



PROGRAM

Saturday 10.5.2014

9.00 Welcome address

Olga Drossou, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung Greece
Yiannis Boutaris, Mayor of the City of Thessaloniki

09.30 **Exploring Generation Y: materialist, conformist, apolitical... or just different?**

Generation Y, also called “the millennials” as it reached its puberty along with the shift of millennia, is now gradually receiving the baton from the previous generation. Facing the consequences of the economic crisis in Europe and well aware of the global environmental risks, Gen Y enters the public sphere and reclaims its future. The panel will explore and unfold insights of Gen Y, launching an intergenerational dialogue with regard to their personal, professional and social life. What are the differences in the way millennials regard life, their personal values and morals? How do they regard work, work-life balance and career? What do they expect from employers and what do the employers expect from them? What are their concerns and what are they fighting for or against? Or, are they not fighting at all?

with:

Paraskevi Naskou-Perraki, Professor University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki

Kiriaki Riga, Senior Human Resources Consultant, Randstad Hellas

Vincent-Immanuel Herr, Researcher & Author, Berlin

EYD Participant

Moderation: **Christina Pertsinidi**, Peirama, Thessaloniki & **Pim Griens**, Avans University of social work

10.45 **Young people’s political participation in transformation**

According to Eurobarometer survey political participation of young people is in rapid transformation. Young people tend not to express any more their political opinion in political arenas, e.g through traditional ways of political participation like “face to face” conversation. Instead, they seem to prefer new and trendy means of political communication such as

Internet, social media or signing online petitions. Is this a more effective way of participation or a less responsible one? How do we prevent young people's contribution from being lost in an information overflow? And what are the main arenas where young people want to have their say: youth quotas in political parties? Youth parliaments and youth commissions? Youth check by the implementation of political measure, e.g. increasing sovereign debt, that might affect the rights of future generations?

with:

Nikos Chrysogelos, MEP, The Greens / European Free Alliance

Carsten Berg, European Citizens Initiative, Germany

Krassina Demireva, Federation of Young Greens (FYEG), Sofia

Ivana Jordanovska, Young European Federalists (JEF), Skopja

Moderation: **Christina Kontaxi**, NGO Network Thessaloniki &

Bastian Hermisson, Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung European Union, Brussels

12.00 Break

12.30 **No more NEETs! Policies for enhancing youth social & labor inclusion**

Generation Y and the forthcoming young generations are facing a radical change of social and labor inclusion. In the crisis torn European countries a NEETs-generation is growing up: Not engaged in any form of Employment, Education or Training. In the reality of many young people all through Europe there is a paradox: they spend many years in education and accept a lot of unpaid internships while the employers, representing the older generation, confront them with demands on job experience that they actually didn't have the chance to acquire. Since the unemployment rates in Europe are still raising, isn't it high time to run new policies urgently needed for better inclusion of the well-educated brains into the labor market? What policies are needed to tackle unemployment? And what about young people with vocational training and education? Are they better off than their academic peers? Is the young generation facing a mismatch of the educational trend towards more and more academics and labor market? Should the evaluative distinction between (academic) profession and occupation be reversed or abolished?

with:

Christian Lettmayr, dep. Director European Centre for the Development of Vocational Training (CEDEFOP), Thessaloniki

Reinhard Bütikofer, MEP, Spokesman European Green Party

Vasco Batista, EYD participant, Portugal

NN EYD participant

Moderation: **Peri Kourakli**, Thessaloniki 2014 & **Tassos Krommidas**, Green Institute, Athens

14.00 End

Working language is English, no interpretation will be provided.

No registration is needed.

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