

LIFELONG LEARNING PLATFORM

EUROPEAN CIVIL SOCIETY FOR EDUCATION

**40 organisations.
Active Europe-wide.
For the future of Education.
In all its forms.
They are the Lifelong Learning Platform.**

A BRIEF PRESENTATION

WHO WE ARE

History

The LLLPlatform is a **non-profit organisation** born in **2005** as a civil society response to the definition and implementation of **European policies on education and training**, in the frame of the Europe 2020 and Lisbon Strategies.

In a stable growth process, the platform now represents 40 organisations, and was recognised by the European Commission in 2009 as in “a unique position” to represent the interests of the sector.

Mission

The Lifelong Learning Platform promotes **Europe-wide cooperation** among civil society organisations in order to voice **citizens' concerns** on lifelong learning issues, and to propose concrete solutions, based on the expertise, competencies and experience of its networks, **for lifelong learning to become a reality for all.**

Vision & Values

The Platform defends a **holistic vision** of lifelong learning, from cradle to grave.

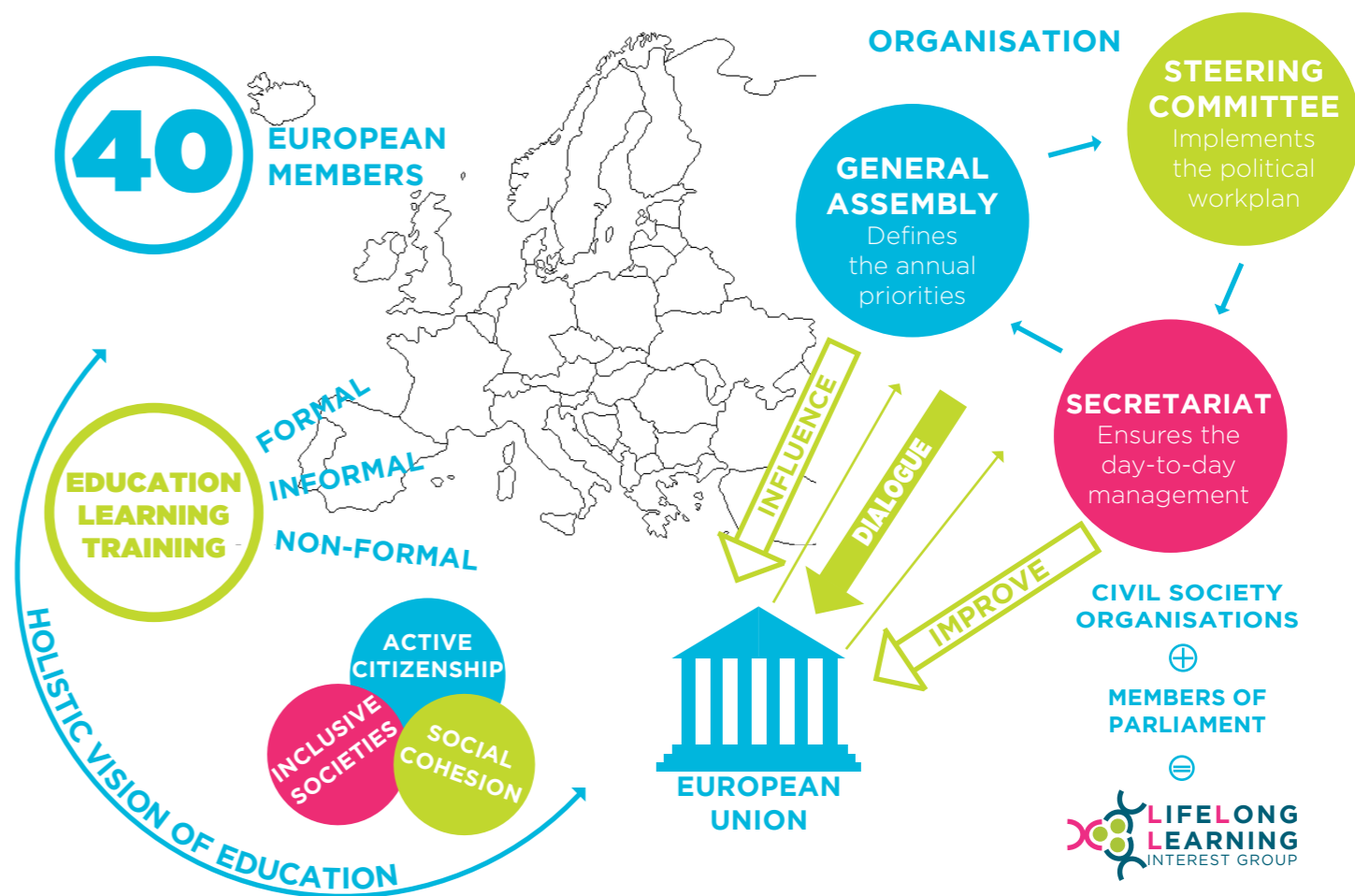
It believes education should not be limited to **formal** education but integrate **non-formal and informal learning.**

The Platform believes education is the key to foster **equity, social cohesion and active citizenship.** It believes that the objectives of education and training should not only be described in terms of employability or economic growth but also as a framework for personal development.

Objectives

1. Promote a more democratic, civic and social Europe
2. Pursue an active dialogue with the European institutions
3. Enable exchanges of best practices, experiences and expertise
4. Disseminate information on key issues in the lifelong learning sector
5. Organise events and develop activities on transversal lifelong learning topics

Building the future of education!



WHAT WE DO

Discussion Forum

The «**Lifelong Learning Week**» is one of the organisation's yearly high points. Organised at the European Parliament in Brussels, under the patronage of a Member of EU Parliament, it calls out to decision-makers to listen to the concerns of educators and learners. It creates within Europe's democratic space, a forum for all stakeholders to think about how to increase participation in lifelong learning together, and find responses to contemporary challenges, in Europe and beyond.

The **Annual Conference** is the second major event of the year. It aims to bring together European and national stakeholders to discuss the needs and perspectives of lifelong learning, and to share and exchange in order to find the most appropriate solutions for all.

The Platform's **4 working groups** are also a strong content builder for its daily advocacy. Its members gather in 4 different ones, to feed the holistic vision of the Platform: Europe 2020 Policy Coherence, Wider Benefits of Learning, Validation Task Force and Digital Learning.



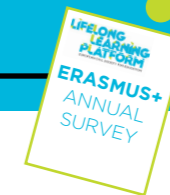
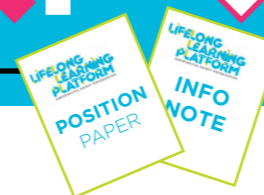
JAN.

JUNE
ANNUAL
CONFERENCE

DEC.

LLLWeek

NEWSLETTER



Information Centre

The LLLPlatform publishes a bi-monthly **newsletter** sent out to over 6500 subscribers, thus ensuring wide dissemination of European policies and strategies in education and training.

The Platform also publishes **reports and magazines**, such as the LLLMag, providing in depth analysis of lifelong learning hot topics or the EU Guide to Decision-Making in Education and Training. Members also receive regular **infonotes** to help them decypher EU policies.

Aside from its wide lists of **useful links**, a **data base of good practices** and founding texts, its website, a reference in education and training at European level, contains a full **lexicon** of lifelong learning keywords, also influenced by the work of international organisations such as the UNESCO.

- ◇ General Assembly
- Policy Debates
- ◆ Working Groups
- Public hearings and Expert Groups

Projects

The Platform is both service provider (advocacy, consultancy, dissemination...) and (leading) partner in EU Projects. It is currently involved in two projects.



GR-EAT

First, the **GR-EAT** (Guideline for Recognition: European Advanced Tool) **Project** (2014-2016), which brings together 6 partners, aims at proposing a comprehensive tool for the implementation of recognition systems, contributing to the overall advocacy process towards the acknowledgement of the non-formal and informal learning that takes place in youth-led organisations.



Creating a space for lifelong learning

Second, the **LLL-HUB** (2013-2016) brings together 10 partners from 8 different countries. It aims to develop a common definition of lifelong learning by encouraging cross-sectoral cooperation and dialogue about the European agenda at national and regional level. The project addresses the challenge of building a genuine partnership approach, thus creating a feeling of shared responsibility and ownership.

The Platform also contributes to its members' projects within workshops, round tables, according to their needs.

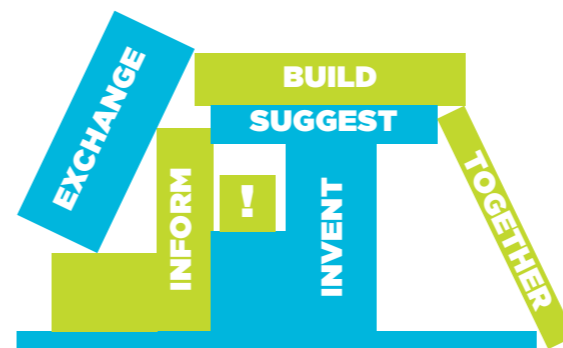


Advocacy & Influence

Located in Brussels, capital of the European Union and headquarters of its institutions, the Platform finds itself in a strategic position to voice the concerns of its members and **weigh in the decision-making process**. Its endeavours have been successful and its recognition by the EU Commission prove its lobbying capacities.

It takes part in this process by participating in **public hearings** at the European Parliament or in **expert groups** gathered by the Commission, and more independently via its **position papers**.

It is also a member of **NGO alliances** such as Civil Society Europe and a member of the European Economic and Social Committee Liaison Group.



LIFELONG LEARNING INTEREST GROUP

Initiated by the Lifelong Learning Platform and EAEA together with a number of MEPs, the **Interest Group on Lifelong Learning** brings together civil society representatives and MEPs to discuss key issues connected to lifelong learning with strong emphasis on adult education.

An important reason to form the Interest Group on Lifelong Learning is the new European Commission and its priorities. We stand for a comprehensive and trans-sectorial lifelong learning approach, and want to stress that education is not only about employment, but is linked to personal development, social inclusion, active citizenship, and much more. The interest group works as a «watchdog» to the European Union.

The focus of 2015–2016 is «Inclusive education for inclusive societies». The group aims to fight inequalities and discrimination in education in order to reach the Europe 2020 and Education and Training 2020 headline targets and contribute to the EU growth strategy this way.

The Lifelong Learning Platform is not a classic network. It offers its members a forum for cooperation and a voice to push forward strong messages to EU institutions on lifelong learning but also on setting up a structured civil dialogue at European level.

The platform is open to European organisations active in the field of formal, non-formal and informal learning. Together, they cover all sectors of education and training including networks for secondary and higher education, vocational education and training, adult education and popular education. European networks that become members of the platform are non-profit making and non-governmental. All together, they represent more than 50 000 associations and educational institutions across Europe.

They share a common vision on lifelong learning. One that should become a reality for all.



Lifelong Learning Platform

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