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INFORMATION NOTE

From: General Secretariat of the Council
To: Council

Subject: Launch of public consultation to feed the Commission proposal for a
Council Recommendation on promoting social inclusion and shared values
through formal and non-formal learning
- Information from the Commission

Delegations will find attached an information note from the Commission on the above subject, which has been put on the agenda under 'Any other business' for the next Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council meeting on 22-23 May 2017.

Launch of public consultation to feed the Commission proposal for a Council Recommendation on promoting social inclusion and shared values through formal and non-formal learning

A Commission proposal for a Council Recommendation on promoting social inclusion and shared EU values through formal and non-formal learning was announced in the *Communication on Supporting the prevention of radicalisation leading to violent extremism*, and confirmed in the *Communication on Improving and Modernising Education*, as part of the Commission's agenda on the follow-up of the *Declaration on promoting citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education*¹ adopted at the informal meeting of European education ministers held in Paris on 17 March 2015. The proposal will be presented by the Commission end 2017.

¹ Paris Declaration
https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/fpfis/mwikis/eurydice/index.php/Publications:Promoting_citizenship_and_the_common_values_of_freedom,_tolerance_andnon-discrimination_through_education

The Recommendation will aim to establish a policy framework to support Member States in promoting **inclusive education** that fosters **ownership of shared EU values**, while also contributing to preventing radicalisation leading to violent extremism. The framework will address the four overarching objectives of the Paris Declaration identified for cooperation at EU level² and will cover all levels and sectors of education, as well as links with non-formal learning. The Recommendation will build on substantial knowledge and evidence from research and international surveys (e.g. PISA 2015) on the challenges for education systems in ensuring equal opportunities and on the most effective policy approaches that can increase the chances of disadvantaged learners to succeed.

As part of the preparation, a 12-week online public consultation will be launched in the second half of May. The consultation gages public opinion on a) how successful education and training systems are in helping young people acquire shared values and addressing diversity, b) which are the most effective policy approaches and c) how EU level cooperation can add value. The online questionnaire is part of a broader consultation strategy covering discussions with a broad range of stakeholders (e.g. Directors-General for education, High Level Group on education and training, Education, Training and Youth Forum, civil society day, etc.). Moreover, the lessons learnt from the peer learning activities carried out within the Working Groups set up under the Framework for European cooperation in education and training (ET 2020), in particular the Working Group on promoting citizenship and the common values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination, will also feed into the Recommendation.

² (i) Ensuring that children and young people acquire social, civic and intercultural competences, by promoting democratic values and fundamental rights, social inclusion and non-discrimination, as well as active citizenship; (ii) Enhancing critical thinking and media literacy, particularly in the use of the Internet and social media, so as to develop resistance to all forms of discrimination and indoctrination; (iii) Fostering the education of disadvantaged children and young people, by ensuring that our education and training systems address their needs; (iv) Promoting intercultural dialogue through all forms of learning in cooperation with other relevant policies and stakeholders.