

EOC

Liaison Office at the European Union



**Report on the impact of the activities
of the European Union
on sports**

April 2007



MONTHLY REPORT APRIL 2007

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General Policy

1. „.eu“ internet domain celebrates first anniversary

In April 2006 Europe’s internet domain was opened to the public. Over 2.5 million domain names have been registered since then. This brisk increase of active users makes “.eu” to Europe’s third most popular top level domain (TLD) and worldwide to the seventh most popular domain.

Viviane Reding, EU–Commissioner for Information Society and Media, describes this fast development of the internet domain as helping “to deploy Europe’s identity online”.

The TLD “.eu” was opened first on 7 December 2005 to business. Since it is opened to the public, citizens and companies from all 27 EU Member States have applied for a “.eu” domain name. The strongest demand for domain names has come from Germany with 31% of applications.

Responsible for “.eu” is the independent not–for–profit registry EURid.



www.eurid.org



Sport

Legal Questions

2nd Amended proposal for television directive approved

The European Commission (EC) approved an amended proposal for the modernised “Television Without Frontiers” directive on 29 March. After the first reading at the European Parliament and processing by the Council in late 2006, the EC published this updated draft directive, which is a follow-up version of the initial document dating back to December 2005.

The aim of the modernised version is to adapt the legislative framework of the old television directive to technological developments (new markets) and to create fair conditions of competition in Europe for new audiovisual media services – video on demand, mobile television and audiovisual services in digital television.

You can see the amended proposal and the developments since the original version of 2005 in the following link:



http://ec.europa.eu/avpolicy/reg/twvf/modernisation/proposal_2005/index_en.htm



Aid Programms

3rd Call for proposals for the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008

The European Commission has published its invitation for the submission of project proposals for the “European Year of Intercultural Dialogue” (2008). A total of € 2.4 million has been earmarked for co-financing (up to 80 per cent of a project’s total funds) from Community level actions. The Europe-wide actions are to foster intercultural dialogue, with young people being a special focus.

A further € 3 million are available for co-financing projects at national and regional level that have a European dimension and that promote the objectives of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue.

The following focal areas are significant when submitting project ideas in response to the current invitations:

- European / intercultural dialogue
- long-term objectives
- innovative instruments / methods
- inclusion of formal and informal educational measures
- projects that have as broad an influence as possible.

The first deadline for submitting proposals is 31 July 2007.



Call for European projects:

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2007/c_078/c_07820070411en00180020.pdf

Call for national and regional projects:

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/de/oj/2007/c_078/c_07820070411en00210022.pdf

4th “Youth for the World” project invitation

In issuing this invitation, the European Commission (EC) aims to support projects fostering youth cooperation between the programme’s participating countries and countries other than their neighbouring EU countries with a view to:

- promoting the exchange of experience and successful practices in work with young people and in non-formal education;
- contributing to the development of youth policy, to activities in the youth and voluntary sector and to strengthening young people’s organisational/structural and leadership skills;
- developing partnerships and permanent networks between youth organisations.

The projects have to fall into one of the following subject categories:

1. Strengthening civil society, citizenship and democracy



2. Combating racism and xenophobia
3. Dialogue between different ethnic and religious groups
4. Solutions and rebuilding after conflicts
5. Active role of women in society
6. Minority rights

The EU countries, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway as well as the EU accession candidates are eligible to take part. Partners from at least four different countries (including the applicant) have to be involved in the projects, and at least two have to be programme countries. Of these, at least one has to be a European Union Member State, and there have to be two partner countries.

The total maximum amount of financial assistance is € 100,000.

The projects are to begin between 15 December 2007 and 15 February 2008 and are to last for between six and twelve months.

Applicants are to be sent to the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) by 31 May 2007.



http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/youth/calls2007/action32/index_en.htm



5th Project invitation to promote innovation and quality in the field of youth work

The invitation concerns Action 4.4 of the “Youth in Action” programme. The purpose of the measure is to support projects that promote innovation and quality and aim to introduce, implement and promote innovative concepts as well as quality in non-formal education among young people and in “youth work”.

These innovative concepts may relate to

- the content and objectives in connection with the development of the European framework for cooperation in the youth sector and the priorities of the “Youth in Action” programme and/or
- applied methods based on new concepts in the field of non-formal education and youth work.

In line with the programme’s general priorities, which are to promote the involvement of young people, cultural diversity, European citizenship and social integration, as well as the specific priority of the European Year 2007, namely to promote the equality of opportunity (European Year of Equal Opportunities for All 2007), projects should aim to improve the integration of disadvantaged young people living in the peripheral areas of European cities.

The EU Member States, Iceland, Liechtenstein and Norway as well as the EU



accession candidates are eligible to take part.

Partner organisations from at least four different countries must participate in the projects (including the applicant's country), whereby the headquarters of at least one of these has to be in an EU Member Country.

The maximum amount of financing per project may not exceed € 100,000 per activity year and the maximum total amount of financial assistance is € 200,000.

It is essential that activities begin between 1 December 2007 and 31 January 2008 and have a minimum term of 12 months and a maximum term of 24 months.

Applications must be sent to the Education, Audio-Visual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) by 30 June 2007.



<http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/static/en/youth/calls2007/action44/index.htm>



Miscellaneous

6th EU Open Day – an initiative by the German Olympic Sports Confederation

On the occasion of the German European Council Presidency and in cooperation with the Federal Ministry of the Interior, this year's EU Open Day is taking place in Executive Lounge 3 of the Commerzbank Arena in Frankfurt on 27 June 2007 from 9:00 – 16:00 hrs. Anyone interested, including anyone outside the target group of organised sport, is welcome to attend.

The EU Open Day will enable visitors to exchange ideas with experts on specific issues relating to the EU and sport in an informal setting. The focus of interest will be on information on the possibilities of including sports-related projects in EU funding programmes.

The experiences presented of projects that have already been implemented and expert practical assistance will be particularly useful in making the first step towards participating in "Europe for Citizens."

On the basis of the German government's motto for the German Presidency of the European Council, "promoting Europe in Germany", it is the event's primary concern to make visitors more aware of Europe's diversity through sports-related areas of activity.

A number of experts from organisations including national agencies of the European Programmes (e.g. YOUTH, Life-Long Learning), European information



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centres und the EU Office of the German Olympic Sports Confederation, will be represented at information stands.