Main Policy Lines in Education and Training

(November 2014 – April 2015)

1. **COUNCIL OF EUROPE**

**European Cultural Convention celebrates its 60th anniversary**

On 19 December 2014, the European Cultural Convention, source of all Council of Europe work on culture and education, was 60 years old.

To commemorate this founding instrument, the Belgian Chairmanship of the Council of Europe has organized a high-level conference which offered the opportunity to look back on the major achievements that mark those 60 years, but above all for looking ahead into the future by reflecting on the medium and longer term challenges to be taken up by the Council and its member states in education, the principal theme chosen for this anniversary.

The conference theme was introduced by Mr Jorge Sampaio, former President of the Portuguese Republic (1996-2006).

A round table was moderated by Professor Jan De Groof (Europe College, Bruges / University of Tilburg). Ms Mirela Kumbaro Furxhi, Minister of Culture of Albania, Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Mr Xavier Prats Monné, Director General of Education and Culture in the European Commission, Mr Jindřich Fryč, Vice-Chairman of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice, and Ms Elisabeth Gehrke, President of the European Students’ Union (ESU), took part.

[Belgian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers](http://www.coe.int/en/web/portal/belgianchairmanship) (November 2014 – May 2015)