

Approved Resolutions for Association for Consumer Rights Malta AGM March 2014

7. Consumer Studies in the School Curriculum

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Justification

We are lagging behind in updating Consumer studies in the school curriculum. Consumer studies is a multidisciplinary area requiring specialized studies to meet today's needs. We urge the government to update these needs by sending young people to specialize in these required areas to European standards.

There are several universities across Europe, six in England who specialize in graduate and post graduate studies oriented towards Consumer Marketing, Consumer Psychology, Consumer Behaviour, Food and Consumer Sciences and Family and Consumer Sciences. Consumer studies needs immediate attention especially for future societies.

Recommendations

- Consumer Studies needs specialized training at University level
- Once we have trained personnel in one or two years, the topic ought to be inserted in the curriculum as a core subject linked to an update of Home Economics
- After a school course in its multidisciplinary perspectives it should continue for further specialization at Family and Consumer Science Level in the Family Studies Course at University.
- It is important to update the curriculum to today's needs and do away with courses on the curriculum which are now obsolete by offering studies to teachers who would be trained to teach Consumer Studies from the multiple disciplines of their study base.
- Consumer Studies should also be included in Lifelong Learning programmes