Student mobility and the enlargement and consolidation of the European Union

Working group 7
Mobility as a tool for consolidation process:

• To stress the financial and cultural benefits for both the home and hosting countries, therefore showing the added value for mobility not only as an individual one, but also as a driving force for creating a consolidated European knowledge-based society;

• To improve the data collection on student mobility since existing data is limited to horizontal mobility, which does not represent the general trends and gives a false picture of mobility flows;
Mobility as a tool for consolidation process:

• To ensure that work periods abroad are recognized and thus funded as mobility to better prepare students for employability and investigate additional sources for funding by establishing links with the private sector;

• To make sure that full recognition of earned credits is secured in order to make the study period abroad academically meaningful;

• To put more emphasis on educating the citizens in two more languages besides one/their native language and English;
How to make mobility “work” (financing):

- Facilitate the researching activities of the students.
- Increase international collaborations, enhancing students’ role in research, academic and humanitarian projects.
How to make mobility “work” (recognition):

• Inform the students of what is expected before they go for a study period abroad;
• Create a common European grades scale and make sure ECTS is being properly implemented;
• Compose a list of subjects which will be recognized in each university;
• Introduce/ implement properly a qualification system for subjects to be comparable in order to achieve similar level of skills and competence.
How to make mobility “work” (language barriers)

- Every faculty should offer a minimum amount of classes in English;
- Improve and implement a common European language curriculum;
- Introduce a standardized European language test with the same grading system and requirements.
How to make mobility “work” (information and transparency)

• Translate all academic websites into English.
• Provide specific training in order to create a team of “Mobility tutors” in each faculty;
• Create a profile of a “Mobility assistant” or a peer tutor who provides help to foreign students at the host universities, in exchange for credits;
• Create an European Mobility portal: a network of websites with informations organized by countries/universities/faculties/grants/programmes, accessible for students from all European countries.