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Ressort: Kunst, Kultur und Musik

Thirty years of Erasmus

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Thirty years of Erasmus engaged 9 million students in mobility activity since 1987. So many have joined up the action in mobility activity that people are already referring to the 'Erasmus generation', and numbers continue to grow year on year. It's important to highlight the strong European added value of the program and its role in delivering as a strategic investment in Europe's young people.

As exchange programmes such as Erasmus have shown, nothing can beat direct contact between Europeans to create a feeling of belonging to Europe. The European Union's Erasmus+ programme is a funding scheme to support activities in the fields of Education, Training, Youth and Sport.
The Programme is made up of three so-called "Key Actions" and two additional actions. They are managed in part at the national level by National Agencies and in part at the European level by the EACEA. The European Commission has been responsible for Erasmus+ policies and oversaw the overall programme implementation.

A recent news is the start of the implementation phase of the European Solidarity Corps (ESC) with 2500 placements offered to the young people. In this case, the disappointment is that the initial decision to allocate Erasmus+ budget to the ESC was taken through an implementing act.
Unfortunately, there's been a low response and an unsatisfactory geographical coverage of the Erasmus+ Student Loan Guarantee Facility and it's more and more vital to urge the Commission and European Investment Fund to put in place an implementation strategy to increase the Facility's efficacy.

Because there are still low project success rates under the Europe for Citizens programme and the Creative Europe Culture sub-programme (20% and 15% respectively in 2017) a more adequate level of financing should be stressed, decisive to tackle this unsatisfactory results.
A Commission Decision of 18 December 2013 established the 'Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency' and delegated powers to EACEA with a view to performance of tasks linked to the implementation on Union programmes in the field of education, audiovisual and culture comprising, in particular, implementation of appropriations entered in the general budget of the Union.

Concern about the EACEA internal control weakness has been expressed by an audit on the Erasmus+ and Creative Europe grant management , and in this critical situation the Commission should put in place the necessary corrective actions, in order to guarantee the highest quality of EACEA implementation of the

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culture and education programmes. Keeping pace with innovation it’s vital today to support European projects that connect people and cultures, reach out to the world and make a difference. Education, culture, audio-visual, sport, youth, citizenship and humanitarian aid, have to be encouraged through the exchange of knowledge, ideas and skills in a spirit of cross-border cooperation and mutual respect.

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