

Active and Participatory Citizenship –EESC priorities

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Civil Society day
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European Economic and Social Committee

Background and sources of priorities

(SOC/428) EYC priority: Active&participatory citizenship, incl. European awareness and a feeling of belonging to Europe and its values

(SOC/423) Articles 11(1) and 11(2) of the Lisbon Treaty

(SOC/458) Programme Europe for Citizens

Reasons for action: democratic deficit, passivity, mistrust, extremism

Solutions: real dialogue, informed, active and inclusive participation in political, economic, social, civic, cultural, educational life

1. Organisational aspects of the Year

Do what you preach: Participatory approach at all levels, schools&training, modern media, EU institution dialogue cooperation, Liaison group, links between years, links of national and European levels incl. candidate countries

2. Sustainable results of the Year

Council conclusions, EP political group programmes, EC Report, Charta/declaration on European Citizenship, CSO participation in the design of a new EU Treaty

EU/International CSO/NGO day, Green/White books&immediate action LES11.1.&11.2., European Statutes, EU interinstitutional cooperation, operational grants for networks&participation (national &EU level), voluntary work as co-financing, innovative planning &management of financial and other resources

EESC results: www, data bases, web streams, going local, big annual event with EP...



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3. Research&input

Euro-barometer, Eurofound – motivation, potential and obstacles of participation, Study on best *Pax* practice

Follow up on EU citizenship report e.g.: remove existing obstacles, incl. Schengen for RO&BG, impact of migration to individual&member state level, health, consumer rights, movement of goods, services, capital

4. Education and values

Civic education, life long learning event

EU identity&values, combating radicalism &antidemocratic ideas, Euro-scepticism, direct democracy, external dimension of citizenship, manual on rights (and duties?) of citizens, EP elections

Events - examples

- **Citizenship Prize, Open days, Civil society day**
- **Open space event** - lunch of the year and input possibility and partnership building event for the EESC programme
- **Agora** in the EP on active citizenship, hopefully in cooperation with the EESC
- **European Citizens initiative event**
- **Civil society day**
- **"Your Europe, Your Say"** 18-20 April
- **Open Day** 4 May
- **Integration Forum** in fall
- **Going local** activities of EESC members

Your input is warmly welcome!
Thank you!

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