

Opportunities and
resources for young
people in the...



“The real voyage of discovery consists not in seeking new landscapes but in having new eyes.”

Marcel Proust



The EU Lifelong Learning Programme

There are four main schemes under this umbrella, all of which have one thing in common: they are about people from different European countries learning together and sharing experiences.

If you want to find out about the EU Lifelong Learning Programme and to apply for one of the schemes described overleaf, the best place to start is the British Council website at www.britishcouncil.org/socrates

The British Council has been given the job of running Erasmus and Comenius in the UK while Ecotec runs Leonardo and Grundtvig.

The EU channel on YouTube is also a good place to look.



1:

Erasmus is for **higher education** and consists of a European Union exchange programme that has so far enabled one million students in 31 European countries to study for part of their degree in another country. Full details at: www.erasmus-uk.org.uk

If you want to know what it is like to be an Erasmus student find yourself a copy of the 2002 French film *L'Auberge Espagnole* by Cédric Klapisch. It tells the story of an Erasmus student studying for a year in Barcelona, where he shares an apartment with five other people each from a different European country.

2:

Comenius is for **schools** and helps to create partnerships between schools across Europe allowing pupils, students and staff from different countries to work together on joint projects. Comenius also offers in-service training in other European countries for teachers. You can also be, or get for your school, a Comenius Assistant. They can add a European dimension to the school curriculum and also offer classes in their native language. For more information: www.britishcouncil.org/comenius.htm



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■ **Leonardo da Vinci** is for **professional and vocational training**. It funds work placements in other European countries for trainees and apprentices. Ask your college or employer to apply, as applications normally need to be made by institutions rather than individuals. Full details at: www.leonardo.org.uk



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■ **Grundtvig** enables **adult education** institutions to cooperate with similar institutions elsewhere in Europe. It covers all types of learning, both 'formal' and 'non-formal' education for adults. Grundtvig targets the over-25s and 16-24 year olds who are no longer in the formal education system. Full details at: www.grundtvig.org.uk

The EU Youth in Action Programme

This programme provides a range of opportunities for young people including European voluntary service, open to anyone aged 18 to 25. This scheme allows you to develop skills in any field you choose and to go abroad for six months or a year, all expenses paid, including accommodation which is also organized for you.

British Council Connect Youth is the UK's National Agency for the Youth in Action Programme.

Connect Youth International provides advice, information, training and grant aid to UK groups of young people taking part in international exchanges.

The place to go to find out about this is the British Council at www.britishcouncil.org/connectyouth.htm



A career with the EU Institutions

Do you want to work in a stimulating multicultural and multilingual environment with colleagues from all over the EU? You could be working on anything from European and international policy issues to media relations. Or you could work as a translator or interpreter making it possible for presidents, prime ministers and MEPs to communicate, negotiate and legislate. Or a lawyer or economist working on major competition cases or on international trade disputes.

Opportunities exist for graduates and non-graduates.



Entry is by open competition.

Visit the European Personnel Selection Office at www.europa.eu/epso to find out more or go to www.europarl.org.uk/jobs

Internships

Paid traineeships (or Schuman scholarships) at the European Parliament are available to graduates and offer the choice between a general option or a journalism option. Unpaid traineeships are usually offered to those attending a course at a university or equivalent institution.

Paid translation or interpretation traineeships are available to graduates and unpaid translation traineeships are offered to those who are on a course of study at a university.

Most internships at the European Parliament take place in Brussels or Luxembourg although some opportunities exist in the information offices in the member state capitals.





“My traineeship at the UK Office of the European Parliament is enriching me both professionally and as an individual.

I feel that I have a broader vision of the European institutions, meaning that I now understand better how they work and how they relate with each other. Assisting the Head of Press is allowing me to develop my communication skills and it's giving me a background I believe will be very useful in the near future.

The traineeship has also allowed me to improve my English skills and given me a unique opportunity to live in an incomparably vibrant city.”

Mariana from Porto in Portugal, intern at the UK Office of the European Parliament in London.

For more information and to apply, visit the European Parliament's home page at www.europarl.europa.eu after choosing your language click on traineeships on the list in the bottom right hand corner.

Educational resources

'The European Parliament: What's That?' is a free teaching resource pack aimed primarily at citizenship teachers of 11 to 16 year olds. Some of the materials and activities can be used with younger students or for post-16 groups.

It is designed to assist teachers in delivering the EU strands of the citizenship curriculum and to offer a balanced introduction to the European Union and the European Parliament. Students are encouraged to take part in discussion and to form their own views on the subjects covered in the resources.

A brief history and description of the EU is given and issues-based lesson plans and activities are provided which enable students to see how EU laws and policies affect their lives.

The pack consists of paper-based resources: lesson plans, mystery cards and an assembly plan, an interactive CD-Rom for use on a smart board, with video clips, interactive games, sound files and activities. The pack also includes a DVD for playing video clips full screen for greater impact.

All these materials and a list of other resources are available free of charge by emailing us at eplondon@europarl.europa.eu or visit our education and outreach sections on www.europarl.org.uk



EUROSCOLA

EUROSCOLA brings together about 500 students from all over the European Union for a day in Strasbourg discussing aspects of European integration, in multilingual working groups of 100 students. Each group chooses a spokesperson to present its conclusions to the other students assembled in the Chamber of the European Parliament. The participants then vote on these conclusions. Most Euroscola days are for students aged 16-18 but a few days each year are set aside for the younger, 14-16 age group.

The European Parliament offers a small subsidy toward the costs of the journey to Strasbourg.

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Published by the UK Office of the European Parliament
Designed by Glow Associates Limited
Printed by Midland Regional Printers Limited, Jubilee House,
Nottingham Road, Basford, Nottingham, NG7 7BT
December 2007

The UK Office of the European Parliament is part of the general secretariat of the European Parliament and as such is non-partisan.

EN DN-80-07-162-EN-C 978-92-823-2357-1

ISBN 978-92-823-2357-1

