



Equal Opportunities for All - the value of adult learning in promoting equality

December 3 – 4, 2007, Riga, Latvia

Invitation

The European Association for the Education of Adults (EAEA) and the Nordic Network for Adult Learning (NVL) is organising a conference on the theme of Equal Opportunities for All on **December 3 – 4, 2007** in Riga, Latvia.

The goal of the conference is to offer the following opportunities:

1. Come and learn in an international environment;
2. Identify and discuss the burning issues on Equal opportunities;
3. Disseminate achievements from projects, working groups and networks, transfer ideas into new context.

The conference will address the field of equal opportunities in the lifelong learning perspective and allow the participants to be active and share their points of view during the open space conference.

Leaders and decision makers will be able to discuss policy issues and shape the recommendations for further action.

The workshops will provide a learning arena for everyone offering good practice case presentations and the possibility to establish and renew contacts for further cooperation as well as discuss the ways of transferring the project results and ideas to new learning contexts. A poster session will summarise the workshop results and also allow projects to make their results visible and disseminate among the conference participants.

The following themes have been planned for the workshops:

1. Learning in later life
2. Consumers as learners
3. Gender issues
4. Migration and participation
5. Access to full citizenship;
6. Learning difficulties

The conference language will be English.

A statement from the conference will be produced with the aim to be used for further policy work nationally as well as the regional and European levels.



Preliminary Programme

Sunday, December 2

Arrival

13.00 – 15.00 Sightseeing in Riga by bus with a few stops in the Old Town.

Monday, December 3

9.00-12.00 General Assembly of EAEA

Optional: study visits

11.30 – 13.00 Lunch and registration for the Conference

13.00 – 13.10 **Opening of the Conference,**
Regina Ebner, Secretary General of EAEA

13.10 - 13.15 **Address by the Council of the Baltic Sea States**
Ambassador Valdis Krastins, Chair of the Committee of Senior Officials

13.15 – 13.30 **Address by the Ministry of Education and Science, Latvia**
Prof. Baiba Rivza, Minister of Education and Science

13.30 - 14.30 **Key-note by the Council of Europe**
Ms Olöf Olafsdottir, Head of Department, Directorate General IV
Education, Culture and Heritage, Youth and Sport

14.30-15.00 Coffee Break

15.00-15.30 **How high is the threshold to learning?**
Fredrik Björkmann Johansen, learner, Norway

15.30-17.30 **Open Space Conference**
Oleg Chikurov, President, Pskov Regional Adult Education
Association

19:00 **Grundtvig Award Ceremony** and Dinner in the Museum of
History of Riga and Navigation



Thursday, December 4

- 09.00 - 09.30 **Key-note by the EU Commission**
Ms Meglena Kuneva, EU Commissioner for Consumer Protection
- 09.30 – 09.45 Introduction to the workshops
- 09.45 – 12.30 **Workshop session**
- Learning in later life
 - Consumers as learners
 - Gender issues
 - Migration and participation
 - Access to full citizenship;
 - Learning difficulties
- 12.30 – 14.00 Lunch
- 14.00 – 14.30 Poster presentations of workshops and projects
- 14.30 – 15.15 **Key-note by UNESCO**
Ms Bettina Bochynek, programme specialist, UNESCO Institute for Lifelong Learning
- 15.15 – 15.30 Statement from the conference and closing, NVL

