

The EYV2011 Tour



Volunteer! Make a difference
Стани доброволец! Дай своя принос
Dobrovolníci! Meňte svet
Bliv frivillig, og gør en forskel!
Freiwillig. Etwas bewegen!
Γίνε εθελοντής! Η προσφορά σου είναι η αλλαγή
Kazite volontarid! Morda la dila
Dobrovolníci! Meňte svet



European Year of Volunteering 2011



The EYV2011 Tour



European Year of Volunteering 2011



Presentation



The European Commission designated 2011 as the European Year of Volunteering. Both a celebration and a challenge, the Year set out to recognise and thank the millions of people in Europe who make a difference by working in their communities during their free time without being paid.

Hundreds of innovative, informative and enlightening activities, discussions and workshops enabled visitors to get up close and personal with volunteers and the organisations behind them.

It also aimed to raise awareness about volunteering and encourage new volunteers to sign up, by showing them the multiple avenues and advantages to becoming a volunteer – both for society as a whole and for each and every individual who volunteers.

The EYV Tour represented one of the main arteries of the Year. Visiting all 27 EU Member States, over the 12-month period it brought Europe closer to volunteers and volunteers closer to society.

Each 3-14 day tour stop provided volunteers with the chance to exhibit their work, meet one another, engage with policy-makers and the general public, convey their energy and enthusiasm and discuss key issues of their work.

Extraordinary stories from ordinary people inspired members of the public to consider how they too could volunteer and improve their communities at local, national and European levels.

Important policy makers and stakeholders joined debates on how to support and improve life for volunteers around the world and to encourage new volunteers to sign up. Thanks to the EYV Relay and the presence of media, many of these events were publicised and reached a wide audience.

The EYV Tour could not have existed without the help of countless volunteers across Europe. This book is dedicated to each and every one of them, and to every volunteer that gives their time, devotion and energy to making a difference to society as a whole.

Millions of thank you's...



This book has been produced in the context of the European Year of Volunteering 2011, an initiative of the European Commission.



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Printed in Spain.

The journey begins...



The European Commission launched the European Year of Volunteering 2011 on December 2nd, 2010 in Brussels.

Vice-President Viviane Reding, EU Commissioner for Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship, Jean-Marc Delizée, Belgium's Federal Secretary of State for Social Affairs, and European Parliament Member Marian Harkin welcomed in the year. Ms. Reding paid tribute to the millions of Europeans who take the time to make our world a better place, and to highlight that each and every citizen has the ability to care for those in need. She also emphasized how volunteering strengthens core European values of solidarity and social cohesion. Ms. Reding called on all Europeans to share and give something more and to focus on helping the helpers. Launch attendees also received a small taste of the hundreds of pro-volunteering activities that would be highlighted and promoted in the forthcoming twelve months.

Each action would be united under the slogan Volunteer! Make a Difference. This slogan would appear on posters, flyers, brochures and billboards across all EU Member States over the course of the Year.

During the launch, the 27 Relay volunteer reporters received electronic devices to help them cover the activities of volunteers in Europe. This 27-strong team comprised of one reporter from each Member State with a background in journalism. The young, enthusiastic reporters would cover each stage of the EYV 2011 Tour.

The team was raring to get moving and share stories from volunteers living in other Member States. Each would produce a series of video and audio clips and articles to broadcast and publish in the media and on the Web.

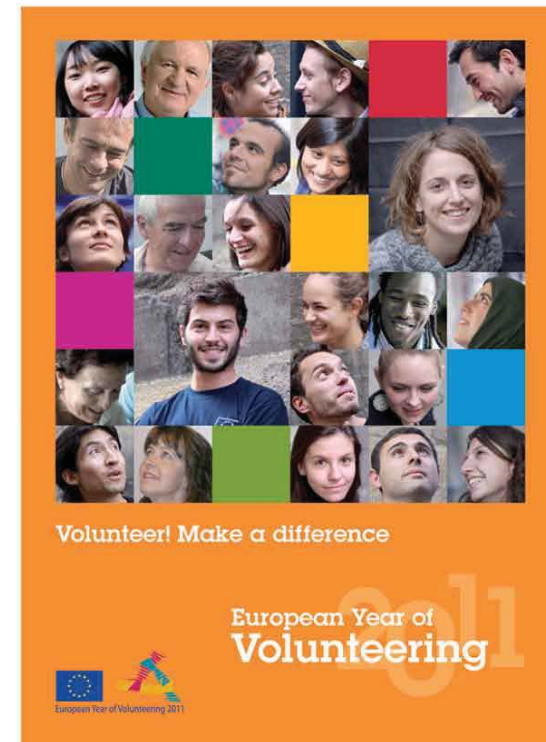


The website would be combined with new technologies like social networking to ensure the relay reports reached as wide an audience as possible. Once complete, all reports would be compiled at the end of the year to form a broadcast-quality documentary about the European Year and its tour.

The Brussels launch also served as a springboard for the first of the 27 EYV tour stops. To kick off the year-long, EU-wide tour, the EYV tent in Place d'Espagne stood proud, ready to welcome the first volunteers, organisations, visitors and press who would come to discover how we can all volunteer and make a difference.

«If our hopes of building a better and safer world are to become more than wishful thinking, we will need the engagement of volunteers more than ever», Kofi Annan said. It is in this spirit that 100 million Europeans dedicate their time and expertise to help those in need and give back to their communities: A retired art teacher gives lectures on European masterpieces to foreign visitors at a museum. A high school student reads to sick children at a hospital. A former national football player coaches at a neighbourhood club. There are thousands of ways people make a difference. To highlight these efforts and encourage more citizens to join in, the European Commission today kicked off the **European Year of Volunteering 2011**».

Viviane Reding, Vice President of the European Commission.





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Ready, Steady... Volunteer!

First stop: Brussels! The ten-day Belgian EYV tour stop was held in December 2010, in a specially designed tent in the city's Place d'Espagne.

The tent was organized into three different sections: A marketplace where visitors could meet the volunteers and hear extraordinary stories from ordinary people; a debate room where they could have their say and an EU Corner where they could discover what it means to be a volunteer.

It was a busy ten days, to say the least: volunteers and organizations involving volunteers (OIVs) met and mingled with an enthusiastic public.

Debates took place with policy-makers, volunteers and citizens, and of course entertainment was high on the agenda, dance, theatre and music performances, plus interactive activities.

A quiz hosted by Joost from Dutch Volunteer Organization Het Punt invited the audience to answer questions on volunteering. Each correct answer earned contestants the right to hit a nail with a hammer and the winner was the contestant that hit the last nail on the head.

The Belgian reporter picked up his camera and mics, raring to head off to Budapest and cover inspiring stories from volunteers and volunteer organizations.

Brussels launched the campaign with a large pavilion specifically created for this occasion on the Place d'Espagne.





Volunteering opens doors to people of all ages, backgrounds and walks of life. Stepping into the Brussels EYV Tent, visitors were welcomed into a hive of positive activity. Volunteers and the organizations behind them invited members of the public to hear their stories and learn more about the fulfilling world of volunteering, in their own time and at their own pace. During the launch, the 27 Relay volunteer reporters received electronic devices to help them cover the activities of volunteers in Europe.





All Aboard!

Ahoy volunteers, policy makers, entities, and citizens of all ages... a custom-built swinging ship named HintaYo flew the flag for volunteering in the Hungarian capital.

A symbol of cooperation, the ship was launched by Vice President of the European Commission, Viviane Reding and President of the Hungarian Republic, Pál Schmitt. Mrs. Reding's powerful inaugural speech called on everyone to jump onboard and become a volunteer.

Budapest's Milanaris Theatre was the venue for this action-packed weeklong tour stop. It welcomed thousands of visitors from all ages, backgrounds and walks of life to attend, with presentations and activities hosted by volunteers and volunteering organizations.

Hungarian customs were showcased through stunning displays of folkloric dance and nightly concerts. Multicultural diversity also filled the event, as volunteers from other countries took part in the tour stop event to share their stories.


It was a week well worth writing home about! Visitors were invited to mail a postcard from the tour stop, featuring a special edition stamp designed for the event – or to send an e-postcard at the click of a button.

The EYV Belgian reporter also stopped by to hand the camera to the Hungarian reporter, who set his compass for the next stop: Austria.

Vice President of the European Commission, Viviane Reding and President of the Republic of Hungary, Pál Schmitt, inaugurated the campaign swinging ship.





 A concert took place each evening to conclude the daily activities at the Budapest EVV tour stop. Visitors were spellbound by the array of sights and sounds filling the Theatrum. From classical, to folk, to rock there was something to suit everyone — rather like volunteering itself!

Many hands make light work! Games and craft activities inspired volunteers and visitors to roll up their sleeves and solve problems together. A giant dice game in the EU corner kept everyone on their toes as part of the Youth in Action Programme project.





Önkéntes Turné 2011. január 8-14.
Gyere el, próbáld ki a kapcsolódást!

Önkéntesként a Változásért!



A Warm Welcome from a Snowy City

It was hats, scarves and boots for one and all at the inauguration of the EYV tour stop in Vienna. Few in the crowd seemed to mind the chilly temperature!

The EYV truck parked up right next to Vienna's famous Rathaus – in the snow! Organisations, journalists, volunteers and visitors came from all over Austria to fill the impressive gothic venue.

The 3rd President of the Vienna Government, Marianne Klicka, European Parliament Delegate, Mag. Evelyn Regner, European Commission Representative, Mag. Richard Kühnel and Federal Minister, Rudolf Hundstorfer gave a warm welcome to this inspiring three-day event.

Local music performances echoed through the Rathaus' ornate arches, while diverse presentations, activities and workshops promoted the power of volunteering.

Dozens of stands invited visitors to come and meet the volunteers and organizations that improve citizens' lives on a daily basis.

The Vienna fire brigade and ambulance fleet gave visitors an insight into their daily work and rescue

dogs performed for the public... after all, when it comes to volunteering, it's not just humans that make a difference!

Having filmed all over Austria, the Hungarian reporter for the EYV relay passed the camera to the Austrian reporter, who was raring to get to (sunnier) Portugal for the next leg of the tour.

The 3rd President of the Vienna Government, Marianne Klicka, took a moment to say thanks to over 3 million Austrian volunteers.





Active demonstrations of where volunteering counts, plus conferences and one-on-one time with volunteers were interspersed with stunning multicultural musical performances. Vienna's stunning Rathaus, with its awe-inspiring gothic architecture provided the perfect backdrop for the EYV Austria tour stop. The historic Rathaus was designed by Friedrich von Schmidt and built between 1872 and 1883. On the top of the tower is the Rathausmann, one of the most striking and most recognized symbols of Vienna.





A Win-Win Situation

The weeklong EYV Lisbon tour stop event was honoured with the presence of not just one, but four Portuguese First Ladies who came to show their support! Current First Lady of Portugal, Maria Cavaco Silva was accompanied by her predecessors Maria José Ritta, Maria Barroso and Manuela Eanes.

Around 4000 visitors attended the Lisbon event to learn more about volunteering. Popular TV journalist, Fernanda Freitas helped spread the message to viewers at home.

Extraordinary stories about ordinary people that make a difference were a key focus of the Lisbon event as volunteer organizations explained their experiences to visitors in the marketplace. Famous Portuguese writers also stopped by to add a literary spin by narrating true stories about volunteerism.

Oh, and did you know that volunteering can make life sweeter? Coffee producer Delta Café supported the campaign by distributing sugar sachets with the EYV logo and providing coffee machines for the tour.

The EC Representation in Lisbon, the EU Parliament Office in Lisbon and The Jacques Delors Euro-

pean Information Centre also took part in round table discussions and presentations.

And last but not least: to prove that volunteering is a win-win situation, the Lisbon event inaugurated a special European Year of Volunteering Lottery! Everyone ready to play ball?

Elza Chambel, National Coordinator and Fernanda Freitas, TV journalist welcomed the EYV tour stop in Lisbon, which took place at the Fórum Picoas.



2011, um ano para...

O mundo do voluntariado

Principais desafios

Sê voluntário! Faz a diferença

www.europa.eu/volunteering
www.aeyv2011.eu



Volunteering can and does save lives every day. Visitors were invited to learn basic first aid and CPR resuscitation techniques from volunteers who put them into practice for the emergency services. In addition to vital debates and informative activities, the daily cultural programme at the Lisbon EYV tour stop was diverse and non-stop. Everywhere visitors turned, they were greeted by entertainment: invigorating choral performances by choirs of all ages, traditional Portuguese music, African dance and even clown performances made the event memorable and mesmerizing.





A Piece of the Action

The opening of our Luxembourg tour stop was a piece of cake! Ms. Marie-Josée Jacobs, Minister for Families and Integration and Mr. Ernst Moutschen, Head of EC Representation in Luxembourg sliced a giant gâteau to hand to volunteers.

Four ministers participated in the four-day event: Ms. Jacobs was joined by Ms. Françoise Hetto-Gaasch, Minister of Middle Classes and Tourism, Mr. Romain Schneider, Minister of Sport and Mr. Jean-Marie Halsdorf, Minister for Home Affairs and the Greater Region.

Key note speakers of the evening conference included Ms. Viviane Reding, Vice President of the EC, who spoke to 120 participants about the passion she saw in the eyes of the volunteers she had met. Famous Luxembourg sporting personalities also made an appearance to address the importance of volunteering in sport with event participants.

Volunteering as a way of giving, protecting and nourishing life at all stages was portrayed in a symbolic volunteering tree designed by high school students, who discussed their ideas on how to keep the tree alive and blooming.


Music was the food of love as lunch breaks brought visitors and volunteers together for a good old sing-along and knees up, Luxembourg-style!



On the right, Ms. Marie-Josée Jacobs, Minister for Family and Integration.





 What you see is what you get with volunteering: real people making a real difference to the lives of others and their own. A strong visual symbol of this strength and hope is the EYV tour's brightly coloured balloons that appear at each event. In Luxembourg, this element inspired a group of students to create a 3D version of the balloons, which stood proud in the entrance to welcome visitors.

Help is everywhere: many of the visitors were pleasantly surprised to learn just how many areas of their everyday lives are improved by volunteers. The Portuguese relay reporter also dropped by to hand the camera to his Luxembourg counterpart, who was off to Madrid.



A Look in the Mirror

The majestic Marqués de Salamanca Palace, that currently belongs to BBVA, was the impressive venue for the Madrid EYV tour stop, which brimmed with colour and sound! Famous TV presenter Vicente Vallés welcomed 600 participants to the opening ceremony where the Pulso y Púa Orchestra gave an uplifting start to the Spanish leg of the tour.

Spanish TV channel TVE, covered several days of the weeklong event, interviewing volunteers from the diverse participating organizations. A discussion on Corporate Volunteering endorsed the importance of volunteering at work, by inviting 30 representatives of large Spanish companies to «Look in the Mirror».

«Volunteering for Everyone!» was the resonant message of the Madrid stop: an interactive quiz entitled «Give Colour to the World» fostered positive exchanges on values between youngsters and seniors.

Representatives of the French, Hungarian, Polish and Romanian Embassies met to speak with volunteers. Together they discussed how to undertake voluntary work in these countries and how best to enhance European collaboration.

Creativity fuelled the Madrid event: for Environment Day, actors in recycled costumes stood tall to spread the

message about protecting the planet – from the top of their stilts. The Madera de Cayuco Cultural Association for Music and Social Awareness gave a moving performance that got the whole palace up and jiving, while a Polish theatre group gave a guest performance interpreting works by the famous Spanish author, Gabriel Garcia Lorca. Grupo Danzass, a Down's syndrome performance troop, wowed the audience with their stunning display.

Ms. Patricia Bueno, Corporate Social Responsibility Director of BBVA Spain and Portugal congratulated the organizers and the participants in her opening speech.





Various volunteering organisations had the opportunity to present their work and share their experiences during the conferences, presentations, workshops, debates and photo exhibitions. Grupo Danzass, a Down's syndrome performance troop, vowed the audiences with their stunning display. In the EU corner, foreign embassies were given a chance to shine and introduce Spanish visitors to a range of multicultural activities. Showcasing national arts, crafts and short movies, the embassies shared and celebrated the similarities and differences between their countries and Spain. By bringing participants and visitors together to take part in these activities they highlighted that volunteering has no borders...







Making a Song and Dance...

There was no shortage of entertainment at this tour stop: NGO Very Special Arts Helias coordinated a dance event featuring high school students and disabled individuals. Pop music concerts by student bands kept everyone on their toes in the evenings.

The Greek tour stop took place at the Technopolis Industrial Museum, Athens. For seven days, the venue in the Greek Capital buzzed with life: over 100 organizations participated and NGO Climax Radio Plus reported on the event live from the venue, every day.

Mrs. Louka Katseli, Greek Minister of Labour and Social Security welcomed the tour in a press conference. The weeklong event kicked off with an opening discussion among important policy makers. These included: Mr. Yiannos Livanos, Secretary General for Youth, Mr. Theodoros Tsekos, Secretary General of European Funds Management, Mr. Panos Karvounis, Head of EC Representation in Greece and Mr. Loenadis Antonakopoulos, Director of the EPIO's for Greece.

Mrs. Rodi Kratsa, Vice President of the European Parliament joined the tour on the designated day of Volunteering and Humanitarian and Developmental

Aid and Natural Disasters. A key discussion on volunteering in natural disasters and wildfires analysed the challenges facing voluntary organizations in these situations.

Minister of Labour and Social Security, Mrs Louka Katseli welcomed the Greek tour stop and highlighted the work of the relay reporters.





Debates, demonstrations and interactive games and workshops gave visitors of all ages a chance to get to know and help each other. First aid workers and volunteers gave people a hands-on demonstration of some of the tasks that they undertake in the community. A Disabled Individuals as Volunteers presentation and workshops was particularly resonant.





A Chance to Grow Together

Planting the seeds of volunteerism from a young age was a strong theme at the Cyprus tour stop, which featured a series of school activities. Youngsters were invited to create posters with volunteering slogans, participate in workshops and mix with real volunteers from other countries. Over in the EU corner, an interactive digital game challenged visitors to see what kind of volunteer work is best suited to them.

Workshops based on real cases of volunteering invited participants to put themselves in the place of volunteers and some of the people they helped, such as visually impaired citizens.

The stage at the Nicosia tour stop became a platform for some fantastic performances. The Saint Lucas Parent Association for Mentally Handicapped Adults danced their way into the audience's hearts. Europe's youngest volunteers took to the stage while a deaf girl interpreted song lyrics in sign language.

The inaugural ribbon for the 3-day Nicosia tour stop was cut by Mrs. Elsie Christofia, First Lady of Cyprus and Honorary President of the Pan-Cyprian Volunteerism Coordinative Council (PCVC). She joined

Mr. Stavros Olimpios, President of PCVC and Mr. Alexandros Alexandrou from the EYV National Coordinating Body.

Mrs. Sotiroula Charalambous, Minister of Labour and Social Insurance also wore her EYV visitor's bracelet with pride. The Greek relay reporter hardly wanted to hand the camera to his Cypriot colleague, who was heading to France.

Mrs. Sotiroula Charalambous, Minister of Labour and Social Insurance wore her orange EYV visitor's wristband with pride!





Mr. Jan Trzuszczynski, Director General from the EC's DG for Education and Culture, gave a speech reflecting from education and culture perspectives. More than 250 organisations came together at the closing event to listen to the President of the Republic of Cyprus, Mr. Dimitris Christofias, speak about the importance of the presence and involvement of volunteer organisations in building and maintaining communities.





Great InTENTions

Strategically situated opposite Paris City Hall, the EYV tent was a stunning sight to behold. Mounted in a bustling, popular central location, it welcomed an EYV record of 9000 visitors over the course of this week-long tour stop event. High-level officials opened the French leg of the tour.

Vibrant, diverse cultural activities surrounded the structure – including Capoeira and Batucada performances ... there was truly something for everyone!

The French tour stop event became a hive of activity for local, national and European media who provided extensive coverage of the week. The House of Associations in Paris organized two speed-dating events to help foster engagement and interaction between volunteer organizations and potential new candidates.


Artistic flair and inspiration filled the Paris event: The Express Your Volunteering workshop organized by the European Youth Parliament united a collection of art works for public viewing. The pieces were exhibited during the tour before being re-housed at the French Ministry of Education buildings. The Mains Diamants Association offered improvised sign language

lessons to visitors, while the Federation of Country Dances gave free lessons to the public in front of City Hall.

The first speech of the opening ceremony of the Paris tour stop was delivered by Ms. Jeannette Bougrab, the French State Secretary for Youth and Community Life.





 A stunning batucada performance banged the drum for volunteering at the Paris EYV tour stop event. This vibrant Brazilian percussion performance got the whole tent and everyone outside it jumping for joy!

Each day of the Paris tour stop was highlighted an area of daily life and society that simply could not exist without the help of volunteers. On designated Volunteering and Sports Day, fun and fitness were top of the agenda! Participants of all ages got their skates on as the Comité Départemental de Roller Skating de Paris invited visitors to roll up and roller around outside the EYV big top.





M
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LIBERTÉ

ÉGALITÉ

FRATERNITÉ

Mairie de Paris
Fêtes
Le mardi 12 septembre 2012
de 14h à 18h
à la Mairie de Paris



All You Need is Volunteers!

It would have been hard for anyone passing through Tallinn in May not to notice that the EVV 2011 Tour was in town! An extensive promotional campaign welcomed visitors from near and far to stop by the Nokia Concert Hall and meet the volunteers and organizations that make a difference to their lives.

Participation and working together were strong messages of the tour stop event in Tallinn. Visitors were invited to try their hands at first aid, learn self-defence with local volunteer police officers and even decorate their own shoes!

The European Voluntary Service (EVS) organised creative activities including a group mystery game that focused on the strength of problem solving together and the power of many helping hands.

Mr. Siim-Valmar Kiisler, Minister of Regional Affairs opened the event and took part in a televised public debate with Mr. Ken-Marti Vaher, Minister of Internal Affairs and Mr. Mar Laar, Minister of Defence to share opinions on the role and situation of volunteers in their sectors. The closing ceremony featured a heartfelt thank you to all the groups and individuals that had

joined forces to create such an important event. Mr. Kiisler handed out diplomas to all participating organizations to show his appreciation for everyone that made the Tallinn tour stop possible. Mr. Kiisler personally thanked the organizations and volunteers.

Drum orchestra Trumm-It enriched the closing event with a stunning performance that filled the Nokia Concert Hall with magical drum beats for 15 minutes.

Mr. Siim-Valmar Kiisler, Minister of Regional Affairs, opened the event and took part in a televised public debate.





Arts, craft, music and dance filled this event. What's more, the Tallinn tour stop proved that life is full of surprises: A flashmob (on the left page) materialised when least expected and burst into song! It didn't take long for the mob to get to every visitor and participant in the place to jump up and join in with its rendition of «All You Need is Love» by The Beatles.





A Moving Event to Mobilize Volunteers

The picturesque Romanian Peasant Museum was the designated hub for the Bucharest EYV tour stop. Its powerful opening ceremony united illustrious personalities, including Mrs. Doina Melinte, Chairwoman of the Romanian National Authority for Sport and Youth and Ms. Irina Cajal-Marin, Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Culture and President of the Federation of Volunteer Activities.

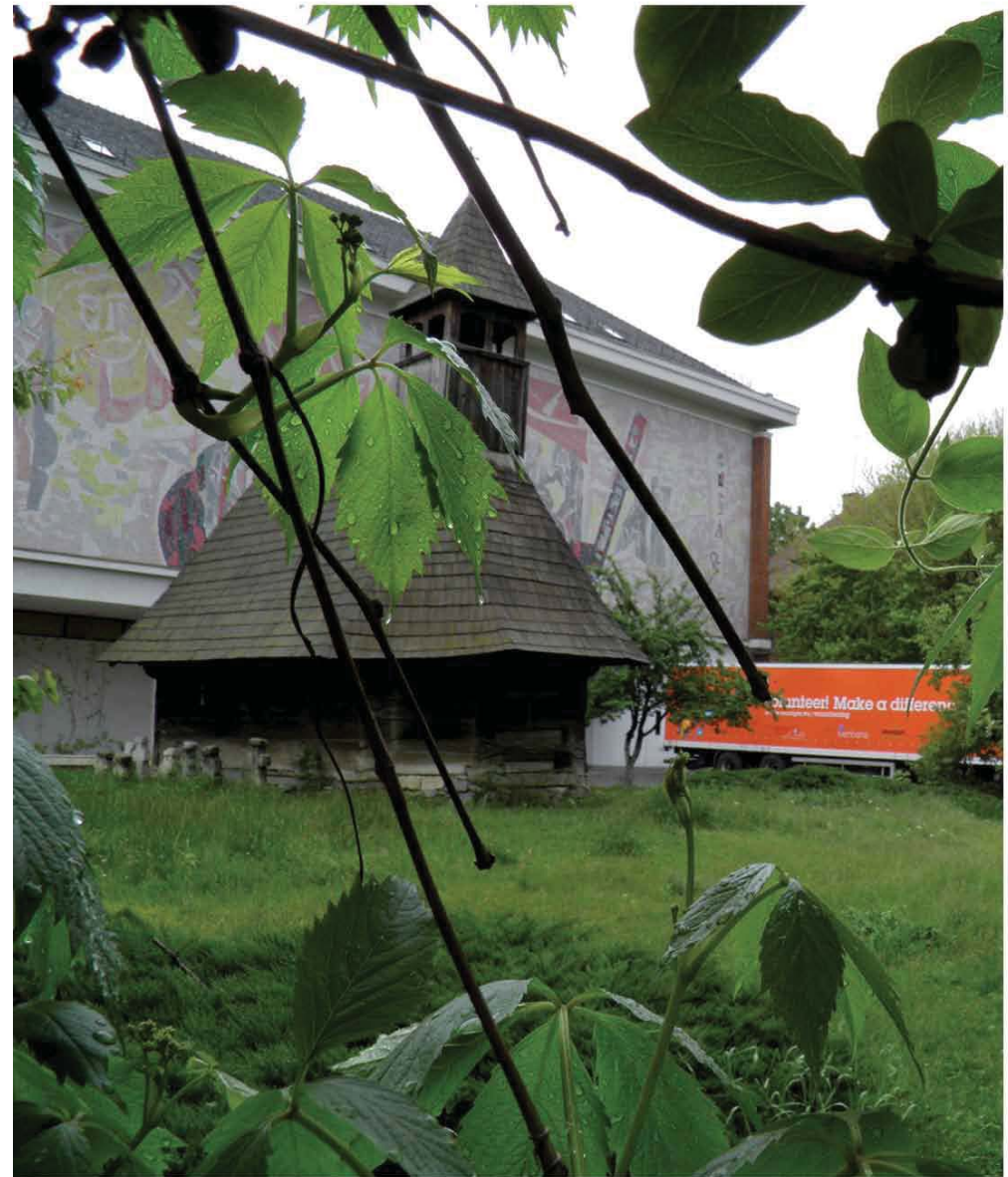
Popular Romanian celebrities dropped in on the weeklong Bucharest tour stop event to show their support: musician Damian Draghici appeared as a special guest at the opening ceremony.

Volunteering improves the lives of volunteers as well as those they are helping. A collection of hand-crafted items made by inmates at the TârguDor Women's Penitentiary attracted great attention. Each object was created on a voluntary basis as part of the women's occupational therapy.

Live, local music kept the visitors entertained as they wandered through the exhibitions, stopped to chat with volunteers, or attended presentations by volunteer organizations to learn how they too could

make a difference. Slovenia calling! The Romanian EYV relay reporter also appeared to take the camera and hit the road to Ljubljana.

Mrs. Irina Cajal-Marin, Undersecretary of State in the Ministry of Culture welcomed participants to the opening ceremony.





Visitors were impressed to learn about volunteering opportunities within the framework of European Voluntary Service. Young citizens in particular, were encouraged to join the Romanian volunteering family. Road safety was a strong theme at this event: Romanian stakeholders held an open debate to celebrate the launch of the UN Decade of Actions for Road Safety. Famous rally driver Manu Mihalache explained the difference between race driving and road driving.





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«Good Deeds Need YOU...»

The Ljubljana tour stop event opened on a gorgeous spring day, to the vibrant beats of a rather special guest – famous Slovenian rapper and activist Darko Nikolovski. Visitors at the opening ceremony also feasted their eyes on stunning dance performances by the Forma group, under the guidance of acclaimed instructor, Nataša Potočnik.

A striking human collage of the Slovenian tour stop slogan: «Good deeds do not need advertising... good deeds need you» – sent a strong message to the crowd. The motto also featured on specially designed T-shirts – one of which was proudly worn by the mayor, Zoran Janković!

To make the most of the sunshine, the tour moved from its hub at the Ljubljana City Museum to the city's main square for one day. Over 80 organizations made direct contact with visitors and the location's central stage brimmed with artistic activities like traditional song and dance.

Music accompanied visitors, volunteers, stakeholders and organisations wherever they wandered through this tour stop event: The US Embassy in Slovenia took

the opportunity to present a project that showcased Bob Dylan's legacy while promoting volunteerism among Slovenian youth... through music.

The gentle, moving melody of a hang drum player ushered in the closing ceremony of a very harmonious week in Ljubljana.

The ambassador of the European Year of Volunteering, Vlasta Nussdorfer.





On May 25th, the tour made the most of the fine weather and temporarily moved to the Preseren Square with diverse entertainment for every taste. Face painting, dance, music and even fitness complemented an outdoor marketplace dedicated to volunteering. Morning exercise sessions encouraged visitors to rise and shine together. Citizens from more than 10 local villages got together to work out, start the day on a healthy note and enjoy each other's company.



The EYV Tour's Heart Beats in Vilnius

Vilnius Town Hall provided a stunning backdrop for the Lithuanian EYV tour stop, which took place within its historic walls and outside in the square. Mr. Donatas Jankauskas, Minister for Social Security and Labour and Mr. Martinas Zaltauskas, Director of the NGO Information and Support Centre cut the orange ribbon around the Town Hall columns. As the ribbon was cut, volunteers formed a heart in the middle of the square and cheered the slogan of the Year in Lithuanian.

As part of the opening ceremony, NGOs gave live demonstrations of activities relating to all aspects of volunteering, from environmental protection to first aid or caring for the elderly. A special guest volunteered to interview them and help promote their activities... well-known actor Audrius Bruzas rolled up his sleeves and jumped in with the microphone...


The 12th National Lithuanian NGO Forum took place during the Vilnius tour stop. Mayor Artūras Zuokas gave a motivating opening speech in which he expressed profound appreciation for the invaluable work of volunteers and underlined the importance of NGOs to unite and improve society.

The second day of the Vilnius event saw the celebration of 10 years of the Food Bank Charity and Support Fund. Volunteers and coordinators were awarded heart-shaped wooden spoons at the Food Bank Awards for Friends ceremony. A 48-hour digital workshop invited NGOs and companies to collaborate and find immediate solutions to challenges facing volunteers and their supporting organisations.

Mr. Donatas Jankauskas, Minister of Social Security and Labour opened the event and chatted with volunteers.





 To commemorate the opening of the Lithuanian tour stop, the EC Representation curated a photographic exhibition entitled «Faces of Volunteering» by the photographer Paulius Staniunas. The exhibition features photos of volunteers in various NGOs offering psychological support, animal care, food banks, environmental care and opportunities to volunteer abroad. After leaving the tour stop, the exhibition would tour Lithuania in the Europe Direct centres and libraries for the duration of the European Year of Volunteering.



STOP!

PREKYBAI ŽMONĖMIS



When in Rome... Do as the Romans!

The Rome tour stop was choc-a-bloc! It featured an EYV record number of presentations and debates, packing over 80 presentations into four days.

This bustling event was celebrated in the San Giovanni Hospital. An outdoor tent housed volunteer organizations exhibiting their work and presenting opportunities to make a difference.

All participating volunteer organizations had their say, as each and every one of them was given a time-slot in the debate room to present their activities in detail. Visitors received first-hand information on how to get involved in different fields where volunteers can help to make a better world.

A spectrum of activities gave visitors a glimpse into the varied world of volunteering. The EU corner became a networking hub and a nucleus for the exchange of opinions, experiences and good practices.


Great interest was aroused by a report by Gian Carlo Blangiardo, a professor of demographics at the University of Milano-Bicocca. Its findings revealed the impact of population migration in Italy and the vital role played by certain volunteering organizations in responding to social needs and minority integration.

And of course, the organizers made the most of the blistering Rome sunshine, offering a host of outdoor activities including the concert offered by Massimo Liberatori, a renowned Italian singer, and the African dance group, Ndiaye Music.

Mr. Gregorio Arena, Università di Trento e Presidente del Laboratorio per la Sussidiarietà, gave a motivating speech during the opening ceremony.





 Indoor and outdoor activities welcomed visitors to learn about the diverse range of avenues open to volunteers in their immediate and wider communities. From attending presentations to mixing with volunteers, taking photos, picking up a publication, watching a film... everyone that attended took something away with them, in their hands, hearts and minds.





Best Foot Forward

The Copenhagen tour stop was celebrated under canvas – in a specially designed tent opposite the Tivole Garden, in the heart of the Danish capital. Thankfully, the weather was on its best behaviour, so activities could take place outdoors.

Mr. Michael Vedso, Head of Media & Press at the European Commission Representation in Denmark gave a personal speech to inaugurate the 3-day event.

Ms. Benedikte Kjaer, Minister for Social Affairs officially opened the EYV Copenhagen tour stop. The minister «kicked off» by joining youngsters in the square for soccer.

Sport was the name of the game at this event: Participatory activities included Panna – Danish soccer or street football, which is usually set up in low-income areas to encourage young people to get involved in sports. The Danish Gymnastics and Sports Associations offered early-morning workouts in the square for anyone who fancied bending and stretching before breakfast!

The Danish tour stop also showcased «Sand» a thought-provoking exhibition created by NGO 'Sand' and photographer Holger Henriksen. For several years, Holger has photographed homeless people in the

streets of Copenhagen. He owns an extensive collection of images depicting everyday life on the street, from which the content of this exhibition was selected.

Entertainment was also a high priority at the Copenhagen tour stop: local bands brought good vibrations to the crowd.

Ah, and the Italian relay reporter dashed in to hand the camera to his Danish counterpart... after filming for 10 days around Denmark.

Musa Kekcec, Ambassador for EYV.





An exhibition on homelessness, sports activities, arts and crafts and other activities took place in the square, attracting hundreds of intrigued visitors.

The fashion show by the Fisk Project added an extra touch of glam to the event. It featured second hand clothes that the project redesigns and sells to benefit African women and children through its store. The project also runs various coffee houses throughout the Danish capital.





1000 Ways to Make a Difference

The ambitious title of the Stockholm EYV tour stop set the tone for the Swedish event, encouraging visitors to think about how each and every one of them could change the world around them by volunteering.

The Stockholm stop was a busy affair, packing 26 different presentations and panel discussions into a three-day programme! Each day, 30 organizations exhibited activities and invited visitors to come and take part. EVS volunteers from a Swedish eco-village shared meaningful «before and after» stories of volunteering abroad.

A Dialogue Café welcomed politicians and organizations to meet with policy makers and volunteers and find solutions to volunteering challenges around the globe. This activity set an example to other countries on how communication across sectors could facilitate solutions. Inspired and inspiring volunteers shared their success stories and revealed what moved them to step up to make a difference. An edited version of these short interviews was posted to YouTube.

The Stockholm tour stop event HQ was the Atrium of the Europahuset building – Stockholm’s House of

Europe. Ms. Pernilla Baralt, Head of Communication at the Swedish Representation of the EC invited organizations to treat the building like home for conferences and meetings on volunteering.

Mrs. Lena Adelsöhn Liljeroth, Minister for Culture and Sports gave the opening speech and personally thanked participating volunteers.





⦿ All too soon it was time to say goodbye (for now). Charismatic jazz band Lekverk closed the ceremony, after the Swedish relay reporter had been handed his camera and got ready to dash off to Dublin...

Mr. Even Sparre Knudsen and Ms. Anne Meklenborg from the Norwegian Red Cross revealed how they organized volunteer teams to help after the youth camp bombing and massacre on Norway's Utoeya Island. They shared the important steps they took to find volunteers. The representatives also spoke of their mission to train more than 1000 Norwegians that had shown interest in becoming Red Cross volunteers in light of these tragic events.





Volunteering at Every Age

Volunteering for All Ages was one of the core themes at this weeklong event. A presentation by the Wizards of Words Workshop Programme revealed how compatible children and volunteers aged 55+ can be.

The EYV tour stop on the Emerald Isle took place at Dublin's EU House.

Volunteer Now, the umbrella association for Northern Ireland's volunteer organizations emphasised research it had conducted in Northern Ireland, highlighting how seniors make highly reliable and responsible volunteers.

The maturity, life experience, skills, loyalty and diversity of volunteers aged 50+ are valuable assets when it comes to making a difference in their communities. The association also underlined the connections between the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland when it comes to volunteerism.

The Irish Red Cross team invited visitors to learn basic first aid and life-saving CPR techniques. The team also demonstrated therapeutic hand and back massages. The European Voluntary Service (EVS) presentations and stands also encouraged and informed young people

when it came to volunteering at home or abroad. Comhlámh, the Association of Development Workers and Volunteers in Ireland, gave a fascinating talk on ethical volunteering and assistance in choosing the right volunteering project.

Mrs. Ivonne McKenna, CEO of Volunteer Ireland, Mrs. Barbara Nolan, Head of the EC Representation in Ireland, Mrs. Wendy Osborne from Volunteer Now and Marian Harkin, MEP.





Meaningful presentations, debates and activities brought volunteers and visitors closer to each other. And there was no lack of imagination when it came to entertainment! Children had great fun participating in a family dance for the *Three Little Pigs* fairy tale presented by Dublin's Imaginosity Children's Museum.

The steps of EC House were filled with live traditional music... and of course no Irish event is complete without Irish dance — performed on this occasion by children from a local dance school.





A Marathon Tour Stop Event!

Warsaw waved a warm welcome to the tour stop from one of its most famous monuments: the colourful tent in the Polish capital was strategically set up in front of the Palace of Culture and Arts.

Numerous presentations and workshops were given by various volunteer organizations throughout this 14-day event. Media played a key role as the debate room became the setting for an awards ceremony to honour journalists involved in volunteering. Each category winner received a statuette.

Thankfully, the weather was on Warsaw's side, permitting a whole host of sporting and cultural activities. Fire fighters gave live demonstrations in the square – just watching them go through their rescue routine was inspiring and tiring!

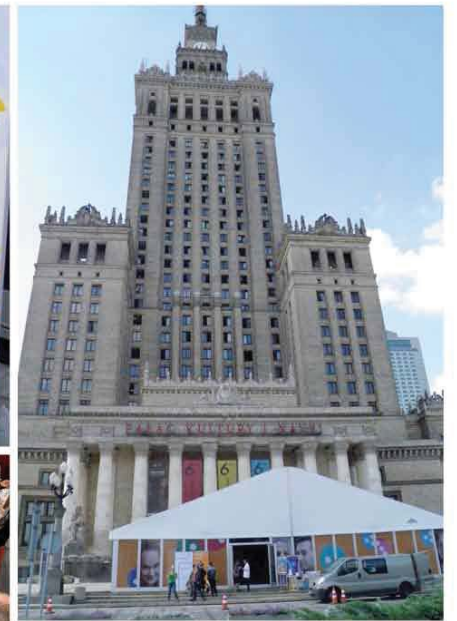
Intrepid visitors were also invited to take part in a volleyball demonstration, climb a rock wall, take popular dance lessons and attend concerts and theatre performances. The Youth and Volunteering Day was a great success: media representatives including national TV and radio joined over 800 visitors. Young people took over the EYV tent from early morning and

invigorated everyone with their energy and enthusiasm for volunteering.

Famous Polish sporting personalities joined Mr. Adam Leon Giersz, Polish Minister of Sport and Tourism and Ms. Androulla Vassiliou, European Commissioner for Education, Culture, Multilingualism, Sport, Media and Youth to address participants on the importance of volunteering in sport.

Irena Wóycicka from the EU Presidency Office.





• Vibrant creative activities took place inside and outside the tent: from cheerleading to local folkloric performances! A stunning array of costumes generated great admiration (and even some wolf-whistles!) from visitors. To help spread the word about the power of volunteerism, a huge graffiti message read: «The world is in the good hands of young volunteers.» Scores of onlookers stopped by to admire the piece as it took shape.







Marketing volunteers!

The EYV truck pulled up to Helsinki's EU offices on September 14th, where it stayed for 4 days to welcome several hundred visitors from Finland and beyond. On Saturday, the square in front of the offices was transformed into a giant market place, where more than 60 national organizations offered volunteering opportunities. Everyone that passed by stopped to stare and many felt compelled to join in the fun.

Nuorten Akatemia, one of Finland's most important youth organizations gave a motivating presentation entitled «Getting Hands-On Experience – Learning Through Volunteering». It discussed the many enriching benefits of volunteering – for society and for volunteers themselves.

Visitors were invited to pick options from volunteering bowls. Each ticket contained a suitable volunteering opportunity, depending on how much time each volunteer could allocate.

The opening ceremony featured Mr. Pekka Nurminen, Head of the European Parliament Information Office, Ms. Leila Kurki, Member of the European Economic and Social Committee and Mr. Samu Seitsalo, Deputy-Director of the Centre for International Mobility and Cooperation (CIMC).

Parallel activities took place in two designated conference rooms: The Network for Literacy Friendship Integration held a workshop on senior citizen participation. 50% of their network consists of elderly people helping immigrant women in Finland to learn to read and write and to integrate into Finnish society, which in many cases, differs greatly from their native culture.

Ms. Aira Samulian, 80-year-old EYV ambassador and lifestyle volunteer, transmitted positive energy to the crowd.







Teaching and learning together

The five-day Latvia tour stop at Riga's Latvian Railway Museum was filled with smiles as active, enthusiastic, optimistic participants shared their desire to make positive social changes and attract people to volunteer work.

The opening ceremony featured musical performances by well known Latvian artists and EYV2011 national ambassadors, including popular opera singer Evita Zāļīte and Vairis Nartišs, a famous trombone player.

Each day of the Riga tour stop event was hosted by a different organization vital to the world of volunteering within and beyond Latvia's borders. The European Movement, Latvian Red Cross, Samaritans, the Latvia Children's Forum and IMKA took turns to coordinate the daily agenda and give presentations, workshops and cultural activities. Visitors and volunteers were invited to meet and share memorable experiences, from exchanging personal stories to rolling up their sleeves and doing some arts and crafts together.

Teacher's Day on September 30th encompassed a special awards ceremony to honour teachers who promote volunteering. 19 teachers from various regions

received awards from Latvian Minister of Education, Mr. Rolands Broks. An intergenerational choir brought the EYV Riga tour stop to a rousing close with its rendition of the entire collection of Latvian and International songs presented throughout the tour. NGOs, EYV ambassadors, volunteers, children and seniors got together to sing their hearts out for volunteering.

Mr. Roland Broks, Minister of Education and Science, and Mrs. Diana Simansone, EYV National Coordinator.





Traditional arts and crafts activities welcomed visitors to get their hands dirty and experiment with new talents in the name of a good cause! Song, dance and theatre performances were provided by seniors from the Vijas and Aspazija groups, along with beautiful vocal and instrumental shows by mentally handicapped performance troop, «Zvaigžņudzirksts - Shining Stars». There was hardly a dry eye in the room!





Celebrating Similarities and Differences

Citizens are the most vital element of volunteering... that was the powerful message behind the opening speeches at the EYV tour stop in Berlin. The weeklong event in Potsdamer Platz was officially opened by Secretary of State for the German Ministry for Family, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth, Josef Hecken, and the Deputy Head of the European Commission Representation in Germany, Marie-Thérèse Duffy-Häusler.

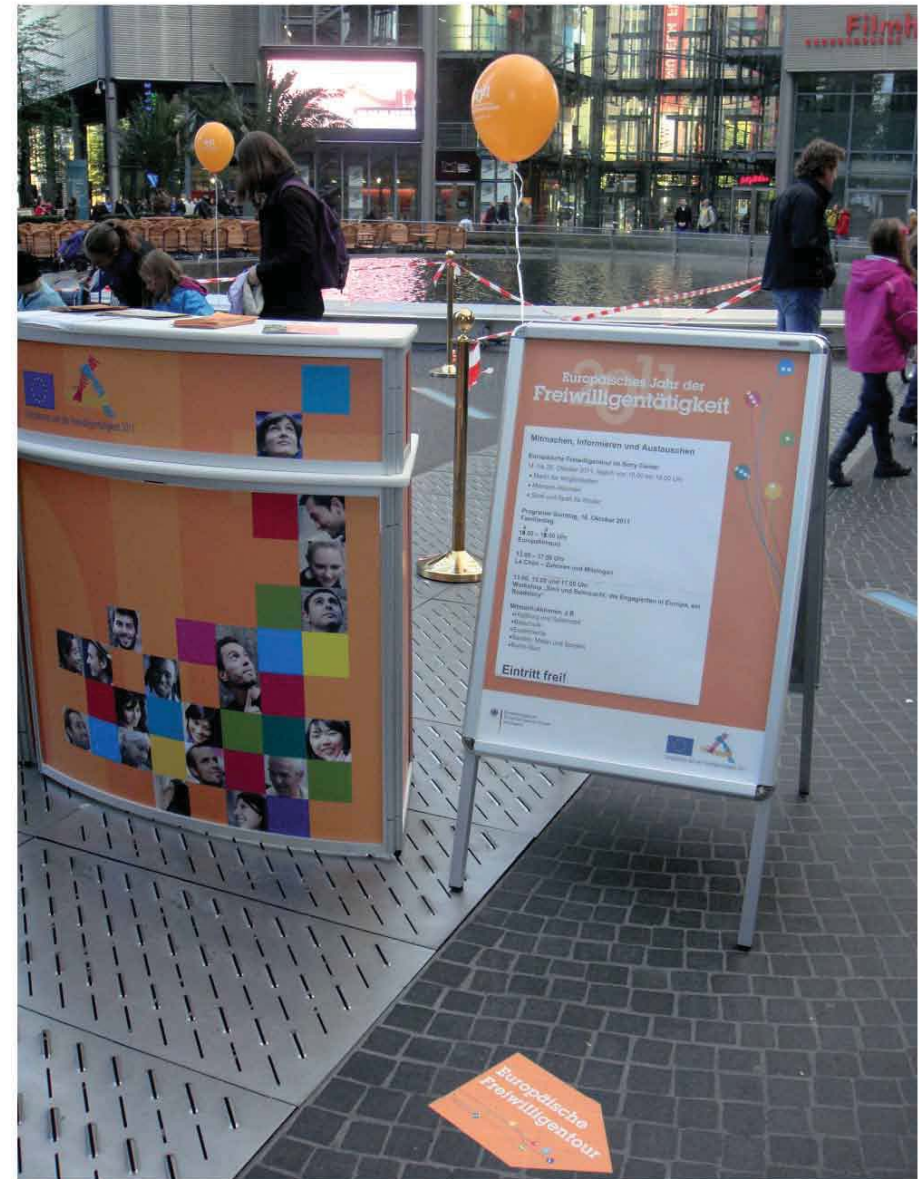
Both speakers highlighted the importance of civil engagement and recognised the commitment of the over a third of the German population – or 23,5 million volunteers. Three volunteers were interviewed by Secretary of State Hecken about their motivations and experiences.

Throughout the week, over 100 volunteering organisations presented an interactive programme. A specially designated market place hosted presentations, conferences, workshops and outdoor activities.

The EYV tour stop in Berlin dedicated a day to the EC's European Year for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations 2012. The tour stop event proved the perfect launch pad for informing associations

and visitors on the EC's proposals for the year, which of course, would not be possible without the valuable help of volunteers. The public was invited to express opinions and concerns to the experts present. Practical experiences were shared and intergenerational equity, retirement and political responsibility for the young and old were discussed.

An awards ceremony was hosted to honour the 100 participants organizations.





On the final day of the EYV Berlin tour stop, ASB (Arbeiter-Samariter-Bund) volunteer teams conducted demonstrations on various programmes they run related to rescue work. The ASB aquatic team answered questions about their lifeboat that was exhibited in the Sony Centre. The organisation's rescue dogs (ASB-Rettungshundestaffel) also gave visitors a taste of what they do to make a difference to people's lives.





Touching the Core of Volunteering

Mission: To get to the core and current issues of volunteering. This ambitious aim outlined by the organisers of the EVV Amsterdam tour stop event became a reality thanks to the dedication of everyone involved.

The Dutch Coordinating Body and Amsterdam City Hall, teamed up with partners from civil society, business, national and local governments and the Green Business Club to welcome visitors and volunteers to a variety of designated locations throughout the week.

Four hundred participants took part in the opening ceremony. The inaugural conference was a huge success, with not a spare seat to be found in any of its workshops!

The representative of the Dutch Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport (VWS) opened the Tour Conference Week, paving the way for a rich programme of talks and debates, some of which were given in English to welcome international guests.

A Spotlight on Service Learning Conference featured the opening of an Expertise Centre, a policymakers' focus group and... fun in the name of a good cause! A vibrant festival featured creative presenta-

tions by pupils, apprenticeship providers, teachers and other participants.

A Cabaret Round invited visitors to attend in-depth discussions on the benefits of service learning, while an English-language parade showcased a wealth of distance education opportunities on offer around Europe.

Mrs. Marlies Veldhuijzen van Zanten, State Secretary, Dutch Ministry of Health.





«It is important for young people to learn that they should live not only for themselves. Simply because they are a part of something bigger than themselves. Service-learning shows them that it is not a question of either-or, but rather a choice for both...»

Working as a lighting technician on a pop music stage or cooking for the homeless... Reading books aloud to children at the library or helping out in wildlife conservation projects... Organising a football tournament or giving older people computer lessons... nearly anything is possible. And the greatest common denominator is the heart-warming, sincere enthusiasm of people.»

Ms. Marja Van Bijsterveldt, Minister of Education, Culture and Science, speaking at the Service Learning in the Spotlight Conference.





Make a Difference Today!

The London tour stop opening ceremony coincided with charity CSV's Make a Difference Day, the UK's biggest single day of volunteering. Make a Difference Day activities across the UK are designed to strengthen communities, improve the environment and tackle isolation and loneliness.

CSV joined forces with the EYV campaign at the tour stop event to raise awareness of the importance of volunteering. Lucy de Groot, Chief Executive of CSV welcomed visitors.

Famous campaigner, broadcaster and founder of the charity Childline, Mrs. Esther Rantzen spoke about the role that volunteering plays in tackling loneliness, which can affect people of all ages, and walks of life. The speakers participated in different activities along with children: drawing a postcard with a message to sick children, decorating gingerbread cookies for people they care about or making bird boxes.

Mr. Jonathan Scheele, Head of the EC representation in the UK and Marina Yannakoudakis, MEP for London gave moving speeches. Ms. Yannakoudakis mentioned how The Olympics are also inspiring the capital's

young people to come forward and get in on the act. The UK leg of the EYV tour event, held in Coin Street neighbourhood centre, featured a diverse selection of talks and conferences. A presentation was given on The Queen's Award for Voluntary Service, which recognises and rewards excellence from voluntary and community groups of two or more people. This award is the only one of its kind in the UK Honours system.

Mrs. Esther Rantzen, founder of the charity Childline noted the role that volunteering plays for social cohesion.





«Loneliness carries a stigma that makes it very hard for people to admit that they are finding a lonely life difficult to bear. There are so many different causes; divorce, bereavement, disability, bullying, family torn apart geographically or emotionally, a community that has lost its pub or its corner shop or its church. And therefore has no heart. We need to think of more solutions which can bring people together.»

Mrs. Esther Rantzen, broadcaster and founder of the charity Childline.





Long Live Volunteering!

Diverse cultural activities gave visitors and volunteers at the EYV Prague tour stop a chance to feast their eyes and try their hands (and feet!) at new experiences. These included a canis therapy workshop, featuring dogs used for psychotherapeutic purposes, an Esperanto workshop, dances performed by deaf children, improvised theatre performance...and a scavenger hunt!

Jan Kocourek, Deputy Minister (Sports and Youth Section), Jan Michal, Head of European Commission Representation in the Czech Republic and Michal Lukeš, Managing Director of the National Museum of Music were the stars of the opening ceremony.

Workshops and conferences focused on inspiring new volunteers to sign up and making life easier for NGOs at home and abroad. Strategic corporate volunteering, the importance of PR and the principals of communication between the public and the media were also on the agenda for debate.


A Living Library activity promoted dialogue, reduced prejudice and encouraged understanding. Volunteers shared testimonials that represented books and expe-

riences from different genres. Participants could «borrow» these volunteer «actors» for personal conversations and exchange stories with their «living books».

Each day of the Prague tour stop was highlighted an area of daily life and society that simply could not exist without the help of volunteers.





 A Living Library activity was held to promote dialogue, reduce prejudice and encourage understanding. Volunteers shared testimonials that represented books and experiences from different genres. Participants were invited to «borrow» these volunteer «actors» for personal conversations and exchange stories with their «living books».







Volunteering means... you decide!

The Ministry of Culture Hall in Bratislava flung open its doors on a bright autumn morning for a busy Slovak EYV tour stop packed with debates, workshops and entertainment.

37 organizations and 1000 visitors participated in this five-day event, offering a host of activities, workshops and debates related to different volunteering areas such as art and culture, youth, corporate, health and prevention, leisure and social inclusion.

A fresh, young vibe filled this event thanks to a strong contingent of 14-19 year old students who weren't shy about getting involved in activities. They showed great interest in a debate on HIV prevention by the Slovak Red Cross. Several short documentary films were shown, each set in a location where volunteers make an essential difference, such as a residential care home and a theatre with homeless people. The director and volunteers that starred in the documentaries gave a fascinating Q&A session to an intrigued and responsive audience.


The Mayor of Bratislava, Michal Feik, supported the tour stop. His advisor enlightened visitors about suc-

cessful volunteering initiatives promoted by the city. These include street cleaning in anticipation of the World Ice Hockey Championships and a citizens' initiative that stopped the proposed demolition of a cultural centre. The advisor also revealed how Bratislava's participatory budget invites citizens to voluntarily intervene and decide on how 1% of the municipal budget is to be spent. Now that's what we call initiative!

The Czech reporter, Veronika Tomanová, passes the camera to the Slovak Reporter, Pavel Višnovský.





 A fascinating debate about student participation in the creation of secondary school legislation brought together pupils from the Slovak National Secondary School Students Union, represented by Martin Macik and the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Education, Mr. Jaroslav Ivančo.

Young people participated in a rich programme of activities that included presentations, games, discussions and testimonies from different fields of volunteering as well as practical demonstrations of first aid.





Volunteering: A new chapter!

The Sofia EYV tour stop at The National Palace of Culture had a distinctly green edge! A team from Bulgaria's BTV Media group launched a volunteer campaign to call on citizens to clean the country for one day.

Young volunteers from the Bulgarian Red Cross surprised the audience by simulating an evacuation, and members of the public were invited to attend rescue demonstrations in front of the Palace of Culture.

The opening ceremony was officially launched by Deputy Minister of the Culture, Mr. Mitko Todorov, Mrs. Deyana Danailova, Cultural Policy Minister, Mrs. Irena Karakachanov from the Ministry of Youth and Education and Mrs. Zinaida Zlatanova Head of Representation of the EC in Bulgaria.

The Sofia tour stop was a turn out for the books in more ways than one: The three-day event ran in parallel with European Week of Volunteering in Libraries, a special initiative launched by the European Commission Representation in Bulgaria.

The library initiative, organised in cooperation with the Bulgarian Library and Information Association, saw the EC Representation distribute 18000 different pub-

lications to libraries throughout the country. Specially designed volunteer corners were set up in libraries as launch pads for volunteers to present their activities with a specific emphasis on actions in libraries.

Young volunteers from Team Europe Junior also made the most of European Week of Volunteering in Libraries to discuss European Year of Volunteering and the actions they had undertaken in 2011.

Mr. Mitko Todorov, Deputy Minister of Culture and Ms. Zinaida Zlatanova, Head of the EC Representation.





«The efforts and actions of tens of thousands of volunteers and volunteering organisations in schools, hospitals, nursing homes, elderly homes, libraries, sport clubs, environment actions, have an invaluable contribution to making all our societies better and more human...»

That is why the European Year of Volunteering aims to draw attention to their efforts and give them well deserved recognition.»

Ms. Zinaida Zlatanova, Head of EC Representation in Bulgaria.





Hop on the Bus for Volunteering!

The Malta EYV tour stop took place in a rather unusual location: For a week, part of the Puturjal bus terminus in Valletta was transformed into a lively hub to celebrate and promote volunteering.

The lead-up to the tour stop event included a range of interesting and relevant activities to pique the interest of the media and members of the public.

A press conference was held in January 2011. The annual Boy Scouts and Girl Guides Parade in April 2011 took to the streets of Valletta to promote EYV 2011.

In August, a children's art competition and exhibition was organised by the Skolasajf Student Services Department and the Ministry of Education, and went on to participate in the Malta Trade Fair from June 23rd to July 3rd 2011.

Two national conferences were held, the first entitled: «Volunteer! You make a difference!» hosted at the Corinthia Hotel and Spa, Attard, Malta, in March.

A second, entitled «Employee Volunteering» was held at the Excelsior Hotel, Floriana in October 2011.

For the EYV tour stop event, fifteen exhibition stands were set up in the bus terminus to form a bus-

ting, ad-hoc marketplace. Voluntary organisations showcased their activities and interacted with counterparts, visitors and policymakers.

Each day was dedicated to a different, but equally worthwhile area where volunteers make a difference: Environmental Issues, Animal Welfare, Arts & Culture, Sports, Youth, Social and Humanitarian, and Health.

Mr. Robert Farrugia, Malta National Coordinator.





Visitors of all ages stopped by to discover more about the world of volunteering and NGOs. From schoolchildren to senior citizens, intrigued community members took part in games, demonstrations, social events and film screenings. Discussions involving stakeholders and policy makers were also held, along with presentations, debates and activities to highlight the vital contribution volunteers make to society and encourage members of the public to step up and be counted.



The European Commission designated 2011 as the **European Year of Volunteering**. Both a celebration and a challenge, the Year set out to recognise and thank the millions of people in Europe who make a difference by working in their communities during their free time without being paid.

The **EYV Tour** represented one of the main arteries of the Year. Visiting all 27 EU Member States it brought Europe closer to volunteers and volunteers closer to society.

Extraordinary stories from ordinary people inspired members of the public to consider how they too could volunteer and improve their communities at local, national and European levels.

This book is dedicated to each and every one of them, and to every volunteer that gives their time, devotion and energy to making a difference to society as a whole.



We would like to say a heartfelt thank you to all **Relay Reporters** that worked so hard to spread the word about volunteering in all 27 EU Member States, during the European Year of Volunteering 2011.

SEAN AQUILINA **MALTA**
KEVIN DUPONT **BELGIUM**
MIKLOS AMBROZY **HUNGARY**
EMIR HANDZO **AUSTRIA**
SANDRA SANTOS **PORTUGAL**
ADOLF EL ASSAL **LUXEMBOURG**
CLARA SANZ **SPAIN**
DIMITRIOS ARGYRIOU **GREECE**
ALANA KAKOYIANNIS **CYPRUS**
MATTHIEU BOSQUET **FRANCE**
EKKE VASLI **ESTONIA**
DIANA IABRASU **ROMANIA**
JURE REJEC **SLOVENIA**
MIKE COOPER **UNITED KINGDOM**
LIUDA DRIZYTE **LITHUANIA**
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