



**European conference**

**Volunteering in the European Union**

**Creating a supportive environment and attracting volunteers**

**Berlin, 11 and 12 November 2010**

**Holiday Inn Berlin City East**

<b>Thursday, 11 November 2010</b>	
13:00-14:00	Registration and light lunch
14:00-14:30	<b>Welcoming address and introduction by Christoph Linzbach</b> , German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Germany) <b>Room: HAVEL &amp; SPREE</b>
14:30-15:15	<b>Introduction to the topic of the conference:</b> Volunteering in the European Union <b>Jutta König-Georgiades</b> , Task force European Year of Voluntary Activities promoting Active Citizenship (European Commission)
15:15-15:45	Coffee break
15:45-17:45	<b>Working groups 1-3:</b> <b>Creating a favourable environment for volunteering</b> For more information see below
17:45-18:30	<b>Plenary session to close the first day: Reports from the field</b> - <b>Laidi Surva</b> , Ministry of Justice (Estonia) - <b>Jarkko Utriainen</b> , The Union for Senior Services (Finland) - <b>Gauri Desai and Nicole Schmiedefeld</b> , CSV- Community Service Volunteers, Media Clubhouse Ipswich (United Kingdom) Chair: Helga Kirchner (former editor-in-chief, WDR broadcasting) (Germany) <b>Room: HAVEL &amp; SPREE</b>
Afterwards	<b>Reception, foyer of room HAVEL &amp; SPREE</b>
19:30	<b>Conference dinner at the conference hotel, Restaurant "Landsberger 203"</b>

<b>Friday, 12 November 2010</b>	
9:00-09:30	<p><b>Words of welcome and reports from the previous day's sessions of working groups 1-3</b></p> <p>Chair: Helga Kirchner (Germany)</p> <p><b>Room: HAVEL &amp; SPREE</b></p>
9:30-11:30	<p><b>Working groups 4-6:</b></p> <p><b>Inspiring people to volunteer</b></p> <p>For more information see below</p>
11:30-12:00	Coffee break
12:00-12:30	<p><b>Reports from working groups 4-6:</b></p> <p>Chair: Helga Kirchner</p> <p><b>Room: HAVEL &amp; SPREE</b></p>
12:30h-13:15	<p><b>Promoting volunteering in the European Union: where to from here?</b></p> <p><b>Three different views: civil society, the European Commission and the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth</b></p> <p><b>Representative of the European Commission: Jutta König-Georgiades</b>, Task force European Year of Voluntary Activities promoting Active Citizenship (European Commission)</p> <p><b>Representative of the German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth: Marc Axel Hornfeck</b> (Germany)</p> <p><b>Representative of the civil society: Renzo Razzano</b>, Vice-President CEV – European Volunteer Centre / President of SPES - Associazione Promozione e Solidarietà (Italy)</p> <p><b>Closing words: Marc Axel Hornfeck</b>, German Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Germany)</p> <p>Chair: Helga Kirchner (Germany)</p>
From 13:15	Convivial get-together and light lunch to wind up the conference

The conference working languages are German, English and French.

Interpretation will be provided in the plenary sessions and working groups.

**Conference chair: Helga Kirchner (former editor-in-chief, WDR broadcasting)**  
(Germany)

## Working groups

*Each working group will have two resp. three speakers to introduce the topic and stimulate the discussion. An expert will chair the working group and report to the plenary session.*

**Thursday, 11 November 2010, 15:45-17:45**

**Creating a favourable environment for volunteering**

**Working groups 1-3**

Working group 1

*Room: HAVEL & SPREE*

### **The legal framework of volunteering: what role must/can the state play in promoting volunteering?**

Through legislation, public authorities can create appropriate framework conditions to create incentives for volunteering. Instruments used for this purpose can be improved tax regulations for volunteer organisations, the improvement of liability and accident insurance coverage for volunteers or programmes and projects to strengthen and to improve public recognition of volunteering. But what public instruments achieve the intended effect and what conditions tend to disrupt rather than support the work of volunteers?

Speakers: **Susana Viñuela Álvarez**, Ministry of Health and Social Policy (Spain)

**Sophie Chapman**, Policy lead for Youth Volunteering and Charitable Giving at the Office for Civil Society (United Kingdom)

Chair: **Birgit Sittermann**, Observatory for Sociopolitical Developments in Europe, Institute for Social Work and Social Education (Germany)

Working group 2

*Room: ELBE*

### **The organisational framework of volunteering: forms of volunteer management**

A positive environment for volunteering is also important within the organisations themselves. Professional volunteer management becomes increasingly important and is already a feature of many organisations today. This working group will examine how organisations attract volunteers and provide purposeful and useful support for their work.

Speakers: **Carola Schaaf-Derichs**, Managing Director Volunteer Centre Berlin (Treffpunkt Hilfsbereitschaft) (Deutschland)

**Bart Schenke**, Humanitas (Netherlands)

**Kaarina Nieminen**, Finn Church Aid (Finland)

Chair: **Markus Held**, Director of CEV – European Volunteer Centre (Belgium)

**Committed companies and foundations: partners in promoting volunteering**

Foundations are important actors of civil society and many companies take over social tasks. Through their own commitment, they can create conditions in which projects of volunteer organisations can be implemented or they can encourage their employees to volunteer. With their contribution, companies and foundations constitute an important part of the infrastructure behind volunteering. Partnerships between stakeholders – companies, foundations, the state and organisations – can help promote volunteering. This working group will discuss the perspectives and possibilities of civic commitment on the part of companies and foundations in a European perspective.

Speakers: **Thimo V. Schmitt-Lord**, Corporate Office Head Foundations & Donations Management, Executive Director Bayer Foundations, Bayer Aktiengesellschaft

**Dr. René Schmidpeter**, Bertelsmann Foundation (Germany)

Chair: **Ina Epkenhans**, Director of Analysis and Research, Phineo - Platform for Social Investors (Germany)

**Friday, 12 November 2010, 9:30-11:30**

Inspiring people to volunteer

**Working groups 4-6**

**Facilitating the access of migrants to volunteering**

Volunteering is a sign of social participation. However, migrants are still under-represented in many associations or organisations. How organisations and volunteer programmes can create an environment that attracts migrants is the topic of this working group.

Speakers: **Gauri Desai**, CSV Media Clubhouse Ipswich (United Kingdom)

**Torsten Groß**, Bavarian pilot project „Volunteering together – Active citizenship in the field of migration“, Bavarian Network for Volunteering (Institut für Soziale und Kulturelle Arbeit, Nürnberg) (Germany)

Chair: **Ksenija Fonovic**, Vice-President SPES - Associazione Promozione e Solidarietà (Italy)

**Attracting volunteers with innovative forms of volunteer activity**

All volunteer organisations want to attract volunteers. And yet there are many people who cannot or do not want to commit to long-term volunteering. Other people, because they are unemployed or retired, suddenly have a lot of time available for volunteer work. Nowadays there are forms of volunteering that are tailored to the possibilities and needs of a variety of target groups, e.g. online volunteer work or intergenerational volunteer programmes. Participants of this working group will discuss how successful various forms of volunteering can be in every-day reality.

Speakers: **Online volunteering in the Netherlands**

**Sandra Kamerbeek**, Movisie (Netherlands)

**Intergenerational volunteering: experiences gathered in the programme "Volunteering for All Generations" and "Multi-generation houses"**

**Dr. Astrid Hencke**, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Germany)

**Gudrun Scheithauer**, Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth (Germany)

Chair: **Mirko Schwärzel**, National Network for Civil Society (Germany)

**Promoting social entrepreneurship – supporting people with good ideas**

An important new trend are social entrepreneurs who - starting off as volunteers – found social organisations in order to tackle social problems with innovative ideas. This workshop will present and discuss possibilities of support.

Speaker: **Felix Oldenburg**, Director of Ashoka Europe and Managing Director of Ashoka Germany gGmbH (Germany)

**Seán Coughlan**, Social Entrepreneurs Ireland (Ireland)

Chair: **Prof. Dr. Markus Beckmann**, Leuphana University Lüneburg (Germany)

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