



## Inside this issue:

## CONFERENCES

- Conferences p.1
- 03-04 March 2011**  
**Promoting Mental Health and Well-being at Workplaces-Thematic Conference under the European Pact for Mental Health and Well-being**  
**Berlin, Germany**
- Open call for proposals p. 2
- Organised by the European Commission and the German Federal Ministry of Health in cooperation with the German Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs with the support of the Hungarian EU-Presidency; Berlin, 3rd - 4th March 2011, BCC Conference Center, Berlin.
- Expert request p. 2
- This conference will consider the economic and public health case for investing into mental health and well-being at workplaces and, in particular, possibilities for health policy and the health sector to support such action at workplaces.
- Miscellaneous p. 3
- Participation will be on invitation only, contact: imhpa@gencat.cat
- European Commission's Work Programme 2011 – relevant for psychologists p. 8
- [http://ec.europa.eu/health/mental\\_health/docs/ev\\_20110303\\_description\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/health/mental_health/docs/ev_20110303_description_en.pdf)
- Promoting Social Inclusion and Combating Stigma for better Mental Health and Well-being-Thematic Conference under the European Pact for Mental Health and Well-being**  
**Lisbon, 8th - 9th November 2010.**
- This conference was organised jointly by the European Commission's Directorate General for Health and Consumers and the Portuguese Ministry of Health.  
The conference report and more info available at:
- [http://ec.europa.eu/health/mental\\_health/events/ev\\_20101108\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/mental_health/events/ev_20101108_en.htm)
- Conference on assessment of EU nutrition policy took place 8-9 December 2010 in Brussels.**
- This conference relates to the EU Community Strategy (established in 2007) to address the issues of overweight and obesity  
[http://ec.europa.eu/health/nutrition\\_physical\\_activity/policy/strategy\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health/nutrition_physical_activity/policy/strategy_en.htm)
- Conference presentations are available at:  
[http://www.health.belgium.be/eportal/Aboutus/eutrio/health/Evaluation\\_Nutrition\\_Policies./presentations/19066079](http://www.health.belgium.be/eportal/Aboutus/eutrio/health/Evaluation_Nutrition_Policies./presentations/19066079)

## OPEN CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

Attention: the deadline (end of February 2011) for project proposals within the Lifelong Learning Programme approaches!

[http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/funding/2011/index\\_en.php](http://eacea.ec.europa.eu/llp/funding/2011/index_en.php)

**Call for proposals for Pilot project – All-inclusive cooperation between public authorities, companies and social enterprises in favour of social inclusion and integration into the labour market.**

**Deadline 2 March 2011**

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=630&langId=en&callId=296&furtherCalls=yes>

## EXPERT REQUEST

**Call for expressions of interest by the EC Directorate for Environment**

The purpose of this call is to enable the Commission to draw from a list of potential contractors who could be entrusted with contracts in connection with activities of the Directorate.

Persons who are interested in having their name entered on a list of candidates are invited to submit an application in accordance with the rules set out below.

The list drawn up following this notice will be used solely for contracts whose estimated value is below the thresholds laid down in the relevant public procurement Directives (currently the threshold is EUR 133 000) or for service contracts.

The authorising department will draw up a list of candidates who meet the criteria. For each specific contract relating to the field described at point 3(a), the authorising department will send the specifications to all the candidates on the list or to some of them, selected on the basis of special pre-selection criteria for the contract concerned.

The applicants that are part of the (2006–2009) list will not automatically be included in the new list 2009–2012. They have to reapply in order to be on the new list.

<http://ted.europa.eu/udl?uri=TED:NOTICE:306406-2008:TEXT:EN:HTML>

## MISCELLANEOUS

### The EU has designated 2011 as the "European Year of Volunteering"

[http://ec.europa.eu/citizenship/focus/focus840\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/citizenship/focus/focus840_en.htm)

In the European Union, almost 100 million citizens of all ages invest their time, talents and money to make a positive contribution to their community by volunteering in civil society organisations, youth clubs, hospitals, schools, in sport clubs, etc.

For the Commission, volunteering is an active expression of civic participation which strengthens common European values such as solidarity and social cohesion. Volunteering also provides important learning opportunities, because involvement in voluntary activities can provide people with new skills and competences that can even improve their employability. This is especially important at this time of economic crisis.



Volunteering plays an important role in sectors as varied and diverse as education, youth, culture, sport, environment, health, social care, consumer protection, humanitarian aid, development policy, research, equal opportunities and external relations.

#### Objectives of the Year:

1. To create an enabling and facilitating environment for volunteering in the EU;
2. To empower volunteer organisations and improve the quality of volunteering;
3. To reward and recognise volunteering activities; and
4. To raise awareness of the value and importance of volunteering.

European Parliament and Council of the EU granted a dedicated budget for the European Year of Volunteering, as follows:

European Year of Volunteering 2011: **EUR 8 million.**

Preparatory actions 2010: **EUR 3 million**

The European Commission will be working closely with two strategic partners during the Year:

- **National Coordinating bodies (NCBs):** If you are interested in carrying out an activity in the framework of the European Year, please make sure you inform the National coordinating body for your country.
- **EYV 2011 Alliance** informal network of major NGO European networks with a particular interest in volunteering

<http://www.eyv2011.eu/>

Mental Health Europe has published a position paper accordingly on the European Year of Volunteering 2011 – Creating opportunities for people with mental health problems

<http://www.mhe-sme.org/en/publications/mhe-position-papers.html>

## 2011 Commission Work Programme

[http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/programmes/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/programmes/index_en.htm)

The Commission Work Programme 2011 has been released indicating proposals the Commission will initiate in the next future.

It explains how the Political Guidelines of the EC President will be implemented. The CWP 2011 gives an overview which helps stakeholders plan their work with the Commission. Please find attached a table of activities relevant for psychologists.



## EU website "Europe for patients"

The updated EU website "Europe for patients" is now available with information on fact sheets, news, events, press releases and videos related to the campaign at :

[http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/europe\\_for\\_patients/index\\_de.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/health-eu/europe_for_patients/index_de.htm)

This information is presented by 11 policies of the campaign that put patients at the center of EU health policy. The new look also contains an article on psychological intervention being key for keeping depression at bay.

[http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article\\_en.cfm?id=/research/headlines/news/article\\_11\\_01\\_04\\_en.html&item=Health%20%26%20life%20sciences&artid=19273](http://ec.europa.eu/research/infocentre/article_en.cfm?id=/research/headlines/news/article_11_01_04_en.html&item=Health%20%26%20life%20sciences&artid=19273)

## Health 2020 - New WHO Initiative

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/Health-systems/sections/news/2010/10/development-of-health2020-under-way>

The WHO Regional Office for Europe's annual Regional Committee meeting agreed on the development of a new European health policy to accelerate progress towards achieving the European Region's health potential by 2020 by addressing key public health and health policy challenges.

A new study on health inequalities in Europe will provide a basis for this health policy. This study will analyze the social determinants of health, in particular as they affect the health divide in Europe, as well as the social gradient in societies, vulnerable population groups, gender and the impact of all these aspects on health policies and actions by governments. It will also address all the other determinants of health, such as lifestyles, the environment and climate change, and food safety.

Health 2020 will also focus on new challenges such as, non communicable diseases (such as cardiovascular diseases, cancer, diabetes and mental disorders), along with the diseases of ageing and disability.

Speech Mrs. Jakab :

[http://www.euro.who.int/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0015/124323/RD\\_speech\\_WorldHealthSummit\\_2010.pdf](http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0015/124323/RD_speech_WorldHealthSummit_2010.pdf)

### **EU publication “Investing in well-being at work Addressing psychosocial risks in times of change”**

The EU publication “Investing in well-being at work Addressing psychosocial risks in times of change ( 09/11/2010 )” looks at the psychosocial risks in time of change.

There is a growing body of evidence of the potential negative effects that restructuring has on the health of workers and their families. Uncertainty and job insecurity also represent an important link between restructuring programmes and effects on employees’ health (depression, absenteeism, difficulty sleeping ...).

This leaflet highlights some of the central issues associated with organizational change, restructuring, health and well-being, and explains what can be done to prepare organizations and people more effectively for major changes. This publication is available in printed format in English, French and German.

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=738&langId=en&pubId=587&type=2&furtherPubs=yes>

### **Forum investing in well being at work and addressing psychosocial risks in time of change.**

22-24/11/2010 the European Commission together with the Belgium presidency of the Council of the European Union held a Forum investing in well being at work and addressing psychosocial risks in time of change.

More info at:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=88&langId=en&eventsId=290&furtherEvents=yes>

Several Belgian psychologists gave presentations at this Forum, as “Belgian tools for the prevention of psychosocial risks at work” by Véronique Crutzen; “Study about prevalence of Burn out in Belgium” by Prof.

Isabelle Hansez; “Detrimental consequences of organisational restructuring and job insecurity: An overview of studies from Belgium” by Prof. Dr. Hans De Witte.

A forum of discussion dedicated to this topic has been created on Anticipedia to exchange information:

[https://ec.europa.eu/employment\\_social/anticipedia/xwiki/bin/view/BulletinBoard/Psychosocialrisksandtheeffectsofrestructuring](https://ec.europa.eu/employment_social/anticipedia/xwiki/bin/view/BulletinBoard/Psychosocialrisksandtheeffectsofrestructuring)

**The EC launched a public consultation on the professional qualification Directive 2005/36/EC during 07/01/2011 to 15/03/2011.**

[http://ec.europa.eu/internal\\_market/consultations/2011/professional\\_qualifications\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/consultations/2011/professional_qualifications_en.htm)

This Directive, adopted in 2005, sets the rules for mutual recognition of professional qualifications between Member States. The reform of the system of recognition of professional qualifications as a means to facilitate mobility is one of the priority actions proposed by the Commission in the Single Market Act. With the view to preparing this reform, the Commission launched in March 2010 a major evaluation of the Professional Qualifications Directive.

As a first step in the evaluation process, the Commission reached out to competent authorities and national coordinators, who draw "experience reports" giving valuable information on how the rules work in practice. The consultation constitutes the second step of the evaluation process. The main objective is to consult stakeholders on three major challenges for the reform of the system of recognition of professional qualifications:

- simplifying the existing rules to the benefit of individual citizens;
- integrating professions into the Single Market;
- injecting more confidence into the system.

The Commission invites all interested parties to attend a meeting to discuss the issues raised in the context of the evaluation:

21 February 2011 from 9.30-16.30  
At the premises of the European Commission  
Conference Room Auditorium, Madou Building  
1 Place Madouplein, 1000 Brussels

Registrations should be sent by 31 January 2011 to: [MARKT-PQ-EVALUATION@ec.europa.eu](mailto:MARKT-PQ-EVALUATION@ec.europa.eu)



**Mental Health Promotion Portal**

<http://www.mentalhealthpromotion.net/>

The recently finished ProMenPol Project had developed one of the most visited mental health promotion websites in Europe with its functionality of tools and methods for mental health promotion across the lifecycle.

It is to be maintained and augmented with the mental health promotion portal. This Portal extends the range of information to include a site dedicated to e-learning in relation to mental health promotion and a site dedicated to supporting the implementation of mental health promotion in different settings, including workplace.

The structure of the new portal is:

- ENMHP: European Network for Mental Health Promotion (ENMHP). This site will act as an umbrella for mental health promotion websites. It will also build on the network of mental health promotion professionals

- ProMenPol: This site will contain all of the material and tools developed within the lifetime of the ProMenPol Project and beyond. It will continue to be updated for the next three years.
- Mind-Health: This site is dedicated to providing training in mental health promotion via an e-learning package that is under development.
- MHP-Hands: This site is dedicated to the development and testing of a set of implementation manuals for mental health promotion. Its aim is to support the practice of mental health promotion in the field.

**EHMA- the European Mental Health Systems Network was launched 9th December 2010 in Brussels**

<http://www.ehma.org/index.php?q=node/647>.

The main aim of the Network is to provide a European forum for senior policy makers, managers and researchers to look at mental health care from a management and system perspective

**WHO initiative 'Better health better lives: children and young people with intellectual disabilities and their families'**

In November 2010 the WHO initiative 'Better health better lives: children and young people with intellectual disabilities and their families' was launched

<http://www.euro.who.int/en/what-we-do/health-topics/diseases-and-conditions/mental-health/activities/intellectual-disabilities> .

The initiative aims to ensure that all children and young people with intellectual disabilities are fully participating members of society, living with their families, integrated in the community and receiving health care and support proportional to their needs. The conference resulted in a European Declaration on the Health of Children and Young People with Intellectual Disabilities and their Families

[http://www.euro.who.int/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0015/121263/e94506.pdf](http://www.euro.who.int/__data/assets/pdf_file/0015/121263/e94506.pdf) covering 4 key objectives:

- promoting and supporting good physical and mental health and well-being;
- eliminating health and other inequalities and preventing other forms of discrimination, neglect and abuse;
- providing support that prevents family separation and allow parents to care for and protect children and young people with intellectual disabilities;
- supporting children and young people in the development of their potential and the successful transitions through life.



**European Commission's Work Programme 2011 relevant for Psychologists**

[http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/programmes/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/atwork/programmes/index_en.htm)

<b>EDUCATION AND TRAINING</b>			
<b>Title of initiative</b>	<b>Type of initiative</b>	<b>Description of scope of objectives</b>	<b>Foreseen adoption date</b>
10 Communication on Modernisation of higher education	Non-legislative	The purpose is to revise and propose new objectives for the future of this policy agenda. This may include possible proposals for a transparency and ranking system for higher education institutions.	3rd quarter 2011
Commission Communication on a New Competences Initiative	Non-legislative	The Communication is linked to the New Skills for New Jobs initiative and seeks to develop the key competences approach in the fields of vocational training, building on the 2006 Key Competences Recommendation but going beyond. It supports efforts in Member States to modernise these other areas of education and training provision, looking especially at assessment and validation questions and a development of a common language on competences between the worlds of education/ training and of work, including the proposal for a High Level Forum on basic skills and for a European Skills Passport.	
Recommendation on the promotion and validation of informal and non-formal learning		Part of the Youth on the Move initiative; it will address how national qualification frameworks should facilitate the promotion and validation of non-formal and informal learning outcomes and provide permeability between VET and higher education, as well as how to promote professionalism and recognition of those delivering such learning experiences, in particular in the youth field.	



Unlocking the potential of Cultural and Creative Industries	Non-legislative	The objective is to foster the right environment for creative industries CCI to flourish and contribute to smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The initiative should make it easier for CCIs (in particular SMEs) to access funding, improve the monitoring of skills needs of CCIs, better embed CCIs in regional development strategies, and set up creative partnerships between CCIs and education institutions / businesses / administrations.	
<b>TRANSPORT</b>			
19 White Paper on the future of transport (Carry-over 17 2010)	Non-legislative	The White Paper will outline the future of transport until 2050, to achieve an internal market for transport, innovation and modern infrastructure. It will define the overall framework for actions in the next ten years in the field of transport infrastructure, internal market legislation, decarbonisation of transport, technology for traffic management and clean vehicles, and the use of standardisation, market based instruments and incentives.	1st quarter 2011
Airports package: (1) Airport capacity assessment and inventory, (2) Revision of the Slot Regulation, (3) Revision of the Groundhandling Directive (4) Revision of the aviation noise directive	Legislative / Nonlegislative	A cover Communication will discuss the state of play on airport policy. It will be accompanied by revised legislative proposals on ground handling, slots and noise legislation together with a new proposal on airport capacity assessment and inventory	2nd quarter 2011
50 Proposal for a Regulation relating to the permissible sound level and the exhaust system of motor vehicles	Legislative	The main objective of the initiative is aiming at reducing the negative impact of noise exposure of EU citizens caused by motor vehicle traffic. The specific objective is to modify and improve the applicable requirements within the European system for the type-approval of motor vehicles with regard to their noise emissions. This concerns all new types of passenger cars, trucks, lorries and buses which shall be approved after this legislative measure comes into force.	

**WORK AND ORGANISATION**

18 Legislative initiative on Posting of Workers	Legislative	The general objective is to improve the implementation and enforcement of Directive 96/71/EC on Posting of Workers. More specifically, the aim is to ensure effective respect of the posted workers rights and clarify the obligations of national authorities and businesses. The aim is also to improve cooperation between national authorities, the provision of information for companies and workers, ensure effective enforcement through sanctions and remedial action and prevent circumvention and abuse of the rules applicable.	4th quarter 2011
19 Revision of the Directive on Working Time (Directive 2003/88) (Carry-over 2010)	Legislative	The objective is to adapt the Directive to the new realities created by the evolution of working patterns and to clarify the implementation of the Directive in particular as regards the problem of on-call time. The scope of the revision will be determined taking into account the results of the consultation of the social partners.	3rd quarter 2011
21 White Paper on Pensions	Non-legislative	Rapidly approaching population ageing creates both an immediate and a long-term challenge for pension systems. If the EU is to sufficiently support and complement Member States efforts to deliver adequate and sustainable pensions for citizens, the incomplete and fragmented European framework of policy coordination and Regulation needs to be reconsidered holistically. As a follow-up to the wide-ranging consultation, launched by the Green Paper (7 July 2010), the White Paper would address some or all of the issues identified	3rd quarter 2011
23 (second-phase) consultation of social partners on the protection of workers' health from risks related to exposure to Environmental Tobacco Smoke at the workplace	Non-legislative	Approximately 7.5 million workers in the EU are exposed to "environmental tobacco smoke" (ETS) at the workplace. The exposure to ETS at the workplace can cause lung cancer cardiovascular diseases and a range of other health problems. There is evidence that exposure to ETS at work accounted for over 7000 deaths in the EU in 2002. While many Member States have already taken actions in this area, there is no uniform or comprehensive protection for workers in the EU as regards exposure to ETS. In December 2008, the Commission launched a first-stage consultation of the European social partners in accordance with article 154 TFEU, on the possible orientation of an EU initiative as regards workers exposure to ETS at workplace;	

78 (first-stage and second-stage) consultation of the European social partners on reconciliation between work, family and private life (2011)	Non-legislative	In line with the 2010 Women's charter and following from the 2008 reconciliation package, the Commission will consult the European social partners on further legislative measures to improve work life balance, including paternity and filial leave. These measures will have the double aim of increasing female employment rates as women bear the main responsibilities for caring for children and other dependants as well as tackling the demographic challenge. Depending on the outcome of the consultation, the Commission may a legislative proposal on reconciliation, including on a legislative paternity and filial leave, in 2012.	
<b>CRISIS AND DISASTER – LEGISLATION</b>			
30 Directive on the rights of and support to victims of crime	Legislative	This initiative aims at developing a comprehensive set of measures on the protection of victims, to ensure that victims of crime receive the necessary assistance (legal, psychological and other) in all Member States of the EU, that they are able to access justice and the rights applicable to them and that they receive sufficient protection when at risk of harm	2nd quarter 2011
33 A new comprehensive legal framework for the protection of personal data in the EU (Carry-over 2010)	Legislative	This initiative aims at modernising the existing system for the protection of personal data in all areas of the Union's activities in order to maintain the effective application of the data protection principles, and to improve current protection legislation, in the light of the challenges of globalisation new technologies, and requirements of public authorities.	2nd quarter 2011
34 Proposals to renew Civil Protection Legislation	Legislative	The main objective will be to reinforce EU Disaster Response, Preparedness and Prevention capacities (by means, i.a. of enhanced coordination and enhanced arrangements aiming at guaranteeing the availability of a core set of civil protection assets), in line with the proposals set out in the November 2010 Communication on Reinforcing EU Disaster main objective will be to reinforce EU Disaster Response Capacity.	4th quarter 2011

68 EU Framework for national strategies on Roma integration	Non-legislative	Based on the first phase of the work of the Roma Task Force, the Communication will, in particular, assess the use and effectiveness of the EU funds by Member States to support Roma integration. It will identify deficiencies in their use and make proposals for action	
<b>PROFESSIONAL ISSUES</b>			
58 Green Paper on the Professional Qualifications Directive: a way forward to a possible reform	Non-legislative	To present the evaluation report based on the ex-post evaluation of the current functioning of the Professional Qualifications Directive and a Green Paper consulting on the need for further reform of the Qualifications Directive.	
59 Communication and Report on the results of the implementation of the Services Directive and its "mutual evaluation process"	Non-legislative	The Communication/report will describe the process of mutual evaluation and the state of the internal market after the implementation of the Services Directive and outline a follow up (including whether further action - legislative or not - may need to be considered in certain areas.)	
<b>RESEARCH</b>			
83 Communication on "Partnerships in Research and Innovation"	Non-legislative	The Commission will present a Communication on how partnerships for innovation and research of different nature (such as public-private and public-public), can deliver towards the EU 2020 strategy and the Innovation Union. In this context special attention will be paid to the Innovation Partnerships concept.	