

EYV 2011 Alliance Yearbook –July 2011

Volunteer Summer Summit 2011

Written by The European Federation for Intercultural Learning – EFIL



In 2008 EFIL started the tradition of organising an annual Volunteer Summer Summit (VSS) to ensure continuous development and best-practice sharing within the network. For the past three years the event has provided learning opportunities and contributed to volunteer motivation in the network.



In the spirit of the European Year of Volunteering, EFIL chose the theme 'Promoting Multiculturalism through Volunteer Work' for the VSS 2011.

At the Volunteer Summer Summit 2011, 250 volunteers, age 16-70 from more than 30 countries in Europe and beyond, gathered in Portugal (Zambujeira do Mar) to spend 5 intense days together. During the VSS volunteers have been offered different trainings, both high and basic level, and also engaged in a community charity project.

Caritas Policy Statement on the European Year of Volunteering 2011, Caritas Europa, 2011

Written by Caritas Europa



[See document in English](#) [See document in German](#) [See document in French](#)

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Danish Scouts “Give a Year” to Scouting

Written by The World Organization of the Scout Movement – WOSM



Not just because 2011 is the European Year of Volunteering and the International Year of Volunteers +10, Martha, Hans Henrik, Marcus and Peter, four young Scouts from KFUM-Spejderne (or YMCA Scouts), have decided to "Give a Year" to Scouting.



"Give a Year" is a well-established initiative in Denmark and allows members to apply for full-time volunteer positions in most of the National Scout Associations in Denmark for one year. Within KFUM-Spejderne, a variety of "Give a Year" jobs are available at both the National Headquarters in Copenhagen and at Houens Odde International Scout Centre in Kolding. The volunteers are fully integrated members of staff and responsibilities are similar to those of their professional paid colleagues.

While Martha is in charge of the most recently opened "Scout Centre CPH" in Copenhagen where she helps develop management and programme aspects, Marcus and Peter both work at "Houens Odde" as activity coordinator and outdoor manager, respectively. So if you happen to visit either Scout Centre this year, you will most certainly meet them. And Hans Henrik? He completes the communication team at headquarters as web-master and coordinator of KFUM-Spejderne's youth pages on www.scoutzone.dk.

Asked what he saw as principal goal of his volunteer engagement, Hans Henrik mentions several aspects: on one hand, the initiative allowed interested Scouts to get more familiar with the organising, strategic planning and management aspects of the association, while, on the other hand and perhaps more importantly the experience as "Give a Year Scout" certainly contributed to the development of valuable personal skills and qualifications.

As part of their one-year engagement, the four Scouts decided to go on a "European Study Tour". Arriving from the United Kingdom, where they had visited The Scout Association and Gilwell Park, the group spent two full days in Geneva, where the aim was to discover the various aspects of structure and working routine at the European Regional Office and the World Scout Bureau's Central Office. Their final stop was in the Berner Oberland, where they learnt more about the organisational setup as well as programming and management aspects of the Kandersteg International Scout Centre (KISC).

Now back home in Denmark, Hans Henrik underlines the valuable experiences and knowledge

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collected during their visits. They would now be a lot more familiar with the operational side of WOSM (at both Regional and World levels) and better understand what it meant to work as a volunteer at an international Scout Centre (such as Gilwell Park or KISC). For his part, Hans Henrik will adopt a volunteer training method for communication advisors at local and district levels, which he had seen practiced at the headquarters of The Scout Association.

Halfway through his volunteer year, Hans Henrik is more than convinced of the benefits of the "Give a Year" concept. It gives young people first hand experience of the functioning of the association. At the same time, the association and its Scout Centres can gain enormously from the enthusiasm, energy and fresh ideas. Many former "Give a Year Scouts" have subsequently been offered short-term paid staff positions or have been engaged in larger projects of their association.

European Volunteer Measurement Project Training Workshop , 16th July, Brussels (Belgium)

Written by CEV - European Volunteer Center



EUROPEAN VOLUNTEER CENTRE

Together with its project partners SPES Centro di Servizio per il Volontariato del Lazio and Johns Hopkins University Centre for Civil Society Studies, CEV invited all interested parties to participate in a training workshop on the European Volunteer Measurement Project which was held on Saturday, July 16 2011, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Social Platform office, Square de Meeûs 18, B-1050 Brussels. The aim of the training workshop was to familiarize participants with the new International Labour Organization Manual on the Measurement of Volunteer Work, and to help promote its adoption and use by statistical authorities in European countries. This Manual represents an important potential breakthrough for the volunteering community in Europe and the rest of the world by establishing an officially sanctioned approach for measuring volunteer work through regular official statistical systems throughout the world. By implementing the ILO Manual it will be possible for the first time to measure the amount, types, institutional auspices, and economic value of volunteer work in a systematic comparative way in the widest assortment of countries and thereby help boost the visibility and credibility of volunteer work across Europe.

Read more: <http://evmp.eu/>

http://ccss.jhu.edu/wp-content/uploads/downloads/2012/01/ILO_Manual_FINAL_English_1.4.2012.pdf

[See document](#)

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The World Scout Jamboree

Written by The World Organization of the Scout Movement – WOSM



40,000 Scouts from all over the world gathered at the 22nd World Scout Jamboree held at Rinkaby near Kristianstad, in southern Sweden. Volunteer staff has been preparing the site for several weeks, with a full complement of ten thousand Scout volunteers from every continent.



The host for the Jamboree, the Guide and Scout Council of Sweden, has selected a theme of "Simply Scouting." Participants experience traditional scouting activities in a 10 day program such as pioneering (building with logs and rope) as well as experiencing the Jamboree with new media such as social networking. The camp programme is based on three main concepts: meetings, nature and solidarity.

The World Scout Jamboree is the premier Scouting event in the Scouting movement and takes place every four years. The event can be compared to the Olympic Games given the number of participants, the significance of the event to worldwide Scouting and the massive preparation necessary to make such a huge event go smoothly. This is the biggest youth event ever held in Sweden, both for the number of youth in attendance and the number of participating countries.

Up to 1500 of the volunteers have taken more than a month to build the camp. The remainder of the 10,000 volunteers necessary to make the camp work arrived on 25 July, 2011. With the arrival of the participants on 27 July, from about 150 countries, the Jamboree takes on the character of a sizable city with all the facilities in place. However, the best way to describe the event is a massive celebration for two weeks enjoying the fun and the shared values of Scouting.

Empowered with tools to take home to be better global citizens, Scouts were participating in interactive activities where they are learning about global issues. At night the Scouts explored a forest having to think about their abilities, make choices and live different realities. Perspectives are changing as Scouts see the world as a small child or what it means to be old while reflecting on what it means to be whom they are. Other Scouts were learning not just about themselves but about people from all over the world. They have contemplated what makes them think as they do and whether they are really the same as everyone else, as well as how much each has in common with people from throughout the world. Another opportunity has been to explore the diversity of our planet and experience the dance of the elements. Discovery of how much their actions can



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affect their world and the things they can do to help improve and sustain our world is challenging the Scouts.

During the Jamboree, two people from each contingent will get an opportunity to go offsite and be part of a "United Nations simulation", where they are representing their own country. The topic of the day is "Global Warming" and the participants will discuss and make resolutions on the personal responsibilities of scouts as well as resolutions recommending the WOSM position at the United Nations Conference on Climate Change (COP17) later this year.

Challenges to explore different world faiths and learn how much in common each faith may share are encountered daily. Scouts were experiencing first-hand the ability of distinct faith communities to co-exist peacefully and learn how to live in tolerance and harmony. At the Jamboree Forum, Scouts hear outstanding keynote speakers discussing topics of global importance such as the role of Scouting in eradicating poverty and how Scouting is itself a Forum for interreligious dialogue.

One of the most exciting new features of this Jamboree has been "Camp in Camp" where Scouts have been heading out into the Swedish countryside, joining Swedish Scouts to experience "Simply Scouting" the Swedish way staying out over night before returning to the Jamboree location. A few lucky Scout troops had the pleasure of camping with H.M. King Carl Gustaf of Sweden. Another highlight of the Jamboree has been the "Safe from Harm" conference on preventing child abuse with keynote speaker H.M. Queen Silvia of Sweden.

A global campaign, "Messengers of Peace" has been launched at the Jamboree. Scouts have learned of the contributions of Scouts worldwide to global peace and are trained to expand their own local impact.

Another key concept that marks Scouting at the Jamboree is giving. Scouts from the more wealthy countries donated their tents and gear to Scouts from less advantaged countries. Many had contributed to the One World Solidarity Fund which enabled more that 500 less well off participants to attend the Jamboree.

The closing ceremony on 6 August marked the spirit of the Jamboree, specially designed to reflect one of the greatest values of Scouting: solidarity. With a spirit of celebration and togetherness, the Scouts will return home charged up for scouting and ready to take on the challenges of their world at home and abroad.

Several thousand Scouts have each committed to provide over 100 hours of community service when they return home, and a total of over 250,000 hours have been committed. With around 1,120,000 hours devoted to the organisation of the Jamboree by around 10,000 volunteers, Scouts have proven their commitment to the European Year of Volunteering 2011.

More about the 22nd World Scout Jamboree is available from www.worldscoutjamboree.se .

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Volunteers at EXIT Festival, Novi Sad, Serbia

Written by European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation Youth - ENGSO Youth



ENGSO Youth members from Youth Commission of NOC Serbia took active part in organizing volunteers for one of the biggest music festivals in Europe - Exit Festival, which took place every year in Novi Sad, Serbia.



For the second year round, an army of 1,250 Exit volunteers made the basic energy of the Festival. Placed in Exit village, from July 4th to 11th, the volunteers made some of the best memories of their youth. 1250 boys and girls worked in marketing, accrediting, security, Exit village and many other sectors. 61% of the hired volunteers came from Serbia, 20% from the region and 19% from the rest of the world - USA, Australia, Great Britain, Greece, Germany, Izrael, Equador, Singapore, etc.

Beside their everyday work in designated areas, volunteers showed that they care about the environmental protection. On July 3rd, the volunteers from Novi Sad gathered to clean the landfill near the train station in Petrovaradin, in cooperation with the Fund for Environment Protection and the big venture called Let's Clean Serbia, all with the support of Ministry of Youth and Sport. This was just the first step in their further engagement in environment protection. A special segment of volunteering was also ecological education in Exit Village. During the four festival days, workshops on the topic of ecology were held regularly in the village. Some of the topics were waste management, environment protection education of eco systems and energy. After the successful completion of their engagement, the volunteers were granted with Green Guerilla t-shirts and tool kits, as well as certificates of volunteering.

Exit volunteers also joined official Facebook page, where they posted comments and exchanged experiences from the festival that just finished. For example, Darijana Kokanović wrote, *"Unfortunately, our volunteering is finished. I have only positive comments, I didn't expect it would be as good. I am happy I made many new friends, all of them cool, smiling, happy. We had the best team leaders, Miki and Igor. They showed full respect for us :)...See you next year..."*



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Statement on volunteering and social services in times of austerity.

Written by Eurodiaconia



<http://www.eurodiaconia.org/policy-areas/volunteering/1741-volunteering-and-social-services-in-times-of-austerity>

[See document](#)

Volunteering for Democracy. Dangers and opportunities for good governance and active citizenship.

Written by The Association of Local Democracy Agencies – ALDA



The ALDA conference "Volunteering for democracy", held in Bydgoszcz (Poland) in July, in the framework (and under the auspices) of the Polish Presidency of the EU. The conference, attended by more than 150 representatives from 25 different countries, led to the drafting of a set of recommendations, jointly developed by participants, which constitutes the guidelines for further promoting and developing "volunteering" in the fields of democracy and citizen participation.

<http://www.alda-europe.eu/newSite/public/doc/379-VOLUNTEERING-FOR-DEMOCRACY-FINAL.pdf>

[See document](#)

ENGSO Adopts a Position Paper on Volunteering

Written by European Non-Governmental Sports Organisation – ENGSO



On 9 July, the Executive Committee of ENGSO adopted a position paper on volunteering. In the statement, ENGSO underlines that the European Union should develop European cooperation to promote volunteering through recommendations, relevant EU programmes and enabling visa practices. ENGSO also supports the development and recognition of the skills and competences of volunteers. According to ENGSO, the EU should also aim at decreasing administrative burdens of volunteers and voluntary sports organisations, minimising the unintended harmful consequences that European legislation can have on volunteering, and ensuring the sustainable financing of non-profit voluntary sports organisations.

More information and the position paper available on [ENGSO Website](#).



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Swedish Red Cross: Almedalsveckan

Written by Red Cross - EU Office



Red Cross / EU Office
Bureau Croix-Rouge / UE

One of Sweden's largest meeting place for politicians, community influencers, lobbyists, organizations and so on the event takes place in the island Gotland one week in July every year and all the political parties in the government has their own day. There are also observation people from many other countries that visit the week. We took the advantage of this week to place volunteering on the agenda we had a photo exhibition in rollup-format and on Tuesday 5th och July we did a visibility activity. 35 volunteers in Red Cross vests gave information about volunteering and they had a badge: I am worth 175 SEK per hour. They also invited people to come to the seminar about volunteering with Swedens ex minister of foreign affairs Jan Eliasson, ICRC's General director Yves Daccord, Red Cross delegate Lena Fridman and our local Red Cross chairman Katarina Struwe Orleifson. They discussed the importance of volunteer work and communicated their own experience.

Link: <http://www.almedalsveckan.nu>

[See document 1](#) [See document 2](#)

European Youth Forum - WORKING GROUP ON VOLUNTEERING II

02- 03. July 2011, VARNA BULGARIA

Written by YFJ - European Youth Forum



The Working Group on Volunteering II meeting, kindly hosted by the Bulgarian National Youth Forum in Varna between 02. - 03. July 2011, aimed at discussing the draft Charter on the Rights and Responsibilities of Volunteers, to be adapted along the comments received during the online consultation from MO, CSO and institutional partners.

Further the WG prepared the YFJ Stakeholder Conference "The Rights of the Volunteer", in discussing the role and function of the WG Volunteering participants as rapporteurs, as well as the foreseen structure of the Declaration and the advocacy strategy on the process.

EAPN's position paper on Volunteering and the Fight against Poverty. European Anti-Poverty Network, July 2011

Written by European Anti Poverty Network – EAPN



[See document](#)