



Notes on contributors



Volunteers in the revolutions

By Corinne Grassi, Emilie Petit, Taymour Senbel and Marwa Turki. With the support of Reem Kassem.

Corinne has been living in Alexandria for the past three years, working for the Anna Lindh Foundation. When the revolution happened, she chose to stay and help where she could. Her photos have been seen around the world on such web sites as Rue89.

Emilie lived in Alexandria for a year and a half as part of a European Voluntary Service placement in the cultural and artistic field. She went back to Marseilles (France) a few months before the revolution in Egypt.

Taymour is involved in activities of the Agora Youth Club in Alexandria and, like Emilie, he is a close friend of those developing and managing the club's projects.

Marwa lives in Sfax (Tunisia) and studies graphic design. Photography is one of her passions.

Reem works for the Bibliotheca Alexandrina (Arts Center), where she is in charge of youth events and activities. She is also founder and manager of the Agora Youth Club.

The challenge of volunteering for young people in Meda countries

An interview of Bernard Abrignani
By Federica Demicheli.

Bernard Abrignani is the co-ordinator of SALTO-YOUTH EUROMED Resource Centre and project director for technical assistance for the EuroMed Youth Programme IV. He works at the French National Institute for Youth and Community Education (INJEP). Since 2000, he has been the co-ordinator of the SALTO-YOUTH EUROMED and Educational Good Practices Resource Centre on behalf of the European Commission (DG EAC). His fields of expertise are youth participation, community development, education, crime prevention, intercultural learning and international youth work. He has organised and co-ordinated numerous national and international training courses and published a number of books and articles.

Federica Demicheli is project officer at SALTO-YOUTH EUROMED. She is a trainer as well as a social worker. Her areas of expertise are co-operation with Arab countries as well as youth policies.

Volunteering - Why does it matter?

By Gabriella Civico

Gabriella is from the UK but has lived for many years in Spain and Portugal. She has a degree in Social Policy and Education from Surrey University (UK) and a Master's in Education in E-learning from the University of Hull (UK). Her professional background is in business and the Youth NGO sector where she has worked as an administrator and also as a trainer and expert. Through her work in the youth field she was involved in the campaign to establish 2011 as the European Year of Volunteering. Gabriella has volunteered since childhood in a variety of fields including youth advocacy, international development, disability, environment, immigration, human rights, sports, etc. Gabriella is now the EYV 2011 Alliance Project Manager.

The European Year of Volunteering 2011 The view from the European Commission

By John Macdonald

John holds a Bachelor's degree in economics from the University of Cambridge, which he complemented with subsequent studies in law at Cambridge and Heidelberg (Germany). His studies in Germany culminated with a Master's degree in European Economic Studies at the Europe Institute of the University of the Saarland. John is currently the Head of the European Commission's Task Force for the European Year of Volunteering 2011.

Love Volunteering Love

By Gülesin Nemetlu Ünal

Photos/Illustrations by Marlies Pöschl

Gülesin Nemetlu is a freelance trainer and consultant currently working under the label of her learning design office called tekne and is based in Istanbul. She has worked for a variety of organisations, institutions and enterprises throughout Europe and Turkey. Her major areas of work include: training of trainers, human rights education, volunteerism, civil society development and youth work. Her recent work involves educational game design. She is passionate about pirate stories.

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'This is for Liberia'

By Sarah-Jane Mungo

Sarah-Jane is a UN Volunteer from Trinidad and Tobago. She has been an AIC Specialist with the United Nations Volunteers (UNV) programme in Liberia since July 2009.

IVY+10, from 2001 to 2011 – So what?

By Philip Sen

Philip Sen is Communications Officer for the International Year of Volunteers +10 at the United Nations Volunteers programme.

A rights-based approach to volunteering

By Magdalena Kurz

Photos/Illustrations by Marlies Pöschl

Magdalena Kurz has been Policy Officer on Participation at the European Youth Forum since February 2009 and has been involved in youth policy issues within the UN Student Forum, Model OSCE, the Austrian National Youth Council and other projects. Magdalena wrote her Master's thesis in Political Science on 'Non-formal education in youth organisations as a key element to active citizenship in Europe'.

The price of volunteering

By Delon Pereira

Delon Pereira lives in Toronto (Canada) and is actively involved with human rights work in Canada and India. Delon participated in an ICYE volunteer programme from India to Belgium in 2000-2001. She founded the 'Kardel Education Trust Fund' in Bangalore (India) that promotes education for children in rural India.

The economic value of volunteering

By Andreea Melania Nagy

Andreea Melania Nagy comes from Romania. She is an EVS volunteer at CEV, the European Volunteer Centre where she assists with communication-related tasks. Having completed her studies in the field of Philosophy and Foreign Languages, she currently takes great interest in the voluntary action sector. Andreea has volunteered for several years in youth and art projects.

The art of volunteering

By Marlies Pöschl

Marlies Pöschl is a visual artist currently based in Vienna. She completed her studies in Art and Communicative Practices and German in Vienna and Utrecht (NL) and is now involved in video-related projects. She also works as a freelance media designer and film operator.

Online Volunteering doesn't ask much

By Darko Buldioski

Darko is one of the founders of NewMediaMK - Internet marketing agency and the non-profit New Media Center. He actively started to work in the new media field six years ago as a blogger and continued as a lecturer, trainer and consultant.

After the earthquake in Lorca

By Agnieszka Byrczek

Agnieszka (known as Aga) is a Polish volunteer engaged in her EVS placement with Cazalla-Intercultural, an internationally minded NGO in Lorca (Spain).

Positively impacting society through employee community engagement

By Jenny Todd

Photos/Illustrations by Marlies Pöschl

Jenny Todd is the ENGAGE Key Cities programme manager for the International Campaign of Business in the Community. (www.bitc.org.uk/international)

An invitation to enter the zone of co-operation

By Marios Epaminondas

Marios Epaminondas has studied pedagogy, art and history. He has been involved in youth work since the time that 'Youth in Action' was called 'Youth for Europe'. He believes in the capacity of people to make positive changes in their societies. An ideal Saturday for him includes a session of beach volleyball and grilled fish for lunch.

Edito, Marker, The adventures of Spiffy

By Mark Taylor

Mark Taylor (editor) is a trainer and writer and is glad to be part of both the Unique network and via Experientia (the International Academy of Experiential Education) as they make life challenging and even a joy. As a recent convert to the ukulele he discovers the need to convert others! A founding member of the *Coyote* editorial team, he has yet to meet Spiffy.

