible combinations in the Notice of Competition.

#### Applications close midday (Brussels Time) on 15 June 2011.

For more information see:

http://europa.eu/epso/apply/today/spe\_en.htm#chapter2

#### **Communication Specialists for the European Union – EPSO (AD5)**

The European Union is looking for Communication Specialists based especially within the European Parliament, the Council or the Committee of the Regions. Specialists are required to have good degrees in communication, media, journalism or public relations, together with fluency in one of the following languages: Dutch, English, Estonian, French, Polish, Portuguese, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish. In addition, candidates should possess a thorough knowledge of English, French or German.

Previous experience as a press officer, journalist, public relations officer, communication consultant, media analyst or social media expert would also be useful, but is not essential. For this position, candidates will find themselves dealing with a wide range of audiences, including opinion formers, journalists, visitor groups and the general public.

#### Deadline for applications: 28 June 2011.

For more information see: <u>http://europa.eu/epso/apply/today/spe\_en.htm#</u>

#### **Regional Policy – PhD Poster Competition 2011**

The Directorate-General for Regional Policy, European Commission, and the Regional Studies Association invite early career researchers in European regional policy to present their research in the form of a poster at OPEN DAYS 2011, the European Week of Cities and Regions (10 - 13 October). The overall winner will get €750 and the first runner-up will get €250.

Eligible candidates must either be completing a PhD or have completed a PhD in the last 3 years. The Competition takes place in two stages:

- Stage One: Submission of a 1000 word (max) abstract and a current CV to info@rsa-ls.ac.uk before the 17<sup>th</sup> June 2011.
- **Stage Two**: The Competition Jury will shortlist finalists by 30 June 2011. Finalists will be invited to prepare a poster and to be prepared to take questions on their poster from the Competition Jury.

Call for papers:

<u>http://www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk/events/2011/opendays/cfp.pdf</u> Guidelines: http://www.regional-studies-assoc.ac.uk/events/2011/opendays/guidelines.pdf

## European Research and Mobility grant: "Charles V European Award – Javier Solana Madariaga"

The European Academy of Yuste Foundation recently released a European Research and Mobility Grants scheme for European Studies entitled 'Charles V European Award - Javier Solana Madariaga'. These grants are supported by the Alliance of



Civilizations of the United Nations and the European Commission through the Europe for Citizens European Programme.

European students are eligible to participate, as well as students from countries in the Mediterranean which are not EU Member States. Participants must work on a Ph. D. Dissertation in history, political sciences, economics, law and other human and social sciences or in other scientific fields. For the 2011 award the specific topic of the candidates must relate to the "European Union Foreign Relations and Foreign Policy, and Cooperation in the Mediterranean". The amount of one research and mobility grant reaches 3000 Euros.

#### Candidates should submit their applications by June 25, 2011.

The announcement and the application forms in Spanish, English and French can be found at the European Academy of Yuste Foundation's web:

http://www.fundacionyuste.es/

## Towards a more innovative Europe: public consultation on the future strategy for the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT)

The European Commission is seeking your views on the future strategy of the European Institute of Innovation and Technology (EIT). All citizens and organisations are welcome to contribute to this consultation. Contributions are particularly sought from stakeholders at European, national and regional level involved in the knowledge triangle, i.e. higher education, research and business/innovation as well as public authorities.

The consultation will remain open until 30 June 2011.

To access the consultation page go to:

http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=OPCEITSIA

#### YUNGA - International Drawing Competition 2011

In addition to symbolizing many other things, 2011 is also the "International Year of Forests". In this context, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations is organizing the International Drawing Competition as a part of a youth education initiative intended to enhance awareness on the importance of forests among children and young people. The International Drawing Competition is open to ALL children and young people from 6 to 20 years of age and drawings should reflect on issues concerning forests and why they are so important to our planet.

The deadline for submitting the drawings is 30 June 2011.

More information can be found in several languages on: <a href="http://www.fao.org/climatechange/youth/68804/en/">http://www.fao.org/climatechange/youth/68804/en/</a>

#### International essay contest for young people

The GOI Peace Foundation and UNESCO organize an annual international essay competition addressed to young people. The contest is organized in an effort to harness the energy, imagination and initiative of the world's youth in promoting a culture of peace and sustainable development. This year's theme is "My story of inspiration". Participants are expected to share their inspiration that has affected their life and determined them to make a change in the world. Essays may be submitted by anyone up to 25 years old (as of June 30, 2011) in one of the following age categories: Children (ages up to 14) b) Youth (ages 15 - 25).

#### The deadline for submission is 30 June 2011.

Read more on the guidelines here:

http://www.goipeace.or.jp/english/activities/programs/1101.html

#### Foreign Affairs - Essay competition

*Foreign Affairs* publishes articles by today's leaders and thinkers that tackle the most pressing issues in international relations. In the second annual *Foreign Affairs* Essay Contest, a panel from the *Foreign Affairs* editorial staff will select one undergraduate's essay to be published on the *Foreign Affairs* Web site. The winner will also receive a prize of \$1,000; five honorable mentions will receive a free year-





long subscription to *Foreign Affairs*. Essay topic: Is the decline of the West inevitable?

Entries must be submitted by 1 July 2011. More information is available on: <a href="http://www.foreignaffairs.com/discussions/news-and-events/student-essay-contest-2011">http://www.foreignaffairs.com/discussions/news-and-events/student-essay-contest-2011</a>

#### Faith Shorts 2011

The 2011 global film competition "Faith Shorts", organised by the Tony Blair Faith Foundation aims to give young people under age 18 the opportunity to express what their faith means to them in their own words and take this to the global stage by winning the chance to see their film premiered at the British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA). This year's films must fit the following categories: My Faith Short – Family movie; My Faith Short – Action movie; My Faith Short - Musical movie.

#### The competition is open until 1 July 2011.

More information is available on: http://www.tonyblairfaithfoundation.org/pages/content-/

#### Most Youth Friendly European Region Award 2011

Organized by the Assembly of European Regions, the Most Youth Friendly European Region Award (MYFER) offers the European regions every two years the chance and possibility to make their projects and initiatives in youth issues known to a wider public and to spread the good experiences and best practices. The theme of the MYFER 2011 Award is "Social Inclusion of Youth with Disabilities". MYFER 2011 will reward policies and projects which are aimed at tackling the following three issues: education, employment and civic engagement. The AER Most Youth Friendly European Region Award 2011 will be awarded to regions that through their policies or projects contributed to increasing the social inclusion of youth with disabilities.

Regional authorities and other organisations that cooperate with the regional authorities from: AER member regions and AER non-member regions from the Council of Europe member states or from member states outside the Council of Europe are eligible to apply.

The deadline for applications is 15 July 2011.

For more information go to:

http://www.aer.eu/main-issues/youth/most-youth-friendly-european-region-%09award/competition-2011.html

#### World Summit Youth Award 2011 - WSYA

The WSYA is an annual award and a network for young people using the internet, mobile phones or other digital media to put the United Nations Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) into action. WSYA is therefore both a showcase to the world for young e-content creators, journalists and writers, application designers, technologists and as well as a contribution on a global scale to addressing poverty, protecting the environment, sharing knowledge and empowering young people. The reward for winners is to be recognised on a world stage, to be invited to the winners' events, to be able to connect with each other and discuss with renowned experts in the field of ICT for Development. Last year's winner events took place in New York, USA.

The online registration is open between May-July 2011.

To find out more about the categories and application see: <a href="http://www.youthaward.org/en\_about-wsya.html">http://www.youthaward.org/en\_about-wsya.html</a>

#### 33rd Cinemed: call for entries, 21-29 October 2011, Montpellier, France

The Ciné-club Jean Vigo, organiser since 1979 of the International Festival of Mediterranean Film (Cinemed), opened its 2011 selection. The Festival will take place in Montpellier, France from October 21 to 29, 2011. Participation is open to



films completed since 1 January 2010. The subject and handling of the films must contribute to the cinematic representation of the Mediterranean and the director must be from one of the states in the Mediterranean Basin, the Black Sea states, Portugal and Armenia.

**There are different deadlines for registration:** Fiction features: 31 August 2011; Fiction shorts, documentaries, experimental, development grant: 8 July 2011.

For more information see:

<u>http://www.cinemed.tm.fr/cgi-</u>

<u>bin/newtest.pl?name=1\_1&rubrique=festival&lng=en&titre=29th+festival+%3E+In</u> fos

#### Give a name to the Galileo Satellite

The European Commission has launched a drawing competition aimed at raising the interest of children for space. The child with the best drawing in each Member State will have his or her name given to a satellite of the Galileo programme. Children living in EU countries and born in 2000, 2001 and 2002 are invited to make a drawing related to space and aeronautics, scan it or take a digital photograph of it and upload it onto a specified website. The first two satellites will be launched in September will bear the names of the winning children from Belgium and Bulgaria. The same competition will get under way in the other 25 Member States from the first of September 2011, to give names to the following satellites which will be launched on a gradual basis as of 2012. The competition is for children aged 9 - 11 and the order is determined by the alphabetical order of the member states. Follow the competition to find out more about the deadlines of the next countries

http://www.galileocontest.eu

Please also look at the Programmes folder within the Eurodesk intranet for news on European and international (funding) opportunities.



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# **Highlights**

#### European Youth Week - flagship debate between young people and European decision-makers

The events of the European Youth Week (15-21 May) brought together thousands of young people that took part in hundreds of events all over Europe, be it in voluntary activities, information sessions, workshops and debates, flashmobs and sportina events, movie screenings and many other. Held under the new "Youth on the Move" initiative of the European Union, the youth week aimed also at improving dialogue between young people and key European policymakers, through means of structured dialogue, organized during a series of flagship events.

In one of these key debates, President of the European Commission, Jose Manuel Barroso and European Commissioner for Education, Culture and Youth, Androulla Vassiliou discussed with youth representatives, in an event attended by around 200 people. Throughout young the discussion, President Barroso pointed out that: "societies expect a great deal from young people today and no plan can succeed without the involvement of young people". In this sense, "mobility for young people should not be a luxury, but an affordable experience, needed to enhance their knowledge and skills, and to function in a modern world".

Explaining the Youth on the Move strategy, Commissioner Vassiliou emphasized that the initiative aims to "give all young people the chance to reach their full potential and to have a good start in life". Speaking on behalf of the European Youth Forum, Peter Matjašič highlighted the need that the Europe 2020 strategy should focus on the accessibility of the labour market for young people.

In addition, other points of discussions revolved around the issues of non-formal education, simplifying contractual procedures for

youth projects and enforcing the rights of volunteers all over Europe. To watch the debates go to: <u>http://www.youthweek.eu/video-</u> youth-on-the-move-debate/

Preceding the debate, a ceremony during which three of the best EVS projects were awarded special prizes. Find out which projects received the title for best EVS:

http://www.youthweek.eu/newsalert-evs-awards-winners/

The reportage from the EuroparITV provides an overview of the European Youth Week:

http://www.youthweek.eu/video-eywoverview/

#### Outcomes of the Council of the European Union on Education, Youth, Culture and Sport

On 19 May 2011, the Council of the European Union, the European forum that brings together all the 27 Member States of the European Union, has adopted two resolutions which complete the first phase of the Structured Dialogue between youth representatives and European decision-makers.

first resolution relates The to encouraging new and effective forms of participation of all young people in democratic life in Europe. It aims to enhance civic engagement and democratic participation of young people and to motivate them to participate fully in the education system, in the labour market and in Community life. The overall scope is for young people to become active citizens of the societies they live in.

The second document adopted refers concretely to the Structured Dialogue with young people on the issue of youth unemployment. The Council and representatives of the governments of member states have taken note of the latest evaluations regarding youth unemployment and they have set out policy priorities for the next team presidency of the



Council which will be lead by: Poland, Denmark and Cyprus.

The overall thematic priority for the next 18 month cycle (1 July 2011-30 December 2012) will be youth participation with a special emphasis on participation in democratic life in Europe. Moreover, at the end of 2012 the European Commission is expected to present an EU Youth Report that will evaluate the first two phases of the structured dialogue with young people.

During the meeting, Ministers discussed also about the voluntary activities of young people and their contribution to the development of local communities. The Hungarian and Polish presidencies have stressed out their commitment to promote and improve conditions for volunteering in the EU and raise awareness on the value and importance of these activities.

The full press release:

http://www.consilium.europa.eu/App/ NewsRoom/loadDocument.aspx?id=35 7&lang=EN&directory=en/educ/&fileN ame=122118.pdf

#### Structured Dialogue Conclusions -European Youth Week 2011

Young representatives from National Working Groups across Europe who came to Brussels for the Structured Dialogue (SD) session of the European Youth Week 2011 have delivered their verdicts on the priorities for Europe, going into the next 18-month EU Trio Presidency of Denmark, Poland and Cyprus.

One of the key points of the Structured Dialogue Conclusions was to make sure information about Structured Dialogue, the process of policy consultation in the youth field, was more youth-friendly and more visible on a national level – a commitment which Androulla Vassiliou, the European Commissioner for Youth, welcome very much when the recommendations were announced.

One other issue mentioned in the conclusions is that the European Commission should use the European Youth Portal to provide relevant information and knowledge (best practice) on how to use the outcomes of the SD in advocacy and policymaking, and on how to monitor and evaluate the implementation of the results. Read the conclusions:

http://ec.europa.eu/youth/news/doc/ week11 en.pdf

#### EU - China Forum: Youth Entrepreneurship

The event held on the 19th of May 2011, in Brussels, was intended to offer a space to youth representatives from the EU and China to explore and share concrete practices, experiences and challenges around the following entrepreneurship topics: and promoting education, the development of entrepreneurial skills mindsets, facilitating youth and entrepreneurship, social entrepreneurship. It also aimed at situations, comparing identifying inspiring practices from both sides and encouraging the development of a better understanding of respective realities and challenges for young people in the EU and China. Lu Hao, Chairman of the China Organising Committee of the EU-China Year of Youth defined successful new business ventures as having three core pillars: the will to achieve; the ability to do so, and favourable conditions. He considers that "It's not easy for us to find a common path," he added, but said that European Youth Week, and the full EU-China Year of Youth, provided excellent opportunities to share ways to cultivate the favourable conditions for young start-up businesses. In this context European Commissioner Androulla Vassiliou explained that "the EU and China face similar challenges and, of course, opportunities", and called for "a strong Europe-China collaboration on entrepreneurship". Learn more about the event on:

http://www.2011euchinayouth.eu/eve nts/eu-china-forum-youthentrepreneurship

#### Youth in Action monitoring survey

At the beginning of 2011, the Commission launched for a second



time a survey aimed at assessing the qualitative outcomes of Youth in Action projects on their participants and promoters. This survey - carried out among more than 5 000 young people, vouth workers and vouth organisations - shows that the Youth in Action programme is fostering active citizenship and promoting the acquisition of skills leading to personal, social and professional development.

The survey was carried out in all Member States and focused on participants in transnational projects. *Among the young participants:* 

- 91% consider that having participated in a YiA project has increased their competences in a foreign language;
- 84% consider that they learned better how to achieve something in the interest of their community or society;
- 75% learned better how to identify opportunities for their personal or professional future;
- 87% say that the projects made them more receptive to multiculturalism in Europe;
- 67% believe that their job chances have increased thanks to the project experience.

Among the youth workers:

- 86% of the respondents consider that they will now give more attention to including an international dimension in their work;
- 92% consider that they gained skills and knowledge which they would not be able to gain through projects organised at national level.

Among the youth organisations:

- 90% consider as 'very true' or 'somewhat true' that participating in a project supported by Youth in Action increased their project management skills;
- 89% consider as very true or somewhat true that it increased their appreciation of cultural diversity.

Finally, asked if they had been participating in a new international or

European initiative since the end of their project or are planning to do so in the future, 80% of the young participants, 90% of the youth workers and 96% of the youth organisations responded positively. Main results of the monitoring survey: http://ec.europa.eu/youth/focus/doc/mon itoring survey/main results monitoring s urvey 2011.pdf

Full report of the monitoring survey: http://ec.europa.eu/youth/focus/doc/ monitoring survey/report monitoring survey 2011.pdf

### Youth in Action programme – successful interim evaluation

The European Commission has published a mid-term review carried out by independent experts and participating countries of the Youth in Action (YiA) programme which targets young people, youth organisations and youth workers and aims to build capacities through non-formal education. The evaluation highlights that the programme is fulfilling its objectives, is relevant, coherent, and efficient, adds value and has seen unparalleled customer satisfaction. Some recommendations for future improvement were also made, such as simplifying the programme design and cutting red-tape, focusing more on employability, further promoting actions for disadvantaged youth, targeting young people better and improving the follow-up system.

In terms of relevance, the YiA Programme is well embedded in the strategies and policy wider EU objectives that were in place at the time of developing the Programme. Furthermore, the YiA Programme is generally complementary to other EU programmes and to national initiatives, although there is some variation between countries. The Programme is relevant to the needs of young people. The problem analysis made for YiA is still valid, and the employability needs are becoming more important. For youth workers, YiA remains relevant as it contributes to the further strengthening of quality in youth work and its recognition, as



well as the quality of the non-formal learning opportunities.

There are different opinions as to whether the Programme should focus more on youth organisations and vouth workers to be more effective. Furthermore, YiA is successful in achieving objectives regarding young people. The Programme also achieves the objectives regarding youth workers and young people with fewer opportunities are actively targeted. Although all Actions contribute to YiA objectives, there are differences in the extent to which the different subcontribute to different Actions Nevertheless, obiectives. some minuses have been identified as well, namely, regarding the 26 specific objectives under the five general objectives, four permanent priorities and annual priorities, aims per Action and many sub-Actions which do not readability help the of the Programme. Thus, the Programme loses some focus and internal coherence as a result.

A copy of the report can be downloaded from the Commission's website:

http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/education\_cu lture/evalreports/index\_en.htm#yout hHeader

#### Did you know that you can volunteer being as an Erasmus Student in a foreign country?

We all know what the Erasmus programme is all about, but do we know how many opportunities Erasmus offers programme to Erasmus students apart from just studying in a foreign country for a year or one semester? The article, written by Zane Boreiko, tells the story of Erasmus students in Riga who alongside their academic studies at University also find time to make contribution positive towards community they live in through volunteering. The Social Erasmus project is an Erasmus Student Network international project which was created in 2008 in Poland. The project gives international students the opportunity to do charity work in the local community as well as getting to know a new culture and system of education. On 29 March 2011 in Riga the first "European lesson" in frames of Social Erasmus project was held. For the first time, Erasmus students had a chance to become volunteers. Besides volunteering, the programme involves several European lessons on voluntary participation, with the overall objective to familiarize the with participants Europe and European people, their traditions and customs, as well as a way to overcome stereotypes. To read more successful about the Erasmus volunteering stories in Riga go to: http://www.mladiinfo.com/2011/05/0 2/did-you-know-that-you-canvolunteer-being-as-an-erasmusstudent-in-a-foreign-country/ To learn more about the programme see: http://socialerasmus.esn.org/

*Please also look at the News folder within the Eurodesk intranet for other European news from the network.* 





# **10** June 2011: European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage - EUROPA NOSTRA Awards, Amsterdam, The Netherlands

The awards highlight some of Europe's best achievements in heritage care, and showcase remarkable efforts made in raising awareness about our cultural heritage. Exemplary heritage achievements in Europe are awarded in the following four categories: conservation projects, research and dedicated service to heritage conservation by individuals and/or groups, and education, training and awareness raising within Europe's cultural heritage sector. 27 projects won the 2011 European Union Prize for Cultural Heritage/Europa Nostra Awards. The awards will be presented on 10 June during a ceremony at the Concertgebouw in Amsterdam in the presence of Androulla Vassiliou, European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth, and Plácido Domingo, president of Europa Nostra. Out of the 27 winning projects, six will be named as 'grand prix' laureates at the ceremony as 2011's most outstanding heritage achievements.

To see the selected project from each and every EU country go to: <a href="http://www.europanostra.org/laureates-2011/">http://www.europanostra.org/laureates-2011/</a>

#### 20-21 June 2011: "Catch the Train: Skills, Education and Jobs" Conference

Together with the European Commission's DG Education and Culture and the European Expert Network on Economics of Education (EENEE), the Center for Research in Lifelong Learning (CRELL) of the JRC is organizing the International Conference "Catch the Train: Skills, Education and Jobs" conference, at Tour Madou, Brussels (BE). The conference aims to respond to a request formulated by the European Council to the European Commission to propose a benchmark on the role of education and training for employability. In the context of this exercise, CRELL gathers prominent scholars to foster the exchange of knowledge and research findings in the field of employability. This conference will be articulated around three main thematic axes:

- The role of Education and Training (E&T) systems in the preparation for employment;
- School-to-work transitions;
- Maintenance and upgrading of employability.

Within each of these three axes scholars are specifically invited to address the challenges for the education and training institutions, the challenges for the labor market and potential solutions towards a skills' demand-supply equilibrium.

For more on the programme and to watch the conference online see: <u>http://crell.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php/conferences-and-events/228</u>

#### June-August 2011: Youth on the Move Summer Events

Under the Youth on the Move initiative, various events involving young people will take place during the summer time. In Brussels there will be two events. The first between 23 - 26 June will offer young people direct access to the industry's cutting-edge thinkers, designers, and top CEOs and an opportunity for them to influence the transport, design and mobility decisions that will shape the future. For the second event, taking place between 24 - 26 June, a Youth on the Move stand will provide information during the Couleur Café festival in Brussels. One other event supported by the Youth on the Move initiative will be the Gamescom City Festival in Cologne, between 19 - 21 August. For more information on these Youth on the Move events follow:

http://ec.europa.eu/youthonthemove/events/index\_en.htm

#### 1 July - 31 December 2011 - EU Polish Council Presidency

After the Czech Republic and Hungary, Poland will be the third country from Eastern European which will take over the presidency of the Council of the European Union. Poland will also be the first out of a new presidency trio, together with Denmark and Cyprus. To find more about the new presidency and its priorities, to see its logo and its programme, to follow its events and positions have a look on: http://prezydencjaue.gov.pl/en/

## 8-11 September 2011: 2nd edition of the Green European Summer University: "Europe - Make it or break it!"

Organised by the the Greens/EFA Group in the European Parliament and the European Green Party at the Viadrina University in Frankfurt/Oder, Germany and the Collegicum Polonicum in Słubice in Poland from 8-11 September 2011, the summer university aims to offer a forum to all those who want an open and sustainable Europe, a Europe united in solidarity, a Europe strong for its citizens, and responsible to the world. All young and old people, experts, scientists, managers, artists, civil society representatives are expected to take part and contribute to the event. Please note that there is a participation fee of 60/40 euros. However, a reduced fee is offered to participants younger than 26 years.

Online registrations can be made until 20 July 2011.

Find out more: <u>http://www.green-summer-university.info/</u>

# 14-18 September 2011: The Enter! project, European Youth Centre, Strasbourg, France

Organised by the Directorate of Youth and Sports of the Council of Europe, the twoyear project aims to share experiences and develop innovative and effective youth work and youth policy responses to exclusion, discrimination and violence affecting young people in multicultural disadvantaged neighborhoods. The project draws on the experience of the Council of Europe youth sector in developing non-formal learning and training of youth workers in order to explore ways of responding to challenges faced by young people and youth work institutions. The event will bring together some 180 young people, youth workers, youth researchers, policy makers and representatives of the project partners with the aim to provide them with the opportunity and the space to voice their opinions, and share their experiences about access to social rights in Europe as a contribution to the development of youth policies in the Council of Europe.

Eligible applicants may come from: Andorra, Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Georgia, Hungary, Iceland, Lichtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Montenegro, Slovenia, The Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, San Marino, Slovak Republic, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine.

#### The deadline for application is 4 July 2011.

The application can be found on: <u>http://youthapplications.coe.int/</u> For more information have a look on: <u>http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/youth/News/Calls for applications/011 ENTER Congress</u> \_september 2011 en.asp

#### **16-22 September 2011, European Mobility Week** The European Mobility Week is an awareness raising campaign aiming at sensibilising citizens to the use of public transport, cycling, walking and at encouraging European cities to promote these modes of transport and to invest in the new necessary infrastructures. From 16 to 22 September 2011 the Mobility Week is the opportunity for European cities and towns to participate to the most widespread event on sustainable mobility. The overall aim of the European Mobility Week campaign is to encourage public awareness of the need to act against pollution caused by the increase in motorised traffic in the urban environment. In fact, it is not just a question of fighting atmospheric pollution or noise but also of

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improving the quality of urban life. Young people are particularly encouraged to take part in these events. Local authorities must register here: <u>http://www.mobilityweek.eu/</u>

Awards will be offered to cities that have a track record on sustainable transport. Find out more here: <u>http://www.mobilityweek.eu/</u>

#### 10-13 October 2011: 9<sup>th</sup> European week of Regions and Cities

206 regions and cities from 27 Member States and eight third countries will take part in OPEN DAYS 2011. Organised in 23 regional partnerships, they will contribute with 24 workshops to the complete programme of more than 100 seminars taking place during the OPEN DAYS between 10 and 13 October. In addition, the Committee of the Regions will host some 35 workshops in the framework of the Meeting Place, most of which focusing on public-private partnerships.

The OPEN DAYS 2011 participants' registration will start in July, when the full programme will be made available online. Please check this website for further news and updates:

http://ec.europa.eu/regional\_policy/conferences/od2011/index.cfm

#### Salto-Youth: Training Calendar

The European Training Calendar contains current training offers of different institutions and organisations, such as SALTO, the National Agencies for the YOUTH IN ACTION Programme, non-governmental youth organisations, the European Youth Centres of the Council of Europe, the Partnership Programme on European Youth Worker Training, etc. They are directed at disseminators, group leaders, mentors, and other specialists as well as young people working in international youth work.

The offers are open and invite you to apply for participation: http://www.salto-youth.net/tools/training/find-a-training/?&pagerOffset=90

# Quote of the month

#### Croatia stepping into the scene!

As you know, Croatia is (along with Switzerland) the new baby in the Eurodesk family. We are very happy to be a part of the network and we would like to use this opportunity to introduce ourselves and to share some news about our growing-up process.

process



My name is Ana Nahod and I became the new Eurodesk contact person in May, after my colleague Dubravka took a maternity leave. Eurodesk Croatia is placed within the *Agency for Mobility and EU Programmes,* Department for Youth in Action. The Agency was founded in 2007 with the aim of implementing the Lifelong Learning and Youth in Action programmes. In 2011 we became a full member in the Youth in Action Programme and a new Eurodesk partner.

Since Eurodesk Croatia is still in the kick-off phase, the whole YiA team (Sanja, Danijela, Aleksandra, Davor, Milan and me) has been busy with its activities. Within the European Youth Week in May we organised lots of activities – such as presentations of the YiA programme, video projections, quizes, round tables,

workshops, etc - in cooperation with youth infomation centres in major Croatian cities (Split, Rijeka, Osijek, Slavonski brod, Dubrovnik). Our biggest event was the YouthSong contest for the best original song of young authors. After preliminary selection, the 13 finalists (8 soloists and 5 bands) from all parts of Croatia presented their songs in a very good live performance, on Friday 20th of the May, in beautiful Park Zrinjevac in the centre of town.



The winning song "Tomorrow will be better" by Saša Cindrić from Zagreb gained the most jury's votes. You can check the 10 min video from the contest at <a href="http://www.mobilnost.hr/nio.php?o=109">http://www.mobilnost.hr/nio.php?o=109</a>.

At the moment, we are conducting a nation-wide research on the Structured Dialogue, with the aim of addressing the needs of young people in local communities and improving their communication with local and regional government bodies. Soon you'll be able to see much more of us, as our immediate plans include putting up a national Eurodesk website and a Facebook page.

I am very much looking forward to our next steps and to cooperation with the rest of the Eurodesk network.

Greetings from sunny Zagreb,

Ana Nahod (HR001-Ana)



# Eurodesk Brussels Link Activities

10 May 2011	Virtual Conference about Youth Information (SK). Location: Online.
	Participants from Eurodesk: Anja, Reinhard
10 May 2011	EurActiv Workshop: Integrating online video into EU Public Affairs Location: Brussels Participants from EBL: Raluca
12 May 2011	Meeting DG EMPL, EURES.
	Location: Brussels
	Participants from EBL: Anja
17 May 2011	Youth on the Move flagship event
	Location: Antwerp
22 May 2011	Participants from Eurodesk: Anja
23 May 2011	Meeting DG EAC on EYP 2.0 Technical Vision.
	Participants from EBL: Anja, Raluca
23-24 May 2011	Second Thematic Conference for European Year of Volunteering 2011
-	Location: Brussels
	Participants from EBL: Anja, Raluca
24-27 May 2011	Green Week
	Location: Charlemagne Building, Brussels
30 May 2011	Participants from EBL: Anja, Raluca, Rocio Culture Infoday
50 May 2011	Location: European Commission, Brussels
	Participants from EBL: Cristian
30 May 2011	Youth Forum Roundtable Entrepreneurship Conference
	Location: European Parliament, Brussels
	Participants from EBL: Jonathan
31 May 2011	Meeting DG EAC, Frode Fjeldavli, Giorgio Guazzugli-Marini
	Location: Brussels
	Participants from EBL: Anja



# Eurodesk Network Calendar

28-29 June 2011	Executive Committee Meeting Location: EBL
8-10 September 2011	European Seminar for Eurodesk Multipliers Location: Brussels
13-16 October 2011	Eurodesk Network Meeting Location: Antwerp

