

ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

Learning for Active Citizenship

The Agenda 2000 proposals the EU rising to the challenge:

- Innovation;
- Research;
- Education & Training;
- Development of human potential.



Program „Uczenie się przez całe życie”
Grundtvig



DG Edukacja i Kultura

ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

Amsterdam Treaty (1997)

- developing citizenship of the EU;
- encouraging people’s practical involvement in the democratic process at all levels, and most particularly at European level;
- promoting a broader idea of EU citizenship as a „belonging to a shared social and cultural community.



ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

Amsterdam Treaty (1997)

- creating a European lifelong educational area open for all citizens;
- developing democratic values and social practices which together respect both our similarities and differences;
- encouraging active citizenship through education & training on a lifelong basis as a key objective of a future policy actions.



ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

From 2007 to 2013, it will fund activities which promote active European citizenship, build an inclusive European identity and promote common ownership of the European project.

It puts citizens in the spotlight and responds to the need to improve citizen participation in the construction of Europe.



ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

Intercultural exchanges contribute to improving the mutual knowledge of the culture and history of the European people. It brings our common heritage to the fore and strengthens the basis for our common future. Mutual understanding, solidarity and the feeling of belonging to Europe are indeed the building blocks for the involvement of citizens and are reflected by the four different programme actions:



ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

Action 1 "Active citizens for Europe" involves citizens directly, either through activities linked to town-twinning or through other kinds of citizens' projects.

Action 2 "Active civil society for Europe" is targeted to Europe-wide civil society organisations, receiving either structural support on the basis of their work programme or support trans-national projects.



ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

Action 3 "Together for Europe" supports high visibility events, studies and information tools, addressing the widest possible audience across frontiers and making Europe more tangible for its citizens.

Action 4 : "Active European Remembrance" supports the preservation of the main sites and archives associated with the deportations and the commemoration of the victims of nazism and stalinism.



ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

The European Year of Intercultural Dialogue (EYID 2008)

The main objective of the Year to **promote intercultural dialogue** as an instrument to assist European citizens, and all those living in the EU, in acquiring the knowledge and abilities to deal with a more open and more complex cultural environment.



ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

EYID 2008 also aims to **raise the awareness** of European citizens of the importance of developing an active European citizenship which is open to the world, respectful of cultural diversity and based on **common values** in the EU.

Intercultural dialogue contributes to:

- mutual understanding and a better living together;
- exploring the benefits of cultural diversity;
- fostering an active European citizenship and a sense of European belonging.



ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

Target groups

EYID 2008 activities will be aimed in particular at young people, but will also reach out to disadvantaged social groups like **migrants**.

Civil society should be mobilised and involved at European, national and local levels as far as possible.



Program „Uczenie się przez całe życie”
Grundtvig



DG Edukacja i Kultura

ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

Main actors

- At EU level, the EU Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture is the responsible body for the implementation of EYID 2008;
- In each EU Member State, a National Coordinating Body, usually a representative of the Ministry of Culture and /or Education is responsible for the implementation of EYID 2008;
- Civil society organizations will be the main stakeholders and actors of EYID 2008; the Civil Society Platform for Intercultural Dialogue was established in November 2006 (www.eurocult.org/ www.efah.org).



ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

EYID 2008 – three main objectives

1. Promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue;
2. Promotion of culture as a catalyst for creativity in the framework of the Lisbon Strategy;
3. Promotion of culture as a vital element in the EU's international relations.



ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

EYID 2008- Budget of 10 million Euro.

Three types of activity will be funded:

- an information and promotion campaign (4,6 million Euro);
- grants for 8-10 flagship projects (2,4 million euro) at European level;
- co-financing of initiatives at national level, one in each Member State (3 million Euro).



ACTIVE EUROPEAN CITIZENSHIP

December 2007

the Commission plans the official launch of the corporate image of EYID 2008 and the website:

www.dialogue2008.eu

More information:

http://ec.europa.eu/culture/portal/action/dialogue/2008_dialogue.htm

<http://ec.europa.eu/culture/portal/events/pdf>



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

Migration and Refugee Flows

- immigration flows for the most part taking the form of family reunion, refugee flows and labour migration („old new” countries such as France, Germany, UK, Benelux Countries, Austria, Sweden and Denmark); since at least the 1960s;
- immigration flows because of growing economic prosperity (Ireland, Spain, Portugal, Greece, Finland), as well as a redirection of migration flows following the introduction of more restrictive policies in north European receiving countries; since 1990s;



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

Migration and Refugee Flows

- immigration flows from the countries that recently joined the EU (Poland, Cyprus, etc.)- all countries have positive net migration
- the national composition of recent flows varies for European host country (since 1999):
Turks, Moroccan, Algerians, Ukrainians, Albanians, Russians, Indians, Iraqis and other nations

New patterns of mobility:

- a short-term, circular migration (aim: supplementing the income of families at home)
- an irregular, illegal migration (often organized by smugglers); approximately 500,00 irregular migrants entering EU states annually.



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

Problems and Policy Dilemmas

- different cultural and ethnic backgrounds;
- discrimination, racism or anti-immigrant harassment and violence;
- negative reporting on immigrants and asylum-seekers in the popular press;
- unemployment (lack of social and economic security for migrants);
- low-skilled and lack of professional and social competences/skills (languages & ICT skills, assertiveness, entrepreneurship's spirit, etc.);
- public resistance to increased migration;
- migration control/ asylum systems.



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

Integration- this is one of the areas in which European approaches have tended to show the greatest degree of divergence.

We can distinguish between 3 main approaches to integration in Europe:

- the multicultural approach, implying tolerance of cultural and religious diversity, robust anti-discrimination, and easy access to citizenship;



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

- the social citizenship approach offering immigrants a type of quasi-membership in the form of social and economic rights, but restricted access to full citizenship;
- the republican approach, which allows easy access to citizenship, but on the understanding that citizens divest themselves of particular ethnic or religious traits in the public sphere.



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

Labour migration and integration- joint approaches

- the 1997 European Employment Strategy, which includes measures on the labour market integration of immigrants and ethnic minorities;
- the 2000 Lisbon Strategy for economic, social and environmental renewal, which stresses the importance of labour migration as a means of addressing labour gaps;
- policies to combat poverty and social exclusion, which define ethnic minorities and immigrants as particularly vulnerable to exclusion and discrimination (Nice European Council of 2000);



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

Labour migration and integration- joint approaches

-the Single Market agenda, which has the goal of eliminating barriers to labour mobility between member states.

The European Monitoring Centre on Racism and Xenophobia- collecting information and analysing phenomena of racism, xenophobia, anti-semitism and Islamophobia (since 1997).

2003- EU Ministers agreed to extent its mandate to become a Human Rights Agency.



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

Good practice and lessons learned- 3 sets of actors involved:

- 1) For migrants and refugees:
 - Realisation of human rights
 - Socio-economic welfare and stability
- 2) For host countries:
 - Economic prosperity
 - Security and migration control
 - Inter-ethnic and social harmony
 - Political legitimacy of responses



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

3) For source and transit countries:

- Economic prosperity and development
- Security and migration control

Language learning- important aspect of economic and social integration. Good practice in this respect includes investing more resources in promoting language learning and bi-lingualism for migrant and refugee children in schools, and facilitating access to language training for parents.



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

In sum, those policies which appear to offer the most interesting lessons for other regions and countries are:

- involving source and transit countries in planning and implementing migration policies
- „package” approaches to cooperation, which incorporate the concerns of source countries
- better cooperation between different ministries/departments involved in migration policy



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

- encouraging arrangements for multicultural burden-sharing in cases of refugee crises
- liberalisation of free movement to enhance efficiency and integration in regional trade blocks
- common legislative guidelines to ensure good practices in less experienced host countries
- more emphasis on language learning and naturalisation to promote integration and active citizenship



MIGRATION IN EUROPE

„Active Citizenship for Migrants”

Thank you for your kind attention !