



Ljubljana 2010



MED-23-13

**Council of Europe Standing Conference of
Ministers of Education**

**“Education for Sustainable Democratic Societies:
the Role of Teachers”**

23rd session

Ljubljana, Slovenia, 4-5 June 2010

Resolution on the enhancement of teachers' professional
development through the Pestalozzi Programme

The European Ministers of Education, meeting at the 23rd session of their Standing conference in Ljubljana on 4-5 June 2010,

HAVING REGARD to

- the Recommendation Rec 1849 (2008) of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe on teacher education “For the promotion of a culture of democracy and human rights through teacher education” calling for the recognition of the role of teachers and other educational staff as important actors in promoting the culture of human rights and democracy and expressing its renewed support of the Council of Europe’s “Pestalozzi” programme for education professionals;
- the 22nd session of the Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education “Building a more humane and inclusive Europe: role of education policies” – Istanbul (Turkey) 4-5 May 2007 asking to intensify action to train members of the teaching profession in the priority areas of education;
- the Action plan of the Third Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Member States of the Council of Europe, Warsaw (Poland) 16-17 May 2005 which stipulates that “The Council of Europe will enhance all opportunities for the training of educators, in the fields of education for democratic citizenship, human rights, history and intercultural education”;
- the declaration on the occasion of the celebration of the 50th anniversary of the European Cultural Convention, Wroclaw (Poland), 9-10 December 2004 calling for the expansion of European opportunities for the training of educators to equip people with the knowledge, skills and attitudes for life in democratic societies;
- the declaration of the 21st session of the Standing Conference of European Ministers of Education “Intercultural education: managing diversity, strengthening democracy”, Athens (Greece) 10-12 November 2003 underlining the importance of teacher education in facing new challenges;

RECOGNISING the crucial role of education professionals in the development of the knowledge, skills, attitudes and values necessary for a sustainable democratic culture;

ACKNOWLEDGING the contribution of the Pestalozzi Programme, the Council of Europe training programme for education professionals, in the development of transversal knowledge, skills and attitudes needed for a society based on Council of Europe values and standards by offering relevant training to education professionals;

APPROVING the recent positive developments within the Pestalozzi Programme to improve its effectiveness and impact in member states; notably

- the focus on the values upheld by the Council of Europe and on the priority themes of the Organisation,
- the unique training for teacher trainers across Europe in the form of the European Modules for trainer training,
- the effective methodology of training it developed based on interactivity, peer training and learning by doing,
- the special attention given to cascading and dissemination as part of each training activity,

- the establishment of networks of education professionals across Europe promoting the values and standards of the Council of Europe in day-to-day educational practice,
- the development of effective support mechanisms for documentation and communication in the form of a user-friendly website and of a social networking platform for all the actors involved in the Pestalozzi Programme,
- the focus on visibility and the development of adapted information and presentation material;

WELCOMING the maintenance of existing, and the development of new, partnerships with external partners and within the organisation, in particular

- the long-standing partnership with the Land Baden-Württemberg and the German Federal Authorities (the Academy of Bad Wildbad, formerly Academy of Donaueschingen),
- the cooperation with the European Wergeland Centre in Oslo recently established by the Norwegian authorities in cooperation with the Council of Europe,
- the participation in the Joint Programme of the Council of Europe and the European Commission “Interculturality and the Bologna Process in Kosovo¹” providing trainer training with a focus on intercultural understanding,
- the cooperation with the Media and Information Society Division of the Directorate of Human Rights of the Council of Europe with regard to the trainer training series on “Media literacy based on human rights”;

CONVINCED that international networking and cooperation is a stimulus and a tool which is important both in developing policy orientations and for the implementation of these policies into practice;

COMMIT themselves to:

- **strengthen their National Liaison Officers (NLO)** for the Pestalozzi Programme (e.g. through the recognition of the workload through the allocation of appropriate resources and time) to enable them to carry out their task in the most effective manner and make best use of the expertise developed by their national participants,
- **explore ways of recognising the participation** in training activities of the Pestalozzi Programme for professional development,
- **support the setting up of national networks** of education professionals linked to the Pestalozzi Programme,
- **endorse the participation of education professionals** in the training activities offered by the Programme,
- **continue their support** of the Pestalozzi Programme e.g. through the hosting of training activities and through voluntary contributions to the Pestalozzi Programme;

INVITE THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS of the Council of Europe to:

- **equip the Pestalozzi Programme with the material and human resources necessary** for assuming a lead role in the implementation of Council of Europe standards and principles in the everyday practice of teaching and learning in all member states,
- **recognise education professionals as key actors for change** and for the effective impact of Council of Europe fundamental values and standards in European societies;

¹ All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

- **ask the Steering Committee for Education (CDED) to:**
 - develop capacity building and training as a transversal element throughout its area of work,
 - ensure the complementarity of the Pestalozzi Programme and the other activities within its overall programme,
 - contribute to the effective flow of information between the Pestalozzi Programme, their National Liaison Officers and networks of education professionals of their countries and to the wide dissemination of all relevant information,
 - explore a scheme for the recognition of training in the framework of the Pestalozzi Programme,
 - report in due course to the Council of Europe Standing Conference of Ministers of Education on the progress of the implementation of these measures.