



**EUROPEAN COMMISSION**  
DIRECTORATE-GENERAL FOR EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Youth and sport  
**Youth**

Brussels,  
EAC/D.1/LL (2013)

## **DRAFT MINUTES**

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**Subject:** Sixth meeting of the Expert Group on Peer-learning on creative and innovative potential of young people  
**Venue:** European Commission DG EAC 02/043  
**Date:** 14 October 2013

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### **Purpose of the meeting**

The sixth meeting of the Expert Group on Peer-learning on creative and innovative potential of young people aimed to discuss the content and style of the final report, as well as the recommendations created by the expert group.

#### **1. Introduction**

Lucie LEKESOVA, Policy Officer, DG EAC D1 (Youth Policy)  
Floor VAN HOUDT, Deputy Head of Unit, DG EAC D1 (Youth Policy)

Lucie Lekesova introduced the 6th meeting and reminded that the future Greek Presidency will focus on creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship in the youth field. She also stated several dates of upcoming meetings such as the Youth Working Party (YWP) on 31st of October and the Council of Youth Ministers on 25th of November.

The Chair of the group, John Bamber, welcomed the participants and presented the latest draft report. He highlighted the need to make the content of the report more lively, and if possible to introduce contact persons in the different examples of best practices mentioned in the report.

#### **2. Open-discussion about the report**

The expert group started the discussion about the need to invest in non-formal learning (NFL) and the creativity of young people in order to support their employability. Also, the importance of the capacity of young people to change society through innovation, creativity and entrepreneurial spirit was discussed. Participants emphasized the progress and work that has been done.

Simone Baldassarri, from DG ENTR, highlighted that youth entrepreneurship could be more highlighted in the report. Sophie Müller, from DG ENTR, was invited to the meeting to speak about Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) in enterprises and their possible impact on society. Some examples of CSR focus on youth.

Subsequently, there was an open-discussion covering the following points:

- The need to focus on the employability of young people.
- To include the cultural context, on how young people are creators of cultural values (as intercultural dialogue). Importance of the cultural capital was also underlined.
- Introduce the concepts of creativity, innovation and entrepreneurship as key terms.
- The importance of linking formal and non-formal learning, and how NFL can support innovation and creativity. The importance of supporting social entrepreneurship was highlighted.
- There was a need to ensure that there was a practice example in relation to each of the 6 challenges/recommendations, as well as a contact person.
- Importance of validation and recognition of NFL, where much work still remained to be in the sector.
- Collaboration between the world of labour market and youth organisations. Social enterprises could play an important role.
- All the recommendations to be linked with practical examples.
- Report to be comprehensible to a large variety of audiences.
- Importance to invest into human capital as catalyst of NFL. Support on training.
- Making NFL attractive to the business sector, highlighting the added value.
- Role of COM, bringing together different partners.
- Acquired skills through NFL: creativity, problem-solving, IT tools. Vital for business and employability

### 3. Research, Practice and Policy

Participants were divided into three sub-groups and asked to bring new ideas and perspectives to the recommendations, working to the headings in the following table.

Challenge number	Funds	EU/MS/local level	Practitioners	Training support	Expert group
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The groups presented the outcomes of their discussions, suggesting that the expert group's recommendations should aim to:

(Research group)

- Affirm that NFL is equal to FL, and highlight the importance of youth work
- Support training for staff and youth workers
- Develop a qualification network to validate NFL
- Importance of being evidence-based
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(Practice group)

- Use a more positive language: “Linking between labour market needs and key-competences obtained through NFL”
- Push for new alliances, bringing different stakeholders together
- Focus on small and medium enterprises to support NFL initiatives
- Training support on competences

(Policy group)

- Need to promote recognition of NFL skills and competences by the field of Human Resources
- Importance of the added value of social enterprises

#### **4. Follow-up**

Participants were invited to work further on the recommendations. Going forward it would be good to present concrete proposals and prepare briefing reports for different stakeholders and sectors.

The next and 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the group will take place on 21-22th November in Brussels.

#### **Contact person:**

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