



# NEWSTICKER / No 1

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Brussels, 08|07|2009

*Dear Colleagues,*

Working now for two month at EUFED, it is great time to take this opportunity to present some of the priorities for my future work within **EUFED**. I have written this note with the encouragement of the President, as a statement for the future also on behalf of the Executive Committee.



First of all, I would like to express my great thanks to all of you for the warm welcome and the encouraging wishes. Given the important mission of EUFED and its considerable impact on the European policy, I am convinced that we can influence strongly the European decision makers.

Therefore, I would like to build my work mainly on three pillars:

The **FIRST PILLAR** is based on the Political representation of **EUFED** towards the EU parliament, the EU Commission and representations of EU countries based in Brussels. Here, I will build on the solid network that Mario Mohr established during the last years. I will consolidate the long-lasting and trustful relationships to different key persons in the European institutions and I will of course broaden this network, based on the particular interests of **EUFED**. This will include especially monitoring of regulatory initiatives, influencing EU programme restructuring, and continuous campaigning about our interests, aims, and activities. I will also represent **EUFED** within other bodies, e.g. the European Tourism Action Group (ETAG), the European Youthforum (EYF), the study group of the CALYPSO preparatory action (established by DG Enterprise and Industry), the European Environmental Bureau (EEB) and Ecotrans, as well as towards the media.

The **SECOND PILLAR** is my role as mediator between the member associations and those who are willing to become a member. Together with the Executive committee, I will ensure the strategic alignment of the association concerning our main focus areas: to promote the education of young people, especially of those with limited means and to initiate concrete steps towards sustainable Youth Hostelling.

In this regard, I look forward to developing and conducting EUFED seminars (as most recently in Bled, Mirów and Brilon: "From environmental educ@ion to clim@e change"), trainings, workshops etc., in order to transfer best practices in the fields of social inclusion activities, eco-labeling of Youth Hostels and environmental education in Youth Hostels, in staff and volunteers transnational mobility, and in intercultural dialogue.

Very important also is information circulation and first guidance on EU funding opportunities towards Hostelling International and the national members.

The most important point and thus, the **THIRD PILLAR** consist in communication and exchange. I would fervently like to increase and intensify mutual information.

For me, EUFED should be a vital platform of mutual exchange to draw tailor-made conclusions addressed to policymakers. This work is guided by the values of planetary protection and respect for human dignity. Together, I believe that we can change the lives of a lot of persons, but it is just due to your feedback that we can provide an open forum on the future. A future with huge opportunities. But a future with profound challenges, some for the planet, some for society, some for particular groups and the individual. Therefore, an informed, considered approach is needed in order to provide in-depth and free discussion. But there must also be trust in how an approach is formed, especially on any issue of global or societal proportions.

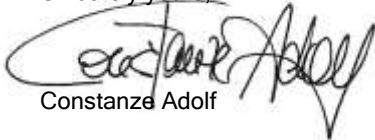
In this way, **EUFED** offers a bridge to all those involved in Youth Hostelling and policy bodies. One of the first activities to put this aim into practice will be the re-establishing of our **EUFED e-bulletin** and for urgent matters a short **EUFED newsticker**. I herewith invite you to mark the deadline of 10<sup>th</sup> August 2009 for your contributions to the first EUFED E-Bulletin. We would be happy to receive any information of your association to share on our common platform.

Please, if and when you have any comments whatsoever, then is your time to speak! Please get back to me with your suggestions, ideas and wishes. They are more than valuable for us: they are the only way for me to find out what is of a major interest for you and so on which of your priorities I should build my work here in Brussels.

It is a great pleasure for me to complete these challenging tasks as I have the invaluable support of Michèle Obert and the members of the Executive Committee and as the fundamental values of **EUFED** correspond to my personal convictions.

I herewith open the **EUFED**-future-forum!

Sincerely yours,



Constanze Adorf

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## ***EUFED NEWS FROM BRUSSELS***

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*Future newstickers are intended to be much shorter!*

### **EUROPEAN ELECTIONS 2009**



The 2009 European elections took place on 4-7 June 2009 in each of the 27 Member States of the European Union. More than 375 million EU citizens were invited to vote for their chosen representative for a five-year period: 736 MEPs from 27 Member States. The opening session for the new term will be held in Strasbourg from 14-16 July.

The European Parliament represents the citizens of the Member States at EU level. It is the only European institution to be directly elected - a procedure established in June 1979 - and the only multinational parliament in the world to be voted in through universal suffrage. From 1958 to 1979, MEPs were appointed by their national governments, and all had dual mandates.

In 2009, 161 Million EU citizens voted, which represents a turnout of 43.3%.

EUFED will keep its established contacts to the European Parliaments and we will also try to broaden our network, including new Members of the European Parliament (MEPs). Do you have contacts on national level to your MEPs? Let us share our experiences!

Do you know who represents you on the EU level? Find it out in your language:

[http://www.elections2009-results.eu/en/new\\_parliament\\_en.html](http://www.elections2009-results.eu/en/new_parliament_en.html)

Look here for the European Time Machine to discover the evolution of the European Parliament:

<http://www.europarl.europa.eu/elections2009/results/default.htm?language=EN>

Do you have any questions?

Do not hesitate to contact me: [constanze.adolf@eufed.org](mailto:constanze.adolf@eufed.org)



## **SWEDISH PRESIDENCY JULY - DECEMBER 2009**

From 1<sup>st</sup> July till 31<sup>st</sup> December 2009, Sweden will hold the Presidency of the European Union

### ***WHAT IS THE EU PRESIDENCY?***

The Member state that holds the Presidency of the Council of the European Union has the responsibility for the functioning of the Council of the European Union; it is rotated between European Union member states every six months. This means moving discussions on important EU issues forward. Sweden will chair the Council's meetings at all levels and has the important task of helping to broker agreements between Member States. The country holding the Presidency must be impartial and act in the interest of all the Member States. The holder of the Presidency also represents the Council in its dealings with other EU institutions and with countries outside the EU, as well as in international organisations. [Presidency website...](#)

### ***WHAT ABOUT YOUTH POLICY DURING THE SWEDISH PRESIDENCY?***

During the Swedish Presidency the Council will adopt a **new framework for youth policy cooperation in the EU from 2010**. The new framework will be based on the Commission communication "An EU Strategy for Youth - Investing and Empowering". The Commission's communication builds on Member States' evaluations of current cooperation and consultations with young people, youth organisations and people who work on youth issues in one way or another. The aim is to promote good living conditions and increased participation among young women and men in Europe by means of better cooperation. A decision on the future framework will be taken at the Council meeting on 26-27 November 2009. [More information...](#)

### ***TWO CONFERENCES ON YOUTH:***

- ***Promoting a creative generation - children and young people in the new culture and media landscape, 29-30 July 2009, Svenska mässan, Gothenburg, Sweden***

In the context of the Year of Creativity and Innovation and the European Agenda for Culture, the focus of the conference is the creativity and cultural habits of children and young people. The aim of the conference is to contribute to the knowledge of how public policy, and the exchange of best practices at European level, can contribute to creating conditions in which children and young people's right to access culture in all forms is guaranteed. [More information...](#)

- ***Conference on future youth policy cooperation in the EU, 12-14 September 2009, City Conference Centre - Norra Latin, Stockholm, Sweden***

The Swedish Presidency will arrange a conference on the EU's future youth policy framework. Youth representatives, directors-general and officials from all EU Member States, as well as applicant countries and EFTA countries, will be invited to the conference. A number of selected experts in the field of youth from different parts of Europe will also be invited. [More information...](#)



***ANY IDEAS, REMARKS, QUESTIONS?  
PLEASE DO NOT HESITATE TO CONTACT US!***

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