



NEW CALLS

- Not specific in sep mentioned deadlines of **LLL Calls for 2009**: da Vinci Mobility 9-2-09; Erasmus Intensive Language Courses 13-2-09; Jean Monnet Programma 13-2-09; Comenius & Grundtvig Partnerships, 20-2-09; Comenius (& Grundtvig) **Multilateral projects & Networks & Accompanying Measures** (b.e. [raising European awareness on cooperation in the field of school education generally](#), p. 23 a.f., max 150.000/yr), 27-2-09; da Vinci Transfer of Innovation multilateral Projects, 27-2-09; Divers Erasmus student and staff mobility 13-3-09; Grundtvig assistantships 31-3-09; Transversal Programme 31-3-09.

NEWS

- In the last executive meeting of ECNAIS, Simon Steen was appointed as the successor of Carlos Díaz-Muñíz as chairman of ECNAIS. We are thankful of the contribution of Carlos, like a real father he contributed to the flourishing of ECNAIS. We honour him for his great social involvement, within ECNAIS as with the independent schools & equity theme.
- The **Council adopted conclusions on preparing young people for the 21st Century, inviting the EC to take appropriate actions for a strategic framework beyond 2010**, following the headlines of EC Agenda for European Cooperation on Schools, in reaction to the Consultation of Schools for the 21st Century. Which asks for reinforcing not only subject-based, but also transversal competences, to improve in-service training for teaching staff and school leaders, structured early career support, reduce underachievement of pupils, and the support of young people who need particular support in order to need their educational potential. Here are the general results of this **Education Council** meeting. .
- **New round of Tempus projects approved** – EU strengthens cooperation on higher education with surrounding countries.
- Academic cooperation with industrialised countries in **North America and Asia-Pacific: EU launches new round of projects**. With 11 joint curriculum development projects.
- The European Ministers agreed on the **Bordeaux Communiqué on European cooperation in vocational education and training** to anticipate i.e. on new jobs & skills. It contains 4 proposed priority areas: tools & schemes for promoting cooperation in field of VET; heightening quality & attractiveness of vocational and training systems; improving links between VET & labour market; strengthening European cooperation arrangements.
- Commissioner Figel has signed a **Joint Declaration with India on policy dialogue in education**, with i.e. a modernisation agenda for higher and vocational education, quality assurance mechanisms as well as the promotion of academic excellence and innovation.
- **Euridyce** is since September 2008 part of the **EACEA**.
- The EU Year of **Intercultural Dialogue** is coming to its end, see also the **Brussels Debates**.

AGENDA

- 11-12 Dec, Brussels, EP. **European Values, Regional Identity and Intercultural Dialogue**.
- 9-10 Feb, Thessaloniki. **Seminar on role of social partner in continuing vocational training**.

NEW REPORTS/RESEARCH

- Cedefop presentations of its **Testing the European Qualifications Framework: Relating international, national and sectoral qualifications** to the EQF, Nov 08, Thessaloniki.
- **Key Data on teaching languages at school in Europe, 2008**, with i.e. overview of practice and policy in 31 countries, early foreign language teaching, variety of languages learnt, the taught time at various education levels, content and language integrated learning (CLIL).
- La Vida “El Colmenar”, a **special (community) school for life**, was one of the winners of the Miguel Hernandez Prize, follows the ideas of Freire, Piaget and democratic education.