

THE EUROGUIDANCE NETWORK POSITION PAPER ON EU FUNDS IN THE AREA OF VALUES AND MOBILITY

Comments from the Euroguidance Network with reference to the public consultation on EU funds in the area of values and mobility¹

EUROGUIDANCE NETWORK – LINKING LIFELONG GUIDANCE AND LEARNING MOBILITY ACROSS EUROPE

Since 1992, the Euroguidance Network provides knowhow and expertise in lifelong guidance and learning mobility within education, training and employment in Europe. Altogether 36 European countries belong to the Euroguidance Network. The national Euroguidance Centres contribute to the implementation of the Erasmus+ objectives as well as the EU policies and strategies in the context of lifelong learning and sustainable employment.

The Euroguidance Network's primary goal is to develop a European dimension in guidance, by educating guidance professionals, who work in the education and employment sectors. On top of this, the Euroguidance Network promotes the international exchange and cooperation of guidance practitioners and is involved in developing lifelong guidance provision at a European level.

TARGETED MOBILITY OPPORTUNITIES FOR GUIDANCE PROFESSIONALS NEEDED

The Euroguidance Network firmly believes that learning mobility can empower citizens, develop their skills and competences and contribute to open, democratic, more equal, inclusive and creative societies. Young people who have taken part in periods of learning mobility grow as individuals and gain experiences that affect their life in terms of educational and vocational choices as well as views on worldwide issues. To open up mobility for as many as possible, especially for groups that are underrepresented in the current mobility programmes should be a priority for the future.

Here, guidance and counselling plays an important role in supporting and enabling mobility for the individual. In order to make guidance professionals around Europe active supporters of mobility for their clients, the Euroguidance Network strongly recommends increasing the possibilities for guidance professionals to take part in international exchange and cooperation for their own competence development. This would also support the development of the guidance counsellors' proficiency of foreign languages, which is needed in order for them to provide high-quality information and advice to clients who are interested in studying and training opportunities abroad.

Mobile guidance counsellors are the best ambassadors and should therefore be given targeted mobility opportunities within European programmes and actions after 2020.

IMPORTANT ROLE OF EUROGUIDANCE IN SUPPORTING MOBILITY GUIDANCE IN EUROPE

For more than 20 years Euroguidance has been supporting the upgrading of guidance practitioner competences and raising their awareness of European initiatives and trends in the fields of education and employment, thus developing the European dimension in guidance.

Offering education and support to guidance professionals in the area of learning mobility will be an important task also in the coming programme period. This will be especially important if we want to increase the numbers taking part in periods of learning mobility and open up the opportunities for underrepresented groups. If the level of funding will be much higher for mobility measures in the future programmes and actions, it would be advisable that also the mobility supporting measures (incl. the Euroguidance Network) should receive higher amounts of funding to be able to efficiently promote learning mobility and the European dimension in lifelong guidance.

The Euroguidance Network should therefore be given continued trust and enhanced resources to carry out its mission as part of the European programmes and actions after 2020.

¹ This paper does not necessarily reflect the opinion of all Euroguidance centres