



XVIV. ENTEP Conference in Lisbon

I. The Contribution of the Portuguese Presidency to the Coordination Notes

The Conference on “**Teacher professional development for the quality and equity of lifelong learning**” took place under the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the European Union, in Lisbon, on 27 and 28 September 2007.

This Conference was organised by the Portuguese Presidency (Ministry of Education – Directorate-General for Human Resources in Education) in cooperation with the European Commission (Directorate-General for Education and Culture) and co-funded by this institution of the European Union.

The working languages of this Conference were: Portuguese, English, French, German and Italian.

The main goals of this Conference were the below referred:

- *To identify the implications, for Member-States policies on the professional development of teachers and for European policy cooperation, of the European Commission Communication on “Improving the quality of teacher education”;*
- *To consider how teacher education systems can coherently link initial education, induction and in-service teacher education from the perspective of lifelong learning;*
- *To reflect on the nature of, and on the rationale for, the learning outcomes of teacher education demanded by the quality and equity of lifelong learning;*
- *To analyse in what ways research-based teacher education and tutored teaching practice can contribute to the achievement of such learning outcomes;*

- *To reflect on good policy practices in relation to the professional development of teachers from the lifelong learning perspective.*

In this Conference participated around 160 participants that included representatives from the European Commission, the Secretariat-General of the Council of the EU, the European Parliament, the Committee of the

Regions, ENTEP members, representatives of the Cluster on “Teachers and Trainers”, European stakeholders, teacher trainers and researchers from the Member-States of the EU, from European Union candidate States, States from the Economic European Area/European Free Trade Association and from Portuguese African speaking countries and representatives of Portuguese institutions related to teacher education.

This Conference was followed by a Press Conference in which participated the European Commissioner responsible for Education, Training, Culture and Youth, Mr. Ján Figel and the President of the Council of the EU, the Portuguese Minister of Education, Ms Maria de Lurdes Rodrigues.

The General Rapporteur of this Conference was Professor Rui Canário, from the Lisbon University and the themes addressed by this Conference were:

- Career paths and lifelong learning;
- A new range of competences to meet new teaching challenges;
- Research-based teacher education and reflective practice;
- The Bologna process and the teacher education curriculum;



- Schools' and teachers' involvement in teacher learning: towards partnerships and learning communities;
- Teacher and student teacher mobility: learning in transnational teaching context;
- Initial teacher education in teaching context: policy practice in some EU Member States;
- Induction and the teacher professional development: an Estonian project;
- Leadership and the improvement of pupils learning outcomes: the Austrian Leadership Academy

- Education and Higher Education and Culture;
- The publications distributed to the Conference's participants.

By occasion of this Conference were produced and distributed to participants the publications:

- Ministry of Education (2007). Programme of the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the EU – *Together we learn-Enhancing cooperation for equity and quality in lifelong learning*
- Ministry of Education (2007). Education and Training in Portugal;
- Ministry of Education (2007). Teacher Education Policy in Portugal

The following documents are available at the website below referred:

- Opening speech by the European Commissioner responsible for Education, Training, Culture and Youth, Mr. Ján Figel
- Opening speech by the Portuguese Minister of Education;
- All communications presented;
- Homework produced by the ENTEPE members to this occasion (Austria, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Romania, Slovenia, Spain and The Netherlands);
- Closing remarks by the representative of the European Commission at the closing session, Ms Barbara Nolan, Head of Unit School



The Rapport General of the Conference for the moment is only available in Portuguese but is being translated into English after what it will also be available at:

<http://www.eu2007.min-edu.pt/np4/en/27.html>

II. ENTEPE meeting

During the first part of the meeting Paul Holdsworth from the European Commission presented the Communication on 'Improving the Quality of Teacher Education' and 'The Public Consultation – Schools for the 21st Century'. In the following discussion all representatives presented a brief impression on the perception of the Commission's communication in their national context and expressed great interest in the expected Council's Conclusions that should be published by the end of November.

Bartolo Campos and Idalete Goncalves gave a short preview on the Conference and five ENTEPE representatives were chosen to present their brief contributions during the Conference. (These can be downloaded from the above mentioned website)

The coordinator thanked Idalete Goncalves and her team as well as Bartolo Campos for the excellent preparation and organisation of the Conference.



The coordinator informed about the difficulty to get responses from a few countries that have not nominated new representatives yet. There is intensive correspondence but possibly due to political changes ministries are experiencing an exchange of personnel in some countries.

Cveta Pucko gave new information on the planned ENTEPE meeting in Ljubljana in May 2008 (the date had to be changed to May 8 to 10), further details about the Conference Theme will be communicated at the beginning of 2008.

Representatives decided to add half a day to the internal ENTEPE meeting to gain more time for further thematic work and exchange of current developments in the different represented countries with respect to their present reform and implementation efforts in teacher education.

For the second meeting in 2008 in autumn France might invite ENTEPE representatives during the French Presidency to a national conference. Also Romania might offer to host an ENTEPE meeting in autumn or in spring. This will have to be coordinated at the beginning of 2008.

In the second part of the ENTEPE meeting Otmar Gassner gave a brief report on latest developments in the cooperation with TEPE. (see Coordination Notes June 2007 for further details about TEPE)

Following a short discussion on possible cooperation issues all representatives confirmed the Coordinator's wish to nominate Otmar Gassner as ENTEPE representative at the coming up TEPE Conference in Ljubljana, February 21 to 23, 2008. Cveta Pucko, the Slovenian ENTEPE representative, will also be engaged.

Stimulated by the discussion about the various bodies being engaged in European policy issues in the sector of teacher education representatives discussed the specific role of ENTEPE with reference to future visions. It was decided to further engage in this topic in the first meeting in 2008.

III. Finalizing the CPD paper

As Lucien Kerger (LUX) was not able to come to Lisbon the coordinator presented an update on the current stage of the paper. The final text aims to give a brief overview on the latest policy visions, approaches and possible interventions in the field of Continuous Professional Development of Teachers in Europe

following the various reports from ENTEPE members. The other intention is to stimulate the discussion in these countries and motivate exchange of ideas, promote reflection and possibly consider examples of approaches according to national needs in the context of various traditions in providing Teacher Education and Training. As representatives had agreed this text will not deal with a description of the status quo in EU Member States. Such data are available in different studies from other European Networks.

The final version should also include important issues of the Lisbon Conference and the expected Conclusions of the Council. Therefore it will only be available toward the end of 2007. After approval by representatives the paper will be on the website as a further ENTEPE paper with the title:

The Continuous Professional Development of Teachers in EU Member States: New Policy Approaches, New Visions (By ENTEPE, Ursula Uzerli and Lucien Kerger)

IV. Other ENTEPE business

On Wednesday, September 26, the coordination group had a meeting, where the following decisions were taken:

- Otmar Gassner should represent ENTEPE at the TEPE Conference in Slovenia in spring 2008
- Lisbon Conference participants from countries without newly nominated representatives in ENTEPE should be addressed by the coordinator to kindly support the efforts to contact effective communication partners at the specific ministries.
- It was again stressed and concluded that representatives must send a substitute if they are unable to attend one of the ENTEPE meetings and that they must provide with current paper and briefed adequately for participation. Also homeworks should still be handed in.
- The effect of the expected Council's Conclusions on the discussion of the future role of ENTEPE in the context of European Cooperation in the field of Teacher Education should be an important issue on the agenda of the coming up meeting.



V. Next topic under discussion

Representatives are expecting to have the finalised version of the template on the 'Implementation of the Bologna Process' at the next meeting in Slovenia at the latest. Great interest in this synopsis was reported by several countries.

VI. Participation and Membership

ENTEPE warmly welcomes the new representative from the United Kingdom, Michael Day, who has been newly nominated and replaces Angela Walsh. ENTEPE is also congratulates Eve Eisenschmidt from Estonia, who has finally been officially nominated after attending several meetings as substitute. A special welcome also to Emma Rodriguez Chamorro, who is replacing Jose Cervello Collazos from Spain.

Italy, Poland and Hungary are not represented in the network, and the membership of Slovakia and Ireland is inactive at present. ENTEPE would welcome the nomination of a suitable person from the ministry or from an educational institution. The coordinator keeps trying to intensify contacts and is hoping for a positive result in order to be able to consider and include these national positions on current ENTEPE working issues.

VII. ENTEPE's External Relations

The coordinator has been invited to present the ENTEPE paper 'What is a European Teacher' at a national Conference on present reform efforts in Germany in the context of Lifelong Learning. (Rheinhardswaldschule, Dez. Fortbildung, Amt für Lehrerbildung, Kassel).

Ursula Uzerli

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EUROPEAN NETWORK ON TEACHER EDUCATION POLICIES

