



COUNCIL OF EUROPE NEWS



European Day of Languages: "Language learning breaks down barriers"

"Speaking to other people in their language breaks down linguistic and cultural barriers," said Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Director General for Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport, on the occasion of the European Day of Languages on 26 September. This day was launched by the Council of Europe in 2001 to celebrate linguistic and cultural diversity.

The European Day of Languages was declared by the Council of Europe in 2001, European Year of Languages, to celebrate linguistic and cultural diversity.

More information on the EDL website:

www.coe.int/JEL

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES



United Nations Alliance of Civilizations is launching the second edition of its Youth Solidarity Fund

The program provides seed funding to outstanding youth projects addressing areas of primary concern to the UNAoC, i.e. fostering mutual respect, understanding and long-term positive relationships between peoples of different cultures and religions.

The Youth Solidarity Fund will support several outstanding youth projects demonstrating innovative approaches to building cross-cultural understanding. The 2009 edition of the Youth Solidarity Fund offers a total envelope of up to US\$300,000. There are two levels of funding available:

Small grants: Community or local-level projects needing funding of up to US\$20,000 each.

Large grants: National or regional-level projects needing funding of up to US\$30,000 each.

A Youth Selection Committee will identify projects deemed to be the most meritorious under each level of funding.

Eligible youth organizations from all over the world are invited to submit project proposals responding to the criteria outlined in the guidelines. Projects need to be presented via the application form developed for this program.

Please note that the application deadline is **September 30, 2009, 1:00 PM, New York time.**

The application guidelines and form will be uploaded on website

<http://www.unaoc.org/>

UNESCO NEWS



UNESCO listens to youth: Sixth Youth Forum in Paris, 1 to 3 October

On the eve of the opening of the 35th General Conference of UNESCO, 143 young people from 96 countries and some 50 observers representing 34 organizations are expected in Paris to take part in the 6th UNESCO Youth Forum, which will be held from 1-3 October at UNESCO. This year's theme is "Investing out of the crisis: towards a partnership between UNESCO and youth organizations".

Designated by their country for their involvement in youth-related activities, the 143 Delegates, aged between 18 and 24, will discuss the possibilities for States to invest in the development of youth in order to emerge from the crisis, a theme that will also be at the heart of the debates during UNESCO's 35th General Conference.

EUROPEAN YOUTH PORTAL NEWS



Youthpass available for Action 3.1

Youthpass, a tool for recognition and validation of non-formal education within the Youth in Action Programme, has become available also for Youth Exchanges and Training Courses under Action 3.1.

In addition to the upcoming projects, certificates can also be created retroactively for all Youth Exchanges and Training Courses approved after 1.1.2007.

Youthpass certificates can be created online by using the project number provided by the National Agency / Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency granting the project.

Beneficiaries are also encouraged to read the Youthpass guide, which contains information on the background and development of the Youthpass, as well as technical information on how to create the certificates.

The guide is available under

<http://www.youthpass.eu/en/youthpass/guide/>