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## news

### ★ Call for Youth in Action applications

Are you looking to access funding for young people to organise community projects, carry out exchanges with other European countries or to raise young people's awareness of the democratic process? If so, don't miss the 1 November 2010 deadline - the final deadline for the 2010 programme year - to apply for a Youth in Action grant!

The Youth in Action programme (2007-2013) is funded by the European Union and provides young people with a variety of opportunities for non-formal and informal learning with a European dimension.

The British Council, UK's National Agency for the Youth in Action programme, is particularly interested in receiving proposals under Action 1 of the Programme for projects that would start before 31 July 2011.

**Further information about objectives and priorities of the Programme as well as future deadlines from 2011:**

[www.britishcouncil.org/youthinaction](http://www.britishcouncil.org/youthinaction)

### ★ Public consultation on the future European youth programme

Contribute now to the public consultation on the development of the future programme in the field of youth in the language of your choice!

The current European youth programme - Youth in Action - will run until the end of 2013. Reflections have been launched to start shaping its successor programme.

In this context, an online public consultation has just been launched to collect views on how to best develop this future programme so as to ensure an adequate response to youth needs, challenges, and expectations.

The public consultation is addressed to all citizens, associations, organisations, public authorities, policy-makers, and other stakeholders interested in the development and design of the new programme.

It will be open until 30 November 2010.

**Contributing will only take you a few minutes - so make your voice heard and take part in this consultation!**

[ec.europa.eu/youth/news/news1815\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/youth/news/news1815_en.htm)

 [www.eurodesk.org.uk](http://www.eurodesk.org.uk)

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## ★ Youth in Action Interim Evaluation - Report now out

Earlier this year The British Council, UK's National Agency for the Youth in Action programme, conducted an evaluation into the impact the Programme has had in its first three years of implementation from the point of view of its beneficiaries.

These results have been gathered in the Interim Evaluation Report - *This is... Youth in Action* - which includes feedback and quotes from a range of Youth in Action stakeholders.

If you are a UK beneficiary and want to share your Youth in Action project results, please visit the Youthspace website - [www.youthspace.org.uk](http://www.youthspace.org.uk). This is a platform for young people and organisations alike to share training tools, websites, personal experiences, diaries, photographs, magazines, music, and films. It promotes good practice, providing a real insight into real projects and real people.



Find more results by downloading the Interim Evaluation Report

## ★ Brand new web pages for SALTO Cultural Diversity

SALTO Cultural Diversity has given the website a new lease of life, shortening web pages, inserting new pictures, more links and resources to make navigation easier and more pleasant.



A new section - Cultural Diversity Topics - will help you, by only one click, to come across all resources, activities, publications, and further links to main issues SALTO Cultural Diversity deals with: Roma, Peace Education, Intercultural Competence, Intercultural and Inter-religious Dialogue, Inclusion of Cultural Minorities and Cultural Diversity in Youth Projects.

Also, don't forget that you can download all SALTO Cultural Diversity publications from:

[www.salto-youth.net/publicationsculturaldiversity](http://www.salto-youth.net/publicationsculturaldiversity)

Have a look at SALTO Cultural Diversity's brand new web pages and new sections under:  
[www.salto-youth.net/diversity](http://www.salto-youth.net/diversity)

## events

### ★ Training opportunities

The following Youth in Action training activities for youth workers are currently open for recruitment:

- **Enjoy Cultural Diversity on Youth Exchanges**

Romania, 23-28 November 2010  
Deadline for applications 22 October

[Click here for further information](#)

- **SOHO Lithuania - European Training Course for EVS Support People**

Lithuania, 23-27 February 2011  
Deadline for applications 1 December

[Click here for further information](#)

- **Newcomer in EVS - No venture, no gain!**

Germany, 17-22 June 2011  
Deadline for applications 15 April 2011

[Click here for further information](#)

- **Empowering Women!**

France, 13-18 December 2010  
Deadline for applications 16 October

[Click here for further information](#)

[www.eurodesk.org.uk](http://www.eurodesk.org.uk)

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## ★ National CLIC Conference 2010

The first ever CLIC conference will be taking place at Ebbw Vale Institute on Monday, 18 October 2010 between the hours of 09.30am and 15.30pm.

The event is:

- Supported by the Children's Commissioner's Office and Deputy Minister Hugh Lewis AM
- Free and facilitated by young people in enabling their personal and social development through creativity and information
- Designed to engage and encourage young people to contribute to CLIC by creating and uploading content
- Supported by the Welsh Assembly Government
- Also for professionals to gain an understanding of CLIC, as well as being an opportunity to apply CLIC's resources to your own work setting
- A place to explore and engage information stands

**For further details or attend the event (places are limited), please contact CLIC:**

Claire Gardner: 01495708028 -  
claire@cliconline.co.uk

Sarah Parfitt: 01495708028 -  
07554236041  
sarah.parfitt@cliconline.co.uk

www.cliconline.co.uk  
www.ebbwvaleinstitute.org

## journals

### ★ Black Butterfly Project



This year around 150 young people have participated in photo workshops which ran in different countries of the European Union and Latin America through Black Butterfly Project (Broadening Latin America Co-operation and Knowledge, Building Unity through Training, Empowerment, Resources, Formation, and Learning for Youth).

The project has been created and co-ordinated by Everything's Possible and funded with the support of the Youth in Action programme by the European Union.

Everything's Possible, a non-governmental organisation based in Leeds (which prioritises working with young people from minority ethnic groups and also young people experiencing exclusion to offer international mobility and intercultural experiences), wished to bring together partners across both continents and invite young people with fewer opportunities to think about intercultural and cross-ethnic dialogue and to capture it in photographs.

As the outcome of the project, partners and young people they support have organised exhibitions in their respective countries in order to showcase their work.

In October representatives of each group will meet during a final seminar in Uruguay in order to share their experience with one another, to promote the Youth in Action programme and celebrate the success of Black Butterfly, thereby multiplying the benefits of this annual co-operation further on return from the seminar.

One of the highlights of the seminar will be the presentation of the professionally produced official photo book of Black Butterfly, consisting of a selection of best pictures developed by the young people in the course of the project.



A blog has been created to share the progress of this creative work and show the pictures and their making through video (one for each partner) as well as to give more information about the project and the partners who have been involved.

**Please visit the Black Butterfly blog:**  
[blackbutterflytheblog.blogspot.com](http://blackbutterflytheblog.blogspot.com)

★ [www.eurodesk.org.uk](http://www.eurodesk.org.uk)

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## ★ Erasmus students go further

We've always known that students who take part in the Erasmus programme while at university stand out from the crowd. This has now been confirmed by the Higher Education Funding Council for England (Hefce) in their report on 'Attainment in Higher Education of Erasmus and Placement Students'.

The Hefce research found that Erasmus students had a better profile of degree results; 75% of the Erasmus students received a first or an upper second-class degree, compared to 71% of placement students and 60% of other students from four-year courses. Also, Erasmus graduates in employment were substantially more likely to be employed abroad and had above-average salaries.



Like many, Catherine Ward, a former Erasmus student, found it to be a very positive and life-enhancing experience: *"Living in a different country has given me the opportunity to face new challenges, make new friends, and learn a new language. I feel from these experiences that I have grown as a person with more confidence, maturity and gained new skills."*

## Top ten key benefits of taking part in the Erasmus programme:

- **Stand out in the job market - a great addition to your CV.** The job market nowadays is an international one, so when you graduate, not only will you be competing with UK graduates, but also with highly qualified graduates from other countries. By demonstrating that you have lived, studied, and worked in another environment you will be able to compete more effectively.

- **Return more motivated, confident, and independent.**

- **Get a grant and have your tuition fees waived.** UK Erasmus students receive a grant which contributes towards the extra costs arising from studying abroad. You do not pay any tuition fees to the university you are visiting and if you go for a full academic year you do not pay any UK tuition fees for that year.

- **Gain academic recognition as it counts towards your degree.** Unlike other programmes or gap years, an Erasmus period is an integral part of your course. Students receive formal academic recognition for their study - work period abroad.

- **Access a wider range of subject areas than in the UK.**

- **Learn a range of life-skills not taught in the lecture theatre.** The Erasmus experience will enhance your personal development, your job opportunities, your confidence, and your enjoyment of life. Learning to manage your life within another culture brings maturity, confidence, and self-reliance - great life skills.

- **Improve your language skills.**

There is considerable current interest in the employability of graduates with language skills. Staff who can speak more than one language will have significant competitive advantage.

They are seen by businesses as being more flexible and adaptable, more likely to appreciate the need for intercultural communication skills and more able to build relationships with counterparts or clients in other countries. The CBI's 'Education and skills survey 2010' revealed that staff who can communicate at least conversationally in another language - particularly where this is coupled with an understanding of overseas business culture - can be a great asset to employers. Businesses looking for language skills are still seeking traditional European languages such as French (49%) and German (34%). Spanish is sought after by a third (32%) of employers looking to develop trade links not just with Spain but importantly the emerging markets of South America.

- **Gain an international network of friends and meet your lifelong partner - 1 in 10 students do!**

- **Discover a different culture and gain an international perspective.**

- **It's really good fun!** Not only will you acquire a broader range of skills to offer a future employer, but you'll have fun doing it. Erasmus students say it is the best part of their time at university, with amazing opportunities to travel, make friends from around the world, and try out new hobbies and experiences.

**Experience Erasmus for yourself, find out more at:**

[www.britishcouncil.org/erasmus](http://www.britishcouncil.org/erasmus)

★ [www.eurodesk.org.uk](http://www.eurodesk.org.uk)

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## resources

### ★ European Youth Policy - Library

Links to useful documents (published between June and October 2010) on European Youth Policy:

#### Youth on the Move

- Proposal for a Council Recommendation 'Youth on the move - promoting the Learning Mobility of Young People'

- Commission Staff Working Document 'Youth on the Move: Results of the consultation on the Green Paper on the Learning Mobility of Young People'.

Accompanying document to the Proposal for a Recommendation of the Council 'Youth on the Move: Promoting the learning mobility of young people'

- Youth on the Move: an initiative to unleash the potential of young people to achieve smart, sustainable and inclusive growth in the European Union.

Communication from the Commission to the European Parliament, the Council, the European Economic and Social Committee and the Committee of the Regions

#### OECD Indicators

- Education at a Glance 2010 Summary in English

#### Council of Europe / European Commission - Youth Partnership

- Declaration of the 1st European Youth Work Convention Ghent, Belgium, 7-10 July 2010

#### Special Eurobarometer 337

- Geographical and labour market mobility - Report Fieldwork Nov - Dec 2009 Publication June 2010

- Summary

#### Access of Young People to Culture

- Final Report
- Annex

#### European Parliament

- Report on promoting youth access to the labour market, strengthening trainee, internship and apprenticeship status

Committee on Employment and Social Affairs of the European Parliament - Rapporteur: Emilie Turunen

Eurodesk national partners are formally established as a permanent support structure of the Youth in Action programme of the European Union to provide high quality information and advice concerning Europe to young people and those who work with them.

[www.eurodesk.eu](http://www.eurodesk.eu)

The Eurodesk Network updates and manages the information content of the Commission's European Youth Portal. Enquiries coming through the Commission's Youth Portal are answered by the Eurodesk Network. [europa.eu/youth](http://europa.eu/youth)



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