



#### NEW CALLS

- The EC launches **Comenius Regio Partnerships**: new opportunities for regional cooperation in school education. Annual budget 16 million, first deadline 20-2-09. They aim to help regional or local (school) authorities with responsibility in school education to improve educational opportunities for school-age children for partnerships of 2 years. It will be managed by the **Comenius National Agencies**. Participating regions (min.2) are free to choose any topic of relevance and interest to them (like entrepreneurship, exchange of school staff, integration, early school leaving). Schools must be integrated in activities.
- Tender EAC Multiple framework relaunch contract for the provision of integrated **communication services in the field of education** and culture.

#### NEWS

- The EP has voted positive to establish the **second phase of Erasmus Mundus (2009-2013)**.
- The European Council will come back on the **referendum of the Treaty of Lisbon** (p7) on its summit in December 2008, to define elements of a solution and a common path.
- EC communication to the EP, Council, ECOSOC & Committee of Regions about **Improving competences for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century**. The central idea of this communication, as preparation of a EU School Agenda: “Young people need a wider range of competences than ever before to flourish, in a globalised economy and in increasingly diverse societies. Many will work in jobs that do not yet exist. Many will need advanced linguistic, intercultural and entrepreneurial capacities. Technology will continue to change the world in ways we cannot imagine. Challenges such as climate change will require radical adaptation. In this increasingly complex world, creativity and the ability to continue to learn and to innovate will count as much as, if not more than, specific areas of knowledge liable to become obsolete. Lifelong learning should be the norm”.
- The EC has published the selected actions in their **Europe for Citizens Program** 07-13.
- The German held a keen info evening about their **Aktionsprogram** for knowledge DAAD 2008-2011 which is truly directed towards European cooperation.
- **Kurt Vandenberghe** is appointed as head of the cabinet of **Janez Potocnik**, Commissioner of Science and Research.
- Cedefop presented: **The new green skills: Not just for eco-industry**. With i.e. creating new jobs & redefining skills in existing job profiles.

#### AGENDA

- 13-14NovBrussels **Europe for citizens Forum 2008**: Participating for making a difference.
- 25-27 Nov, Lyon: **Europe’s biggest research event for ict**.
- 20-21 Nov: **Council of Ministers for Education**: mobility of young people in Europe, the Structured Dialogue (with & about youth at EU level) and the European Pact for Youth (employability in relation to free creativity and leisure activities).
- 26-28 Nov, Bergen: Knowledge Creation & **Optimal Teaching & Learning**: What Works?
- 2 Dec, Budapest: EAEA: The Implementation of the EC **Action Plan on Adult Learning**.
- 29-31 Jan, Helsinki: **Lifelong Learning as a Right**? European Perspectives.

#### NEW REPORTS/RESEARCH

- **Higher Education Looking Forward**: Agenda for Future Research. (ESF Forward Look).
- **Education for All by 2015, will we make it**? Monitoring report 2008, Unesco.
- Eurydice: **Levels of autonomy & responsibilities of Teachers in Europe**.
- Eurydice: **Organisation of School time** in Europe, primary & secondary education 08-09.