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# STATE OF PLAY OF NEF PROJECTS 2009

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Update December 2009

## ALLIANCE MAGAZINE

Foundations involved: Bernard van Leer Foundation  
King Baudouin Foundation  
Riksbankens Jubileumsfond  
NEF Mercator Board Fund

Partners involved: Alliance Publishing Trust

Budget 2009: £267,408

Timeframe: 2006 / 2009

### Background:

After an initial five-year period of growth under the hosting of UK-based charity Allavida, Alliance Magazine, the world's leading magazine on philanthropy and social investment, has embarked late 2006 on a new stage of development as an independent organisation. NEF and the European Foundation Centre (EFC) have agreed to collaborate to establish a new partnership with Alliance.

To this end, NEF has decided to set up a Fund to ensure the financial solvency of the Alliance Publishing Trust (APT), the independent UK charity responsible for publishing the magazine from 2007 onwards. The Bernard Van Leer Foundation, the King Baudouin Foundation and the Riksbankens Jubileumsfond, which have been strong supporters of the magazine in the past, contributed to this Guarantee Fund. Additional contributions were drawn from the NEF Mercator Board Fund and NEF's own programmatic reserve.

### 2009 update:

In the December 2008 report to NEF Alliance identified five key activity areas and the goals within them:

- Editorial: to continue to improve all that Alliance publishes in response to reader feedback.
- Organizational: to increase the staffing and organizational sustainability, including employing two new part-time members of staff.
- Subscriptions and dissemination: to make progress with increasing paid subscriptions, to pilot free subscriptions in India, and to increase dissemination in Latin America.
- Publishing: to expand the book publishing operation.
- Financial: to maintain the grant income and increase the earned income sufficiently to make the higher level of staffing eventually self-supporting.

### Achievements

- *Editorial* : Themes covered in 2009

- March 2009 Which way now? Five difficult choices for philanthropy. Guest editor Tim Ogden. This issue was distributed to 600 delegates at the EFC conference in Rome in May.
- June 2009 Twenty years since the fall of the wall: Philanthropy, democracy and civil society. Guest editor Georgie Shields. This was the first full-colour edition. It was sent to several events related to the 20th anniversary, including the recent EFC 20th anniversary conference and Grantmakers East Forum in Berlin.

- September 2009 Discontinuous thinking for a crisis. Guest editor Matthew Bishop. This high-profile issue was circulated to conferences in the USA, Europe and the UK.
- December 2009 Emerging philanthropy: What does it stand for? Guest editor Olga Alexeeva. Featuring interviews with film stars Jet Li and Olga Kurylenko, this issue has an extra circulation of 2,000 copies to be sent out by Banque de Luxembourg. It also includes a specially prepared 32 page supplement covering the recent Symposium on 'Responsible Leadership in Times of Crisis' held by Banque de Luxembourg.

#### Latest from Alliance

- 'Latest from Alliance' aims to be in touch with its readers more frequently and to bring them items of breaking news and readers' responses to previous articles as Alliance receives them rather than waiting for the next eBulletin or the next issue of the magazine.
- Average between 6 and 7 posts a month, with recent inclusion of guest posts.

#### Online profile

- Development of the Alliance online presence by using social media sites Facebook and Twitter to keep people aware of what Alliance is doing. Over 100 Facebook 'fans' and almost 300 Twitter followers. Everything from Alliance is announced through these sites and the use of social media is something to be developed much more over the next year.
- Review of the website, updating the content and improving layout. Quarterly visitors have increased from 20,000, reported in May, to 30,000.

#### Latin America developments

- Each edition of Alliance is published in Spanish, and make this available free of charge throughout Latin America. Unfortunately, an analysis of readership has indicated that although subscriber numbers are good, few people are actually reading the Spanish edition. This is not a case of people not enjoying what they read and stopping; it is a case of people not reading in the first place. Alliance is now working with its Latin American partners to find out why take-up is so limited. From 2010, Alliance plans to publish a much smaller selection of articles in Spanish.
- The long-term aim is to spread the final year of the AVINA grant over two years and to end up with two sustainable products, a limited Spanish edition along the lines of Alliance Brasil, produced in partnership with GIFE, and a Latin America Bulletin with stories sourced from an established group of contributors.

#### - Organizational:

Two extra part-time staff are employed. This was made possible by an increased Ford Foundation grant. The aim is to be able to support these positions independently when the funding ends. Board meetings are still held twice yearly. The last one was in May during the EFC conference and we will shortly be holding our next one on 4 December. Peggy Saïller from NEF is currently an observer at our board meetings.

In May an MBA student from Warwick Business School carried out a comprehensive reader feedback exercise. This is now complete, with feedback from over 100 subscribers. Comments were on the whole positive, and Alliance takes on board any constructive suggestions.

#### *- Subscriptions and dissemination*

Alliance has a subscriber base of almost 3,500, compared to 3,000 as reported earlier this year, of which around 60 per cent are paid subscriptions, the rest being a mixture of copies for key funders and contributors and free electronic copies for individuals and organizations in developing countries. Bulk subscriptions The EFC, Compagnia di San Paolo and Charities Aid Foundation are all due to renew in December 2009. It is hoped they will do so as they all contribute greatly to both income and readership figures. In particular, the EFC and Compagnia di San Paolo subscriptions are helping to create a breadth of readership across Europe.

The enhancement of the website enables to attract new readers. Alliance adverts have been placed in a number of conference delegate packs including the recent European Venture Philanthropy Association event in Amsterdam. In addition, we partnered with Banque de Luxembourg for their recent Symposium on 'Responsible Leadership in Times of Crisis', for which we also produced a 32 page supplement to be sent out with the December issue of the magazine.

#### *- Publishing*

As reported in May, APT aimed to publish four books this year. At that point two projects are completed:

- Schools for Society: Learning Democracy in Europe - A handbook for Ideas and Action, and A New Agenda: The European Union and Cultural Policy, which, unlike previous books APT has published, was also sold through UK and European bookstores.

Since then have also been published:

- Family Foundation Philanthropy 2009 and Philanthropy in the 21st Century, both for Cass Business School, based in London.
- Small Money, Big Impact for Foundations for Peace.
- Three 'dossiers' covering Mosques, Education and Healthcare as part of the NEF Initiative on Religion and Democracy in Europe.
- Understanding European Research Foundations: Findings from the FOREMAP Project for the European Foundation Centre.

Two projects have been secured already for 2010, and Alliance is looking for more.

#### *- Financial position*

In 2008 the earned income was £80,915 and constituted 41 per cent of our core income (everything but AVINA).

In 2009, Alliance had hoped for an earned income of around £99,000, with extra income coming from increased subscription levels and from publishing. Given the current financial climate, and the loss of several sponsor subscriptions as a result, Alliance is now aiming for an earned income of £92,000. The book profit is a great help in reaching this figure: more than doubling the estimated income from publishing this year. While projected expenditure for the year was anticipated at £251,586, spending was less than this, and despite having paid back the remainder of the NEF loan, the year should end with a surplus of around £25,000.

#### The NEF Guarantee Fund

NEF kindly deferred repayment of the €10,000 remainder of the original €30,000 loan until 2009, and this was paid back in full in June. It was agreed at the board meeting in May that it would be sufficient for Alliance needs to halve the amount held by NEF in the Guarantee Fund.

*- Plans for 2010 and beyond*

In previous years, with a team of three full-time staff, expansion of the readership has proved challenging. Making the most of the new staff to boost the subscription levels, and therefore increase Alliance financial independence, is the central aim for 2010.

This year time was spent in evaluating what Alliance does, and thinking about how, for example, developing alliance email newsletters and website. Using the reader feedback exercise done earlier in the year as a basis, other methods of receiving regular feedback from readers and from editorial board members will be sought. This includes email questionnaires to ex-subscribers.

**Editorial**

- March 2010 Where did the small grants go?
- June 2010 Scaling up.
- September 2010 Researching the philanthropy sector tbc
- Latest from Alliance under development, introducing more guest blogs.
- Editorial board : ensuring that the editorial board actively represents perspectives from every region of the world. Having Ana Feder from the EFC as an editorial board member has been particularly helpful in regard to finding European news and contributors.

**Financial support needed**

While there is extra Ford Foundation funding for 2010, it is uncertain whether or not this will continue to 2011. Aim is to increase Alliance earned income, from subscriptions, book publishing and advertising, in order to ensure the new staff levels once the additional grant money finishes.

Although the financial position is improving year by year, the support of NEF members is still extremely necessary. This support can take one of several forms, including grants, bulk subscriptions, perhaps to cover a particular country or group of countries, and sponsor's subscriptions. It is also important to encourage NEF members to make use of the book publishing services, and to tell others about them.

For a full report please ask the NEF secretariat.

**CULTURAL COOPERATION - Platform for Intercultural Europe**

Foundations involved: European Cultural Foundation (chair)  
Evens Stichting  
Freudenberg Stiftung  
Bernheim Foundation  
Compagnia di San Paolo

Partners involved: Platform for Intercultural Europe

Timeframe: throughout 2009

Background:

In preparation for the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue to be celebrated in 2008, European foundations have agreed to launch a cluster of initiatives under the umbrella of NEF to provide a joint response to the challenges of intercultural dialogue in Europe. The project is designed to feed into

European policy making and promote effective practices in the fields of cultural diversity and intercultural dialogue.

Update for 2009:

2009 has been a year of organisational consolidation for the Platform for Intercultural Europe. After two years as an informal initiative, it established as an international membership association under Belgian law. This involved putting in place an employment system, a membership admission process, conducting a General Assembly, establishing operating rules for the steering group etc.

2009 has also been the first year of the implementation of the 2008 manifesto “The Rainbow Paper: From Practice to Policy and Back”. The Platform work plan combined EU level advocacy work with grass-roots work. This proves to be the right way for acting legitimately and knowledgeably.

The EU level advocacy work has entailed participation in bi- and multilateral meetings under the Structured Dialogue in the field of culture throughout the year, involving the EC, the Council working groups under the Open Method of Coordination, and the other two recognised civil society platforms in the culture domain. The two highlights of this process have been:

Presentation of the Platform work and political demands during the EU Culture Forum, 29th September

Presentation to the Cultural Affairs Committee on 23 October during which two national delegations spontaneously supported our demand for the setting up of an OMC group on Intercultural Dialogue

The advocacy has been extended to the European Parliament with an action around the Culture Forum involving personalised letters to key MEPs and with our participation in an NGO Fair in the EP during the week of 5th October.

Moreover, honouring the platform cross-sectoral approach, outreach into other policy domains has been achieved, in particular the field of EU integration policy, taking part in events such as the Tallinn seminar on Integration and Immigration in February organised by the Migration Policy Group for the EUC and the EU Integration Forum in November.

Grass-roots and membership work included:

Two Regional Practice Exchanges for Intercultural Capacity-Building, building on Chapter II of the Rainbow Paper. The first covered Scandinavian countries and was held in Malmö on 15/16 June; the second covered Austrian and its eastern neighbouring countries and took place in Vienna on 20/21 November.

A European Forum on “The Role of the Arts in Intercultural Dialogue: A Perspective from and on the Arts” on 8 June in Brussels.

Further development (in process) of the on-line resource collection “Panorama on Intercultural Dialogue” in support of the implementation of the Rainbow Paper.

A study (in process) of the implementation of the Intercultural Dialogue objective in the EU Culture Programme. Four issues of the Newsbulletin which sets out the platform activities and ways for the readership to be involved, explains the EU’s role in intercultural dialogue politics and profiles the members’ activities.

This work has been driven by a secretariat of two staff (secretary general on a 90% contract and her assistant on an 80% contract).

For more information please go to: <http://www.intercultural-europe.org>

## EUROPEAN CITIZENS' CONSULTATIONS – 2<sup>nd</sup> Phase 2008\_09

Co-funding for the ECC phase 2 comes from the European Commission's "Debate Europe" Programme and foundations, including the King Baudouin Foundation, the Robert Bosch Foundation and the Compagnia di San Paolo, Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation as well as national funders.

### Budget ECC 2 through NEF to date:

Robert Bosch Stiftung: 300.000 euros

Calouste Gulbenkian: 85.000 euros

The foreseen total project budget is 3.3 Mio € with co funding from the DG Com of 2 Mio € and KBF with 400.000 €.

### 2009:

This project builds on the success of the first phase.

The European Citizens' Consultations 2009 (ECC 2009) bring together citizens from all 27 EU Member States to discuss - with each other and then with policy-makers - key challenges facing the EU. ECC 2009 focuses on the issues currently of greatest concern to EU citizens in the run-up to the 2009 European elections, seeking to answer the question:

"What can the EU do to shape our economic and social future in a globalised world?"

### *Fact and Figures*

- On 3rd December 2008, the first phase of ECC was launched at a public event in Brussels. More than 200 stakeholders from Brussels followed the launch event with Margot Wallström, Vice-President of the European Commission, Diana Wallis, Vice-President of the European Parliament and Olivier Chastel, Belgian State Secretary for European Affairs.
- From December 2008 until end of March 2009, almost 250.000 unique users visited the 27 national websites in 21 languages. Approx. 40.000 registered as participants and contributed to the debate.
- 1605 participants - chosen at random by professional opinion research institutes – took part in 27 national consultations over three weekends in all EU-Member States. They developed 270 recommendations (10 per Member State) which were synthesised to 88 recommendations out of which all participants of the national consultations select their 15 favorite recommendations in April (final voting results available as of 10 May on website).
- The national consultations were visited by 14 national Ministers/State Secretaries, 3 EU Commissioners, 3 Presidents of national Parliaments, 1 Head of State. Around 100 MEPs and candidate MEPs debated with the citizens during the national consultations.
- On 10/11 May 153 citizens from all EU member states come together in Brussels to debate the 15 final recommendations and to hand them over to:
  - o José Manuel Barroso, President, European Commission
  - o Hans-Gert Pöttering, President, European Parliament
  - o Mario Seppi, President, European Economic and Social Committee
  - o Luc Van den Brande, President, European Committee of Regions
  - o Alexandr Vondra, Vice Prime Minister Czech Republic, EU Presidency
  - o Margot Wallström, Vice-President, European Commission

- Wilfried Martens, President, European People's Party
- Annemie Neyts-Uyttebroeck, President, European Liberal Democrat and Reform Party
- Poul Nyrup Rasmussen, President, European Socialist Party
- Philippe Lamberts, President, European Green Party

### *Challenges*

- Increase citizen recruitment quality: with the engagement of a central recruitment coordinator, the introduction of a central system of selection of national recruitment providers, centralized recruitment guidelines and quality controls ECC 2009 could considerably increase the quality of recruitment of citizens participating at the national consultations.
- Development, management and promotion of 29 interactive websites in 21 EU languages: With a very low budget (250.000€) and national partners who were mostly not experienced with the management of interactive websites, the management and marketing of the website was a major challenge. With the help of a central online coordinator, most problems could be solved. However, although the number of users was rather high, the quality of proposals and debate contributions was not always satisfying. Through the strong participation of internet lobby groups (e.g. for Esperanto, the liberalization of soft drugs or against bull fighting) the debate was not always focused on the debate issue, i.e. the economic and social future of Europe.
- Tight timeline: As the main part of the project has to be finalized before the European elections in June 2009, the project is under constant time pressure. So far, the timing could be kept.
- Increasing press attention: Through hiring of professional media advisors in those countries in which the national consultations 2007 had low media coverage, the media coverage could be improved in almost all member states. Still, in some countries no improvement could be achieved (e.g. Italy, France or the UK).
- Future challenge: Keeping the attention of policy-makers also after the European Parliament elections and the nomination of the new Commissioners - Securing support for future citizen participation projects on a more institutionalized basis. With regional events in 5 member states and in Brussels as well as lobbying activities after the elections KBF tries to keep the support at a high level.

### *Successes – so far:*

- Robust design of national consultations: 27 events in 27 member states in 15 days, all at a high level of quality
- Strong involvement of national and European policy makers at all steps of the project (Launch Event, Online Phase, National Consultations, European Citizens Summit)
- Increased involvement of stakeholders and the general public in the debate through websites, larger final event and regional events (to come in autumn)
- Improved media attention
- Results which are easier usable in the EU policy debates by using a standardised format for the recommendations

- With a reduced budget (3,3 Mio € instead of 3,8 Mio €) ECC delivered the same achievements (27 national events, European event, etc.) as in 2007 but added an online phase and regional events.

Plans for 2010:

On October 6, 2009, a working session with key stakeholders of the ECC took place to reflect on long term planning for the ECC. With the election of a new Parliament, the preparations in view of a new Commission, time has come to devise long term perspectives for the citizens' consultations: how to turn the ECC into a complementary instrument to enable European Institutions to collect feedback on future policies? How to ensure more impact on community policies? How to integrate them into the institutions? These questions were debated and the future of the ECC is to be thought through by stakeholders.

## EUROPEAN FUND FOR THE BALKANS

Foundations involved: Compagnia di San Paolo (Chair)  
ERSTE Stiftung  
King Baudouin Foundation  
Robert Bosch Stiftung

Budget 2009: 1,000,000.00 EUR

Timeframe: 2007 - 2010

### Background:

Based on the findings of the International Commission on the Balkans and as a direct follow-up to its main recommendations, it was proposed to set up a joint Fund of European Foundations that would undertake and support initiatives aimed at bringing the Western Balkans closer to the European Union. The venture is designed to engage not only European funders already active in the Balkans, but also public and private donors who have not yet worked in the region, or wish to leverage their own funding and increase its impact.

The Fund's objectives are:

- to encourage broader and stronger commitment to the European integration of the Western Balkan countries and societies;
- to strengthen the efforts undertaken by a range of stakeholders in this process with a view also to developing effective policies and practices in the region and in the EU and;
- to support the process of member-state building as envisaged by the International Commission on the Balkans, in particular by building constituencies in the societies of Southeast Europe who will be offered an opportunity to experience and learn about Europe

### Activities in 2009:

#### PROGRAMME

*Envisioning Europe:*

- The 08/09 Think and Link Programme has been rounded up with a Final Seminar „The Role of Think Tanks in the Policy Process and their Relevance for EU Integration – Case Study on Environmental Policy in the Western Balkans“ held on March 19, 2009 in Belgrade.
- After an evaluation of the first round of the Think and Link Programme it has been decided to launch the next call for applications in July 2009.
- Call for Applications for the new round of programme was announced on 20 July, 2009 and deadline for submitting the applications expired on 20 September, 2009. Total number of applications received under the new Call was 99. After the EFB Steering Committee decided that, due to the great interest, extend the number of grantees from 6 to 12, Selection Committee set up by the EFB has selected 12 applications for support.
- The next programme event will be capacity building seminar scheduled for December 10-12 in Skopje, FYROM, where 2 researchers of each 12 selected organization will participate at the seminar aimed to increase the research potentials of selected organisations, strengthen their skills in the area of policy paper writing and policy analysis component and offer networking opportunities with the EU research centres and think tanks.

*Practicing Europe:*

**08/09 Fellowship Programme**

After selecting 20 young civil servants from all countries of the Western Balkans, the programme activities are carried out according to the plan:

- Intensive language training: January – End of March

The participants were given support for a 2 month intensive language training in order to prepare them for their internship in the chosen host institutions in the chosen EU based countries.

- Introduction seminar: 29 March 10 April, Berlin and Potsdam

In co-operation with the University of Potsdam, a 10 day seminar was organised for the programme participants with lectures on global issues and EU affairs as well as training modules focused on leadership skills.

- Working phase I: 14 April – May 15

The fellows are placed in EU based government institutions providing a peer to peer working experience.

- Intermediary seminar: 18 May – 20 May, Brussels

A 3 day visiting programme to Brussels consisted of meetings with EU officials and discussions with Brussels based think-tanks.

- Working phase II: 25 May – 24 June

The fellows return to the EU based government institutions where they initially began their fellowship.

- Final seminar: 25 – 30 June, Dubrovnik, Croatia

A 5 day final seminar was organised in Dubrovnik, Croatia as an event that would conclude the fellowship activities. The fellows received negotiation, conflict prevention and resolution training and had the chance to hear a number of lectures by prominent regional figures. The seminar was also an opportunity to exchange experiences from the last 3 months and outline future steps and activities.

**09/10 Fellowship Programme**

As the result of call for applications launched on July 27 2009 a total of 116 applications were received, out of which 47 candidates were invited for interviews in Belgrade and Skopje. On October 20 the final selection was made, 20 fellows were chosen and thereafter confirmed their participation in the programme.

- Intensive language training: January – End of March

As with the previous 08/09 cycle of the Fellowship Programme, each participant will attend a 2 month intensive language course in their home country.

Programme schedule:

- Introduction seminar: 4 – 17 April, Berlin and Potsdam

The Fellowship Programme 09/10 will be launched with the 10 day introductory seminar in Berlin and Potsdam. Fellows will be introduced to each other and attend the first lectures on global issues and EU affairs organised in cooperation with the University of Potsdam.

- Working phase I: 17 April – 21 May

Fellows travel to their respective host countries and begin working at host institutions.

- Intermediary seminar: 24 – 26 May, Brussels

The group travels to Brussels where they have an opportunity to meet and hear from EU officials as well as Brussels based think tanks.

- Working phase II: 27 May – 1 July

Each fellow returns to respective host institution to continue with the second segment of their practical training.

- Final seminar: 1 – 6 July

The location and venue of the final seminar is yet to be determined. The 5 day event will be an opportunity for skills training, lectures by relevant regional figures as well as exchange of experiences and planning of future steps and activities.

- Parallel to the activities which are being carried out as part of the Fellowship Programme, the EFB is conducting mapping exercise in order to identify the niche areas and activities in accordance with the objective “creating links between administrations in the region through individual networks and joint initiatives” of the Practicing Europe programme strand for 2009.

*Experiencing Europe:*

#### **08/09 Leadership Development Programme (LDP)**

The final seminar of this programme, summarising the project activities of the participants and providing networking opportunities and visits to EU institutions was held in the period of April 18 – 23 in Brussels.

#### **09/10 LDP Programme**

The call for applications has been launched in March 2009. 513 applications were received and 30 participants were selected to for the programme.

After a 6 month transition period, EFB took over the full administration of the Programme from the Transfuse Association.

The 2009/2010 Summer Academy was organised in Berlin with the support of Bosch Foundation. After the successful Summer Academy, the LDP participants are now developing their group activities and they will organise these in the following countries in the region: Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Serbia and Albania.

The LDP final (Brussels) seminar will be held in the period of April 24-29, 2010.

As suggested by the EFB SC, the future location of the LDP Summer Academy should be changed after an agreement has been reached by all involved partner organisations (EFB, College of Europe and Transfuse). EFB has explored couple of locations which can be attractive and interesting to be considered for the fifth edition of the LDP.

- The launch of a Youth grant making programme has been postponed for the beginning of year 2010.

*Developing Policies:*

### **Gallup Balkan Monitor (GBM) 08**

GBM “road show” events, panel discussions have been organised in all capitals of the Western Balkans in the period of December 2008 and March 2009.

The planning of the second edition of the Gallup Balkan Monitor has been started in co-operation with Gallup Europe. The next report will be published in November 2009.

### **Gallup Balkan Monitor (GBM) 09**

Launch and presentation of the new Gallup Balkan Monitor results was held on November 17 at the European Policy Centre in Brussels. A policy dialogue, with the title: In Europe we trust? Public Opinion in the Balkans was organised with participation of members of EFB’s Advisory board, Guliano Amato and Ivan Krastev, Zeljko Pantelic, journalist from Serbia and Robert Manchin, managing director of Gallup Europe.

GBM road show will be organised from Mid-January to End of March 2010 as a series of promotion events of GBM results in all capitals of the WB region.

- A Co-operation model has been established with the European Policy Center (EPC). Apart from the policy events focused on presentation of the Gallup Balkan Monitor, EFB and EPC partnered in organising a policy discussion on May 29, with the title: “The Future of the EU Enlargement in the Western Balkans”.

#### Plans for 2010:

The EFB will continue in 2010. Foundations partner will have to decide on the status of the EFB in the coming months, whether to keep it tied to NEF as being a branch of NEF in Belgrade or to become a fully fledged independent fund. Activities will continue as the commitment from the partners is there.

The EFB is launching the European Fund for the Balkans Alumni Network. It will be a network of members who throughout the years of EFB existence successfully completed the major EFB programmes. It will offer a platform where the EFB alumni members can exchange information and experiences and work together to advance not only the EFB programmes but also their personal promotion and prosperity.

In 2009 the EFB organised 4 Steering Committee meetings, 1 Advisory Board meeting and a meeting with the CEOs of the four founding Foundations.

### **EUROPEAN HIV/AIDS FUNDERS GROUP**

Foundations involved:

- FXB International
- Comic Relief (co-chair)
- Bernard van Leer Foundation
- Diana Princess of Wales Foundation
- Fondation Mérieux
- German Foundation for World Population (co-chair)
- Ford Foundation
- King Baudouin Foundation
- Esperanza Medicines Foundation

Partners involved:

- European Foundation Centre
- Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)

## Funders Concerned about AIDS

Budget 2009/10: \$ 250,082.24 Ford Foundation  
€ 20,000.00 UNAIDS

Timeframe: 2009 – 20010

### Background:

The European HIV/AIDS Funders Group of the European Foundation Centre (EFC) was set up as a knowledge-based network dedicated to strengthening the contribution of European philanthropy in the field of HIV/AIDS. Its purpose is to mobilise philanthropic leadership and resources to address the global HIV/AIDS pandemic and its social and economic consequences and to promote an enabling environment for independent giving in this field. NEF acts as the hosting organisation for this initiative, again illustrating the close cooperation with the EFC.

The European Funders Group (EFG) was established in June 2002, during the 13th European Foundation Centre's (EFC) Annual General Assembly in Brussels, as a response to the call for sharing knowledge and better coordination among European philanthropists already involved or interested in becoming involved in HIV/ AIDS programming. Since then EFG has continued as a network of European foundations as well as key multi-lateral and U.S. foundation partners, dedicated to strengthening European philanthropy in the field of HIV/AIDS, bringing together foundations with shared vision, mobilising philanthropic leadership and resources to do more, more effectively, in addressing HIV/AIDS.

### Activities for 2009

Thanks to the supporting grant of Ford Foundation as well as grants from UNAIDS and the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, EFG has been transformed in this last year in many positive ways. Chaired by The Diana Princess of Wales Memorial Fund, the EFG's Steering Committee is comprised of representatives of some of the most recognised and influential foundations and trusts in Europe.

Following that lead, the EFG in this period established its first secretariat at the European Foundation Centre and hired its first staff person. Results have included the most coordinated effort to date with FCAA and UNAIDS on a rigorously harmonised resource tracking publication due out on November 17, 2009, involving the most aggressive education and public relations campaign to date for EFG on the upcoming publication; an excellent convening at the EFC's Annual Meeting in Rome of 2009 on New Models to Improve HIV/AIDS Healthcare Coverage and initial planning on a comprehensive EFG convening to be held in February of 2010 in Brussels. As a result of these products and services, the EFG has achieved an enhanced profile and an increased reach and influence.

In this period of financial crises, EFG's role has also become increasingly important in educating funders on and facilitating partnerships and other innovative approaches amongst European and U.S. foundations in responding to the pandemic.

There were some challenges for the network in 2009 around the transfer of institutional memory as previous consultants left the network and the new staffer came on board. This led to EFG creating a usable bank of its historical documents to ensure that new members of the Steering Committee can be effectively inducted.

In the coming year, EFG anticipates being able to solidify the remaining elements of its organisational development, such as refreshed governance policies, re-articulated mission and vision, more comprehensive fundraising planning, enhanced communications and outreach mechanisms and reinvigorated membership. These critical elements of an effective organisation will enable EFG to improve upon the quality and reach of all of its programmatic undertakings in the coming year.

## EUROPEAN PROGRAMME FOR INTEGRATION AND MIGRATION

Foundations involved:

- Atlantic Philanthropies
- Barrow Cadbury Trust
- Fondation Bernheim
- Compagnia di San Paolo
- Oak Foundation
- Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian
- Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (Chair)
- King Baudouin Foundation
- Robert Bosch Stiftung
- Diana Fund's Memorial

Budget 2008/2011: 2,950,000.00 EUR (approx)

Timeframe: Second phase 2008/2011 – 4 years

### Background:

The European Programme on Integration and Migration (EPIM) began in 2005 as a joint venture of eleven European foundations to support organisations and projects that have a constructive approach to migration and integration and positive impact on the European agenda.

For its second phase (2007-2011), a dedicated programme manager has been recruited and embedded within the NEF team to work full time on the project.

EPIM mission seeks to improve the lives of regular and undocumented migrants through an up to three year grants programme.

### EPIM Goals:

- 1– Strategic grant making in 3 priority areas: mainstreaming of migrants' voices, work with undocumented migrants and with the media
- 2– Networking and capacity building of civil society organisations working in the migration and integration field
- 3– Support advocacy and policy work of the grantees to influence public policy at the European level and in Member States so that the integration of migrants is better placed on the political agenda across Europe and a broader approach to migration and integration issues is uphold

Planning for EPIM collective workshops:

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Theme</u>	<u>Location</u>
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10/11 June 2009	Advocacy and lobbying	London (Barrow Cadbury Trust)
23/24 September 2009	Partnership, networking and cooperation at EU level	Brussels
16/17 March 2010 (end of short term grants)	Communication strategies with the media	Lisbon
22/23 September 2010	Evaluation and Impact assessment of public campaigns and advocacy	TBC
End 2011 or Start of 2012 (end of long term grants)	Final PR event with Policy makers	Brussels

During this year, the focus has been on furthering the capacity building strand of EPIM.

Two workshops have already taken place and have been well received by the grantees. The menus of the workshop have been designed in collaboration with them. The approach consists of practical case studies where grantees can present their experience of an issue and discuss around it. .

The three joint learning projects are also coming to an end. It is expected that during the next workshop on communication in March 2010 in Lisbon the learning that emerges from them will be shared amongst all the grantees. The idea to involve also Portuguese NGOS into this exercise has been proposed by the Gulbenkian Foundation and is seen as part of the commitment of EPIM foundations towards their national grantees.

Joint Learning scheme: One proposal is about strengthening fundraising skills of a pool of grantees; the second is for media projects to gain a deeper understanding of the media policies and practices, in order to acquire more effective tools to promote diversity within this sector by working with both the mainstream and migrants' media. Finally, the third group will look at equipping partners with a better capacity to undertake analysis of the power relations sustaining the policy preferences of the agencies and groups involved in migrant integration policies, of peer review methodologies, and the design and use of toolkits.

Each joint learning initiative will also have to produce a tool/manual to disseminate widely its collective learning.

EPIM outreach: Both the Oak Foundation and the Diana Foundation have made grants to EPIM this year. The Oak foundation has confirmed another grant for 150.000 EUR until the end of the second phase of EPIM. This increase in the budget will enable EPIM to go ahead with its initial plan by launching a second call for proposals as envisaged in April 2010. Diana Fund has also joined the partnership and participates in the funding of this second call for proposals. The Sigrid Rausing Trust is interested in supporting a workshop dedicated on strategy building/advocacy for the grantees. Ultimately this additional funding will enable to strengthen also the communication strand of EPIM.

EPIM was present at the EFC AGA in the Interactive Fair session on May 16 and made interesting contacts with foundations that has resulted in their current involvement in EPIM. Besides, the SC meeting in Lisbon was also the occasion for the partners to reflect on the strategic developments of EPIM and prioritize funding investment. These discussions were extended at the last SC meeting of November in Brussels. Foundations were invited to elaborate the operational framework and operating principles of the next call for proposals. Additionally the working group on communication presented its reflection on how to enhance EPIM communication and advocacy goal. The idea is to work with

consultants with expertise in the European policy making area in order to insufflate new thinking and map out tactics to increase EPIM advocacy outreach towards EU policy makers. As the strategic reflection has now been engaged at an early stage, and new tactics will be tried out, it is hoped that the impact of EPIM will increase.

With regard to the strategic learning exercise EPIM is committed to, the evaluation sub committee felt that the process was not unfolding as per expectations. A meeting was conducted last October in London with the two external evaluators with a view to clarify issues, and reframe roles and expectations. Their first annual progress report due for January 2010 will take on board the inputs provided by the evaluation sub group. Stronger coordination between the External Evaluators and the evaluation sub group is to be sought. The objective is that the formative evaluation yields constant learning so that EPIM adapts to changing contexts and disseminates its findings all through its duration. The first annual reports of the grantees have also been submitted to the secretariat. Overall the progress towards objectives is good and only one grantee has not been able to secure the co funding it had anticipated in its original proposal. The SC is reflecting on how to support this grantee. Thanks to the Atlantic Philanthropies it seems that the grantees reports will be now computerized in a systematic manner (data base) which will allow an easy collection and aggregation of data for evaluation purposes.

#### **INITIATIVE FOR LEARNING DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE, 2007-09**

Foundations involved: Bertelsmann Stiftung  
 Carnegie UK Trust  
 Compagnia di San Paolo  
 Education for Democracy Foundation  
 Education Reform Initiative  
 Freudenberg Stiftung (chair)  
 Fondation Bernheim  
 Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust  
 King Baudouin Foundation

Partners involved: Council of Europe  
 Citizenship Foundation in London  
 Schoolnet  
 Alliance  
 and DeGeDe and RAA

Budget 2007/08: 237,000.00 EUR

Timeframe: 2007 – 2009

#### Background:

In their role as significant actors of civil society, foundations share widespread concerns over the inadequacy of democracy education and learning in Europe, in particular with regard to its European dimension.

NEF has therefore engaged into the Initiative for Learning Democracy in Europe (ILDE) to follow-up on the European Year of Citizenship Education. The agreed mission of ILDE stands to enable foundations to share their know-how and experience with a view to scaling up their efforts to promote good practices in democracy-learning.

#### Update for 09:

Pia Gerber, from the Freudenberg Stiftung officially took over from Michael Alberg-Seberich the chairmanship of the group.

The two concrete projects have been successfully completed and were released in April. They are both available on the nef's website. They are published by Alliance.

The extension of the remit of ILDE for a 1 year dissemination, evaluation and development period (2009) is being coordinated up to now thanks to the "reserves" of the initial budget (2006/08). During this phase ILDE would continue to be developed in close collaboration with the Council of Europe and the European Commission. To note that an Italian version of the two manuals has just been finalised, supported by the Compagnia.

At mid December Schoolnet will release its report on the dissemination of "Europe and Me" in the 4 agreed European countries and will produce recommendations linked to its translation/adaptation (German, Spanish, Polish and Swedish). The SC will meet early January so as to take stock of the field testing of the materials and in order to decide on what the next phase of ILDE could entail.

A meeting was scheduled with the European Institutions to present them the two resources. Participation of the author Ted Huddleston to a few educational conferences in Europe has enabled to spread the resources within the community. The Secretariat has also contacted the European network and platform working on Citizenship so as to place the manuals in their repository/websites.

The NEF Board has suggested that the project of the Robert Bosch Stiftung 'Young Idea for Europe' could unfold within the ILDE group as a continuation of the work on European citizenship with Youngsters. The next SC of ILDE on January 25<sup>th</sup> will enable to clarify the next stage around ILDE.

A preliminary meeting with Fondazione per la Scuola in December will also shed some light with regard to their future plans in the European citizenship educative field.

The Commission has contacted NEF as they are conducting a review of resources that could inspire them for the dissemination of the "euro success story" across Europe (in the framework of its 10 years anniversary). NEF will keep them informed on the results of the evaluation of the "Europe and Me" resource and reflect on possible new chapters to be developed.

#### "Europe and Me" – Resource Kit:

Whether we are aware of it or not, the European Union influences the daily lives of millions of people in a myriad of different ways throughout Europe. Yet in practice, European citizenship education in schools across Europe varies considerably in quality. What young people learn about the European Union often makes it look like a remote and abstract structure which has little direct relevance for them. Hence, tools must focus on the EU's impact on the daily lives of ordinary people in different countries and help young people critically evaluate that impact. It was decided that the material would be based on real-life questions and situations which young people might encounter and was primarily designed for students in vocational schools.

#### "Schools for society"- Handbook:

The handbook distils best policy and practice to promote the idea of the school as a whole as a democratic space, both in its internal organisation and in its relationships with the community outside

the school. The handbook is directed primarily at staff working in foundations interested in developing a more strategic funding approach in this field, and at community/school developers, governors and heads of schools. As such, it is deliberately conceived to complement the Council of Europe's new handbook which is aimed at the teaching profession and trainers involved in citizenship education.

### **NEF MERCATOR FUND**

<u>Foundations involved:</u>	Fondation Gabriel
<u>Partners involved:</u>	The International Council on Security and Development (formerly The Senlis Council) Association pour la Collaboration Globale (ACG) Red Cross/Red Crescent National Societies Gerda Henkel Stiftung European Commission Arab Democracy Foundation Emirates Foundation Sir Ratan Tata Trust
<u>Budget 2009:</u>	1.319.000 EUR (Jan-April 09)
<u>Timeframe:</u>	Indefinite

During 2009, the NEF Mercator continued to initiate and support projects related to Europe's role on global social issues.

#### Raymond Georis Prize for Innovative Philanthropy in Europe

The 2009 Raymond Georis Prize for Innovative Philanthropy was awarded to Ms Güler Sabanci, President of the Sabanci Foundation. The award was made in the presence of over 600 members of the European Foundation Community. The 2009 Raymond Georis Prize for Innovative Philanthropy was presented at the 20th Annual General Assembly of the European Foundation Centre. Dr Emilio Rui Vilar, President of the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation and Chair of the European Foundation Centre, presented the award.

#### Book Project: Global Philanthropy - Stories from philanthropic actors from around the world

In December 2009, the NEF Mercator Fund will publish Global Philanthropy (working title). The book follows in the footsteps of Philanthropy in Europe: A rich past, a promising future, published in 2007. It aims to provide a snapshot of philanthropy, past and present, from all corners of the globe - from Africa, East Asia, Oceania, the Indian sub-continent, and the Gulf States to North and South America. As with the European book, it will be co-edited by Norine MacDonald QC, and Luc Tayart de Borms.

#### The Global Media Centre

The Global Media Centre, created in 2008 by the NEF Mercator Fund to provide specialised advocacy and media outreach work for the policy-making and philanthropic community, has undertaken its first assignments. An initial project was undertaken with the Fund for Investigative Journalism in Washington to re-launch its website and online communications capacity. The Centre also worked with the King Baudouin Foundation on the international media outreach for the King Baudouin International Development Prize, and is handling the communications strategy and implementation for the first-ever European Foundation Centre Foundation Week in June 2010.

Partnerships have also been established with Security and Defence Agenda and Alliance Magazine, in addition to ongoing work with the International Council on Security and Development, the Rome Consensus for a Humanitarian Drug Policy and the Centre of Excellence on Public Security. Discussions are in progress to provide media services to other foundations and international organisations such as Mama Cash, the Arcus Foundation (US), and the China-Europa Forum. The Centre is currently in talks with TUSEV to establish an office in Istanbul to provide media services to organisations in Turkey, and to potentially syndicate this model to other countries and regions such as the Gulf, Brazil and India.

#### Ease of Global Giving (EGG) project

The NEF Mercator Fund is working on a project to examine the regulation of international philanthropy - the Ease of Global Giving (or EGG) project. The aim of this project is to identify and examine common challenges that charitable institutions encounter, and examine the various solutions that they have used, when conducting their cross-border philanthropic activities, with a view to developing a standard Global Protocol of principles to guide the further development of international institutional philanthropy. This is supported by the pro bono assistance of Clifford Chance, a global law firm.

#### Food Security Project in emerging countries

In partnership with the Sir Ratan Tata Trust of Mumbai, India, the NEF Mercator Fund has established a Food Security project. In the first quarter of 2010, an International Symposium on food security will be organised, which will draw lessons from best practices and solutions that have been implemented and tested around the world. The first comparative research project on specific policy responses to food security issues in Brazil and India is already underway, along with a web portal providing access to research and literature on food security issues.

### **The International Council on Security and Development**

#### Afghanistan

The International Council on Security and Development (ICOS) continued its field research operations in southern Afghanistan. This year, marked by the Presidential Elections that took place, saw the following report releases:

- “Afghanistan’s Presidential Elections: Power to the People, or the Powerful?” (March 2009);
- “Afghanistan Elections: Guns and Money” (August 2009);
- “Political Quagmire in Afghanistan” (October 2009).

Throughout the year, ICOS has again commented widely in the international media on the security and development situation, and on the developments around the Presidential Elections. In November, ICOS was asked to participate in NATO’s second expert Seminar on “NATO’s engagement in an Era of Globalization”. ICOS also remained the global commentator on counter-narcotics in Afghanistan.

On 21 October 2009, Ms Norine MacDonald testified before the US Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control’s special hearing on US Counternarcotics Strategy in Afghanistan.

#### Global Security Architecture Programme

During 2009, ICOS started the first (field) research of its Global Security Architecture Programme, funded by a grant from the Gerda Henkel Stiftung. The research has concentrated on the two conceptual pillars of this programme: “Angry Young Men” dynamics and the related Non-Violent Security Instruments (NVSIs). Below are some of the projects initiated in 2009 within the Global Security Architecture Programme.

#### Angry Young Men project: Interfering with Insurgency Recruitment Dynamics

The latest field research in the Afghan provinces of Helmand and Kandahar, conducted in October 2009, will be part of an upcoming report devoted to “Angry Young Men”, a new international project that addresses Insurgency Recruitment Dynamics in groups of young men in conflict and post-conflict countries such as Afghanistan, Iraq and Somalia. A first Report, which will focus on the latter countries, will be released in the upcoming months.

#### Unemployed youth in the UAE

In partnership with the Emirates Foundation, ICOS also conducted a Perception Assessment Study about unemployed Emirati youth. This “Unemployed Youth in the UAE” project aims to examine the perceptions of young Emirate (aged 16-26) on the causes of and solutions to their unemployment. In the concluding Report that will be released in the next few months, employment will be assessed as a Non-Violent Security Instrument.

#### Truth and Reconciliation Process for Somalia

In agreement with the Arab Democracy Foundation, the Truth and Reconciliation process will be included as a Non-Violent Security Instrument in the Global Security Architecture Programme. The first research project will be carried out in Somalia, where it will diagnose the relevance of a Truth and Reconciliation process for the country. The overarching objective is to develop a blueprint for the implementation of a workable process for Somalia, and build amongst Somali stakeholders the consensus and energy necessary to implement this blueprint.

#### Perception Assessment Study of Refugee Populations in Djibouti

As part of the Global Security Architecture Programme, ICOS is currently in the process of organizing a Perception Assessment Study of youth, both male and female refugees, in the Ali Addeh or Djibouti-ville refugee camp in Djibouti, who are registered by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). The Study will gauge the feelings, perceptions and aspirations of a large sample of young men and women in the refugee camp, and consider the dynamics of insurgent recruitment in this context.

#### The Rome Consensus: Public health policies in drug control

2009 was another successful year for the Rome Consensus for a Humanitarian Drug Policy, an initiative of ICOS and the Italian Red Cross that currently brings together 120 National Societies of Red Cross and Red Crescent to promote and implement humanitarian approaches to drug policy. Supported by the European Commission and ICOS, two events were scheduled. In March 2009, The Rome Consensus Europe Conference “Rising to the Challenge of Drug Use in Europe” brought together National Societies of Red Cross and Red Crescent in Europe, European Union (EU) institution representatives and other leading practitioners to exchange best practices in prevention, treatment and care, and explore concrete ways for National Societies to contribute to drug policy responses in Europe. In December 2009, European National Societies will gather in Rome for the Rome Consensus Europe Seminar on “Drug Prevention, Treatment and Harm Reduction: Scaling-up of Red Cross-Red Crescent Best Practices”. With the latter seminar, the Rome Consensus project has effectively entered its second phase, focusing on concrete training and information exchange projects to share best practices among the National Societies.

#### The ICOS Innovative Drug Policy Award 2009

Each year ICOS presents its Award for Innovative Drug Policy to an individual or project for their role in bringing about improvement or advancement in drug policy. This year, the Award was presented to the

World Health Organization and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for their newly launched Joint Programme in Drug Dependence Treatment and Care. By awarding this initiative ICOS wished to mark the programme launch as a milestone towards a new consensus of the international community towards public health approaches to drug policy.

#### The European Action on Drugs (EAD)

ICOS was one of the first organisations to provide a commitment to the new European Commission initiative, the European Action on Drugs at its launch on June 26th 2009. The initiative aims to provide European civil society with a platform to increase awareness and commitment with regard to drugs and the risks related to drug abuse, and to promote dialogue and exchanges of best practice.

#### Geopolitical and geo-economic changes International Workshop

ICOS Brazil is developing in partnership with “Plataforma Democrática” (composed of Fundación Democracia y Desarrollo, the Edelstein Centre, and the Instituto Fernando Henrique Cardoso) the co-realisation of two international workshops on with the title: “Geopolitical and geo-economic changes: Challenges for the economic development and democracy”. One seminar will take place in London, and one in Sao Paulo. Discussions will focus on the implications of current geopolitical changes, and the importance for policy makers to be aware of these changes in order to make the most of opportunities and avoid pitfalls.

#### **The Centre of Excellence on Public Security (CEPS), Brazil**

CEPS has continued to strengthen its operations in the field of public security and related areas. Below are some of the current and future projects.

#### Policy Labs in Security and Citizenship in West Bahia

ICOS’ Public Security and Citizenship Policy Laboratories are taking place in Luis Eduardo Magalhães (LEM), a town of 60,000 people in West Bahia. Laboratories are co-funded by the Swiss Embassy in Brazil, and supported by the town council. This project has the goal of producing a public security strategy for the town. Policy Laboratories offer a process through which citizens and local policy makers can understand public security from a multi-dimensional perspective, and recognise their own agency within it.

#### Cooperation with the National Secretariat of Justice: Support of the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

As hosts of the Twelfth United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice which will take place in Salvador Brazil in April 2010, the Brazilian Ministry of Justice is obliged to develop the thematic areas of focus for this international event. The Centre of Excellence has established contact with the Secretariat of Justice, and has formerly submitted a proposal for thematic assistance for the event.

#### New Approaches to Drug Policy and Public Security – ICOS Publication

CEPS has recently released ‘New Approaches to Drug Policy and Public Security’. This book is a compilation of the proceedings of CEPS’ International Seminar on Public Security and Drug Policy, which took place in 2008. The book is published in both Portuguese and English. ICOS has received many positive commendations regarding the content, including from the Brazilian Minister of Justice, Diplomats, various Congressmen and experts.

## ROMA EDUCATION FUND

Foundations involved: Freudenberg Stiftung (chair)  
Fonds "Erinnerung und Zukunft"

Partners involved: REF

Budget 2009: 200,000.00 EUR/year

Timeframe: 2007 – 2010

### Background:

The Roma Education Fund was created in the framework of the Decade of Roma Inclusion 2005-2015, and was established through cooperation between the World Bank and the Open Society Institute. This intergovernmental commitment was created to reduce the vast disparities between Roma and non Roma in the Decade countries. The Fund focused in particular on closing the gap in educational outcomes between Roma and non-Roma, and aimed to provide a coherent and effective framework in this field.

### Update for 2009:

The continuation to the work of NEF to support REF is expected to last until 2010, date until which funds are committed by the Freudenberg Stiftung and the Remembrance Fund. The collaboration with REF runs smoothly, the Steering Committee agreed to a yearly pre approval of REF projects funded through the NEF consortium monies that is scheduled for January 12 for this year 2010. For any extension of the joint venture all partners will have to take stock on progress and achievements at the end of this first period.

Hence NEF continues administrating the pooled contributions of foundations to REF until 2010, date on which the current commitments will come to a term. It has been decided to integrate into the interest group of the children of the EFC (under the leadership of Christian Petry) the advocacy leg of the Roma initiative. This new group operates under the EFC remit and gathers several donors such as the Bernard Van Leer Foundation, Erste Stiftung, the Remembrance Fund and Freudenberg.

### Programs

REF has been implementing those 2 projects, which were presented and approved by NEF at the beginning of the year. Owing to the efforts of our partners and our continuous monitoring the two projects run according to their implementation plans without any delay towards their objectives.

REF closed all of those projects financial wise which needed the disbursement of the last instalments based on its payment schedule and all of these projects have been already closed with satisfactory rate.

### Operation

In 2008 alone REF reached 30,000 pupils and students, who showed improved educational outcomes; and helped ensure than more 800 Roma students could attend and graduate from university. Its policy recommendations influence government action and leverage resources. REF has ordered an external evaluation for its scholarship program which highlighted the main directions for improvement. Our foundation applied for the EU pilot program announced by DG Region in which REF submitted a comprehensive project on early childhood education in Macedonia, Slovakia, Hungary and Romania. In

November REF held a donor conference in Brussels and fundraised as a new fund EUR 10.338.290 for the period 2010-2015.

Plans for 2010

REF is open to continue its operation towards the objectives designed on the previous NEF-REF meeting. Nevertheless there is a need to harmonize these goals with the expectations of the new donors to find a room of those fields where REF can do the most.

## **RELIGION AND DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE (ReIDem)**

<u>Foundations involved:</u>	Ford Foundation Van Leer Group Foundation (chair) Compagnia di San Paolo Riksbankens Jubileumsfond King Baudouin Foundation Arcadia Trust Fondation Bernheim Freudenberg Stiftung Volkswagen Stiftung Stefan Batory Foundation Barrow-Cadbury Trust
<u>Partners involved:</u>	European Foundation Centre (EFC), Van Leer Jerusalem Institute European Youth Forum, Caf��babel.com
<u>Budget 2007/08:</u>	385,000.00 EUR (of which 345,000.00 EUR through NEF)
<u>Timeframe:</u>	2007- 2009

### Background

The Religion and Democracy in Europe Initiative (ReIDem) focuses on the relation between religion and democracy in European societies, covering both religion and the public domain and religion and the state. This initiative contributes to a better informed debate on the topic through seminars and research on related issues.

### Update for 2008/2009

#### **1. Thematic Dossiers**

The Religion and Democracy in Europe initiative has successfully concluded the second phase of activities (2008-2009) with the publication through Alliance Magazine of a series of reports addressing specific aspects of the interaction between the state and religion as well as religion and society. These reports, drafted by acknowledged experts, map existing practices and different approaches to specific issues, set in the broader context of the religion and democracy debate. They target practitioners, policy makers and civil society actors. The reports address the following questions:

- Religion and Healthcare in the European Union, by Dimitrina Petrova

- Teaching about Religions in European School Systems, by Luce Pépin
- Conflicts over Mosques in Europe, by Stefano Allievi

A fourth report on 'Religion and Prejudice', by Beate Küpper and Andreas Zick will be released shortly and will close the second phase of the initiative. The first year of activities (2007) included a round table with specialised journalists and a series of 'Youth Debates' and culminated with an international symposium held in Jerusalem and the publication of the book 'Religion and Democracy in Contemporary Europe'.

This is the state of play for each thematic dossier:

### I. Religion and Healthcare in the European Union

- *Author:* Dimitrina Petrova, Executive Director, The Equal Rights Trust ([www.equalrightstrust.org](http://www.equalrightstrust.org))
- This report aims to map out the major issues at stake and to initiate a broader discussion on how the religious needs of the community, religious doctrine and religious practices across the EU affect public health policy. The report addresses the state of play with respect to general healthcare (dietary requirements, clothing, burial ritual, male circumcision, equitable public facilities, organ/tissue donation, blood transfusion), sexual and reproductive health (contraception, abortion, fertility treatment, access to information, female genital mutilation, HIV/AIDS, STDs) and mental health. The report stresses that the challenge of health policy, which is common across the EU, is to balance fundamental human rights, such as the right to equality, the right to health and the right to freedom of religion while adhering to secular principles.
- The report has been welcomed in the UK since the questions that it covers such as euthanasia or the prayer in public hospitals are prominent on the public debate. Publications such as 'The Practical Patient Care', a medical journal in the UK, and the 'Discrimination Lawyers Association Journal,' have requested papers on the basis of the health report. The House of Commons has requested to receive a few copies of the report to be used in the proceedings of several committees. Furthermore, one of the Parliamentary committees has requested a presentation on the report. At European level, Dimitrina Petrova has been invited by the Fundamental Rights Agency to address the religious aspects of mental health.

### II. Teaching About Religions in European School Systems

- *Author:* Luce Pépin, expert on European Education Cooperation, former Director of the Eurydice Network European Unit and author of 'History of European Cooperation in the fields of education and training'.
- This study provides an overview of the diversity of approaches in place in the European Union as far as teaching about religions in schools is concerned. While confessional education remains the most widespread approach, non-confessional and pluri-religious teaching, as well as teaching about "religious facts" seems to be gaining ground, in line with recommendations adopted at European level. Looking in particular at the situation in seven EU Member States, the study identifies key issues and challenges facing EU education systems if teaching about religions is to contribute effectively to intercultural and citizenship education. It proposes a European reference framework

on the conditions for high-quality intercultural teaching about religions and other convictions in state education. The study is accessible in English and French.

- The NEF report was very quickly published in the main web-sites dealing with religion and education such as l'Institut Européen en Sciences des Religions, the European Wergeland Centre, the Alliance of Civilizations Clearinghouse on Education about Religions and Beliefs, the European Forum for Teachers of Religious Education (EFTRE) and the Association of University Lecturers in Religion and Education (AULRE). Strong links have been established with the leading organisations in this debate such as the Council of Europe and the OSCE. Luce Pépin presented the report on the occasion of the ASEF 16th "Talks on the Hill" which took place in Barcelona in November 2009 on the theme: "Are there Universal Values for Interfaith Dialogue?" organised by the Asia Europe Foundation (ASEF) and the Spanish Consortium Casa Asia. The meeting brought together major experts in religion and education coming from various horizons, including research, civil society organisations, ministries, UNESCO and OSCE.

### III. Conflicts over Mosques in Europe

- *Author:* Stefano Allievi, Professor of sociology at the University of Padova, in collaboration with Ethnobarometer (The International Research Network on Interethnic Politics and Migration) ([www.ethnobarometer.org](http://www.ethnobarometer.org))
- The presence of Islam in Europe's public space provokes debates and tensions for historical, cultural, religious, political and social reasons. The most significant and widespread of these debates centres around mosques as they have very powerful symbolic implications. Based on new research in several European countries and on detailed national overviews, this report analyses a wider range of conflicts over mosques and proposes an interpretation of such conflicts in a wider frame, in order to understand the reasons why they emerge, how they develop, the role of the different actors involved, and the lessons that can be learned from them in terms of social dynamics and governance.
- The Mosques report has raised considerable interest within the Swiss Ministry of Foreign affairs with a view to prepare the Swiss referendum on the question of Mosques that will take place at the end of November. The report has been widely distributed among the components of the task force dealing with the question of Mosques within the Ministry. Furthermore the report has been successfully presented to a group of journalists at the 'Civis Dialogues' organised by the Civis Media Foundation in Vienna which has also published the report on its website. The report has been the basis for several TV documentaries. In addition to this, the Mosques report has been presented in conferences in Milan and Turin and the city of Ferrara has requested a résumé of the NEF report. The report has been the object of articles in the influential Italian newspapers 'Il Sole 24 Ore' and 'Il Corriere della Sera' and the important weeklies L'Espresso and Panorama. This shows that there is a very strong interest in this issue in the current Italian debate.

### IV. Religion and Prejudice

- *Author:* Professor Beate Küpper and Andreas Zick, Institute for Interdisciplinary Research on Conflict and Violence, University of Bielefeld.

- The new title of this dossier will be 'Religion and Prejudice in Europe: new empirical findings'. It was decided to drop the word 'Group Focused Enmity' to make the title more accessible to all. This study, which is part of a broader project that focuses on prejudice on different groups, will present new empirical findings and analysis on the relationship between individual religiousness and prejudice towards other groups. An interim version of this report was presented at the 'Civis Dialogues' in Vienna and as a result in a series of follow up interviews. The issue has also been covered by one of the main German TV channels. Following discussion with the Freudenberg Foundation leading the work on this report, it was agreed that Karen Weisblatt would closely work with Beate Küpper in the final editing of this dossier that will be published through Alliance Magazine at the beginning of 2010.
- This report, which is developed under the umbrella of the RelDem initiative under the leadership of the Freudenberg Foundation, has a separate timeline and will be presented separately from the other three dossiers (Mosques, Education and Health).

## 2. Awareness and Dissemination

- The RelDem initiative has raised a lot of interest among the public, as the recent publication of the reports and their increasing demand demonstrate. The RelDem reports individually or as a group are already available on crucial web-sites such as NEF, the Integration Website of the European Commission, the European Network Against Racism (ENAR), the UN Alliance of Civilizations, Alliance Magazine, the Club de Madrid, the Equal Rights Trust, the European Foundation Centre, l'Institut Européen en Sciences des Religions; the European Wergeland Centre, the Euro-Islam website and Actualité de la sociologie des religions en Europe, among others
- 700 copies of each report are being widely circulated among foundations, EU decision makers, civil society and academia in a dissemination campaign started by the RelDem team in collaboration with NEF central offices. It is crucial that the work of dissemination and awareness-raising already initiated by the RelDem team continues in the future

## 3. Presentation of the Output / Collaboration with other initiatives

- The output of the RelDem reports has been presented in a number of international events. This included the presentation of the RelDem reports in a roundtable organised by the Club de Madrid in Brussels addressed to EU decision makers and civil society. The RelDem initiative was successfully presented in early October in Vienna during the 'Civis Dialogues on Religion and Democracy' organised by the Civis Media Foundation with the support of the Freudenberg Stiftung. The event was addressed to top German speaking journalists (including radio and TV). The presentation has been the basis for TV and radio coverage. The RelDem initiative will be presented at the end of November in a high level international conference organised by the CLIP network (European Network of Cities for Local Integration Policies for Migrants) in cooperation with the European Commission, the Council of Europe and the Committee of the Regions. This conference brings together EU representatives, local policy makers, civil society, religious and migrant groups. Around 200 participants coming from all over Europe will be involved in this event where the NEF reports will be widely distributed.

- Furthermore, NEF is considering cooperating with possible partners that have showed an interest in the RelDem initiative. These include: Eurocities; the UN Alliance of Civilizations; The Bertelsmann Foundation and its project 'the Role of Religion in Contemporary Society'; the French Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs and its recently established 'Pôle Religions'; Global Tolerance and its 'Charter of Compassion' and the 'Euro-Islam Project' led by Jocelyne Cesari, Professor of Harvard and La Sorbonne. These organisations have supported and followed the activities of NEF in the area of Religion and Democracy and they have already expressed an interest to develop stronger partnerships with NEF.

#### 4. EU Dimension

- The European Union (EU) dimension of the initiative has been strengthened through informal meetings and contacts with EU officials from the European Commission, the Council Secretariat and the European Parliament. The three reports have been registered at the libraries of the European Parliament and the European Commission to be part of their documentation database. The European Commission has showed special interest in the work developed in the area of Education and the relevant report is also part of the Eurydice library.
- Strong links have been established with officials in the Council Secretariat, who have been involved in some of the RelDem activities and have contributed information. There is an increasing interest within the Council of the EU in analysis carried out at the local level and in questions such as those concerning the building of Mosques. In this context, the Mosques report has been widely distributed within the Council Secretariat and used as material for its proceedings.
- Furthermore, the RelDem team is in contact with MEP Sophie in 't Veld, the Chair of the formerly called 'All Party Working Group on the Separation of Religion and Politics', now called 'European Parliamentary Platform for Secularism in Politics (EPPSP)'. Some of the questions addressed in the RelDem reports are in line with the issues that the EPPSP is planning to discuss as part of its future activities such as the question of public health, the concept of belief-based exception, the question of intercultural teaching of religions in state education systems in the EU, EU antidiscrimination law and freedom of religion, among others. The RelDem team was involved in the meetings of the group that took place at the European Parliament in September and November. The RelDem reports have been distributed and welcomed among the group members, which includes MEPs and civil society.

#### 5. Follow up

- With a view to draw the main conclusions of the four reports and to reflect on the follow up of the initiative, a meeting with the authors of the reports took place in Brussels on 27 October. The RelDem team is currently preparing a handover note on the future of the RelDem initiative to be circulated at the NEF General Assembly in December with a view to explore the interest of the foundations in launching a new phase of the project. The handover note will present some ideas on the possible follow up of the initiative building on the network of experts and the work done so far.

### STRATEGIES FOR IMPACT IN PHILANTHROPY

Foundations involved: Fundação Calouste Gulbenkian

King Baudouin Foundation (chair)  
Riksbankens Jubileumsfond  
Compagnia di San Paolo

Partners involved: Centre for Social Investment at the University of Heidelberg

Budget 2007/09: 385,200.00 EUR (of which 288,900.00 EUR through NEF)

Timeframe: 2007/2009

Background:

This project, which was launched in January 2007, seeks to improve the management and leadership capacity of philanthropy and help realise the development potential of European foundations by (1) identifying high impact strategies, approaches and projects in the current practice of European foundations and (2) understanding the external and internal conditions, and management and leadership characteristics that lead to high impact philanthropy, including leverage effects.

In a further step, the project will compare the results obtained from the European case studies to the experiences in other countries, in particular the United States and Canada. This would enable to examine the distinctiveness of European philanthropy, and explore to what extent European good practices and approaches could be relevant to other philanthropic systems as well.

Update for 09

With a presentation of the project results at different meetings all through the course of the fall of 2009, the project will be closed after evaluation by the partners in 2009.

This period of time was mainly committed to the collection of the last data as well as systematic data analysis and model development. The first executive training took place on November 4, 2009.<sup>1</sup> On November 5 and 6 started a follow-up project 'Strategies for Impact in Education' with an international scientific workshop on 'Philanthropy & Education'.

The teaching cases will be finished by the end of the year. As agreed upon with the funding foundations, a second executive training session will take place in 2010 (presumably in the first quarter of the year). The finishing of the manuscript of the compendium has been scheduled to the beginning of 2010. Data analysis and dissemination will go on throughout all of 2010.

Highlights for 2009

Organize and run panel session "Innovative Ways for Foundations to Fight Poverty" at the EFC AGA 2009 in Rome

Forum Philanthropy, 17.9.2009, Geneva: Speech on "Strategies for Impact in Philanthropy – Cooperation models as drivers for impact?"

Prepare publication strategy/ Prepare publication outline for publisher (Wiley or Palgrave)/ Prepare training strategy

Teaching of cases in the classroom (Department for Sociology at the University of Heidelberg)

Outlook on 2010

Online publication of teaching cases via ECCH (starting in December 09)

Edit and publish vignettes

Go on with testing of teaching cases in classrooms

Publish compendium (at publishers Wiley or Palgrave)  
 Prepare and realize the second executive training with funding foundations  
 Dissemination:  
 Publish articles in scientific and non-scientific journals  
 Attend scientific and non-scientific conferences  
 Briefing of other European foundations

## YOUTH EMPOWERMENT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMME 2007-2011

Foundations involved: Mott Foundation (Vice Chair)  
 Compagnia di San Paolo (chair)  
 Freudenberg Stiftung  
 Evens Stichting  
 Ford Foundation  
 Foundation Bernheim  
 Irish Youth Foundation  
 Barrow Cadbury Trust

Partners involved: International Academy at the Free University of Berlin (INA),  
 European Foundation Centre, OECD

Budget 2009: 450.000 EUR

Timeframe: 2001 – 2011, YEPP Phase II 2007-2011 under implementation

Background:  
 Following the successful implementation during 2001-2006, YEPP has entered into a second multi-year phase which is currently scheduled to last until 2011. Based on a thorough reflection on the results of the evaluation of the first phase, the YEPP Steering Committee has decided to deepen the involvement of YEPP in the countries which participated in the first phase and also to seek the collaboration of foundations and local governments to extend the programme to other European countries. By joining forces with more local stakeholders, local and national governments and administrations as well as foundations, NGOs and businesses across Europe, the partners in YEPP believe that the collective efforts to advocate for policies which support the empowerment, inclusion and participation of vulnerable children and young people can be greatly strengthened, become more effective and sustainable.

### Update for 09:

During the 7 months since the last report, YEPP was further consolidated at local, regional, national and transnational levels. The local sites were further supported in their efforts by the Programme Team and by their peers. The work which has been continued includes:

- Implementation of the evaluation at local level
- Presentation of evaluation results of transnational events
- Involvement of new partners
- Establishment of new Programme Sites and implementation of the YEPP Concept of Change
- Strengthening of regional cooperation of YEPP sites in Liguria (Italy)

- Strengthening of the YEPP International Resource Centre (IRC) and further development of user-friendly, needs-oriented support structures and manuals for the benefit and use of the Local YEPP Teams
- Consultancy work of the YEPP Programme Team and peer support within the YEPP Community Network
- Organization of a capacity-building workshop for the EmpowerMediaNetwork (EMN) as well as the YEPP Community.

## Evaluation

### At local level:

- 16 of the 19 YEPP Programme Sites are in the process of implementing the Participatory YEPP Monitoring and Evaluation (PYME) approach including the training of local stakeholders in Participatory Output Monitoring (POM).

### At transnational level:

- Two Evaluation Webinars have been hosted by the Programme Team to enable Evaluation Facilitators to share their results so far and share best practices for the implementation of POM.

Progress has been made in strengthening contacts with local and regional governments as well as with organisations working at European level.

### At European Level:

YEPP has become a member of Eurochild, a network of organisations and individuals working in and across Europe to improve the quality of life of children and young people. Eurochild's work is underpinned by the principles enshrined in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Based on a survey conducted by the YEPP Programme Team on "European Youth Organisations and Organisations Concerned with Youth" (as of 1st July 2009), the Team decided to join Eurochild for exchange of expertise and experience and particularly for the YEPP advocacy work at European level.

### Participation in Seminars/Conferences:

- YEPP was represented at the Annual EFC Conference in Rome. YEPP was one of 8 projects which could make a presentation during the Interactive Exhibition on May 16th. Representatives of the Steering Committee, the YEPP Programme Team, the EmpowerMediaNetwork and two Local Programme Sites (Genoa-Cornigliano and Turin-Mirafiori) were involved.
- The Chair of the Steering Committee and the Programme Director represented YEPP at the NEF Partnership Exchange Session in Rome, May 13th.
- A member of the Programme Team attended an EU consultation session hosted by the European Youth Forum on September 2. YEPP supported a document calling for changes in the soon to be released European Youth Policy.
- A member of the Programme Team attended the "Education by All for the Wellbeing of Children" Workshop in Brighton, England, on 18-20 July, organised by the Universal Education Foundation and the Guerrand-Hermès Foundation. The aim of the workshop was to develop indicators for children's wellbeing.
- The Programme Director was invited by the Freudenberg Stiftung to attend the founding session of the EFC's Forum for Roma Inclusion in Berlin on September 18th.
- The Programme Director gave a presentation about YEPP at the International Conference on "World Heritage and Cultural Diversity" at the Brandenburgische Technische Universität,

Cottbus (Germany), addressing the theme “Heritage Education, Youth and Community Empowerment”, October 24th.

- The Programme Director gave a presentation about YEPP at the Grantmakers East Forum Conference in Berlin, November 11th.
- A member of the Programme Team facilitated the session “Indicators and Listening to Children” at the Eurochild Annual Conference, Cyprus, November 11-13th.

#### Expansion and Current Number of Programme Sites

As of November 2009, YEPP works in 20 Programme Sites in 9 European countries.

Germany/Poland:

Local Coordinators have been appointed in both Görlitz (Germany) and Zgorzelec (Poland) and a member of the Programme Team facilitated a planning meeting, September 25-27th.

Slovakia:

After receiving the grant from the ERSTE Stiftung, contacts were re-established in Košice in order to prepare for the developmental work in December.

#### YEPP Meetings and Events

##### Steering Committee Meeting, Turin, July 9 -10th 2009

The business meeting focused mainly on discussing and making decisions with regard to the YEPP finances including the presentation of the 2010 Programme Plan and Draft General Programme Budget as well as the fundraising for the 4th YEPP Community Conference in Genoa 2010; additional points included a discussion about a survey the YEPP Programme Team conducted on “Youth Organisations and Organisations Concerned with Youth (as of July 1st, 2009)” in relation to YEPP and identifying potential partners for YEPP, and exploring possible YEPP events in Turin and Antwerp as designated European Youth Capitals 2010 and 2011. The second part of the meeting, saw a member of the YEPP Programme Team facilitate a workshop on YEPP post 2011 collecting first ideas about the future of YEPP.

##### Youth Bank Training, Warsaw, August 24-28th 2009

This workshop was the first in a series of workshop which have been made possible thanks to a grant from the Youth in Action Programme Action 4.6 – Partnership. This workshop was designed to provide the participants with the skills required to set up their own Youth Banks back in their respective countries. Additionally they elected a Board for the YEPP Transnational Youth Bank which will distribute a grant of EUR 5,000 in February 2010 to one application for a transnational event.

##### EmpowerMediaNetwork (EMN), Create and Share Workshop, October 4-12th 2009

This workshop was made possible thanks to a grant from the Youth in Action Programme Action 4.6 – Partnership. The workshop focused on fostering creativity and promoting active citizenship and social inclusion with digital media and the Web 2.0. The goal of the workshop was to promote young people, in particular young people at risk of social exclusion, active citizenship and social inclusion through the creative use of digital media in a non-formal learning environment.

##### Local Teams Meeting, Gollwitz – Germany, November 16th 2009

This one-day meeting brought together Local Coordinators from all but 3 YEPP Programme Sites to exchange experiences, discuss problems and develop ideas for closer cooperation in the future.

#### Advocacy Workshop, Gollwitz – Germany, November 17-20th 2009

This workshop was made possible thanks to a grant from the Youth in Action Programme Action 4.6 – Partnership. The idea for the Training of Trainers in Advocacy Strategies emerged at the last YEPP Community Conference in Dublin, where policy messages were formulated by young people as well as by the Local Teams. It was determined that the participants required a capacity building workshop that will enable them to train young people and support them to convey their policy messages and to make their voices heard on local, national and transnational level. The expected results of the training are that participants will train youth groups at their sites. The youth then will develop advocacy plans and implement them.

#### YEPP Post 2011 Meeting, Gollwitz – Germany, November 20th-21st 2009

This meeting brought together 10 YEPP representatives to discuss the future of YEPP beyond the second phase of the programme which is scheduled to end in mid 2011. The participants included 2 Local Coordinators, 2 Evaluation Facilitators, 2 Youth, 2 Steering Committee Members, the EmpowerMediaNetwork Coordinator and the YEPP Programme Director. The meeting was facilitated by a member of the Programme Team.

#### Fostering Partnerships and Fundraising

Due to the expected consequences of the current financial crisis in terms of reducing the available programme funds for managing co-financing for application to the European Commission in 2010, action needed to be taken to reduce programme spending with regard to other line items. It was decided to reduce the staff time of one of the two Programme Officer's posts to part-time. In order to be able to have enough time to secure the necessary funds, the 4th YEPP Community Conference was postponed to October 2010.

The City of Genoa announced to support the YEPP Community Conference with about EUR 5,000 – 10,000. The Regional Government of Liguria will contribute about EUR 3,000 – 4,000.

#### Way Forward in 2010:

In 2009/2010, YEPP will progress by:

- Continuing to implement the YEPP Concept of Change in the Programme Sites which recently joined YEPP and support the work of the established YEPP Programme Sites with regard to advocacy
- Establishing the new YEPP Programme Site in Košice, Slovakia
- Implementing the Participatory Monitoring and Evaluation (PYME) Design at the local, national and transnational level; drawing on the local monitoring and evaluation results, the Evaluation Facilitators will submit an interim report to the YEPP Programme Team by December 2009; drawing on the monitoring of the transnational activities, the Programme Team will compile an interim report; these reports will provide the basis for the interim overall PYME report to be presented by the Programme Team at the beginning of 2010
- Regular consultancy work, trainings and capacity building workshops facilitated by members of the YEPP Programme Team and peer support within the YEPP Community Network
- Further developing the YEPP International Resource Centre as a user-friendly, needs-oriented online support structure for the benefit of the Local YEPP Teams and the YEPP Community Network as a whole

- Organizing transnational events, such as capacity-building seminars and webinars, youth exchanges including EMN media workshops, and preparing for the 4th YEPP Community Conference, Genoa, October 2010
- Further fundraising activities to secure the 4th YEPP Community Conference in Genoa, October 2010
- Fostering partnerships at local, regional, national and European level and establishing and managing national clusters of Programme and Affiliate Sites aiming to build effective strategic alliances for influencing policies
- Reviewing the work of the EMN Management Committee and the EMN Strategic/Operational Plan 2008-2009; electing the new EMN Management Committee and Chair of the Committee.

#### Planned YEPP Meetings and Events

Steering Committee Meeting in Warsaw, Poland, 23rd-24th Feb 2010

This meeting will focus on evaluating the progress of the programme in 2009, approving the plan for 2010-2011 and to further discuss the future prospects of YEPP. The Steering Committee will visit the YEPP Programme Site in Warsaw-Bielany.

EFC AGA and Conference in Brussels, May 2010

NEF will propose the participation of YEPP in the planned EFC Interactive Fair prior to the AGA and Conference.

4th YEPP Community Conference, Genoa, October 11-15th 2010

This event will encompass 3 separate events, firstly a major advocacy event where young people from the YEPP Programme Sites will meet together with politicians and decision-makers, secondly a fundraising workshop for YEPP Local Teams and thirdly, the presentation of the results from the local Youth Banks. Furthermore, the delegates will set the scene for 2011, in particular for the presentation of the results of the 10 years of YEPP to the broader public, in particular local, regional, national and European politicians and decision-makers and discuss the plans for YEPP post 2011.

#### **EUROPEAN FUND FOR JOURNALISM 2008-09**

Foundations involved: Fritt Ord Foundation

Partners involved: Pascal Decroos Fund and national media partners

Budget 2009: 50,000.00 EUR

Timeframe: Oct 2008 – Sept 2009

#### Background:

The European Fund for Investigative Journalism gives research grants to individual teams of journalists to support research journalism across European borders.

The philosophy behind is, that in today's Europe journalists can only fulfil their role as watchdogs, if they follow up on stories across borders. Also numerous stories from politics, business and even crime have international aspects. Through teamwork research capacity can be pooled, while results can be presented in the necessary manner to a national audience.

#### Update 2009

The first research of the pilot phase is about to be published.

Slave workers from the Ukraine and Romania forced to work from early morning to late evening harvesting vegetables in the Czech Republic for a company with connection to a Dutch owned company. This was the hint that Romanian journalists had heard about and wanted to follow. They applied for 4180 euro, mainly to finance the travelling for the research outside Romania. Their Romanian newspaper paid for the research within Romania, where they had met some of the escaped slave workers. Also they established contacts with Czech and Ukrainian journalists and cooperated on the research. The story will be published in mid-December 2009 in Romania, Moldova and the Ukraine. Publication in the Czech Republic and the Netherlands are explored as initial contacts failed. This story most likely could not have been done without support.

Building up a support structure was the aim with the seed funding, and this structure is now in place.

Journalismfund.eu is a project under the Belgian Fonds Pascal Decroos, which has a ten years experience in giving research grants to quality journalism in Flanders. The aim is to develop the European fund into an independent entity, as soon as it has the strength and necessary funding. The €50.000 from Fritt Ord were used to establish a structure to prepare this development.

There now is an advisory board with representatives of all the associations and centers for investigative journalism in the EU and EFTA countries, the board currently consists of 13 members, a daily advisory board with three members assists the part time director in her work.

An anonymous jury of four high-level media persons is right now evaluating the second round of applications. And while the first round took a lot of time for both the director and the jury, this second round already functions more smoothly. Interestingly it is easy to reach agreement in the jury in spite of their different national and media backgrounds. Jury meetings are held via skype/phone conferences. Between the first and second round of applications, assessment criteria were fine-tuned following the experiences from the first round. All criteria are published online.

A website has been established including a back-office, where applicants can upload their applications and attachments, and where the jury members can log in and access the applications. Thus all documents are online and no time is wasted on printing and sending documents.

With the structure, the website and good contacts throughout Europe in place, new grants can be directly announced and distributed without difficulties. Thus the main focus now is on fundraising and ultimately on turning Journalismfund.eu into an independent entity.

This summer €114.000 have been granted to Journalismfund.eu as second-level seed-funding by the Open Society Institute Media Programme, further €20.000 for research grants and up to €16.000 for a high-level FOI conference have been granted by the European Journalism Centre. The money will be spent on three further rounds of grants and on further fundraising. Interestingly also the European Parliament has picked up the idea and allocated €1,5 million on its initial budget for a pilot project, which most likely will be granted. Contacts to other possible donors are either established or prepared by the part time director.

The initial € 50.000 from Fritt Ord were spent in lumps of €20.000 for the pilot round of research grants, a little less than € 10.000 for the website, for travel and jury remuneration and a little more than € 20.000 for the honorary of the part time director from October 2008 to October 2009.