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Onderwerp: **SOLIDAR Weekly Round Up 19-11-2010**

HUMAN RING AGAINST POVERTY

At noon today, thousands of people are creating a human ring around the European Parliament against poverty. With more than 80 million people in Europe living in poverty, this is a sure sign that European citizens want a sustainable and equitable response to the crisis, instead of making the most vulnerable carry the cost.

This is an ongoing European and international issue which will not be brought to an end soon as poverty is a systemic problem. As we come to the close of the European Year 2010 against poverty and social exclusion, the key questions remaining are: how do we actually lift people out of poverty, what public spending is needed and what is the role of social NGOs in this? One thing is sure, we also need to change the international paradigm by investing in global social protection and promoting the ILO's Global Jobs Pact.

Conny Reuter, Secretary General

SOCIAL AFFAIRS

MEMEBER STATES: STEP UP YOUR COMMITMENTS TO THE EUROPEAN PLATFORM AGAINST POVERTY

SOLIDAR participated in a meeting recently organised by DG Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion involving a number of European networks of social NGOs, EURO CITIES and the CEMR to discuss the architecture and governance of the European Platform Against Poverty (EPAP).

There has been broad agreement to turn the EPAP into an overarching European strategy. SOLIDAR welcomes the idea to use it as a tool for improved policy coordination and mainstreaming at EU level and to better link structural funds, in particular the ESF, with the broad policy aim to deliver on the aim of a substantial reduction of poverty and social exclusion and to employment guideline 10. [Read more.](#)

EUROPEAN DISABILITY STRATEGY LAUNCHED FOR THE NEXT DECADE

On 15 November Commissioner for Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship, Viviane Reding, announced the adoption of a [10 year strategy](#) which should promote equal opportunities for the 80 million people with disabilities across the EU at the 4th Equality Summit. The European Disability Forum (EDF), a member organisation of the Social Platform, has put forward a [list with clear and measurable objectives](#) supported by SOLIDAR. [Read more...](#)

LAUNCH OF EUROPEAN ALLIANCE FOR STATUTE OF THE EUROPEAN ASSOCIATION

Building on the successes of the 2009 and 2010 "Civil Society Day" and on a recent initiative by 5 MEPs "Written declaration on establishing a European Statute for Mutuals, Associations and Foundations", a collection of organisations, including SOLIDAR, are creating an informal "European Alliance for the Statute of the European Association" (EASEA) which would act as coordinator, together with the International Association of Mutuals (AIM) and the European Foundation Center (EFC), of an awareness raising and lobby campaign towards MEPs.

The public launch of the campaign will take place on 30 November 2010 in Brussels, from 12 am to 1 pm in the European Economic and Social Committee, 99 rue Belliard (room MV1). For more information or to join, contact [Alexandrina Najmowicz](#) | read [campaign paper](#)

INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

SOLIDAR HUMANITARIAN COOPERATION SEMINAR IN MANAGUA

Last week, the SOLIDAR Humanitarian Cooperation Network held their second seminar in Managua, Nicaragua, gathering together SOLIDAR humanitarian members' headquarter and field staff as well several of their local partner organisations from Nicaragua and El Salvador.

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