



# **GRUNDTVIG**

## **EUROPEAN CONFERENCE**

### **ON ADULT VOLUNTEERING**

**Conference objectives, programme  
and further details of the programme**

Warsaw, Poland, 23-26 November 2011

Dear Participants!

The Foundation for the Development of the Education System, the Polish National Agency for the European Commission's Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP) welcomes you to the **Grundtvig European Conference on Adult Volunteering**.

The conference is prepared and hosted by the Polish LLP-Grundtvig National Agency in cooperation with European Commission and Grundtvig National Agencies in the other European countries participating in the LLP.

The objective of the conference is to promote recognition of volunteering as a learning opportunity for adult volunteers as well as for the hosting and sending organisations. Our aim is also to discuss the role of Grundtvig actions in developing adult voluntary practice and possible improvements in this field. Moreover, the conference will provide a chance for participating experts in the field of adult education to discuss future Grundtvig projects focusing on adult volunteering.

The conference brings together c.a. 130 participants: representatives of the European Commission, Grundtvig National Agencies as well as Grundtvig beneficiaries and experts in the field of adult volunteering in different Grundtvig actions: Senior Volunteering Projects, Grundtvig Learning Partnerships, mobility actions, centralised Grundtvig actions.

The conference venue is the Radisson Blu Sobieski Hotel in Warsaw and the working language of the conference is English.

For the purpose of the Grundtvig Senior Volunteering Projects, the European Commission has adopted the following definitions, based on the definition provided by the Association of Voluntary Service Organisations (AVSO):

**Volunteering:** The term refers to all forms of voluntary activity, whether formal or informal. It is undertaken of a person's own free will, choice and motivation, and is without concern for financial gain. It benefits the individual volunteer, communities and society as a whole. It is also a vehicle for individuals and associations to address human, social or environmental needs and concerns. Formal voluntary activities add value, but do not replace professional, paid employees.

**Volunteer:** A volunteer is someone who performs or offers to perform service out of his or her own free will, without payment, usually in support of a non-profit organisation, mission-based initiative or community.

**Volunteering is increasingly recognised as a very valuable informal learning experience, for people of all ages.** In particular, it has been recognised as a way of offering new learning opportunities to senior citizens in Europe, promoting the process of active ageing and emphasising the contribution of senior citizens to our societies.

We look forward to welcoming you in Warsaw!

Grundtvig Programme team  
LLP National Agency in Poland

## CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

WEDNESDAY, 23 NOVEMBER 2011			
15.00 - 17.00	Arrival and registration		
17.00 - 18.30	Setting up the European Fair and exhibition of projects focused on volunteering <i>Welcoming coffee and refreshments</i>		
from 18.30	<p><b>Informal opening of the Conference</b>  <b>Opening European Fair and exhibition of projects on volunteering</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marcin Rolnik, LLP Director in Polish National Agency, Foundation for the Development of the Education System</li> <li>Alan Smith, Grundtvig Coordinator, Adult Education Unit, European Commission</li> </ul> <p><i>Buffet dinner from 19.30</i>  and continuation of European Fair and exhibition of projects on volunteering</p>		
THURSDAY, 24 NOVEMBER 2011			
9.00 - 11.00	<u>PLENARY SESSION</u> <b>Official opening of the Conference</b> <b>Welcome by</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Marcin Rolnik, LLP Director in Polish National Agency, Foundation for the Development of the Education System</li> <li>Alan Smith, Grundtvig Coordinator, Adult Education Unit, European Commission</li> </ul> <b>Opening speeches</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Stanisław Drzażdżewski, General Counsellor, Strategy Department, Ministry of National Education, Poland</li> <li>Nick Ockenden, Institute for Volunteering Research, European expert on the learning through volunteering, United Kingdom</li> </ul> <b>Learning through volunteering - examples of best practice in Grundtvig</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Géraldine Libreau, Adult Education Unit, European Commission - Overview: Volunteering within the Grundtvig programme</li> <li>Kate Glynn - The Manchester Museum, Grundtvig Senior Volunteering Project, United Kingdom</li> </ul>		
11.00 - 11.30	<i>Coffee break and refreshments</i>		
11.30 - 19.30 <i>(lunch and coffee break included)</i>	<u>THEMATIC WORKSHOPS</u>		
	<i>Chamber: Wilanów</i> <b>Thematic Workshop 1: Learning during preparatory phase to volunteering</b>  <b>Leading expert:</b> Izabella Csordás (HU)  <b>NA facilitator/rapporteur:</b> Dennis Wacht (NL NA)	<i>Chamber: Belweder I</i> <b>Thematic Workshop 2: Learning during volunteering and follow-up</b>  <b>Leading experts:</b> Anita Prosser (UK) and Carine De Volder (BENL)  <b>NA facilitator/rapporteur:</b> Maude Sire (FR NA)	<i>Chamber: Belweder II</i> <b>Thematic Workshop 3: European support for adult volunteering: the role of Grundtvig and other funding programmes</b>  <b>Leading experts:</b> Martijn Pakker (BENL) and Esther Gelabert (ES)  <b>NA facilitator/rapporteur:</b> Renilde Reynders (BENL NA)

FIRST ROUND OF WORKSHOPS			
11.30 - 13.30	<b>GROUP A</b> Presenter: Markéta Mertlová (CZ)	<b>GROUP B</b> Presenters: Jo Peeters (NL) Marc Dhooge (BENL)	<b>GROUP C</b> Presenter: Davide Di Pietro (IT)
13.30 - 15.00	<i>Lunch</i>		
SECOND ROUND OF WORKSHOPS			
15.00 - 17.00	<b>GROUP B</b> Presenters: Martin Oberbauer (AT) Barbara Kaszkur-Niechwiej (PL)	<b>GROUP C</b> Presenters: Hana Kušková (CZ) Agnieszka Sójka (PL)	<b>GROUP A</b> Presenter: Piotr Sadowski (UK)
17.00 - 17.30	<i>Coffee break</i>		
THIRD ROUND OF WORKSHOPS			
17.30 - 19.30	<b>GROUP C</b> Presenter: Urszula Bednarek (PL)	<b>GROUP A</b> Presenters: Helen Walmsley (IE) Pierre Klein (PL)	<b>GROUP B</b> Presenters: Rodica Victoria Miala (RO) Tara Dickman (FR)
19.30	<i>Dinner at the hotel restaurant</i>		
FRIDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2011			
NETWORKING AND CONSULTANCY SESSION			
9.00 - 10.30	Session devoted to finding partners and discussing ideas for future Grundtvig projects focusing on adult volunteering moderated by representatives of NAs		
10.30 - 11.00	<i>Coffee break</i> Preparing final conclusions from Thematic Workshops and feedback from networking and consultancy session		
PLENARY SESSION			
11.00 - 13.00	<b>Presentation of Thematic Workshops' conclusions by leading experts and NA facilitators/rapporteurs</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thematic Workshop 1. Learning during preparatory phase to volunteering</li> <li>• Thematic Workshop 2. Learning during volunteering and follow-up</li> <li>• Thematic Workshop 3. European support for adult volunteering: the role of Grundtvig and other funding programmes</li> </ul> <b>Presentation of feedback from networking and consultancy session</b> <b>Conclusions and closing of the conference by</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Alan Smith</b>, Grundtvig Coordinator, Adult Education Unit, European Commission</li> </ul> Farewells		
13.00 - 14.30	<i>Lunch</i>		
14.30 - 18.30	<b>Guided tour to:</b> - Warsaw Old Town or - Warsaw Rising Museum ( <a href="http://www.1944.pl/en/">http://www.1944.pl/en/</a> ) and later shorter guided tour to the Old Town or - Chopin Museum ( <a href="http://chopin.museum/en/">http://chopin.museum/en/</a> ) and later shorter guided tour to the Old Town		
18.30 - 19.30	Free time		
19.30	<i>Farewell dinner at the restaurant in the neighbourhood of the Old Town</i>		
SATURDAY, 26 NOVEMBER 2011			
till 12.00	<i>Breakfast and departure of participants</i>		

## FURTHER DETAILS OF THE PROGRAMME

### METHODOLOGY

- Plenary sessions.
- Exhibition of the Grundtvig examples of good practice in adult volunteering.
- Thematic Workshops on 3 different topics in 3 parallel working groups: A, B, C. Detailed information on content and leading teams in section Thematic Workshops below. Participants will be divided into 3 groups and work in the same group during all 3 different thematic workshop sessions.

Each group will be accompanied by one representative of Grundtvig NA in Poland:

Group A: Dariusz Bieranowski

Group B: Alina Respondek

Group C: Karolina Milczarek

- Networking and consultancy session.
- Cultural programme.

The consultants who are carrying out the analysis of the Senior Volunteering Projects action within Grundtvig from GHK company will be present at the conference and will wish to interview participants, including NAs.

### EUROPEAN FAIR AND EXHIBITION OF PROJECTS ON VOLUNTEERING

It is tradition of Grundtvig conferences that participants bring display materials about projects and their own organisations/local area etc. to present them on the first evening of the conference. This time participants are invited to bring materials concerning activities referring to the theme of the conference - adult volunteering, and especially concerning Grundtvig projects and mobilities focused on adult volunteering. The materials will be presented on tables and possibly on the walls. A part of the European Fair involves tasting food and drinks typical for the participants' countries and regions. Participants are invited to bring some local delicacies with them for degustation.

### PLENARY SESSION

#### Welcome

- **Marcin Rolnik**, LLP Director in Polish National Agency, Foundation for the Development of the Education System
- **Alan Smith**, Grundtvig Coordinator, Adult Education Unit, European Commission

Opening speech - **Stanisław Drzażdżewski**, General Counsellor, Strategy Department, Ministry of National Education in Poland

Keynote speaker - **Nick Ockenden** (UK) - Institute for Volunteering Research, GRU Network "VALUE. Volunteering & Lifelong Learning in Universities in Europe"

#### Learning through volunteering - examples of best practice in Grundtvig - speakers

- **Géraldine Libreau**, Adult Education Unit, European Commission - Overview: Volunteering within the Grundtvig programme
- **Kate Glynn** (UK) - The Manchester Museum, Grundtvig Senior Volunteering Project

## THEMATIC WORKSHOPS

### Thematic Workshop 1: Learning in the preparatory phase for volunteering

Leading experts and at the same time presenters of own practice:

- **Izabella Csordas** (HU) - Museum of Fine Arts Budapest, GRU-SVP “Involving Extreme Age Groups as Museum Volunteers”

NA facilitator/rapporteur: **Dennis Wacht** (NL NA)

PL NA support: **Ewa Orzeszko**

Presenters of good practice from group A, B, C:

- **Markéta Mertlová** (CZ) - Defense for Children International, GRU-SVP “We’re not gonna take it!”, awarded by Czech Grundtvig Quality Seal 2011
- **Martin Oberbauer** (AT) - Wiener Hilfswerk, 2 GRU-SVPs: “Neighbourhood Vienna-Berlin” and “Neighbourhood Vienna-Cologne”
- **Barbara Kaszkur-Niechwiej** (PL) - Association Fullness-Of-Life-Academy - GRU-SVP „Bikes and Friends”
- **Urszula Bednarek** (PL) - Association New Family - 3 GRU-SVPs “Community 50+” with partners from FR, LT and TR (Nazli Anik from partner organization in Turkey will support)

#### Points for the discussion

- 1) Learning how to be a volunteer - volunteer as a learner in the preparatory phase
  - What does a volunteer need to learn before starting voluntary work?
  - How can Grundtvig help in preparing adult volunteers (SVPs, LPs, Workshops, staff mobility)?
- 2) Learning how to organise voluntary work - organisation as a “learner”
  - What is it necessary to do when organising voluntary work?
  - How can volunteers be motivated and the value of their activity as learning acknowledged?
  - How can Grundtvig help voluntary organisations become more effective as places of informal learning?

### Thematic Workshop 2: Learning during volunteering and follow-up

Leading experts and at the same time presenters of own practice:

- **Anita Prosser** (UK) - British Trust for Conservation Volunteers BTCV, GRU-SVP “Senior Volunteering in Environment and Nature - SVEN”, 2 GRU-LPs: “Sustainable Environment Europe (S.E.E.)” and “Recognising Voluntary Environmental Action Learning - REVEAL”, GRU-Multilateral “Environments for Learning”
- **Carine De Volder** (BENL) - Het Perspectief, GRU-LP “I volunteer!”

NA facilitator/rapporteur: **Maude Sire** (FR NA)

PL NA support: **Joanna Grzegorzcyk**

Presenters of good practice from group A, B, C:

- **Jo Peeters** (NL) - Scouting Gelderland, GRU-LP “Validation of non formal learning in voluntary work”
- **Marc Dhooge** (BENL) - a volunteer in GRU-LP “I volunteer!”
- **Hana Kušková** (CZ) - Hestia - National Volunteering Center, GRU-SVP “New Horizons for Active Seniors”
- **Agnieszka Sójka** (PL) - FOSa Federation of Welfare Organisations in the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship - GRU-SVP “Senior citizens voluntary work - international transfer of knowledge and ideas”
- **Helen Walmsley** (IE) - Voluntary Service International (VSI), GRU-LP, GRU-SVP
- **Pierre Klein** (PL) - ATD Fourth World, Poland - GRU-LP “Socio-educational innovations, supporting parenthood and fight against exclusion”

### Points for the discussion

- 1) Learning through volunteering - the volunteer as a learner during volunteering activities
  - How can the learning dimension of adult volunteering best be strengthened?
  - What kind of knowledge and skills can be learnt by working as a volunteer?
  - How can Grundtvig support learning through voluntary work (SVPs, LPs, Workshops, centralised projects, staff mobility)?
- 2) Learning from volunteers - the volunteer as a learning facilitator
  - How can volunteers with experience in a given area best share their knowledge and skills with others?
  - What kind of expertise can be shared and with whom?
  - How can Grundtvig actions (especially SVP but also other actions) help design effective models for sharing knowledge and skills of experienced adult volunteers with those who need to learn?

### **Thematic Workshop 3: European support for adult volunteering: the role of Grundtvig and other funding programmes**

#### Leading experts and at the same time presenters of own practice:

- **Martijn Pakker** (BENL) - European Volunteer Centre, many GRU actions
- **Esther Gelabert** (ES) - BELIES Consulting, 2 GRU-Multilateral Projects “MA: Validation of informal learning in mobility actions” and “ACT-NET: Transnational community of European experts and practitioners working on evaluation of informal learning”

NA facilitator/rapporteur: **Renilde Reynders** (BENL NA)

PL NA support: **Michał Chodniewicz**

#### Presenters of good practice from group A, B, C:

- **Davide Di Pietro** (IT) - 2 GRU-Multilateral Projects: “Mobility 55” and “Still Active”, GRU-Network “SEVEN”, GRU-LP “Voluntlearning”, 2 GRU-SVPs: “Eco-seniors” and “Good Old Times!”, 2 Grundtvig in-service training courses: “ACTIVE” and “ACTIVE 2” (ACTIVE = Active Citizenship Training Initiative for Volunteers in Europe)
- **Piotr Sadowski** (UK) - Community Service Volunteers - GRU-LP “Volunteer to Learn”, GRU-SVP and GRU-Accompanying Measures
- **Rodica Victoria Miala** (RO) - Cultural Horizon T - 2 GRU-SVPs: “The voice of European seniors” and “European seniors exchange experience from a social cafe”
- **Tara Dickman** (FR) - Humanity in Action France, GRU-LP “Transforming Learners into Educators”

### Points for the discussion

- 1) Strengths and weaknesses of Grundtvig as a means of promoting adult volunteering
  - Where are the strengths in the current Grundtvig actions as a means of supporting adult volunteering?
  - What are the barriers/weaknesses (procedures, type of actions, funding etc.) in this regard?
  - What examples of good practice can be cited within the current actions?
- 2) Strengthening Grundtvig as a means of promoting volunteering as informal learning
  - What can be changed in order to better support volunteering (as a learning process) under Grundtvig (type of actions, aims/approaches/procedures, financing, priorities, other)?
  - What kind of changes are possible in the current LLP (selection 2012, 2013) and what will need to wait for the future programme?
  - Given the perceived need to rationalise the number of actions, how and to what extent could volunteering projects be assimilated into Grundtvig Learning Partnerships in the future?
- 3) Discussion on administrative aspects of the Senior Volunteering Projects (SVP) model

## NETWORKING AND CONSULTANCY SESSION

The conference will gather a great number of experts in the field of adult education interested in adult volunteering and European cooperation focused on this subject. Therefore a networking and consultancy session will be organized on Friday, which will have the form of a networking and consultancy session. Participants interested in creating a Grundtvig project focused on adult volunteering (Senior Volunteering Projects, Grundtvig Learning Partnerships or centralised multilateral projects) will have an opportunity to find partners and discuss ideas for future projects with other participants and with representatives of NAs.

## PLENARY SESSION SPEAKERS, LEADING EXPERTS AND PRESENTERS (in order of presenting)

<b>Marcin Rolnik</b>	LLP Director in Polish National Agency, Foundation for the Development of the Education System
<b>Alan Smith</b>	Grundtvig Coordinator, Adult Education Unit, European Commission
<b>Stanisław Drzażdżewski</b>	General Counsellor, Strategy Department, Ministry of National Education, Poland
<b>Nick Ockenden (UK)</b>	Institute for Volunteering Research
<b>Géraldine Libreau</b>	Adult Education Unit, European Commission
<b>Kate Glynn (UK)</b>	The Manchester Museum
<b>Izabella Csordás (HU)</b>	Museum of Fine Arts Budapest
<b>Anita Prosser (UK)</b>	British Trust for Conservation Volunteers BTCV
<b>Carine De Volder (BENL)</b>	Het Perspectief
<b>Martijn Pakker (BENL)</b>	European Volunteer Centre
<b>Esther Gelabert (ES)</b>	BELIES Consulting
<b>Markéta Mertlová (CZ)</b>	Defense for Children International
<b>Jo Peeters (NL)</b>	Scouting Gelderland
<b>Marc Dhooge (BENL)</b>	Het Perspectief
<b>Davide Di Pietro (IT)</b>	Expert in adult volunteering
<b>Martin Oberbauer (AT)</b>	Wiener Hilfswerk
<b>Barbara Kaszkur-Niechwiej (PL)</b>	Association Fullness-Of-Life-Academy
<b>Hana Kušková (CZ)</b>	Hestia - National Volunteering Center
<b>Agnieszka Sójka (PL)</b>	FOSa Federation of Welfare Organisations in the Warmińsko-Mazurskie Voivodeship
<b>Piotr Sadowski (UK)</b>	Community Service Volunteers
<b>Urszula Bednarek (PL)</b>	Association New Family
<b>Helen Walmsley (IE)</b>	Voluntary Service International (VSI)
<b>Pierre Klein (PL)</b>	ATD Fourth World, Poland
<b>Rodica Victoria Miala (RO)</b>	Cultural Horizon T
<b>Tara Dickman (FR)</b>	Humanity in Action France