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Priority Actions in the Youth Field

Activity Report 1993

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Priority Actions in the Youth Field

Activity Report 1993

I. Introduction

1. Further to the European Commission's Memorandum "Young People in the European Community"¹, and recognising the need for further cooperation in the field of youth the Ministers responsible for youth matters in the Member States of the European Community adopted a Resolution on Priority Actions in the Youth Field² on 26 June 1991.

2. The Resolution was designed to provide new scope for Community action in the youth sector, and set out four areas of priority action:

Action I: Intensification of Cooperation between Structures responsible for Youth Work in the Member States;

Action II: Information for Young People;

Action III: Youth Pilot Projects - Stimulating the Initiative and the Creativity of Young People;

Action IV: Cooperation in the Training of Youth Workers, particularly with regard to the European Dimension;

3. For 1993, the European Parliament renewed the endowment of the specific budget line (B3-1012) it had created for the Priority Actions in the Youth Field for 1992, increasing the amount to 5.5 MECU, which enabled the European Union to accord financial support to activities within the framework of the Resolution. In endowing the budget line for the Resolution on Priority Actions the European Parliament commented that the sum would also serve to support:

- Exchanges of Young People for Cultural Purposes in the European Union;
- Support for Initiatives of Community Interest developed by Youth Organisations;
- Exchanges with Central and Eastern European Countries;
- Exchanges with Latin American Countries;
- Exchanges with Mediterranean Countries.

4. This report reflects the most significant results of the second year of operation of the Resolution on Priority Actions in the Youth Field, which concerned activities taking place between the 1 April 1993 and March 1994. In 1993, the European Commission received some 915 applications and accorded financial support to 419 activities. The increased dissemination of information about the Priority Actions in the Youth Field was reflected in the number of applications received in 1993 and the number of participants benefitting as compared to the previous year, illustrating a steady growth in interest in the Priority Actions. The total number of participants involved amounted to some 12,500 young people, youth workers, trainers and other multipliers in the youth field. Tables 1-4 (in annex) provide an indication of the number of projects received and accepted by Action and by Member State, the grants allocated by Action and by Member State, the percentage breakdown by Member State of the total grant allocation for each Action, and the number of participants by Action and by country.

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²Official Journal n° C 208/91

II. General objectives of the Resolution

5. Activities supported by the Commission within the framework of the Resolution on Priority Actions in the Youth Field aim to intensify cooperation between Member States in the field of youth, outside formal education and training, taking into account the respective structures in the youth sector across the Union and reflecting the diversity of traditions and experience in this field.
6. Activities supported within the framework of the Resolution on Priority Actions in the Youth Field provide a range of measures which ensure complementarity and coherence with other existing European Union programmes and measures, i.e. the Youth for Europe Programme, the TEMPUS Scheme and the Youth Initiative Projects within the PETRA Programme.
7. Activities are designed, in the medium- and long-term, to give rise to the development of a European dimension in youth work across the Member States. In this context, activities not only involve young people, but also multipliers in the Member States who are either persons responsible for youth at local and regional level, or who work directly with young people, at local, regional and national level, outside the context of school or vocational training.

III. Operational infrastructure

8. In accordance with the Council Resolution, activities are implemented by the Commission of the European Communities. The Ad-hoc Working Group on Youth meeting within the Council follows developments regarding the implementation of the Resolution.
9. The European Commission is assisted in the implementation of the Resolution on Priority Actions in the Youth Field by an external technical assistance unit, the Petra Youth Bureau.

IV. Progress and results of activities supported by the European Commission in 1993

10. The second year of activity of the Priority Actions in the Youth Field continued to offer a framework for the exchange of information and good practice between Member States accentuating the transnational approach and with a new focus placed on particular areas of youth provision i.e. youth participation, civic education, social exclusion, integration of young people and the training of youth workers. This transnational dimension has also been extended to include not only national but also regional and local structures, with a noted trend being the establishment of new transnational partnerships between Northern and Southern Member States and new links formed between regions which had no previous tradition or experience in European youth cooperation.
11. In line with the general objectives of the Youth for Europe Programme, the Priority Actions in the Youth Field also set out in 1993 to increase the opportunities available to disadvantaged young people. This was reflected in the number of new projects specifically targeted at this group which represented some 25% of all projects notably young people who were socio-economically deprived, disabled, from geographically isolated regions or members of immigrant or travelling communities.

12. The Priority Actions in the Youth Field also provided the stimulus and the structure for young people and youth workers to explore new and more effective ways of combatting racism and xenophobia at all levels from the local to the transnational. The emphasis was not on ad-hoc emergency solutions but rather on long term preventive measures in which young people themselves were able to play a key role.
13. It was noted that due to the multilateral component of activities with the third countries, the Priority Actions provided an operational framework which facilitated all Member States' access to youth cooperation with third countries. A number of Member States were able to develop their traditional bilateral cooperation into multilateral activities with certain eligible third countries, whilst other Member States set up first time cooperation and activities in the youth sector with new geographical areas which had not previously been explored.

Action I : Intensification of Cooperation between Structures responsible for Youth Work in the Member States

14. Under Action I of the Resolution, the Ministers call upon the Commission to promote activities which aim to intensify cooperation between structures responsible for youth work in the Member States, while taking account of existing European Union programmes in this field.
15. Action I aims to enable those working in the youth sector in the Member States to identify partners, to share their experiences, to become more familiar with the work situation and structures in other Member States, to become acquainted with the realities and mechanisms operating in the European Union, to explore possibilities of cooperation in their particular areas of work and to better understand the framework provided by the European Union in the field of youth. To this end, funding is available to support study-experiences, seminars and workshops.
16. Through Action I, the Commission has sought to involve multipliers working in as many diverse contexts as possible in the Member States. Action I concerns : officials working in the youth sector at national, regional or local level, ie. civil servants working in the youth departments of national, regional or local authorities; councillors for youth matters at local and regional level; youth association officers and youth workers working in a full-time, part-time or voluntary basis, at European, national, regional or local level, who are able to demonstrate a certain practical experience in youth work.
17. In 1993, the European Commission received some 102 applications for funding under Action I and accorded grants to 56 of these. The majority of project applications were submitted by French youth work structures, followed by structures from the Netherlands and Germany and European non-governmental organisations. French applicants saw the largest number of projects supported, along with non-governmental organisations and structures from the Netherlands. Beneficiaries were mainly regional authorities, followed by non-governmental organisations, regional and local level youth organisations and national authorities. The United Kingdom hosted the largest number of activities (35%), particularly in the Greater London area, followed by Belgium, Italy, Germany, Spain, Greece and France.

18. With regard to the number of participants involved, some 775 persons took part in Action I activities in 1993, reflecting the vast range of profiles existing in youth work structures across the European Union: multipliers working in regional youth work settings, youth organisations, community centres, youth clubs, youth information centres, drop-in centres, and multipliers involved in artistic and multicultural youth work.
19. Of the 56 projects which received Community funding, 43 were study-experiences. The study-experiences provided an opportunity for youth workers and other multipliers to gain an insight into general youth work provision in the Member States and forms of youth work aimed at specific target groups in the wider youth population. For the most part, the study-experiences concentrated on: general practice of youth work at regional level; youth information structures; youth work methods and support services for the integration of socio-economically disadvantaged young people; youth work provisions for young people with no formal educational qualifications; preventative youth work combatting aggression and violence amongst young people (particularly xenophobic behaviour); youth work with ethnic minorities and migrants; youth work with disabled young people; and cultural youth work.
20. Of the 56 projects which received Community funding, 13 were seminars which constituted platforms for examining youth policies relating to the general situation of young people in the Member States. The main thematic trends were: local youth policies and youth work provision; methods for working with young people at risk; multicultural youth work; anti-racist youth work; artistic expression as a youth work method with urban youth; voluntary service activities; and environmental youth work.
21. Overall, the activities granted reflected a wide spectrum of exemplary youth work and provided an insight into how youth work can be carried out with different target groups particularly in metropolitan areas of the European Union. The projects sought to establish forms of long-term inter-regional cooperation, aiming to develop and formulate content for youth cooperation and to encourage the mobility of full-time youth workers.
22. The operational framework provided by the Priority Actions in the Youth Field under Action I has led to the implementation of activities between Member States and regions of the European Union where no tradition for cooperation in the field of youth previously existed. This is due to a move on the part of regional youth work structures towards extending their regional youth work to a wider European perspective and examining the transferability of youth work models.

Action II : Information for Young People

23. As a result of the process of defining transparent and effective modes of operation to avoid overlap and to increase the complementarity of Action II of the Priority Actions in the Youth Field and the Commission's Youth Information Action Plan, it was possible to accord funding to 22 projects in 1993 under Action II. These varied somewhat in content and objectives (including conferences and seminars, information campaigns, the setting up of a youth information database) and in terms of the scope of the activities, which ranged from local/regional to European level.

24. The Youth for Europe National Agencies were allocated funding under this budget heading towards activities involving the provision of information on Priority Actions in the Youth Field in the respective Member States.

Action III : Youth Pilot Projects - Stimulating the Initiative and Creativity of Young People

25. Under Action III of the Resolution on Priority Actions in the Youth Field, the Ministers call upon the Commission to support at European level innovatory projects which involve interesting methods, are managed by young people themselves and are of importance to young people in other Member States.
26. To this end, Action III aims to stimulate the initiative and creativity of young people in the European Union by providing funding for Youth Pilot Projects set up *by* young people *for* young people, outside formal education and training, which reflect the social, cultural or economic situation of their local community. Youth Pilot Projects are aimed at all young people, aged 15-25 years, without exception and priority is accorded to projects which mirror the cultural/religious/linguistic diversity of the given local community.
27. In 1993, Action III continued to attract a large number of applications from groups of young people in their local communities across the European Union. The European Commission received some 363 applications for funding and accorded grants to 156 of these. Although in comparison with the previous year, there were fewer applications overall, the proportion of successful applications was significantly higher, with over 40% resulting in grants being awarded.
28. The largest number of applications came from the United Kingdom, followed by Germany (where one third of the projects supported were in the New Länder), Spain and France. Reasons for wide range in the numbers of applications by country may be attributed to several factors : the extent to which information was successfully disseminated, long-standing traditions, or not, of local youth-managed initiatives or the existence of funding, or not, at national and regional level for young people's projects and activities.
29. Applications were mainly submitted by local youth groups, social and cultural associations, church-based youth clubs or associations, local and regional youth services, and local and regional branches of national and international associations. For the most part, projects were set up by existing groups, though in some cases non-organised young people came together to set up Youth Pilot Projects.
30. With regard to the number of participants involved in Youth Pilot Projects in 1993, the figure of 3,441 young people can only be considered a conservative estimate, representing the young people directly involved in *managing* the projects. In reality, Youth Pilot Projects play an important multiplying role, reaching many other local young people than those forming the immediate core group of the project.

31. In line with the Youth for Europe Programme, Action III aims to encourage the participation of disadvantaged young people (whether their disadvantage be for socio-economic, regional or personal reasons) by providing up to 75% funding for projects involving this target group. In 1993, almost two thirds of those Youth Pilot Projects supported by the Commission involved young people in this category.
32. Activities supported under Action III in 1993 reflect the needs, interests and concerns of young people in their local communities, across the European Union. Although project themes were varied, certain trends emerged, one important one being, for example, the concern of young Europeans with regard to the increase in racist and xenophobic activity in many Member States. Peer education and information projects were also popular, with *youth to youth* information being recognised as the most effective way of getting a message across to young people in difficulty, whether this concerns drug or alcohol use and abuse, sexual health, youth rights, employment, or environmental issues.
33. By providing a *direct* link between the European Commission and young people in their communities, Action III has introduced a new Community dimension to local youth-initiated projects, bringing Europe into the local community. In this context, over 20% of the projects supported came from relatively isolated rural areas of the European Union. In addition, a number of Youth Pilot Projects supported in 1993 chose Europe as a central theme, reflecting upon their local community as an integral part of the European Union as a whole and concentrating on developing projects likely to have a meaningful outcome for young people in other Member States also.

Action IV : Cooperation in the Training of Youth Workers, particularly with regard to the European Dimension

34. Under Action IV, the Resolution calls upon the Commission to support initiatives in the Member States which permit an exchange of experience and information between those responsible for training youth workers in the different Member States; and/or which make it easier for youth workers to use their qualifications in other Member States; or which lead to the setting-up and development of transnational and European links between institutions and organisations involved in the initial or further training of youth workers.
35. Action IV is aimed at authorities of a Member State, organisations/bodies active in the field of initial and/or further training for youth workers at local, regional national and European levels and youth organisations with experience in youth worker training at European level.
36. Activities supported under Action IV include : study visits for youth worker trainers, designed to enable participants to discover the typical activities involved in training youth workers in other Member States and to launch concrete forms of cooperation; seminars and studies to collect information on the status of youth workers and their training in other Member States; the development and implementation of training modules for youth workers, the specific content of which should serve to illustrate the *European dimension* and to incorporate it as an *added value* into the initial or further training programmes for youth workers at national level. Activities supported under Action IV are distinct from other types of youth worker training activities, as foreseen in the context of the Youth for Europe Programme, for example, the latter being linked to the preparation, implementation and evaluation of youth exchanges.

37. In 1993, the European Commission received some 37 applications for funding under Action IV and accorded grants to 17 of these. Beneficiaries were mainly regional youth authorities and public or semi-public training institutions linked to national, regional and local bodies. Of the 17 projects which received Community funding, 7 were study-visits for persons responsible for youth work training, 4 were cooperation projects to develop and/or implement initial and further training modules, and 3 were seminars. Another 3 projects were training courses.
38. The study-visits for youth worker trainers were perceived to be an important measure, facilitating : the familiarisation with and comparison of training systems and professional qualifications in the Member States; the examination of youth work training in the context of the integration of disabled young people; the identification of existing modules of good practice for youth work with disadvantaged young people; and the examination of youth worker training involving rural youth.
39. The projects concerning the development of initial and further training modules concentrated on the development of : a European curriculum for the further training of youth workers, including modules on mobility, intercultural learning, creativity against exclusion, and identity and citizenship; an inventory to assist youth work trainers and youth workers in working with young people with aggressive xenophobic and racist behaviour; modules to facilitate the understanding of European integration and mobility; a module on intercultural learning.
40. The seminars granted constituted important multilateral fora, the thematic trends being : conditions for intercultural learning and its impact on European society; comparison and development of youth work training for deaf young people; and environmental education in a socio-cultural context.
41. Action IV activities supported in 1993, served to create concrete forms of cooperation between training institutions in the different Member States. Whereas cooperation between the bigger Member States tended to dominate as concerned the study-visits, new forms of cooperation emerged between the Northern and Southern Member States in the development of training modules and in seminars. This has resulted in the creation of new transnational links and action programmes for trainers, the dissemination of different pedagogical working methods and the integration of a European dimension as an added value into the future training of youth workers.

Exchanges of Young People for Cultural Purposes in the European Union

42. Under this action, support is available for tri- or multilateral exchange projects, with a duration of between three days and four weeks, involving young people aged between 15 and 25 years, which are organised at the initiative of the participants themselves. Such projects are required to have a coherent educational structure and, through the means of artistic expression, to provide those involved with a culturally enriching European experience.
43. In 1993, the European Commission received some 77 applications for funding under Exchanges of Young People for Cultural Purposes and accorded grants to 18 of these. A considerable number of project applications came from autonomous youth groups and youth clubs, followed by youth organisations and European non-governmental organisations.

44. Some 910 young people benefitted in 1993 from activities granted under Exchanges of Young People for Cultural Purposes, thus enabling them to gain understanding of the cultural diversity of the European Union, to deal with current social and cultural phenomena with regard to young people's everyday realities in the Member States and to use artistic expression as a means of intercultural communication.
45. The projects included : a cultural awareness project using music to facilitate the exchange of ideas on cultural identity, values, conflicts and tolerance; an exhibition on European popular tradition; a youth media project involving the production of a film on multi-ethnic societies in the European Union; a musical on global awareness and limits of growth in European society; a street music and theatre project on xenophobia and racism as cultural phenomena in Europe; and musical expression projects with severely disabled young people in the context of "Antwerpen '93" cultural capital of Europe.
46. Artistic expression proved to be a youth-friendly working method, successful in facilitating communication between young people during the exchange projects. The exchanges constituted ideal platforms for young people to become acquainted with the cultural diversity of Europe, to maximise their own creativity, to promote understanding and respect in multi-ethnic and multi-cultural European societies.

Support for Initiatives of Community Interest developed by Youth Organisations

47. This action is designed to provide youth organisations with the possibility of intensifying cooperation at European level and to maintain appropriate contacts through the creation of infrastructures. Financial support is thus available for two types of initiative : concrete cooperation between organisations at local, regional or national level, to develop a specific project of Community interest; and the creation of an infrastructure, involving organisations in at least six Member States, for the development of initiatives by those organisations and extension of the infrastructure to new partners.
48. In 1993, the European Commission received some 49 applications for funding under this action and accorded grants to 18 of these. Most of the applications in 1993 were submitted by organisations working at European, regional and local level and concerned the development of their infrastructure in relation to the youth work already being carried out and the identification and development of networks with new partners. Applicants were mainly European non-governmental organisations (working in the environmental, disability, cultural and voluntary sectors), regional youth councils, local youth organisations and youth information centres.
49. The activities supported were, for a large part, infrastructure projects, concentrating on improving information provisions to the various parties involved.
50. The considerable demand for funding under this action in 1993 can be partly explained by the fact that very few "institutional" grants are available, either at national or at European level, for infrastructure or for the setting up of cooperation projects. This prevents new organisations, or groups of organisations, from meeting the increasing demand for the setting-up of appropriate infrastructures to deal with new partners and for establishing cooperation projects with partners in the European Union and beyond.

Exchanges with Central and Eastern European Countries

51. With a view to intensifying cooperation in the field of the exchange and mobility of young people from the European Union and eligible Central and Eastern European countries not covered under the TEMPUS Scheme, Community funding was made available in 1993 for certain activities in the youth field with Armenia, Belorussia, Georgia, Moldavia, Russia and the Ukraine.
52. In preparation and consolidation for future activities in the youth field with Central and Eastern European countries, financial support was set aside for preparatory study visits and training courses involving youth workers and youth exchanges for groups of young people from the European Union and the eligible countries.
53. Among the exchanges with third countries supported in 1993, the Exchanges with Central and Eastern European Countries drew the greatest interest, and this was reflected in the number of grant applications. Indeed, the European Commission received some 149 applications for funding for activities with Central and Eastern European countries and accorded grants to 77 of these. The majority of project applications were submitted by German organisations, followed by European non-governmental organisations, organisations from the United Kingdom and from Belgium. Organisations from the United Kingdom saw the largest number of projects supported, along with European non-governmental organisations and organisations from Germany and France.
54. Beneficiaries were mainly organisations involved in voluntary service and workcamp activities; coordination bodies of youth clubs; local youth councils; regional youth departments; regional bodies and associations involved in youth research, civic education, training and youth exchange; European non-governmental organisations; and organisations working with the disabled.
55. With regard to the number of participants, some 4357 young people and youth workers took part in activities under the Exchanges with Central and Eastern European Countries in 1993. As concerns the breakdown of participants by Member State, those from Germany dominated, followed by the United Kingdom and France. Among the Central and Eastern European countries, the largest number of participants were from Russia, followed by Belorussia and the Ukraine.
56. As for the countries hosting projects, the Central and Eastern European countries were in the forefront, headed by Russia, where the largest number of projects took place, followed by Belorussia and the Ukraine. Among the European Union countries, Belgium hosted the largest number of activities, followed by France and the United Kingdom.
57. Of the 77 projects which received Community funding, 23 were preparatory study visits, 9 were training courses and 45 were youth exchanges.
58. The preparatory study visits are aimed at youth workers, and are designed to enable them to make contacts for the organisation of future youth exchanges between the European Union and the eligible Central and Eastern European countries, and to familiarise themselves with the situation of young people and the youth structures in the Member States and/or in the eligible Central and Eastern European countries.

59. The majority of the 23 preparatory study visits granted provided opportunities for youth workers from the European Union to visit the eligible Central and Eastern European countries. For the most part, preparatory study visits concentrated on local youth work provision; urban youth; environmental youth work; young people at risk; voluntary youth organisations; voluntary service activities; youth worker training; youth exchanges. The visits proved to be exploratory activities, which focused on identifying the realities and needs in the respective countries, coming to an understanding of the concept of youth work and examining the potential for future youth cooperation between Member States and Central and Eastern European youth organisations. In general, the activities resulted in the formulation of concrete youth exchange activities; and the establishing or intensification of contacts for wider youth cooperation between structures, including infrastructural and training programmes.
60. The training courses are aimed at youth workers, to enable them to become acquainted with leadership techniques for youth work in general and, more specifically, with leadership techniques applicable to bi-, tri- or multilateral exchanges.
61. The 9 training courses were seen to constitute essential platforms for contributing to the quality of future East-West youth exchange activities and in ensuring the better qualification of youth workers for practical youth work at local level. The training courses did not set out to create opportunities for encouraging youth workers in the eligible countries to adopt Western European training modules with a view to facilitating future exchanges and youth cooperation, but rather offered frameworks which could be adapted to the training needs of the participating youth workers.
62. In general, the training courses provided participants with a notion of youth exchanges as jointly understood; leadership techniques applicable and tailored to the needs and particularities of both European Union and Central and Eastern European youth workers; acquaintance with the situation and role of youth workers; acquisition of organisational and animation techniques for youth projects with young people in their local environment and in a mobility context; familiarization with youth structures; a platform to facilitate the transfer and comparison of working models in the youth sector, techniques for running youth associations; techniques for implementing youth projects with specific target groups (eg. rural youth, disadvantaged youth) and for assessing the impact of such projects.
63. The aims of the youth exchanges, which concern groups of young people aged between 15 and 25 years, are to enable those taking part to gain an understanding of the economic, social and cultural life of the Member State or eligible Central and Eastern European country hosting the exchange; to facilitate the exchange of ideas and identification of common interests; and to encourage the development of permanent links between the young people.
64. The youth exchanges supported included a large number of disadvantaged young people and concentrated mainly on environmental education projects; peer education projects; civic education projects; community development projects; social exclusion projects; media projects; artistic expression projects.
65. The 45 youth exchange activities granted within the framework of Exchanges with Central and Eastern European Countries, reflected the wide range of interests and priorities of young people in both East and West. As much as the themes of the exchanges varied, they were nonetheless relevant both in a cross-frontier European context and with regard to young people's interests and everyday realities. In general, exchange projects were the result of contacts established over a period of years between organisations in the Union and the "old"

structures: recent initiatives wishing to manifest solidarity with the eligible Central and Eastern European countries; or contacts established within town-twinning frameworks. Activities tended to be either youth exchanges with very general aims, or projects linked to some form of labour (eg. workcamps).

66. The 77 projects which received Community funding under Exchanges with Central and Eastern European Countries in 1993 were essentially a direct response to issues relating to young people in the light of the political and social changes in Europe. They reflected the organisations' determination to examine youth work in a wider intra-continental European reality, rather than in terms of separated Western or Eastern European contexts.

Exchanges with Latin American Countries

67. With a view to intensifying cooperation in the field of the exchange and mobility of young people from the European Union and Latin American countries, Community funding was made available, in 1993, for certain activities in the youth field with the following eligible Latin American countries: Argentina (AR), Bolivia (BO), Brazil (BR), Chile (CL), Colombia (CO), Costa Rica (CR), Ecuador (EC), El Salvador (SV), Guatemala (GT), Honduras (HN), Mexico (MX), Nicaragua (NIC), Panama (PA), Paraguay (PY), Peru (PE), Uruguay (UY) and Venezuela (VE).
68. In preparation for future activities in the youth field, financial support was reserved for conferences/seminars, preparatory study visits and training courses for persons working in the youth sector in the Member States and in the eligible Latin American countries, and for pilot youth exchanges.
69. In 1993, the European Commission received some 73 applications for funding for activities with Latin American countries and accorded grants to 35 of these. The largest number of applications were submitted by Spanish organisations, which, along with European non-governmental organisations, also saw the largest number of projects supported.
70. Beneficiaries were mainly organisations seeking to promote intergovernmental cooperation in the field of youth within the framework of the European Union's wider policy of development cooperation with Latin American countries; organisations developing cooperation and training programmes with Latin America; national youth institutions; organisations working with the disabled; youth information centres, regional youth departments, voluntary youth organisations working with young people at risk; youth development programmes and cultural; cultural associations; and European non-governmental organisations.
71. With regard to the number of participants, some 1903 young people, youth workers and other multipliers benefitted from Exchanges with Latin American Countries in 1993. As concerns participants from the Member States, those from Spain dominated, followed by Germany and France. Among the Latin American countries, participants from Brazil dominated, followed by Argentina and Uruguay.
72. As for the countries hosting projects, the Latin American countries were in the forefront, hosting twice as many projects as the European Union countries. The largest number of projects took place in Brazil, followed by Argentina. Among the European Union countries, Spain hosted the largest number of activities.

73. Of the 35 multilateral projects which received Community funding, 5 were conferences/seminars, 9 were preparatory study visits, 12 were training courses and 9 were pilot youth exchanges. Priority was given to projects of an exploratory nature, which offered new platforms to initiate or intensify Euro-Latin American cooperation in the youth field.
74. The conferences/seminars were aimed at persons working in the youth sector, to create partnerships with a view to future cooperation in the youth field and to become acquainted with the situation of young people and the mechanisms for youth work in the European Union Member States or in the eligible Latin American countries.
75. The 5 conferences/seminars granted constituted platforms for examining the prerequisites for establishing youth policies relating to the general situation of young people in the participating countries, the youth participation and youth structures. For the most part they fell into one of the following thematic categories : youth legislation; active citizenship; local development; social exclusion of young people; and poverty and homeless young people.
76. The preparatory study visits are aimed at youth workers, to enable them to make contacts for the organisation of future youth exchanges between the European Union and the eligible Latin American countries and to familiarise themselves with the situation of young people and the youth structures in the Member States and/or in the eligible Latin American countries.
77. Most of the 9 preparatory study visits granted provided opportunities for youth workers from the European Union to visit the eligible Latin American countries. Preparatory study visits concentrated mainly on : local youth work provision; young people at risk; rural youth; youth work with young women; artistic expression; multilateral youth exchanges. The visits proved to be awareness-raising activities, concerning the realities and needs of young people in the Member States and in the Latin American countries within the framework of the wider North-South dialogue. In general, the activities resulted : in the planning of concrete youth exchanges with specific target groups, such as young people at risk, rural youth, young women; and, in the establishing or intensification of contacts for wider youth cooperation between multipliers, including training and development projects.
78. The training courses are aimed at youth workers, to enable them to become acquainted with leadership techniques for youth work in general, and leadership techniques applicable to international exchanges in particular.
79. Some of the 12 training courses granted resulted from earlier preparatory study visits or conferences within the framework of Exchanges with Latin American countries. The training activities proved to be platforms in which socio-cultural animation, peace and development education were dealt with as key elements in facilitating young people's active participation in their local environment and in multilateral exchanges.
80. In general, the training courses provided participants with : a notion of youth exchanges as understood on both continents; leadership techniques applicable and tailored to the needs and particularities of both European and Latin-American youth workers; acquaintance with the situation and role of youth workers; acquisition of organisational and animation techniques for youth projects with young people in their local environment and in a mobility context; familiarization with youth structures; methods to encourage the participation of young people in development projects; youth work as an instrument in the social integration of young people; acquaintance with the social and political environment of young people, the democratic participation of young people in society, local youth work as an integral part of

civic education; a platform to facilitate the transfer and comparison of working models in the youth sector, techniques for running youth associations; and, techniques for implementing youth projects with specific target groups (eg. rural youth, street-children) and for assessing the impact of such projects.

81. The aims of the multilateral youth exchanges, which involve groups of young people aged between 15 and 25 years, are : to enable those taking part to gain an understanding of the economic, social and cultural life of the Member State or eligible Latin American country hosting the exchange; to facilitate the exchange of ideas and identification of common interests and to encourage the development of permanent links between the young people.
82. Most of the 9 pilot youth exchanges granted, were the result of contacts and cooperation established over a period of several years between European and Latin American structures. Pilot youth exchanges supported concentrated mainly on : community development projects; peer education projects; rural youth projects; cultural projects. The intercontinental pilot youth exchanges were important solidarity projects, which aimed to develop the concept of active citizenship among those involved.
83. The Community funding set aside for Exchanges with Latin American countries in effect consolidated the opening up of a new geographical area to cooperation and activities in the youth sector. The 35 projects which received Community funding in 1993 were both exploratory projects, seeking to identify potential Latin American partners and to determine forms of cooperation, and projects aiming to develop and to formulate content for youth cooperation and youth participation at local and international exchange level. The transfer of knowledge and practical skills was shown to be a two-way transfer between the European Union and the Latin American countries, underlining the determination of organisations to find new common denominators, to the benefit of both groups of countries (i.e. youth participation, creativity in youth work).

Exchanges with Mediterranean Countries

84. With a view to intensifying cooperation in the field of the exchange and mobility of young people from the European Union and Mediterranean countries, Community funding was made available, in 1993, for certain activities in the youth field with Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia.
85. Given the experimental nature of activities in the youth field with Mediterranean countries, financial support was aimed at activities of a *fact-finding* nature, such as conferences/seminars, preparatory study visits and pilot youth exchange projects, which provided an opportunity for some initial groundwork, in terms of exploring the possibilities for future cooperation in the youth sector in general, and more specifically regarding youth exchange activities.
86. In 1993, the European Commission received some 43 applications for funding for activities with Mediterranean countries and accorded grants to 20 of these. The largest number of applications were submitted by French organisations, followed by European non-governmental organisations. French organisations also saw the largest number of projects supported.
87. Beneficiaries were mainly : organisations seeking to promote pan-Mediterranean youth cooperation within the framework of the European Union's Mediterranean policy; associations aiming to improve the social integration of immigrants (in particular from the Maghreb) in the European Union countries; networks mainly geared towards the prevention of urban

delinquency; trade unions; European NGOs; environmental youth organisations; and, national voluntary youth organisations.

88. With regard to the number of participants involved, some 960 young people and youth workers took part in activities under Exchanges with Mediterranean Countries in 1993.
89. As for the countries hosting projects, the Mediterranean countries were in the forefront, headed by Tunisia, where the largest number of projects took place, and followed by Algeria and Morocco. Among the European Union countries, France and Italy hosted the largest number of activities.
90. Of the 20 multilateral projects which received Community funding, 8 were conferences/seminars, another 9 were preparatory study visits and 3 were pilot youth exchanges.
91. The conferences/seminars were aimed at persons working in the youth sector, enabling them to create partnerships with a view to future cooperation in the youth field and to become acquainted with the situation of young people and the mechanisms for youth work in the European Union or in the eligible Mediterranean countries.
92. The predominant themes of the 8 conferences/seminars granted were : cooperation in the youth field within the general framework of the Euro-Arab dialogue; local development; Mediterranean identity of young people; social exclusion of young people; and, leisure-time agenda of young people.
93. The conferences/seminars proved valuable in providing an insight into the political systems and the youth situation in the respective countries and constituted a platform for becoming acquainted with the youth work mechanisms, focusing on youth from a social standpoint. The activities brought together multipliers working directly or indirectly with the same target groups (eg. urban youth, marginalised youth, rural youth...), which led to the identification of partners and the launching of concrete cooperation in the social/youth field, in accordance with the needs of the organisations involved.
94. The preparatory study visits are aimed at youth workers, to enable them to make contacts for the organisation of future youth exchanges between the European Union and the eligible Mediterranean countries and to familiarise themselves with the situation of young people and youth structures in the Member States and/or in the eligible Mediterranean countries.
95. Most of the 9 preparatory study visits granted provided opportunities for youth workers from the European Union to visit the eligible Mediterranean countries. The preparatory study visits supported concentrated mainly on : local youth work provision; youth workers' networks; voluntary service activities; multilateral youth exchanges. The visits constituted an opportunity for exploration and for determining feasibility as regards the potential for future youth cooperation between Member States' and Maghreb youth organisations. In general, the activities resulted in : the establishing of contacts for wider youth cooperation between multipliers, without necessarily including the setting up of Euro-Mediterranean youth exchange projects; and, the formulation of concrete youth exchanges between voluntary youth organisations.
96. The aims of the multilateral youth exchanges, which involve groups of young people aged between 15 and 25 years, are : to enable those taking part to gain an understanding of the

economic, social and cultural life of the Member State or eligible Mediterranean country hosting the exchange; to facilitate the exchange of ideas and identification of common interests; and to encourage the development of permanent links between the young people.

97. Due to the experimental nature of this action, only 3 youth exchange activities with the eligible countries were supported. Two of these involved socially disadvantaged young people reflecting on their respective cultural and social situations, defining common cultural roots and examining the history of multiculturalism in a European Union/Maghreb context. The third exchange, which took place in a rural community, involved young people from regions exposed to the development of the tourist industry and the subsequent effects of destruction on the environment.
98. The 20 projects which received Community funding in 1993 were essentially *fact-finding* activities, which concentrated on exploring the potential for cooperation and new partnerships in the youth field, given the generally non-existent tradition in youth exchange and mobility between the Member States (with the exception of France) and the eligible Mediterranean countries, and the fact that young people represent some 60% of the total population in the eligible Mediterranean countries.

V Future perspectives

99. Activities granted in 1993 illustrate that the Priority Actions in the Youth Field have continued to provide an operational framework which corresponds to a real existing need for the further intensification of cooperation between youth work structures in the Member States.
100. As a result of the wider dissemination of information concerning the Priority Actions in the Youth Field in all Member States, a further increase in the number of applications is expected in 1994. The European Commission, having successfully launched the Priority Actions in the Youth Field in 1992-1993, will henceforth place increased importance on the quality of the projects granted, with particular regard to project innovation, to new forms of cooperation between youth work structures in the Member States and to the concept of active European citizenship among young people at local and transnational level.
101. In the context of the Priority Actions in the Youth Field, access to increased cooperation with third countries is facilitated for all Member States. In line with the Commission's proposal for the third phase of the Youth for Europe Programme, which will include exchanges with third countries as an integral part, special attention will be accorded to exchanges with these third countries in 1994, particularly to Exchanges with Central and Eastern European Countries. Furthermore, the European Commission will maximise its efforts to ensure that young people are given the opportunity to develop a sense of responsibility, initiative, solidarity and Community awareness, as in the Youth for Europe Programme. Joint efforts with the Member States should be enhanced if young people in the European Union are not to be marginalised as victims or offenders, be it in the context of xenophobic and racist behaviour, or due to any other form of disadvantage. The Priority Actions in the Youth Field will continue to provide an opportunity for cooperation between the European Commission and the Member States with a view to counteracting such trends.

102. In 1994, the framework provided by the European Union for activities under the Resolution on Priority Actions in the Youth Field has been maintained, the European Parliament having renewed the budget line with an endowment of 6 MECU. Member States will be increasingly involved in the mutual exchange of information with the European Commission concerning applications submitted and projects granted.

PRIORITY ACTIONS IN THE YOUTH FIELD
1. PROJECTS RECEIVED/ACCEPTED BY ACTION AND BY MEMBER STATE IN 1993

All selections 1993

COUN TRY	ACTION 1		ACTION 2		ACTION 3		ACTION 4		ICI		CULT. EX.		CEC		LAT		MED		TOTAL	
	Rec	Acc	Rec	Acc	Rec	Acc	Rec	Acc	Rec	Acc	Rec	Acc	Rec	Acc	Rec	Acc	Rec	Acc	Rec	Ac
B	5	3	6	6	38	17	1		2	1	8	2	18	6	2	1	4	2	84	38
DK	5	2	2	2	32	10			1		1		7	5	3	1			51	20
D	10	6	1	1	53	23	1		9	2	15	7	38	11	6				133	50
GR	6	5			9	5					5	2	1		1	1			22	13
E	4	3	2	2	47	11	2	2	2		3		14	7	21	11	3	1	98	37
F	27	11	1	1	42	15	14	5	9	1	27	3	17	11	9	6	22	8	168	61
IRL	1		1	1	18	8	1	1			1		3	2	2	2			27	14
I	5	5	2	2	18	12			2	1	4		5	3	4	3	6	2	46	28
L	2		1	1	3	2	1	1	1				1	1					9	5
NL	16	7	1	1	7	4	3	1	1	1			7	3	3				38	17
P	4	3	1	1	33	10	2	1			2	1	1		2	1			45	17
UK	8	3	4	4	63	39	5	2	3	1	5	1	21	16	4	1	2	1	115	68
ONG	9	8					7	4	19	11	6	2	16	12	16	8	6	6	79	51
TOTAL	102	56	22	22	363	156	37	17	49	18	77	18	149	77	73	35	43	20	915	419

PRIORITY ACTIONS IN THE YOUTH FIELD/

2. GRANTS ALLOCATED BY ACTION AND BY MEMBER STATE IN 1993 (in ECU)

All Selections 1993

COUNTRY/ PAYS	ACTION 1	ACTION2	ACTION3	ACTION 4	ICI	CULT. EX.	CEC	LAT	MED	TOTAL
B	52 000	87 952	123 170		12 500	22 200	100 800	20 000	10 200	428 822
DK	23 400	25 000	84 500				43 300	12 970		189 170
D	33 700	12 200	146 500		19 500	122 500	138 300			472 700
GR	55 800		40 400			39 800		25 000		161 000
E	24 400	24 000	90 900	18 000			101 530	335 100	22 000	615 930
F	64 900	12 000	98 752	20 890	4 000	42 700	140 600	150 500	118 500	652 842
IRL		10 000	59 960	3 000			45 000	51 000		168 960
I	55 100	47 581	111 700		10 500		68 500	79 700	69 500	442 581
L		8 240	16 300	90 000			8 000			122 540
NL	96 200	10 000	31 600	26 800			61 000			225 600
P	17 400	10 000	72 600	21 200		6 600		25 000		152 800
UK	53 800	75 750	287 870	5 800	12 500	6 200	179 200	20 000	9 300	650 420
ONG Meetings	41 300			91 134	141 000	60 000	159 400	221 800	83 800	798 434
TOTAL	518 000	322 723	1 164 252	276 824	200 000	300 000	1 045 630	941 070	313 300	5 497 629

PRIORITY ACTIONS IN THE YOUTH FIELD
PERCENTAGE RECEIVED PER MEMBER STATE OF THE TOTAL GRANT ALLOCATION
FOR EACH ACTION IN 1993

COUNTRY	ACTION 1	ACTION 2	ACTION 3	ACTION 4	ICI	CULT.EX	CEC	LAT	MED	TOTAL
B	10,04 %	27,25 %	10,58 %		6,25%	7,40 %	9,64 %	2,13 %	3,26 %	7,80 %
DK	4,52 %	7,75 %	7,26 %				4,14 %	1,38 %		3,44 %
D	6,51 %	3,78 %	12,58 %		9,75 %	40,83 %	13,23 %			8,60 %
GR	10,77 %		3,47 %			13,27 %		2,66 %		2,93 %
E	4,71 %	7,44 %	7,81 %	6,50 %			9,71 %	35,61 %	7,02 %	11,20 %
F	12,53 %	3,72 %	8,48 %	7,55 %	2,00%	14,23 %	13,45 %	15,99 %	37,82 %	11,87 %
IRL		3,10 %	5,15 %	1,08 %			4,30 %	5,42 %		3,07 %
I	10,64 %	14,74 %	9,59 %		5,25%		6,55 %	8,47 %	22,18 %	8,05 %
L		2,55 %	1,40 %	32,51 %			0,77 %			2,23 %
NL	18,57 %	3,10 %	2,71 %	9,68 %			5,83 %			4,10 %
P	3,36 %	3,10 %	6,24 %	7,66 %		2,20 %		2,66 %		2,78 %
UK	10,39 %	23,47 %	24,73 %	2,10 %	6,25%	2,07 %	17,14 %	2,13 %	2,97 %	11,83 %
ONG	7,97 %			32,92 %	70,50%	20,00 %	15,24 %	23,57 %	26,75 %	14,52 %
										7,56 %
TOTAL	100,00 %	100,00 %	100,00 %	100,00 %	100,00 %	100,00 %	100,00 %	100,00 %	100,00 %	100,00 %

PRIORITY ACTIONS IN THE YOUTH FIELD

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS BY ACTION AND BY COUNTRY
(PROVISIONAL FIGURES) IN 1993

Total number of participants - 12 500

COUNTRY	Action I	Action III	Action IV	Cult. Ex.
Belgique/Belgie	43	398	1	143
Danmark	25	208	1	56
Deutschland	102	417	13	196
Ellas	63	113	3	58
España	75	210	10	82
France	96	285	24	76
Ireland	21	658	7	16
Italia	71	200	5	79
Luxembourg	5	25	3	3
Nederland	171	41	1	75
Portugal	54	146	2	44
United Kingdom	49	740	10	82
TOTAL	775	3 441	80	910

PRIORITY ACTIONS IN THE YOUTH FIELD

EXCHANGES WITH CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS BY ACTION AND BY COUNTRY
(PROVISIONAL FIGURES) IN 1993

COUNTRY	N° PARTICIPANTS		
Belgique/België	251		
Danmark	157	ARMENIA	51
Deutschland	508	BELORUSSIA	522
Ellas	33	GEORGIA	32
España	204	RUSSIA	1 179
France	325	UKRAINE	334
Ireland	99	MOLDAVIA	15
Italia	77		
Luxembourg	23		
Nederland	89		
Portugal	28		
United Kingdom	404		
TOTAL EU/UE	2 198	Total eligible countries	2 133
		Total other countries	26
		TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	4 357

PRIORITY ACTIONS IN THE YOUTH FIELD

EXCHANGES WITH LATIN AMERICAN COUNTRIES

NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS BY ACTION AND BY COUNTRY
(PROVISIONAL FIGURES) IN 1993

COUNTRY	N° PARTICIPANTS		
Belgique/België	74	ARGENTINA	130
Danmark	24	BOLIVIA	64
Deutschland	109	BRAZIL	132
Ellas	17	CHILE	58
España	214	COLOMBIA	82
France	105	COSTA RICA	42
Ireland	69	ECUADOR	25
Italia	82	EL SALVADOR	37
Luxembourg	2	GUATEMALA	55
Nederland	71	HONDURAS	27
Portugal	83	MEXICO	48
United Kingdom	59	NICARAGUA	16
		PANAMA	40
		PARAGUAY	87
		PERU	32
		URUGUAY	93
		VENEZUELA	21
		Total eligible countries	989
TOTAL EU	909	Total other countries	5
		TOTAL N° PARTICIPANTS	1 903

PRIORITY ACTIONS IN THE YOUTH FIELD

EXCHANGES WITH MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES

**NUMBER OF PARTICIPANTS BY ACTION AND BY COUNTRY
(PROVISIONAL FIGURES) IN 1993**

COUNTRY/PAYS	N° PARTICIPANTS		
Belgique/België	58		
Danmark	9		
Deutschland	19	ALGERIA	127
Ellas	28	MOROCCO	146
España	87	TUNISIA	132
France	126		
Ireland	28		
Italia	87		
Luxembourg	2		
Nederland	13		
Portugal	38		
United Kingdom	55		
TOTAL EU	550	Total eligible countries	405
		Total other countries	5
		TOTAL N° PARTICIPANTS	960

DOCUMENTS

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