

# “New trends on Adult Education”<sup>1</sup>

Tuesday - 16 November, 2010

Summary results of the inquiry completed by participants at the conference "***New Trends on Adult Education***", held in the European Parliament, Brussels on 16 November 2010.

The idea of inserting three multiple-choice questions on the conference registration form, had the objective of guiding the discussion among participants. We received 232 requests (from 25 countries) to attend to the conference, and 179 applicants responded to the questionnaire. The list of respondents is presented in Annex 1 and full results presented in Annex 2. The conference's primary aims were to contribute to the new generation of learning strategies and the debate allowed conclusions accordingly. However, considering the number and profile of respondents, some extra outcomes, emerged from the analysis to the questionnaire.

## The primary objectives of Education and Training Programmes

A key-objective of the Strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training ( ET 2020 )<sup>2</sup>, is to promote "*equity, social cohesion and active citizenship – education and training should enable all citizens to acquire and develop skills and competencies needed for their employability and foster further learning, active citizenship and intercultural dialogue.*"

In line with these objectives, 99% of respondents to the questionnaire, think that the promotion of equity, social cohesion and active citizenship, should be the main objective of Education and Training Programmes. This was the most consensual question of all inquiry: only 1% disagrees and 61% strongly agree.

However, the answers to the question "Education and training Programmes, should be focused on improving **professional competencies**, of mature and older adults?" were not consensual: 16% of respondents disagree and 29% strongly agree.

The need to improve "**Linguistic competencies**" was also not highly consensual: 15% of respondents, disagree that mature and older adults should improve these competencies, and only 24% strongly agree with this option.

Respondents strongly agree that those mature and older adults should improve their **Intercultural competencies** (43%) and "**learning to learn**" **competencies** (45%). Only 7% respondents disagree with these options.

## New and improved strategies to deliver education and training

The ET 2020, it's also about to find "more flexible learning pathways" and to make education and training "more attractive and efficient".

47% of respondents strongly agree that next generation of Education and training Programmes, for mature and older adults, should pay more attention to **Intergenerational Learning**. Only 5%, disagree with this option.

A very similar percentage of respondents strongly agree that special attention should also be paid to **Mentoring and Befriending** (32%); **Self-directed Learning** (31%) and **Community based learning** (31%).

Because the questionnaire had some open questions to allow the inclusion of items – e-learning and other forms of cooperative online learning and "virtual education", have been the suggestion most mentioned by respondents. A large number of respondents also mention competencies to improve: health and wellbeing, artistic skills, self-trust and self-confidence, adaptability and active ageing.

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<sup>1</sup> The conference "*New Trends on Adult Education*" was hosted by MEP Maria da Graça Carvalho (EPP) in co-organization with Association VIDA - Intergenerational Valorisation and Active Development ([vida@viver.org](mailto:vida@viver.org)) under the Project PALADIN - Promoting Active Learning and Ageing of Disadvantage Seniors, co-financed by Grundtvig Programme of the European Commission. <http://projectpaladin.eu> . Summary results by: Teresa Almeida Pinto.

<sup>2</sup> Education and Training 2020: strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training (ET 2020) [Official Journal C 119 of 28.5.2009] [http://europa.eu/legislation\\_summaries/education\\_training\\_youth/general\\_framework/ef0016\\_en.htm](http://europa.eu/legislation_summaries/education_training_youth/general_framework/ef0016_en.htm)

# Annex 1

## Association VIDA acknowledge and thank the willingness of all respondents to the questionnaire inserted in the Registration Form, of the Conference “New trends on Adult Education”:

Adéla Vožechová (Czech Liaison Office for Research and Development) :: Alina Latan (CEH - Cehelec Management Centre - European Committee for Electrotechnical Standardization) :: András Bokor (Sanzs-Contact Kft) :: Ann Matthyssen (Lessius University College) :: Anna Carla Amato (International Labour Office - ILO Office for the EU and the Benelux countries) :: Anna Vondracek (Kea European Affairs) :: Annastiina Papunen (East Finland EU Office) :: Anne Van Otterloo(Annalin, ulture&Innovation) :: Anne-Elisabeth Lenel(M2A Technologies SARL) :: Anneleen Hubrecht(European Commission) :: Annemiek Waterborg(ANBOacademi) :: Arja Mielonen-Walker (University of Helsinki) :: Artur Pinto (Câmara Municipal de Lousada) :: Athanassios Goumas (REGIOEUROPE) :: Audrey Rigo(Pour La Solidarite) :: Barbara Isherwood (Bassingbourn Village College) :: Betti Cannova (Speha Fresia Società Cooperativa) :: Brenda Gietema(Ministry Social Affairs and Employment, The Netherlands Leader of ESF Age Network) :: Brigitte Weber-Frowein (Weber Creativ Team) :: Carmen Gauchía Sos (Comunidad Valenciana Región Europea) :: Carmen Hendrik (Groen! Plus vzw) :: Cecilie Cave (European Commission) :: Cedric Foussard(International uvenile Justice Observatory (IJO)) :: Changqing Ke (Mission of P.R.China to the E.U.) :: Charles Kejeh(De-Charles Resources Ltd) :: Christiane Gillet (SEGEC - Enseignement De Promotion Sociale) :: Christophe Isaac Castiau (International Yehudi Menuhin Foundation), Cinzia Laurelli(Fondazione Nazionale Carlo Collodi) :: Claire Robertson (Scotland Europa) :: Clara Mughini (CEDEFOP) :: Claude-Jean Lapostat (Reformed / Bastide du Bien-Etre) :: Clotilde Lombardi Satriani (Centro Europeo Risorse Umane - CERU) :: Concepción Bru Ronda (Permanent University - University Of Alicante) :: Constanze Adolf (EU FED -European Union Federation of Youth Hostel Associations) :: Creanga Danut Claudiu (RENNE SRL) :: Cristina Goni(European Juvenile Justice Observatory) :: Cristina Moreira (Câmara Municipal de Lousada) :: Dalia Regina Cymbaliuk (The Lithuanian Association of Adult Education) :: Daniela Figueiredo (University of Aveiro) :: Dario D'auria (Europe for Business / ECRAAL) :: Dieter Schäferbarthold (Researcher) :: Dominique Delaport (REFORMED) :: Elisabeth Franken () :: Emelie Aho (NBV Liaison Office to the European Union) :: Eric Bach (R.E.FO.R.MED) :: Esteban Pérez Resina (Promos.com) :: Faragoulitaki Antigoni (Ministry of Education,Lifelong Learning and Religious) :: Flavia Campos Lages (Fundación Galicia Europa) :: Franca Bandiera (Treviso Tecnologia – Special Agency Chamber of commerce) :: Franca Van Montfoort (Committee of the Regions) :: Franck Dantzer (C.R.I. – Région PACA) :: Franklin Kimbimbi (Université Libre de Brussels) :: Gábor Poór(Innova Észak-Alföld Regional Development and Innovation Agency) :: Genute Gedviliene (University Vytautas Magnus) :: Georgi Stefanov Stoev (Bulgarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry) :: Ger Tielen (ILC Netherlands) :: Gerd-Oskar Bausewein (CEDEFOP) :: Gertrud Rost (Engage in Age) :: Gina Ebner (European Association for the Education of Adults) :: Giulia Costantino (IDP European Consultant) :: Giulia Lombardi (European Academy Network) :: Goris Grietje (Vrije Universiteit Brussel) :: Greet Van Riel (CVO Antwerpen-Zuid) :: Gyöngyi, Bódiné Gál (Sanzs-Contact Kft.) :: Hannah Collins (European Association for Viewers Interests (EAVI)) :: Helga Van Hauthem (DAS CPAS Bruxelles) :: Hella Ranner (European Parliament) :: Herman Baert (Centre for Research on Professional Learning & Development, Corporate Training and Lifelong Learning) :: Hjordis Hendriksdottir (EFTA - European Free Trade Association) :: Iana Dobrova – Faria (Katholieke Universiteit Leuven) :: Ilona Kiss (Brussels Office of the City Budapest) :: Ingveig Astad(Mission of Norway to the EU) :: Isabel Raemdonck (Université Catholique de Louvain - Faculté Psychologie et des Sciences de l'Education) :: Ivan Hromada (Permanent Representation of the Slovak Republic) :: Jacques Jansen (CESO) :: Jeanne Douglas (Embargoed! (Human Rights' Group re Northern Cyprus) :: Jean-Pierre Madrid (Consultant) :: Jessica Miclotte (researcher) :: Joan Font (DEMÀ - Departament d'Estudis dels Medis Actuals) :: Jorge Vargas Visús (Gobierno de Aragón) :: Juan Quílez(Fundación para el Desarrollo Social) :: Juliette Swine(ACTIRIS) :: Karel Van Isacker (Phoenixkm / Marie Curie Association) :: Kari Kumpulainen (Kokkola University Consortium Chydenius) :: Katalin, Bokorné Tatár (Sanzs-Contact Kft) :: Käthe Schneider (Friedrich Schiller-Universität Jena) :: Kerstin Weertz (EU WAREHOUSE) :: Kinga Perlaki (Hogeschool Gent) :: Koen Depryck (CVO Antwerpen-Zuid) :: Kristina Sköld (NBV Liaison Office to the European Union) :: Kurt Berteloot (VSKO) :: Laetitia Van Cauwenberge (IFAPME) :: Laura Blesa (Universidad de Zaragoza) ::, Laura Romagnoli (Défense des Enfants International (DEI) :: Lene Oftedal (European Commission) :: Leticia Contreras (Fundación para el Desarrollo Social) :: Leticia Reyes Sánchez (Familles du Monde) :: Liatsikos Konstantinos (REFORMED aisbl) :: Loredana Ligabue (Anziani e Non Solo) :: Lorenzo Costantino (IDP European Consultant) :: Luc Bogaerts (Belgium – Flemish Community) :: Lucília Maria Pessoa Santos (Universidade de Aveiro) :: Mangelinckx Bernard (Senior Innovation) :: Manuel Ribeiro Bacelar (CCG - Communauté française de Belgique) :: Margaret Smith (The MRS Consultancy Ltd) :: Maria Antoniadou (Researcher) :: María Quílez(Universidad de Zaragoza) :: Marianne Seger(EURAG Europe) :: Marina Scholz (Zeuthener Akademie für Weiterbildung) :: Mario Azzopardi (Directorate for Lifelong Learning - Ministry of Education, Employment and the Family) :: Marion Van Er Voorde (Conn Sensus) :: Mariya Goranova-Valkova (Marie Curie Association) :: Marleen Voordeckers (European Training Foundation) :: Marta Brighenti (IDP European Consultant) :: Martin Solc (Charles University of Prague) :: Mateja Kozuh Novak (Slovene Federation of Pensioners' Associations) :: Mátrai Melinda (Észak-Alföld Regional Development Agency) :: Matthas Roos (City of Frankfurt Health Department) :: Maxime Lê Hùng (Entr'âges) :: Melina Letesson (Atoutage) :: Mia Douterlungne (Vlaamse Onderwijsraad (Flemish Education Council) :: Michel Stassin (STERIA Benelux S.A) :: Michele Latu (foyer Jean Thibierge) :: Monique De Ridder (Vlaamse Onderwijsraad (Flemish Education Council) :: Nathalie Daems (S-Plus vzw) :: Neal Taylor (Pendragon Language Teaching) :: Nicole Decostre (PhARE - Analyse, Recherche et Education en Philosophie pour Enfants) :: Nikola Freyova (Czech Liaison Office for Research and Development) :: Noemie Tourne (Ile-de-France Europe) :: Noreen Siba (International Longevity Centre - UK) :: Nuria Ruiz (Permanent University - University Of Alicante) :: Oliver Janoschka (EUCEN) :: Paola Mauro (EURO-IDEA)::Pedron Gregory (BUSINESSEUROPE) :: Peter Janssen (YPPF) :: Petr Vavrin (Brno University of Technology) :: Pierre Wanlin (Ministère Communauté Française / Service Education permanente) :: Pilar Tornos (Fundación para el Desarrollo Social) :: Ragna Sekora (Koordinierungsstelle Weiterbildung und Beschäftigung e. V.) :: Rémi Doué (Association ADICE) :: Renate Eras (European Project Management) :: Renate Heinish (European Economic and Social Committee) :: Renilde Reynders (EPOS national Agency) :: Rhea Cristina Mihaela (Political Science Department,"Dimitrie Cantemir" Christian University) :: Riccardo Barile (BXI Europe) :: Rita Capasso (Regione Campania - Italy) :: Robin Mark (Queen's University of Belfast) ::

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## Annex 2<sup>3</sup>

[0]	[1]	[2]	[3]	[4]	[5]
Strongly disagree	Moderately disagree	Slightly disagree	Slightly agree	Moderately agree	Strongly agree

Education and training Programmes, for <b>mature and older adults</b> , should be focused on improving their:				
	Disagree* (%)	Slightly agree (%)	Moderately agree (%)	Strongly agree (%)
Professional competencies	15,6	22,1	33,1	29,2
Linguistic competencies	14,5	25,0	36,8	23,7
Intercultural competencies	7,2	13,1	36,6	43,1
“learning to learn” competencies	6,6	16,7	32,0	44,7

Next generation of Education and training Programmes, for <b>mature and older adults</b> , should pay more attention to:				
	Disagree* (%)	Slightly agree (%)	Moderately agree (%)	Strongly agree (%)
Mentoring and Befriending	8,7	26,8	32,2	32,2
Intergenerational Learning	4,6	12,5	36,2	46,7
Self-directed Learning	10,5	27,6	30,9	30,9
Community based learning	6,8	22,4	39,5	31,3
Birthing the wise elder	14,0	42,6	28,7	14,7

The primary objectives of Education and Training Programmes should be:				
	Disagree*	Slightly agree	Moderately agree	Strongly agree
Promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship	1,2	8,4	29,7	60,6
Enhancing creativity and innovation, including entrepreneurship	3,9	17,0	29,4	49,7
Improving mobility and professional exchange	4,6	21,6	39,2	34,6
Improving recognition of prior/non-intentional learning	9,4	26,8	30,9	32,9

\*disagree (the sum of Strongly, Moderately and Slightly disagree, answers)

<sup>3</sup> The original questionnaire can be found at <http://projectpaladin.eu/wp-content/uploads/2010/10/RegistrationForm.doc>