

Welcome to the 55th edition of the EOSE E-Bulletin.

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EUROPEAN BUSINESS FORUM ON VOCATIONAL TRAINING

07-08 June 2012, Brussels (Belgium)

The first European Business Forum on Vocational Education held in Brussels on 7-8 June 2012 entitled "*challenges and trends in skills and career development of the European workforce*" sought to explore and address issues regarding organisational approaches to skills development within the broader workforce, including adult and young workers alike.

The opening of the event was managed by Mr. Jan Trusczyński, Director General for Education and Culture and Mrs. Christine Antorini, Danish Minister for Education who set the scene of the current situation faced by the European economies and outlined the potential to achieve smarter, more sustainable and inclusive growth only through a better qualified and adaptable workforce. Both speakers stressed the role of companies in the development of skills and competences as well as necessity for a greater cooperation between VET providers and employers.

EOSE was represented by the Executive Director Mr Aurelien Favre and the event brought together around 330 key stakeholders including representatives of businesses, experts, providers of vocational training, policy makers, chambers of commerce, research institutes, business associations and sector organisations.

Parallel workshops were organised, providing EOSE with the opportunity to meet and exchange with stakeholders from other sectors on common realities and challenges facing the workforce. In particular, EOSE attended the following 2 workshops:

1) Role of the EU in supporting vocational education and training - Sector Skills alliances

Specific questions: How to strengthen the engagement of companies in EU actions? What are the critical factors, the 'to-do' and 'not-to-do' aspects? What do companies gain from taking part in activities such as Sector Skills Alliances and under what conditions do the benefits out-weigh the costs?

2) Setting targets for competence development – How do companies identify skills needs

Specific questions: How can enterprise-education partnership and cooperation be improved to meet future skills requirements? What steps can be taken at EU level to ensure better fit between the skills needs of businesses and education/training provision?

This conference gave EOSE a good opportunity to exchange with various stakeholders and sectors, to disseminate information about the challenges and work carried out through the Sport and Active Leisure sector, but also to obtain concrete information on the main priorities of the future policies of the European Commission in terms of Education and Employment issues.



Further information about the Forum together with PowerPoint Presentations and background papers available in [clicking here](#)

EUROPEAN EXPERT GROUP ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN SPORT

Next meeting on 26-28 September 2012, Poznan (Poland)

The next meeting of the [Expert Group on "Education and Training in Sport"](#) will be organised by the European Commission in Poznan (Poland) on 27 and 28 of September 2012. The meeting will mainly focus on the European guidelines on dual careers of talented and elite athletes.

A specific meeting will be organised on 26-27 September 2012 prior to the Expert Group event to gather an ad-hoc group of experts on the [European Qualification Framework](#) in Sport.

EOSE, as official observer on the issues around qualification frameworks, has been invited by the European Commission and will attend the event related to the European Qualifications Framework (EQF).



Further information regarding the Expert Group and minutes of the 1st meeting can be [found here](#)

EOSE PRESIDENT ATTENDS THE XIII NATIONAL CONGRESS OF FNEID

18 May 2012, Madrid (Spain)

In May 2012, Stephen Studd, President of EOSE, had the great pleasure of attending the [FNEID National Congress](#) held at the Glass Pavilion in the Casa de Campo in Madrid.

The Congress featured industry roundtable sessions at which leading employers and education and training providers addressed key issues facing the industry. The theme of the event was “Thinking Positive – physical activity”, an inexhaustible source of health and Business.

At the centrepiece of the event were the FNEID Awards and Stephen was honoured to be presented with the **FNEID 2012 Award for European Education Development** by FNEID President, Hortensia Vigil Fernandez-Pacheco. [FNEID](#) represent employers and facility operators across the fitness and sport sector.

In accepting the award on behalf of EOSE, Stephen highlighted the excellent partnership that is developing between EOSE and FNEID, who are the Spanish members of EOSE. He congratulated FNEID on the work they were doing with employers in Spain in promoting their engagement with Europe and on their recognition of the importance of appropriate qualifications and training that properly equip our staff with the skills necessary to meet the challenges of the workplace.

He said “I am delighted that Spanish employers recognise the importance of skills development and are taking the opportunity, through FNEID, to engage at a European level. EOSE values its partnership with FNEID and we look forward to our future work together in the field of vocational educational as we try to raise the profile of the sector and equip it with the skilled workforce it needs to face up to the challenges of the future”.

At the Congress, which was staged alongside the FIBO exhibition, leading employers discussed the challenges facing the industry at this difficult time of recession. They showed how the industry was responding with new products, the introduction of budget gyms, re-branding and modernisation. The message was strongly directed to being brave – to stop what is no longer working, to maximise capacity and reduce expenditure. In a second session, leading university education providers presented their approach to vocational education. They showed how new programmes had been introduced by commercial providers alongside the established university degrees in response to the changing needs of the market.



For further information about the Congress please contact [EOSE Secretariat](#)

PROGRESS IN EUROPEAN SOCIAL DIALOGUE IN THE SPORT AND ACTIVE LEISURE SECTOR

Update from EASE (the European Association of Sport Employers)

The [EU Sport Forum](#) is going to take place in Nicosia, Cyprus on the 19-20 September 2012, and will be organised through four thematic sessions ([see detailed programme](#)).

[EASE](#) (European Association of Sport Employers) represented by its President Marcel Martin and its counterpart on the employee side, [UNI Europa Sport](#), will be guest speakers on the panel regarding European social dialogue in the field of sport in the morning of 20th September. The European social partners of professional football (EPFL, ECA and FIFPro) will also take part in the panel.

Furthermore, the European Commission will announce the launch of the European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee (ESSDC) which will enter into a two-year test phase. EASE and UNI Europa Sport established their informal social dialogue for the sport and active leisure sector in 2003 and have since then developed 3 projects with funding from the European Commission (BSDSS project, RBT project and CC-Project – further information about those projects on [EASE website](#)).

EASE and UNI Europa Sport mutually recognised each other in 2008 as European social partners for the sector and signed 3 joint position statements related to minimum requirements of employment contracts, health and safety and European social dialogue.

In addition to this joint process, EASE developed the [IMPACT project](#) which concentrated on capacity building. As a result of this project, EASE and UNI Europa Sport signed in June 2011 [the Joint Statement on the Informal European Sectoral Social Dialogue Committee for sports and active leisure](#).



After these years of hard work carried out by EASE and UNI Europa Sport, the European Commission will organise in December 2012 in Brussels the first plenary session of the ESSDC (ESSDC are the central bodies for consultation, joint initiatives and negotiation) for sports and active leisure).

EOSE has always been active to support the development of Social Dialogue in the Sport and Active Leisure sector in Europe and it is really a pleasure today to highlight the important step made by the sector. EOSE has been officially invited by the European Commission and will attend the Forum in September.

Further information regarding the progress of Social Dialogue can be found through the [EASE website](#)

7TH EUROPEAN YOUTH HEART STUDY SCIENTIFIC SYMPOSIUM

“Key Issues in Childhood Physical Activity Science” – Madeira (PT), 22-26 October 2012

The [7th European Youth Heart Study Scientific Symposium](#) will take place in Madeira (Portugal) from 22 to 26 of October 2012.

The event will be organised by the Technical University of Lisbon in cooperation with the HEPA Europe working group on children and youth and will concentrate on the key issues in childhood physical activity science.

For further information regarding the Scientific Symposium, including the full programme, list of speakers and how to register for the event, please follow [this link](#).



Further information regarding the event available in [clicking here](#)

UPCOMING EVENTS

- [Golf Stand Full Partner Meeting](#), Munich (Germany), 9-10 July 2012
- [London 2012 Olympic Games](#), July 27 – August 12
- [EU Sport Forum 2012](#), Nicosia (Cyprus), 19-20 September 2012
- [20th EASM Conference](#), Aalborg (Denmark), 18-21 September 2012
- [EU Expert Group on Education and Training in Sport](#), Poznan (Poland), 26-28 September 2012
- [CEDEFOP Workshop](#) “The Role of Qualifications in Governing the Labour Market”, Thessaloniki (Greece), 27-28 Sept 2012



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