



## NEWSLETTER

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### NEWS FROM THE PRESIDENT

JEUNE has witnessed very busy months with two Administrative Councils taking place on 28 April and 9 July 2009.

We also highly welcome a prospect future member of JEUNE, Young Leaders Greece, who are looking forward to contributing time and knowledge to the JEUNE family. Due to contacts established during the BSP III project, we are looking forward to incorporating a recently established Bulgarian “Youth Association for Private Economic Enterprise” (YAPEE) in the near future.

I also had the opportunity to participate as the JEUNE delegate in the UEAPME Administrative Council that took place in Stockholm in June 2009. During the meeting the current economic downturn and its effects for SMEs as well as possible ways out of the crisis were dis-

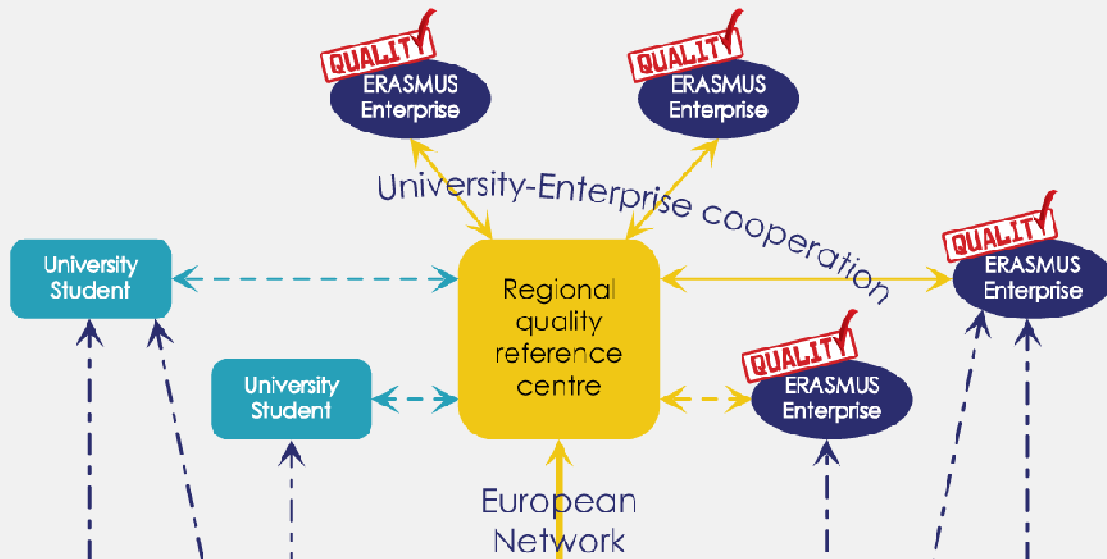
cussed with representatives of the Swedish national parliament.

In May our Romanian member PTIR organized a national closing conference of the “Young European Citizen In Action” project featuring a JEUNE representative as a speaker whilst promoting the first elections to the European Parliament in Romania.

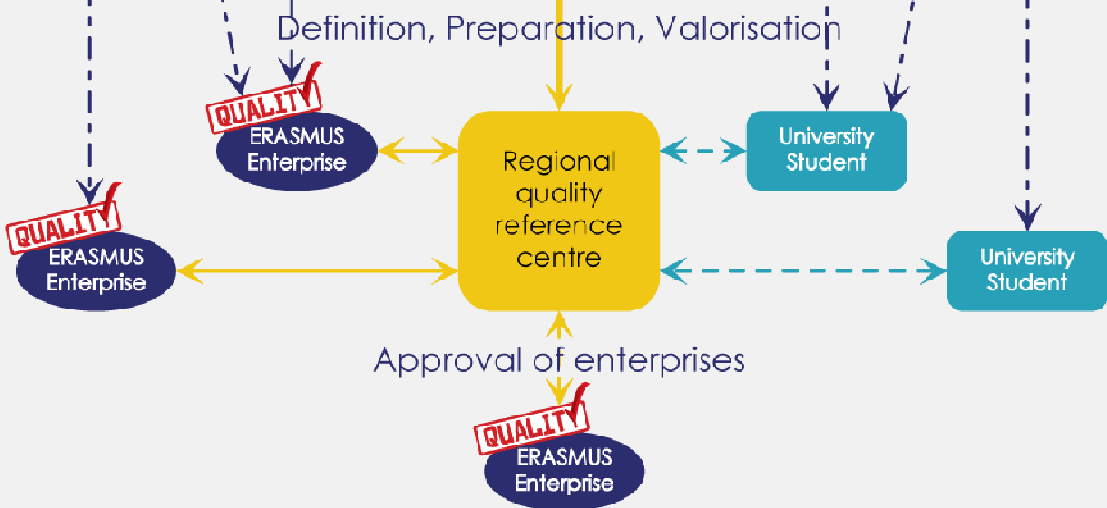
Last but not least, the Mediterranean Business Development Initiative within the Euro-Mediterranean Partnership (EUROMED) will – amongst other issues – also focus on the development of SMEs subsidizing projects that foster cooperation amongst business representatives organisations.

Please contact [Iris Marlovits](#) at the JEUNE Secretariat for more information.

Country A



Country B



**EC GREEN PAPER: "PROMOTING THE MOBILITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE"**

The European Commission launched a **green paper on "promoting the mobility of young people"** on 8 July 2009. The document sees learning mobility as relevant for all young people but in particular for 16-35 year olds in all disciplines including young entrepreneurs.

The green paper can be downloaded from the [Commission's website](#). Please answer directly to the **question directed to entrepreneurs** on page 18 of the document and send your answer to [JEUNE](#) as soon as possible, preferably until 17 August 2009. Thank you!

## Q-PlaNet: FOR HIGHER QUALITY IN PRACTICAL PLACEMENTS

### The project

JEUNE is partner in the project Q-Pla-Net which stands for Quality Placements Network. Q-PlaNet is an EU co-funded project under the LLP ERASMUS programme, running from October 2008 until September 2010. Currently, Q-PlaNet is about to develop a quality standard for practical student placements abroad. The quality standard should be anchored through a system of reference centres all over Europe functioning as relays between universities and enterprises.

### The concept

Surveys among enterprises regarding the key qualifications of graduates show that international practical experience rank on top of all criteria. However curricula with integrated practical placements are rather rare and a quality assessment does not exist on European level. Q-PlaNet's quality reference centres should build the bridge between host enterprises and the sending institutions, usually universities. The results of this project could lay the basis of a new quality level for mobility in European education and could easily lead to certified placements with a quality standard label for enterprises.

Our vision is to improve education all over Europe, motivate students to go abroad and help enterprises in finding better qualified young professionals.

### Project members and meetings

The 10 partners from Germany, Romania, Belgium, Estonia and Luxembourg have recently met in Tallinn, Estonia, to discuss the first criteria for a quality standard. The next meeting will take place in Erfurt, Germany, to finalise this standard and start the communication procedure.

Mike Sternkopf, person in charge for Q-PlaNet for JEUNE, will be participating in order to voice the opinion of entrepreneurs. JEUNE has already been actively participating in the launching process of the project in the years 2007 and 2008.

For more information, please visit [our website](#) or contact the JEUNE delegate [Mike Sternkopf](#) or project coordinator and author of this article: [Claudia Bernarding](#), University of Karlsruhe.



With the kind support of the Lifelong Learning Programme of the European Union.

## PRIORITIES OF THE SWEDISH PRESIDENCY

Since 1 July 2009 Sweden holds the Presidency of the European Union and has defined its aims for Europe for the next six months as follows: 1) Conducting an effective, open and results-oriented presidency in the interests of the whole of Europe, 2) Advancing the EU's common issues and Sweden's priority issues and last but not least 3) strengthening Sweden's role in the EU, serving in the EU's interest and strengthening the EU's role as a global actor.

The Swedish government has announced to single-out the Copenhagen climate change summit, respond to the global economic crisis and to push forward the final stages of the Lisbon Treaty's ratification. The current presidency is also guiding the consultations to appoint the next Commission president, the first ever permanent president of the European Council and the first EU high representative for foreign affairs and security policy. No easy tasks lie ahead but Sweden is prepared for „taking on the challenges“ - the motto of its current EU presidency.

## ERASMUS FOR YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

In February 2008 DG Enterprise and Industry of the European Commission has launched the programme “Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs” The overall objective is to facilitate and assist “young” entrepreneurs to **gain experience** in an established entrepreneur’s company who acts as the host entrepreneurs in another EU member state.

Enterprises that have been established not more than **3 years** ago can apply as **new entrepreneur** (NE) for this unique exchange experience under: <http://www.erasmus-entrepreneurs.eu>. In addition, host entrepreneurs (HE) are needed all across the EU and are also invited to register on the same homepage. Then the matchmaking can take place between NE and HE.

So far JEUNE with the great help of the University of Fulda as the lead partner managed to match a Hungarian young entrepreneur who is currently living his Erasmus experience working with a Belgium host entrepreneur in Brussels.

Applications for 2009 are open until December.

JEUNE asks all its members to spread the word to interested young entrepreneurs and we also participated with the same project consortium in the 2nd Call for Proposals. **Further information** is available on the JEUNE website and on <http://www.open-eye.net>.

For **press releases in all languages** please click on the Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs website.

## EVENTS

### JEUNE EVENTS

- 27 April 2009: UEAPME SME Convention, Brussels, Belgium
- 28 April 2009: JEUNE Administrative Council, Brussels, Belgium
- 22 May 2009: Confcommercio Giovani Imprenditori, European Day in Milan, Italy
- 25–26 May 2009: NORMAPME Board Meeting, Milan, Italy
- 2–3 June 2009: UEAPME Administrative Council, Stockholm, Sweden
- 9 July 2009: JEUNE Administrative Council, Brussels, Belgium
- 2 Sept 2009: CSO Briefing on the new EU Youth Strategy, European Youth Forum, Brussels, Belgium
- 12-14 Sept 2009: Conference on the Future EU Cooperation in the Youth Field, Stockholm, Sweden
- 18-19 Sept 2009: Second edition of the “Young Entrepreneurs Forum”, Venice
- 9–11 October 2009: National Kongress, Junioren des Handwerks (JDH), Papenburg, Germany

### OTHER EVENTS

- 6-14 May 2009: First European SME WEEK, European Commission, DG Enterprise
- 29 May 2009: “Young European Citizen in Action” National Forum Convention , Bucharest, Romania
- 3 July 2009: 1st G8 Young Business Summit, YES, Stresa, Italy
- 30 Aug – 2 Sept 2009: Conference on education, research and innovation, Gothenburg, Sweden
- 5-6 Oct 2009: SME Charter Conference, Stockholm, Sweden
- 22-23 October 2009: University-Business Forum, Dublin, Ireland

Please visit us at [www.jeune-pme.eu](http://www.jeune-pme.eu)