EUROPEAN ANTI POVERTY NETWORK

EAPN FLASH No 259 - 01/15 Oct 2011



Not everyone has access to a dignified life. EAPN has been running a campaign to ensure ADEQUATE minimum income for ALL - <u>Sign the appeal!</u> And join our Facebook cause

Keep informed and support our initiatives on **Facebook!**



EUROPEANS FOR FINANCIAL REFORM CAMPAIGN click here:

http://europeansforfinancialreform.org/en/news/campaign-launch





EAPN is one of the new members of the Alliance for the 2011 Year on Volunteering See the page here: http://eyv2011.eu/newsletter



NEWS from EAPN

Find latest EAPN news here.

Press release: First Annual Convention must breathe life into the EU Poverty Reduction Target

EAPN sends its messages and recommendations to the first Annual Convention Take Urgent Action to prevent Europe 2020 increasing poverty - Invest in Social Europe now!

Brussels, 14 October 2011 - For the First Annual Convention of the 'European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion' in Krakow on 17 and 18 October, EAPN has produced its assessment of the National Reform Programmes, which are charged, under the Europe 2020 Strategy, with delivering the EU poverty-reduction target. For EAPN, the economic governance approach to the crisis is undermining the inclusive-growth pillar of the Europe 2020 Strategy and, as a result, poverty and inequalities, far from being reduced, are more likely to increase. Read more.

We know there are enough resources for everyone – all is needed is political will!

Wealth, inequality and social polarisation in the EU: Hearing in the EP with Green MEP Karima Delli of EAPN's explainer

On Tuesday 4 October, MEP Karima Delli and EAPN held a public presentation of EAPN's explainer on Wealth, inequality and social polarisation in the EU. Speakers included Michael Moser, Vice President of EAPN, Martin Schürtz, expert on wealth and inequalities and Andrew Watt, Senior Researcher at the European Trade Union Institute (ETUI). Read more.

Inclusion of Roma and Travellers in the EU: EAPN's briefing

This briefing note aims at highlighting the work of many EAPN members who work directly on issues of Roma Inclusion. Roma have been identified as a priority group at risk of poverty and social exclusion in the National Strategic Reports on social protection and social inclusion, as part of the Social OMC. On April 5th, a proposal for the EU Framework for national Roma Integration Strategies was published, under the auspices of the Commissioner for Fundamental Rights. Roma inclusion has become an overarching EU priority because of increasing discrimination and events of racist violence on the Roma communities. Download the briefing here.

EAPN attends meeting of Dignity International and Ekta Parishad in India

Olivier Marguery, Vice-President and Fintan Farrell, Director attended the recent meeting of Dignity International and Ekta Parishad held in India's most southern State Tamil Nadu. The meeting with Dignity International was an opportunity to share experiences of building mobilization actions to defend economic, social and cultural rights. The EAPN delegates had a chance to share experiences and strategies with representatives of grass-root organisations from India, Thailand, Kenya, Brazil, Cambodia and Malaysia. The meeting also provided an opportunity to look at how International Human Rights instruments can be used to support our struggles. For more information see: www.dignityinternational.org

The last days of the gathering were spent with leaders and supporters of Ekta Parishad (the Indian non-violent social movement of landless peasants) as they met before starting on 2 October their year-long march for land and livelihood rights. This march will culminate in October 2012 with 100.000 peasants march to Delhi to hold the Government accountable for their promised land reform. Fintan Farrell addressed the meeting to give a message of solidarity form EAPN. EAPN will promote knowledge about this march and we hope that EAPN members will join for part of the march (more information to follow). EAPN will also take inspiration from the Ekta march and organise events in Europe to show the link between the struggles to fight poverty in Europe and India and how that they are part of a global campaign.

For more information see: www.ektaparishad.com

NEWS from EAPN's NATIONAL NETWORKS

All EAPN National Networks' and European organizations' contact details and websites are available on EAPN's website here.

EAPN Ireland: Paying our Way - Progressive proposals for reforming the Irish tax system

On 11 October, <u>the Community Platform Challenging Poverty and Inequality</u> will launch *Paying our Way.* This publication outlines a realistic set of proposals which would take us from the underresourced, unsustainable and unfair tax system in place today and in the direction of a modern progressive European tax system.

FNARS (member of EAPN France): Yes to a housing policy first, no to a politicking slogan

05/10 - On 13 October the French local authorities of Ile de France (i.e. Department of Paris) will host the regional conference *Logement d'abord* (Housing first). In the following press release, FNARS sets the criteria of success of the housing reform so that, as Winter is about to start, this conference does not end up being just 'another conference'. Read FNARS <u>press release</u> (in French).

EAPN Austria: Action Day on the new Minimum Income System and a new regional network

Action Day on the new Minimum Income Scheme

One year after the introduction of the new Minimum Income scheme in Austria, EAPN Austria organised a Day of Action to raise attention regarding the shortcomings of the new scheme. Public actions took place across the whole country, to protest against the inadequate amount of 750 Euros - which lies about 25% below the Austrian poverty line -, the lack of information and the bureaucratic barriers people in need of minimum income have to face. Activists in Vienna built a cardboard brick wall to symbolize the existing barriers and shortcomings of the new system.



New regional network in Vienna

A new regional anti-poverty network went public at the beginning of October 2011 in Vienna. The "Wiener Armutsnetzwerk" (Viennese Poverty Network) includes 40 members representing a wide variety of social organisations, service

providers and self organisations of activists experiencing poverty and social exclusion who are active at city level. The aim of the network is to bring greater visibility to poverty and social exclusion in Vienna and to come up and go public with joint proposals on how to more effectively fight poverty and social exclusion in the city.

Website (German only): http://www.wienerarmutsnetzwerk.at/

Knowsley Advocacy Hub (member of EAPN England)

Knowsley Advocacy Hub is a service in the metropolitan Borough of Knowsley, England, currently working towards promoting the European Year of Active Ageing across the Borough. Julie Gibson, the manager of the Hub, said: "We are working with Knowsley Pensioner's Advocacy, Knowsley Disability Concern and KUC to raise awareness of the needs of older people in the Borough and promote their full inclusion in activities particularly in relation to advocacy and empowerment. EAPN England will be involved in the Year of Active Ageing hoping to bring an anti-poverty focus and we look forward to working with them". For further information email: juliegibson@knowsleyadvocacyhub.org or contact Julie on + 44 151 244 4090."

NEWS from the EUROPEAN INSTITUTIONS

Find all EU institutions news on EAPN's website here

> Access all events and news of the Polish Presidency here

Parliament hails Barroso's eurozone plan

13/10 - The leaders of the four largest groups in the European Parliament have strongly backed a plan by Commission President José Manuel Barroso to deal with the eurozone crisis, strengthening his position ahead of a crunch EU summit later this month. Read more on Euractiv.

Commission's Task Force for Greece progresses rapidly with technical assistance actions

13/10 - The Task Force for Greece organised its first high level coordination meeting on Wednesday 12 October with the Greek authorities, Member States and international organisations offering technical assistance to Greece.. Based on issues identified in the Memorandum of Understanding between the Greek authorities and the Troika as well as a first list of requests from the Greek administration received on 4 October, participants discussed on how to best organise technical assistance for Greece. The technical assistance will concentrate in three main areas... Read more on Europa website.

Barroso urges 'coordinated' bank recapitalisation

07/10 – Seeking to avert a spillover effect from the Dexia crisis, European Commission President José Manuel Barroso repeated the need to inject funds into the euro zone's troubled banks in several media appearances on 06 Oct. Read <u>more on Euractiv</u>.

Commission lays foundations to boost impact of cohesion investments after 2013

06/10 - The European Commission has adopted a legislative package for cohesion policy for the period from 2014 until 2020. It is designed to boost growth and jobs across Europe by targeting EU investment on Europe's Growth and Jobs Agenda (<u>Europe 2020 strategy</u>).

The focus on fewer investment priorities in line with these objectives will be at the heart of the new Partnership Contracts, which Member States will agree with the European Commission. They will set clear targets and set aside a financial performance reserve to reward regions who do best in reaching their goals. Read <u>more on the EC's website</u>.

New EU Programme for Social Change and Innovation

06/10 - The EU Programme for Social Change and Innovation (PSCI) is an instrument to be managed directly by the Commission, in support of employment and social policies across the EU. It is part of the Commission's proposal for the <u>EU regional, employment and social policy for 2014-2020</u> and will be adopted by the end of 2012.

The PSCI integrates three existing programmes: <u>Progress</u> (Programme for Employment and Social Solidarity), <u>EURES</u> (European Employment Services) and the <u>European Progress Microfinance</u> <u>Facility</u> and extends their coverage. Read <u>more on the EC's website</u>.

Employment, Social Policy, Health and Consumer Affairs Council, 3 October 2011, Luxembourg

03/10 – The Council held a policy debate on the future shape of the European Social Fund and its role in the implementation of the Europe 2020 Strategy. It took stock of preparations for the Tripartite Social summit on 17 October. The Council adopted conclusions on the role of voluntary work in social policy and on demographic challenges through better reconciliation of work and family life. It took note of the comments of different member states on the French and Slovenian initiative regarding the aid programme for the most deprived persons in the Union. Read the Council's press release.

European Commission puts new amendments on the table to overcome deadlock on Food for the deprived scheme

03/10 – The EU Aid for the Needy scheme, which provides food for as many as 18 million of the EU's most deprived citizens, faces a drastic cut in spending next year following a Court ruling in April. In a further effort to overcome the deadlock in the Council of Ministers and maintain the food distribution programme at current levels, the European Commission has put forward a second amended proposal to provide an impetus for a political agreement and to allow the successful food distribution scheme to continue in 2012 and 2013, as well as in the future. Read more on Europa website. Read also: (30.09) on the S&D Group website "S&D Group calls on heads of government to unblock EU 'Food For Free' money" and (20/09) Ministers fail to agree on food aid for most deprived persons on EAPN's website.

MEPs, NGOs hail Tobin tax proposal

28/09 - The European Commission officially presented its proposal for a Financial Transactions Tax (FTT), to the acclaim of the European Parliament's largest political groups, trade unions and development NGOs. The business community and British Conservatives were among those who voiced their opposition in the absence of a global FTT. Read more on Euractiv. Read here the Council Directive.

EU Economic governance "Six Pack" - State of Play

28/09 - The European Parliament approved the <u>EU Economic governance "Six Pack"</u>. The vote however was close, as S&D Party voted against or abstained on some aspects of the package, believing there to be insufficient balance between market requirements and social needs. They were joined in opposition by the Greens and United European Left/Nordic Green Left group.

Barroso sets out a EU strategy for sustainable growth and jobs in his annual State of the Union speech to the European Parliament

28/09 - Barroso in his speech to the Parliament said: "We are now facing the greatest challenge our Union has ever known throughout its history," he said, referring to the continuing economic crisis. The EU must renew itself by becoming more competitive, living within its means, taming "irresponsible" financial markets, addressing economic imbalances and addressing the pressures of globalisation. Above all, more political will and leadership is needed to rebuild confidence and trust – among its citizens and in the financial markets. The Commission's full reform agenda needs to be implemented so Europe can create sustainable growth and jobs. The agenda include. Read more on the Commission's website.

Commission requests United Kingdom to end discrimination of EU nationals residing in the UK regarding their rights to specific social benefits

29/09 - EU nationals who habitually reside in the UK are subject to the so-called 'right to reside' test to qualify for certain social security benefits. As this test indirectly discriminates non-UK nationals coming from other EU Member States it contravenes EU law. Read more on EC's website.

EC requests Ireland and Greece to comply with the EU rules on limits to working time in public health services

29/09 - The European Commission has requested Ireland and Greece to ensure full compliance with the EU rules on limits to working time for doctors in public health services. Read more on the EC's website.

Commission releases Communication on EU Policies and Volunteering

20/09 - In the context of the European Year of Volunteering 2011, the Commission released a <u>Communication on EU Policies and Volunteering</u>, which outlines a range of measures that will help foster voluntary activities in the EU, including the creation of a European Voluntary Humanitarian Aid Corps and the development of a 'European Skills Passport'. Significantly, this is the first time the European Commission has adopted a policy document dedicated exclusively to volunteering.

ILO's Somavia: Don't use the crisis as an excuse to weaken workers rights

19/09 - Unbalanced economic growth has increased inequality throughout the world and the financial crisis has only contributed to this trend, said International Labour Organisation Director-General Juan Somavia at a special meeting on the social dimension of globalisation with MEPs in Strasbourg on 14 September. The time has come to put "the real economy in the driver's seat" and start focusing on creating decent jobs for workers, he said. He told us more. Read more on the EP's website.

NEWS from NGOs and OTHERS

Find all news from NGOs and others <u>here</u>.

Activities around the 17th October, International day against poverty and social exclusion

Belgian Anti-Poverty Network demonstration on Sunday 16/10

On 16/10, on the eve of the International Day against Poverty, a demonstration starting at 1pm at North Station against poverty, but more specifically youth and child poverty. BAPN and its partners call on 3 main demands that you can find in the <u>campaign's text</u> (here in French).

Symposium Enfants consommateurs et pauvreté (in French only), Huy, Belgium

17 Oct in Charleroi

ATD Quart-monde:

On Monday 17/10, from 5 to 6pm, ATD will hold an event at the Brussels-Luxembourg train station, including a video, testimonies from ATD members from several countries and members of ATD, photo exhibition and closing of the event at the Stone for Victims of poverty at the EP. On that day, in Europe and throughout the world, several demonstrations will take place. See http://refuserlamisere.org/evenements/all-countries.

On Tuesday 18/10, ATD points out that the film *Joseph l'insoumis* will be broadcast on the French channel France 3. this film tells the story of Joseph Wresinski and the first years of ATD Fourth World, built with people living in extreme poverty.

SOLIDAR: State aid package needs more clarification

14/10 - This Wednesday, the Public Services and Social Economy Intergroups in the European Parliament discussed the state aid <u>package for services of general economic interest</u> (SGEI) issued two weeks ago by the European Commission. For social service providers, like many SOLIDAR members, this will determine whether state aid rules apply to the services they provide and in which way. SOLIDAR and the Social Platform will be asking the Commission to provide more clarifications on the proposals (ie legal certainty). Read <u>more on Solidar's website</u>.

Eurochild policy position on "Child poverty: family poverty – are they one and the same? - A rights-based approach to fighting child poverty"

12/10 - Two key factors distinguish a child poverty approach from a family poverty approach: the first is putting the child at the centre of all policy measures to combat child poverty and the

second is acknowledging the child as a social actor outside of the family. Once framed in a child rights context - based on the UNCRC and the existing legal base of the European Union - the distinctiveness of a child poverty approach becomes clear and should drive all policy initiatives to combat child poverty. Read <u>more on Eurochild's website</u>.

FoodSovCap: CAP 2014-2020: European Commission proposals fail to tackle food speculation and environmental crisis

12/10 – The European Commission announced proposals for the reform of the Common Agricultural Policy (CAP) today. Essential steps towards tackling rising food speculation are missing, and the proposed policy will fail to bring substantial benefits to sustainable family farmers, citizens or the environment, according to the 'European Movement for Food Sovereignty and Another CAP' (Foodsovcap). Read <u>full press release here</u>.

EPHAC - Press release: "CAP towards 2020 - legislative package does not go far enough"

12/10 - Today, the Commission published their vision for the Common Agriculture Policy towards 2020. The European Public Health and Agriculture Consortium (EPHAC) welcomes the European Commission's recognition of the urgent challenges of climate change and increasing pressure on the world's resources. However, EPHAC believes the proposals largely ignore public health and do not go far enough towards a truly sustainable food and farming policy. Read <u>full press release on EPHAC website</u>.

EPHA: Finally: real progress on the Information to Patients Directive?

11/10 - The European Commission released today its revised proposal on 'Information to Patients' which looks at different ways of providing information on prescribed medicines and the role of the pharmaceutical industry in providing such information on their products directly to people. The public health community cautiously welcomes this controversial and long awaited proposal. Read more on EPHA website.

MHE-SME: In times of crisis, the future is at stake

10/10 - "It is time for governments and European policy-makers to understand that the rise in mental health problems in Europe is due as much to the crisis as to governments' response to it. Budget cuts, the reduction of allowances for families and disabled people, diminishing benefits and a decrease in the number of staff working in social services will only worsen this already dire situation, and harm the poorest and most vulnerable members of society. (...) On the World's Mental Health Day, Mental Health Europe (MHE) is urging policy-makers to realize that the crisis will not last forever, but that cuts in social services, although seemingly-cost efficient now, will have lasting negative effects. Social welfare is not only a right, but a means to improve mental wellbeing". Read Mental Health Europe full press release, which includes key recommendations.

Eurohealthnet: "Health effects of financial crisis: omens of a Greek tragedy" - Evidence on health effects of financial crisis in Greece

10/10 - There are new and clear signs today that health outcomes in Greece have worsened during the financial crisis, especially in vulnerable groups of people. These concerns are detailed in a report published today in *The Lancet*, written by Alexander Kentikelenis and Dr David Stuckler, University of Cambridge, UK, and Professor Martin McKee, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, UK, and colleagues. EuroHealthNet finds this worryingly predictable and avoidable. Read <u>Eurohealthnet full press release</u>.

EU's green economy roadmap meets criticism

10/10 - The European Commission's roadmap for a resource-efficient Europe does too little to address environmental concerns, argue green campaigners while businesses have criticised it for ignoring the benefits eco-industries bring to the environment. Read more on Euractiv.

The Indignants March to Brussels

On 8 October, marches of the Indignant people from several countries throughout Europe and other countries arrived in Brussels to show their refusal of what they consider as political, economic and financial oligarchy, responsible for rising inequalities, in Europe and at global level, to be heard and seen and debate on another economic, political and financial system. That same day, everyone was invited to take part in the Global Agora. A demonstration took place as Marches arrived in Brussels. From 9 to 14 Oct, thematic forums are held on all Brussels' squares, as well as assemblies, performances, actions, workshops... and on 15 Oct, the demonstration of Know the World's Movement. more on https://www.indignez-vous.be/ www.walktobrussels.eu. Check out also #15oct events all over the world http://15october.net/where/. See also (13/10) Anti-capitalism protests spread to Brussels on Euractiv.

Migrants Resource Centre: online Migrants & Media Toolkit

10/10 – the new online Migrants & Media Toolkit for organisations working with migrants/bme communities is accessible via www.media4migrants.eu. For more information about the EPIM Project and the partner organisations: www.migrantsandmedia.eu

The toolkit is based on the learning from partner organisations in the Migrants & Media Project, funded by the European Programme for Integration & Migration and the New Economics Foundation. "The online toolkit is a practical guide for non-government organisations working with migrants that wish to engage with the media and give migrants a voice" says Ros Lucas, Executive Director of the Migrants Resource Centre, the co-ordinating partner organisation of this European project.

Federal Chancellor of Germany and leaders from five international organizations call for coordinated policy action to restore confidence and improve growth and employment prospects 06/10 - In a joint statement issued ahead of the next G20 Summit in Cannes on 3-4 November, the Federal Chancellor of Germany, Angela Merkel, and the heads of five international agencies, including ILO Director-General Juan Somavia, have called for increased international efforts to restore confidence to the world economy and carry out the structural policies needed to move towards a path of strong, sustainable and balanced growth. Read more on the ILO's website.

ETUC: European social cohesion at risk

06/10 - The European Commission issued a proposal to reduce European aid to the poorest regions so as to oblige governments to control their public spending. The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) opposes this approach which serves only to punish regions and people who are already in difficulty. Read more on ETUC website.

Solidar: MEPs support domestic workers

05/10 - In light of the World Day for Decent Work, SOLIDAR organised a <u>two-day Domestic</u> <u>Workers Tour</u> to call on <u>MEPs</u> and government representatives to support the ratification of the ILO Domestic Workers Convention (C189) which sets out that domestic workers must have the same basic labour rights as those available to other workers.

Social Platform: Eurogroup double penalising countries under austerity measures

03/10 - Not content with increased austerity measures, France and Germany are demanding the European Commission to remove financial support from those countries that do not meet EU budget consolidation demands. This will result in countries such as Greece being denied access to EU funds even those earmarked to help the disadvantaged. With a quarter of Greece's population now below the 2009 poverty line and facing increased austerity measures – this can only make the situation worse. Read <u>SP's full press release</u>.

International Day of Older Persons: AGE and HelpAge International urge the EU to commit to the UN action plan on ageing

01/10 – The International Day of Older Persons is the occasion to celebrate the important part played by older people in our societies and reflect on what should be done to effectively promote active and healthy ageing at global and EU level. Read full press release.

Amnesty International: Activists call for the right to housing for all

30/09 - Amnesty International activists, along with activists in Romania, inhabitants of Romani settlements that have been forcibly evicted and are facing forced evictions, gathered in front of the country prefecture in Cluj-Napoca in the north-west of the country on 3 October, World Habitat Day, to call for the right to housing for all and protection from forced eviction for everybody. The first Monday of every October is observed as World Habitat Day to reflect on the state of cities and towns and the basic human right to adequate shelter. read more on AI website.

EWL issues Statement calling for the highest standards for health professionals in the EU

30/09 - "Health Professionals' education must not be compromised in name of the Single Market", states the EWL in a Joint Statement issued on 30 September 2011 with the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), the European Patients' Forum and the European Consumers' Organisation (BEUC) in the context of the public consultation on the Green Paper on Modernising the Professional Qualifications Directive, adjacent to the Single Market Reform. Read more on the EWL website. Read also, 30/09, EWL addresses prostitution and NGO Observatories on violence against women at 11th International Women's Health Meeting.

New independent observatory of inequality in Europe

30/09 - <u>Inequality Watch</u> is an independent European observatory of inequality in Europe. The observatory looks at issues such as social inequality, including income inequality and in access to fundamental needs e.g. healthcare, education, housing, etc. These are the "main issues of social distinctions between individuals which fuel tensions and threaten social cohesion".

ETUC against depression and wage repression governance

28/09 – A common currency needs common rules. However, the rules on economic governance agreed today by the European Parliament are seriously flawed: These rules could trigger Europewide downwards wage competition, impose brutal and unbalanced fiscal austerity, depress economic activity. This would increase unemployment, poverty and inequalities. The European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC) continues to stand against this governance of austerity and wage repression. Read ETUC's full press release. Read also 28/09 ETUC Press release ETUC welcomes EU Financial Transaction Tax proposals.

Euromemorandum Group: Annual Conference of the EuroMemo Group and online discussion on the crisis

Papers and Presentations of the Annual Conference of the EuroMemo Group

24/25 Sept - The 17th Workshop on Alternative Economic Policy in Europe was held in Vienna, Austria. Specific European topics were discussed within five different workshops on

- Austerity policies
- The future of the eurozone
- The EU and the world
- Energy, climate change and sustainability, after Fukushima and
- Roots of the crisis of European integration

All papers presented can be downloaded at Euromemorandum's conference website.

See also Video with Panel Discussion online: "The crisis of the Eurozone - are there progressive answers?" and EuroMemo Group online discussion list on Alternative Economic Policy in Europe

All three news are on EAPN's website here.

ERGO Network: "Break the silence on violence against Roma"

28 September 2011 - Roma Youth organisations today urge the Council of Europe, European governments and EU institutions to break the silence on the acts of violence against Roma and the rise of extremism, racism and anti-Gypsyism in several European countries. To express their solidarity with Roma in Bulgaria, Hungary and Czech Republic and elsewhere, participants of the International Roma Youth Conference <u>demonstrated</u> in front of the European Parliament in Strasbourg today and issued a joint <u>declaration</u>.

Human Rights Watch: EU: Border Agency Exposes Migrants to Abusive Conditions

Frontex, the European Union's external border enforcement agency, is exposing migrants to inhuman and degrading conditions, Human Rights Watch said in a report issued today. Migrants apprehended along Greece's land border with Turkey are sent to overcrowded detention centers in Greece, Human Rights Watch said. Read more on HRW.

UN Department of Economic and Soc ial affairs: Closing the Gap

Leaders from rich and poor countries have pledged to work together to achieve the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) through efficient resource management, improved political accountability, debt relief and removal of trade barriers. Prepared by the UN MDG Gap Task Force, the report concludes that much more must be done to achieve these goals. Wealthy donor nations in particular need to make good on their commitments. The gap between what was promised, and what has been delivered has to be closed. Watch the webcast of the MDG Gap Task Force Report official release: Read the full report at DESA's http://www.un.org/en/development/desa/news/policy/minding-the-gap.html and UN News coverage.

>>> Take time to fill in ENAR's survey on 'Reasonable accommodation of cultural/religious diversity in the workplace

ENAR latest issue of ENARgy webzine: Special edition on the Norway attacks

PUBLICATIONS

Find all publications on EAPN's website here.

EuroMemorandum 2010/11 "Confronting the Crisis – Austerity or Solidarity"

EuroMemorandum 2010/11 "Confronting the Crisis – Austerity or Solidarity" can be downloaded in English, French, German, Greek and Spanish at our <u>website</u>. Short versions of the EuroMemorandum are available in Danish and Dutch, too.

FEANTSA: Tried and Tested: Social Innovation as a Means for Making Better Progress on Homelessness

The Autumn 2011 edition of *Homeless in Europe* bears the title "Tried and Tested: Social Innovation as a Means for Making Better Progress on Homelessness". The process of designing and implementing new products, services and models that meet social needs more effectively than alternatives and create new social partnerships is known as "social innovation". Such practices have long existed. However, the idea of having a social innovation "field" is a new concept in Europe. Promoting a social innovation agenda means supporting innovative practices that are proven to have met a particular social need and seeking ways to implement successful, small-scale initiatives on a larger scale ("scaling up"). A basic distinction between social and other innovation is that production is driven by social imperatives rather than economic and financial

ones. A European social innovation agenda can provide a framework for introducing this difference. Read the magazine online.

Network of independent social inclusion experts: 2 new publications

Policy solutions for fostering inclusive labour markets and for combating child poverty and social exclusion

Fostering inclusive labour markets and combating child poverty and social exclusion are two of the key challenges that need to be tackled by Member States if the objective of the Europe 2020 Strategy of smart, sustainable and inclusive growth is to be achieved. These challenges were identified following analysis of the National Reform Programmes (NRPs) which Member States submitted to the European Commission in April 2011. This short paper explores how these challenges can best be addressed and shares examples of good practices. It aims to... read more on the Peer Review on Social Protection website.

Assessment of progress towards the Europe 2020 social inclusion objectives With its objective of inclusive as well as smart and sustainable growth, and with its (first ever) EU poverty and social exclusion target, the Europe 2020 Strategy increases the importance of the EU's social objectives and integrates them with the EU's economic, employment and environmental objectives. The National Reform Programmes (NRPs) are the means by which countries are expected to translate the Europe 2020 objectives and targets into national policies. Access the report directly here.

Robert Schuman Foundation: How can the euro be saved?

The President of the Robert Schuman Foundation, Jean-Dominique Giuliani, has published an article in Le Figaro newsparper of 8th October in which he explains how the euro can be saved. He pleads in favour of strengthening of budgetary and fiscal objectives between France and Germany and even for a new treaty between our two countries... Read more

Can Europe do without economic governance?

La Documentation française has published a book by Jean-François Jamet entitled "L'Europe peut-elle se passer d'un gouvernement économique?" (Can Europe do without economic governance?). The author explains the challenges of an "economic government" and also underlines the obstacles of an economic, political and institutional nature that will have to be overcome before such governance can be established. Jean-François Jamet has produced numerous studies on econmic governance for the Robert Schuman Foundation... Read more one

Eurocities: Cities promoting the Active Inclusion of young people – new report

This new <u>overview report</u> on the active inclusion of young people shows that cities play an important role in promoting youth employment and the social inclusion of young people. Based on nine studies undertaken by the members of Cities for Active Inclusion, the report sets out trends, challenges and good practices on stimulating youth employment at local level. Rea <u>more on Eurocities website</u>.

ILO and EC: Trade and Employment: From Myths to Facts - ILO-EC publication

The edited volume "Trade and Employment: From Myths to Facts" is the outcome of a joint project of the European Commission and the International Labour Office. The book contributes to promoting the advancement of employment, decent work and social cohesion in developing countries by assisting policy makers and social partners in anticipating and addressing the effects of trade reforms on employment. Read more and download publication on ILO's website.

Eurofound: Shifts in the job structure in Europe during the Great Recession

07/10 - The World Day for Decent Work draws attention to the issue of quality of work. Eurofound's first report of the European Jobs Monitor, 'Shifts in the job structure in Europe during

the Great Recession', finds that employment continued to grow in top-paying jobs, largely in knowledge-intensive services and business services. Meanwhile, sharp losses in medium-paying jobs in construction and manufacturing led to a shrinking of employment in the middle of the wage spectrum. More jobs were lost to men than to women and employment levels of older workers grew while those of younger workers declined.

<u>Download the full report</u>. <u>Download the executive summary</u>, available in 26 languages.

PICUM: Undocumentary

UNDOCUMENTARY is an upcoming web documentary on the daily realities faced by undocumented migrants living in Europe. It was made by PICUM, an international NGO that promotes respect for the rights of undocumented migrants within Europe and seeks dialogue with other organisations with similar concerns and goals.

Fundamental Rights Agency Publishes 'Respect for and protection of persons belonging to minorities 2008-2010'

The Fundamental Rights Agency released a report on 29 September entitled 'Respect for and protection of persons belonging to minorities 2008-2010'. This report examines what the Treaty of Lisbon means for the protection of minorities, and the policies the EU has recently adopted in this field. It provides evidence of the still persistent phenomenon of discrimination found in many areas of life, including employment, housing, healthcare and education. Read more on FRA website.

Eurodiaconia new report on the impact of the crisis "Carrying the burden, diaconal work supporting people in need"

This <u>third Eurodiaconia report</u> provides confirmation of the trends described in the first two reports. It shows that the essential actors in the areas of social inclusion and provision of social services have been strongly hit by the economic and financial crisis. They are faced with increasing needs but also a decrease in public authorities' support. Interestingly, the report also shows that Eurodiaconia members have somehow been able to shoulder some of the impact of the crisis.

Council of Europe publishes: 'Migrants and fighting discrimination in Europe'

This book analyses the issue of migration in Europe in its multiple dimensions, claiming that appropriate responses to the changing ways in which we live together will emerge only through the development of a new model of integration, based on the principle of equal dignity for each individual. Read More

Study analyses the compatibility of Frontex, Europol and EASO with the EU Fundamental Rights Charter

The European Parliament Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs Department published a study on the "Implementation of the EU Charter of Fundamental Rights and its Impact on EU Home Affairs Agencies Frontex, Europol and the European Asylum Support Office (EASO)". The study evaluates the mandates, legal competences and practices of these three agencies, particularly in the fields of external border control and migration management. Read More

Report and video of ENAR's conference on "Building a large "Race for Equality Alliance" in Employment

Read the conference report
Read the conference report summary
Read about the conference and watch the 2-minute promo video of the conference

Solidar: New clip: throught the eyes of migrants: Andean agricultural workers in Spain

Over 20% of people in the Andean region live in poverty with no access to decent work. This lack of decent work and aspirations to live a decent life are one of the major reasons for international migration. In this <u>short clip</u>, migrant domestic workers in Spain working in the agricultural industry tell their stories. <u>Read more</u> about SOLIDAR's migration and development project. Follow last week's Domestic Workers Tour in pictures on SOLIDAR's Flickr account.

FEANTSA: 2 toolkits!

Report/toolkit Breaking Down the Myths: Providing and Managing Housing Services for Homeless People

This <u>toolkit</u> for Housing Practitioners offers practical advice and guidance, particularly through the use of good practices and case-studies, on how to plan, provide and manage housing services for homeless persons.

Employability Starter Kit - How to Develop Employability Services for Homeless People

This <u>Starter Kit</u> provides guidelines and information about enhancing employability and promoting employment of people experiencing homelessness. The main target audience is organisations that have little or no experience of providing employment-related services and initiatives to homeless people. In addition, this Starter Kit might be useful for employers who are working with people who are, or have recently been, homeless. The Starter Kit draws from expertise developed by the member organisations of FEANTSA who provide employment related services to people experiencing homelessness.

EPC Publications

EPC Report - The 'state of the Union' amidst the crisis

- The EU budget in an era of austerity: setting the example or compensating for national spending cuts?
- The 'state of the Union' amidst the crisis
- Is Germany still a 'good European'?

EC Monthly Labour Market Fact Sheet - October 2011

The level of unemployment in the EU has become stuck at 9.5%. After a clear decrease between October 2010 and March 2011 (-2.4 %, 555 000 persons) and an increase in the following three months (+1.0 %, 222 000 persons), the number of people looking for work in the EU stabilised in July and edged down slightly in August (-0.3 %, 62 000 persons), to 22.8 million. However, the overall outlook remains gloomy according to the latest Monthly Labour Market Fact Sheet published by the European Commission. Read more on the EC's website.

EU Employment and Social Situation Quarterly Review – September 2011

According to the new EU Employment and Social Situation Quarterly Review, against the backdrop of slower economic growth in many Member States, the hesitant recovery of the EU labour market seems to have come to a halt, while divergence continues to prevail among the 27 labour markets. Member States already experiencing a lower-than-average unemployment rate have seen unemployment drop even further. In contrast, some peripheral countries have seen persistently high or increasing unemployment. Read <u>more on the EC's website</u>.

AGENDA ...!

Check calendar of events on EAPN's website here.

Check out the Polish Presidency Calendar here

October 2011

17 Oct: International Day against Poverty and Social Exclusion

- 16 Oct : demonstration organised by the Belgian Anti-Poverty Network
- Symposium Enfants consommateurs et pauvreté (in French only), Huy, Belgium
- 17 Oct in Charleroi
- 17 and 18 Oct: ATD Fourth-World : see beginning of 'News from NGOs' section

17-18 Oct: First Annual Convention of the European Platform against Poverty and Social Exclusion. The Convention, to be organised on 17-18 October in Cracow, will review the progress made towards the headline target of reducing poverty and social exclusion by at least 20 million by 2020 and the implementation of the European Platform against Poverty. It will also debate suggestions for future actions.

18 Oct: <u>EMI Briefing with European Commissioner Cecilia Malmström on Mobility and Visa regulations in Europe</u>, Brussels.

18 Oct: <u>FUTURAGE road-map launch conference</u>, <u>Meeting the grand challenge of ageing: the European Research Agenda</u>, Brussels.

17-21 Oct: MIRACLE: International training course for teachers working with migrant students, Berlin.

19-21 Oct: CEV Symposium 'Volunteering and Active Citizenship-Two Sides of the Same Coin?', Berlin.

20 Oct: EP public hearing: SOCIAL ECONOMY as a response to the crisis in Europe, Brussels.

21 Oct: FEANTSA, first European Conference on Quality in Homeless Services, Luxembourg.

21 Oct: ILO and EC book presentation "Trade and Employment - From Myths to Facts", Brussels. Contact EuropeAid-infopoint-conferences@ec.europa.eu.

23-25 Oct: Council of Europe's 3rd International Roma Women Conference, Granada, Spain.

23 – 30 Oct: The United Network of Young Peacebuilders, Study session <u>PAVE your way! Peace and Volunteering in Europe</u>, Budapest.

26-27 Oct: Institut für Sozialarbeit und Sozialpädagogik e.V., Conference on "Volunteering and paid work in Europe", Munich, Germany.

27 Oct: <u>Energy Investment Day in Romania</u>: <u>sustainable energy projects and the European structural funds, Bucharest</u>, Romania.

27 Oct: European Women's Lobby presentation of the engaging <u>documentary Not for Sale and a welcomes</u> <u>EU Anti-trafficking Coordinator Myria Vassiliadou to discuss trafficking in women for sexual exploitation</u>, Brussels.

27 Oct: OSE Lunchtime Session: 27/10/2011: What's "Social" About the European Social Fund Beyond 2013?, Brussels. Contact: (mignolet@ose.be).

27-28 Oct: EIPA Seminar <u>EU Financial Services Law: New Regulatory and Supervisory Framework for Insurance</u>, Luxembourg.

November 2011

01-03 Nov: Centre for Ageing Research and Development in Ireland, <u>International Conference 'Ageing Globally - Ageing Locally'</u>, Dublin.

07 Nov: AGE Platform Europe, together with the Intergroup on Ageing and Intergenerational Solidarity, Towards a successful EY2012, European Parliament, Brussels - 14.00 - 17.00.

08 Nov: ELISAN, the European Local Inclusion & Social action network, <u>European Conference on</u> 'Territories, Laboratories for Social Europe', Brussels.

17-18 Nov: EIPA <u>Migration Seminars: Management & Control Structures, Making Sense of Migration Statistics</u>, Maastricht.

18-20 Nov: ECRE Training on Introductory European Legal Network on Asylum course: The International Protection of Refugees, Lisbon.

21-22 Nov: European Academy, Measuring Tools and Evaluation Techniques for EU Funds, Berlin.

22 Nov: CHES Policy Dialogue, Looking ahead to the 2012 European Year of active ageing — and health?, Brussels.

23 Nov: EPC Breakfast Policy Briefing, The priorities of the Danish Presidency of the EU, Brussels.

23-25 Nov: European Social Tourism Forum, Malta

25-26 Nov: PES Progressive Convention, Brussels.

24-26 Nov: PES Council and the PES Progressive Convention, Brussels.

26 Nov: ENAR conference: "Thinking beyond migration: Opening up new integration paths", Brussels.

30 Nov-02 Dec: Eurochild's 8th Annual Conference 2011 - Tackling child poverty through supporting and strengthening families, Cardiff, Wales. Programme: Click here. Registration: Click <a href=here.

29-30 Nov: International Catholic Migration Commission (ICMC), <u>Global Forum on Migration & Development Civil Society Days (GFMD CSD)</u>, Geneva, Switzerland.

December 2011

06 Dec: <u>EPC Conference Shrinking rights for undocumented migrants: The impact of restrictive migration</u> policies and the responsibility of the media, Brussels.

09 Dec: Academy of European Law, Annual Conference on EU Migration Law 2011, Dublin.

January 2012

26-27 Jan: Academy of European Law, Project Management for EU Funded Projects, Berlin.

TENDERS and GRANTS

Find all funding opportunities on EAPN's website here.

Calls for proposals

- Find here all calls concerning the 7th Framework Programme (FP7).
- <u>Pilot projects on employment of persons with autism spectrum disorders</u> no deadline specified.
- <u>Youth in Action</u> Programme (2007 2013) Deadline: from 01 February 2007 up to the end of 2013. Deadlines vary according to Action. Please contact the European Commission or your National Agency).
- Lifelong Learning Programme 2011 Call Several deadlines throughout 2011
- <u>Call for proposals: Europe for Citizens Programme: Active Citizens for Europe, Active civil society in Europe and Active European Remembrance</u> **Several deadlines throughout 2011**
- Preparatory action "Your first EURES job" Deadline: 20 Oct 2011.

- Pilot Project: <u>All-Inclusive Cooperation between Public Authorities</u>, <u>Commercial Firms and Social Enterprises for Social Inclusion and Integration into the Labour Market</u> Deadline: 15 Nov 2011.
- Call for proposals for social experimentations Progress 2011 Deadline: 15 Dec 2011.
- Advancing Roma Inclusion Through Arts & Culture Deadline: Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis through Dec 31, 2012.

Call for tenders

• Study on Mobility, Migration and Destitution in the European Union – Deadline: 18 Oct 2011.

Call for Papers

International Conference on Contemporary Housing Issues in a Changing Europe, 20th – 21st April 2012

The Centre for Housing Law, Rights and Policy, in association with the European Network for Housing Research (ENHR) Legal Aspects of Land and Planning WG, the Public Interest Law Alliance (PILA), the European Federation of National Organisations Working with the Homeless (FEANTSA), Housing Rights Watch, Fondation Abbé Pierre and the Centre for Disability Law and Policy (CDLP), welcomes you to the International Conference - Contemporary Housing Issues in a Changing Europe.

SHARING INFORMATION

Do you wish to share information, announce an event or a publication? Please, send it to team@eapn.eu

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This programme was established to financially support the implementation of the objectives of the European Union in the employment and social affairs area, as set out in the Social Agenda, and thereby contribute to the achievement of the Lisbon Strategy goals in these fields.

The seven-year Programme targets all stakeholders who can help shape the development of appropriate and effective employment and social legislation and policies, across the EU-27, EFTA and EU candidate and pre-candidate countries.

To that effect, PROGRESS purports at:

- providing analysis and policy advice on employment, social solidarity and gender equality policy areas;
- monitoring and reporting on the implementation of EU legislation and policies in employment, social solidarity and gender equality policy areas;
- promoting policy transfer, learning and support among Member States on EU objectives and priorities;
 and
 - relaying the views of the stakeholders and society at large.

For more information see:

http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=327&langId=en

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