



[EUNEC newsletter](#)  
[January 2009](#)

## 1 EUNEC Membership

EUNEC is pleased to welcome a new full member, the Cyprus Education Council (Symvoulío Paideias).

All councils will receive an invitation to pay the membership fee for 2009. Membership fees remain unchanged.

## 2 EUNEC Executive Committee

The **Executive Committee** of EUNEC met on October 12<sup>th</sup> in Vilnius and on December 17<sup>th</sup> in Brussels. You can find the **minutes** of the meetings on the website ([www.eunec.eu](http://www.eunec.eu)).

## 3 Forthcoming events

### **Expert Seminar in The Hague, on 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> May 2009**

Theme : Education and training challenged by innovation and creativity in society: dealing with new societal demands. Eunec full members are preparing the seminar, in close collaboration with the host council, the Onderwijsraad from the Netherlands.

EUNEC wants to explore the main challenges for education policies within the next 10 years. The seminar will be a contribution of EUNEC to the discussion on the future objectives for the education and training work programme of the European Union beyond 2010.

### **Conference in October 2009**

Theme : Guidance to children, young people and adults through the transition moments in their life long curriculum in order to achieve equity and avoid social exclusion.

One of the main objectives of EUNEC is to help to realize social cohesion and equity. Children and young people, especially from the most vulnerable groups (for instance with migrant background) need support to be able to make the right choices at transition moments in their curriculum. Different sub-themes can be advanced: early childhood, the transition from primary to secondary education, the transition from secondary to higher education, early school leaving, the transition to the labour market.

The venue of this conference is still to be decided.

## **Study on education councils**

In 2008, the Executive Committee decided to order a new study on education councils and advisory bodies in the enlarged EU.

In 2009, the researchers will proceed to an in-depth case analysis. Cases are chosen based on inventory and survey results, after consultation with the steering group and feedback from an international expert committee.

Eunec will organise in October 2009 a working seminar with EUNEC full and associate members on the preliminary research results of this study.

## **4 EUNEC conference 'The teaching profession; changes, challenges and perspectives' (Vilnius, 13-15 October 2008)**

EUNEC organised this conference hosted by the Lithuanian Education Council.

More than hundred participants out of 17 EU countries worked together on the current European education issue of the teaching profession.

On Monday 13<sup>th</sup> of October, they focused on societal and educational challenges for teachers.

After a round table and some presentations about this subject and about the OECD Talis project, the new role of teachers and the needed competences were discussed in working groups.

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> of October, the central theme was the making of lifelong learning for teachers a reality; how to enhance competences through a continuum of provisions?

Paul Holdsworth from the European Commission presented the Commission's policies on Teacher Education including the Communication on Competences for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

The round table tried to define the reforming and rethinking of initial teacher training (within or outside the Bologna Process), with representatives of different education councils, members of Eunec.

After lunched, participants listened to the contribution of Gary Brace from the General Teaching Council in Wales on in-service teacher training and education. This theme was discussed afterwards in working groups : priorities and projects in education councils on in-service teacher training and education.

On the final day of the conference, the participants formulated common statements and recommendations based on the conclusions of the working groups.

The EUNEC study on education councils in the EU was presented by Jan Van Damme and Jonathan Gaskell from the Public Management Institute (Catholic University of Louvain, Belgium). They made some interviews of Council's representatives during the meeting.

You can find the presentations and the statements of this conference on the website ([www.eunec.eu](http://www.eunec.eu)).

## **5 A State of Affairs of the European Education Policy**

To keep up with the activities of the European education policy, the EUNEC secretariat made a state of affairs in October 2008 and another one in December 2008.

In the first document (October 2008) you can find information on the following subjects:

1. The European Union
  - 1.1 General objectives for education and training
    - 1.1.1 Education policies after 2010
    - 1.1.2 Multilingualism : an asset for Europe?
    - 1.1.3 Progress towards the Lisbon objectives in education and training
    - 1.1.4 European Year of the Intercultural Dialogue
  - 1.2 Policy lines for specific sectors of education and training
    - 1.2.1 Early Childhood
    - 1.2.2 Cooperation on school education
      - 1.2.2.1 Improving competences for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century. An Agenda for European Cooperation on Schools
      - 1.2.2.2 Education and Migration
    - 1.2.3 Cooperation on VET
      - 1.2.3.1 ECVET
      - 1.2.3.2 Quality assurance
      - 1.2.3.3 Mobility of apprentices
    - 1.2.4 Cooperation on higher education
      - 1.2.4.1 Bologna Seminar
      - 1.2.4.2 Erasmus Mundus
  - 1.3 Developments in other policy domains
    - 1.3.1 A renewed social agenda : Opportunities, access and solidarity in 21<sup>st</sup> century Europe
    - 1.3.2 The participation of young people with fewer opportunities
    - 1.3.3 Developments in the youth program
    - 1.3.4 Health and health education of youngsters
  - 1.4 The French Presidency
2. The OECD
  - 2.1 General objectives for education and training
    - 2.1.1 Trends shaping education
    - 2.1.2 Education at a glance
    - 2.1.3 Follow up schooling for tomorrow
  - 2.2 Thematic review on tertiary education

In the most recent document (December 2008):

1. The European Union
  - 1.1 General objectives for education and training
    - 1.1.1 The European Commission Work Programme 2009
    - 1.1.2 Council Resolution on a European Strategy for Multilingualism

- 1.1.3 Council Conclusions on the Promotion of Cultural Diversity and Intercultural Dialogue in the external relations of the Union and its Member States
    - 1.1.4 European Year of Creativity and Innovation
  - 1.2 Policy lines for specific sectors of education and training
    - 1.2.1 Youth Mobility
    - 1.2.2 Cooperation on VET
    - 1.2.3 Cooperation on Schools for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century
    - 1.2.4 Cooperation on Higher Education
    - 1.2.5 Lifelong Learning Strategies
  - 1.3 Developments in other policy domains : the health and well-being of young people
  - 1.4 The French Presidency
- 2. The OECD
  - 2.1 Understanding the Social Outcomes of Learning
  - 2.2 Tertiary Education for the Knowledge Society
  - 2.3 Measuring Improvements in Learning Outcomes
  - 2.4 CERI synthesis report on Social Outcomes of Learning
  - 2.5 CERI conference on 'Learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> century'
- 3. UNESCO 2009 Education for All Global Monitoring Report

You can read the full text of the State of Affairs on the website ([www.eunec.eu](http://www.eunec.eu))

## **6**      **Remarks**

You are kindly invited to send all questions and remarks on EUNEC and this newsletter to [eunec@vlor.be](mailto:eunec@vlor.be)