

Association of Community Colleges (ACC)

The ACC is a European non-governmental and non-profit organisation founded mainly by young Europeans. The ACC is working for the development of a European public realm. The main idea of the ACC is that a unique way of promoting this objective would be through establishing community colleges on a common European level. Our vision is: to establish community colleges all over Europe.

Link: <http://www.acc.eu.org/SEEEMS/132.asp>

ACC currently has 370 members from Albania, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, FYRMacedonia, Malta, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, FRYugoslavia, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom.

What are Community Colleges?

The ACC defines community colleges as schools that

- * take their starting point in an idea and an objective, which has been defined by a non-governmental group of people running the school (this could be interpreted as the principle of subsidiarity),
- * have as their ideal boarding-school courses that last for a longer period of time (preferably at least one month),
- * organise courses on topics of common (European) interest in accordance with the idea of the group running the school,
- * are "governed by culture" in the sense that life at the individual schools should be influenced by local traditions and culture
- * have adults as their target group; adults who are interested in learning and thus also in paying part of the courses themselves.