

## Newsletter, 22 October 2008



### Board News

#### *Message from EUROCLIO President*

Dear friends,

Learning opportunities are everywhere. Two visits at the end of summer to different member organisations of EUROCLIO taught me many things. One was to Bosnia-Herzegovina where history teachers were celebrating the end of their very successful five-years project in collaboration with colleagues from Serbia and Croatia. The other was to Bulgaria where the local association was jubilating its 10th anniversary by hosting an ambitious seminar in Sofia with participants from all over the country and from abroad. Both events are mentioned elsewhere in this Newsletter. On both occasions, the unifying effect of history was prominent. Whether it is on a national, regional or international level, this is a unique feature of our discipline that EUROCLIO promotes very strongly. It was fantastic to see it at work once more. In the times of an economic tempest sweeping across the world, no discipline is better suited than history to remind us of the fact that empires rise and fall and at the time of crisis certain values are more stable than others. Those are the ones we are exploring with our students every day.



*Súsanna Margrét Gestsdóttir, EUROCLIO President*

#### *Message from EUROCLIO Treasurer: EUROCLIO Membership Fees for 2008 - A reminder*

Dear Colleagues

We would be very grateful if any associations or individual members which have not yet paid their membership fees for 2008 could pay as soon as possible. A copy of the membership and bank transfer forms are available on the website, including details of the fees and where to send the money.



*Jelka Razpotnik, EUROCLIO Treasurer*

### News and Announcements

#### *Annual Conference 2009 in Cyprus - Registration website is open*

The registration website <http://ac2009.euroclio.eu> for the *Annual Conference and Professional Training Development Course Taking the Perspective of the Other: Intercultural Dialogue and History Teaching* is open. The number of participants for EUROCLIO 16th Annual Conference is growing day by day and it is a pleasure to see all these positive reactions. In a short period of time scholars, teachers and representatives of associations from different European countries have already registered and offered to contribute to the exchange of knowledge and experience with their workshops. Check our everyday



updated website <http://ac2009.euroclio.eu> and join us in Cyprus!

For more information please contact Blandine Smilansky at [blandine@euroclio.nl](mailto:blandine@euroclio.nl)

*European Grants Available for AC in Cyprus 2009 - Remember to apply!*

EUROCLIO 16th Annual Conference and Professional Training Development Course *Taking the Perspective of the Other: Intercultural Dialogue and History Teaching* is registered in the European Union's Comenius and Grundtvig Catalogue: <http://ec.europa.eu/education/trainingdatabase/>. Please note that we were given a new course reference number, due to the changed date of the conference: NL-2009-176-001.

*17th EUROCLIO Annual Conference, 2010 The Netherlands: Exploring Common European History qualified for Comenius grants*

The 17th Annual EUROCLIO Training Conference *Exploring Common European History* has been validated by the Dutch National Agency and it is published in the Comenius - Grundtvig Training Database: <http://ec.europa.eu/education/trainingdatabase/> with the reference number "NL-2010-180-001". Our Annual Conference will take place in March 2010 in Nijmegen, the Netherlands, and is co-organized by VGN, the Association of Teachers in History and Political Science in the Netherlands. Teaching about common topics in European History can offer young people information they need for understanding how different people and groups in Europe have interacted over time and encourage them to become active, engaged citizens in a 21st century European society. A set of common topics in European History ranging from the Roman Times to the Cold War and beyond will be explored and variety of lectures, debates and interactive workshops led by international specialists will give concrete examples on how to teach these topics in different dimensions and to different age groups, school levels and multicultural classrooms in Europe.

*In Memoriam: Professor Dan Bar-On*

Professor Dan Bar-On died on 4 September 2008 in Tel Aviv after courageously fighting a severe illness, aged 69. He was born in 1938 in Haifa and has been a member of Kibbutz Revivim for 25 years. His life was dedicated to innovate and strengthen ways for open dialogue amidst conflict. He specialized in therapy and research with families of Holocaust survivors and in 1985 he launched a pioneering field research in Germany, studying the psychological and moral after-effects of the Holocaust on the children of the perpetrators. He has been Co-Director of the Peace Research Institute in the Middle East (PRIME), and together with Sami Adwan they significantly contributed to work towards a peaceful future for Israelis and Palestinians.



Moreover, he has enabled the participation of Israel and the Palestinian Authority in the conducted comparative research on historical consciousness promoting history teaching based on a concept of mutual understanding. "I still like to think back not only but especially to our joint conference in Sde Boker in the Negev, where Dan was our host, offering us not only a special opportunity for our work and a unique insight into the reality of the Israeli- Palestinian situation and his work, but also ample room for experiencing the power of communication ourselves." Prof. Dr. Andreas Körber

*Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeast Europe celebrates 10 years of promoting democracy and pluralism among societies*

Vassiliki Sakka, Board Member of EUROCLIO, has actively been involved in the activities of CDRSEE in the region of Southeast Europe, which enable history teachers like herself to deal with the difficulties in teaching topics referring to regional and broader historical issues. "The work performed by CDRSEE through the Joint History Project brought together historians and educators of the countries of the region in an effort to discuss the problems of history teaching and debate on how real sensitive and controversial issues should be dealt with. Endless interesting, vivid and

sometimes emotional meetings plus the long extra curriculum activities and nights created a unique atmosphere in a community of teachers committed to support the approaching and teaching history not to divide but to unite peoples. Also this, by all means, hard work in preparatory meetings and training seminars produced the 4 Workbooks, a unique and valuable material, user friendly and useful not only for teachers and pupils of secondary education level but also for academic community and university students too.” Sharing the same approaches and focusing as well on a balanced history teaching and citizenship education, EUROCLIO expresses its deepest wishes for a fruitful future.

## Running EUROCLIO Projects

### *Second EUROCLIO seminar in Cyprus with almost 100 participants*

On 27 September 2008, the second EUROCLIO Seminar, *Intercultural Dialogue and History Teaching*, supported by UNDP-Act, took place in the Ledra Palace Hotel and Fulbright Centre in the UN Buffer Zone of Nicosia, Cyprus. All speakers, representatives of UNDP-Act, all organizing partners the Multi-communal Association for Historical Dialogue and Research, the Union of Turkish Cypriot Secondary School Teachers (K.T.O.E.Ö.S), the History Centre, K.T.O.E.Ö.S, the Trade Union of Turkish Cypriot Primary School Teachers (K.T.Ö.S), the Trade Union of Greek Cypriot Secondary School Teachers (OELMEK), the Association of Greek Philologists of Cyprus (SEFK – OELMEK), the Trade Union of Greek Cypriot Secondary School Teachers of Technical and Vocational Education (OLTEK) and the trade Union of Greek Cypriot Primary School Teachers (POED) and EUROCLIO, expressed in the opening session how special it was to have a bi-communal and inclusive organizing team, able to work together and the importance of such a seminar as a concrete example of what dialogue can achieve. Another good example was the project Nicosia is calling, which produced itineraries on the historical surroundings of Nicosia for school children across the divide. The participants were for the rest of the seminar divided in groups and addressed under local guidance the topic “How to Teach Sensitive Facts of Cyprus History: The Case of 1571.” Workshop leaders from Bosnia, Croatia and Serbia had workshops on “How to teach History in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia. Common Approaches for the Different Perspective.” and “Concentration Camps in Yugoslavia after the End of World War II”. Each workshop had interpreters available for three languages enabling people to be involved and active. Participants enjoyed the discussion and wished there was more time for a more in depth dialogue. In a (late) closing plenary people gave many ideas that could be used for a further future. The full report on the seminar will be published online soon.



For further information please contact Blandine Smilansky at [blandise@euroclio.nl](mailto:blandise@euroclio.nl)

### *Project in Georgia is more welcomed than ever.*

From 8 to 11 October 2008 a Second Coordinators Meeting and fact finding mission of the EUROCLIO/MATRA project *Tolerance Building through Education in Georgia, How to Teach History and Citizenship in a Multicultural and Multiconfessional Environment* took place in Tbilisi, Georgia. This extra meeting was set up to assess possible changes in attitudes towards the project after the Georgian/Russian war of August 2008. The project team met with the Board and the Gori regional branch of the Georgian History Educators Association. All present emphasized the need of the project and their willingness



to be part of it. Also the meetings with several supportive organizations as the European Center for Minority Issues, the Ombudsman's Office, the Georgian Office of the German-Adult Education Association, the European Institute and the British Council stressed the well timed and well focused project. During the meeting there was also time for a visit to the European School with an example of a history lesson along the lines of the new humanities curriculum and a visit to the earlier zones of conflict: Gori and some nearby villages. The images of destruction together with the testimonies of the Gori teachers gave evidence of the disastrous effects of war on the lives of ordinary people. The rich experiences of this meeting were completed with the festive 90 Year Celebration of the Tbilisi State University in the Tbilisi Opera House and a visit to the untouched Stalin Memorial Museum in Gori. The first seminar is now scheduled for 14-16 November in the Country House Hotel nearby Tbilisi. For further information, please contact Joke van der Leeuw-Roord at [joke@euroclio.nl](mailto:joke@euroclio.nl)

*Online, interactive multimedia tool for key themes in Europe's recent past and heritage*

The EUROCLIO Secretariat office in The Hague will host on 7 and 8 November 2008 the first meeting of the Steering Committee of the new project *Past - the Future of Europe, Windows to Europe's History and Heritage*. This project envisages the creation of online, interactive multimedia tool for key themes in Europe's recent past and heritage, addressing a plurality of perspectives and inter- and intra-state diversity for school history and heritage education in Europe. This project is carried out by the Netherlands Institute for Heritage in cooperation with EUROCLIO. The meeting aims at stocktaking existing work related to the project goals and contents and to plan the future opportunities for this project. The present international Committee Members represent among others Universities, museums, special projects, the digital European Library, Museum and Archive, the Network of European Museum Organizations, the Georg Eckert Institute for International Textbook Research and Europa Nostra. The project team hopes with this meeting to receive extra inspiration and suggestions how to generate future support for this ambitious and challenging project. For further information, you can contact Blandine Smilansky at [blandise@euroclio.nl](mailto:blandise@euroclio.nl)

*A "Teaching Box" for History in Bulgaria*

Headed by History Professor Vselin Yanchev, a group of Bulgarian History Educators form the Editing Team of the EUROCLIO-Matra Project *European Dialogues, a Cultural Rainbow for the future of Learning and Teaching History in Bulgaria*. The team has started working in Sofia during numerous meetings and has continuously been in contact with Project Expert, and Editing Team member Tamara Eidelman in Moscow. They face the heavy duty of crafting a concise and coherent "Teaching Box", with 30 to 40 lesson plans for use in Secondary History Education in Bulgaria. To this end, they have received from the Author's



team all 55 worksheets that have been developed so far, connected to various themes, all dealing with multiperspectivity and multiculturalism. From 7-10 November the Final Editing Team Meeting will take place in The Hague. At the moment the EUROCLIO Project managers are looking out for additional funding to try and satisfy the large demand that already exists for the upcoming material. For more information please contact Jonathan Even-Zohar at [jonathan@euroclio.nl](mailto:jonathan@euroclio.nl) or Joke van der Leeuw-Roord at [joke@euroclio.nl](mailto:joke@euroclio.nl)

*Kick off Seminar in Georgia in November 2008*

From 14-16 November under the title *'Where to Go?' EUROCLIO will organize the first training seminar within the framework of the EUROCLIO/MATRA Project Tolerance Building through Education in Georgia, How to Teach History and Citizenship in a Multicultural and Multiconfessional Environment*. The seminar aims to present the project among key historians and history educators from different regions in Georgia and to identify levels of understanding, challenges and application of innovative approaches in Georgian school history. The audience will be asked to discuss effectiveness of these

changes related to building tolerance in a multi ethnic and multi religious environment. The event, with at least 60 residential participants, representing different ethnic and religious communities within Georgia, also aims to identify appropriate persons and institutions willing to contribute to the project outcomes. The seminar operates also as a capacity building event offering European experiences. Trainers from Bosnia, Bulgaria, Germany, Israel, The Netherlands and Switzerland are asked to share their knowledge and expertise with the colleagues from Georgia. Please contact for further information [steven@euroclio.nl](mailto:steven@euroclio.nl)

## Members

### *Bulgaria: Everyone was there to celebrate for BHTA*

In an overwhelming atmosphere the Bulgarian History Teachers Association (BHTA) celebrated its 10th Anniversary during the big Annual Conference on 5-6 September 2008 in Sofia together with more than 80 participants and supporters from the Ministry of Education and Universities. One of the core aims of the Annual Conference was not only to provide the participants with History Teaching Training workshops and lectures given by international experts in History Education, but also give them space for their presentations about topics from a wide range of fields of interest, such as Cinema and Games in the History and the perspectives of the Muslims in History Teaching. The very rich in sources and interesting links to educational material website of the Association was officially launched by Romyana Kusheva, the President of BHTA wishing for it to attract teachers' and students' attention within and beyond Bulgaria and stimulate them to share online their ideas. Comments and contributions both to the website <http://bghistory-edu.org> and the magazine "Dialogue in History" are more than welcome and expected at [kamgabi@abv.bg](mailto:kamgabi@abv.bg)



### *Turkey: Training history students in Turkey for Multicultural Europe*

The Project *Training Social Studies and History Educators for Multicultural Europe* in the framework of the EU Promotion of the Civil Society Dialogue Programme started with a meeting in Kayseri, Central Anatolia, from 11-14 September 2008. The project partners are the education faculties from Erciyes University, Kayseri, Karadeniz Technical University, Trabzon and the University of West England, Bristol. EUROCLIO Executive Director Joke van der Leeuw-Roord has been asked to feature as European consultant. The duration of the project is 18 months. The project aims to improve history and social studies teacher education programmes for multicultural Europe in the context of the issues related to Turkey and EU relationships and exchange experiences in this field. The first project meeting planned to organize workshops, seminars and conferences, to produce a research questionnaire, additional teaching materials and an internet portal. Please contact for further information Semih Aktekin at [semih.aktekin@gmail.com](mailto:semih.aktekin@gmail.com) or Mustafa Ozturk at [mustafaozt@gmail.com](mailto:mustafaozt@gmail.com)



*Germany: Advisory Board for the Georg Eckert Institute*

On 19 September the Advisory Board of the Georg Eckert Institute In Germany was constituted as part of a big planning scheme of this International Institute on Textbook Research. In the last year the Institute has been streamlining its focus (research) areas. From now the Institute will concentrate on four specific domains, relevant for society: *Conflicts, Europe, Images and Overall Projects*. Within these themes a wide variety of activities and projects are included. Explicit attention was paid in the long term planning to the transfer of the (research) results into a wider professional and media audience. The Advisory Board Members therefore represent education, subject methodology, politics, media and publishers. The Board elected the president of the German History Educators Association, Dr Peter Lautzas as President and EUROCLIO Executive Director Joke van der Leeuw as Vice-President. The new president promised that the Board wants to be an active partner in the good work of the Institute. For further information please [www.gei.de](http://www.gei.de)

*Cyprus: Platform of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot Educators*

The Platform of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot Educators (active since 2004) organized a round table discussion on October 9th, in Nicosia. The event took place in Holiday Inn and there were more than 200 teachers and educators attending from both communities. The topic of the discussion was *'Towards a school for reconciliation: History that divides and history that unites'*. Speakers of the round table were mr Takis Hatjigeorgiou, Member of Parliament of Cyprus (AKEL party), Professor of History Christina Koulouri, (University of Peloponnesos, Korinth, Greece), mr Mutlu Ozturk, (History teacher, Secondary Education, Istanbul, Turkey) and Yocel Voural, Assistant Professor, University of East Mediterranean. The discussion was conducted by mr. Pavlos Pavlou, History Teacher, Cyprus, member of Cyprus EUROCLIO Annual Conference 2009 organizing committee. The discussion that followed was very interesting and many people from the audience participated in it, posing interesting and difficult questions to the panel and expressing their experience, will and passion for a re-unified Cyprus.

*Cyprus: Grant for Lifelong Learning Programme*

The Association for Historical Dialogue and Research has received a grant from the Life Long Education Programme for a Grundtvig project entitled: *'European Heritage for an Active Citizenship through Intercultural Dialogue'*. This project is the result of a previous contact seminar in Bulgaria 30 November-2 December 2006 entitled: *'Treasures from Past and Present. European Heritage through Intercultural Dialogue'* and aims to contribute to the preservation and popularization of the cultural and historical heritage for present and future generations. Moreover, the organizers wish to contribute to the dissemination of knowledge and awareness in the field of cultural heritage among teachers, scholars and students. Despite the fact that the deadline for application procedures has expired, you are more than welcome to download the [Grundtvig\\_Application\\_Form.doc](#) and please contact [hisdialresearch@yahoo.com](mailto:hisdialresearch@yahoo.com) or visit the website <http://www.hisdialresearch.org> for further information.

*Italy: Italian - Spanish Conference on European Citizenship Education and Teacher Training*

From March 31st till April 4th 2009, an International Conference will take place on the topic *"European Citizenship Education and Teacher Training: an Educational Project for the Lisbon Strategy"*, at Bologna University School of Education in co operation with the Asociación Universitaria de Profesores de Didáctica de las Ciencias Sociales, the International Center of History and Estate's Education of the Bologna University and the Clio '92 Association. The Conference will reflect upon the necessity for schools to contribute to active European Citizenship. For more information, please visit <http://www.clio92.it>

*England, UK: History Teachers and History Teacher Educators meet in Cambridge*

Christine Counsell will lead a course on *"Shaping Progression in the Secondary History Curriculum: Defining and Developing Historical Thinking"* located in the University of Cambridge. During the course the attenders will be able to use practical, classroom activities together with web-based learning and school-based research and will be facilitated, among others, to develop methods to stimulate and

challenge pupils to improve their skills to critically read and reflect on texts and shape their conceptual progression. The course will be divided in two sections: The first part consists of the pre-structured reading, for which the participants will be provided with all the related material and a conference on 6-7 February 2009. For the second part of the course a one-day conference is scheduled on 25 April 2009 again in the University of Cambridge. For further information please visit <http://www.educ.cam.ac.uk/ppd/programme/lent/> For an application form please e-mail Christine Zwierzanski on [cz215@cam.ac.uk](mailto:cz215@cam.ac.uk). Applications must reach the office by 12th December 2008.

*Scotland, UK: Government sets up a working group on History in Curriculum of Excellence.*

The major interests and concerns about the teaching of History in the Scottish schools pressured the Government to set up a working group on History in CfE, whose first meeting was on June 25th 2008 and pointed out the need for a coverage of material related to the History of Scotland maintaining the balance among the Scottish, British, European and World History. The group's main aim is to avoid a formed national curriculum urging the beneficial role of resourcing. The Scottish Association of Teachers of History is holding on 22 November 2008 a conference on *Active History*. Significant personalities from the field of history, like Jim McGonigle and Ian Dawson will stress out topics, such as the Trialing Curriculum for Excellence and the Joy of Active History: Britain united & divided. Moreover, SATH will organize a one day event on Radical Scottish Women against Slavery 1840-1865 on Friday 31 October 2008 located in the Causeway Building of the National Library of Scotland. Topics to be addressed will be the 1840 World Anti-slavery Congress & the "transatlantic sisterhood", Frederick Douglass' tours of Scotland, Free Church links with the South, Harriet Beecher Stowe in Scotland & the Fugitive Slave Act, Confederate agents in Scotland, women's campaigns. For further information please visit <http://www.sath.org.uk/index.asp> or e-mail Nicola Sutherland at [nick\\_nack17@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:nick_nack17@yahoo.co.uk)

*England, UK: History in a Multicultural World*

The History Teacher Education Network established to promote the development of history teacher education organizes its general conference every year in July. This year the HTEN 2009 conference hosted by the University of Birmingham will focus on "Researching and Teaching History in a Multicultural and Multifaith World" and will run from 17 – 19 July 2009. Given the fact that Birmingham is a city with strong ethnic and cultural diversity, the conference will aim to research the advantages and challenges of living in a multicultural environment and how History can strengthen the unity in multi-faith communities. More detailed information about HTEN Annual Conference will be provided in early January and you are more than welcome to contact Russell Manning at [r.manning@bham.ac.uk](mailto:r.manning@bham.ac.uk)

## Courses and Events

*Brussels, Belgium: EUROCLIO Represented at the First European Heritage Forum*

The first European Heritage Forum is a common action of the Council of Europe and the European Commission and will be held in Brussels on 22-24 October 2008 to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of European Heritage Days in Belgium. The theme of the first Forum will be "Heritage and Dialogue" on the occasion of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue. The participants will work together in order to formulate proposals for using heritage as a means of fostering intercultural dialogue at local, regional and European level. EUROCLIO was invited to take part in this interactive Forum and will be represented by Ms. Blandine Smilansky, from the Secretariat, Mr Bernard Phan, Board Member of the EUROCLIO-French History Teachers Association, and Ms. Astrid Weij, from the Netherlands Institute of Heritage - Erfgoed Nederland, a partner organization on the project "Past, the Future of Europe". The results of this Forum will be presented in the next newsletter. For more information regarding this event, please visit [http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/Aware/EHD/events2008\\_FORUM\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/dg4/cultureheritage/Aware/EHD/events2008_FORUM_en.asp) and contact Blandine Smilansky at [blandine@euroclio.nl](mailto:blandine@euroclio.nl)

*Cyprus: Alternative Southeast European History Material*

On Thursday, 9 October 2008 during a press conference held in the UN Buffer Zone in Cyprus the Greek and Turkish edition of the four alternative history teaching workbooks (Topics: Ottoman Empire, Nations and Nationalism, The Balkan Wars and World War 2) were presented within the *Joint History Project*, which was initiated by the Center for Democracy and Reconciliation in Southeast Europe (CDRSEE) with an overall aim to stress out the multi-perspectivity of an event, limit the ethnocentric mentality evident in the textbooks due to the stereotypes produced. Nicosia together with Belgrade, Zagreb, Tirana, Sarajevo, and Skopje is the sixth capital, where, hopefully, the alternative history workbooks actually being used in schools. On Friday and Saturday (10-11 October 2008) training workshops were organized both by CDRSEE and the Association for Historical Dialogue and Research (AHDR) to prepare teachers to use the books in the classroom. EUROCLIO board member Vassiliki Sakka presented a model lesson, as a teacher trainer in this seminar: *Teaching about the Holocaust in Southeast Europe* based on material of the 4 workbooks, focusing on the philosophy of approaching such a sensitive topic. For more information regarding the Joint History Project, please visit <http://www.cdsee.org/jhp/index.html> The alternative educational material of the four workbooks can be free downloaded and it is available in 6 languages, English included.

*Austria: Symposium "The Structures and Standards of Initial Training for History Teachers in Europe"*

"25 Participants from 18 different countries took part in this final symposium of the *Socrates Programme on the Comparison of the Programmes, Concepts and Organisation of History Teacher Training* in many European countries from May 29th to June 1st. The Department for Didactics of History, Social Studies and Civic Education of the University of Vienna hosted the meeting in 'Am Spiegeln' (in Alois words: a 'nice little suburb of Vienna'). Professor Doctor Alois Ecker was, enthusiast and persistent as always, the chair of this international symposium, effectively supported by a team of capable and amiable young illustrious men and women of the Didactic Department. Three case studies showing the implementation of the Bologna process: in Finland by Arja Virta, in Romania by Laura Capita and in the Netherlands by Ineke Veldhuis-Meester brought us immediately in the heat of the aims of the Comparative Study. In two working groups various professional and national viewpoints on the outcomes of the study and on the adaptations to the Bologna process in each country were discussed. People worked crazy hard, chaired by Werner Goegebeur (Belgium) and Ineke Veldhuis-Meester (Netherlands). The hot reports were presented at the end of the second day by Carina Rönqvist (Sweden) and Joanna Wojdon (Poland), as if they had had an ample time for the construction of their reports! Very valuable for the effect and success of this Comparative Study were the remarks of Mr Jean-Yves Stefani, the DG "Education and culture" of the European Commission, who was so kind to attend 'my' working group. He stressed that it is not our task to write recommendations; no we should formulate outcomes of the comparative study, which are (scientifically) based on the collected data. Don't think it was all hard work: we went to a Concert of 'modern classic' composers in the Musikverein and this final meeting was also a meeting of good friends of this ITT-network of European experts on history teacher education."

Ineke Veldhuis-Meester, representative of the Netherlands in this project.

For more information please visit <http://www.itt-history.eu>

*EUROPE: "YouRope Needs You!"*

The European Students' Forum AEGEE a non-profit NGO promoting communication and integration amongst students across Europe launches the *"YouRope Needs You!"* Project and calls for European high school students to attend. Through interactive workshops at high schools carried out by university students and members of AEGEE, the students will be enlightened on current European matters and grasp the meaning and significance of common European values and perspectives and hopefully motivated to eagerly search and seize opportunities in a European level. EUROCLIO supporting AEGEE's initiative sends out a request to all teachers to encourage their students to ask for information by contacting Robin Verschuren, the Vice-President and External Communications Director of AEGEE Europe at: [robin.verschuren@aegee.org](mailto:robin.verschuren@aegee.org) and visit the website [www.aegee.org](http://www.aegee.org)

*England, UK: In Defense of Learning: The Past and The Present*

The Council for Assisting Refugee Academics is celebrating the 75th Anniversary of an organization originally established as the Academic Assisting Council (AAC, 1933) and then the Society for the Protection of Science and Learning (SPSL, 1936), whose aim has been to protect scholars from the assault of Nazism and safeguard the wealth of knowledge, which was subject to Hitler's ethnic cleansing. During the two day conference in the British Academy on 4-5 December 2008 (London) participants interested in refugee intellectuals will meet with the organizations, which support the persecuted academics, and think together about ways to promote the function of CARA and other related organization in a more wide field of national and international policy on refugees and asylum. For more information, please visit <http://www.academic-refugees.org/>

*United Kingdom, Germany, Senegal: UNESCO History Project*

The International Scientific Committee has organized three international conferences within the common UNESCO History Project. The first one titled "*Towards the Transnational History of International Organizations: Methodology / Epistemology*" takes place at the Centre for History and Economics at King's College, Cambridge University, United Kingdom, on 6 and 7 April 2009. The second one on "*UNESCO and the Cold War*" will be hosted at the Heidelberg Center for American Studies at the University of Heidelberg, Germany, on 4 and 5 March 2010, whereas the conference about "*UNESCO and Issues of Colonization and Decolonization*" is scheduled for 5 and 6 October 2009 and will be located at the Cheikh Anta Diop University in Dakar in Senegal. For more information, please visit <http://www.unesco.org/archives/call.htm>

*England, UK: Children's Voices in Geography and History*

On November 1st 2008 a conference jointly organized by the Historical Association – The voice for History and the Geographical Association on "*The Role of Children's Voices in Geography and History*" will take place in Leeds Trinity and All Saints University College. A range of six interactive workshops is scheduled together with keynote lectures offered by professors and experts in the field of History and Geography. For more information, please visit: [http://www.history.org.uk/news/news\\_22.html](http://www.history.org.uk/news/news_22.html), <http://www.history.org.uk/>, <http://www.geography.org.uk/>

*Greece: History between Reflexivity and Critique*

A very interesting two days international conference is going to be held in Athens from October 30th until November 1st hosted in the University of Athens organized by the journal "Historein", the "International Commission of Historiography and Theory of History" and the "Historical Archive of the University of Athens". Critical History, Transcultural History and Reflexive Historiography in East and West are only some of the topics to be stressed out by intellectuals representing Universities and Institutes from Europe and beyond. For more information please visit [www.historein.gr](http://www.historein.gr) or send an e-mail to [historein@historein.gr](mailto:historein@historein.gr).

**News from the EUROCLIO Secretariat**

*New EUROCLIO Project proposals for Turkey, FYR-Macedonia, The Netherlands and Balkans*

The EUROCLIO Secretariat proposed several projects since the previous edition of the Newsletter. We re-applied for the project '*A Key to Europe: Innovative Methodology in Turkish School History*' having furthered the group of key people responsible for the implementation of the project. In the meantime, our colleagues in Turkey have started an EU-sponsored project for *History Teacher Training* in cooperation with the University of West England and EUROCLIO and are eager to finally start working with Turkish History Educators more intensively together. The Secretariat also applied for the project '*History without Borders*' in Macedonia. The Macedonian project expand on the experience received within the USIP-sponsored project '*Retelling the History*' and

*For general questions, comments or other matters regarding the projects please contact the EUROCLIO Secretariat at [info@euroclio.nl](mailto:info@euroclio.nl)*

focuses on both innovating methodology, strengthening civic society and the teaching of history in a multi-cultural and multi-religious environment. Three fields in which the EUROCLIO organization gained much experience in over the years. Furthermore, a proposal for a pilot-project implemented in the Netherlands in cooperation with the Netherlands Institute for Heritage, has been proposed for the project *Past - the Future of Europe, Windows to Europe's History and Heritage*. The potential donor is the Europefunds of the Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs, who has previously co-financed the EUROCLIO conference in The Hague under the “*Connecting Europe through History*” project ([www.connectinghistory.eu](http://www.connectinghistory.eu)). At the moment we are exploring the possibilities for a cooperation on history education in Central Europe and are in negotiation with the Soros/Open Society Foundation regarding continuation of our activities in the Balkans. For more information about these proposed projects [steven@euroclio.nl](mailto:steven@euroclio.nl)

#### *Bringing the Central Europe back in*

Central Europe has been facing a number of setbacks on its course towards stable, open, and multicultural democratic societies. In the past few years, nationalism and xenophobia seem to be on the rise, while less attention has been paid to this region by major international donors and foundations. History education is not developing at a pace comparable with some other countries in Eastern Europe. Yet, the right approach to history education can support combating prejudices, stereotypes, and strengthen inter-ethnic relationships. The EUROCLIO Secretariat is exploring the possibilities of a regional Central European project, with special focus on Poland and Slovakia. We have established contacts with the Slovak Embassy in The Hague. Her Excellency, the Slovak Ambassador to the Netherlands Oksana Tomová is supportive of the initiative and is working with us to develop pilot activities. The Director of Dom Pokoju (the House of Peace) Edward Skubisz from Poland has visited us in the Hague to explore pilot initiatives that can take place in Northern Silesia and then spread to other parts of Poland and Central Europe. These will include workshops and seminars with Polish and German history educators, students, and activists, and development of educational materials that will be based on this cooperation. On October 22-23, Dagmar Kusa will represent EUROCLIO at the conference *On the Way to Equality* in Bratislava, Slovakia. During this time, she will also meet with some of the stakeholders in the field of history education in Slovakia to explore possibilities of future activities. For more information, please contact Dagmar Kusa at [dagmar@euroclio.nl](mailto:dagmar@euroclio.nl)

#### *Seeking Solutions on the European Level*

Solutions to many obstacles are more often than not interconnected. They are connected across issues and sectors as well as across borders. The European organizations are increasingly recognizing the need to address the improvement to many of the social, cultural, educational, and economic shortcomings on the European level, developing comprehensive strategies and guidelines and, more importantly, moving towards implementation of already existing policies and guidelines. In October, Dagmar has met with Pavol Kossey, the Cabinet member of the European Commission for Education, Training, Culture and Youth in Brussels to discuss ways in which EUROCLIO can take part in the initiatives connected to the European Year of Innovation and Creativity and assist the EU bodies with training, planning, and implementation of existing guidelines for history education. EUROCLIO will be working with the Commission to increase the quality of history education, minimize cross-regional differences, and encourage regional multiperspective and engaging approaches to history education. The EUROCLIO Secretariat is also strengthening cooperation with the European Association for Adult Education and the European Civil Society Platform for Lifelong Learning, a platform that gives educational non-governmental organizations stronger voice and serves as a switch operator between the civil society organizations and the EU bodies and personnel. We have explored possibilities for common and cross-sectoral initiatives on the European level. For more information, contact Dagmar Kusa at [dagmar@euroclio.nl](mailto:dagmar@euroclio.nl)

#### *Conflicts in the Caucasus region and history education*

Recent conflict between Russia and Georgia in Ossetia has put the Caucasus region once again on the map of the areas that EU pays special attention to. Europe is tackling with understanding of the

complex issues, tensions and conflicts stemming from the history of this region. Nagorno Karabakh, an area of dispute between Armenia and Azerbaijan, is for many at the root of these conflicts. On October 16th, Dagmar Kusa, representing EUROCLIO, took part in the Roundtable Nagorno Karabakh, Its Neighbourhood, and the Wider Europe, organized by the Armenian General Benevolent Union and the H. Böll Foundation. The representatives of the Nagorno Karabakh Government presented their views and needs to the representatives of European institutions and non-profit, business and academic organizations at a closed round-table session. Among the expressed top priorities for the region was the need for increasing the quality of education and cross-ethnic and cross-religious cooperation within Nagorno Karabakh and among the countries of the Caucasus region. EUROCLIO has a successful project and a network of skilled professionals in Georgia, and is hoping to replicate this success on a regional level. For more information, contact Dagmar Kusa at [dagmar@euroclio.nl](mailto:dagmar@euroclio.nl)

#### *Call for contributors to the EUROCLIO BLOG*

EUROCLIO is launching a blog where our correspondents from all corners of Europe will share experiences from their work, observations, musings, reviews, recommendations. If you have writing tendencies, stories to share, urge to remark on an issue or situation in your area, write to [dagmar@euroclio.nl](mailto:dagmar@euroclio.nl) Please include a few sentences on what topics or issues you would be most interested to write about. <http://euroclio.blogspot.com>

#### *EUROCLIO now on Facebook*

Taking into account that the projects run by EUROCLIO and its members are actually about students and promoting their perspective on history, EUROCLIO Secretariat took the initiative to grasp their attention in Europe and beyond via Facebook, the social international network. “EUROCLIO Haag” calls for more friends to share their comments, suggestions and ideas, so if you are out there, add as a friend at <http://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=1475870497>

#### *Secretariat IT-Changes*

During the summer break of the EUROCLIO Secretariat, profound changes have taken place in the office. Together with Leiden-based ICT-firm Quicksolve BV, we have logically synchronized and updated all the PC's, and upgraded our server facilities, so that in the future our mail-services will be more reliable, stable and sustainable. If you are interested in more detailed information on these changes, please contact Jonathan Even-Zohar at [jonathan@euroclio.nl](mailto:jonathan@euroclio.nl)

#### *EUROCLIO Annual Report*

Our Annual Report is almost finalized and it will be soon sent in a hard copy to EUROCLIO Members and all related organizations. Moreover, it will be soon available on our website for EUROCLIO wide network and for those willing to receive a hard copy, please contact us at [info@euroclio.nl](mailto:info@euroclio.nl)

#### *Next Newsletter*

The December Newsletter will appear on December 18th. If you want to inform an international audience about events or developments in your own countries that could be of interest for history professionals abroad, than please send us your information on seminars, conferences, curriculum changes, etc. to [info@euroclio.nl](mailto:info@euroclio.nl) Please note: The deadline for accepting information has been set at December 4th.

#### **Useful links**

##### *Together in Diversity*

A common project carried out by teachers and students from Turkey, Romania and Croatia aiming to support cultural dialogue in Europe and the freedom of expression. The project gives people the chance to get to know different cultures, learn from different traditions and realize in the end how similar we can be! Have a look at “Doors to Cultural Dialogue”: <http://www.doorstoculturaldialogue>.

com/default2.aspx

#### *Books are now being digitalized*

The Library of Erasmus University in Rotterdam is now updated with approximately 800 history textbooks and books on the theory of didactics are now offered in a digital version. Moreover, interesting links related to textbooks research, history education and heritage are now available as well. The Center for Historical Culture founded in May 12 2006 as part of the Faculty of History and Arts, is focused on conducting a research on history and culture in a globalizing world and provides at the moment the Dutch and international scholars with an intellectual forum, where the exchange of personal experience and knowledge is promoted. For further information, please visit <http://www.fhk.eur.nl/english/chc/home/> or contact Maria Grever, Professor Theory and Methods of History at [grever@fhk.eur.nl](mailto:grever@fhk.eur.nl)

#### *Archivists without Borders*

Founded in 1998 in Barcelona by archivists who wished to contribute with their experience organizations, which due to political or economical circumstances, were not capable of having a well maintained and arranged archive. AwB's aim is to preserve the archives to guarantee human rights. Please visit <http://www.arxiv.org/en/index.php>

#### *Association of Human Rights Institute*

Consisting of 25 members institutes, the AHRI is aiming through the research carried out on Human Rights field to raise a voice and encourage discussion and exchange of ideas. <http://www.humanrights.uio.no/ahri/>

#### *"East" and "Europolis"*

The Centre for Political Analysis of Babeş-Bolyai University located in Cluj-Napoca, Romania active in the field of politics and social issues, has published two political science journals which function as an interesting source for articles related to Europe and its borders, the content of identity and relations among countries in East-Europe. In order to have a clear overview of the journals, please visit "East" at <http://www.polito.ubbcluj.ro/cpa/rev/en/enumere.html> and "Europolis" at <http://www.polito.ubbcluj.ro/cpa/rev/europolis.html>.

#### *eTwinning action*

eTwinning launched by the European Commission in January 2005 constitutes a part of Comenius under the Lifelong Learning Programme and functions as a pattern for schools to collaborate online on a European level with partner schools. It is a core part of the eLearning programme offering Professional Development Workshops for teachers of all the levels of education. <http://www.etwinning.ie/index.html>

#### *eBooks on Central, East and Southern Europe*

The Central and Eastern European Online Librany (C.E.E.O.L) introduces DiBiDo, an online platform for ebooks by significant publishers from countries of Central, Eastern and Western Europe dealing with history, culture, language and literature in Central and Eastern Europe. Have a look at the eBooks provided at <http://www.dibido.eu/> and at <http://www.cceol.com/>

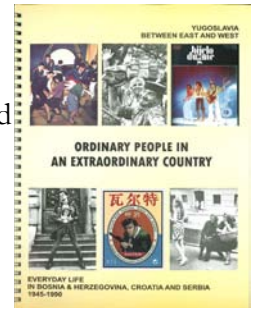
#### *The Holocaust History Project*

A free online archive rich in documents, articles and pictures about the Holocaust, interesting for teachers, students. If you want to know more or publish your own essay about Holocaust, you can visit <http://www.holocaust-history.org/>

## Media and Publications

### *Regional Approach to History Education in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia*

The Teacher Resource Book “Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Country. Yugoslavia between East and West. Everyday Life in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Serbia, 1945-1990” is now available in an English Translation for Research and Education purposes. Response so far has been very positive and we have already sent numerous copies to interested educators and Researchers in the Netherlands, Denmark, USA and UK. If you are eager to learn more about this unique project, please contact Jonathan Even-Zohar at [jonathan@euroclio.nl](mailto:jonathan@euroclio.nl)



### *Researching History Education*

A book on the Theory, Method and Context of the way children learn history has been carried out by Linda Levstik and Keith Barton, expert of the EUROCLIO USIP Project on Retelling the History of a New Nation. The authors managed to combine in one volume their own work and studies not only on teaching and learning history but also stressing out students' ideas about history education. The methodologies used in the research on children's understanding of history, a very popular field of interest, are highlighted and a useful insight on what they represent is given. You can find interesting reviews on the book at:

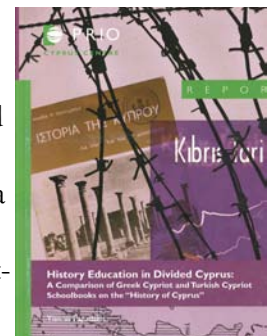
[http://bookshop.blackwell.co.uk/jsp/id/Researching\\_History\\_Education\\_Theory\\_Method\\_and\\_Context/9780805862706](http://bookshop.blackwell.co.uk/jsp/id/Researching_History_Education_Theory_Method_and_Context/9780805862706)

### *Turkish-Cypriot history textbooks*

Yucel Vural and Evrim Ozuyanik wrote an article about the last changes in Turkish – Cypriot history textbooks titled “Redefining Identity in the Turkish-Cypriot School History Textbooks: A Step: Towards a United Federal Cyprus” stressing out the attempt to define identity based on its territorial and not ethnic dimension. In order to view the article, please visit <http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/content~content=a794284029~db=all~order=page>

### *History Education in Divided Cyprus*

“History Education in Divided Cyprus: A Comparison of Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot Schoolbooks on the “History of Cyprus” is the by Yannis Papadakis, member of AHDR, is an article about the change of the model adopted to present history of Cyprus in Turkish Cypriot school history textbooks. The article can be viewed in PRIO Cyprus Centre website at [www.prio.no/Cyprus/](http://www.prio.no/Cyprus/), a Centre which works on strengthening the relations between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots through the outcomes of research projects and debates facilitating this way the public dialogue.



### *Human Rights TV*

The Human Rights TV, a project run by volunteers who offer material for educational purposes to human rights organizations, is currently going through its second year and provides now the visitors with material related to refugee and asylum issues. To have a better understanding of Human Rights TV, please visit <http://www.humanrightstv.com/channel/7>

**October**

08-11	Tbilisi, Georgia	Coordinators meeting and Fact finding mission of the Project <i>Tolerance Building through Education in Georgia, How to Teach History and Citizenship in a Multicultural and Multiconfessional Environment</i>
15-16	Brussels, Belgium	EUROCLIO Secretariat Meetings in Brussels with the European Commission for Education, Training, Youth, and Culture, EUCIS-LLL, and the Roundtable on Nagorno Karabakh
22-23	Bratislava, Slovakia	EUROCLIO Secretariat on a Fact finding mission in the conference “On the Way to Equality”
22-24	Brussels, Belgium	EUROCLIO represented at the First European Heritage Forum - a joint action of the Council of Europe and the European Commission

**November**

7-8	The Hague, the Netherlands	First Steering Committee Meeting for the Project <i>Past - the Future of Europe, Windows to Europe's History and Heritage</i>
6-11	The Hague, the Netherlands	Meeting of the Bulgarian Editing Team of the <i>European Dialogue, a cultural rainbow for the future of Learning and Teaching History in Bulgaria</i>
14-16	Tbilisi, Georgia	Kick-off Conference for the Project <i>Tolerance Building through Education in Georgia, How to Teach History and Citizenship in a Multicultural and Multiconfessional Environment</i>
22	Nicosia, Cyprus	Third Seminar within the UNDP supported programme <i>Taking the Perspective of the Others: Intercultural Dialogue, Teaching and Learning History</i>

**December**

12-14	The Hague, the Netherlands	EUROCLIO Board Meeting
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**January**

15-18	Bristol, UK	Second Meeting of Organizing Committee for the Project ‘ <i>Training Social Studies and History Educators for Multicultural Europe</i> ’
23-25	Georgia	First Workshop for the Project <i>Tolerance Building through Education in Georgia, How to Teach History and Citizenship in a Multicultural and Multiconfessional Environment</i>
30-1	Sofia, Bulgaria	Coordinating Meeting Bulgaria

**April**

5-11	Nicosia, Cyprus	EUROCLIO 16th Annual Conference and Professional Training Development Course <i>Taking the Perspective of the Other: Intercultural Dialogue and History Teaching</i>
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