

Brussels, 26 May 2025  
(OR. en)

8860/25  
PV CONS 21  
EDUC 146  
JEUN 69  
CULT 49  
AUDIO 40  
SPORT 25  
*PARLNAT*

**DRAFT MINUTES**  
COUNCIL OF THE EUROPEAN UNION  
(Education, Youth, Culture and Sport)  
12 and 13 May 2025

## **MEETING ON MONDAY 12 MAY 2025**

### **1. Adoption of the agenda**

The Council adopted the agenda set out in document 8437/25.

### **2. Approval of "A" items**

#### **Non-legislative list**

8508/25


The Council adopted all "A" items listed in the document above, including all linguistic COR and REV documents presented for adoption.

Statements to these items are set out in the addendum.

### **Non-legislative activities**

#### **YOUTH**


- 3. Conclusions on a community of young people in Europe  
based on European values for a common and safe Europe**  
*Approval*

 7942/25  
+ ADD 1 REV 1  
+ ADD 2  
+ **REV 2 (fr, de, it,  
nl, el, lv, hr, ga)**

The Council approved the conclusions as set out in the document above and agreed that they be published in the Official Journal.

Statements by Bulgaria and Hungary are set out in the Annex.

- 4. Resolution reviewing guidelines on the governance of the EU  
Youth Dialogue**  
*Approval*

 7943/25 + COR 1  
+ **REV 1 (de, nl, el,  
fi, lv, hr, ga)**  
+ **REV 2 (it)**

The Council approved the resolution as set out in the document above and agreed that it be published in the Official Journal.

5. **Disinformation, manipulation and threats in cyberspace and their impact on the lives of young people** 7947/25  
*Policy debate*

The Council held a policy debate on ‘Disinformation, manipulation and threats in cyberspace and their impact on the lives of young people’ on the basis of the Presidency steering note as set out in the document above.

#### EDUCATION

6. **Conclusions on inclusive, learner-centred practices in early childhood education and care and school education** 6509/25 + ADD1-2  
+ ADD 1 COR 1  
(ro)  
+ REV 1 (mt, sk,  
sl, ro, hr)  
+ REV 2 (hu)  
+ REV 3 (ga)  
*Approval*

The Council approved the conclusions as set out in the document above and agreed that they be published in the Official Journal.

Statements by Hungary and Sweden are set out in the Annex.

7. **Resolution on a joint European degree label and the next steps towards a possible joint European degree: boosting Europe’s competitiveness and the attractiveness of European higher education** 8671/25  
+ COR 1 (el)  
+ ADD1-3  
+ ADD 1 COR 1  
(el)  
+ ADD 2 COR 1  
(el)  
+ ADD 3 COR 1  
(el)  
*Approval*

The Council approved the resolution as set out in the document above and agreed that it be published in the Official Journal.

Statements by the Commission, Estonia and Hungary are set out in the Annex.

8. **Council Recommendation on a European quality assurance and recognition system in higher education** 8672/25 + ADD 1-3  
(\*)  
(Legal basis proposed by the Commission: Article 165(4)  
(TFEU)  
*Adoption*

The Council adopted the recommendation as set out in the document above and agreed that it be published in the Official Journal.

Statements by the Commission, Estonia and Hungary are set out in the Annex.

**9. The role of the Union of Skills in strengthening the European Education Area**  
*Policy debate*

 8086/25

The Council held a policy debate on ‘The role of the Union of Skills in strengthening the European Education Area’ on the basis of the Presidency steering note as set out in the document above.

**Any other business**

**10. Youth**

**a) Outcomes of the discussion at the informal EU Youth Dialogue breakfast meeting<sup>1</sup>**  
*Information from the Presidency*



The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency.


**b) The impact of Russia's full-scale invasion on Ukrainian youth<sup>2</sup>** 8182/25  
*Information from the Presidency*

**c) Contribution of EU cooperation through youth policy in fostering shared European remembrance and strengthening EU resilience** 8378/25  
*Information from Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia*

**d) Work programme of the incoming Presidency**  
*Information from Denmark*

**Education**

**e) Promoting EU awareness through education**  
*Information from the Presidency*

 7979/25


The Council took note of the information provided by the Presidency.

---

<sup>1</sup> In the presence of a representative of the National Youth Council of Poland and a representative of the European Youth Forum.


<sup>2</sup> In the presence of the Minister and Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports of Ukraine.

- f) **The negative impact of the use of smartphones in schools**  
*Information from Austria, France, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia and Sweden*

 8166/25

The Council took note of the information provided by Austria, France, Hungary, Italy, Slovakia and Sweden. Belgium, Cyprus, Greece, Lithuania and Luxembourg also expressed their support orally during the meeting.

- g) **Informal Conference ‘One year after the Ministerial Meeting of the G7 on Education: what steps should be taken to further improve cooperation on education?’ (Rome, 27-28 June 2025)**  
*Information from Italy*

 8167/25

The Council took note of the information provided by Italy.

- h) 7<sup>th</sup> OECD Global Forum on the Future of Education and Skills 2040 (Bratislava, 24-26 November 2025)  
*Information from Slovakia*

8560/25

- i) Contribution of EU cooperation in education for increasing awareness on totalitarian regimes and strengthening EU resilience  
*Information from Lithuania, Estonia and Latvia*

8577/1/25 REV 1


- j) Work programme of the incoming Presidency  
*Information from Denmark*

## **MEETING ON TUESDAY 13 MAY 2025**

### **Non-legislative activities**

#### CULTURE, AUDIOVISUAL AND MEDIA

11. **Conclusions on supporting young artists and cultural and creative professionals in starting their careers**  
*Approval*

 7635/25  
+ REV 1 (de, el, sv,  
lv, hu, sk, ga)

The Council approved the conclusions as set out in the document above and agreed that they be published in the Official Journal.

12. **Conclusions on assessment of the legal framework for audiovisual media services and video-sharing platform services**  
*Approval*

7710/25  
+ REV 1 (fr, fi, sv,  
lv, hu, pl, sk, ga)

The Council approved the conclusions as set out in the document above and agreed that they be published in the Official Journal.

13. **A new approach to culture in the European Union: the Culture Compass and the future of the Creative Europe Programme**  
*Policy debate*

7679/25

The Council held a policy debate on the topic “A new approach to culture in the European Union: The Culture Compass and the future of the Creative Europe Programme” on the basis of a Presidency steering note as set out in the document above.

#### SPORT

14. **Conclusions on an integrated approach to sport and physical activity in the education context**  
*Approval*

8186//25 + ADD 1  
+ ADD 1 REV 1  
(it)  
+ REV 1 (sv, pl, sl,  
hr, ga)  
+ REV 2 (it)

The Council approved the conclusions as set out in the document above and agreed that they be published in the Official Journal.

Statement by Hungary is set out in the Annex.

15. **The role of athletes in creating sports policies<sup>3</sup>**  
*Policy debate*

8187/25

The Council held a policy debate on ‘The role of athletes in creating sports policies’ on the basis of the Presidency steering note as set out in the document above.

---

<sup>3</sup> In the presence of a Member of the International Olympic Committee.

## Any other business

### 16. Culture, Audiovisual and Media

- a) **Transparency of media ownership and funding** [2] 8382/25  
*Information from Croatia*

The Council took note of the information provided by Croatia.

- b) **European Capital of Culture 2029: Kiruna** [2] 8071/25  
*Information from Sweden*

The Council took note of the information provided by Sweden.

- c) **Chemnitz White Paper – 40 recommendations from 40 years of the European Capitals of Culture program (ECoC')** [2] 8580/25  
*Information from Germany*

The Council took note of the information provided by Germany.

- d) **The value of the culture and creative sectors in the development of AI: safeguarding copyright and related rights and ensuring transparency under the AI Act** [2] 8188/2/25 REV 2  
*Information from Hungary, Italy, Portugal and Spain*

The Council took note of the information provided by Hungary, Italy, Portugal and Spain.

- e) **MONDIACULT 2025 - UNESCO's World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development (Barcelona, 29-30 September-1 October 2025)** [2] 8485/25  
*Information from Spain*

The Council took note of the information provided by Spain.

- f) **Catalysing global support for Ukraine's culture and cultural heritage at Ukraine Recovery Conference 2025 (Rome, 10-11 July 2025)** [2] 8562/25  
*Information from Italy*

The Council took note of the information provided by Italy.

- g) **Successes of the European Funding and Regulation Model for film and audiovisual creation<sup>4</sup>**  8623/25  
*Information from France*

The Council took note of the information provided by France.

- h) Contribution of Culture to the EU preparedness: long-term preservation of digital cultural heritage 8559/25  
*Information from Estonia*
- i) Contribution of EU cooperation in culture to shared European remembrance and strengthening EU resilience 8564/1/25 REV 1  
*Information from Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia and Spain*
- j) Work programme of the incoming Presidency  
*Information from Denmark*

#### Sport

- k) World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA): Meeting of the Foundation Board (5 December 2024) 8510/25  
*Information from a Representative of the EU Member States in the WADA Foundation Board*
- l) **The European and Social Dimension of the XXV Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games (Milano-Cortina 2026): major sporting events, the European Sport Model, and the role of volunteering**  8185/25  
*Information from Italy*

The Council took note of the information provided by Italy.

- m) **9 May 2025: Sport celebrates Europe Day**  8519/25  
*Information from Spain*

The Council took note of the information provided by Spain.

---

<sup>4</sup> In the presence of a French film director, screenwriter and producer.



- n) The impact of Russia's full-scale invasion on Ukraine's sports sector<sup>5</sup> 8184/25  
*Information from the Presidency*
- o) Work programme of the incoming Presidency  
*Information from Denmark*

---

**[2]** Public debate proposed by the Presidency (Article 8(2) of the Council's Rules of Procedure)

**[C]** Item based on a Commission proposal

**(\*)** Item on which a vote may be requested

---

<sup>5</sup> In the presence of the Minister and Deputy Minister of Youth and Sports of Ukraine.

**Statements to the non-legislative "B" items set out in doc. 8437/25**

**Ad "B" item 3:**                      **Conclusions on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe**  
*Approval*

**STATEMENT BY THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**

“The Republic of Bulgaria attaches great importance to promoting and protecting human rights, and remains dedicated to its human rights commitments and to ensuring equality and combating discrimination as fundamental values of the European Union.

The Council conclusions on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe refer to European Commission documents, in particular the Gender Equality Strategy 2020–2025 and the EC LGBTIQ Equality Strategy 2020–2025, which contain definitions, terms or expressions that are incompatible with the binary understanding of ‘gender’ under Bulgarian law.

In accordance with Decisions No 13/2018 and No 15/2021 of the Constitutional Court of the Republic of Bulgaria, Bulgaria reserves the right to apply the Conclusions on the understanding that the concept of gender has a purely biological meaning and is biologically based on the gender binary, that is, the existence of two opposite sexes, male and female.”

**STATEMENT BY HUNGARY**

“Hungary believes that the Presidency’s approach towards gender equality is based on a delicately balanced compromise therefore we support the current approach of the *Conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe*.

Hungary is supporting a comprehensive approach to youth related policies and considers it important to address the challenges faced by young people requires their comprehensive inclusion and participation, particularly in decision-making processes. We deem it essential to support young people and empower them with a vision for a safe and inclusive future.

Hungary recognises and promotes equality between men and women in accordance with the Fundamental Law of Hungary and the primary law, principles and values of the European Union, as well as commitments and principles stemming from international law. Equality between women and men is enshrined in the Treaties of the European Union as a fundamental value. In line with these and its national legislation, Hungary interprets the term ‘gender’ as a reference to ‘sex’ in the *Conclusions of the Council and of the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe*.

Hungary declares that the Commission's Gender Equality Strategy 2020-2025 (COM (2020) 152 final) mentioned in the Conclusions of the Council and of the Representatives of the Governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on a community of young people in Europe based on European values for a common and safe Europe should be interpreted with due regard to national competences and the specific circumstances in each Member State.”

**Ad "B" item 6:**                      **Conclusions on inclusive, learner-centred practices in early childhood education and care and school education**  
*Approval*

**STATEMENT BY HUNGARY**

“According to the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union everyone has the right to education and to have access to vocational and continuing training. Hungary is committed to the fulfilment and promotion of this right as well as ensuring equal treatment and participation for everyone, especially children.

Bearing in mind that family law falls essentially within the exclusive competence of the Member States, Hungary interprets the term 'all families' in the Council Conclusions on inclusive, learner-centred practices in early childhood education and care and school education, in accordance with the Fundamental Law of Hungary and its national legislation.”

**STATEMENT BY SWEDEN**

“Sweden would like to explain why it does not fully agree on the content of the Council conclusions on inclusive, learner-centred practices in early childhood education and care and school education. However, Sweden is not opposed to the approval of the conclusions.

The Swedish Education Act clearly states that all children and pupils in all types of schools and after-school care must be given the guidance and stimulation they need in their learning and personal development. Pupils who, due to a disability, have difficulties meeting the various grading criteria or relevant criteria for assessing knowledge, should be provided support aimed at counteracting the consequences of the disability as much as possible. Furthermore, Sweden is one of the countries that have long implemented a strong inclusive agenda in education, and inclusive policies have been an integral part of both theory and practice in Sweden. Sweden's experience is that while inclusive education has its time and place, it can also be counterproductive. When a teacher is expected to provide different support measures to several pupils in the same classroom, there is a risk that inclusion, in terms of teaching all pupils together, actually becomes exclusion, as a result of pupils in practice not getting the individualised support that they need.

The Swedish Government therefore wants to emphasise that it is not a given that all pupils in need of support measures receive them in the best possible way within the framework of regular teaching or in mainstream classrooms. In some cases, support measures are needed outside of regular teaching. These can include measures to improve basic skills in reading and writing, but also support from special education teachers, access to smaller teaching groups and access to high-quality student health services.

For this reason, Sweden would like to point out that the suggested Council conclusions do not adequately reflect the complexity and nuances that come with everyday school practice.”

**Ad "B" item 7:**

**Resolution on a joint European degree label and the next steps towards a possible joint European degree: boosting Europe's competitiveness and the attractiveness of European higher education**

*Approval*

**STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION**

“The Commission welcomes the draft Council Resolution and the draft Council Recommendation and the attention given to the blueprint for a European degree and the European quality assurance and recognition system, which are key contributors to ensure that our education and training systems have the right tools to prepare Europeans of all generations for a fast-changing future, through high quality and inclusive education, training and lifelong learning. The Commission takes note of the Council's request for the next steps and will give it due attention. However, the Commission reserves the right to respond in accordance with the rules of the Treaty, with due regard in particular to its right of initiative and taking account of the budgetary and human resources available to it.”

**STATEMENT BY ESTONIA**

**“Estonia reiterates its strong commitment to internationalisation of higher education and supporting the development of joint programmes that strengthen Europe's competitiveness and foster cooperation among our higher education institutions.** We are convinced that all joint programmes - when upholding the core values of the European Higher Education Area, including academic freedom, institutional autonomy, and the rule of law — must be treated with equal respect and recognition.

In the context of the proposed European degree, particular attention must be given to the needs and interests of smaller language communities. **Estonia is firmly committed to preserving and promoting higher education in the Estonian language.** While internationalisation and the use of English bring important benefits, we must ensure that Europe's rich linguistic and cultural diversity is protected. For Estonia, safeguarding Estonian-language higher education is not just a policy choice — it is a matter of national identity, democracy, and societal resilience, particularly in the context of today's evolving security challenges. It is essential that smaller systems and institutions are not placed at a disadvantage by frameworks that do not sufficiently consider their specific contexts.

**We also reiterate the importance of full and effective implementation of the quality assurance systems we have jointly developed under the Bologna Process.** Estonia does not see the added value of introducing a new cross-institutional quality assurance framework. We believe it will add unnecessary complexity and administrative burden. Instead, we call for a strong institutional approach to quality assurance firmly grounded in the existing tools and frameworks, with national accreditation results automatically recognised when launching joint programmes. This will help to reduce bureaucracy and support the goal of automatic mutual recognition of qualifications. The ways to further strengthen mutual trust in national quality assurance systems should as well be rigorously tested, the feasibility study to be done not only for the proposed European degree, but also for alternative solutions to achieve the goals. Therefore, **Estonia supports an open and pragmatic approach, without predefining outcomes.** We believe the proposed joint European degree should be explored alongside alternative solutions that promote effective cooperation among higher education institutions, while respecting national contexts.

Any new initiative must be inclusive, ensuring that all national systems and higher education institutions — regardless of size — are empowered to participate and benefit from our common measures. Europe’s strength lies in its diversity, and the goal must be to build a competitive, cohesive, and future-proof higher education system that benefits all.

**Estonia remains committed to a European Higher Education Area based on mutual trust, academic freedom, institutional autonomy, inclusiveness and respect for diversity.** These values must continue to guide us as we move forward together.”

## STATEMENT BY HUNGARY

“Hungary considers that the internationalisation of higher education systems is vital for Europe’s competitiveness. Cooperation in higher education should be facilitated in a truly inclusive manner, by providing equal opportunities to all higher education institutions in Europe, including the opportunity of the joint European degree label. In this context, Hungary regrets that participation in the Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe programme, is currently impeded for a significant number of Hungarian universities, as a result of a measure imposed by *Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 of 15 December 2022 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary*. This restriction is an immense obstacle to European cooperation, and will cause irreversible damage not only to the Hungarian citizens and foreign students in Hungary who have been left out of the programmes, but also to the entire European community.

Therefore, Hungary welcomes that the Council Resolution underlines the need to ensure equitable access to resources, including available Union funding, for all higher education institutions as well as with an inclusive approach to enable them to benefit from European and international cooperation, ensuring that no institution is left behind in the pursuit of excellence and specifically commits to the full use of the opportunities offered by the Erasmus+ programme in all Member States. We are pleased to note, in particular, that the Council emphasizes the need to guarantee these opportunities to all higher education institutions, regardless of their form of operation, thus including also universities maintained by public interest trusts and concerned by the measure imposed by Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506. This is all the more important, given that Hungary cannot contribute fully to achieving the objectives set out in the Council Resolution and Recommendation until the universities concerned are assured of participation in the Erasmus+ programme again. Notwithstanding the above, Hungary remains committed to the internationalisation of higher education. For this purpose, the Pannonia Programme was launched last year to ensure that all Hungarian students have the opportunity to gain international experience. Hungary notes the Policy Lab will be composed of Member States representatives who are members of the Working Group on Higher Education of the European Education Area strategic framework (or any successor group established under this framework) and other experts delegated by the Member States. Therefore, it is possible to delegate university representatives and representatives of accreditation committees/authorities to the Policy Lab.

Hungary also welcomes the reference in the Council Resolution clarifying that the actions set out therein are to be pursued while taking into account the education and training systems in the different national legal frameworks and the criteria for the joint European degree label set out in Annex II of the Council Recommendation are to be drawn up in full respect of the principle of subsidiarity and the Member States' competences in the area of education and training. Hungary notes that its education system is deeply rooted in its national identity, constitutional traditions and legal order including the Fundamental Law of Hungary, which thus should be fully respected while setting those criteria."

**Ad "B" item 8:** **Council Recommendation on a European quality assurance and recognition system in higher education**  
(Legal basis proposed by the Commission: Article 165(4) (TFEU))  
*Adoption*

**STATEMENT BY THE COMMISSION**

"The Commission welcomes the draft Council Resolution and the draft Council Recommendation and the attention given to the blueprint for a European degree and the European quality assurance and recognition system, which are key contributors to ensure that our education and training systems have the right tools to prepare Europeans of all generations for a fast-changing future, through high quality and inclusive education, training and lifelong learning. The Commission takes note of the Council's request for the next steps and will give it due attention. However, the Commission reserves the right to respond in accordance with the rules of the Treaty, with due regard in particular to its right of initiative and taking account of the budgetary and human resources available to it."

**STATEMENT BY ESTONIA**

**"Estonia reiterates its strong commitment to internationalisation of higher education and supporting the development of joint programmes that strengthen Europe's competitiveness and foster cooperation among our higher education institutions.** We are convinced that all joint programmes - when upholding the core values of the European Higher Education Area, including academic freedom, institutional autonomy, and the rule of law — must be treated with equal respect and recognition.

In the context of the proposed European degree, particular attention must be given to the needs and interests of smaller language communities. **Estonia is firmly committed to preserving and promoting higher education in the Estonian language.** While internationalisation and the use of English bring important benefits, we must ensure that Europe's rich linguistic and cultural diversity is protected. For Estonia, safeguarding Estonian-language higher education is not just a policy choice — it is a matter of national identity, democracy, and societal resilience, particularly in the context of today's evolving security challenges. It is essential that smaller systems and institutions are not placed at a disadvantage by frameworks that do not sufficiently consider their specific contexts.

**We also reiterate the importance of full and effective implementation of the quality assurance systems we have jointly developed under the Bologna Process.** Estonia does not see the added value of introducing a new cross-institutional quality assurance framework. We believe it will add unnecessary complexity and administrative burden. Instead, we call for a strong institutional approach to quality assurance firmly grounded in the existing tools and frameworks, with national accreditation results automatically recognised when launching joint programmes. This will help to reduce bureaucracy and support the goal of automatic mutual recognition of qualifications. The ways to further strengthen mutual trust in national quality assurance systems should as well be rigorously tested, the feasibility study to be done not only for the proposed European degree, but also for alternative solutions to achieve the goals. Therefore, **Estonia supports an open and pragmatic approach, without predefining outcomes.** We believe the proposed joint European degree should be explored alongside alternative solutions that promote effective cooperation among higher education institutions, while respecting national contexts.

Any new initiative must be inclusive, ensuring that all national systems and higher education institutions — regardless of size — are empowered to participate and benefit from our common measures. Europe’s strength lies in its diversity, and the goal must be to build a competitive, cohesive, and future-proof higher education system that benefits all.

**Estonia remains committed to a European Higher Education Area based on mutual trust, academic freedom, institutional autonomy, inclusiveness and respect for diversity.** These values must continue to guide us as we move forward together.”

## STATEMENT BY HUNGARY

“Hungary considers that the internationalisation of higher education systems is vital for Europe’s competitiveness. Cooperation in higher education should be facilitated in a truly inclusive manner, by providing equal opportunities to all higher education institutions in Europe, including the opportunity of the joint European degree label. In this context, Hungary regrets that participation in the Erasmus+ and Horizon Europe programme, is currently impeded for a significant number of Hungarian universities, as a result of a measure imposed by *Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506 of 15 December 2022 on measures for the protection of the Union budget against breaches of the principles of the rule of law in Hungary*. This restriction is an immense obstacle to European cooperation, and will cause irreversible damage not only to the Hungarian citizens and foreign students in Hungary who have been left out of the programmes, but also to the entire European community.

Therefore, Hungary welcomes that the Council Resolution underlines the need to ensure equitable access to resources, including available Union funding, for all higher education institutions as well as with an inclusive approach to enable them to benefit from European and international cooperation, ensuring that no institution is left behind in the pursuit of excellence and specifically commits to the full use of the opportunities offered by the Erasmus+ programme in all Member States. We are pleased to note, in particular, that the Council emphasizes the need to guarantee these opportunities to all higher education institutions, regardless of their form of operation, thus including also universities maintained by public interest trusts and concerned by the measure imposed by Council Implementing Decision (EU) 2022/2506. This is all the more important, given that Hungary cannot contribute fully to achieving the objectives set out in the Council Resolution and Recommendation until the universities concerned are assured of participation in the Erasmus+ programme again.

Notwithstanding the above, Hungary remains committed to the internationalisation of higher education. For this purpose, the Pannonia Programme was launched last year to ensure that all Hungarian students have the opportunity to gain international experience.

Hungary notes the Policy Lab will be composed of Member States representatives who are members of the Working Group on Higher Education of the European Education Area strategic framework (or any successor group established under this framework) and other experts delegated by the Member States. Therefore, it is possible to delegate university representatives and representatives of accreditation committees/authorities to the Policy Lab.

Hungary also welcomes the reference in the Council Resolution clarifying that the actions set out therein are to be pursued while taking into account the education and training systems in the different national legal frameworks and the criteria for the joint European degree label set out in Annex II of the Council Recommendation are to be drawn up in full respect of the principle of subsidiarity and the Member States' competences in the area of education and training. Hungary notes that its education system is deeply rooted in its national identity, constitutional traditions and legal order including the Fundamental Law of Hungary, which thus should be fully respected while setting those criteria."

**Ad "B" item 14:**                      **Conclusions on an integrated approach to sport and physical activity in the education context**  
*Approval*

#### **STATEMENT BY HUNGARY**

"Hungary recognises and promotes equality between men and women in accordance with the Fundamental Law of Hungary and the primary law, principles and values of the European Union, as well as commitments and principles stemming from international law. Equality between women and men is enshrined in the Treaties of the European Union as a fundamental value. In line with these and its national legislation, Hungary interprets gender as providing equal chances and opportunities for women and men. In line with these and its national legislation, Hungary interprets the concept of 'gender' as reference to 'sex' and the concept of 'gender equality' as 'providing equal chances and opportunities for women and men' in the *Conclusions of the Council and of the representatives of the governments of the Member States meeting within the Council on Conclusions on an integrated approach to sport and physical activity in the education context.*"

---