



**MENTAL HEALTH EUROPE
SANTE MENTALE EUROPE**

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Mental Health Europe is the EU Liaison Office for Mental Health Promotion.

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I. NEWS FROM MENTAL HEALTH EUROPE

Annual General Assembly

The MHE Annual General Assembly took place in Brussels on 4 June 2005. About 40 persons were present.

The Assembly approved and adopted the balance from 2004 and the budget for 2005, as well as the Annual Report 2004.

An extensive discussion was dedicated to the adoption of the proposed changes to MHE's Statutes. These changes are needed to ensure compliance with the new Belgian law on not for profit organisations, following legal advice from and consultation with the Ministry of Justice. Main changes looked at clarification of the powers and duties of the elected bodies. Key issues were the introduction of an "Executive Committee" instead of "Officers", as an organ with specific responsibility and accountability, the proposal to have a MHE Board made up of members from at least 8 different European countries, the proposal that MHE Board membership should last for 3 years instead of 2.

On the basis of these changes, the Internal Rules will be revised and discussed at the next Board meeting and presented for formal adoption at the next General Assembly meeting.

Among issues discussed was the way in which MHE could increase its own resources and various suggestions came from members.

A presentation of MHE involvement in various project was made: in 2004, MHE was the leader of four European projects and acted as partner in other six European projects.

The meeting continued with a policy development section, which raised a high interest. Simon Wilson, the Director of the Social Platform, gave a brilliant presentation on current European policy developments: Lisbon Strategy, the Open method of Coordination; the Services Directive.

MHE thanks its members for their continuous support and welcomes their feedback on its activities.

For further information: MHE Secretariat info@mhe-sme.org, tel. +32 2 280 04 68, fax +32 2 280 16 04.

Meeting of European NGOs active in the field of mental health meeting

Participants included representatives of CEDEP, EUFAMI, Europsy Rehabilitation and MHE. 13 NGOs were invited, but only the above mentioned were able to attend.

Mary van Dievel gave an introduction on the issue, reminding that a strong collaboration among mental health European NGOs existed during the Helios I & II programmes and that at the 2001 MHE Conference in Rotterdam, the participants agreed again to work together on advocacy for mental health, dissemination and exchange of information, user empowerment, while maintaining their own autonomy and specific objectives. Another meeting was organised in May 2004, after the EU enlargement, where a number of good intentions were formulated but the responses that followed were very poor.

The aim of the meeting was therefore to find ways of consolidating and maintaining this network of European

NGOs. A step forward will be the creation of a common leaflet with information about each NGO, including their mission and objectives and contact details.

The meeting was organised in the framework of the project "*Coordination of capacity building, fight against discrimination and awareness raising in the mental health field*" funded by the European Commission, DG Employment and Social Affairs.

For further information: MHE Secretariat info@mhe-sme.org, tel. +32 2 280 04 68, fax +32 2 280 16 04.

Seminar on the WHO/EURO Declaration and Action Plan on mental health: the way forward

The seminar took place in Brussels, on the 3rd of June and was organised within the project *Coordination of capacity building, fight against discrimination and awareness raising in the mental health field*, supported by the European Commission – DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities – Unit Anti-discrimination and relations with Civil Society.

Invited were MHE member organisations and individual members, European NGOs active in the mental health field

Matt Muijen, WHO/Euro Regional Adviser for Mental Health presented major issues of concern in mental health in the WHO European region and introduced the WHO/Euro Declaration and Action Plan on Mental Health, its scope and actions that are planned to be implemented. This was followed by discussions on the role that NGO partners can play in this process.

Jürgen Schefflein, DG Health and Consumer Protection emphasised that mental health is a high priority for the Commissioner Markos Kyprianou and that the EC' vision is to mainstream mental health across policies, to open up a forum for cooperation between member states and to build up an information system on mental health. He also presented how the Commission supports mental health promotion through various projects funded by the EC Public Health Programme. Finally, he mentioned the Green paper on mental health, to be issued by October 2005.

Wallis Goelen, DG Employment and Social Affairs gave an update on the main policy developments in the field of disability. She mentioned the EU Disability Action Plan set out in the Commission Communication entitled: "Equal opportunities for people with disabilities: A European Action Plan." The Communication sets out the EU's priorities in the field of the integration of people with disabilities for the period up to 2010. A biannual report on the situation of people with disabilities in the EU is due for the end of 2005. She also underlined the attention given by the Commission to the involvement of people with disabilities in the planning, monitoring and evaluation of changes in policies and practices. The close collaboration with European NGOs as EDF and Inclusion Europe was mentioned.

This was followed by a session on how mental health NGOs can get involved in the implementation of the WHO/Euro Declaration and Action Plan in their countries. Some examples were given by Pirkko Lahti (Finnish Association for Mental Health), Brian Howard, (Mental Health Ireland), Petr Nawka (Integra Association- Slovakia) and by Elisabeth Muschik (Pro Mente Austria).

More information about the issues raised by NGOs will be given in the following Newsletter.

MHE representation at various meetings

Josée van Remoortel, MHE Senior Policy Adviser, attended the Luxembourg Presidency Conference on taking forward the EU Social Inclusion Process on 13-14 June 2005.

Elisabeth Muschik, MHE Board member, attended the Social Platform multiple discrimination seminar and the meeting of the Fundamental Rights Working Group, on 6 and 7 June. She also participated in the Social Platform Social Policy Working Group on 13 June and in the Steering Committee meeting on 14 June.

Roxana Radulescu, project-co-ordinator, represented MHE at the launch of the Health and Consumer Intergroup at the European Parliament (22 June) and assisted at the EPHA training seminar for members on 24 June. On 21 June, she attended the public hearing of the European Parliament Committee on Women Rights and Gender Equality on the current situation of combating violence against Women.

II. NEWS FROM OUR MEMBERS

Aripi Association

« Aripi » (Wings) association (Romania) – the association of mental Health services users - participated on 17 June in a national seminar aimed to combat discrimination and represented the interests of people with psycho-social disabilities. Gathered in Constanta, the participants discussed the Anti-discrimination Act recently adopted by the Romanian Government.

Aripi Association also participated in a Forum on National Mental Health Policies, initiated by Orizonturi association (from Cimpulung – north of Romania) within the programme *Pathways to policies* financed by Hamlet Trust. The aim was to debate norms and strategies for the implementation of the mental health law voted in 2002 by the Romanian Parliament. Discussions included a review of the mental health plan, a database about resources and local situation, a presentation of community centres in various towns in Romania

“Aripi” is a member of the working group that is providing feedback to the Ministry of Health on the preparation of the norms.

Thanks to Monica Simionescu, Director, Aripi Association, for this contribution
aripi_office@yahoo.com

Estuar Foundation- developments of the project “Training Centres for Mental Health”-

In the framework of the project “Training centres for mental health”, financed by the European Commission, DG Education and Culture, Estuar Foundation (Romania) organised a ToT (training of trainers) seminar, which took place from May 25th to May 28th 2005 at Sinaia, Romania.

Another two MHE members are involved in this project – Czech Association for Mental Health and the

Association for Child and Family Mental Health (Poland). MHE is a partner in this project, responsible for disseminating results and increasing visibility

The training course was delivered by Matrix Training Associates (UK). The seminar was attended by fifteen participants; five from Poland, five from Romania and five from the Czech Republic.. Collectively, participants came from a wide variety of backgrounds including psychology, care, day centre and project work. English was used throughout the training as the language of communication.

The subject of the first day was *Supervision in Social Care Work* and covered the various aspects of supervision including the following:

- The role of Self in Supervision: the use of effective listening, looking at personality preferences;
- The Parameters and Purpose of Supervision: Overview and models
- Dealing with Change and Difficulty: Techniques around bringing about change, conflict as challenge and looking at professional development; use of reflective cycles.
- Maintaining Good Practice: Keeping the process viable and ensuring one’s own support/ supervision system is in place.

Sessions were interactive where possible and group exercises were integral to the event. Visual aids or descriptions were used as much as appropriate. Participants seemed to have no difficulty in engaging in either the content or process of the day. They particularly enjoyed the exercises, models of supervision, the model of professional development and the use of reflective cycles.

Days Two, Three and Four focussed on the process of training, for participants to gain understanding and experience around training preparation, delivery and evaluation. Verbally and anecdotally the overall feedback provided evidence that the training was well-received, informative, positive and had, in summary, made a significant contribution to their learning as potential trainers.

Thanks to Gary Hawker – Matrix Training Associates, <http://www.matrixtrainingassociates.com/>, ghawker@bournemouth.ac.uk for the feedback report on this training seminar.

III. NEWS FROM OTHER EUROPEAN NGOS

Social Platform statement on the failure of EU Council

The Social Platform issued a press release on the failure of the EU Council, which revealed the amplitude of the political crisis. Social NGOs fear this crisis cannot be solved unless this question is actually discussed not just among heads of State and Government, but fully engaging European citizens in this debate, reads the press release.

“What we need is a system of participatory democracy, where civil society groups at local, regional, national and European levels can all engage in an on-going debate with politicians about the European Union’s direction and policies,” said President of the Social Platform, Anne-Sophie Parent.

In the aftermath of a disastrous EU Council, social NGOs hope that EU leaders do not dwell in the crisis and take responsibility for the European democratic

deficit. It is time to devise a hands-on strategy to bring the European Union and its leaders closer to its citizens and engage citizens and their organisations in debates on substantial EU policy issues to create ownership of the European project, reads the press statement.

According to the Social Platform, this is no time for half-hearted measures, or one-off solutions: we need to change the way that the EU makes its decisions so that citizens have not just a vote in a referendum, but a permanent chance to be part of the shaping of the EU.

(Source: Social Platform mailing 231)

For further information:

<http://www.socialplatform.org/anim/anim.htm>

SOLIDAR Statement – French and Dutch Referenda are a wake up call to EU leaders

In a press release issued on the 2nd of June following the French and Dutch Referenda, Solidar – the European network of social and economic justice NGOs working in development and humanitarian aid, social policy, social service provision and life-long learning - said that only citizens can guarantee a new impetus for Europe. EU leaders should recognise that NGOs, voluntary organisations, trade unions and churches are strategic partners in debating, building, and communicating Europe, said the organization.

Joseph Weidenholzer, Solidar Vice President said: "The French and Dutch Referenda are a wake up call to EU leaders. The Convention should have been followed by a long period of public debate in all our countries. Sending politicians to Brussels to chart our future without prior public debate and without adequately communicating the aims and objectives is no longer an acceptable way of doing business. EU leaders must understand that civil society across the member states must be involved if we are to build a real European citizenship. We urge Ms Wallström and the Commission to be bold in their vision and ambitions."

The organization underlined the importance to structure European policies in such a way that they meet citizens' fears and expectations. Without a partnership between civil society and the EU institutions, politicians will simply not be able to take the idea of Europe forward, Solidar ended.

Source: Solidar press release 2 June 2005.

For further information: Katrin Hugendubel, Social Policy Coordinator, email: katrin@solidar.org
<http://www.solidar.org/>.

EPHA Conference on health and well-being of children and young people

A major international conference on the health and well-being of children and young people in Europe will be held in Brussels **9-10 November 2005**. The event will bring together 150 local and regional authorities, practitioners, NGOs and policy-makers from across Europe and will feed into key EU initiatives such as a Communication on implementation of children's rights, the YOUTH PACT, a Communication on the health of young people and other EU activities that impact on children. The aim of the conference is to explore if children and young people are adequately supported and protected within the EU framework and to share examples of good practice in working with and empowering young people. The expected outcome of the conference will be a call for the EU institutions to

consistently and coherently address the needs of children and young people throughout all legislation and policies. The conference is an officially associated event of the UK Presidency of the EU and is being organised by the European Public Health Alliance (EPHA), the European Children's Network (EURONET), the West Midlands, North-West regions of the UK and Hampshire, Surrey and West Sussex County Councils and Southampton City Council. The organisers are now launching a '**Call for workshop coordinators**', for organisations that would be interested in supporting specific workshops as part of the conference.

For further information: Sidsela Nyebak,

intern1@epha.org

MDAC and BHC Protest about denial of the right to vote of psychiatric patients

On 24 June 2005, the Bulgarian Helsinki Committee (BHC) and the Mental Disability Advocacy Center (MDAC) (both non-governmental organizations) sent a letter to the Bulgarian authorities requesting an investigation into the unlawful denial of the Constitutional right to vote of psychiatric patients in a hospital in Bulgaria.

On 3 June 2005 the director of the Radnevo state psychiatric hospital ordered the psychiatrists working at the hospital to assess the capacity of inpatients to vote. The patients assessed include both so-called "voluntary" patients as well as those involuntarily detained under the Health Act of 2004. None of these patients are deprived of their legal capacity. The Bulgarian Helsinki Committee and the Mental Disability Advocacy Center are of the view that the director of the hospital has violated rights guaranteed by the Bulgarian Constitution and by binding international law in denying these patients the right to vote.

The BHC and MDAC sent the letter to the District Prosecutor's Office and the Police in Radnevo, the District Election Commission in Stara Zagora and the Central Election Commission, expressing concerns that patients of the state psychiatric hospital in Radnevo will be deprived of their Constitutional right to vote in Saturday's general elections. Such a denial constitutes a crime of obstruction of the exercise of election rights under section 167 of the Bulgarian Penal Code. The letter was copied to election observers from the Organization of Security and Cooperation in Europe, as well as to the European Union delegation in Sofia.

In their letter, the organizations request the authorities to take immediate measures to ensure that the patients in the Radnevo state psychiatric hospital are guaranteed the right to vote, and are not discriminated against on the basis of their diagnosis.

Radnevo state psychiatric hospital is the largest psychiatric hospital in Bulgaria and is situated in Radnevo, a town in the centre of Bulgaria.

Source: Joint Press Release - Mental Disability Advocacy Center and Bulgarian Helsinki Committee, 24 June 2005. For further information: Oliver Lewis (Legal Director) olewis@mdac.info.

IV. WORLD FEDERATION FOR MENTAL HEALTH

2005 Congress – REMINDER

The World Federation for Mental Health Biannual World Congress "Equity and Mental Health" will take place from 4 to 8 September in Cairo, Egypt. **Registration deadline moved up to July!**

Fees for registration:

- Members of WFMH - 400 USD
- Non-Members of WFMH - 500 USD
- Consumers/Family Members 300 USD
- Accompanying Persons 150 USD
- Students (Full Time) 150 USD

For further information: <http://www.wfmh.org/>

Discussion paper on HIV/AIDS and mental health

Made available on the WFMH website, the paper is produced by the Health, Nutrition, and Population Family Department (HNP) of the World Bank's Human Development Network. Authors are Florence Baingana, Rachel Thomas and Christine Comblain.

The paper argues that mental and neurological disorders have an intertwined relationship with HIV, yet are often overlooked when AIDS interventions are planned and implemented. Cognitive disorders, substance abuse, and disorders of personality can influence behavior in ways that lead to greater risk of HIV infection. Conversely, HIV/AIDS itself can lead to psychological conditions due to circumstances surrounding the disease, and psychiatric conditions resulting from HIV-related neurological changes. Such disorders can adversely influence the progression of the disease, lead to noncompliance with prescribed medical treatment, and increase the likelihood that people living with HIV/AIDS will act in high-risk ways.

The WFMH encourages everyone to review the paper and participate in discussions launched.

To download the paper : . <http://www.wfmh.org/>

World Mental Health Day – Information pack available

The theme of this year's World Mental Health Day is **mental and physical health across the life span**, emphasizing the importance of recognizing the inter-dependence of good mental and physical health at every stage of life. An information pack is available on the WFMH website (in English).

For further information : www.wfmh.org

V. WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION

WHO Resource Book on Mental Health, Human Rights and Legislation

The WHO Resource Book, which has received technical input from over two hundred international experts in the area, provides information on international human rights standards and norms related to people with mental disorders, practical guidance on what needs to go into a mental health law, and strategies for developing and adopting mental health law as well as ensuring its effective implementation. The book can be downloaded from :

http://www.who.int/mental_health/policy/resource_book_MHLeg.pdf

Please also see the WHO Press release under:

<http://www.who.int/mediacentre/news/notes/2005/np14/en/index.html>

And the fact sheet on mental health, human rights and legislation

under: http://www.who.int/mental_health/policy/fact_sheet_mnh_hr_leg_2105.pdf

VI. EUROPEAN UNION

Luxembourg Presidency Conference on taking Forward the EU Social Inclusion Process, 13-14 June 2005.

In the context of its Presidency of the Council of the European Union (EU), the Luxembourg Government has instigated a project in the field of social inclusion. The project consists of two parts: an independent report prepared by Tony Atkinson, Bea Cantillon, Eric Marlier and Brian Nolan; and a High-level presidency Conference organised with the support of the European Commission.

The background document of the conference was the independent report. At their 22-23 March 2005 meeting, EU heads of State and Government have stated that "it is essential to re-launch the Lisbon Strategy without delay and re-focus priorities on growth and employment". The aim of the independent report and Conference discussion was to consider the possibilities for advancing the Social Inclusion process. Bea Cantillon gave some examples of what can be learnt from EU common social indicators, investigating the impact of enlargement and the inter-relation between income and the other dimension of deprivation.

Tony Atkinson (UK) showed "what works" and how to make use of scientific research and policy analysis. Brian Nolan (Ireland) highlighted the areas that needed to be renewed in the light of experience and their application in a more diverse Union.

The last presentation came from Jos Berghman (Belgium) on how the Social Inclusion process could best be streamlined.

In the closing session, chaired by M. van den Broucke, director, DG Employment, Equal opportunities gave the way forward.

Fintan Farrell from the European Anti-Poverty Network was the only representative of European Social NGOs.

The conference was quite disappointing: it was mainly a gathering of economists, sociologists, universities and politicians. The NGOs were the major absent. People suffering from poverty, social exclusion, multiple discrimination were not included.

Thanks to Josée van Remoortel for this contribution.

European Knowledge Centre (EKC) for Youth Policy

The European Knowledge Centre (EKC) for Youth Policy is a 'state of the art' knowledge management system that will, for the first time, provide the youth field with a single entry point to retrieve accurate up-to date research-based information in a user-friendly manner on the realities of youth across Europe. It was developed within the framework of the Youth Research Partnership between the Council of Europe and European Commission.

The EKC is supported by a European wide network of European Knowledge Centre correspondents who were

nominated by the member state ministries. The correspondents enter answers to questionnaires directly into the EKC on the topics of Youth Policy, Participation, Information, Voluntary Activities and a Better Understanding of Youth.

The first launch of the European Knowledge Centre pilot project was during the Luxembourg Presidency Conference 16-18 June on the topic of a Better Understanding of Youth.

The second launch will be at the Council of Europe's Youth Ministers conference in Budapest in September 2005.

For further information: www.youthknowledge.net

VII. EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

Public hearing on the current situation in combating violence against women

Violence against women needs to be brought out in the daylight. This was among the key points made at a public hearing held by Parliament's Committee on Women's Rights and Gender Equality on 21 June 2005.

Maria Carlshamre (ALDE, SE), who is to produce a report on this subject in the autumn, opened the debate by stressing three main points. Firstly, violence against women is not merely a family affair, nor is it just a social problem: it is an issue that touches on fundamental rights. Secondly, the real scale of the problem is still not known as there is a shortage of statistics and research. Thirdly, a change in behaviour is needed to tackle the problem. She added that the hearing was also dedicated to the memory of Ana Orantes, a Spanish woman who denounced domestic violence and was then murdered by her ex-husband.

Although global statistics are lacking, the problem clearly affects more than a minority. In Sweden around 16 women are murdered every year by their husbands. There were 72 such victims in Spain in 2004. In Finland a Justice Ministry survey showed that 40% of Finnish women aged between 18 and 74 in 1987 had suffered or been threatened with violence. A German government study of 1999 showed that 37% of women aged 16 to 85 had suffered physical violence. The aggressor is often the partner or a member of the family. The German study showed, for example, that the home is the least safe place for women and that the social milieu has no bearing on the matter.

Lissy Gröner (PES, DE) argued that political will was the key to dealing with this issue and she called for "zero tolerance towards violence against women". Several MEPs demanded that the Daphne programme (for combating violence against children, adolescents and women) should preserve its special character.

Eva-Britt Svensson (GUE/NGL, SE) pointed out that 90% of such offences were committed by men. Attitudes must be changed. Violence was also a discrimination issue, linked to male domination, she stressed.

Roxana Radulescu attended this public hearing on behalf of MHE.

Vote on Progress Programme

The European Parliament's Employment & Social Affairs Committee voted on the draft report of Rapporteur Karin Jöns on the Commission's proposal for the

PROGRESS programme. The vote was fairly positive from the point of view of NGOs. All the amendments of Karin Jöns were adopted, as well as some others. These include a strengthened role for NGOs, re-introduction of trans-national exchange programmes, an increase in funding for the gender equality strand from 8% to 12% and for the social inclusion/social protection strand from 28% to 30%, and increase in the usual level of co-financing for NGOs to 90%, rather than 80% as in the Commission proposal.

However, there are concerns that the consensus reached in the Employment and Social Affairs Committee will not be maintained within the plenary vote, which will take place in July, as the EPP Group voted against some of the key amendments, and their Group could prove key to the final outcome.

(Social Platform mailing 231)

VIII. EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Proposal for guidelines on employment policies

The European Commission has presented its proposal for a Council Decision on guidelines for the employment policies of the member States (Employment Guidelines) as a first step to implement the renewed Lisbon strategy. This year the Employment guidelines are published together with the recommendation on the broad guidelines for economic policies. Putting together both documents as the **Integrated Guidelines for Growth and Jobs** is supposed to give more coherence to the whole set of Guidelines.

By adopting a consultation report drafted by Ana Mato Adrover (EPP-ED, Spain), the Parliament Committee is calling for greater focus on the issues including the reconciliation of family and working life, the circumstances of people with disabilities, the challenges posed by emigration and the need to reduce accidents on the workplace.

One of the issue stressed by the reports is the need for measures to assist the integration of people whose participation in the labour market is low, whilst ensuring that they get more than precarious work. These include women, the elderly, young people, persons with disabilities, immigrants and minorities.

(Source: Social Platform mailing 225)

Compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights in the Commission legislative proposals

The European Commission adopted on 27 April a new mechanism to ensure that all Commission legislative proposals are checked for compatibility with the Charter of Fundamental Rights. This involves a systematic screening of legislation from the earliest preparatory work to inter-service consultation. Another key instrument consists of: impact assessments on the effect of legislation on individual rights.

This mechanism is the first initiative of the new Commissioners Group on Fundamental Rights, anti-discrimination and equal opportunities, which was established under the Barosso Commission.

For further information: (COM (2005) 172 on "Compliance with the Charter of Fundamental Rights in the Commission legislative proposals)

http://www.socialplatform.org/module/FileLib/DGsj-auteur-PO-COM_2005_172-Charte_EN_ACTE1.doc

26 June International Day on the Fight Against Drugs – European approach

26th of June was the International Day on the Fight Against Drugs - established by the United Nations in 1987. EU has up to 2 million problem drug users and an annual death rate due to drug abuse of over 8000. In order to tackle this serious and complex issue, which has a significant impact on our societies, the EU has in recent years developed a **European approach**.

This approach is comprehensive and multidisciplinary, focusing simultaneously on demand reduction, supply reduction, the fight against trafficking, and international action. It combines action at a number of levels:

within the framework of European Community competence (public health, precursor control, money laundering, development aid for third countries)

- close cooperation between Member States (foreign policy, justice and home affairs)
- within the framework of partnerships with a number of international organisations.

The European model is reflected in the EU Drug Strategy which covers a period of eight years (2005-2012). This Strategy has been translated into more than 80 actions in the EU Drugs Action Plan.

For further information on EU Drug Strategy:

<http://register.consilium.eu.int/pdf/en/04/st15/st15074.en04.pdf>

IX. COUNCIL OF EUROPE

Book: Council of Europe Law - Towards a pan-European legal area

The first section of the book deals with the "constitutional" law of the Council of Europe, or its internal statutes in the broad sense. It covers the 1949 Statute, which, along with related texts, lays down the Council's aims and determines its membership and operating methods. The second section concerns the role played by the Council of Europe – which has always been very active in standard-setting – in the harmonisation of European states' domestic law. The third section situates Council of Europe law in the European context. For instance, it studies the extent to which Council of Europe conventions have been incorporated in domestic law and how Council of Europe law and European Union law co-exist.

The authors, Florence Benoît-Rohmer – professor of public law at Robert Schuman University (Strasbourg) – and Heinrich Klebes – doctor of law and honorary Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe – present an overview of the body of law developed by the Council of Europe.

For further information:

http://book.coe.int/EN/ficheouvrage.php?PAGEID=36&lang=EN&produit_aliasid=1822

X. VARIOUS NEWS

UK Mental Health Media Awards 2005

The Mental Health Media Awards, now in their 12th year, recognise and celebrate the best portrayals of mental distress and reporting of mental health issues in the broadcast media. They are looking for programmes that have challenged stereotypes, provided information and/or given a voice to people with direct experience of mental distress. From dramas to documentaries, soaps to news items, young people's television to raising awareness campaigns or local radio to digital TV – as long as the programme has been produced and transmitted on television or radio in the UK between 15 June 2004 and 14 June 2005, it is eligible for the Mental Health Media Awards 2005. Eligible categories are: Young People's Television; Television and Radio News; Television Documentary; Factual Radio; Single Drama and Drama Serial; Radio Drama; Soaps and Drama Series; Raising Public Awareness; Survivor. The Mental Health Media Awards 2005 will take place on 11 October 2005.

For further information : www.mhmawards.org

XI. FORTHCOMING EVENTS

7-9 July 2005

8th European Conference on Drugs and Infections in Prisons : « Unlocking Potential – Making prisons Safe for Everyone » (Budapest, Hungary)

Info : <http://endipp.net/index.php?pid=46>

11-13 July 2005

The International Mental Health Promotion Summer Institute - (Toronto Canada)

The Summer Institute is addressed to policy makers and professionals in health care, education and social services, as well as employers with major health promotion initiatives..

Info: katherine_lo@camh.net,

http://www.camh.net/health_promotion/ISI2005.html

4-8 September 2005

The 28th Congress of the World Federation for Mental Health – "Equity and mental health" (Cairo, Egypt)

Info: www.wfmh2005.com

9-10 September 2005

The 2nd Conference of Mental Health of Child and Adolescent (Bucharest, Romania)

Info: [Iuliana Dobrescu iulianadobrescu@hotmail.com](mailto:Iuliana.Dobrescu@hotmail.com),
[Laura Mateescu laura_mateescu@yahoo.com](mailto:Laura.Mateescu@yahoo.com).

10 September

The World Suicide Prevention Day will be held on September 10, 2005. Despite the complexity and severity of the problem suicide prevention cannot be seen as the responsibility of experts alone: rather, preventing suicide is everyone's business. This year the International Association for Suicide Prevention (IASP), in collaboration with the World Health Organisation (WHO) invites the public, communities, societies, individuals, professionals and volunteers to conduct activities on this day to promote and

demonstrate our joint responsibility to save lives that would otherwise be lost to suicide.

13-16 September 2005

XXII World Congress of the International Association for Suicide Prevention - "Scaling the Summit. Preventing Suicide Behaviour in Diverse Cultures Preventing Suicide Behaviour in Diverse Cultures " (Durban, South Africa)

Info: <http://www.interaction.nu.ac.za/IASP2005/>.

20-22 September 2005

34th International Hospitals Federation (IHF) Congress: "Hospitals and their challenges: Risk, quality, skills and research" (Nice, France)

Info: www.fih2005.com.

22-23 September 2005

European Conference on Child and Adolescents Mental Health in Educational Settings (Paris, France)

Info: Tavistock Centre, 120 Belsize Lane, London NW3 5BA, UK. Tel. +44 207447 3829, Fax +44 20 7447 3837, e-mail events@tavi-port.org. www.tavi-port.org

23-25 September 2005

From Children to Parents: The impact of parental mental illness on their children" (Athens, Greece)

REMINDER: Abstract submission deadline **15 June 2005**.

Info: <http://www.parentsonchildren.gr>

28-31 August 2005

The International "Social Work and Society" Academy" Conference (Gdansk, Poland)

The international 'Social Work and Society' Academy (TISSA) is an independent cross-national cooperation between universities, institutes and organizations. Its aim is to enhance and promote the international scientific and professional discourse about social work.

The topic for the 2005 TISSA plenum, " Local Social Policy and Social Work-Perspectives, Activities, and Partners in Civil Society", highlights a central issue in contemporary discourses of social work and social policy.

Professionals, academics and PhD and high grade final year students from all over the world are invited to join the TISSA Plenum in Gdansk/

Info : www.tissa.net

28-30 September 2005

11th conference of the International Network for Psychiatric Nursing Research "Continuing our journey ... the next generation..." (Oxford, United Kingdom)

Info: Annelie Guard, NPNR and Mental Health Programme Administrator, RCN Institute, Radcliffe Infirmary, Woodstock Road Oxford OX2 6HE, annelie.guard@rcn.org.uk, Tel +44 (0)1865 224640, Fax +44 (0)1865 246787.

<http://www.man.ac.uk/rcn/diary/nprn28sep05.pdf>.

29 September –2 October 2005

14th annual Volunteer Europe Conference on Volunteer Action (Berlin, Germany)

Info: <http://www.volonteurpe.org.uk>.

3-4 October 2005

Promoting Resilience in Young Children Looked After by Local Authorities

Info: <http://www.apsa-web.info>

6-8 October 2005

International Congress-Intelligence in Child- Clinical and theoretical aspects, assessment issues (Paris France)

Info: Jeannine Accoce, FFPP, Tél +33 1 43 47 20 75, Fax +33 8 71 74 84 01, email siege@ffpp.net

<http://www.intelligence-enfant-2005.org/>

6-8 October 2005

5th European Congress Mental Health in Mental Retardation (Barcelona, Spain)

Info: <http://www.mhmrbarcelona.com/ing/index.htm>

20-21 October 2005

4th European Congress on Violence in Clinical Psychiatry (Vienna, Austria)

Info:

<http://www.oudconsultancy.nl/violence/index.html>

26-30 October 2005

The 3rd Congress of the European Society of Mental Health and Deafness (Worcester), South Africa.

Info: http://www.deafnet.co.za/misc/30_1

27-28 October 2005

FEANTSA's conference on Social Emergency and Crisis intervention in EU cities (Paris, France)

Info:

<http://www.feantsa.org/code/en/theme.asp?ID=31>

19-22 November 2005

Congress of the European Academy of Childhood Disability, Monaco

Info: www.eacd2005.org.

XII. PUBLICATIONS/WEBSITES

Designing the Just Learning Society

The National Institute of Adult Continuing Education (www.niace.org.uk) has published "Designing the Just Learning Society", which presents a historically attuned and critical theoretical inquiry into the discourse of the learning society, providing a coherent framework for understanding how adults learn in the key domains of human interaction: state, civil society and workplace. The author Michael Welton explores the way power and money distort learning in civil society, the workplace and in cultural life. Learning is not an essentially good thing; 'power and money distort learning in civil society'; 'the emergence of a knowledge or learning society cannot be accepted as either new or good'; and 'learning is harnessed in the modern world to the money-code and channels human energies and capacities in destructive directions', are all ideas discussed in a new book.

Info: www.niace.org.uk

Access to European Union: Access to Social Europe

Two new editions of EU reference works have been recently published by the European Studies Centre:

Access to European Union - 14th edition, and *Access to Social Europe* - 4th edition. Written by a former European Commission adviser and doctor in international economic relations, the publications are excellent source books for professional associations and NGOs, as they provide a quick but comprehensive overview of EU policy and legislation in the commercial, industrial and social sectors.

Further information: christiane.hunt@skynet.be

FNAP Psy website on accepting differences

A new website was launched by the National Federation of Association of Psychiatric Patients (FNAP Psy) to support the destigmatisation of people with psychic disability:

www.accepterlesdifferences.com

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Should you have any questions or should you wish to make a contribution, please do not hesitate to send us an e-mail at info@mhe-sme.org.

Mental Health Europe is committed to:

- the promotion of mental health and prevention of mental distress
- protecting the rights of people with mental health problems
- removing stigma and discrimination
- ensuring a fair share of resources for mental health

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