



Bundesministerium  
für Bildung  
und Forschung

**Bildung verbindet - EU - Education Unites**

**The German EU Council Presidency  
in the Field of Education and Training**

**Ideen zünden!**



## Central Theme: Education Unites

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- "Bildung verbindet - EU - Education Unites"
- Education is key to individual life chances and facilitates economic, social and cultural participation
- In a cross-cutting approach within the framework of the Lisbon Strategy, EU education policy improves:
  - economic competitiveness
  - social cohesion
  - increasingly close ties on the basis of common values and attitudes



## Overview: the central strands

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### The main fields of action of education policy:

- Work Programme of the Ministers of Education 2010
- Programme for Lifelong Learning
- Bologna Process
- Copenhagen-Maastricht Process



## Overview: the central strands

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### Thematic Priorities:

- European Qualifications Framework
- Education research
- Lifelong learning
- Early childhood education
- Adult education
- Education for sustainability
- Equal opportunities in education
- Indicators



### The Work Programme of the Education Ministers "Education and Training 2010"

- Programme adopted in 2002 by the Education Council
- Provides the programmatic framework for education policy cooperation in Europe

#### Implementation

- Recommendation of the Council and the EP on a European Qualifications Framework
- Communication from the Commission on indicators
- Communication from the Commission on adult education
- "Europe: its values, its future"
- Early childhood education
- Conference on "Equal opportunities – a challenge for education legislation and education policy", Potsdam 11/12 May
- Conference on "Education for Sustainability", Berlin, May 2007



### Programme for Lifelong Learning

- Follow-up programme to SOCRATES and LEONARDO
- enables transborder mobility of teachers and learners at all levels of education and
- promotes cooperation between education institutions
- Budget: approx. €7 billion (2007 – 2013)

Event:

- European Launch Conference, Berlin, 6/7 May



## The Bologna Process

- Forward-looking structural reform of the European institutions of higher education
- Accompanied by a total of 45 European countries beyond the EU
- Recognition of degrees, improvement of study structures, quality assurance

### Events:

- Bologna Ministerial Conference co-chaired by Great Britain and Germany, London, 16/17 May
- Agreement on next steps for realizing the European Higher Education Area by 2010



## The Copenhagen Process

- Intensifying cooperation in the area of vocational training
- Increasing the mobility of trainees and workers
- Improving the transparency, creditability and recognition of qualifications and degrees

### Event:

- Conference "Realizing the European Learning Area", Munich, 4/5 June
- Topics: European Qualifications Framework / European Credits for Vocational Education and Training / Opportunities for transfer between vocational training and higher education / Qualification of teachers / Promotion of mobility / Building on the results of the Helsinki Ministerial Conference in December 2006



# Events during the EU Council Presidency

## List of Events

- High-level Group for Education Policy (HLG), Bonn, 23/24 November 2006
- Education, Youth and Culture Council, Brussels, 16 February
- Informal Meeting of Education Ministers, Heidelberg, 1/2 March
- Meeting of the Bologna Follow-up Group, Berlin, 1/2 March
- "Knowledge for Action. Research Strategies for an Evidence-Based Education Policy" – European conference on education research, Frankfurt, 28-31 March
- Meeting of the Bologna Follow-up Group, Berlin, 17/18 April
- Launch conference "Lifelong Learning", Berlin, 6/7 May



# Events during the EU Council Presidency

## List of Events

- "Equal opportunities – a challenge for education legislation and education policy", 11/12 May
- Bologna Ministerial Conference, London, 16-18 May
- Meeting of Directors General for Vocational Training, Hamburg, 21/22 May
- Education, Youth and Culture Council, Brussels, 24/25 May
- European vocational training conference "Realizing the European Learning Area", Munich, 4/5 June
- Meeting of Directors General for Higher Education, Berlin, 17/18 June
- Meeting of Bologna Promoters, Bonn, March/April
- Education for Sustainability, Berlin, spring 2007



## The events in detail

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- **Informal Meeting of Education Ministers,**  
Heidelberg, 1/2 March

*Discussion of education ministers on "Europe: its values, its future" as well as on the priority topics of the work programme of the education ministers for 2010, early childhood education and adult education.*

- **Knowledge for Action. Research Strategies for an Evidence-Based Education Policy - European Conference on education research,**  
Frankfurt, 28-31 March

*An opportunity for policymakers, administrators and researchers to consider the scientific basis of an evidence-based education policy from a research perspective. Furthermore, the conference is to set out the research-related context of education policy decisions.*



## The events in detail

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- **Launch conference "Lifelong Learning",**  
Berlin, 6/7 May

*The Programme for Lifelong Learning 2007-2013 will promote the transborder mobility of teachers and learners at all levels of education and it will support cooperation between education institutions in various European countries with approx. €7 billion. 800 representatives of the areas of politics, education, industry and society in all 32 participating countries are expected to take part in the central ceremony of the European Launch Conference. Special conferences are to take stock of previous European education programmes and to discuss the best possible use of the possibilities for participation in the Programme for Lifelong Learning. The programme will be presented to the general public at various community events.*



## The events in detail

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- **"Equal opportunities – a challenge for education legislation and education policy",**  
11/12 May

*The conference will offer an opportunity to discuss basic positions, legal aspects and education policy projects with regard to equal opportunities in education. It will enable an exchange of views and experience on different legal measures in the member states of the EU and will present examples of best practice.*



## The events in detail

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- **European vocational training conference "Realizing the European Learning Area",**  
Munich, 4/5 June

*This special conference is to promote the education policy dialogue about future European cooperation in the field of vocational training. At the same time, it is to contribute to the exchange of experience and views between national stakeholders on the application and further development of new EU instruments in vocational training. The aim is to ensure that priorities of the Copenhagen Process are addressed and linked with current consultation procedures. These priorities are: European Qualifications Framework, European Credits for Vocational Education and Training, opportunities for transfer between vocational training and higher education, qualification of teachers as well as promotion of mobility.*



## The events in detail

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- **Education for Sustainability,**  
Berlin, spring 2007

*The conference will offer an opportunity for exchanging views and experience on the different models and concepts for "Education for Sustainability" in the member states of the EU. It is to identify the specific European contribution to the UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development.*