



RESOLUTION

Visa: a little less conversation,
a little more action in the field!

*Adopted by the Council of Members
9-10 November 2007, Brussels (Belgium)*

- a). *Recalling* its resolution “Europe is our home - no visas” adopted at its COMEM in Baku in spring 2007¹,
- b). *Recalling* the ‘Guidelines for the removal of legal obstacles to Mobility in Youth Work’²,
- c). *Recalling* the ‘Strategy paper on the removal of visa obstacles to youth mobility’³,
- d). *Recalling* the ‘Progress Report on the Implementation of the Work Plan of the European Youth Forum 2007’ which stated ‘After a period of trying to coordinate actions by Member Organisations and the media, the YFJ is now trying to resuscitate the GET VISIBLE campaign and will focus on institutional lobby work while facilitating lobbying by Member Organisations at the national level. The maintenance and improvement of the website is thus imperative’⁴,
- e). *Taking into account* that the ‘Proposal for a REGULATION OF THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT AND OF THE COUNCIL establishing a Community Code on Visas’⁵ is being submitted to the European Parliament for first reading,
- f). *Being aware* that the lobby against visa barriers needs to be a multilevel lobby,
- g). *Being aware* that it is important to have a uniform message in the European lobby arena,

The Council of Members of the European Youth Forum, assembled in Brussels,

1. Reaffirms its commitment to the lobby for removal of visa barriers;
2. Requests the Bureau to
 - a. Closely Monitor EU policy developments on this issue;
 - b. Monitor bilateral agreements between Member States and other states as much as possible;
 - c. Actively collect examples of obstacles faced in a structured way;
 - d. Actively contact NYCs to appoint a contact person (‘national coordinator’; NC) for this campaign;
 - e. To make a regular update that is sent to the NCs and make this information available to all Member Organisations,
 - i. Including an oversight on recent developments;
 - ii. Including an oversight on what has been done by the YFJ and its

1 0373-07FINAL
2 0259-04FINAL
3 0527-04FINAL
4 0304-07
5 COM(2006)403

- members;
 - iii. Including an agenda for the coming time.
 - f. Contact directly the NCs if any action from a NYC is requested;
 - g. Provide, if any action is desired, the NC on time with a 'ready to go' package, containing at least
 - i. Whom should be contacted;
 - ii. With what message;
 - iii. With what goal/desired outcome.
 - h. Develop a feedback method that allows NCs to report what they have done in a minimum time and effort consuming as well as maximum usable and comparable way
 - i. Update the website www.getvisable.org to make it a useful tool for those involved in the lobby;
3. Honestly promises the Bureau to really, really, really respond to requests and actively collect and report stories of visa obstacles as quickly and as much as possible.