



CHARTER OF EUROPEAN RURAL COMMUNITIES

**(NEWS)LETTER FOR OUR MEMBERS
NUMBER 11
DATE NOVEMBER 2008**

A. IN THIS NEWSLETTER:

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1. WORD OF THE PRESIDENT

Dear European friends,

This newsletter is entirely about the multi annual project. Now that the European Committee has approved our application, we have to make plans to do all the activities. Last week our presidium had a meeting in Brussels and worked out the details to carry out the multi annual project. You can read all about that in this newsletter.

Because the Charter is not an organisation with a lot of money on the bank, it cannot ask the EU for grants, because the EU requires a guarantee. That's why the municipality of Haaren applied for the multi annual project. So the responsibility for the money is in Haaren. In this newsletter, you will find out how we will work due to this multi annual project. This include also how you will receive your "organisation-money" for the activity you are going to organise. About the travel costs you will receive if you participate in a meeting, we will inform you on the short term, because we are working at a system. You can read more about that in this newsletter

I again want to stress that it is no longer optional to organise the meetings or to participate in the different meetings. Everyone has obligations now that the multi annual project, for which every member has signed in Lefkara, is approved.

We hope to inform you completely. However, if you have questions or remarks, please do not hesitate to contact us, because naturally it's of great importance that **every** Charter member understands what's expected from him and what he can expect from us.

Let us all together enjoy this opportunity to get to know each other and each other's way of life even better and to make our Charter even more an example of truly European citizenship.

Frans Ronnes,
president.

2. MULTI ANNUAL PROJECT

A. STARTING-POINTS FOR ALL MEETINGS OF THE PROJECT

- Guests will stay in host families as usual.
- Exceptions are the youth meetings. It is recommended to let the young ones sleep together in one building both in de workshop meetings as in the big annual meetings.
- Use experts from practice, not expensive scientists.
- The contribution to the organisation and travel costs is just a contribution and will surely not cover all the organisation and travel costs.
- Organisation costs: starting point at the conferences and workshops is the local daily rate the EU handles for conferences for the different countries, to pay for the international guests.
- Travel costs: starting point at conferences and workshops is the amount that remains after the organisation costs are calculated. In order to bring more balance in the travel costs people have to make in proportion to their costs of living, the presidium has decided to make a system that corresponds with this idea. Frans Ronnes and Helma van Drunen are still working on that system. You will receive more information as soon as possible. Before we send it to you, we want to be sure that Brussels will except this system.
- At the big citizens meetings, the grant giver him selves makes a division between organisation and travel costs. However, the same new system for travel costs will be handled.
- Financially/administratively: organisation costs are paid afterwards based on declarations and a report of the meeting. The daily board member who is present at the meeting will sign the declarations. Travel costs will be paid based on a presence list. The municipality of Haaren will take care of the payments. Helma van Drunen will make a framework for the report of each meeting.
- The reports of all the meetings will be used to make a total overview of the two years of the multi annual project. That overview is meant for the department in Brussels, but also for all the members.

B. CONFERENCES:

1. *CONFERENCES ON LOCAL DEMOCRACY.*

- During the two years period of the multi annual project, there are 4 conferences with the theme "participation in local democracy":

1. February 6th – 8th 2009: organised by Zagare (Joniskis) Lithuania.

Local participants: 15

International participants: 32, 5 from Kandava Latvia, 5 from Polva Estonia, 5 from Kannus Finland, 5 from Ockelbo Sweden, 5 from

Hepstedt Germany, 5 from Poland and vice-president and secretary (Karl Grammanitsch and Sandra Hengl from Lasee – Austria)
Grants for organisation: € 2.424,96

2. September 25th – 27th 2009: organised by Kolindros Greece.

Local participants: 15

International participants: 32, 5 from Esch (Haaren) the Netherlands, 5 from Bievre Belgium, 5 from Holmegaard (Naestved) Denmark, 5 from Bulgaria, 5 from Lefkara Cyprus, 5 from Ibanesti Romania and vice-president and secretary (Karl Grammanitsch and Sandra Hengl from Lasee Austria)

Grants for organisation: € 3.743,04

3. February 5th - 7th 2010: organised by Bucine Italy.

Local participants: 15

International participants: 32, 5 from Cisse France, 5 from Bienvenida Spain, 5 from Samuel Portugal, 5 from Troisvierges Luxemburg, 5 from Cashel Ireland, 5 from Nadur Malta and president and secretary (Frans Ronnes and Helma van Drunen from Esch (Haaren) the Netherlands)

Grants for organisation: € 4.381,44

4. September 24th – 26th 2010: organised by Moravce Slovenia.

Local participants: 15

International participants: 27, 5 from Nagycenk Hungary, 5 from Lasee Austria, 5 from Stary Poddvorov Czech Republik, 5 from Medzev Slovakia, 5 from Desborough Great Britain, president and secretary (Frans Ronnes and Helma van Drunen from Esch (Haaren) the Netherlands.

Grants for organisation: € 3.109,59

- Participants should be a mix of politicians and citizens.
- The result of each conference should be four ideas to involve (groups of) citizens in local democracy. Every participating charter member has to work out one idea within the two years of the multi annual project. Condition is that the ideas are easily achievable and do not cost a lot of money.
- There has to be made a report of every meeting.

2. CONFERENCE ON ELDERLY PEOPLE.

November 12th – 14th 2010 organised by Lasee Austria

- This conference, with participation of all the Charter members, is meant to be the beginning of the next multi annual project and will assume the earlier plans of the Charter for a project concerning this subject.

In this conference, preparations will be made for small conferences about how elderly people live in the different villages of the Charter.

- There has to be made a report of the meeting.
- Local participants: 6 (including vice president and secretary)

- International participants: 54 (2 from every Charter member, including president and secretary).
- Grants for organisation: € 4.751,88

C. BIG ANNUAL MEETINGS

During the multi annual project there will be organised 2 big annual meetings:

1. June 11th – 15th 2009, organised by Stary Poddvorov Czech Republic

Participation by all Charter members with a delegation of 10 persons, including 4 young ones.

Theme: liveability in European Rural Communities

ATTENTION: departure day is on Monday.

Grants for organisation: € 17.433,-

2. June 9th – 13th 2010, organised by Strzyzow Poland

Participation by all Charter members with a delegation of 10 persons, including 4 young ones.

Theme: liveability in European Rural Communities

Grants for organisation: € 14.417,-

There has to be made a report of each meeting.

D. WORKSHOPS FOR THE YOUTH

During the multi annual project there will be organised 2 youth meetings with the theme: involvement of the youth at the Charter of European Rural Communities.

1. March 13th – 15th 2009, organised by Holmegaard (Naestved) Denmark

Local participants: 5

International participants: 12, 2 from Lasse Austria, 2 from Kandava Latvia, 2 from Esch (Haaren) the Netherlands, 2 from Bucine Italy, 2 from Lefkara Cyprus and president and secretary (Frans Ronnes and Helma van Drunen from Esch (Haaren) the Netherlands.

Grants for organisation: € 2.360,82

2. October 29th – 31st 2010, organised by Kandava Latvia

Local Participants: 5

International participants: 16, 2 from Lasse Austria, 2 from Holmegaard (Naestved) Denmark, 2 from Esch (Haaren) the Netherlands, 2 from Bucine Italy, 2 from Lefkara Cyprus, 2 from Nagycenk Hungary, 2 from Troisvierges Luxemburg, Vice-president and secretary (Karl Grammanitsch and Sandra Hengl from Lasse Austria).

Grants for organisation: € 1152,96

- It's recommended to let the young ones stay together in one building

- If the organising member agrees, it is possible that more young ones participate in the meetings than the ones registered in the multi annual project. However, the Charter is unable to pay the extra travel costs.
- In the meetings, tools have to be developed to involve more youth in the Charter, starting on the local level.
- The meetings should also give an advice to the Charter presidium about how continuity of that involvement can be assured and how the Charter can incorporate that continuity in the own organisation.
- One of the communication tools of the multi annual project is the making of a DVD. The young participants of the meetings get the task to develop ideas for such a DVD in the first youth meeting en to realise such a DVD in the second youth meeting.

E. FRIENDS OF EUROPE WORKSHOP:

During the multi annual project there will be organised one workshop about the organisation of the Friends of Europe Committees.

November 13th – 15th 2009: organised by Hepstedt Germany

Local participants: 5

International participants: 28, 4 from Esch (Haaren) the Netherlands, 4 from Cisse France, 4 from Holmegaard (Naestved) Denmark, 4 from Bucine Italy, 3 from Desborough Great Britain, 4 from Bievre (Belgium) 3 from Samuel (Portugal) and president and secretary (Frans Ronnes and Helma van Drunen from Esch (Haaren) the Netherlands.

Grants for organisation: € 4.250,-

- If the organising member agrees, it is possible that more people participate in the meetings than the ones registered in the multi annual project. But the Charter is unable to pay the extra travel costs.
- The result of the workshop should be how to establish a Friends of Europe organisation, a guide.
- There has to be made a report of the meeting.

If you have questions or remarks about the appointments in this newsletter concerning the multi annual project, please contact Helma van Drunen

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Helma, November 21st 2008