

Comment of the executive board to the “Education Europe” programme

The European Federation for Catholic Adult Education are pleased that the European Commission has proposed an increase in the budget for the ‘Education Europe’ programme and we kindly ask you to support this increase.

In accord with the European Association for the Education of adults (EAEA) we have some further remarks:

- We support a change of name – the programme should be called ‘Lifelong Learning Europe’. Education only refers to a limited part of lifelong learning, and we support a comprehensive understanding that encompasses formal, non-formal and informal education, training and learning.
- We also support retaining a dedicated action (Grundtvig) within the programme for non-formal adult education because this sector of Education and Training is still in need of development.
- Adult learning is an important part of lifelong learning, and considering the number of low-skilled adults in Europe and demographic ageing, a growth in non-formal adult education is necessary. We therefore suggest 20% of the lifelong learning budget to go to Grundtvig.
- We also propose a further opening of the lifelong learning programme, and especially Grundtvig to the countries of the European Neighbourhood.

Additionally, later this year, the Polish Presidency will present an agenda for adult education to the European Council

FEECA access to support a strong adult education strategy.