



Towards a successful European Year of Volunteering 2011 Ideas – Initiatives – Next steps

17th December 2009, 9-13h

**European Economic and Social Committee EESC, Brussels
Rue Van Maerlant 2, 1040 Brussels (room VMA 3)**

Convened by the European networks of the “EYV 2011 Alliance”¹

Background

The European Year 2011 is coming closer. The European Commission is organizing a first policy debate on the Year on December 16, 2009 in Brussels inviting stakeholders to discuss challenges and opportunities of the Year: Maros Sefcovic, Commissioner for Education, Training Culture, Odile Quintin, Director General and Marian Harkin, Member of the European Parliament will discuss with 500 representatives from volunteer organisations, academia, public authorities and companies the direction the European Year of Volunteering 2011 should take.

We want to use this opportunity to invite delegates who represent one of the “EYV 2011 Alliance” member organizations to continue the debate on December 17, 9.00 – 13.00 in order to exchange on current plans in different European countries, ideas for activities, suggestions for action at European level and to provide a forum for contact making.

Participants will be asked to fill-in a short questionnaire to share their plans towards EYV 2011, objectives, ideas as well as suggestions for how the European networks of the EYV 2011 Alliance networks can be supporting the work at national, regional and local levels. It can be accessed on

http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=yVmzYtsrnyaa5iaY7W3LWA_3d_3d

**Please complete the pre-conference questionnaire and register
by December 7 to communication@cev.be**

¹ The EYV 2011 Alliance is an informal grouping of European networks of Civil Society Organisations active in volunteering that have committed to working together on the advocacy towards and the promotion, preparation and implementation of the European Year of Volunteering 2011. The EYV Alliance currently gathers 22 networks: The European Volunteer Centre (CEV), the Red Cross/EU Office, the World Scouts Movement (WOSM), the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts WAGGGS, the European Youth Forum (YFJ), CSV/Volonteuropethe Association of Voluntary Service Organisations (AVSO), the Conservation Volunteers Alliance (CVA), the Confederation of European Senior Expert Services (CESES), AGE, Solidar, ENGAGE, the Social Platform, Johanniter International, the European Non-Governmental Sports Organization (ENGSO) and ENGSO Youth, the Euclid Network of third sector leaders, Caritas Europa, EURAG, Eurodiakonia, CEDAG, and the Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA).

Draft Programme

- 08.30 – 09.00 **Registration** and setting up of presentation tables / roll-ups for participants per country
- 09.00 – 09.30 **Welcome** to the participants and opening remarks
- *Soscha zu Eulenburg*, European Economic and Social Committee
 - *Pierre Mairesse*, European Commission
 - *Markus Held*, CEV
- 09.30 – 10.15 **The state of play:** What are organisations in different countries planning? Group work per country
- 10.15 – 10.45 **Reporting back to the plenary:** Sharing the highlights of plans per country
- *Simona de Lisi*, AVSO
 - *Rosemary Hindle*, WAGGGS
- 10.45 – 11.00 *Coffee break*
- 11.00 – 11.30 **Presentation of EU funding opportunities relevant for volunteer organisations**
- *Speakers from the European Commission on Europe for Citizens Programme, Lifelong Learning Programme, Youth in Action*
- 11.30 – 12.30 **Networking opportunities** for participants and requests towards the EYV Alliance organisations
- 12.30 – 13.00 **Closing:** The way forward: Requests of participants from the EYV 2011 Alliance
- *Tamara Flannagan*, CSV/volonteuropa
 - *Michal Kadera*, European Youth Forum

