

Funded
by the European Union



EUROPEAN UNION



COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Implemented
by the Council of Europe

**EUROPEAN UNION / THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE JOINT PROJECT on
"DEMOCRATIC CITIZENSHIP AND HUMAN RIGHTS EDUCATION"**

Budget line(s): 2009 IPA
Reference: TR2009/0136.01

Project monthly bulletin, January 2012

Dear colleagues,

May I wish you all a very happy new year on behalf of the DC/HRE project team. This information paper intends to provide a short update of the key activities in the project on a monthly basis as well as to attract your attention to the key moments/challenges in the period to come. I hope you find it useful! I hope we can learn from the wrinkles of the past and use the wisdom acquired to be better in this year. We shall certainly do exactly this. I am happy to report to you that the project team is flying on strong team spirit and motivation is high. We are creating even stronger links with the beneficiaries, always in a spirit of respect and partnership, and the working group members are ready to start producing. We shall report progress in the next edition of the bulletin. Greetings from the DC/HRE Ankara Team!

Sincerely Yours,

Emir Adzovic
DC/HRE Team Leader

News of the month

The Project started the New Year with new momentum. The former Team Leader Ms Chiara Paganuzzi has moved on in her career and the project wishes her the best in her professional life. The new Team Leader as of January 2012 is Mr Emir Adzovic, originally from Bosnia and Herzegovina. Mr Adzovic has been a Council of Europe secretariat member for the last 13 years with extensive experience in work with EDC/HRE and especially in the implementation of joint EU/CoE projects.

The priority of the office, after quite demanding months behind us, is to make sure that the unfinished ends from the inception period get closed quickly and that the project starts producing its first objectively verifiable results.

During January 2012, the DC/HRE team managed to finalise the revised Description of Action as well as the Annex III of the General Agreement (Explanations for the changes in the DoA of the project). These new versions contain the latest comments from the beneficiary. We also prepared a draft version of the project's Progress report (period June – December 2011). All these documents have been shared with the key stakeholders (BoE, PCC, CFCU) for comments and final approval.

The general strategy that the project team has set itself for the first three months of 2012 is to complete all pending administrative issues and focus on providing assistance to the Working Groups in charge of the implementation of the project objectives.

The first study visit originally planned for late January 2012 has been postponed until February 2012 due to the lack of time provided to the beneficiary to secure all relevant administrative support for the participants in the visit (visa procedures for the UK).

The team is focused on helping the Working Groups to prepare individual 6 month activity plans as well as mid and long term plans. Having these plans finalised and harmonised by the Working Groups we shall be able to provide a better administrative and logistical assistance but more importantly, we shall all have a tool to follow the progress of the project implementation and to set the right benchmarks in the process.

The project also finalised preparations for the two study visits to London and Zurich and prepared the ground for the study visits for the Democratic school culture working group to Sweden and started the negotiation procedure for the study visit for the Legislation Review Working Group to Iceland.

We managed to attract the interest of key international experts to come and help the WGs in their key stages of work for the next 6 months as well as to provide the local experts assisting them with proper contracts for their work.

In the period to come, the project will be very busy implementing following activities:

- February 12-19, 2012
 - Study visit to Zurich for the CBWG and MDWG¹
- February 20-26, 2012
 - Study visit to London for CDWG and CRWG²
- Launching conference (March 2012)
 - The project is in the process of defining the dates and relevant representation of the key stakeholders for the Launching Conference of the project as well as the next Steering Board meeting (planned right after the Launching event).
- Coaching
 - The project will provide guidance and expertise to the CDWG, MDWG and DCSWG³ helping them to prepare materials for the piloting of the new programmes as of September 2012.
- Expertise
 - The project will be providing the experts who will work with the working groups but will also try to secure relevant expert advice at key stages using the best CoE expertise via Skype communication with the WGs.
- Visibility
 - The project is finalising the piloting of its website, its Facebook and Twitter profiles. All means of communication will be on line in February 2012.
 - You can check our <http://www.facebook.com/groups/dchreankara/> pilot FB profile on and we tweet from dchreproject@twitter profile ☺

Council of Europe Programme Office
 Turan Emeksiz Sok. Park Blokları
 B Blok No: 3/16 GOP
 06700 Çankaya, Ankara
 Tel.: +90 (312) 468 84 64
 Fax: +90 (312) 468 84 06
<http://www.coe.int>

¹ Capacity Building Working Group and Material Development Working Group

² Curriculum Development Working Group and Curriculum Review Working Group

³ Democratic School Culture Working Group