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| EUNEC Newsletter June 2013 |
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|  –  [EUNEC at work](http://www.emeel.be/t/ViewEmailInIFrame/r/BF1EB7079FFE36182540EF23F30FEDED/C67FD2F38AC4859C/%22%20%5Cl%20%22toc_item_0)  |
|  –  [Members' news](http://www.emeel.be/t/ViewEmailInIFrame/r/BF1EB7079FFE36182540EF23F30FEDED/C67FD2F38AC4859C/%22%20%5Cl%20%22toc_item_1) |
|  –  [European Heartbeat](http://www.emeel.be/t/ViewEmailInIFrame/r/BF1EB7079FFE36182540EF23F30FEDED/C67FD2F38AC4859C/%22%20%5Cl%20%22toc_item_2)  |

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| **EUNEC at work**  |

[**Seminar on community schools in Brussels**](http://www.emeel.be/t/r-l-blrdyll-l-t/)

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| The concept of community schools links excellence in education with many other pedagogic and social challenges, such as equal opportunities, social cohesion, informal learning, parental involvement in schools, partnerships with the community, policy making capacity of local schools.Representatives of education councils from 12 European countries participated actively in this seminar.Professor Alan Dyson (Centre for Equity in Education, University of Manchester) presented an overview of international experience and evidence on community schools.  Three EUNEC member councils offered insights in policy related to community schools in their country (Wales, Romania, Netherlands).  Participants discussed their findings in preparation of common statements, that will be published before summer.The second day of the seminar was dedicated to a school visit.  Participants were warmly welcomed by the director, parents, pupils, teachers and partners of Sint-Joost-aan-Zee, a community school in Brussels' city center. The programme, participants lists, background document with input from the members and all presentations are available at [www.eunec.eu](http://www.emeel.be/t/r-l-blrdyll-l-i/). |   | EUNEC at the VlorVisit at Sint-Joost-aan-Zee |

http://i8.createsend1.com/ti/r/0D/443/ABA/180658/images/divider_grey.gif**Upcoming event: EUNEC conference on early school leaving.**

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| The next EUNEC conference will focus on early school leaving, one of the headline targets of Education and Training 2020 and of the Europe 2020 strategy.The conference will take place on 18-20 November 2013 in Vilnius, and will be included in the Parliament Calender of the European Presidency of the EU.This conference is open for EUNEC members only.  First announcement will be sent in the first week of September 2013. |

http://i8.createsend1.com/ti/r/0D/443/ABA/180658/images/divider_grey.gif[**EUNEC participates at a stakeholder conference in Mexico**](http://www.emeel.be/t/r-l-blrdyll-l-u/)

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| At this moment, Manuel Miguéns, member of the EUNEC executive committee and secretary general of the CNE, the Portuguese Education Council, represents the network at the 'Encuentro Latinoamericano de Participacion Social' in Mexico city.  The aim is to explore the different models of participation that are implemented in the EU.  The conference is an initiative of CONAPASE, the 'Consejo Nacional de Participacion Social en la Educacion' from Mexico.  Representatives from Columbia will stress the importance of participation of parents, and more specifically fathers.In 2012, EUNEC already participated actively at a conference organized by CONAPASE, the 'VIII national Encouter of the Social Participation in Education'.  |

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| **Members' news** |

**ESYP (Greece) presents its new president.**

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| Professor Sokratis Katsikas is the new president of the 'Ethnico Symvoulio Paideias', the Greek National Council for Education.ESYP is an autonomous advisory body for the Ministry of Education, created in 2003 to guarantee the widest consensus possible on issues relating to educational policy and practices.Professor Sokratis K. Katsikas has a diploma in Electrical Engineering from the University of Patras, a Master of Science in Electrical & Computer Engineering degree from the University of Massachusetts and a Ph.D. in Computer Engineering & Informatics from the University of Patras.  He has held teaching and research positions in Massachusetts, Patras and Athens.  He is currently professor in the University of Piraeus at the Dept. of Digital Systems.  He has been University Rector of the University of the Aegean between 2002 and 2006.  He is a member of consultancy committees to several Ministries of the Greek government.EUNEC welcomed professor Katsikas as a participant at the seminar on community schools in Brussels.More information on ESYP at [www.eunec.eu](http://www.emeel.be/t/r-l-blrdyll-l-o/), member section. |   | http://i2.createsend1.com/ei/r/9B/88D/339/csimport/sokratis_katsikas.104050.jpgThe president of the Greek Council |

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| **European Heartbeat**  |

[**Council of Ministers of Education 16-17 May 2013**](http://www.emeel.be/t/r-l-blrdyll-l-b/)

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| The Council adopted Conclusions on the social dimension of Higher Education.  The Irish Presidency updated Ministers on the negotiations between the Council, the Parliament and the Commission on Erasmus for all.  Finally Ministers debated 'Ensuring a teaching profession of the highest quality to underpin the achievement of better learning outcomes'.  To ensure a lively and informative debate, the Presidency invited two guest speakers: Christine Blower, President of the European Trade Union Committee for Education and General Secretary of the National Union of Teachers and Pasi Sahlberg, Finnish Education Expert.  Mr Sahlberg is known by EUNEC members as he was a key note speaker at our 2010 conference in Brussels on participation and stakeholder involvement in education policy making. |

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| EUNEC-secretariat  c/o Onderwijsraad  Kunstlaan 6 bus 6 - 1210 Brussel Tel.:+32 2 227 13 70 - e-mail: eunec@vlor.be - [www.eunec.eu](http://www.emeel.be/t/r-l-blrdyll-l-p/) |