



## EYV FLOW - Issue 6

Welcome to the 6th of the monthly EYV 2011 Alliance Newsletters. Either directly in the text or through hyperlinks you can find EYV 2011 Alliance news together with profiles of the members, a "city 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: 35 European Networks

In January 2011, two more European networks active in volunteering joined: FEBA - the European Federation of Food Banks and EUCIS-LLL - The European Civil Society Platform on Lifelong Learning. The [EYV 2011 Alliance](#) currently involves [35 European networks](#) gathering over 2,000 direct member and partner organisations all over Europe and beyond.

## EYV 2011 Alliance Resource Library

The EYV 2011 Alliance Resource library is growing into a unique Tool Box of shared expertise on volunteering. Here you can access the many resources and publications that EYV 2011 Alliance members and other relevant organisations have published in relation to volunteering. [Read more](#) about the library themes and how to contribute.

## EYV 2011 Alliance Working Group Kick-off Meeting


The EYV 2011 Alliance has established [6 working groups](#). They have met for the first time on January 7th and 8th in the European Youth Centre in Budapest, Hungary. The working groups involve more than 100 experts, many of them volunteers themselves, who have been nominated by EYV 2011 Alliance member organisations and will meet in total at least 5 times during 2011 including the Kick Off Conference in Budapest and three further Working Group meetings held in Brussels in March, May & September 2011. The closing conference will be in Poland (December 2011) and will see the approval of the [EYV 2011 Alliance European Policy Agenda on Volunteering](#) to be presented to policy makers at the EC EYV 2011 closing conference also in Poland in December 2011. [Read more](#).

## EYV 2011 Alliance Raising the Profile of Volunteering:

EYV 2011 Alliance Secretariat has been engaged during January 2011 in meetings and speaking opportunities with different stakeholders including: MEPs [Jean Lambert](#) and [Licia Ronzulli](#), [CoR Forum "Regional and local authorities in action during the European Year of Volunteering 2011"](#), [Citizen's Agora "Crisis and Poverties"](#) and the [EESC co-ordination group for EYV 2011](#).




## EYV 2011 Alliance Press Kit

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

## Solidar Briefing Paper on Volunteering & EYV 2011

**solidar** In view of the European Year of Volunteering 2011, [SOLIDAR](#) calls on all relevant institutions and stakeholders to work towards the recognition of volunteering in all its forms, to acknowledge its value and to provide support within an appropriate legal framework, for instance in terms of tax and expense reimbursement. SOLIDAR also recommends empowering volunteer and civil society organisations offering volunteer services, to address the challenges faced in funding and the recruitment of volunteers, and finally, allowing for a proper infrastructure and surrounding environment to develop. A full list of recommendations on volunteering for national and European decision makers is set out in the paper. [Read the full briefing](#).

## CEV on the Economic & Financial Crisis

 CEV member organisations adopted a Position Paper on the Economic and Financial Crisis, at the occasion of the [CEV](#) General Assembly in Brussels, which took place on 6th December 2010. While stressing the importance of volunteering as a powerful tool for easing the effects of crises, CEV formulates five key guiding principles in order to avoid the abuse of volunteering...[read full text in pdf](#).

## EU EYV 2011 Calendar - is your event there?

On the [official EC calendar of EYV 2011](#) events users can get an overview of the many diverse events happening in the context of EYV 2011 across Europe. The calendar is hosted on the European Commission website for the Year. Volunteer organisations are invited to include their events of any kind on this calendar. Download the form [here](#) and send it to the European Commission at [sn.volunteering@paueducation.com](mailto:sn.volunteering@paueducation.com) to include your events on the calendar.

## EU EYV 2011 Tour in Vienna

The [EYV 2011 Tour in Vienna](#) took place in the Volkshalle (Vienna City Hall) on 25, 26 and 27 January 2011. The three days focused on: Volunteering opportunities at all ages (Day 1): health; Social Affairs, Integration (Day 2), Sport, Environment, Emergency services (Day 3). More than [50 volunteer organisations](#) presented their activities and provided relevant information about volunteering opportunities in Austria. Find out more about participating in the [EYV 2011 tour in your country](#). Check the [EYV tour dates here](#) & contact the [National Coordinating Bodies](#) in each Member State to participate in the EYV 2011 Launch in your country.



## EYV 2011 Alliance- Membership Profile



Europe Region  
World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts  
Association mondiale des Guides et des Guides Scouts  
Asociación Mundial de las Guías Scouts

**The World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS)** is the largest voluntary organization for girls and young women worldwide. WAGGGS is an organization built on 1.5 million volunteers worldwide, who develop and provide non-formal education programmes which enable girls and young women to become responsible, committed and active at all levels of society; support the organizational structures of individual associations; provide training for adult leaders; participate in our governance structures at local, national and European level, providing democratic accountability at all levels of the Movement. Our members through voluntary advocacy and community projects take action to change the world around them. At national level, our Member Organizations work for the recognition of volunteering and greater support for volunteers, often in co-operation with the National Youth Councils; at European level, WAGGGS provides training and support on capacity-building, recruitment and retention of volunteers and advocates at European level for greater recognition of volunteers and their needs.



ENGAGE  
Employee Community Engagement

**ENGAGE** Key Cities Projects bring together community partners and companies to work in collaboration on employee community engagement programmes. There are currently 21 projects running in 20 cities across 16 countries in all continents of the world. Each project is designed and funded locally to address key social issues and is run by a national organisation leader in the field of CSR. Groups of 5-15 companies, often a mix of multinational and local companies, work together, pooling available resources and increasing impact. ENGAGE has designed a [toolkit](#) to help community practitioners with an international remit to develop or enhance an Employee Community Engagement programme.

## EYV 2011 "City Focus" - Berlin:

**The City of Berlin established a number of incentives promoting volunteering.** Initiated by Berlin's voluntary organizations, associations and foundations, the ["transparency charter"](#) (Transparenzcharta) was adopted on 5 October 2009 by the representatives of the participating organizations (list of initial signatories [here](#)). The Commissioner for Civic Engagement of Berlin, State Secretary Monika Helbig, welcomed the initiative. Not only does the Charter aim at increasing the trust of citizens in voluntary organisations but the "transparency charter" encourages the quality of engagement, namely the charter includes the number and training levels of full-time and volunteer staff as a criteria in the assessment of the quality of work. This initiative favours an approach where self-regulatory instruments in the third sector are seen as more effective than laws.

Almost one in four people volunteer in Berlin according to the City Council. Recent representative studies show the willingness to volunteer continues to rise. The City developed a [web portal](#) supporting civic engagement with communication and capacity-building: volunteer(s) are regularly in the spotlight in the ["commitment of the month"](#) section, the [Berlin Volunteer Pass](#) has been introduced since 2006 (available to people over 12 years old), an interactive platform ["voluntary network Berlin"](#) provides a database of volunteering offers and demands, ["a donation portal"](#) where potential donors can look for projects seeking monetary donations, a ["Volunteering Blog"](#) providing weekly updates on the latest developments on the voluntary sector, a [calendar of events](#), and a [volunteering atlas](#) locating voluntary organisations in the city.

## Announcements

**EASEA** The time is right for a [European Statutes for Associations, Mutuals and Foundations](#): two weeks left to urge MEPs to sign the declaration n°84/2010!

## Upcoming events:

Volunteering England launches the Student Volunteering Week 2011 on 14th February 2011 in London, register 4th February...[read more](#).

The Intercultural Dialogue Platform holds a [Panel Discussion](#) on "Volunteering and Youth" in the European Parliament on the 7th of February, 13:00, [download the program](#).

[Plataforma de Voluntariat Social de la Comunitat Valenciana](#) (PVSCV) holds the Quality Reference Day on 15th March: a ceremony to award quality certificates and a round table to share good practices in volunteering

11th European SMES Conference "Sharing and participating to promote dignified life and mental health", Bucharest 16-18 March 2011. [Register here](#).

"Volunteers – On the Move! Informal learning of young volunteers" conference,

## EU EYV 2011 opened in Budapest

The European Year of Volunteering 2011 opened in Budapest: The European Year of Volunteering 2011 got a ceremonial kick-off in Budapest on Saturday, 8 January when the European Commission and the Hungarian Presidency of the EU joined hands at events in the city's Millenaris Park to mark the Year's official launch...[read More](#).



## EU EYV 2011 1st EU-Level thematic conference



In Budapest on January 8th the conference "Recognising the contribution of volunteering to economy, society and the individual – where are we now, and where do we want to go?" saw contributions from EYV 2011 Alliance in the opening speeches and in the two panel debates that followed as both panellists, participants and rapporteurs. [Read more](#).

### A collaborative mobile photo exhibition



To celebrate the European Year of Volunteering 2011 Campus Engage, the national network for civic engagement in Irish higher education, is sponsoring a collaborative mobile photographic exhibition, "We

Volunteer!" which will feature student volunteers from across Higher Education in Ireland. Hosted at a number of locations, "We Volunteer!" will provide a great opportunity to showcase the wealth and diversity of volunteering thereby acknowledging the tremendous contribution students make within their communities...[read more](#).

## Scotland embarks on a volunteering journey



A [new campaign](#) asking the population of Scotland to embark on a volunteering journey in 2011 as part of their New Year's resolution has been launched in awareness of EYV2011. The campaign launched at Edinburgh Waverly Station by Alyn Smith Scottish MEP and Neil Mitchison, European Commission Representative for Scotland aims to highlight the key benefits to individuals interested in volunteering and hopes to encourage more people in Scotland to volunteer within their community with the hope to see an 11% increase throughout the country this year. [Read news release](#).

Volunteer - Choose your destination.

25th March, Zürich, Switzerland. [Read more](#).

European University for Voluntary Service, 31st Aug– 3rd Sept 2011, University of Basel, Switzerland. [Call for papers](#) until 1st March 2011.

### Awards:



SOLIDAR announces the winners of the **Silver Rose Awards 2011**. This year's awards ceremony will take place in the European Parliament in Brussels on March 1st. [Register here](#).



The **United Nations Volunteers (UNV)** announced the winners of the **"Online Volunteering Award 2010"**, honouring the 'outstanding' contributions of volunteers who work entirely over the Internet. [Download Press release](#). [Read more](#) about UNV Online Volunteering Service.



The **European Employee Volunteering Awards (EEVA)** closed for entries with a total of 136 companies & 7 public authorities in 22 countries. There will be a maximum of 25-27 finalist entries and a winner for each of the 6 categories. [Read more](#).

### European Commission:

There is still time to host a [Relay Reporter](#) and get your organisation in the spotlight! The 27 EYV 2011 Volunteer Journalist Relay will visit each member state in turn, check the deadline for your country and [apply here](#).

### Research & reports:

In 2010 the **United Nations Volunteers (UNV)** published a research report "Volunteerism Laws and Policies since 2001" [Read more](#).

The Institut für Sozialarbeit und Sozialpädagogik publishes the conference report "Volunteering in the European Union: Creating a supportive environment and attracting volunteers" (Berlin, November 2010). [Read more](#).



Do you know when the EYV Tour is in your country? [Vote here](#). i \_\_\_\_\_

Your opinion counts - vote!



Share and match your needs on the Online Market place [here](#). \_\_\_

Sharing & matching needs.




Volunteering Commitments  
Gifts of time for 2011.

**Commit !** Help us meet our target! Sign up online here to commit to volunteer for a specific number of hours, during 2011. \_\_\_\_\_



Join the EYV 2011 facebook group to share the latest news and stay up-to-date [here](#) !

 Follow us on Twitter: #EYV2011Alliance

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