



EUROPEAN COMMISSION
Education and Culture

Lifelong Learning : policies and programme
Director

Brussels, 15. 12. 2011
EAC/B3/MNC/ffe Ares(2011)

*Education Attachés
Permanent Representations of
Member States to the EU*

**Subject: European Agenda for Adult Learning:
Invitation to nominate a National Coordinator**

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

At the meeting of the Council of the European Union on 28 November 2011 education ministers adopted a Resolution creating the European Agenda for Adult Learning (see annex).

The Resolution carries on the work initiated by the Action Plan on Adult Learning (2008-2010) and sets out a vision for adult learning to 2020, bringing it under the umbrella of "ET2020", the overall strategic framework for European cooperation in education and training. Underlining the role that adult learning can play in overcoming the current crisis, the Resolution defines priorities under each of the four objectives of the European Education and Training strategic Framework 2020 and adds an important fifth priority on improving the knowledge base for policy-making and monitoring.

In order to facilitate cooperation with the other participating countries and with the European Commission in implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning, the Resolution calls on countries to designate a National Coordinator, with whom the European Commission is asked to establish close ongoing liaison. The National Coordinators should be located in national administrations or other agencies operating under the responsibility of these. The role of National Coordinators is to contribute to implementation of the European Agenda, in accordance with national contexts and legislation and ensure effective liaison with the relevant ministries and stakeholders, the social partners, businesses, relevant non-governmental organisations and civil society organisations, with a view to improving coherence between policies on adult learning and broader socio-economic policies.

To ensure effective dissemination, implementation and coordination from the outset, DG EAC will organise a launch conference on 28 February. Preceding this, on 27 February, National Coordinators will be invited to a meeting devoted to an induction for National Coordinators to the work which they and the Commission should carry out together in order to achieve the priorities of the European Agenda for Adult Learning for the period 2012 to 2014. 28 February will be devoted to a discussion with a wider audience on issues relating to the raising of awareness on adult learning. The European Commissioner responsible for education, culture and youth, Ms Androulla Vassiliou, has expressed an interest to meet National Coordinators in person during the February conference.

Following the positive opinion delivered by the Lifelong Learning Programme Committee on 1 December 2011, the Commission in its Work Programme for 2012 will allocate funds from the Grundtvig Programme for a specific call for proposals earmarked for the National Coordinators for the Resolution, in order to help them take some concrete steps in disseminating and implementing the European Agenda for Adult Learning at national, regional and local levels.

We kindly invite you to nominate a National Coordinator for your country and to send your nomination by e-mail before 10 January 2012 to: Martina Ní Cheallaigh (martina.nicheallaigh@ec.europa.eu), tel. (+32-2) 2954640, copy to: Fabienne Ferbach (fabienne.ferbach@ec.europa.eu), tel. (+32-2) 2968789.

Should you require any further clarification, please do not hesitate to contact the Head of Unit responsible for Adult Education and Grundtvig, Ms Dana Bachmann, (dana-carmen.bachmann@ec.europa.eu).

Thanking you in advance for your attention to this important matter, and looking forward to three years of fruitful cooperation with your nominee.

Yours sincerely



Hélène Clark

Annex:

- *Council Resolution of 28 November 2011: the European agenda for adult learning*