

Together in diversity



FACT SHEET

The European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008 (EYID 2008)

www.dialogue2008.eu

The official website of EYID spreads news on intercultural events taking place during 2008 and serves as a platform for discussion and access to civil society initiatives concerning intercultural dialogue. To facilitate **networking and partnerships** across Europe, the site features a special partner section which is already now online.

Contribute to the success of the EYID 2008 and join the partner platform now!

Main objective of EYID 2008

The main objective of the Year is to **promote intercultural dialogue** as an instrument to assist European citizens, and all those living in the European Union, in acquiring the knowledge and abilities to deal with a more open and more complex cultural environment.

EYID 2008 also aims to **raise the awareness** of European citizens of the importance of developing an active European citizenship which is open to the world, respectful of cultural diversity and based on common values in the EU.

Key messages

Intercultural dialogue contributes to:

- mutual understanding and a better living together
- exploring the benefits of cultural diversity
- fostering an active European citizenship and a sense of European belonging

Target groups

EYID 2008 activities are aimed in particular at young people, but also try to reach out to disadvantaged social groups. Civil society is encouraged to mobilise and get involved at European, national and local levels

Main actors

- At EU level, the European Commission's Directorate-General for Education and Culture is the responsible body for the implementation of EYID 2008.
- In each EU Member State, a National Coordinating Body, usually a representative of the Ministry of Culture and/or Education, is responsible for the implementation of EYID 2008.
- Civil society organisations are the main stakeholders and actors of EYID 2008. The Civil Society Platform for Intercultural Dialogue was established in November 2006 for this purpose (more information available at www.eurocult.org / www.efah.org).

The wider picture

EYID 2008 takes place within the overall framework of the **first-ever European agenda for culture in a globalizing world**, which was launched by the Commission in May 2007. Its three main objectives – **promotion of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue**, **promotion of culture as a catalyst for creativity in the framework of the Lisbon Strategy**, and **promotion of culture as a vital element in the EU's international relations** – all relate to a contemporary European and global society faced with intercultural challenges.



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Budget

With a budget of € 10 million, the following activities are funded by EYID in 2008:

- € 3 million for actions at European Level, notably co-financing of 7 flagship projects, a launch event and a closing event
- € 3 million for co-financing of projects at national level, one in each Member State
- € 3.3 million for an information and awareness raising campaign
- € 0.7 million for studies and evaluation

EYID 2008 Chronology

27 September 2004	Hearing before the European Parliament: EU Commissioner Ján Figel' puts forward the idea of a European Year of Intercultural Dialogue
30 October 2006	Deadline for 'call for ideas' for EYID; the Commission receives more than 350 responses from citizens and organisations across Europe, demonstrating genuine public interest in EYID 2008
18 December 2006	The European Parliament and the Council declare 2008 European Year of Intercultural Dialogue
11 April 2007	The Commission publishes two calls for proposals for the Year, drafted on the basis of input generated through the 'call for ideas'
July 2007	A preliminary 'partners' section of the official website of EYID 2008 opens at www.dialogue2008.eu Hundreds of individuals and organisations register and upload their profiles
July 2007	The Commission publishes a 'call for partners' inviting civil society to share and seek visibility for their intercultural activities through www.dialogue2008.eu
31 July 2007	Deadline for call for proposals. The Commission receives almost 300 proposals competing for 8-10 flagship project grants, confirming the high degree of interest in EYID 2008
4 December 2007	The Commission officially launches the corporate image of EYID 2008 and the website www.dialogue2008.eu
7-8 January 2008	EYID 2008 is launched at Ljubljana, Slovenia, during a 2-day conference and cultural event

Further information: Key documents and resources

- Proposal for a Decision of the European Parliament and of the Council
http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/com/2005/com2005_0467en01.pdf
- Annex to the Proposal
<http://ec.europa.eu/culture/portal/events/pdf/annex.pdf>
- Decision by the European Parliament and the Council
http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/l_412/l_41220061230en00440050.pdf
- European Commission, Directorate-General for Education and Culture
http://ec.europa.eu/culture/portal/action/dialogue/2008_dial_en.htm
- Website of the Civil Society Platform for Intercultural Dialogue
<http://www.efah.org/index.php?id=153&pagelang=en&pagemode=site>
- Website of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue 2008
www.dialogue2008.eu

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