



DAS ZUKUNFTSMINISTERIUM

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Announcement

NECE – Networking European Citizenship Education

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European Conference

Rethinking Citizenship Education in European Migration Societies: Political Strategies - Social Changes - Educational Concepts

Lisbon, Portugal, April 26 - 28 April, 2007

Federal Agency for Civic Education, Germany

in Co-operation with

the Goethe-Institut Portugal
the Remembrance and Future Fund, Berlin, Germany
the Federal Ministry for Education, Science and Culture, Austria
the Ludwig-Boltzmann Institute, European History and Public Spheres, Austria
the Institute of International Relations (IFRI) &
the Study Committee for Franco-German Relations (Cerfa), France
Center for Citizenship Education, Poland

with the support of

the Institute for Social Science of the University of Lisbon

Location: Centro Cultural de Bélem, Lisbon

Background and aims of the conference: The countries in today's Europe have become migration societies, characterised not only by ethnic, religious and cultural diversity, but also by complex and manifold traditions of national cultures and national societies. Public debate on migration and integration is marked by emotions and fear on both sides: the riots in the suburbs of Paris in the autumn 2005, the cartoon dispute in Denmark, the intense debate on the 'integration' of the Muslim population in Europe, the increasing fear of terrorist threats, and a rise in discrimination and xenophobia are all indicators of the powerful social and political challenges facing the states of the European Union. In view of this, it has become increasingly important to develop a common democratic culture in which the mutual recognition of cultural diversity and respect for basic human and civil rights are in close association. Here, citizenship education can and must make a significant contribution by transcending national borders and seeking cooperation on both a European and an international level.

By looking closely at the most pressing challenges of migration and integration in Europe, we hope to contribute to a more informed debate on such basic concepts as citizenship, social inclusion, pluralism and tolerance. One defining feature of the conference will be the presentation and exchange of best practices of citizenship education in immigration societies, and it will bring academics and politicians together with experts, multipliers and practitioners involved in citizenship education in Europe. March of 2007 will mark the 50th anniversary of the Treaty of Rome. Coupled with the German EU presidency in the first half of that year, which will be conducted in close association with 'troika' partners Portugal and Slovenia, this will lend weight to a truly European initiative.

Organisational notes: The conference language will be English. Interpreters will not be available. Registration with your name, address, country, organisation and/or field of interest is possible now at the conference management: lab concepts GmbH, Am Hofgarten 18, D-531113 Bonn, Tel.: +49 228 24 98 110, info@lab-concepts.de. You will then receive a binding confirmation.

Participation fee: The fee of € 90,- for the duration of the conference, including conference materials and all meals as shown in the programme.

Participants from Eastern Europe: The Remembrance and Future Fund is going to cover travel and accommodation costs for a limited number of guests from Eastern Europe. How to apply for funding: Please send a short cv (one page) describing your professional field and position. Summarize briefly your special interest in the topic of our conference. Upon receiving your application, we will send a written confirmation as soon as possible. Please do not hesitate to contact us for any further inquiries.

We strongly recommend that you organise flights and hotel reservations as early as possible. The conference venue, the Centro Cultural de Belém (<http://www.ccb.pt>), is approximately 30 minutes by public transportation away from the centre of Lisbon. If you need help reserving accommodations, please contact conference management.