

Volunteer! Make a difference

European Year of
Volunteering



European Year of Volunteering 2011

2011

is the European Year of Volunteering

The European Year of Volunteering is both a celebration and a challenge.

It is a **celebration** of the commitment of millions of people in Europe who work in their communities during their free time without being paid (for example in schools, hospitals, and sports clubs, protecting the environment, providing social services and helping people in other countries).

Their efforts and those of the many thousands of volunteering organisations make a huge difference to our lives in countless ways. The world would be much worse off without volunteers!

The European Year of Volunteering 2011 is also a **challenge** to the three-quarters of the European population who do *not* do any volunteering. We would like to say to them that they can also make a difference.



Tour

Getting up close
and personal with
volunteers

Stories

Extraordinary stories
about ordinary people



Conferences and events

Laying the
foundations for
a long-lasting EYV
legacy

What will happen during the EYV 2011?

EU countries will be toured over a one-year period. Each stage of the tour in each Member State will last for approximately ten days, and will provide volunteers with an opportunity to exhibit their work, meet one another, engage with policy-makers and the general public, convey their energy and enthusiasm, and discuss key issues for the future of their work. The Tour will bring

Europe closer to volunteers, but it will also bring volunteers closer to society as a whole.

WWW.
europa.eu/volunteering/tour

Volunteers are at the heart of unique stories and intervention methods that demonstrate the value of human commitment to achieving unbelievable results. These extraordinary stories about ordinary people will be a key component of all the activities carried out during the year.

Furthermore, a relay team made up of 27 European volunteers, one from each Member State and with a background

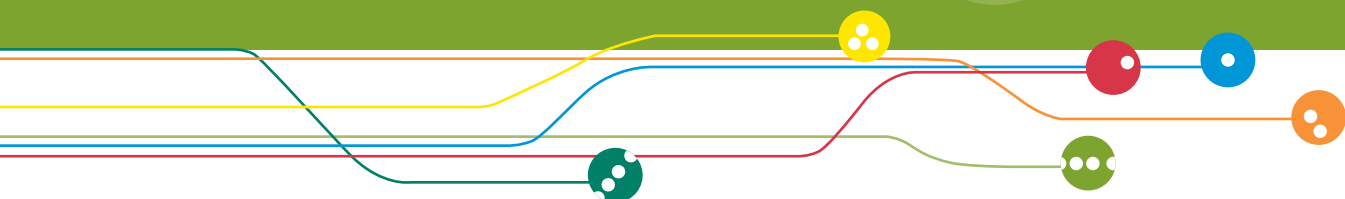
in journalism, will cover each stage of the Tour. The team will share stories from volunteers living in other Member States and will produce a series of video and audio clips and articles that will be broadcast and published in the media and on the Web.

WWW.
europa.eu/volunteering/my-story

Five high-visibility European conferences and events have been planned to take place in various cities around Europe. These will bring together interested parties from the worlds of volunteering, business and government to debate important volunteering issues and challenges. The conferences will highlight the reality of volunteering in the Member

States, and will contribute to the policy work and reform initiatives also being undertaken by the EYV2011 Alliance, which will continue to bear fruit long after the end of the year.

WWW.
europa.eu/volunteering/conference-events





To find out more
www.europa.eu/volunteering

To get involved
Contact the EYV2011 Alliance at:
www.eyv2011.eu

Contact your country's EYV National Coordination Body at:
www.europa.eu/volunteering/mycountry

The European Year of Volunteering 2011 communication campaign is coordinated by P.A.U. Education and ICWE for the European Commission.
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