



# EFSC NEWSLETTER

2nd Edition  
April 2010

## European Federation for Street Children



### LATEST DEVELOPMENT IN EFSC

#### EFSC welcomes new Member Organizations

The Kapocs Youth Self-Help Service is a self-help organization of “young people for young people” set-up in order to create a helping environment for youth experiencing trouble and social exclusion in life.

The aim of the Kapocs Youth Self Help Service is to help excluded young people integrate in society through programs of volunteering and peer mentoring. The objectives are to prevent the commitment of crimes by youngsters who grow up in a difficult and unsatisfactory environment of personal relationships. Kapocs therefore, aims at improving youth’s natural helping ability and bridge the distance between young people “in trouble” and the appropriate supporting services.

Kapocs’ mission is to bring young people using the services of the organization into its voluntary work, in a way that can provide them with access to tools which can help to solve their problems.

By creating a natural, comfortable environment where young people can bond, the peer network practices traditional preaching about important issues like drugs and violence, thus opening doors for more effective communication.

The Kapocs Youth Self-Help Service was established in 1992 as a foundation of the Petőfi Hall and became at that time a centre for young people having difficulties and problems in life. After 14 years of activity and services Kapocs had to move from the Patőfi Hall to the 8th district of Budapest, where the organization is achieving its original objectives: preventing the problems of youth who are growing up in difficult and unsatisfactory environments.

#### Inside this issue:

Latest development in EFSC	1
News from EFSC Members Organizations	4
Advocacy Work	5
News from the EU Institutions and Council of Europe	8
News from International Institutions	12
Child Right Advocacy in the EU	13
Events	14
Publications	16
Funding Opportunities	18

European Federation for Street Children— Help us to save the children from the street

### **Projects**

The levels of activities can be separated in the following levels:

- Contact-making

The task of contact-making or outreach primarily belongs to the volunteers. These contact-making sessions are made in their own social environment as well as on various scenes of risk for young people.

- Service-type activities

The service-type activities have to appear in the organization in a way that they do not substitute but instead, complement and reinforce the work of volunteers. These services should provide an appropriate and meaningful choice for the young people struggling with various problems.

- Complex tasks, the level of concentrated programs
  - Developing and initiating complex activities and projects related to problems
- Supporting tasks and activities:
  - First-aid, health care group
  - Groups related to job-seeking
  - Group related to drug prevention, harm reduction.
  - Group related to support youngsters in trouble: hot-line, help team for runaway children
  - Self-recognition group
  - Theatre group
  - Hand-crafts, games, leisure activities, guitar playing

### **Die Kleine Pyramide –Germany**

#### ***The small pyramid – help for children in need.***

Under the European Year 2010 for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion, Instituto de Apoio à Criança is running the project “De Viva Voz pela Inclusão”, based on the theme of child poverty and social exclusion of children and youngsters. It’s being developed through participative methodology and explores these problematic issues from the point of view of the promotion and recognition of the Rights of the Child.

The project aims at mobilising children and youngsters from all over Portugal in order to share their perspectives about child poverty and social exclusion on regional workshops. Four, have already been promoted, and another four will be taking place until September.

After this, on October 6th (during the Portugal EY2010 focus week) there will be a National Meeting with children and youngsters who will take the opportunity to present those present at the meeting, with the work they have been carrying out throughout the year. In this meeting the participants will discuss and write a Recommendations Letter containing their suggestions to combat child poverty and social exclusion.

Parallel to all these activities, a film is being produced. This is yet, another part of the project and a further example of the many activities that IAC is carrying out under the EY2010 motive.

The last action of the project will be a Seminar for social workers about Child Poverty and Social Exclusion on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November, where children and youngsters that have participated in the project will share their experience and present the film and the Recommendations Letter

The problems and the poverty are numerable:

- extreme child poverty
- unemployment,
- analphabetism,
- ignorance,
- lack of information and education,
- extremely high rate of birth,
- inhuman conditions,
- difficult women's situation,
- bad housing conditions

### **Projects**

The number of supported children and families is rising steadily. At the moment 170 families with a lot of lone women and disabled children are in the program of the organization. Each of these families has a sponsor, which donate the amount of 25 Euro each month. This money goes to the family directly and to 100 percent. Die Kleine Pyramide does not deduct any amount. This monthly allowance helps to cover the costs of schooling, medicine, clothes etc. In emergency or in chronic cases the organization also deals with the costs of medicines or medical treatment to be obtained outside the centres premises. All of Die Kleine Pyramide's work is financed by the donation money. Unfortunately, one of the main difficulties is to obtain donations for Islamic countries. The work in Luxor is done by a team consisting of 10 Egyptians and 2 Germans. The German members work voluntarily, the Egyptians get a salary. The Small pyramid Luxor, "daughter" of the Small pyramid Trier, is officially registered as a NGO in Egypt.

Following the needs of these people, the organization is planning to build a bigger center in which to achieve its two long term goals: establishing a small school for disabled children (not available at all in the Luxor Westbank) and provide day care for them.

#### **Die kleine Pyramide e. V. Trier**

Ottostrasse 21 a

54294 Trier

Deutschland

E-Mail: [info@die-kleine-pyramide.de](mailto:info@die-kleine-pyramide.de)

Tel.: 00496511706019

#### **The small pyramid Luxor**

Luxor-Westbank

Gezira el Bairat

Egypt

E-Mail: [diekleinepyramide@yahoo.com](mailto:diekleinepyramide@yahoo.com)

Tel.: 0020952314689

## News from EFSC Member Organizations

### PROXIMA SOCIALE (CZECH REPUBLIC) - The European Partnership Fair for Civil Society Organization Moldova

Read the news from the EFSC Member Organizations here



The European Partnership Fair for Civil Society Organizations in Moldova took place for the first time in Chisinau, on June 15 and 16, 2010. The event was organized by European Partnership for Democracy (EPD), East Europe Foundation (EEF) and "Promo-LEX" Association.

Proxima Sociale, EFSC's Member from Prague, presented their activities during the workshop - *Social Action, Mobilized Youth and cleaner Environment for a better Europe*. The organisation's working methods and individual projects for children and youth were inspirational to the discussion. The event helped to establish contacts and discuss possibilities of cooperation between Proxima Sociale and NGOs of Moldova.

The main goal of the event was to help strengthen the Moldovan Civil Society (including from Transnistria) by sharing expertise, establishing partnership relations with NGOs from the European Union and CIS countries, and trying to provide some funding for joint initiatives launched by the Fair participants. Political representatives such as Victor Bodiu - State Chancellery, Minister of

State Moldova; Eugen Caras- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Moldova, Deputy Head European Integration Department; Daniela Morari- Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration of Moldova, Deputy Head of the Political Dialogue Division, Department for European Integration, and Carlos Hernández Ferreiro –Executive Director of the European Partnership for Democracy, Belgium attended the workshop. All speakers supported the involvement of NGOs in building civil society. Carlos Hernández Ferreiro gave a very positive assessment of the progress of civil society in Moldova, by emphasizing the need of developing the Transnistrian NGO sector and Mr. Sorin Mereacre, President of East Europe Foundation, specified that the Fair is designed to initiate a dialogue between NGOs from Moldova and the organizations from EU member countries in order to promote the interests of the country within the European institutions, thus contributing to a faster accession of Moldova to the EU.

The event was attended by approximately 150 NGOs and donor representatives from Moldova (88 organizations, including 30 from the Transnistrian region), Europe and the CIS countries. During the event, participants had the opportunity to discuss within 3 thematic workshops:

1. Challenges in Promoting Human Rights, Media and fundamental freedoms
2. Social Action, Mobilized Youth and cleaner Environment for a better Europe

The project is to be implemented with the financial support from National Endowment for Democracy (NED), The Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation, United States Agency for International Development (USAID) and the Swedish International Development Agency (Sida/Asdi).

### INSTITUTO DE APOIO À CRIANÇA (PORTUGAL)



Under the European Year 2010 for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion, Instituto de Apoio à Criança is running the project "De Viva Voz pela Inclusão", based on the theme of child poverty and social exclusion of children and youngsters. It's being developed through participative methodology and explores these problematic issues from the point of view of the promotion and recognition of the Rights of the Child.

The project aims at mobilising children and youngsters from all over Portugal in order to share their perspectives about

child poverty and social exclusion on regional workshops. Four, have already been promoted, and another four will be taking place until September.

After this, on October 6th (during the Portugal EY2010 focus week) there will be a National Meeting with children and youngsters who will take the opportunity to present those present at the meeting, with the work they have been carrying out throughout the year. In this meeting the participants will discuss and write a Recommendations Letter containing their suggestions to combat child poverty and

social exclusion.

Parallel to all these activities, a film is being produced. This is yet, another part of the project and a further example of the many activities that IAC is carrying out under the EY2010 motive.

The last action of the project will be a Seminar for social workers about Child Poverty and Social Exclusion on the 22<sup>nd</sup> of November, where children and youngsters that have participated in the project will share their experience and present the film and the Recommendations Letter

## Advocacy work

### PREPARATORY MEETING ON THE 9TH EUROPEAN ROUND TABLE ON POVERTY AND SOCIAL EXCLUSION- BRUSSELS, 01.06.2010

EFSC, as a one of the key network partners within the EU Progress Programme, took part in the second meeting with other key stakeholders to discuss the organization of the 9<sup>th</sup> European Round Table on Poverty and Social Exclusion. The meeting was organized by the European Commission and the Belgian Presidency as the main co-organizers. The 9<sup>th</sup> Round Table on poverty will take place on 18-19<sup>th</sup> of October 2010 in Brussels where a wide range of European Actors who are working on social issues will meet in order to discuss how poverty and social inclusion can be combated in Europe.

The **Europe 2020 Strategy** will be discussed as a main topic on the Round Table where Inclusive growth is set out as one of the three key objectives of the strategy (together with **sustainable** and **smart** growth as two other key objectives). Active Inclusion will be addressed from an integrative and mainstreamed point of view. Mainstreaming of Active Inclusion means not to act in isolation, but to involve other partners and stakeholders from other fields whose efforts can help

implementing the strategy. Minimum income will be stressed as well. The discussions and proposals coming from the Round Table should ensure that they are contributing to shaping an effective implementation of the Europe 2020 strategy. The Round Table will be open with the Plenary Session.

The following workshops will take place during the Round Table:

*WS 1: Minimum income and standard budgeting*

*WS 2: Inclusive labour markets - How to empower workers in their working environment?*

*WS 3: Guarantee access to quality services - Multidimensional approach to the specific situation of children in poor households and the fight against child poverty*

*WS 4: Green economy - How can the green economy improve the conditions of people experiencing poverty?*

*WS 5: Good governance*

*WS 6: The EU2020 strategy and the poverty platform*

EFSC will participate in the Round Table and by its participation EFSC will make an effort to introduce the burning issue of street children as the most vulnerable and excluded group experiencing poverty and visible social isolation as well as connection between poverty and children on the street in Europe.

## COMMISSION GETS TOGETHER EU STAKEHOLDERS EXPERT GROUP AT A 4TH MEETING TO CARRY OUT FIRST ASSESSMENT ON THE EY2010.

European  
Year for  
combating  
poverty and  
social  
exclusion

EU Stakeholders Expert Group and the European Commission taskforce got together at a meeting held on June 21<sup>st</sup> in Brussels, to give input and updates on the activities carried out under the EY 2010 to Combat Poverty and Social Exclusion. The Belgian presidency, the future governance of the OMC, the reduction of the poverty target and the new calls for proposals, were among the key themes of discussion.

Ms Antonia Carparelli opened the meeting identifying the two main lessons being learned from the EY 2010; 'there is a need to share costs of the crisis in an equitable manner, and combating poverty and social exclusion is not a cost, but rather an investment for the future.' It was made clear that the situation at the moment reflects that there is an important media monitoring taking place, with very few negative articles. Also the poverty reduction target adopted in June is based on an aggregate of three indicators (at risk of poverty, material deprivation and jobless households) and 120 million people fall under such aggregate.

For this reason, a series of activities are yet to take place under the European Year's motive, and stakeholders were invited to take part in the soon to come Riga Solidarity Days (28-29 October) and the Participatory Forum in Brussels (19-20 October). Jan Van der Velden took this opportunity to introduce the activities of the European Parliament which hosted the European Meeting of People Experiencing Poverty in June.

MEPs will exchange views on the EY2010 during the October plenary in Strasbourg, possibly leading to a resolution. The European Parliament has also agreed to hold an agora linked to the EY2010 and EU2020. The exact dates have not been set but it is certain that the organisations involved in the EY2010 will be invited.

The European Economic and Social Committee has also carried out activities under the European Year; the biennale conference on Education as a tool to prevent and tackle poverty, organised in May and it has also issued a declaration to the Council of Ministries. Maureen O'Neill and Nicole Prud'homme stressed that the EESC has yet other events to come such as the popular university with ATD Fourth World on 8 November and a conference, organised jointly with EAPN and other NGOs on 22 November, to jointly assess the impact of this European Year.

The Committee of the Regions, EAPN, the EY2010 NGO Coalition, Eurocities and ESAN are not far behind on this matter either. They too, have been working under the European Year umbrella to combat poverty and social exclusion. The Committee of the Regions organised a Forum on June 8 to highlight a total of 24 projects carried out at regional and local levels actively involving members of the CoR. Sessions and debates were held on local services, on preparing people for integration into the labour market, and on inclusive citizenship on rural and urban areas. The EAPN and EY2010 NGO Coalition have been working on

flashmobs, TV programmes, TV clips, and on organising meetings of people experiencing poverty, especially during the National Focus Weeks. The human ring organised by the coalition is likely to coincide with the European Parliament's agora on Poverty and the Crisis. Eurocities, on the other hand, has held three thematic seminars in which they have highlighted the need to act in an integrated way (partnerships and different government levels) and the need to take universal approaches with variable intensity of interventions. Finally, ESAN has been supporting through the Secours Populaire français a holiday for 3000 children in need from across Europe to France.

Stakeholders proved to be actively involved in the fight against poverty and social exclusion under the European Year 2010 and Elise Williame presented the Belgian presidency's plans regarding the European Year Final Declaration. Its aim will be to highlight the endorsement of the European Year's political outcomes, building on the framework provided by the June Council agreement and the European Platform against Poverty. The creativity and involvement under the EY2010 must remain unforgotten in the text of such declaration, and citizen's involvement together with their claims to achieve a more inclusive society should also be present. The text is to be agreed by the EPSCO Council in October and endorsed by the European Council in December.

## **EUROPEAN COMMISSION LAUNCHES CONSULTATION ON THE FUTURE STRATEGY ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD - EFSC AND ITS MEMBERS TO ENSURE MOST VULNERABLE CHILDREN REMAIN UNFORGOTTEN.**

As a result of EFSC's strengthened operational contacts with DG JLS, and its involvement in the Children's Rights Action Group (CRAG), EFSC has been asked to contribute to the Consultation regarding the Communication on Children's Rights (2011-2014) which the European Commission intends to adopt at the end of 2010 to further advance the EU Strategy on the Rights of the Child.

A consultation questionnaire has been drafted, targeting all citizens, organisations, bodies, institutions and experts involved in the promotion and protection of Children's Rights at local, regional and national and European levels

This consultation gives stakeholders the opportunity to present their views to the Commission about which concrete actions could be developed at EU level that would bring real added value. It will also give the Commission an insight into concrete experiences of those working with children, particularly as regards the difficulties they encounter when they promote and protect children's rights. The Commission is looking in particular for reliable data, factual information and concrete examples on the situation on the ground, both as regards problems and solutions. Issues covered by the questionnaire: The first section relates to the evaluation of previous initiatives taken by the Commission on the Rights of the Child. The second section focuses on areas which have been identified as requiring particular attention. In this area issues like child friendly justice, justice policies safeguarding children's rights, vulnerable groups of children, violence against

children and child poverty are covered

Who can reply to the questionnaire? The questionnaire is addressed to individuals as well as organisations, associations, bodies, institutions, who deal with the protection and the promotion of children's rights at local, regional, national, European or international level. It is not necessary to reply to all of the questions. Depending on one's experience one can reply only to the questions relating to own activities.

EFSC highly welcomes that such a consultation has been launched giving a chance to stakeholders working in the field to contribute to the future strategy on the Rights of the Child. Sharing their views and field experiences, will enable stakeholders to provide the Commission with a much clearer landscape of what the situation is like on the children's rights arena, not only from the NGOs' point of view but also regarding the needs of the children themselves; this is why child participation plays an important role in the whole process. The Commission is looking for stakeholders *to provide reliable data, factual information and concrete examples and the situation on the ground, both as regards problems and solutions', which can serve as a guideline for the steps that need to be taken next.*

The deadline to provide input on this questionnaire is set on 20.08.2010. Both EFSC and its member organisations are already in the process of collecting concrete field

related and user-oriented input from the large scale of activities carried out by its members to support the most vulnerable children, in particular street children.

To download the questionnaire, visit:  
[http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/news/consulting\\_public/news\\_consulting\\_public\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/news/consulting_public/news_consulting_public_en.htm)

## News from the EU Institutions and Council of Europe



### Youth on the Move: more support for young people's education and mobility to improve access to the job market

'Youth on the Move' is an initiative that aims to promote the mobility of students and trainees and to improve the employment situation of young people. The initiative will be adopted by the Commission in September 2010.

The Commission's upcoming proposal is a contribution to the Europe 2020 Strategy, designed as a reform plan for the coming decade. The Europe 2020 goal is

to develop, over the next ten years, an economy that is based on knowledge and innovation. 'Youth on the Move' will encourage EU countries to set up a strong cooperation in order to provide young people in Europe with better opportunities to make the best of their skills. This can be achieved by improving the performance and international attractiveness of Europe's

universities and by raising the overall quality of all levels of education and training in the EU. Commissioner Androulla Vassiliou will hold a press conference dedicated to 'Youth on the Move' on September 15, 2010.

For more information visit:

[http://ec.europa.eu/commission\\_2010-2014/vassiliou/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/vassiliou/index_en.htm)

Read here the latest Developments in the EU and the Council of Europe

### 9th European Meeting of People experiencing poverty

The 9th European Meeting of People Experiencing Poverty was organised under the Spanish Presidency of the European Union, with the support of the European Commission and of the European Anti-Poverty Network. The event took place in the European Parliament on 25th of June and in the European Commission on 26th of June. This year's meeting was called

"Starting point for a new deal". People experiencing poverty called on the EU to focus on people rather than on competitiveness. The following main priorities and conclusions were made:

- participation of people experiencing poverty in decision-making processes at all stages
- responsibility and accountability of

decision makers

- guarantee of fundamental rights linked to affordable, quality and safe housing, social services, food, decent work and education for all
- protection of families

For more information, please visit:

<http://www.2010againstopoverty.eu/calendarofevents/events/event55.html?langid=en>

### The Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse comes into force

The Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse has come into force on 1st of July 2010.

It is the first international instrument to tackle all forms of sexual violence against children, including abuse perpetrated within the family

environment. Apart from sexual abuse, child prostitution and pornography and coercing children into participating in pornographic performances, the convention also deals with grooming and sex tourism.

The Convention has been signed by 39 of the Council of Europe's 47 member states, five of which have

also ratified it (Albania, Denmark, Greece, the Netherlands and San Marino), thereby enabling its entry into force on 1 July 2010.

For more information, please visit:

[http://www.coe.int/t/transversalprojects/children/default\\_en.asp](http://www.coe.int/t/transversalprojects/children/default_en.asp)

### European Parliament approves Commission's plan to improve housing conditions of minority groups.

On May 20<sup>th</sup>, the European Parliament accepted a proposal that may very well change the lives of all minority groups in Europe; provide them with better housing conditions. Such provision will be financed by the European Regional Funding, and welcomed by the Roma communities in particular. These represent around 10 to 12 million people, fifty percent of which live in extremely marginalised and deprived conditions.

Whereas before, structural fund legislation was restricted for housing

interventions in Member States only, and renovations of dwellings could only be done in urban areas, now with the new measures, the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) has extended its eligibility of intervention to marginalised communities of *all* Member States and allowed for the construction and replacement of dwellings on both; urban and rural areas.

Housing is a crucial factor for improving integration but not the only one.  
Johannes Hahn, Commissioner for

Regional Policy welcomed Parliament's decision which he said would "allow regional policy to help to break the vicious circle in which these communities seemed to be trapped; [and] this should be part of an overall approach covering actions in the fields of education, health, social affairs, and employment."

### EESC calls at Biennale Conference for Green Paper on education to fight social exclusion.

The European Economic and Social Committee, has identified education as a crucial factor in the process of social inclusion. The Biennale Conference of 20-22 May, was thus the hotspot for them to increase awareness on this issue and call for a Green Paper with effective plans to be put in action that could encourage social innovation and enhance social inclusion "as soon as possible," said Mario Sepi, president of EESC.

Their proposal is a result of the conclusions drawn by the EU Council of

10 and 11 May which highlighted the high levels of unemployment and provided an opportunity to spot education as a key tool in the establishment of a social cohesion that could develop a knowledge-based economy for Europe. This would allow for poverty to be effectively fought by a cohesive and integrated society.

José Manuel Barroso, President of the European Commission, highlighted the importance of social inclusion measures and added "We respect national

education systems, but how could we avoid including education in the Europe 2020 Strategy for social inclusion?"

It was concluded at the Biennale that a Green Paper could be a good starting point for the EESC as it could pave the way for programmes aimed at their goal and help underline the importance of education "as a type of social lift [...] which should have a qualitative element aimed at eradicating discrimination and stereotypes," said Mario Sepi.

### EU awards journalists for their contribution in raising discrimination awareness

Brussels hosted on the 29<sup>th</sup> of April a ceremony to honour those journalists who, through their work, help to create a better understanding of the benefits of diversity. This year's winner of the annual: "For diversity. Against discrimination", prize-giving ceremony, was the German daily, *Süddeutsche*

*Zeitung*. Next on the podium of honoured professionals was a Hungarian journalist who obtained the second prize, followed by a Finnish article that was awarded for its focus on the link between poverty and discrimination.

Winners will obtain a grant to carry out research on an EU country of their choice. For the meantime, the EU Commission is ready to launch the 2010 edition of the contest, open to both print and online journalists who write about diversity and poverty matters

#### 4 New 'Diversity Days' to be set in 2010

Given the success of last year's 'Diversity Days' held in Cyprus, Portugal, Luxembourg and Sweden, the EU Commission is opening a new series of such in Hungary on May 8<sup>th</sup> 2010. Poland,

Greece and the Grande Région area will be the next to host this particular awareness-raising event that challenges the general public and the media to question their behaviour and attitude towards

discrimination. Debates, workshops, interactive and entertainment events will be taking place with the objective of drawing attention towards issues on equality and diversity while

#### Youth Employment and Social Inclusion issues at glance in Jerez de la Frontera's Youth Conference.

97 youth delegates and 90 representatives got together at the EU Youth Conference in Spain to set straight a series of priorities on youth employment to be addressed at a European level.

Young participants, the European Commission and Member States government officials, all

participated in an intense three-day marathon of debates in which priorities and measures had to be defined in order to tackle the increasingly worrying levels of youth unemployment (now 20%, almost twice as high as the average level). Particular emphasis has been given to the creation of bigger access to the

labour market for the youth and for equal opportunities and education. The 'light' transition from education to work environment was unforgotten, together with the encouraging access to life learning and mobility programmes, entrepreneurship and the availability of new ICT.

#### The European Youth Forum calls for its 2013 Capital.

On April 9<sup>th</sup> the output whistle for the race to become Europe's next 2013 Youth Capital was blown. This one-year title given to different cities across Europe provides its elected host with the opportunity to 'showcase' its development on youth-related,

cultural, social, political, and economical life matters. The activities that take place throughout the whole mandate year help to stimulate a more active participation from youth in society and serve as a reference model to turn to for the

development of other European municipalities.

The finishing line of this European Youth Forum race is the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June, 2010. Candidates who which to join Rotterdam (2009), Torino (2010) and Antwerp (2011)

#### European Youth and Culture Council puts national targets on youth education into perspective.

Androulla Vassiliou, commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism and Youth discussed, during the two-day Brussels conference (10-11 May 2010), the progress made by Member States in reducing the number of early school leavers and in increasing the portion of young people in tertiary or equivalent education.

The role of education in enhancing social cohesion, social mobility and in fighting against poverty and social exclusion is a definite topic of discussion that could, through its debate, help contribute to the education and training objectives of the 'Europe 2020' strategy for '*smart, sustainable and inclusive youth.*'

On the youth policy-making field, Vasilious's support to measures promoting lifelong learning and 'new skills for new job' initiatives will be highlighted together with 'Europe 2020's new 'Youth on the Move' initiative. Its aim is to '*improve learning mobility, employability and the social integration of young people.*'

### 'Action Plan' to protect unaccompanied minors entering EU, put in action by European Commission

An 'Action Plan' to increase the protection of unaccompanied minors entering the EU was adopted on May 6<sup>th</sup>. This was done after alarming data was published by 'Eurostat' on 2009, indicating that the percentage of minors seeking asylum on 22 different member states had gone up 13% (960) from 2008.

The purpose behind this plan is to create a unified European approach that can ensure that a rapid decision (no more than 6 months) is made by the right authorities regarding the future of the unaccompanied minors. Member

states must ensure that the moves they make are in the child's best interest. This includes tracing families and monitoring children's reintegration in their home society.

There is a different, devastating story behind each child; some escape from wars, conflict, poverty, discrimination or persecution; others escape from human trafficking; some are sent with the expectation of finding themselves better living conditions; and others intend to reunite with family members. The common denominator is that they all need help and so, this action plan will work on: *preventing unsafe*

*migration and trafficking; on reception and procedural guarantees in the EU; and on long-lasting effective solutions.*

The plan consists of ten basic principles that can altogether contribute to a better handling of the situation. EU's Commissioner of Home Affairs, Cecilia Malmström, understands the urgency of the situation and stated that "*Europe must take immediate action to look after unaccompanied minors [...] the principle of their best interest should always form the basis for any action taken.*"

### European Commission takes Poland to Court of Justice over mis-implementation of race equality rules.

Poland was sent to court on May 4<sup>th</sup> for not implementing prohibitive rules on discrimination based on race or ethnic origin, correctly. The commission manifested that Poland, has not transposed the legislation agreed at EU level to its national law, failing as a result, to follow the principles established in the Amsterdam Treaty of 1999.

This means that there is no effective Polish legislation that can prohibit discrimination in relation to '*social protection, social advantages, access to goods and services, housing, membership in trade unions, employer's bodies and professional organisations and access to education.*' In addition to this, protection against victimisation

is only covered on an employment angle.

Poland joined the EU in 2004 and the deadline set for this target was 1st May 2004. Now it has to respond before the Court of Justice.

## NEWS FROM INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

**International Youth Day, 12 of August**

Read here in-  
formation  
from  
International  
Organizations

The General Assembly, on 17 December 1999 (resolution 54/120 I), endorsed the recommendation made by the World Conference of Ministers Responsible for Youth

(Lisbon, 8-12 August 1998) that 12 August be declared International Youth Day. It recommended that public information activities must be organized to support the Day as a

means of promoting better awareness of the World Programme of Action for Youth to the Year 2000 and Beyond, adopted by the Assembly in 1995 (resolution 50/81).

**UN Committee on the Rights of the Child - Election Time**

The 13<sup>th</sup> meeting of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of the Child will take place in New York on 21 December 2010. During the meeting, States will elect candidates to fill the nine seats which will become available when the terms of nine of the current 18 members, expire on 28 February 2011.

As elections for new members of the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child draw near, now is the time for NGOs to do what they can to make sure that the next members measure up to the job and that no region is left unrepresented.

**What can NGOs do?**

The NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child has published a fact-sheet on the election process which sets out opportunities for NGO participation. While NGOs cannot nominate candidates, they can play a role in lobbying their State to nominate a candidate who rates well according to a set of criteria for a strong member.

The NGO Group is supporting NGOs interested in lobbying their governments to put forward strong candidates.

To find out more, email Lisa Myers at [myers@childrightsnet.org](mailto:myers@childrightsnet.org)

More information:  
NGO Group for the Convention on the Rights of the Child  
1, rue de Varembe  
1202 Geneva  
Switzerland  
Tel: +41 22 740 47 30  
Fax: +41 22 740 11 45  
E-mail: [ngo-group@bluewin.ch](mailto:ngo-group@bluewin.ch)

## Child Rights Advocacy in the EU

### EU Belgian Presidency to be assessed under Eurochild's scoreboard

Eurochild has developed a scoreboard to assess the achievements of the EU Belgian Presidency (starting with the 1<sup>st</sup> of July 2010) in 6 months time. Eurochild will focus on four topics:

1. Europe 2020,
2. Fighting child poverty & social exclusion,
3. Combating early school leaving and equipping young people with skills for the labour market, and
4. Promoting and protecting children's rights.

To see the full scoreboard, please visit Eurochild website:

[www.eurochild.org/fileadmin/user\\_upload/EY2010/Children%20scoreboard%20Belgian%20presidency%20of%20the%20EU.pdf](http://www.eurochild.org/fileadmin/user_upload/EY2010/Children%20scoreboard%20Belgian%20presidency%20of%20the%20EU.pdf)

### End Child Poverty Campaign

End Child Poverty Campaign, run by Eurochild, calls for EU to take an action by:

- Setting clear targets to reduce child poverty,
- Producing an annual

scoreboard on child well-being,

- Improving data collection and reporting on children,
- Showing what works and helping member states improve their policy and practice through mutual

learning and exchange, Working together across all policy areas that influence child well-being. In order to achieve strong political commitment the European Commission is called to adopt a

## EVENTS

### Adequate Minimum Income- EAPN conference

EAPN and BAPN will hold conference on 24 September in Brussels to contribute to the 2010 European Year against Poverty and Social Exclusion.

#### **Objectives of the conference**

- Highlight the reality of living on a minimum income for people

experiencing poverty and the social and economic impact of ensuring an adequate income

- Carry out a stocktaking of progress on guaranteeing adequacy and on follow up to the Active Inclusion Recommendation
- Exchange experiences on positive examples and methods of

establishing adequacy, as well as alternative approaches to financing Identify recommendations on how to advance EU cooperation to ensure adequate minimum income, linked to a political declaration for the year and commitments under the Hungarian Presidency.

For more information, please visit: [www.eapn.org](http://www.eapn.org)

### The International Interdisciplinary Course *Children's Rights in a Globalized World: From Principles*

Date: 5-17 September 2010

Place: Ghent-Antwerp, Belgium

The International Interdisciplinary Course *Children's Rights in a Globalized World: From Principles to Practice* wants to make an active contribution to the proliferation and promotion of the CRC and its underlying values and aims at

critical reflection on children's rights. After a multidisciplinary introduction to children's rights, with a particular focus on the CRC, children's rights education, implementation strategies and methodologies will be explored. Five broad themes will be addressed from a children's rights perspective: Poverty, child labour, migration, armed conflict and the environment.

The Course Convenors are the UNICEF Chair in Children's Rights (University of Antwerp), the Department of Social Welfare Studies (Ghent University), the Faculty of Social Work and Welfare Studies (University College Ghent) and the Institute of Criminology and of Social Law (K.U.Leuven/ Leuven University) in close cooperation with the Children's Rights Knowledge

### Youth & Diversity: Does Gender Matter?

**DATE: 9-14 September**

**Place: The Hague, The Netherlands**

The United Network of Young Peacebuilders (UNOY Peacebuilders) invites young people from Council of Europe member states to apply for participation in the training course "Youth and Diversity – Does Gender Matter?"

#### **Aims and Objectives:**

- To bring youth organisations working on peace, multiculturalism and intercultural dialogue from

across Europe together

- To raise awareness on gender issues in Europe, especially among youth organisations
- To analyze and debate the role youth organisations can have in addressing gender issues in a multicultural society
- To introduce the participants to gender concepts, the importance of gender and equality in peacebuilding and intercultural dialogue and their work

- To help participants develop the adequate skills, knowledge and tools needed for gender analysis and gender mainstreaming, in order for them to be more gender sensitive

- To share best practices and lessons learned

- To promote community and solidarity as Europeans, and to fight intolerance, prejudice and racism
- For more info, please visit: <http://www.unoy.org/news/index.php?itemid=309>

### YoutIn Search of Solidarity – third edition of the photo competition for young Europeans.

The Party of European Socialists Group in the **Committee of the Regions** has launched the third edition of the photo competition **In Search of Solidarity** as a contribution to the **European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion**.

The competition provides an opportunity for **Young Europeans aged 18-30** to shape the concept of solidarity and present concrete solutions to fight poverty. Entries may be submitted **from 9 May to 30**

**September 2010 inclusive.** The competition is only open to amateur photographers. Professional photographers and anyone else working in the field of photography will be automatically excluded from the competition.

The winners will receive a high value prizes such as a **semi-professional "full format" digital "DSLR" photographic kit**. For this year edition, the preselected photo documentaries will be submitted to an online public vote, taking place at the end of the competition. In

addition to the prizes, winners will be invited to Brussels in November 2010 to attend a conference on "Combating poverty and social exclusion".

For more information, please visit:  
[http://www.pes.cor.europa.eu/sol\\_competition.html](http://www.pes.cor.europa.eu/sol_competition.html)

### How to involve 'hard to reach' children and young people?- workshop

Date: 28 Sep 2010 - 10:00

PLACE: London, UK

This one-day course is based on the popular *How To Guide* on the same topic. At the end of the training day participants will have developed:

- Knowledge in this specific area of participation
- Ideas and exercises to use with children and young people
- Confidence to incorporate the training in their work

For more information please write to:  
[enquiries@participationworks.org.uk](mailto:enquiries@participationworks.org.uk)

<http://www.participationworks.org.uk/events-training/how-to-involve-hard-to-reach-children-and-young-people-london-280910>

### Europe: 6th Regional Meeting of NGOs and Children's Rights Coalitions in Europe

Date: 20-22 October 2010

Place: Florence, Italy

The Italian NGO Group for the CRC will host the 6th Regional Meeting of NGOs Children's Rights Coalitions in Europe, which will take place in Florence - Italy from the 20th to the 22nd of October 2010. The 6th Regional Meeting of NGOs will be hosted by the **Istituto degli**

**Innocenti** in Florence. The Istituto degli Innocenti has been working for nearly six centuries on behalf of the family and the child. At the time when it was established, during the first half of the fifteenth century, it was the first institution in the world devoted exclusively to child care. The three-day event will be an opportunity to share successes and challenges in children's rights

**advocacy, monitoring and networking.**

The main aim is to increase knowledge so to improve our effectiveness as children's rights coalitions. Mr. **Nigel Cantwell**, international consultant on child protection, will moderate the Meeting,

For more information, please visit:  
<http://www.gruppocrc.net/articolo-about-us>

## PUBLICATIONS

### Plan International\*: "I have a voice" report on child participation

On November 20th, 2009, Plan launched the "I Have a Voice!" campaign with the goal of bringing children's voices to the European Union, and urging the EU to act on its commitments to engage in meaningful child participation.

As part of this campaign, this report aims to clarify for European policy makers the concept of child participation; summarize existing

guidelines for meaningful child participation; provide concrete examples of existing child participation mechanisms linking to government in Europe and around the world; and finally provide recommendations for the European institutions on how to move forward with ensuring meaningful child participation at the EU level.

\*Plan international is one of the

oldest and largest children's development organisations in the world. Plan works in 48 developing countries across Africa, Asia and the Americas to promote child rights and lift millions of children out of poverty.

To read the full report, please visit: <http://www.ihaveavoice.eu/report.pdf>  
Campaign website: <http://en.ihaveavoice.eu/index.php>

### **Human Rights Watch Publications:**

#### "Curing the Selectivity Syndrome"

Human Rights Watch "Curing the Selectivity Syndrome" reports examines the successes and failures of the Human Rights Council to date, and finds significant gaps in the performance of its mandate. Human Rights Watch calls on the Council to engage on all human rights situations that need its attention and

to overcome selectivity in its work. The 2011 review of the Council is an opportunity to develop an array of approaches tailored to address human rights violations effectively wherever they occur. At the same time, the Council is urged to "improve by doing" by taking immediate steps to ratchet up the

HRC's response to human rights violations, rather than waiting for the 2011 review to address the Council's shortcomings.

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2010/06/24/curing-selectivity-syndrome-0>

### No End to Unaccompanied Migrant Children's Institutionalization in Canary Islands Emergency Centres

Human Rights Watch report says that the centres fail to comply with the Canary Islands government's minimum care standards for migrant children and have no occupancy limits. The approximately 100

children in the biggest and most secluded emergency centre, La Esperanza, receive low-quality food, lack adequate heating, hot water, and blankets, and report frequent violence from other children.

<http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/06/22/spain-migrant-children-risk>

### **Insufficient Protection for Unaccompanied Migrant Children at Roissy Charles de Gaulle Airport**

Human Rights Watch prepared a 60-page report in which concludes that France's system of detaining and deporting unaccompanied migrant children who arrive in Paris by air puts them at serious risk. In 2008, airport police deported or

removed one third of the 1,000 unaccompanied migrant children who arrived at Roissy Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris and who were denied entry into France. France takes the position that those children have not yet entered France and

detains them in a "transit zone," where they are denied rights granted to other migrant children on French territory.

<http://www.hrw.org/en/reports/2009/10/29/lost-transit-0>

### **Make medicines child size"**

In 2007, WHO celebrated the 30th anniversary of the WHO Model List of Essential Medicines. In reviewing the progress made over the years, it was noted that there was a need for more medicines specifically developed and tested for use in children. In December 2007, WHO launched the "Make medicines child size" campaign to raise awareness of the issue among policy-makers, pharmaceutical manufacturers,

medical staff, etc. The first ever WHO Model Formulary for Children released by WHO provides information on how to use over 240 essential medicines for treating illness and disease in children from 0 to 12 years of age. This means that for the first time medical practitioners worldwide have access to standardised information on the recommended use, dosage, adverse effects, and contraindications of

these medicines for use in children. A number of individual countries have developed their own formularies over the years, but until now there was no single comprehensive guide to using medicines in children for all countries.

For more info, please visit: [http://www.who.int/selection\\_medicines/list/WMMFc\\_2010.pdf](http://www.who.int/selection_medicines/list/WMMFc_2010.pdf)

### **Amnesty International:**

#### **Greece: Irregular migrants and asylum-seekers routinely detained in substandard conditions**

The Greek authorities should undertake a comprehensive overhaul of the legislative framework, policies and practices regarding the detention of irregular migrants and asylum-seekers, including in particular the treatment

of unaccompanied children. These are the key conclusions in this report which shows that currently, immigration related detention in Greece is used without regard to its necessity or proportionality, and not as a measure of last resort.

To read the full report, please visit: <http://www.amnesty.org/en/library/asset/EUR25/002/2010/en/07291fb2-dcb8-4393-9f13-2d2487368310/eur250022010en.pdf>

## FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### Call for proposals- Youth in Action Programme

#### Action 4.3c — Youth Support Systems — Support to youth workers' mobility and exchanges

Call for proposals aiming to support, on an experimental basis, youth workers' mobility and exchanges with a view to promoting the acquisition of new skills and competences in order to enrich their profile as professionals in the youth field, as well as to help them better adapt to the changing needs of young people. It will also contribute to the capacity-building and the development of the structures involved.

#### The objectives of the call for proposals are as follows:

- to give youth workers the opportunity to experience a different working reality in another country,
- to gain a better understanding of the European dimension of youth work,
- to improve youth workers' professional, intercultural and language competences,
- to promote the exchange of experiences and approaches to

youth work and non-formal education in Europe,  
-to contribute to developing stronger and more quality partnerships between youth organisations across Europe, and  
-to strengthen the quality and the role of youth work in Europe.

Preference will be given to those projects which best reflect the permanent priorities of the 'Youth in Action' programme:

- participation of young people,
- cultural diversity,
- European citizenship,
- inclusion of young people with fewer opportunities.

Preference will also be given to projects reflecting the following annual priorities):

- European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion,

-youth unemployment and promotion of young unemployed people's active participation in society,  
-awareness-raising and mobilisation of young people around global challenges (such as sustainable development, climate change, migrations, the Millennium Development Goals Deadline for submission of applications: **22 October 2010** (date of the postmark being conclusive)

Projects must start between **1 March 2011 and 30 June 2011**

**Duration of project:** Maximum **12 months**

**Duration of activity:** Minimum **2 months** and maximum **6 months**

The total budget allocated to the co financing of projects under this call for proposals is estimated at EUR 600 000. The maximum grant shall not exceed EUR 25 000.

#### Call for Proposals for Social Experimentation - under Progress

The aim of the call is to develop and test (i.e. pilot) **socially innovative approaches** in EU policy priorities, in the context of the Social OMC, and to intensify **mutual learning** amongst key actors, including transnationally. The rigid evaluation/mainstreaming requirements of the previous call have been removed, although a good evaluation frame is a key criterion. The projects will need to include multiple stakeholders - e.g. public bodies, local authorities, NGOs and service providers and should include activities like networking, evaluation, examination of transferability or inventory of achievements in the EU.

#### **Key policy areas for piloting new approaches:**

- active inclusion, housing exclusion and homelessness, child poverty and social inclusion of migrants,
- social inclusion of young people.
- innovative projects related to transition from institutional care to community care

**Duration of project:** 12-24 months, starting from 1st January 2011. Any expenditure incurred before signature of the grant agreement is at the applicant's risk.

**Closing date** is 31st August 2010

**Co-financing** - up to 80%, applicant should guarantee the remaining 20% of co-financing in cash and contributions in

kind are not accepted.

**Deadline for submission** 31/08/2010 latest

Amount: 2.5 million for around 10 projects

**Eligibility of applicant** - Accessible to all stakeholders from all PROGRESS participating countries including EFTA, candidate and pre-candidate.

**Financial Capacity** - Must be confirmed by the provision of the declaration of honour, and balance sheet together with the profit and loss account for the last financial year.

Access call and other documents here:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=630&langId=en&callId=263&furtherCalls=yes>

**EFSC Newsletter**

Route d'Esch 15  
L-1470 Luxembourg  
Luxembourg

Phone: +352 27 44 51  
Fax: +325 27 44 51 70  
E-mail: [info@efsc-eu.org](mailto:info@efsc-eu.org)

We are on the web: [www.efsc-eu.org](http://www.efsc-eu.org)

*Help us to save the Children from the Street*