

News Bulletin December 2007

Dear Colleagues,

I am delighted to announce that the application of the EUNIC Project "Alter Ego" under Call DG EAC 07/2007 for flagship projects during the 2008 European Year of Intercultural Dialogue has been positively assessed by the European Commission. The press launch event for the 2008 European Year, where EUNIC Brussels will be represented, will take place in Brussels on Tuesday 4 December.

Concerning further applications, EUNIC has also submitted an application for an operating grant within the „Europe for Citizens“ programme. EUNIC applies both for an annual grant (2008) and for a multi annual grant (2008 - 2009). The Commission will probably answer by early April 2008.

Furthermore, EUNIC has already completed its part of the application for the Conference »EU Foreign Policy and Culture« which will take place on 13 until 14 May 2008 in Ljubljana under Slovenian EU Presidency, co-organised by EUNIC.

I am grateful for all lobbying efforts of EUNIC members in the ministries of culture to support the "Communication on Culture". It is good news for EUNIC activities that on 16 November 2007, the Culture Council adopted the Resolution on a European agenda for culture in a globalising world, which contains a reference to cooperation with cultural institutes of the Member States, being one of the essential priorities for culture as a vital element of international relations. The Resolution aims at "encouraging further cooperation between cultural institutions of EU Members States, including cultural institutes, in third countries and with their counterparts in those countries."

EUNIC fully supports the Communication on Culture and we will have to make sure that we participate actively in the process of implementation.

In the run-up to the EUNIC Presidency and Cluster Heads Meeting on 2 until 3 December 2007, it is most pleasant that the EUNIC Clusters EUNIC Warszawa and EUNIC Ljubljana have been established officially. Thus, 16 official EUNIC Clusters have been formed since the beginning of EUNIC, additional 10 Clusters are in the process of being established officially.

Yours sincerely,



Ambassador Emil Brix
Director General for Foreign Cultural Politics
Austrian Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs

Contact details:
Ms. Gudrun Matt
EUNIC-coordinator
Phone: +43 (0) 501150-3919
Fax: +43 (0) 501159-3919
Email: gudrun.matt@bmeia.gv.at