

Seminar in The Hague, 23-25 September 2004

Becoming a responsible citizen in Europe -The contribution of the education field

INTRODUCTION

Eunec is a European network of education councils. Its members are official advisory bodies on education and training to the national governments in Europe. Eunec offers the education councils a platform for exchange of information and points of view on the education policies of both the European Union and the different national governments.

The Dutch presidency supports this seminar, organized by the Dutch education council. As the Presidency gives European citizenship education a high priority, it is highly relevant for education councils to get a broad picture of recent European initiatives taken. The multi-culturalisation of our societies and the enlargement of the European Union towards East and South Europe gave a new élan to the debate on active citizenship and a European dimension in education. The core question is about the common underlying values all Europeans share and how this heritage can become a cornerstone of a new common future perspective.

The European Year of citizenship through education of the Council of Europe in 2005 also intends to raise the awareness of the importance to a democratic citizenship education. The declaration of Lisbon from March 2000 set up a broad discussion on the objectives for education and training. Formulating a common set of key competences for a.o. citizenship education is one of the main assets.

During the seminar key note speakers and members discussed on the following themes:

- 1 *How can we understand citizenship in a European context? What is specific? What is the relation between a European identity and other (similar) "loyalties" (ethnic 'group', nationality, the global context)?*
- 2 *What is the contribution of education (as far as curricula and school participation are concerned) up till now promoting European citizenship? Is there a role for European identity in this?*
- 3 *Which programmes and projects can be recommended as good practice and what is their contribution to European citizenship and the European identity?*
- 4 *How and under which conditions can the national central government, the decentralized governments (regional and local) and the educational institutes together with public authorities and educational institutes in Europe enhance the development of citizenship in a European context by (making) a state of the art?*

PROGRAMME

Thursday 23 September 2004

Venue of the participants

9:00 **Themes and Issue of the conference**
Fons van Wieringen

president of Eunec

Friday 24 September 2004

- 9:15** **Citizenship education: principles out of educational research; main policy lines**
Chair: Fons van Wieringen
- 9:15-9:45** **Citizenship in school education, a comparative perspective**
Patricia Wastiau-Schlüter
European Eurydice Unit
- 9:45-10:00** **Discussion**
- 10:00-10:30** **Shaping new European citizens? Modes for implementing Education for European Citizenship in the classroom**
Stefaan Fiers
Catholic University of Louvain, Institute for political science, Institute for teacher training
- 10:30-10:45** **Discussion**
- 10:45-11:00* *Break*
- 11:00-11:30** **The proposals of working group B (Lisbon-process)**
Tapio Sääväälä
Directorate General for Education and Culture, European Commission
- 11:30-11:45** **Discussion**
- 11:45-12:15** **European citizenship. A conceptual framework for citizenship in an international perspective**
Hans Van Aalst
Lector Hogeschool Fontys
- 12:15-12:30** **Discussion**
- 12:30* *Lunch*
- 14:00** **Presentation of good policy practices in citizenship education**
Chair: Louise Van de Venne
- 14.00-14.15 Philip Vanhaezebrouck
VTI, Izegem (Belgium)
- 14:15-14:30 Pieter Delsing, Baken Park
Almere (The Netherlands)
- 14:30-14:45 Maria Rosa Costa
Escola secundaria, Aurelia de Sousa (Portugal)
- 14:45-15:00 Mary Rose Mifsud
Education director for democracy and values (Malta)
- 15:00-15:45** **Forum with**
Philip Vanhaezebrouck, Pieter Delsing, Maria Costa and Mary Rose Mifsud
- 15:45-16:00* *Break*

16:00-17.00 **Debate and preparation of a common Eunec statement**
Chair: Fons van Wieringen

17:00 *Informal drinks*

19:30 *Closing diner*

Saturday 25 September 2004

Departure of the participants