



JOINT ACTIONS
SOCRATES, LEONARDO & YOUTH PROGRAMMES

National Guidance Policy Forums

TRANSNATIONAL CONFERENCE

Bled, 9. December 2005

This conference is organised as a part of the work of the
NGPF - National Guidance Policy Forums project:
Developing National Fora for Guidance in Six Member
States - Malta, Estonia, Denmark, Slovenia, the United
Kingdom and Ireland



EMPLOYMENT SERVICE OF SLOVENIA

Background

Guidance has a higher profile within developing policy in the European Union than ever before. The European Commission's Communication on Lifelong Learning (2000) identified a set of building blocks for national strategies for lifelong learning in the context of the development of Europe as the most competitive knowledge-based economy and society by 2010, marked by social inclusion (Lisbon goals). It acknowledged the key role of lifelong guidance in the implementation of such strategies and proposed the establishment of a European Forum on guidance to support EU level policy developments in the context of the Education and Training 2010 programme. Member States expressed concerns that such a Forum would be unwieldy in terms of numbers and representation in that several ministries were concerned by the question of guidance at national level. The proposal was also based on the assumption that there was a high degree of cooperation between ministries and between agencies across sectors at national level. This assumption was not supported by the findings of subsequent reviews of policies for career guidance in European countries undertaken by CEDEFOP, ETF, OECD, and the World Bank 2001-2003. They revealed that despite many examples of good practice, there were many systemic problems with the organisation and delivery of career guidance in most countries:

- Little collaboration between and within education and labour market sectors leading to inefficient use of resources and materials
- Little stakeholder involvement in policy and systems development resulting in gaps in delivery and unresponsive provision.

These were deemed as significant obstacles to the development of existing guidance provision to support lifelong learning policies and strategies. Guidance continued to receive recognition as a priority area for action at European level in the context of the Education and Training 2010 programme and also in the European social partners

Framework for the Development of Lifelong Qualifications and Competences (2002). A Commission Expert Group on Lifelong Guidance was established in late 2002 to support policy development within the context of that programme, taking into account the review findings. The Ministers of Education passed a Resolution on strengthening guidance throughout life (2004) which highlighted the need to strengthen co-ordination and structures for policy and systems development at national level, involving a broad range of stakeholders, and to increase European co-operation in the field.

The initiative to support projects that developed European networks of national guidance forums was proposed by the Commission to Member States in 2003 in the context of the Joint Actions 2004 programme that linked education, training and youth programmes. It was felt that such European networks would:

- Enable mutual learning and support to take place at European level through sharing of good practice
- Act as a stimulus for national forum development
- Draw attention to relevant policy development at European level
- Enable collaborative action at European level among partners and networks
- Identify and communicate policies and actions at Community level, and
- Foster efficient use of effort by the national forums at both national and European levels.

This proposal, which became a concrete reality through the selection of two¹ European network projects from Joint Actions 2004 Call for Proposals, can be viewed as testing the value of and preparing foundations for a future thematic network for lifelong guidance (European forum) in the context of the post 2007 EU programmes and initiatives. A transnational conference is one of the outcomes of the Joint Actions 2004/6 project National Guidance Policy Forums (NGPF).

¹ Two pilot projects have been selected in 2003 on the basis of Call for proposal (DG EAC 73/03) for Joint actions Socrates, Leonardo da Vinci and Youth programmes (Theme 3: Lifelong Guidance). First is NGPF project led by Guidance Council, UK. Second is EGF led by Steirische Volkswirtschaftliche Gesellschaft from Austria.

Conference aims

- To review achievements in the first year of the project.
- To promote European dimension of the project.
- To identify crucial factors for success of national forums.
- To identify future challenges of guidance forums.

Date of the conference: 9. DECEMBER 2005

Venue of the conference: KOMPAS HOTEL BLEED, Cankarjeva street 2, BLEED

Bled is a small tourist and congress town located 40 km from Ljubljana airport and 50 km from Ljubljana. Information about hotel and map is available on the <http://www.kh-bled.si> .

The cost for one night accommodation in a single room is 73,00 Euro including breakfast. The cost for one night accommodation in a double room is 46,50 per person.

Transport

The best way to come from Ljubljana-airport to Bled is by taxi. We recommend booking a taxi in advance (see registration form). The cost of a taxi from Ljubljana airport to Hotel Kompas Bled is 45,00 Euro.

Registration

Individual participants should register by sending the attached registration form to the conference secretariat:

e-mail: milena.radenkovic@ess.gov.si.

Fax: +386 1 2424 282

Please send the registration form by 30. November 2005. There is no conference fee for the participation at the conference.

Notice: Partners of NGPF and EGF projects and members of national guidance forums do not need to use the attached form since they do not need to register directly! If you are the member of a national guidance forum please contact the coordinator of the guidance forum project in your country.

Language of the conference

All plenary sessions will be simultaneously translated (English-Slovenian-English). Only one workshop will be simultaneously translated. It will be the workshop with most Slovenian participants.

Additional information

Conference organizer:

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CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

- 08.30 — 09.30 Registration of participants
- 09.30 — 09.45 Welcome address
Representative of the Ministry of Labour, Family and Social Affairs
- 09.45 — 10.30 Strategic Leadership in Career Guidance: The Role of National Fora
Prof. Tony Watts
- 10.30 — 11.00 Break
- 11.00 — 12.30 Developing Policy on Lifelong Guidance - EU Joint Actions Funded Project: Estonia, Denmark, Ireland, Malta, Slovenia, and the United Kingdom
Dr. Judy Alloway and project partners
- 12.30 — 13.00 Launch of Slovenian Career Guidance Policy Forum
Janez Drobnic, MA, Minister of Labour, Family and Social Affairs
- 13.00 — 14.00 Lunch break
- 14.00 — 14.30 Developing Policy on Lifelong Guidance - EU Joint Actions Funded Project: Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, and Poland
Dr. Peter Hartel
- 14.30 — 15.30 Simultaneous workshops:
- Workshop 1: Factors for success and future challenges for guidance forums
Prof. Peter Plant
- Workshop 2: Working in partnership: Examples of good practice
Margit Rammo
- Workshop 3: Involvement of guidance service users
Helen Plant
- 15.30 — 15.45 Break
- 15.45 — 16.15 Plenary session - workshop reports
- 16.15 — 17.00 Conclusions
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