



*“ Tell me and I’ll forget,
Involve me and I’ll understand. “*
Chinese Proverb

Italian National Meeting
Rome
March, 9th to 10th, 2007

Final Document

Inter-Regional Meetings

Ancona
March 3rd, 2007
Barletta
March 3rd, 2007
Cagliari
March 3rd, 2007
Cava de’ Tirreni (SA)
March 3rd, 2007
Enna
March 3rd, 2007
Monza
March 3rd, 2007
Pianoro (BO)
March 3rd, 2007
Prato
March 3rd, 2007
Roma
March 3rd, 2007
Torino
March 3rd, 2007
Trieste
March 3rd, 2007

National Meeting

Roma
March 9th and 10th, 2007

European Youth Summit

Roma
March 23rd to 25th, 2007

The Italian national consultation process for the Youth Summit involved about 600 young people shaping a “bottom-up” approach. In the beginning of February, a web-site has been launched (www.youthsummit.it) in order to spread out information and to gather, through a free registration process open to all young people between 18 and 30 years old, as many young people as possible interested in discussing and contributing to the 6 Youth Summit themes. Then, 11 one-day inter-regional meetings have been held within the whole country on March 3rd, to share participants’ views, ideas and proposals on the 6 Youth Summit themes and to designate 22 speakers to gather in a final, national meeting.

The national meeting was joined by 5 members of the National Youth Forum. Based on the documents produced in the 11 inter-regional meetings, in a two-day meeting held in Rome on March 9th and 10th, the Italian national document was delivered and 4 of the 6 members of the Italian delegation to the Youth Summit was eventually designated.

The Italian Youth say: ‘create’ a better Europe!

In this very moment, we believe that our participation is necessary to the process, because if every citizen gives his contribution it will be possible to overcome several problems of the present political deficits of Europe.

To promote youth’s participation, the first actions to be envisaged are in the areas of Education, Information and Communication, Representation, for a Higher Transparency in every European decisional process. To fight the weak European civic sense, it’s very important to join the non formal to the formal education; also there is Lack of the informal education’s training and Poor acknowledgement of non formal education, experiences and skills.

We suggest:

- Inclusion of Citizenship’s Education in the school curricula with use of informal education’s tools. In order to strengthen the European conscience and sense of membership: introduction of European civic subject in the course of studies and comparative subjects; with a new attention to historical, social and cultural roots of the other countries with a specific attention to music, dance, food, art, culture of other Members.
- Training of the teachers with regard to Informal Education about Europe and Participation.
- Promoting information and a communication for young people at local levels, also through mass media and by involving them with Peer-to-Peer approach.
- Supporting informal young groups, working locally, can involve youth in some of the decision-making processes which concern them directly, also in order to develop education and a development respectful of the environment.
- Improvement of the information on European programs, actions, structures. EU Marketing needs for an information strategy allowing feed-back from stakeholders and Volunteer-based information centres should be institutionalised
- Rationalization of the existing informative structures, that are insufficient or not working at all
- Improvement of the education quality with a core interest in European comparative subjects
- Sharing of best practices (successful experiences in Member States)
- Greater accessibility to advanced studies based on merit and economic needs, pulling down financial barriers



Youth Summit of the European Union • www.youthsummit.it

The National Consultation process in Italy was implemented by the Representation in Italy of the European Commission, the Minister for Youth Policies and Sport Activities, the Ministry for Social Solidarity, the National Youth Forum with the support of the Eurodesk Italian National Network

- Promotion of experiences abroad during the course of studies to encourage, value, stimulate stages, trainings, qualifying internships to complete theory with practical studies. A monitoring system with a middle and final control of the satisfaction level of stages and internships should be established.
- Better knowledge of English and of another EU official language.
- To support schools as training centres even during the afternoons: encourage the opening and use of the structures and spaces in order to integrate formal education with the informal and non formal ones.

We wish a more efficient dialogue between citizens and Institutions, therefore we propose an “**up-bottom-up**” approach:

First level: “UP” European Institutions open the public debate, giving a wide information about the EU Treaty in a very understandable way.

Second level: “BOTTOM” Popular Consultation, where the people have the possibility to present, in limited number, their ideas and amendments to EU Treaty.

Third level: “UP” European Convention, built with the similar nature of Laeken, but increasing the participation of civil society delegations with the right to vote.

This model could be a better solution to the future of the EU Treaty, to start again with an easy procedure and to inform citizens about the important process in course.

The European Convention has to synthesize the new amendments and afterwards to approve the last text. The (process of ratification) will take place in every member State through own legislative process.

To be successful the EU should promote homogeneous economic policy among member States and stability in labour market, especially for youth.

Too often age is perceived as an added value and youthfulness as an obstacle in many sectors (politic, university, entrepreneurial) preventing young generations to join them.

Italy suffers a delay in technology and scientific research and development.

Italy’s socio-economic best practices in private saving and SMEs prove that it tries to stick to the Lisbon Agenda. In addition we suggest:

- Sustainable flexibility: social and financial tools, easier access to credit, more warranties and rights to workers with a fixed-term contract, more freedom to entrepreneurs, set up of a system to monitor abuses
- Encourage the spreading of the EU message to fight off racism, xenophobia and bias and support the enlargement process
- More investments and funds for scientific research
- Valorisation of local resources as an added value to the Union thus supporting the development of local-based economies and sustainable models

Finally, about our life and Sustainable development, our analysis looks at what the Stern Review Report considers for the impact that global production has to the environment, using different techniques to evaluate costs and risks..

Keeping this in mind we would like to suggest the following goals

- The implementation of juvenile enterprises which ensure an environmental sustainable development. Support and award for the most innovative projects.
- True evaluation of social and environmental costs. Social and environmental costs should be taken into consideration in the calculation of final costs together with a monetary evaluation of the external negative effects of production.
- Trade and ethical business. We think it is important to support juvenile businesses which promote ecological trade and follow a code of ethical business/finance.
- Social responsibility of enterprises. Using business outsourcing to promote workers’ rights in developing countries (It means that European businesses should guarantee the same work and welfare conditions to workers in third countries where production is carried out.
- No kerosene-tax because it increases transport costs and it limits the circulation of young people.

New generations need to work together to respond to this challenge because the choices taken now will affect our future.