



INVITATION

EUROVOLNET SEMINAR

VOLUNTEERING - EDUCATION FOR LIFE

SEPTEMBER 23 - 25, 2011 RIGA - LATVIA



Volunteering is strongly linked both to non-formal and informal learning. It contributes to personal development, learning skills and competences thus enhancing employability. Non-formal education and lifelong learning are important elements of the EU2020 strategy towards smart, sustainable and inclusive growth. The sport sector, primarily based on volunteer engagement and contribution, is the most widespread civil society movement. Learning processes take place both on and off the pitch and sport halls. Millions of Europeans join non-formal training and education in sport organizations, be it as trainers or leaders. This is non-formal learning on a massive scale.

We invite EuroVolNet project partners to participate in and to develop »Education for life« strategy during EuroVolNet Seminar which will be held in Riga in Latvia from 23rd to 25th of September, organized by one of EuroVolNet partners, the Latvian Sport for All Association.

The Seminar will be an opportunity to discuss challenges in education for volunteers and to discuss recommendations for the European Commission and other relevant policy makers within 4 main topic:

- Recognition of volunteers' skills and competences within the context of non-formal and informal education and training systems
- Recognition of non-formal and informal education and training systems
- Promotion of »education culture« within sport and promotion of sport organizations as »learning communities«
- European and national education policies/ national lifelong learning strategies

THE AIM OF THE SEMINAR

EuroVolNet Seminar in Riga will give time and space for further discussion between EuroVolNet Partners and other relevant institutions and organizations to improve coordination in volunteering cross Europe.



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EUROVOLNET IS A TRANSNATIONAL PROJECT THAT FOSTERS THE EXCHANGE OF BEST PRACTICES REGARDING LEGAL, ORGANIZATIONAL AND FUNDING RELATED ASPECTS OF VOLUNTARY ACTIVITY IN SPORT. 16 PROJECT PARTNERS FORM A NETWORK OF ACTORS INVOLVED IN THE MANAGEMENT AND RUNNING OF SPORT ASSOCIATIONS.



THE EUROVOLNET PROJECT AND THE EUROVOLNET SEMINARS ARE RECEIVING SUPPORT FROM THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION, EDUCATION AND CULTURE DG, UNDER THE '2010 PREPARATORY ACTION IN THE FIELD OF SPORT'.



MORE ABOUT THE RIGA

Riga, the capital of Latvia, is located on the shore of the Baltic Sea on both banks of the Daugava river. During the Middle Ages the River Daugava was one of the largest trade routes in Eastern Europe. Historical sources have mentioned it since the 5th century as the route connecting the Vikings with the Greeks, the upper reaches link the Baltic with the Black Sea.

The new town of Riga grew in a limited area, bordered by the Daugava on one side and the winding Riga river on the other. In 1201 the foundation of fortification walls were laid at the end of the peninsula, leaving a narrow embarkment for the unloading the ships. Within decades Riga grew to be one of the most important ports in Europe.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND?

The Seminar is expected to attract project managers and political leaders from EuroVolNet Project Partners Associations as well as organisations and individuals with interest and experience involunteering.

CONTACT DETAILS

for EuroVolNet project and Seminar

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The Seminar will be held in Riga in Hotel **RADISSON BLU DAUGAVA**.

The Radisson Blu Daugava Hotel is poised on the banks of the Daugava River and situated near the Old City, offering a spectacular view of the surrounding city. Close to the business, shopping, government, and entertainment districts and a 15-minute ride from Riga International Airport, this hotel in Riga provides the perfect destination for the intrepid traveller.

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ISCA IS GRATEFUL TO THE LATVIAN SPORT FOR ALL ASSOCIATION FOR ORGANIZING THE EVENT



EUROVOLNET SEMINAR PROGRAM

VOLUNTEERING, EDUCATION FOR LIFE!

FRIDAY, 23 SEPTEMBER 2011

Over the day arrivals to Riga airport and local transfer to Riga

16.00 – 17.00 Registration

17.00 – 19.00 **EUROVOLNET OPENING SESSION**

The Opening Session will be focused on the EuroVolNet overall topic: Recognition and Education of volunteers, which have been highlighted during the EuroVolNet kick-off meeting.

The Opening Session will “open” the main topics of the Seminar:

- European and national education policies/lifelong learning strategies
- Recognition of volunteers’ skills and competences within the context of non-formal and informal education and training systems
- Recognition of non-formal and informal education and training systems

20.00 Welcome Reception and dinner

SATURDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2011

EUROVOLNET WORKSHOP DAY

7.30 – 8.30 Good morning physical activity

9.30 – 11.00 Workshop 1

“European and national education policies/national lifelong - learning strategies “

- How can we making lifelong learning in volunteering a reality; how can we improving the quality and efficiency of education and training for volunteers, promoting equity, social cohesion and active citizenship, enhancing creativity and innovation, including entrepreneurship, at all levels of education and training?
- Is volunteering widely recognised in European and national education policies/national lifelong learning strategies?
- How important is the increasing professionalization of volunteering and the voluntary sector?

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee Break

11.30 – 13.00 Workshop 2

“Recognition of volunteers’ skills and competences within the context of non-formal and informal education and training systems”

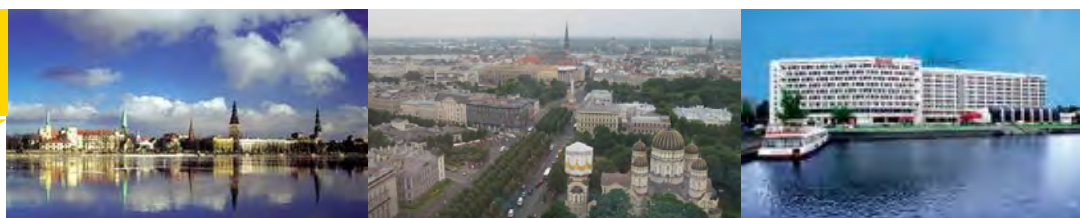
A discussion around the recognition of volunteers’ skills and competences within the context of national education and training systems for volunteers will be a starting point to provide an overview of the current situation with regard to the validation of non-formal and informal learning.

- What kind of measures to recognise the skills and competences of volunteers we know (portfolios, volunteer passports or record books for example)?
- What kind of activities are carried out as part of volunteering as validation through non formal and informal learning within the education and training system?
- What kind of skills and competences are recognized for volunteers and for managers of volunteers?

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch



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SATURDAY, 24 SEPTEMBER 2011

14.00 – 15.30 Workshop 3

“Education and training opportunities for volunteers”

Many sport organisations in Europe have established their own education system for volunteers. They are based on well structured curricula and lead often to certification. But the education systems in organised sport are mostly not accredited by governmental authorities and not to the public educational systems like schools, universities or vocational education and training institutions.

- What kind of variations in the type of education and training opportunities provided to volunteers we know?
- How can we by education, not only enhance the skills of volunteers, but also strength the organisations' management capacity as well as their relationship and communication with volunteers?
- What kind of Volunteer Management Training for individuals who manage volunteers or manage a volunteering programme we know?

17.00 – 19.30 Guided tour to Riga

20.00 Dinner in the city

SUNDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2011

9.00 – 11.30 Final workshop and discussion

“Main challenges for recognition and validation of learning outcomes in grassroots sport/volunteers education”

- What kind of model can ensure strategic and systematic approach to recognize the volunteers skills and competences?
- Do we need to ensure the validation of non-formal and informal learning (VNFI) provides important opportunities to recognise the skills and competences of volunteer on the European level?
- What are our main partners in developing the “lifelong- learning networks”?

11.30 – 12.00 Looking into the future of non-formal and informal education

14.00 Departure from Riga



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