



EYV FLOW - Issue 5

Welcome to the 5th of the monthly EYV 2011 Alliance Newsletters, the EYV 2011 Alliance wishes a **Happy New Year to everyone!** Again in this issue either directly in the text or through hyperlinks you can find EYV 2011 Alliance news together with profiles of the members, a "city focus", a "regional focus" and announcements. If there is anything that you would like to be included in future editions of EYV Flow please contact the EYV 2011 Alliance secretariat. To receive the EYV Flow please [subscribe](#) on the [EYV 2011 Alliance](#) Web Portal.

EYV 2011 Alliance Marketplace: share your needs

The EYV 2011 Alliance Online Marketplace feature enables those who work alongside volunteers to find partners for common projects in the framework of the Year. It also enables organisations to offer volunteering opportunities and for people to search for suitable volunteering experiences. Share and match your needs on the [Online Market place here](#).

EYV 2011 Alliance on twitter: #EYV2011Alliance

The EYV 2011 Alliance is tweeting – Are you? Use #EYV2011Alliance and let's make more noise! A group for the European Year of Volunteering 2011 is on facebook, [join here](#) to share the latest news on EYV.

EYV 2011 Alliance Press Kit

The EYV 2011 Alliance Press Kit is growing with information. Please [check here](#) for what is already there and send your press releases to be included.

EYV 2011 Alliance South-African visit



A delegation from South-Africa, in Belgium for the negotiations of the new cooperation between Flanders and South-Africa on the theme of Promoting and up-scaling Youth Volunteering in South-Africa, visited the EYV 2011 Alliance Secretariat. The delegation will work in the future concerning capacity building, knowledge generation and infrastructure building. They spent their time in Europe meeting and seeing projects/organizations that work around volunteer policy, voluntary approaches, policy development,

etc. Information about the EYV 2011 Alliance and EYV 2011 gave a special added value and focus to the whole discussion about youth volunteer development in the new Flanders – South-Africa cooperation.

Volunteering development in Bulgarian Red Cross

Since 2003, the Bulgarian Red Cross has initiated a comprehensive volunteering development process and has increased their total number of the volunteers by 30 percent over a five-year period. With concrete and relevant activities meeting the needs in the society, it is not difficult to recruit volunteers...[read full-article](#).

CEV Brussels Declaration

155 experts from 25 countries agreed on the '[CEV Brussels Declaration on the role of volunteering as a means of empowerment and social inclusion](#)' (December 2010, Brussels). The CEV Symposium "Volunteering as a means of empowerment and social inclusion – A bridge between the European Years 2010 and 2011" took place in Brussels in the framework of the Belgian EU Presidency, on 6-8 December 2010. This CEV Symposium aimed at showcasing the empowering potential of volunteering in the fight against poverty and social exclusion, and this way building a bridge between the European Years 2010 and 2011. The participants debated and voted on a common conference statement, the 'Brussels Declaration', which formulates 43 concrete steps to be undertaken by key stakeholders...[read more](#).

EYV 2011 in Spain and Slovakia

Slovakia: On December 3, 2010, [C.A.R.D.O.](#), in cooperation with [IUVENTA](#) – the national coordinating body for EYV in Slovakia and Slovak members of the European Parliament launched the European Year of Volunteering 2011. On this occasion, nine volunteers were awarded in various categories...[read more](#) in Slovakian.

Spain: Two members of Solidar in Spain, [Solidaridad Internacional-SI](#) and [Movimiento por la paz-MPDL](#) together with other Spanish civil society organisations, launched the European Year of Volunteering in an event in Madrid...[read more](#) in Spanish.

EYV 2011 tour in Hungary: "Önkéntes Turné"

The [EYV 2011 Tour \("Önkéntes Turné"\)](#) stops in Hungary from January 8th until 14th January at the [Millenáris Park](#). Find out more about participating in the [EYV 2011 tour in your country](#). Check the [EYV tour dates here](#) & the contacts [National Coordinating Bodies](#) in each Member State.

Sports and volunteering

Organized by [Sport and Citizenship](#), the conference "Sport and European Citizenship" held in Brussels on 9th November 2010 at the Committee of the Regions was the opportunity to raise the issue of the role of sport as a vehicle for identity and development for the whole of European society. The European Year of Volunteering 2011 was described as a great opportunity for the sport sector. Speakers identified some barriers regarding volunteering involvement that may be

EYV 2011 Alliance- Membership Profile



European Students' Forum AEGEE (Association des États Généraux des Étudiants de l'Europe): AEGEE is Europe's largest interdisciplinary student organisation, active in more than 240 cities in 43 European countries where AEGEE promotes co-operation, communication and integration amongst young people in Europe. AEGEE therefore organises projects in its four fields of action: Active Citizenship, Higher Education, Peace and Stability and Cultural Exchange. This is only possible through the great support of volunteers all over Europe, as our work is totally based on volunteering. [Read more about AEGEE](#).



The Association of Voluntary Service Organisations (AVSO), as an advocacy and research organisation is active in the sector of full-time voluntary. AVSO through capacity building seminars, networking events and conferences is engaged in improving the quality and visibility of voluntary service programmes, as well as lobbying for greater recognition of voluntary service, both national and international as a tool for social change, solidarity and non-formal education among other aspects. As the sector is very data and research poor, through on-going research projects and partnerships worldwide, AVSO strives to collect and develop new knowledge about the sector as well as build capacity in the sector itself for better monitoring and evaluation and impact assessment practices. [Read more about AVSO](#).

EYV 2011 "City Focus" - Leeds, U.K.

The Leeds Year of Volunteering 2010: a great time to get involved! The Leeds Year of Volunteering 2010 is a celebration of the amazing work already happening in the city and an opportunity to promote volunteering and encourage more people to get involved. Events were co-ordinated by Leeds City Council and Voluntary Action Leeds and involved public, private and voluntary sector partners. The city reports the Year 2010 as a remarkable success: over 100 events held with over 8000 people attending, the establishment of three "award schemes", "small grants" schemes, the opening of a new Leeds Volunteer and the production of a volunteering toolkit to support organisations. A revised Compact including a number of specific objectives concerning raising the quality of the volunteering experience was signed between the City Council, its public sector partners and the voluntary sector.

Marking the end of the 2010 Leeds Year of Volunteering and the start of the European Year of Volunteering 2011 December 2010 Leeds will host representatives from Leeds' [partner cities](#) Braşov in Romania, Brno in the Czech Republic, Dortmund and Siegen in Germany and Lille in France. During the European Year of Volunteering 2011, the city will sustain and increase the level of volunteering opportunities and volunteering placements in Leeds. Six main themes to celebrate volunteering during 2011 were identified: poverty and homelessness, young people and children, environmental improvement, sport, culture and the arts, health and wellbeing. The preparation of a Volunteering Strategy and a corporate volunteering framework for the city of Leeds is also on the agenda... [read more](#).

Announcements

EASEA The time is right for a **European Statutes for Associations, Mutuals and Foundations:** read about [the European Parliament written declaration](#).

Relay reporters: 27 European volunteers from each Member State will produce stories about the European Year of Volunteering 2011. [Read more](#) about the relay reporters for EYV 2011. There is still time to host a Relay Reporter and get your organisation in the spotlight! The EYV 2011 Volunteer Journalist Relay will visit each member state in turn, check the deadline for your country and [apply here](#).

Online vote: Should volunteering be part of the school curriculum? [Vote here](#)

Question of the month Your opinion counts - vote **Online vote:** Do volunteers develop skills and competencies when volunteering? [Vote here](#). jdiuf df_iuo fdoif dfidj_____slkif j888888

Commit! [Sign up online here](#) to commit to volunteer for a specific number of hours, during 2011. From January 1st 2011 you can check the [statistics of the hours committed](#) (country, gender, age)

Research: _____



The International Center for Not-for-Profit Law announces

solved at a European level as well as the question of volunteering involvement and informal knowledge recognition. [Read the minutes of the conference](#). Sport and volunteering were highlighted during the meeting of the [Education, Youth, Culture and Sport Council of the European Union](#), which was held on 18th and 19th November (p12). [Read press release](#).

EC consultation on informal learning

The [European Commission](#) launched a public consultation on possible future action to support the promotion and validation of non-formal and informal learning. To comment on whether you think volunteering is an alternative way to develop or renew specific skills, which need to be recognized and to submit a contribution click [here](#).

Joint Public Hearing on volunteering



On 30 November 2010 [EUCIS-LLL](#) co-organised a public hearing on "Recognising the role of volunteers and volunteering for social cohesion and active citizenship" with the [European Civic Forum](#) and [Volonteuropa](#) in partnership with the European Economic and Social Committee in Brussels. An interesting debate took place on the recognition of volunteers and volunteering in the context of formal, non-formal and informal learning for social inclusion and active citizenship and the role of civil society organisations as the main supporters of volunteers...[Read more](#).

Volunteering as a crisis-beater?


Will the European Year of Volunteering have the potential to help the EU to emerge from the economic crisis?...[Read more](#) about this topic. "Given the unemployment pressures which will most likely continue in 2011, we must be careful to ensure that voluntary effort does not replace existing jobs and especially those provided and paid for by the State" says MEP Marian Harkin...[read more](#).


Regional focus: Rhineland-Palatinate




The "[certificate of engagement and competences](#)" (Engagement- und Kompetenznachweis) is a tool for organizations to assess the skills acquired by volunteers. The certificate thanks the volunteer and lists their social skills and expertise. Requested by interested volunteers after the engagement, the certificate results from a

collaboration between the volunteer and an authorized person in the hosting organization. The certificate is issued by the hosting organisation, sent to the State chancellery and signed by the Ministerpresident. All residents of the Rhineland-Palatinate above 14 years old who have volunteered for at least 80 hours are eligible. Some organizations organise a ceremony once or twice a year to hand the certificate over to the volunteer, some deliver it directly. Since 2006, 1100 certificates have been issued by around 250-300 organizations in Rhineland-Palatinate where the certificate system is very well regarded especially when applying for a job. The certificate system is also present in about six of the sixteen German Länders. Read the [guiding rules](#) for preparation in German.

 publishes the latest issue of Global Trends in NGO Law : The Legal Framework for Volunteerism : Ten Years After International Year of Volunteers 2001. [Read online](#). [Download](#).

 UNV State of the World's Volunteerism Report (SWVR) is in preparatory stage and will be released during Autumn 2011. [Read more](#). "There is a gap in research on volunteerism, says leading expert"... [Read more](#).

Awards:

 Volonteuropa Active Citizens of Europe (ACE) Awards 2010: The 4th Edition of the ACE Awards was celebrated in Athens, on Friday 22 October 2010: [Read list of winners](#).



Read list of [Winners of the Charity Awards 2010](#) (UK). IPPF Member Association of UK, the [Family Planning Association \(fpa\)](#) is the



winner of the disability category with a focus on the rights of people with learning disabilities/difficulties to sex and relationships.



IPPF Governing Council Awards for Outstanding Contributions to Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights honoured individuals & organisations in

November 2010: [read list of winners](#).



You know an outstanding volunteer? PNE Volunteer Awards 2011 launched: send your nominations until January 28th...[read more](#).

Upcoming events:



Forum of the Committee of the Regions: Regions and local authorities in action during the European Year of Volunteering 2011, 26th January 2011, Brussels,

Belgium...[read more](#).



Find out more about the [11th European SMES Conference](#) "Sharing and participating to promote dignified life and mental health", Bucharest 16-18 March 2011: [Call for abstracts](#) of your proposed intervention by 25th January 2011.

[Contact us](#) | Not interested any more?