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JEUN 71
CULT 82
SPORT 34**

DRAFT MINUTES

Subject: **3316th** meeting of the Council of the European Union (**EDUCATION,
YOUTH, CULTURE AND SPORT**) held in Brussels on 20 and 21 May 2014

PUBLIC DELIBERATION ITEMS¹

Page

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES - PUBLIC DEBATES

"B" ITEMS (doc. 9716/14 OJ/CONS 28 EDUC 141 JEUN 68 CULT 78 SPORT 33)

6.	Education crossing borders: new opportunities and challenges	3
10.	Promoting a youth entrepreneurial mindset.....	3
14.	Addressing cultural policy challenges in the context of the next Council Work Plan for Culture	4
18.	Economic, social and environmental sustainability of major sport events.....	4

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¹ Deliberations on Union legislative acts (Article 16(8) of the Treaty on European Union), other deliberations open to the public and public debates (Article 8 of the Council's Rules of Procedure).

NON-LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITIES - PUBLIC DEBATES
(Pursuant to Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)

6. Education crossing borders: new opportunities and challenges

- Policy debate
9127/14 EDUC 132 SOC 308

The Council held a policy debate on the basis of a question paper prepared by the Presidency (see doc. 9127/14).

Ministers acknowledged the benefits of cross-border education, not just for the individuals concerned, but also insofar as it can complement national provision and enhance opportunities for cooperation and exchange between education institutions in different countries. Many delegations referred to the increasing number of cross-border partnerships being developed at both European and international level and several called for these to be extended beyond higher education into vocational education and training as well.

To promote trust and transparency in this area, many Ministers stated that cross-border education - including that which is increasingly being provided online - should be underpinned by agreed quality standards and improved quality assurance systems at both national and European level. The Union could also serve as a catalyst for improving the quality of cross-border provision via the broader Bologna Process.

10. Promoting a youth entrepreneurial mindset

- Policy debate
9012/14 JEUN 64 EDUC 128 SOC 298 CULT 64
+ REV 1 (el)

The Council held a policy debate on the basis of the question paper prepared by the Presidency (see doc. 9012/14) in the presence of an external speaker, Mr Konstantinos Kollias, President of the Economic Chamber of Greece.

During the debate, Ministers highlighted the importance of entrepreneurship education in schools from an early age, as well as the key role for non-formal and informal learning. Many delegations also stressed the need to develop and promote a culture of entrepreneurship where risk taking is promoted and the "freedom to fail" accepted. Among the practical ideas suggested were the development of mentoring systems for young entrepreneurs, improved access to finance and capital and reducing bureaucracy.

14. Addressing cultural policy challenges in the context of the next Council Work Plan for Culture

- Policy debate
9130/14 CULT 69

On the basis of the question paper prepared by the Presidency (see doc. 9130/14), the Council held a policy debate on the above topic.

Ministers in general agreed that a strategic approach to culture is necessary in order for it to fulfil its full potential as a contributor to smart, inclusive and sustainable growth. A number of ministers called for culture to be included in the mid-term review of the Europe 2020 strategy given the existing evidence on culture's significant contribution to the economy and jobs.

Regarding the challenge of the digital shift, the need to promote cultural diversity in the digital environment was highlighted, with the digitisation of cultural heritage and the long-term preservation of digitised material mentioned as priorities by many ministers. Among other major issues raised were the need for broad access to culture and cultural heritage, including via digital means, increased mobility of artists, the promotion of arts education, and support to the cultural and creative sectors.

18. Economic, social and environmental sustainability of major sport events

- Policy debate
8751/14 SPORT 23 SOC 273 ENV 376 ECOFIN 369

The Council held a policy debate on the basis of the question paper prepared by the Presidency (doc. 8751/14) in the presence of an external speaker, Mr Gordon ARTHUR, (Chief Communications Officer of the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games).

The debate highlighted the key role of planning in ensuring a long-term legacy for the hosting city or country, with a focus on "multi-use" infrastructure which could serve communities over the long-term, the importance of combining private and public sector funding, as well as the vital role of volunteers and non-profit organisations in developing civic pride and a renewed sense of identity.

A number of Ministers stressed the particular difficulties for smaller countries to envisage hosting major events, and the need to increase co-operation and co-hosting between European countries to ensuring that as many international events as possible continue to take place within the EU.
