

“Citizens’ Dialogue and cultures: For a more social and supportive Europe”

Marseilles, 14, 15, 16 November 2013

The **inter-association initiative** “Making Europe more social and supportive: it does concern me! Europe is about us !” is aimed at the fight against poverty and social exclusion. What makes it original and relevant is its strong message that the most vulnerable people in society can and must take priority. We are convinced that active citizenship, along with culture and respect for cultural diversity, have a crucial role to play in eradicating poverty in Europe. The main parties involved in the initiative are **people experiencing poverty and social exclusion, our non-profit associations combating poverty in France and Europe, and the general public.**

During the Citizens’ Dialogue and taking this event as their focus, meetings will be organised on 14, 15, 16 November 2013 in **Marseilles, Provence, European City of Culture 2013**, between 150 non-profit association members from some thirty countries, and citizens and institutions representing Europe (Viviane Reding, Vice-President of the European Commission) and France (Christiane Taubira, the French Minister of Justice responsible for coordinating the European Year of Citizens 2013). There will be opportunities for discussion and local visits relating to citizenship and culture. People who combat discrimination, poverty, trafficking in human beings and fight for justice and inclusion will gather from the European Union (Germany, Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Italy, Luxembourg, Romania, Great Britain, Slovenia, etc.) and further afield (Armenia, Albania, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, Iceland, Kosovo, Russia, Ukraine and also Ethiopia, Guinea, Kyrgyzstan, Lebanon, the Democratic of Congo Serbia, Somalia, Sri Lanka, etc.). They will exchange ideas based on their personal experiences and shared experience in non-profit associations.

Culture and artistic expression lie at the heart of the methodology adopted. These valuable resources for promoting cultural diversity provide a real recurring educational theme, but act above all as tools for self-expression which transcend language barriers.



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Wednesday 13 November 2013		
From 4 pm	Evening welcome for participants from the wider European area.	<i>Hôtel Ibis Euroméditerranée – 25, boulevard de Dunkerque 13002 Marseille (+ 33 4 91 99 25 20)</i>
Thursday 14 November 2013		
<i>Stimulating and lively discussion offering genuine interaction between civil society and the European Commission on social topics and society and issues relating to Europe today and in the future.</i>		
Until 11 am	Welcome for all participants.	<i>Hôtel Ibis Euroméditerranée - 25, boulevard de Dunkerque 13002 Marseille (+ 334 91 99 25 20)</i>
11 am	Departure from the hotel to Notre-Dame de la Garde aboard Marseilles land trains which travel to a site steeped in culture overlooking the city.	<i>City of Marseilles land trains</i>
11.45 am – 1.15 pm	Lunch in a friendly solidarity venue run by women from all over the world who are devoted to the poor.	<i>L'Eau Vive restaurant - rue Fort du Sanctuaire 13006 Marseille (+ 334 91 37 86 62)</i>
1.15 pm	Departure of buses to Mistral	
2 pm – 3 pm	<p>Welcome in Marseilles: Xavier Blanc, President of Secours Catholique in Marseilles Michel Bourgat, deputy mayor of Marseilles in charge of the fight against poverty</p> <p>Presentation of the approach “Making Europe more social and supportive: it does concern me! Europe is about us!”: Marina Verronneau, in charge of the European Year of Citizens at Europe Desk of Secours Catholique</p> <p>Opening of the event based around the Citizens’ Dialogue: Mgr Georges Pontier, archbishop of Marseilles and President of the National Conference of French Bishops Anne Houtman, Head of the European Commission Representation in France.</p>	<i>Le Mistral – 11 impasse Flammarion 13002 Marseille (+ 33 4 91 50 82 21)</i>
3 pm – 4.15 pm	<p>Opportunities for interaction to get to know people from other countries: Working groups, pooling of preparatory work for the Citizens’ Dialogue on the three themes set by the European Commission: European citizens’ rights, the European response to the crisis, and visions for Europe 2020.</p> <p>This involves preparing specific questions to put to Viviane Reding, Vice-President of the European Commission and Christiane Taubira, the French Minister of Justice, in the subsequent meeting, drawing on real examples relating to poverty, exclusion and discrimination.</p>	
6.15 pm	Departure of buses to Dock des Suds	
6 pm – 8.45 pm	Discussion with Viviane Reding and Christiane Taubira, based on prior interaction in each country and	<i>Dock des suds – 12 rue Urbain V 13002 Marseille</i>

	between countries.	(+ 33 4 91 99 00 00)
8.45 pm – 10.30 pm	Dinner	<i>Bo and Co (Dock des suds) 232 Bd de Paris 13002 Marseille</i> (+ 33 6 64 54 46 46)
10.30 pm – 11.30 pm	Shuttle from the restaurant to the hotel	
Friday 15 November 2013		
<i>Marseilles, European City of Culture: exploring citizenship and culture. The MUCEM museum is a venue with a Euro-Mediterranean cultural focus: citizenship and culture. Developing messages on a European level to combat social exclusion, discrimination and poverty. Marseilles - a host city and transit point for migrants: a commitment to solidarity and a boat trip.</i>		
8.10 am	Meeting in the front of the hotel Ibis Euroméditerranée Departure of buses for participants from the hotel	
9 am -10 am	Introductory plenary session. Presentation on citizenship and culture by the museums of the city of Marseilles: Jean Antoine Santiago, heritage conservation. Presentation of the thematic workshops Laurie Martin, Partnership and advocacy manager, Europe Desk of Secours Catholique	<i>Le Mistral - 11 impasse Flammarion 13002 Marseille</i> (+ 33 4 91 50 82 21)
10 am - 12.15 pm	Thematic workshops: active ageing/dependency/intergeneration; mental health/housing; participation (getting involved); trafficking in human beings; discrimination/the Roma community; detention/justice; migrants; youth employment; financial regulation.	
12.30 pm - 1.30 pm	Lunch	<i>Le Mistral restaurant</i>
13.30 pm	Departure of buses to MUCEM	
2.30 pm, A B groups 3.30 pm, C D groups 4 pm, E F groups	Guided tour (lasting 1 hour 30) in French or English on the theme of citizenship, at the MUCEM museum (<i>Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilisations</i>), which focuses on the Euro-Mediterranean space and on issues relating to migration in order to promote active citizenship. Tour of the temporary exhibition “Le Noir et le Bleu”.	<i>MUCEM – 1 esplanade du J4 13002 Marseille</i> (+ 33 4 84 35 13 00)
5.30 pm at the J4 esplanade 6.15 pm – 7.15 pm on the boat	Involving non-profit associations in the issue of migrants in Europe. Commemoration for people lost at sea during migration journeys: Circle of Silence with Jean-Pierre Cavaillé, La Cimade Lampedusa with Daniele Albanese, Caritas Italy	<i>J4 esplanade near the MuCEM museum (Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilisations), a site which commemorates the victims of slavery, then a boat ride across the bay of Marseilles to the Old Port.</i>
19.15	Departure of buses from old harbour to La Belle de Mai	
8.30 pm – 10 pm	“Children and Poverty” photography exhibition, which give voice to children from different countries and present proposals of Caritas Europa, as well as the recommendations of the European Union established in 2013 on this topic. Dinner in a popular alternative cultural and leisure venue.	<i>La Belle de Mai – 41 rue Jobin 13003 Marseille</i> (+ 334 95 04 95 85)

22 pm	Departure of buses to the hotel	
Saturday 16 November 2013		
<i>Getting involved during the European elections and beyond. Political messages expressed via street art. Exploring cultural venues in Marseilles.</i>		
8.10am	Meeting in the front of the hotel Ibis Euroméditerranée Departure of buses for participants from the hotel	
9 am – 10 am	Plenary session providing a round-up of the previous day's workshops and a discussion: a rapporteur per group (3 minutes per theme). Presentation in the plenary session of Europe-wide advocacy campaigns and their impact: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Child and family poverty, Jorge Nuño Mayer, Secretary General of Caritas Europa - Financial regulation, Grégoire Niaudet with Finance Watch campaign - Migrants, Daniele Albanese, Caritas Italy Methodological references and advocacy messages, from persons confronted with poverty and exclusion during local, national and European elections, Bernard Schriecke, director in Secours Catholique-Caritas France Introduction of the working groups: What do we want to achieve? What are the impacts of the previous phases? How can we get involved as citizens? What kind of advocacy toward the European Union ? toward the Council of Europe ?	<i>Le Mistral - 11 impasse Flammarion (+ 33 4 91 50 82 21)</i>
10 am – 11.30 pm	Discussions in small groups within the framework of the European elections and the various advocacy initiatives at a European level. What next? What is the impetus? What are the avenues for action?	
11.30 am – 12.15 pm	Feedback	
12.15 pm – 1.30 pm	Buffet lunch	<i>Le Mistral restaurant</i>
1.30 pm	Departures of buses to J4 esplanade	
2 pm – 4 pm	Cultural events on the theme of cultural solidarity, with contributions from delegations representing a variety of countries.	<i>J4 Esplanade 13002 Marseille</i>
4 pm – 7 pm	Tour of the city and iconic sights relating to the event, museums in liaison with the Marseilles Directorate for Cultural Initiatives, especially for people from different countries, accompanied by local people from Marseilles : 150 tickets open VIP are offered by the city of Marseilles for History museum of Marseilles and for Cantini museum where takes place an exhibition on Cesar.	<i>Various museums in Marseilles.</i>
8 pm	Celebration dinner with a multicultural focus, shared with volunteers from delegation of Secours Catholique in Marseilles.	<i>Les Danaïdes – 4-6 Square Stalingrad 13001 Marseille (+ 33 4 91 62 28 51)</i>
10.30 pm	Departure of buses to hotel	

What progress has been made towards a more social Europe?

Since the very outset, peace has been a founding value of the European Union, a gold standard which has underpinned the integration and construction of Europe. Europe needs to rediscover the past history and spirit of the construction of Europe and reconnect with its citizens by developing more practical initiatives. This year - the European Year of Citizens 2013 and the 20th anniversary of the Treaty of Maastricht - offers a perfect opportunity to promote active citizenship including the right to vote and more besides. We need to whet the appetite of European citizens, and in particular the most vulnerable people, for getting involved, making their voices heard and working together to reduce the level of inequality between European citizens. We should all be able to say: “A more social, more supportive Europe: it does concern me! Europe is about us !

Objectives

- Promote the creation of a more social, more supportive Europe which respects cultural differences.
- Bring European institutions and citizens closer together, by promoting active citizenship, focusing in particular on the most vulnerable citizens.

Presentation of the resources developed to support the initiative

- The document “Making Europe more social and supportive: it does concern me! Europe is about us !” presents the initiative as a whole and sets out the rationale, objectives and methodology.
- The “Passport for a European Citizen” aims to provide the general public with information about European citizenship and the rights of every individual.
- The quiz “Why should I vote in the European elections?” raises awareness among the general public of the composition and role of the European Parliament, as well as presenting its work on social issues.
- The educational document “The European elections 2014: who does what?” aims to show how the European Union and its institutions operate.
- The comic strip “Where’s Europe?” is a fun resource describing scenarios in which the European Union has - or fails to have - an impact on the daily lives of vulnerable, poor or excluded people.
- The online platform www.construireurope.org brings all the resources together to ensure that they are widely available in the long term.

The technical factsheets will explain some of the European mechanisms which impinges on social issues: the European Social Fund (ESF), the Europe 2020 Strategy, social innovation, and mobility for young people.

The template for lobbying candidates will then provide us with a means of articulating our initiative during the European elections and conveying our ideas for a more social and more inclusive Europe.

Contacts

Question ? Find the right contact !

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