



EUROPEAN VOLUNTEER CENTRE

**BBE**

Bundesnetzwerk  
Bürgerhaftliches  
Engagement

BE

RL

IN

Volunteering and  
Active Citizenship

CEV Symposium

19 - 21  
10/2011

Two sides  
of the same coin?



European Year of Volunteering 2011



Wednesday  
19/10/2011

- 13:00 - 14:00 Registration (CEV Members only)
- 14:00 - 18:00 CEV General Assembly Meeting (CEV members only)
- 20:00 Meet & Greet / Informal Dinner (own expense)

Thursday  
20/10/2011

- 09:00 - 10:00 Registration
- 10:00 - 10:15 **Welcome and Opening**  
Eva Hambach, European Volunteer Centre  
Carola Schaaf-Derichs, Bundesnetzwerk Bürgerschattliches Engagement (BBE)
- 10:15 - 10:45 **Keynote Addresses**  
Thomas Mann, Member of the European Parliament, tbc.  
Mikolaj Dowgielewicz, Secretary of State for European affairs and economic policy, Poland, tbc.  
Monika Helbig, State-Secretary, Staatskanzlei Berlin
- 10:45 - 11:00 *Coffee break*
- 11:00 - 12:30 **Setting the Scene: Opening Panel and Discussion**  
Joachim Ott, European Commission, tbc.  
Leo J. Penta, German Institute for Community Organising, tbc.  
John Annette, University of London, tbc.  
Madi Sharma, European Economic and Social Committee, tbc.  
Filippo Addarii, Euclid Network, tbc.  
Moderator: Martijn Pakker, European Volunteer Centre
- 12:30 - 13:30 *Lunch*
- 13:30 Transfer to local projects/workshops
- 14:00 - 18:00 The on-site visits will showcase local projects. In addition, at each local visit, two other initiatives will be presented by CEV members and other European organisations, one similar to the local project and a contrasting one.

Thursday  
20/10/2011

Participants will be able to choose from the following visits:

- Themes**
- 1 Social inclusion and empowerment
  - 2 Participation in decision making
  - 3 Cross-border community cooperation
  - 4 Civil Protection and humanitarian aid
  - 5 Employee volunteering
  - 6 Intergenerational solidarity
  - 7 Sustainable development

19:00 Reception

20:00 European Best Practice Contest in the framework of the European Year of Volunteerin 2011 Tour

Friday  
21/10/2011

- 09:30 - 11:00 **Talk-Show:** Summing up the workshop results and discussion
- 11:00 - 10:30 *Coffee break*
- 11:30 - 13:00 **Working groups:**
  - 1 Role of volunteering infrastructure as Active Citizens' hub
  - 2 Future Tools and Instruments: Online Volunteering and active citizenship
  - 3 Volunteer management
  - 4 Corporate Social Responsibility and Employee volunteering – corporations as social actors?
- 13:00 - 14:00 *Lunch*
- 14:00 - 15:00 **Closing session**  
Keith Whitmore, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, tbc.  
Maciej Kucharczyk, AGE, tbc.  
Peter Truels Nielsen, Danish Permanent Representation to the EU, tbc.  
Eva Hambach, European Volunteer Centre
- 15:00 - 15:30 **Evaluation**

In 2011 we celebrate the European Year of Volunteering for the Promotion of Active Citizenship. While aspects of volunteering are widely discussed and the need to value and recognize voluntary activities is highlighted, we are still lacking a profound discussion on the link and interdependence between volunteering and active citizenship. In the Council Decision on the EYV 2011 it is stated at the very beginning that:



The European Year of Voluntary Activities for the Promotion of Active Citizenship will contribute to showing that volunteering is one of the key dimensions of active citizenship and democracy [...].

In this context, CEV is dedicating its 22nd Symposium to the issues of active citizenship, activism and all sorts of civic participation in the local, regional, national and European life and decision-making. But are volunteering and active citizenship projecting the same kind of engagement? What are the common points and what are the differences? How does volunteering complement active citizenship – and the other way around? Where do we draw the borderline? Or is volunteering a means to perpetuate the state of affairs instead of questioning the reality? These are the pressing issues participants will explore at the CEV Symposium „Volunteering and Active Citizenship: Two sides of the same coin?“.



The Symposium will take place in Berlin, the Symbol of multiculturalism built on civic drive towards reunification and democracy, where participants will visit local projects showcasing the power of active citizenship, divided into the following 7 thematic areas: **social inclusion and empowerment; participation through sport and cultural initiatives; humanitarian assistance; civil protection; employee volunteering; intergenerational solidarity; sustainable development.**

The Symposium will welcome a variety of stakeholders, from the local to the European level, from across sectors and societal structures, such as representatives of governments, European institutions, civil society, individual activists, to grasp the complete concept of ‘being active’. The output of the Symposium will be a ‘Toolkit on Becoming an Active Citizen Through Volunteering’, which will be a compendium of conclusions from discussions, short interviews with participants, key messages of speeches and workshops, gathered throughout the two days of the conference.

The Symposium aims to accomplish the following main objectives:

- 1 To further grasp the link between volunteering and active citizenship;
- 2 To ensure a space for debate starting from concrete, specific projects implemented at local level by comparing and contrasting similar projects from across Europe;
- 3 To identify the most effective ways to empower citizens to be active through volunteering.