



European Network Against Racism  
Réseau européen contre le racisme  
Europäisches Netz gegen Rassismus

**European Commission budget lines  
in support of antiracism**  
Updated report 2000

**European Commission budget lines  
in support of antiracism**

**Projects and programmes  
appropriate for European NGOs  
within the EU, PHARE and MEDA countries**

**Updated report 2000**

**An inventory study supported by  
ICODA – Brussels  
(part of the inventory study published in December 1999)**

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August 2000

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## Preface

We are pleased to be able to take this opportunity to present the promised update to the publication, “European Commission budget lines in support of anti-racism”. Research has revealed that there are more budget lines, that are suitable for anti-racism work this was not apparent at our first glance.

We would encourage you to explore all the funding possibilities in the maze of EU budget lines so that you can develop innovative application opportunities. Anti-racism work may not be mentioned in the title but there are often possibilities for using budget lines in a related manner. Not all the budget lines are open to non-governmental organisations (NGOs), it is often possible to access them in co-operation with governmental authorities, in order to carry out useful projects. In the last few weeks the German government has provided a good example of this by using the European Social Fund for campaign work against right-wing extremism.

We urge you not to be restricted to initiate discussion with departments other than the DG Employment and Social Affairs, in order to integrate areas such as equality work, empowerment for minorities and intercultural work into other Directorates General departments.

Your creativity should hold no bounds.

This update is to be inserted into the existing publication as a supplement. We regret that the supplement is only available in photocopied format.

We would also like to thank Esther Ahern for her energetic support in the production of this supplement.

Finally, we wish you continued success with your work and would be very pleased to hear from people who have utilised our publication and found the necessary funding they required.

*Vera Egenberger*  
*Director of ENAR*

# Part I - Update of existing study

## 1. DG Employment and Social Affairs

### 1.1 Preparatory measures to combat discrimination

**Budget-line number**

B5-803

**Budget amount 2000**

7.000.000 €

For more details, see page 1 of the ENAR publication: "European Commission budget lines in support of antiracism" (Budget-line publication).

### 1.2 Preparatory measures against social exclusion

**Budget-line number**

B3-4105

**Budget amount 2000**

10.730.000 €

(For more details, see page 2 of the Budget-line publication).

### 1.3 Co-operation with charitable organisations

**Budget-line number**

B3-4101

**Budget amount 2000**

5.000.000 €

(For more details, see page 3 of the Budget-line publication).

### 1.4 Integra, exclusion from the labour

### market

This programme has stopped.

(For more details, see page 4 of the Budget-line publication).

### 1.5 EQUAL Programme

**Budget amount (2000-2006)**

2.847.000.000 €

**Objectives**

For the 2000-2006 period, a new Initiative, Equal, takes over from Employment and Adapt. Equal will promote new means of combating all forms of discrimination and inequalities in connection with the labour market, through transnational co-operation. Member States are now preparing Community Initiative programmes (CIP). It is expected that the first call for proposals will be launched in early 2001.

(For more details, see page 5 of the Budget-line publication).

### 1.6 European Initiative for Democracy and Human Rights

#### 1.6.1 Support for democracy for countries of Central and Eastern Europe

**Budget-line number**

B7-700

**Budget amount 2000**

11.790.000 €

(For more details, see page 6 of the Budget-line publication).

**1.6.2 Subsidies for certain activities of organisations  
pursuing objectives in support of human rights**

**Budget-line number**

B7-7040

**Budget amount 2000**

13.982.000 €

(For more details, see page 7 of the Budget-line  
publication).

**1.7 MEDA Programme  
for democracy and human rights**

**Budget-line number**

B7-705

**Budget amount 2000**

9.295.000 €

(For more details, see page 8 of the Budget-line  
publication).

## 2. DG Education and Culture

### 2.1 Youth for Europe

#### Budget-line number

B3-1010

#### Enveloppe budgétaire

520.000.000 €

The “Youth for Europe” programme is replaced by the Youth programme.

#### Objectives

The YOUTH programme is a new programme including the old Youth for Europe and European Voluntary Service programmes. The Youth programme offers young people opportunities for mobility and to take an active part in the construction of the Europe of the third millennium.

It aims to contribute to the achievement of a “Europe of knowledge” and create a European arena for co-operation in the development of Youth policy, based on informal education. It encourages the concept of lifelong learning and the development of aptitudes and competencies, which promote active citizenship.

The following objectives of the programme strive to achieve and maintain a balance between personal development and collective activity across all sectors of society:

- Assist young people to acquire knowledge, skills and competencies, and recognise the value of these experiences;
- Facilitate the integration of young people into society at large and encourage their spirit of initiative;
- Open up greater access, in particular, to young people living in difficult circumstances or young people with disabilities, whilst helping to eliminate all forms of discrimination and promote equality at all levels of society;
- Permit young people to give free expression to

their sense of solidarity in Europe and the wider world and support the fight against racism and xenophobia;

- Ensure that young people can play an active role in the construction of Europe;
- Introduce a European element into projects, which will have a positive impact on youth work at local level;
- Promote a better understanding of the diversity of our common European culture and shared heritage;
- Maintain and develop a quality framework for informal educational activities within the scope of the YOUTH programme.

There are National Agencies for the Youth programme, which assist with the promotion and implementation of the programme at national level.

#### Eligibility

Groups of young people who are legally resident in a country eligible to participate in the programme and are, in principle, aged between 15 and 25 years can participate.

The Youth programme specially encourages the involvement of young people from less privileged cultural, geographical or socio-economic backgrounds and young people with disabilities. In exceptional cases, participants younger than 15 years or older than 25 years may be included, if the reasons are well justified and their number is limited.

In principle, the duration of the exchange activity itself is from 6 to 21 days, excluding travel. Exchanges shorter than 6 days are not recommended, as these may not guarantee that the inter-cultural learning experience will have the desired impact; neither are they likely to be cost effective.

It is possible to involve a number of different combinations of countries in an exchange. It should be noted that all exchanges must involve at least one European Union Member State.

### Geographical area

Countries that are eligible to participate in all five actions of the programme are called “programme countries”. These are the 15 European Union Member States, and subject to agreements with the Community, countries that are candidates for accession to the European Union, and EFTA countries that are members of the European Economic Area. All projects within the YOUTH programme must involve at least one European Union Member State.

### How to apply

Applications submitted by European youth organisations, or applications regarding special event projects or itinerant exchanges, should be sent

directly to the European Commission.

The National Agencies and the Commission provide the official application forms, wherein more detailed information can be found on how to fill out the application and where it should be sent. These may also be downloaded from the Commission’s and other websites. For questions when filling in the forms, please contact the National Agency in the relevant country for assistance.

The addresses of these agencies can be found on the Internet on the website of Youth: <[www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/youth/natage.html](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/youth/natage.html)> or at the ENAR office in Brussels.

(For more details, see page 9 of the Budget-line publication)

## 3. DG Justice and Home Affairs

### 3.1 Odysseus

#### Budget-line number

B5-800

#### Budget amount

3.000.000 €

(For more details, see page 12 of the Budget-line publication).

### 3.2 Grotius

#### Budget-line number

B5-800

#### Budget amount 2000

2.000.000 €

#### Objectives

On 28 October 1996 the Council adopted a programme of incentives and exchanges for legal practitioners, i.e. judges, advocates, solicitors, bailiffs, ministry officials, criminal investigation officers, court interpreters and other professionals associated with the judiciary. This programme offers amongst others the possibility to support projects, which aim to raise the awareness level of professionals to preventing and combating racism and xenophobia. The programme covers the period 1996-2000.

Grotius comprises research, seminars, conferences, training, exchanges and distribution of information. The aim of these projects for which financing can be requested is to contribute to improving mutual understanding of legal and judicial systems and to facilitate judicial co-operation between Member States.

#### Eligibility

Projects must be submitted by public or private organisations, have a European dimension and involve practitioners in several Member States. They

can also involve practitioners in non-member countries, in particular the applicant countries. Projects will be selected on the basis of their operational and practical nature, their relevance to the theme adopted and the practical applicability of the results.

#### Geographical area

The EU-Member states and non-member countries, in particular the applicant countries.

#### How to submit an application

Each year the annual programme is published in the Official Journal of the European Communities, setting out the priorities to receive special attention. Applications must be submitted before 31 March each year.

#### Contact

M. Erik Wennerström  
Task Force Justice et Affaires intérieures  
200 rue de la Loi, 200 - B-1049 Brussels  
Tel: +(32.2) 299 41 22 - Fax: +(32.2) 295 8106  
E-mail: erik.wennerstrom@sg.cec.be

### 3.3 Falcone

#### Budget-line number

B5-800

#### Budget amount 2000

2.000.000 €

#### Objectives

The Council of Ministers of the European Union adopted the Falcone programme as an instrument to develop and enhance co-operation on a multidisciplinary approach between persons responsible for the fight against organised crime.

In particular the programme will support training

measures and exchanges, research and studies and other ways of improving skills, with the aim of strengthening and facilitating the struggle against organised crime and reducing such obstacles as may exist to co-operation between the Member States.

The programme supports the following specific aims:

- to improve knowledge of the phenomena of organised crime;
- to improve the professional skills of those responsible for combating organised crime by improving their knowledge of the procedures and legislation in force in the various European countries;
- to encourage the exchange of experience acquired in the field;
- to facilitate the organisation of joint projects and a longer-lasting multidisciplinary co-operation.

The expected results are to make persons from different backgrounds better acquainted with the strategies and working methods of their counterparts throughout the European Union.

The beneficiaries of the programme are judges, prosecutors, members of police, customs and other law enforcement departments of Member States, civil servants, public tax authorities, authorities responsible for the supervision of financial establishments and public procurements, representatives from professional circles who may be involved in the implementation of some of the recommendations of the Action Plan, academics and researchers.

The programme Falcone covers the period from 1998 to 2002 and the financial amount for implementing it during this period is 10.000.000 €.

Even though this programme has no direct link with anti-racism the programme could help to raise awareness among the beneficiaries on international issues in the context of racism, such as people trafficking and migration.

### Eligibility

Projects will be selected according to the following criteria:

- compatibility of the project with work undertaken or planned under the Council's priorities in the field of combating organised crime, and in particular the priorities of the Action Plan to combat organised crime;
- input towards the framing or implementation of instruments adopted or to be adopted in this field;
- European dimension of the project in terms of content and participation by Member States (minimum of two Member States); the possible participation of candidate countries to a project;
- operational purpose and practical value, i.e. the extent to which stress is placed on passing on knowledge of immediate use in carrying on the professional activity concerned, without overlooking the need for a thorough consideration of any obstacles to co-operation;
- number and nature of the departments or categories of persons targeted and the number of professionals likely to derive some benefit from the project, either directly or through contact between those who have taken part and those who have not had the opportunity to participate;
- the degree of preparation and the standard of organisation, as well as clarity and precision as regards the objectives, design and planning of the project;
- the involvement of different entities and the combined use of their particular expertise in the organisation of the project;
- the openness to practitioners from different Member States and disciplines and the opportunity for them to benefit from each other's experience;
- the extent to which the projects complement each other, the way in which they contribute to creating a forward momentum rather than merely juxtaposing isolated operations;
- the scope for drawing on results achieved in order to reinforce co-operation between Member States.

### Geographical area

EU-Member States and participants from the applicant countries.

### How to submit an application

Applications for grants must be submitted by 28 February 2000 to the European Commission,

Directorate General Justice and Home Affairs (for the attention of Mr Jean-Jacques Nuss), in one of the eleven European Union languages, using an application form.

Application forms are inserted in the annual financial guidelines, which will be published in the Official Journal (OJ) or may be requested either by fax (+(32.2) 295 01 74) or by electronic mail from: Jean-jacques.Nuss@cec.eu.int. These documents are also available on the Europa website of the European

Commission < [www.europa.eu.int/](http://www.europa.eu.int/) >.

**Contact**

Secretary of the programme

Mr Jean-Jacques Nuss

Task Force Justice et Affaires intérieures

(N9 6/20)

Rue de la Loi, 200 - B-1049 Brussels

Tel: +(32.2) 296 41 34 - Fax: +(32.2) 295 01 74

E-mail: [jean-jacques.nuss@sg.cec.be](mailto:jean-jacques.nuss@sg.cec.be)

## Part II – Additional programmes

### 4. DG Education and Culture

#### 4.1 Leonardo da Vinci

##### Budget-line number

B3-1021

##### Budget amount (2000-2006)

69.500.000 €

##### Objectives

The Leonardo da Vinci Community vocational training action programme, introduced in 1994, is now entering its second phase, which will run from 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2006. Promoting a Europe of knowledge is central to the implementation of the programme, which seeks to consolidate a European co-operation area for education and training. The programme actively supports the lifelong training policies conducted by the Member States. It supports innovative transnational initiatives for promoting the knowledge, aptitudes and skills necessary for successful integration into working life and the full exercise of citizenship.

The programme has three specific objectives:

- 1) To improve the skills and competencies of people, especially young people, in initial vocational training at all levels; this may be achieved inter alia through work-linked vocational training and apprenticeship with a view to promoting employability and facilitating vocational integration and reintegration;
- 2) To improve the quality of, and access to, continuing vocational training and the lifelong acquisition of skills and competencies with a view to increasing and developing adaptability, particularly in order to consolidate technological and organisational change;
- 3) To promote and reinforce the contribution of

vocational training to the process of innovation, with a view to improving competitiveness and entrepreneurship, also in view of new employment possibilities; special attention will be paid in this respect to fostering co-operation between vocational training institutions, including universities and undertakings, particularly small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

##### Eligibility

In implementing the three objectives, special attention will be given to proposals addressing the development of practices to facilitate access to training for people most at a disadvantage in the labour market, including disabled people.

To be eligible, proposals must meet a number of formal conditions, which are described below:

- Any proposal submitted by a transnational partnership must indicate clearly in what way it incorporates and implements at least one of the three objectives of the programme.
- Proposals submitted in any year must comply with the annual deadlines set out in the calls for proposals.
- Any proposal must make clear reference to a Community call for proposals and indicate clearly the priority it is addressing.
- Any proposal must indicate unambiguously the measure it is addressing.
- Proposals must be submitted by a transnational partnership involving partners from at least three participating countries, one of which must be from a Member State of the European Union

##### Geographical area

EU-Member States and applicant countries.

### How to submit an application

Multi-annual Community calls for proposals are planned for the periods 2000-2002, 2003-2004 and 2005-2006. The calls will set up the annual deadlines for the submission and selection of proposals and will specify particularly the priorities for these calls.

### Contact

European Commission  
Directorate-General for Education and Culture  
Vocational Training  
M. O. Dibelius – Director  
Rue de la Loi 200 - B-1049 Brussels  
E-mail: leonardo@cec.eu.int

### Internet

<[www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/leonardo/leonardo2\\_en](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/leonardo/leonardo2_en)>

## 4.2 Socrates

### Budget-line number

B3-1001

### Budget amount (2000-2006)

1.850.000.000 €

### Objectives

Socrates is Europe's education programme and involves around 30 European countries. Its main objective is to build up a Europe of knowledge and thus provide a better response to the major challenges of this new century: to promote lifelong learning, encourage access to education for everybody, and help people acquire recognised qualifications and skills. In more specific terms, Socrates seeks to promote language learning, and to encourage mobility and innovation.

Socrates advocates European co-operation in all areas of education. This co-operation takes different forms: mobility (moving around Europe), organising joint projects, setting up European networks (disseminating ideas and good practice), and conducting studies and comparative analyses.

In practice, Socrates offers people grants to study,

teach, undertake a placement or follow a training course in another country. It provides support for educational establishments to organise teaching projects and to exchange experiences. It helps associations and NGOs in organising activities on educational topics, etc.

The second phase of the Socrates programme "Socrates II" covers the period 1 January 2000 to 31 December 2006. It will draw on the experiences of the first phase (1995-1999). Socrates II places the emphasis on lifelong learning as a means of fostering active citizenship and enhancing employability.

Socrates comprises eight separate actions:

- Comenius: school education
- Erasmus: higher education
- Grundtvig: adult education and other education pathways
- Lingua: learning European languages
- Minerva: information and communication technologies (ICT) in education
- Observation and innovation of education systems and policies
- Joint actions with other European programmes
- Supplementary measures

### Contact

Socrates  
Rue Montoyer, 70 - B-1000 Brussels  
Tel. +(32.2) 233 01 11 - Fax: +(32.2) 233 01 50  
E-mail: [socrates@socrates-youth.be](mailto:socrates@socrates-youth.be)

For the purpose of this guide we focus on two of the eight actions of the Socrates programme, Comenius and Grundtvig.

## 4.3 Comenius

### Budget amount

27% of the Socrates budget.

### Objectives

The Comenius chapter of the Socrates programme supports transnational co-operation between schools, teacher training institutions and other institutions in the field of education. Comenius focuses on the first

phase of education, from pre-school and primary to secondary school, and it is addressed to all members of the education community in the broad sense - pupils, teachers, other education staff, but also local authorities, parents' associations, non-government organisations.

Comenius aims to enhance the quality of teaching, strengthen its European dimension and promote language learning and mobility.

By fostering contacts and co-operation between teachers and pupils across Europe Comenius contributes to intercultural awareness and the fight against attitudes and stereotypes underlying racism. In addition to this indirect contribution to the fight against racism, many Comenius projects, in particular action 2 projects, have a direct thematic focus on the fight against racism.

Comenius consist of three actions:

- 1) Comenius 1 promotes co-operation between schools in Europe; enhancing the quality of teaching; improving knowledge of the cultures and languages of Europe. Under this action, schools can apply for support for three types of projects: School Projects, Language Projects and School Development Projects. Priority is given to projects which explore Europe's cultural diversity and promote openness and dialogue between cultures. During the European Year against Racism in 1997, schools were invited to develop projects on the theme of the fight against racism.
- 2) Comenius 2 is designed to promote the professional development of all types of staff involved in school education. It does so by supporting transnational co-operation projects and mobility activities. Action 2 aims to improve the quality of education given to the children of migrant workers, travellers, gypsies and occupational travellers, as well as promoting the intercultural dimension in schooling and thereby combating racism and xenophobia.
- 3) The main objective of action 3 is to enhance the professional development of educational staff by supporting European in-service training projects.

Some projects have developed materials and courses

focussing on anti-racism at school level.

### **Eligibility**

Comenius applies to all institutions involved in school education; it also applies to bodies responsible for school education systems and policies at local, regional and national level, to associations working in the field of school education, social partners, companies, trade organisations etc.

The appropriate authorities in each of the participating countries specify the institutions eligible for participation in the Comenius programme. For detailed information about eligible institutions contact the National Agency.

### **Action 1**

Each school taking part in a European Education Project has to apply for support to the National Agency (NA) in its own country, from which the application forms to be used and details of the procedures are available on request.

The co-ordinating school will submit the overall project application to its own National Agency. The partner schools will submit to their respective NAs a copy of the overall project application as well as any additional information requested from their own NAs.

### **Action 2**

Project partnerships for European cooperation projects under Comenius 2 must include at least one eligible institution involved in the initial and/or in-service training of teachers or other categories of school education staff in each of at least three participating countries. At least one of the participating countries must be a Member State of the EU. Partnerships in the field of intercultural education, those working with pupils at risk of social exclusion, and those relating to the education of children of migrant workers, Gypsies and travellers and occupational travellers, will be eligible for support only if one of the partner organisations is directly involved in the training of school education staff. This is due to the nature of these projects.

**Action 3**

To be eligible for support, the partnership proposing to develop a network must include at least one organisation from each of six different countries participating in Socrates. Most participants in the networks will be institutions (schools, training institutions, research centres, educational authorities, associations, companies) which are currently taking part in projects, are initiating new projects or have completed projects under Comenius 1 or 2 or both.

The co-ordination of a Comenius network must be undertaken by an institution with a strong organisational base.

**Geographical area**

The Comenius programme is open to participants from the following countries:

- The fifteen Member States of the European Union: Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Finland, Sweden and the United Kingdom;
- The EFTA/EEA countries: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway;
- The associated countries from Central and Eastern Europe: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia;
- Cyprus, Malta and Turkey.

**How to submit an application**

The first point of contact for general questions about the programmes, information material, funding, application procedures and application forms are the National Agencies, which have been set up in every participating country. The addresses can be found on the internet on the website of Comenius:

<[www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/socrates/comenius/natagenc.htm](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/socrates/comenius/natagenc.htm)> or at the ENAR office in Brussels.

The procedure for submitting an application for support under Socrates varies according to the part of the programme under which the application is made. The closing dates for applications are set out in the

annual Socrates Call for Proposals.

For further details consult the Guidelines for Applicants, which can be found on the Socrates homepage on the internet: <[www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/socrates.html](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/socrates.html)>.

**Contact**

The European Commission  
Directorate General for Education and Culture  
Unit A3 – COMENIUS  
Rue de la Loi 200 - B-1049 Brussels  
Tel.: +(32.2) 295 80 75 - Fax: +(32.2) 296 86 02  
E-mail: [comenius@cec.eu.int](mailto:comenius@cec.eu.int)

**4.4 Grundtvig****Budget amount**

7% of the Socrates budget

**Objectives**

Part of the anti-racism component of the Socrates programme is the priority to provide access to adult education for disadvantaged people (including migrants). The Grundtvig adult education programme is aimed at enhancing the European dimension of lifelong learning. It supports a wide range of activities designed to promote innovation and the improved availability, accessibility and quality of educational provision for adults, by means of European co-operation.

The present Action is aimed at encouraging the European dimension of life-long learning through enhanced transnational co-operation. It endeavours to promote innovation in, improve the quality of, and facilitate access to learning provision for people who, at whatever stage of their life, wish to learn in order to:

- 1) increase their capacity to play a full and active role in society and develop their intercultural awareness;
- 2) improve their employability by acquiring or updating their general skills;
- 3) enhance their capacity to access or re-enter formal education schemes.

## Eligibility

Any institution involved in the area of adult learning is eligible to participate. Project co-ordinators will normally belong to one of the following categories:

- adult education institutions belonging to the formal or non-formal system (e.g. primary and secondary schools giving courses for adults, adult education schools, folk high schools, community schools, vocational training organisations);
- universities carrying out research and/or adult curriculum development activities or providing educational opportunities for adult learners;
- organisations training adult educational staff;
- non-formal education providers for adults, such as socio-educational and cultural organisations, non-profit associations, trade unions, libraries, museums or local communities.

Other bodies may be partners in projects provided that they bring in necessary complementary expertise. They include publishers, media, research institutes etc.. Mixed partnerships involving institutions from both the formal and non-formal sector will be particularly encouraged.

The following features will be additionally taken into account as quality indicators:

- the presence of a mixed partnership between adult education institutions / schools, universities, associations and organisations from both the formal and the non-formal sectors;
- the presence of a well balanced partnership between countries from the North and the South or from the East and the West of Europe, in order to maximise the innovation potential of projects;
- a real European dimension with regard to content, partnership, results and dissemination.

## Geographical area

The Grundtvig programme is open to participants from the following countries:

- The fifteen Member States of the European Union: Belgium, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Spain, France, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Austria, Portugal, Finland, Sweden

and the United Kingdom;

- The EFTA/EEA countries: Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway;
- The associated countries from Central and Eastern Europe: Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Slovenia;
- Cyprus, Malta and Turkey.

## How to submit an application

The first point of contact for general questions about the programmes, information material, funding, application procedures and application forms are the National Agencies, which have been set up in every participating country. The addresses can be found on the internet on the website of Grundtvig:

<[www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/socrates/adult/national.html](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/socrates/adult/national.html)> or at the ENAR office in Brussels.

## Contact

The European Commission  
DG for Education and Culture  
Unit A4/Lifelong learning-Socrates-Grundtvig  
Rue de la Loi 200 - 1049 Brussels  
E-mail: [adult-education@cec.eu.int](mailto:adult-education@cec.eu.int)

## Site Internet

[www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/socrates.html](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/education/socrates.html)

## The Socrates & Youth Technical Assistance Office (TAO)

The SOCRATES & YOUTH Technical Assistance Office assists the European Commission in the selection and technical management of projects.

Socrates Technical Assistance Office Socrates,  
Leonardo & Youth  
Rue de Trèves, 59-61 - B-1000 Brussels  
Tel: +(32.2) 233 02 11 - Fax: +(32.2) 233 01 50

## 4.5 Culture 2000

### Budget amount (2000-2004)

167.000.000 €

### Objectives

Culture 2000 is a Community programme established

for a period of 5 years (2000-2004). This programme will grant support for cultural co-operation projects in all artistic and cultural sectors such as performing arts, visual and plastic arts, literature, heritage, cultural history, etc.

The objectives of the programme are the promotion of a common cultural area characterised by both cultural diversity and a common cultural heritage. Culture 2000 looks to encourage creativity and mobility, public access to culture, the dissemination of art and culture, inter-cultural dialogue and knowledge of the history of the peoples of Europe. The programme also views culture as playing a role in social integration and socio-economic development.

In short, the programme aims at the promotion of cultural dialogue, creativity, the trans-national distribution of culture, the promotion of cultural diversity and common cultural heritage, and improving public access to culture.

It covers all cultural fields (performing arts, visual and plastic arts, literature, music, heritage, cultural history etc) and multi-disciplinary cultural activities.

### Eligibility

Any cultural operator established in an eligible country may submit an application, with the exception of individuals acting as such.

There are 3 possibilities for cultural support, corresponding to Actions 1, 2 and 3.

- 1) Specific and short term activities, involving cultural operators from at least 3 eligible countries.
- 2) Long term (3 years) co-operation activities involving cultural operators from at least 5 eligible countries.
- 3) European emblematic cultural projects – for example the European City of Culture, cultural prizes, major events etc.

### How to submit an application

The projects are selected on the basis of a call for applications published at the start of each year in the

Official Journal of the European Communities.

### Contact

Directorate General for Education and Culture  
Unit C 1

120, rue de Trèves - B-1049 Brussels

Commission information line for Culture 2000:  
+(32.2) 296 65 99

### Cultural contact points

The Cultural Contact Points exist in the Member States and in Iceland and Norway. Their role is to promote the programme, to assist a wide number of cultural operators in taking part in the programme, to ensure contact with national cultural institutions, to make contact with participants in other Community programmes and to liaise with other sources of information on various Community programmes in the Member States.

The addresses can be found on the internet on the website of Culture 2000: <[www.europa.eu.int/comm/culture/contact-point\\_en.html](http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/culture/contact-point_en.html)> or at the ENAR office in Brussels.

## 4.6 The Structural Funds

### Budget amount

The total budget for the Structural Funds for 2000-2006 amounts to 195 billion euro. This is about one third of the European Union's total budget and takes up approximately 1.27% of the EU's GDP (1999).

### Objectives

The European Union has at its disposal four Structural Funds through which it channels financial assistance to address structural economic and social problems in order to reduce inequalities between different regions and social groups:

- The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF);
- The European Social Fund (ESF);
- The European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF);
- The Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (FIFG).

Under the Structural Funds, the European Commission works in partnership with the Member States (local, regional or municipal government) to plan and co-finance regional programmes and Community Initiatives (see next chapter). NGOs can not apply for programmes under the Structural funds or Community initiatives. However they can raise awareness with these government institutions and perhaps form partnerships with them.

#### 4.6.1 The European Regional Development Fund (ERDF)

The ERDF was set up in 1975 to provide financial support to regional development programmes targeted at the most disadvantaged regions. Its aim is to help reduce socio-economic imbalances between regions of the Union.

Financial assistance from the ERDF is mainly targeted at:

- supporting small and medium-sized enterprises
- promoting productive investment
- improving infrastructure
- furthering local development.

The ultimate aim of assistance from the ERDF is to create jobs by fostering competitive and sustainable development.

#### Contact

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For more detailed information concerning the European Regional Development Fund, please consult the INFOREGIO web site, which is supported by the DG for Regional Policy:  
<[www.inforegio.cec.eu.int](http://www.inforegio.cec.eu.int)>

#### 4.6.2 The European Social Fund (ESF)

Established in 1960, the ESF is the main instrument of Community social policy. In the period 2000-06, it provides financial assistance for vocational training,

retraining and job creation schemes. ESF assistance is targeted particularly at unemployed youth, the long-term unemployed, and socially disadvantaged groups and women.

The ESF is managed by the Commission's DG for Employment and Social Affairs. The European Social Fund (ESF) is the main financial tool through which the European Union translates its strategic employment policy aims into action.

The ESF stands at an important point in its development. A new seven-year period begins in 2000 for the ESF, in which its own potential has been fully integrated - in both policy and management terms - into what is done at Member State level to put the European Employment Strategy's priorities into practice.

The ESF provides European Union funding on a major scale for programmes which develop or regenerate people's "employability". This task focuses on providing citizens with appropriate work skills as well as developing their social interaction skills, thereby improving their self-confidence and adaptability in the job marketplace.

The ESF channels its support into strategic long-term programmes which help regions across Europe, particularly those lagging behind, to upgrade and modernise workforce skills and to foster entrepreneurial initiative. This encourages domestic and foreign investment into the regions, helping them to achieve greater economic competitiveness and prosperity.

Programmes are planned by Member States together with the European Commission and then implemented through a wide range of provider organisations both in the public and the private sectors. These organisations include national, regional and local authorities, educational and training institutions, voluntary organisations and the Social Partners i.e. trade unions and works councils, industry and professional associations, and individual companies.

## Contact

ESF information sector of DG Employment  
and Social Affairs  
European Commission  
Directorate-General Employment and Social Affairs  
Unit Information and Publications  
Employment and ESF  
Rue de la Loi 200 - B-1049 Brussels  
Fax: +(32.2) 295 49 18  
E-mail: empl-info@cec.eu.int

### 4.6.3 The European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF), Guidance Section

The EAGGF is the financial instrument for rural development policy, the second pillar of the common agricultural policy. It finances development in rural areas throughout the European Union. The EAGGF is divided into two sections: the Guidance Section supports rural development measures in Objective 1 areas, while the Guarantee Section operates in the other areas.

The EAGGF is managed by the Commission's DG for Agriculture.

### 4.6.4 The Financial Instrument for Fisheries Guidance (FIFG)

The FIFG operates in all coastal regions (through Objective 1 programmes, or national programmes outside Objective 1), to enhance the competitiveness of structures in the fisheries sector and to develop viable business enterprises in the fishing industry, while at the same time striving to maintain the balance between fishing capacity and available resources. The FIFG is managed by the Commission's DG for Fisheries.

## 4.7 Community Initiatives

Community initiatives are forms of assistance proposed by the Commission to the Member States with a view to resolving specific problems which exist throughout the EU. For the period 2000-2006, there are 4 Community initiatives, each financed by a Structural Fund:

- Interreg III: cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation (ERDF)

- Urban: regeneration of urban areas in crisis (ERDF)
- Leader + : rural development (EAGGF-Guidance)
- Equal: fighting against discrimination and inequality in access to work (ESF)

### 4.7.1 Interreg III 2000-2006

The objective of INTERREG III is to strengthen economic and social cohesion in the European Union by promoting cross-border, transnational and interregional co-operation and balanced development of the European Union territory. Actions in relation to the borders and border areas between Member States and between the European Union and non-member countries are, therefore, at the heart of the Initiative. Due attention will be given to:

- the external borders of the European Union, in particular in the perspective of enlargement;
- co-operation concerning the outermost regions of the Union;

The total budget is 4.875.000.000 € for the period 2000-2006

### 4.7.2 Urban II

#### **Budget amount 2000-2006**

700.000.000 €

#### **Objectives**

Six years after their launch in 1994, the programmes financed under the first URBAN Community Initiative have brought about a visible improvement in the quality of life in the target areas. These encouraging results underline the importance of the integrated approach taken by URBAN to solving the high concentration of social, environmental and economic problems which continue to increase in urban centres.

The European Commission has therefore adopted its guidelines for the URBAN II Community Initiative, devoted to the economic and social regeneration of declining towns and cities and run-down urban districts.

The new Initiative has two main objectives:

- encouraging the design and implementation of highly innovative economic and social regeneration strategies in small and medium-sized towns and cities as well as declining areas in major conurbations;
- reinforcing and exchanging knowledge and experience on regeneration and sustainable urban development in the European Union.

The URBAN II Initiative is intended to focus on about fifty urban areas. They must be geographically contiguous and, as a general rule, have a population of at least 20.000. These areas will be selected by the Member States on the basis of factors such as unemployment rates, poverty rates and scale of environmental problems.

### **Eligibility**

The urban areas to be supported shall comply with at least three of the following criteria:

- a high level of long-term unemployment;
- a low level of economic activity;
- a high level of poverty and exclusion;
- a specific need for conversion, due to local economic and social difficulties;

- a high number of immigrants, ethnic and minority groups, or refugees;
- a low level of education, significant skills deficiencies and high drop-out -rates from school;
- a high level of criminality and delinquency;
- precarious demographic trends;
- a particularly rundown environment.

Although the Urban initiative is for urban areas to apply, nonetheless once an area is selected their will be projects initiated with an anti-racism content.

### **4.7.3 Leader +**

Leader + encourages the design and implementation of innovative development strategies for rural areas. To achieve this, Leader + is based on partnerships established at local level.

The Leader + budget for 2000-2006 is 2.020.000.000 €.

### **4.7.4 Equal**

Transnational cooperation to combat discrimination and inequality in access to work.

See also page 5 of this study.



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