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COUNCIL OF EUROPE NEWS



The European Day of Languages 2015

It is a day to celebrate the rich mosaic of languages enriching cultural heritage and diversity in Europe. On every 26th September, since 2001, the [European Day of Languages](#) has been aiming to encourage language learning across the Continent, in order to increase pluri-lingualism and inter-cultural understanding. This year [530 events](#) are planned in Council of Europe member states in partnership with schools, universities, cultural institutes, foundations and associations.

The Council of Europe has been working to address the languages challenge, through its [Language Policy Unit](#), its [European Centre for Modern Languages](#) and through co-operation with the [European Commission](#), notably in the area of multilingual classrooms.

The Council of Europe's [Recommendation](#) on the relevance of the languages of schooling (focus for 2015) for educational success offers its 47 European Member States concrete and innovative support to help them ensure that all pupils can reach their educational potential.



Council of Europe Bank proposes new "Migrant and Refugee Fund"

In response to the unprecedented influx of refugees in Europe the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) has launched a new grant facility named "Migrant and Refugee Fund" (MRF) to finance transit and reception centres in affected countries.

The CEB has started engaging with its member states to identify projects and raise additional funds for the MRF. It will also cooperate with organisations working to address the crisis, in particular the Council of Europe, the European Union and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

The Bank is also liaising with other financial institutions, in particular the European Investment Bank (EIB) and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), as well as relevant non-governmental organisations.

The CEB is uniquely positioned to assist its member countries in addressing the current crisis. Set up in 1956 to help Europe deal with millions of people displaced by WWII, the Bank has a strong expertise in funding and implementing projects benefitting migrants and refugees.

More information:

[Council of Europe Development Bank \(CEB\)](#)



The new development agenda should fulfil human rights

"Most European countries have become accustomed to seeing the United Nations (UN) development agenda as being "for export", as not directly relevant for Europe itself. However, the economic crisis and austerity have made this universal agenda topical on our continent as well. The [2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#), launched by a UN summit in New York on 25-27 September 2015, is aimed at ending poverty in all its forms everywhere.

Its 17 Sustainable Development Goals comprise an ambitious blueprint for a world which leaves no one behind and is based on the universal respect for human rights. Europe should make this agenda its own to the benefit of the most vulnerable in our societies" said Nils Muižnieks, Council of Europe [Commissioner for Human Rights](#), in his latest Human Rights Comment published today. ([continue reading](#))

EUROPEAN YOUTH PORTAL NEWS



Join the Youth Involvement European video contest

The third edition of the EVS film festival is inviting every person living in Europe, between 15 and 35 years old, to create a video lasting maximum 3 minutes, under the theme "Climate, some like it hot?"

Organised by the French Agency Erasmus+ Youth & Sport, the 4 winners will be invited to participate to an event held in Paris at the end of November about media, youth and environment with boarding and transports covered.

Current and former participants of the Erasmus+ programme are strongly encouraged to join in.

Deadline: 9 November 2015, midnight CET.

Find out more: <http://bit.ly/1W117AW>