

9. Education: Academic Mobility [188]

Commitment

"We will promote international academic mobility at all levels, significantly increasing the mobility of students, teachers and researchers."

*Education for Innovative Society in the 21st Century*³⁸⁷

Background

Education was the third of the three main topics chosen by Russian President Vladimir Putin for discussion at the St. Petersburg Summit 2006. Education has long been an issue of importance at the G8. It has been addressed three times from 1996-2004 under the general heading of "Education and human capital".³⁸⁵ In recent years, it has been examined most often in the context of African development³⁸⁶ and the quality of primary education in the G8 countries themselves, such as at the 2001 Genoa summit.

The last explicit consideration of education and human capital as a core theme was at the 1999 Cologne Summit. In 1999 the G8 heads of government issued a separate statement on education, as they did in St. Petersburg, in which they highlighted the need for international exchanges, high standards and innovation, similar to the St. Petersburg objectives. Nevertheless, the G8 Research Group's assessment of the Summit by issue area notes the absence of new programs and processes on this commitment.³⁸⁷

The St. Petersburg summit marked a return to higher education, broadly defined, as a G8 priority. Initiatives promoting education in Africa remained on the agenda. These initiatives, however, did not take centre stage. Instead, education was looked at in relation to labour markets and migration challenges,³⁸⁸ issues increasingly important for Western nations struggling to incorporate and include both skilled and unskilled immigrant workers into their labour markets. The leaders adopted a declaration highlighting the importance of education in development and growth and stressing the difficulties many developing countries experience in introducing advanced education methods and information technologies. This document was in line with the Moscow Declaration adopted by the Ministers of Education on 2 June 2006.³⁸⁹

Accordingly, the official documents released before and during the Summit addressed a wide-range of educational issues, of which educational mobility is only one key point.

Thus, to fully understand the context of the commitment, it is imperative to read "*Education for Innovative Societies in the 21st century*", the official document released by G8 leaders at the St. Petersburg Summit 2006. However, the overall point of this commitment is whether or not an initiative increases the mobility of students, teachers and researchers, in a way that academic mobility, broadly defined, is improved.

In terms of scoring, countries were awarded a positive score if steps were taken that sought to improve academic mobility, including, for example, the signing of new agreements or new domestic initiatives. Zero was awarded in cases where countries took very limited steps to improve international academic mobility. Finally, a score of negative one was given if countries took no steps to improve international academic mobility or sought to reduce international academic mobility.

Team Leader: Héloïse Apestéguy-Reux

³⁸⁷ Education for Innovative Societies in the 21st Century, G8 Russia (St. Petersburg) 16 July 2006. Date of access 14 January 2007. en.g8russia.ru/docs/12.html

Assessment

Interim Compliance Score			
	Lack of Compliance	Work in Progress	Full Compliance
Canada		0	
France		0	
Germany		0	
Italy		0	
Japan		0	
Russia		0	
United Kingdom		0	
United States		0	
European Union			+1
Overall			+0.33

Canada: 0

Canada has partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to enhance international academic mobility. First, it can be noted that the Canadian government has shown strong support for international academic mobility in the past. A wide variety of programs have already been established by the government to promote international studies both for Canadian students as well as foreign students.³⁹⁰

In early December 2006, Canada's Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, Monte Solberg announced that Canada's new government would begin discussions with interested provinces and territories to initiate a project that would expand the Off-Campus Work Permit program launched in April 2006. This program currently allows international students to help fund their studies by working exclusively on campus at their educational institution. The expansion of the program to private institutions³⁹¹ would help make Canada a more appealing destination for international students as it would make it easier for these students to find jobs in order to fund their studies.

In addition, Canada and the European Union recently signed an agreement on 5 December 2006 to increase cooperation regarding the mobility of students, youths, and academics.³⁹² This new agreement represents a tripling of the funding available from the previous Canada-EU agreement.³⁹³

Most of this funding, however, will be provided by the European Union, which has agreed to allocate €18 million over the period 2006-2013 for various cooperative programs.³⁹⁴ Nevertheless, the two parties agreed to examine various policy measures to ease the recognition of credits earned in either of the jurisdictions by the authorities of the other entity.³⁹⁵

Analyst: Oana Chivaren

France: 0

France has partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to enhance international academic mobility. The French Government participated in the annual UNESCO meeting of the high level group on Education for All (EFA) in Cairo, 14– 16 November 2006. France pledged EUR20 million to help UNESCO achieve its education goals.³⁸⁸ These goals include exchanges in developing countries.

France encourages European Union (EU) students to use the EU Erasmus Program to facilitate study at French academic institutions, and at other institutions within the EU.³⁸⁹ The French government has not announced any specific funding increases to this program.

³⁸⁸ Annual meeting of the high-level group on Education for All (EFA). France Diplomatie (Paris) November 2006. Date of Access 11 November 2006. www.diplomatie.gouv.fr/en/france-priorities_1/education-university_2274/events_3315/annual-meeting-of-the-high-level-group-on-education-for-all-efa-2006_7501.html

³⁸⁹ Français Etudier à l'étranger, Programme Erasmus. Education Francais (Paris) August 2006. Date of Access 27 December 2006. www.education.gouv.fr/cid1012/programme-erasmus.html#bourses

Although the following action did not occur during the compliance period, it should be noted that just prior to the 2006 G8 Summit in July, the French government enacted a law that eases the process for universities to acquire visiting researchers, and from 2006 an extra EUR1 billion will be added to spending to help facilitate the program.³⁹⁰

France is also promoting greater international academic mobility through the European Union. The European Union is developing a life long learning program, of which easing the mobility of students within the EU is a core principle. In financial terms, a "mobility grant of EUR200 per month³⁹¹ will be provided to European Union citizens to help with the extra costs of studying abroad. For non-EU citizens the Erasmus Mundus programme is launching a new External Co-Operation Window for the 2007-08 academic year in order to assist students and academics from Central Asian countries attend EU member states' universities.³⁹² The programme "will allow for a total of 1300 scholarships".³⁹³ The Erasmus Mundus programme has a number of new sub-programmes that are designed to bring outside academics to EU member states' universities, such as SDPROMO with a grant of EUR274,000³⁹⁴ and CHEMEPASS with a grant of EUR300,000³⁹⁵.

The French government participated in the Helsinki Ministerial on vocational education and training (VET) on 5 December 2006. At the Ministerial, participants adopted the Helsinki Communiqué, a document that calls for greater European cooperation in harmonizing recognition of VET across the EU.³⁹⁶ The Communiqué also draws on the main goals for the 'Copenhagen Process' on European cooperation in VET, which are enhancing the quality, performance, and attractiveness of VET in Europe.³⁹⁷

More new programs or increased funding to existing programs that facilitate academic mobility will be required by the French government to reach full commitment compliance.

Analyst: Aaron Ghobarah

Germany: 0

Germany has partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to enhance international academic mobility. The Federal Government of Germany undertook some efforts to increase academic mobility since the G8 summit in St. Petersburg, but all of these are either minor information campaigns, co-operation agreements, or further statements affirming the St. Petersburg commitment on academic mobility.

In September 2006 the Federal Minister of Education and Research Annette Schavan launched the information and advertising campaign "go out! studieren weltweit", a joint initiative of the Federal Ministry for Education and Research (BMBF) and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD),³⁹⁸

³⁹⁰ Research: greater emphasis on long-range planning and cooperation, Office of the Prime Minister (Paris), 16 May 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. www.premier-ministre.gouv.fr/en/chantiers/major_projects_94/greater_emphasis_on_long_55984.html

³⁹¹ Common Position No 15/2006. Establishing an Action Programme in the field of lifelong learning. European Commission (Brussels) 24 July 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/ce251/ce25120061017en00370061.pdf

³⁹² The Commission launches New Scholarship Scheme Outside the EU, European Commission (Brussels). 11 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006.

europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1721&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

³⁹³ The Commission launches New Scholarship Scheme Outside the EU, European Commission (Brussels). 11 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006.

europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1721&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en
³⁹⁴ Education & Training. SDPROMO/Promoting European Education in Sustainable Development. European Commission (Brussels) 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/projects/2006/48.pdf

³⁹⁵ Education & Training. CHEMEPASS Chemical Engineering Mobility Tools. European Commission (Brussels) 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/projects/2006/45.pdf

³⁹⁶ The Helsinki Communiqué outlines the new priority areas for European co-operation on vocational education and training, Ministry of Education of Finland, (Helsinki), 5 December 2006. Date of Access: 5 January 2007. http://www.minedu.fi/OPM/Tiedotteet/2006/12/Helsinki-kommunikea_linjaa_uudet_painopisteet_ammattillisen_koulutuksen_eurooppalaiselle_yhteistyxlle_.html?lang=en

³⁹⁷ The Helsinki Communiqué outlines the new priority areas for European co-operation on vocational education and training, Ministry of Education of Finland, (Helsinki), 5 December 2006. Date of Access: 5 January 2007. http://www.minedu.fi/OPM/Tiedotteet/2006/12/Helsinki-kommunikea_linjaa_uudet_painopisteet_ammattillisen_koulutuksen_eurooppalaiselle_yhteistyxlle_.html?lang=en

³⁹⁸ Kampagne „go out! Studieren weltweit“ gestartet, Official Website of the German Chancellor (Berlin), 19 September 2006. Date of Access: 5 January 2007. http://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/nn_4922/Content/DE/Artikel/2006/09/2006-09-19-kampagne-GO-OUT-gestartet--weltweit-studieren.html

an institution financed in large part by the Federal Government.³⁹⁹ The goal of the campaign is to enhance the mobility of German students and to encourage them in going abroad by providing information about studying in foreign countries through the internet page www.go-out.de.⁴⁰⁰

During the Helsinki vocational education and training (VET) Meeting 2006, which took place from the 4th to 5th of December 2006, Minister Schavan demanded "more mobility for [those undertaking apprenticeships] in Europe." "People in Europe who have to move to another country for an apprenticeship or for other job-related reasons still meet too many barriers,"⁴⁰¹ she said. The meeting adopted the Helsinki Communiqué, which reviews the main challenges facing VET.

The Communiqué also draws on the main goals for the 'Copenhagen Process' on European cooperation in VET, which are enhancing the quality, performance, and attractiveness of VET in Europe.⁴⁰²

Germany is also promoting greater international academic mobility through the European Union. The European Union is developing a life long learning program, of which easing the mobility of students within the EU is a core principle. In financial terms, a "mobility grant of EUR200 per month"⁴⁰³ will be provided to European Union citizens to help with the extra costs of studying abroad. For non-EU citizens the Erasmus Mundus programme is launching a new External Co-Operation Window for the 2007-08 academic year in order to assist students and academics from Central Asian countries attend EU member states' universities.⁴⁰⁴ The programme "will allow for a total of 1300 scholarships".⁴⁰⁵ The Erasmus Mundus programme has a number of new sub-programmes that are designed to bring outside academics to EU member states' universities, such as SDPROMO with a grant of EUR274,000⁴⁰⁶ and CHEMEPASS with a grant of EUR300,000⁴⁰⁷.

In a press release published by the BMBF on 14 December 2006, Minister Annette Schavan stated that: "Education and research are important emitters for societal development in Europe - and the source of future wealth." In this press release, it is also stated that the Federal Government looks to use its presidency of the European Council in 2007 intensively to extend co-operation within Europe in the fields of education and research. In the field of education politics specifically, the Federal Government of Germany and the EU-Commission share the joint goal of further increasing the mobility of young people.⁴⁰⁸

Analyst: Matthias Gerber

Italy: 0

Italy has partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to enhance international academic mobility. While the Italian government seems to be supportive of international exchange programs, it lacks concrete national initiatives for its students to study abroad. Italy relies solely on the exchange

³⁹⁹ Sources and Utilisation of Funds, The DAAD Budget 1990-2005 by Financial Source, German Academic Exchange Service (Berlin) Date of Access: 5 January 2007. <http://www.daad.de/portrait/en/1.8.html>

⁴⁰⁰ Kampagne „go out! Studieren weltweit“ gestartet, Official Website of the German Chancellor (Berlin), 19 September 2006. Date of Access: 5 January 2007 http://www.bundeskanzlerin.de/nn_4922/Content/DE/Artikel/2006/09/2006-09-19-kampagne-GO-OUT-gestartet--weltweit-studieren.html

⁴⁰¹ Schavan: "Mehr Mobilität für Auszubildende In Europa", Department of Education and Research, (Berlin), 5 December 2006. Date of Access: 5 January 2007. <http://www.bmbf.de/press/1934.php>

⁴⁰² The Helsinki Communiqué outlines the new priority areas for European co-operation on vocational education and training, Ministry of Education of Finland, (Helsinki), 5 December 2006. Date of Access: 5 January 2007. http://www.minedu.fi/OPM/Tiedotteet/2006/12/Helsinki-kommunikea_linjaa_uudet_painopisteet_ammattillisen_koulutuksen_eurooppalaiselle_yhteistyxlle_.html?lang=en

⁴⁰³ Common Position No 15/2006. Establishing an Action Programme in the field of lifelong learning. European Commission (Brussels) 24 July 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/ce251/ce25120061017en00370061.pdf

⁴⁰⁴ The Commission launches New Scholarship Scheme Outside the EU, European Commission (Brussels). 11 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1721&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

⁴⁰⁵ The Commission launches New Scholarship Scheme Outside the EU, European Commission (Brussels). 11 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1721&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

⁴⁰⁶ Education & Training. SDPROMO/Promoting European Education in Sustainable Development. European Commission (Brussels) 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/projects/2006/48.pdf

⁴⁰⁷ Education & Training. CHEMEPASS Chemical Engineering Mobility Tools. European Commission (Brussels) 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/projects/2006/45.pdf

⁴⁰⁸ "Auf dem Weg zu einem Europa des Wissens", Department of Education and Research, (Berlin), 14 December 2006. Date of Access: 5 January 2007. <http://www.bmbf.de/press/1940.php>

programs set up by the European Union. The Italian government does support a number of programs sponsored by the European Commission such as Erasmus and Leonardo.⁴⁰⁹

Although not new programs to this compliance period, the Italian government offers bursaries to international students as well as to Italian citizens living abroad who wish to study or do research at Italian universities.⁴¹⁰ The Italian government entitles all international students to the same student assistance services as Italian students, on basis of the same requisites of financial means and/or merit. This applies to scholarships, student loans, housing assistance, refectory meal tickets and fee waivers.⁴¹¹

Italy is also promoting greater international academic mobility through the European Union. The European Union is developing a life long learning program, of which easing the mobility of students within the EU is a core principle. In financial terms, a "mobility grant of EUR200 per month"⁴¹² will be provided to European Union citizens to help with the extra costs of studying abroad. For non-EU citizens the Erasmus Mundus programme is launching a new External Co-Operation Window for the 2007-08 academic year in order to assist students and academics from Central Asian countries attend EU member states' universities.⁴¹³ The programme "will allow for a total of 1300 scholarships".⁴¹⁴ The Erasmus Mundus programme has a number of new sub-programmes that are designed to bring outside academics to EU member states' universities, such as SDPROMO with a grant of EUR274,000⁴¹⁵ and CHEMEPASS with a grant of EUR300,000⁴¹⁶.

At the St. Petersburg Summit, Italy offered to host, in cooperation with UNESCO, a World Forum on "Education, Innovation and Research: New Partnership for Sustainable Development."⁴¹⁷ The Italian government has indeed scheduled for this conference to take place in Trieste, Italy from 10 May 2007 to 12 May 2007.⁴¹⁸

Analyst: Oana Chivaren

Japan: 0

Japan has partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to enhance international academic mobility. The Japanese Government has been a long time supporter of student exchange programs abroad for Japanese students. It has often promoted opportunities for foreign students and researchers to pursue their academic and research aims in Japan. Despite Japan's continued policy commitments to international youth exchange programs, it has not contributed sufficient funds and greater cooperation with other G8 members for the successful achievement of the international academic mobility commitment.

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) 2006 Education report revealed that 4% of foreign students worldwide are enrolled in Japan, of which only 2.7% are enrolled at tertiary level. Although Japan takes the seventh place among OECD countries, after the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, France, Australia, and Canada, most of the foreign students (94.3%)

⁴⁰⁹ Studiare all'estero. Italian Government (Rome) Date of Access: 28 December 2006.

<http://www.italia.gov.it/servlet/ContentServer?pagename=e-Italia/innerpage&canale=1144051494348&categoria=1150904157550&nodo=1150959024546#1147958721811>

⁴¹⁰ Scholarships awarded by the Italian government to foreign students and Italians living abroad, Ministero degli Affari Esteri (Rome) Date of Access: 28 December 2006. http://www.esteri.it/ita/4_28_67_81_93_111.asp

⁴¹¹ Study in Italy, Italian Government (Rome) Date of Access: 28 December 2006. www.study-in-italy.it/studying/scholarships.html

⁴¹² Common Position No 15/2006. Establishing an Action Programme in the field of lifelong learning. European Commission (Brussels) 24 July 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/ce251/ce25120061017en00370061.pdf

⁴¹³ The Commission launches New Scholarship Scheme Outside the EU, European Commission (Brussels). 11 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006.

europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1721&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

⁴¹⁴ The Commission launches New Scholarship Scheme Outside the EU, European Commission (Brussels). 11 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006.

europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1721&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

⁴¹⁵ Education & Training. SDPROMO/Promoting European Education in Sustainable Development. European Commission (Brussels) 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/projects/2006/48.pdf

⁴¹⁶ Education & Training. CHEMEPASS Chemical Engineering Mobility Tools. European Commission (Brussels) 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/projects/2006/45.pdf

⁴¹⁷ Education for Innovative Societies in the 21st Century, G8 Russia (St. Petersburg) 16 July 2006. Date of access 14 January 2007. en.g8russia.ru/docs/12.html

⁴¹⁸ cdsagenda5.ictp.trieste.it/full_display.php?id=a06355. Date of access 16 January 2007.

enrolled in post-secondary education in Japan come from Asia such as China and Korea while only 2.2% are from Europe and 1.3% from North America.⁴¹⁹

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan has reserved a high priority to promoting and enhancing student exchange programs with its Asian counterparts. For example, the Japanese Government has invited Chinese and Indonesian students to Japan on a short or long-term basis with funding partially provided by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.⁴²⁰ Japan has also conveyed its willingness to cooperate on a new scholarship program for the development of human resources in higher education in Indonesia, hoping to "strengthen their future-oriented relations, mutual understanding, and friendly ties."⁴²¹

Moreover, the EU-Japan Pilot Cooperation in Higher Education, supported by the European Commission and the Japanese Government was agreed to advocate student exchange between the university consortium in Japan and the EU under specific research topics in the period from 2002-2006 does not appear to have been renewed.⁴²²

Analyst: Nadjiba Karimi

Russia: 0

Russia has partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to enhance international academic mobility. Although Russia has shown a certain degree of initiative in the promotion of international academic mobility, many of the steps taken are limited as they remain within existing frameworks.

As president of the G8 in 2006, Russia selected education as one of the three central themes of the St. Petersburg summit, marking a return since the 1999 Cologne Summit to the idea of directly addressing the interconnection between education, research, and innovation.⁴²³

Academic mobility is one aspect of the Federal Target Programme for Education Development (FTPED) adopted on 23 December 2005.⁴²⁴ There are indications that FTPED for 2007, currently being discussed, will include a significant section on academic mobility development including a project on "elaboration and piloting of academic mobility model of students and teachers from institutions of higher professional education" realized under government contract between Russian Federal Agency on Education and State educational institution of higher professional education "Academy of National Economy under the Government of Russian Federation."⁴²⁵ Support of academic mobility is an important element of the Innovative Educational Programs.

A Federal Chamber of Commerce and Industry Subcommittee on higher professional education was created on 29 September 2006.⁴²⁶ One of its goals is assistance to establishment of closer relations between Russian and foreign educational institutions of higher professional education and realization of international projects aimed at the development of innovative activity.⁴²⁷

Analyst: Maria Kaloshkina and Matthias Gerber

United Kingdom: 0

The United Kingdom has partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to enhance international academic mobility. While the UK government initiated several programs relating to academic mobility in early 2006, there have been few real initiatives since the summit.

Before the summit period, in an effort to attract more international students to the UK, and thus international academic mobility, Prime Minister Tony Blair launched the Prime Minister's Initiative for

⁴¹⁹ Education at a Glance, 2006: OECD Briefing Note for Japan. Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, 12 September 2006 (Paris), Date of Access: 15 January 2007, www.oecd.org/dataoecd/52/2/37392708.pdf.

⁴²⁰ The Arrival of 32 Chinese High School Students to Japan as part of the Japan-China 21st Century Exchange Program, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, (Tokyo) 8 September 2006, Date of Access: 15 January 2007, www.mofa.go.jp/announce/press/2006/9/0908.html.

⁴²¹ Strategic Partnership for Peaceful and Prosperous Future. The Prime Minister of Japan and His Cabinet, (Tokyo) 28 November 2006, Date of Access: 15 January 2007, www.kantei.go.jp/foreign/abespeech/2006/11/28seimej_e.html.

⁴²² The EU-Japan Pilot Cooperation in Higher Education. The European Commission, (Brussels), 5 March 2006, Date of Access: 15 January 2007, ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/eu_others/japan/index_en.html.

⁴²³ Putin praises G8 summit for progress on migration, education and health, 17 September 2006. Date of access 29 December 2006. en.g8russia.ru/news/20060917/1262663.html

⁴²⁴ Federal Target Program for Education Development. List of measures. Date of access 20 December 2006 www.fcpro.ru/index2.php?option=com_content&task=view&id=15&pop=1&page=0&Itemid=80

⁴²⁵ Plan of Basic Arrangements of the Federal Agency for Education for the Year 2007, Federal Agency for Education (Moscow) 17 December 2006. Date of Access: 22 January 2007. <http://www.ed.gov.ru/news/obnews/>

⁴²⁶ Chamber of Trade and Industry of the Russian Federation for the Aid of Professional and Business Affairs, Chamber of Trade and Industry (Moscow), Date of access 28 December 2006. www.tpprf.ru/ru/main/committee/komobr/komobr1/

⁴²⁷ Statute on Subcommittee on higher professional education, Chamber of Commerce and Industry (Moscow), 04 October 2006, Date of access 28 December 2006. www.tpprf.ru/img/uploaded/2006100414365779.doc

International Education in April 2006.⁴²⁸ The five year strategy aims to attract an additional 100,000 overseas students to study in the UK and encourages partnerships between universities and colleges in the UK and overseas. A second project was also announced, entitled the UK-India Education Research Initiative (UKIERI). This program is meant to improve educational and research links between India and the UK.⁴²⁹

To demonstrate its support for international mobility, the UK government has funded over GBP27 million over the next two years to the aforementioned programs.⁴³⁰ PM Blair declared that, "these links highlight the growing internationalisation of education at all levels. Increasingly education is crossing national boundaries as it prepares our young people for careers in the global economy."⁴³¹

The United Kingdom is also promoting greater international academic mobility through the European Union. The European Union is developing a life long learning program, of which easing the mobility of students within the EU is a core principle. In financial terms, a "mobility grant of EUR200 per month"⁴³² will be provided to European Union citizens to help with the extra costs of studying abroad. For non-EU citizens the Erasmus Mundus programme is launching a new External Co-Operation Window for the 2007-08 academic year in order to assist students and academics from Central Asian countries attend EU member states' universities.⁴³³ The programme "will allow for a total of 1300 scholarships".⁴³⁴ The Erasmus Mundus programme has a number of new sub-programmes that are designed to bring outside academics to EU member states' universities, such as SDPROMO with a grant of EUR274,000⁴³⁵ and CHEMEPASS with a grant of EUR300,000⁴³⁶.

Analyst: Oana Chivaren

United States: 0

The United States has partially complied with its St. Petersburg commitment to enhance international academic mobility. While the United States remains overall a strong supporter of international academic mobility, they have failed to establish any new initiatives since the 2006 St. Petersburg summit.

The United States issued nearly 600 000 student and exchange visas in 2006, representing more international students studying in the United States than ever before. 97% of qualified applicants had their visas issued within days of application.⁴³⁷

In November 2006, as part of International Education Week, US Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings led a delegation of twenty US university presidents to Japan, Korea, and China. The delegation targeted local student, university, government, and business leaders to market US academic institutions to the international community.⁴³⁸

In her address to Beijing Normal University, Secretary Spellings emphasized the importance of exchange programs in higher education, and the benefits of the creativity, diversity, and critical

⁴²⁸ Prime Minister Launches Strategy to Make UK Leader in International Education, Department for Education and Skills (London), 18 April 2006. Date of Access: 28 December 2006. www.dfes.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2006_0058

⁴²⁹ Prime Minister Launches Strategy to Make UK Leader in International Education, Department for Education and Skills (London), 18 April 2006. Date of Access: 28 December 2006. www.dfes.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2006_0058

⁴³⁰ The Prime Minister's Initiative for International Education. British Council (London). 18 April 2006, Date of Access: 28 December 2006. www.britishcouncil.org/the_prime_ministers_initiative_for_international_education_-_strategy_brief.pdf

⁴³¹ Prime Minister Launches Strategy to Make UK Leader in International Education, Department for Education and Skills (London), 18 April 2006. Date of Access: 28 December 2006. www.dfes.gov.uk/pns/DisplayPN.cgi?pn_id=2006_0058

⁴³² Common Position No 15/2006. Establishing an Action Programme in the field of lifelong learning., European Commission (Brussels), 24 July 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/ce251/ce25120061017en00370061.pdf

⁴³³ The Commission launches New Scholarship Scheme Outside the EU, European Commission (Brussels). 11 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006.

europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1721&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

⁴³⁴ The Commission launches New Scholarship Scheme Outside the EU, European Commission (Brussels). 11 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006.

europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1721&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

⁴³⁵ European Commission, Education & Training. SDPROMO/Promoting European Education in Sustainable Development. European Commission (Brussels) 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006.

ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/projects/2006/48.pdf

⁴³⁶ European Commission, Education & Training. CHEMEPASS Chemical Engineering Mobility Tools. European Commission (Brussels) 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/projects/2006/45.pdf

⁴³⁷ Secretary Spellings Delivered Remarks at Beijing Normal University in Beijing, China, US Department of Education, (Washington), 16 November 2006. Date of Access: 15 January 2006. www.ed.gov/news/speeches/2006/11/11162006.html

⁴³⁸ Education Secretary Margaret Spellings, Assistant Secretary of State Dina Powell to Lead Delegation of U.S. University Presidents to Asia, US Department of Education, (Washington), 8 November 2006. Date of Access: 15 January 2006. www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2006/11/11082006.html

thinking in US universities for international students.⁴³⁹ In a similar address at Waseda University in Tokyo, Secretary Spellings stressed the important role foreign students play in the American education system and encouraged greater numbers of Japanese students to study in the United States.⁴⁴⁰

On 4 December 2006, the US announced a renewal of its US-EU Education and Training partnership for a period of eight years.⁴⁴¹ This program will enhance the quality and degree of academic mobility among students and faculty in higher education and vocational training.

Analyst: Farnam Bidgoli

European Union: +1

The European Union has achieved full compliance with its G8 commitment to facilitate and improve academic mobility. On 15 November, Parliament and Council adopted a lifelong learning programme for 2007-2011. With a budget of €6,970 over seven years, it will foster interchange, cooperation and mobility between education and training systems within the EU. It will also double the figure of some 1.5 million students who have already benefited from mobility schemes under previous programmes, spending academically validated periods of at least a term and generally a full academic year in another country. Specifically, a "mobility grant" of EUR200 per month⁴⁴² will be provided to European Union citizens to help with the extra costs of studying abroad.

For non-EU citizens the Erasmus Mundus programme is launching a new External Co-Operation Window for the 2007-08 academic year in order to assist students and academics from Central Asian countries attend EU member states' universities.⁴⁴³ The programme "will allow for a total of 1300 scholarships".⁴⁴⁴ The Erasmus Mundus programme has a number of new sub-programmes that are designed to bring outside academics to EU member states' universities, such as SDPROMO with a grant of EUR274,000⁴⁴⁵ and CHEMEPASS with a grant of EUR300,000⁴⁴⁶.

The EU and Canada are to increase their cooperation regarding the mobility of students, youths, and academics. Through a new agreement announced on 4 December 2006, the EU will "...allocate almost EUR18 million to the co-operation programme over the period 2006-2013."⁴⁴⁷ The same day, the US and the EU announced a renewal of their Education and Training partnership to promote academic mobility.⁴⁴⁸ Together, these eight-year renewals of co-operation agreements will allow for 10 000 students and academics to participate in international mobility programs.⁴⁴⁹ This new agreement

⁴³⁹ Secretary Spellings Delivered Remarks at Beijing Normal University in Beijing, China, US Department of Education, (Washington), 16 November 2006. Date of Access: 15 January 2006. www.ed.gov/news/speeches/2006/11/11162006.html

⁴⁴⁰ Secretary Spellings Delivered Remarks at Waseda University in Tokyo, Japan, Department of Education (Washington) 13 November 2006. Date of Access: 22 January 2007. <http://www.ed.gov/news/pressreleases/2006/11/11132006.html>

⁴⁴¹ Council Decision concerning the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Community and the United States of America renewing the cooperation programme in higher education and vocational education and training. European Commission (Brussels). 4 December 2006. Date of Access: 15 February 2007. http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/l_346/l_34620061209en00330033.pdf

⁴⁴² Common Position No 15/2006. Establishing an Action Programme in the field of lifelong learning. European Commission (Brussels) 24 July 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006.

⁴⁴³ The Commission launches New Scholarship Scheme Outside the EU, European Commission (Brussels). 11 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006.

europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1721&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

⁴⁴⁴ The Commission launches New Scholarship Scheme Outside the EU, European Commission (Brussels). 11 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006.

europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1721&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

⁴⁴⁵ Education & Training. SDPROMO/Promoting European Education in Sustainable Development. European Commission (Brussels) 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/projects/2006/48.pdf

⁴⁴⁶ Education & Training. CHEMEPASS Chemical Engineering Mobility Tools. European Commission (Brussels) 2006. Date of Access 10 November 2006. ec.europa.eu/education/programmes/mundus/projects/2006/45.pdf

⁴⁴⁷ EU-Canada relations: signature of new agreement to boost cooperation in higher education, vocational training and youth, EU Commission (Brussels). 5 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006.

europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1684&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

⁴⁴⁸ Council Decision concerning the conclusion of the Agreement between the European Community and the United States of America renewing the cooperation programme in higher education and vocational education and training. European Commission (Brussels). 4 December 2006. Date of Access: 15 February 2007. http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/site/en/oj/2006/l_346/l_34620061209en00330033.pdf

⁴⁴⁹ EU-Canada relations: signature of new agreement to boost cooperation in higher education, vocational training and youth, EU Commission (Brussels). 5 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006. europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1684&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

represents a tripling of the funding available from the previous Canada-EU agreement,⁴⁵⁰ The European Commission plans to allocate € 63 million (€ 45 million for the USA⁴⁵¹, € 18 million for Canada⁴⁵²) to these programmes.

Finally, the new European Council regulation "Industrialised Countries Instrument (ICI),"⁴⁵³ also adopted in December 2006, will provide, for the period 2007-13, a legal basis and substantial resources for enhanced co-operation in the field of education (in particular higher education) with a range of industrialised and high-income countries and territories. It has been stipulated that the implementation of this regulation will include "joint consortia projects supporting multilateral partnerships for setting up joint study programmes," including joint/double degrees and transatlantic mobility of students and faculty, as well as policy-oriented measures addressing comparative higher education and vocational training issues.⁴⁵⁴

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⁴⁵⁰ EU-Canada relations: signature of new agreement to boost cooperation in higher education, vocational training and youth, EU Commission (Brussels). 5 December 2006. Date of Access 26 December 2006.
europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/06/1684&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en

⁴⁵¹ Council Decision 2006/910/EC of 4 December 2006 (OJ L 346 of 9 December 2006).

⁴⁵² Council Decision 2006/964/EC of 18 December 2006 (OJ L 397 of 30 December 2006).

⁴⁵³ Council Regulation (EC) No 1934/2006 of 21 December 2006 (OJ L 405 of 30 December 2006).

⁴⁵⁴ European Commission Update on St Petersburg commitments, DG EAC contribution (addendum),