

## TUSEV E-Newsletter, No. 10, April-June 2011

### Civil Society Law Reform

#### Publication: Freedom of Assembly

Peaceful assemblies can serve many purposes, including the expression of views and the defense of common interests. The freedom of peaceful assembly can be an important strand in the maintenance and development of culture, and in the preservation of minority identities. It is also recognized as one of the foundations of a functioning democracy, and its protection is crucial for creating a tolerant society in which groups with different beliefs, practices, or policies can exist peacefully together. You can find International Center For Not-for-Profit Law's (ICNL) latest comparative publication on Freedom of Assembly from [here](#).

#### TUSEV Seminar on Foundation Legislation

TUSEV organized a legislation seminar for foundation professionals on June 23, 2011. During the seminar the legal framework of the establishment, governance, management bodies, international activities, audit and tax exemptions of foundations were presented and common problems were identified. The seminar gave an opportunity to participants to find answers to their questions and to exchange ideas with each other.

### News from the Third Sector

#### CIVICUS CSI Country Report: "Civil Society in Turkey: At a Turning Point" is Launched

The results of Turkey's most comprehensive and first internationally comparative research project on civil society, CIVICUS Civil Society Index Project, were published in the report titled "Civil Society in Turkey: At a Turning Point". CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation was responsible for the projects coordination across 53 countries while TUSEV undertook its implementation in Turkey. The report culminates the findings of various participatory research methods and presents a photograph of the current state of civil society in the country. It offers an in depth look at civil society through five core dimensions: civic engagement, level of organization, practice of values, perceived impact and external environment. Please visit [www.step.org.tr](http://www.step.org.tr) for more information on the project and the report on Turkey.

#### Civil Society Index Reports were Released in 25 Countries

Implemented in more than 50 countries all around the world, Civil Society Index (CSI) Reports of 25 countries have been released by CIVICUS. Released reports include a participatory needs assessment and action planning tool for civil society by defining the current situation of civil society with reference to collected qualitative and quantitative data. The results of the second phase of the CSI implementation will be available through various reports (Analytical Country Report, Policy Action Brief, Case Studies). The data and results captured in these reports will be collected in the Civil Society Index Indicator Database soon. The CSI Turkey report titled "Civil Society in Turkey: At a Turning Point" is now available in [Turkish](#) and [English](#). Please visit [here](#) for more information on the country reports.

#### TUSEV Joined the Balkan Civil Society Development Network

TUSEV officially became a member of the Balkan Civil Society Development Network (BCSDN) during the General Assembly which was held in Belgrade on June 9-11, 2011. BCSDN aims to strengthen the relationship and initiate partnership opportunities between civil society organizations in the Eastern Europe and Balkan countries. Please visit BCSDN [www.balkancsd.net](http://www.balkancsd.net) for further information.

#### Call for Contributions: ISTR International Conference, 10-13 July 2012

Hosted in 2010 by TUSEV in Istanbul, International Conference of the International Society for Third Sector Research (ISTR) will take place in Siena, Italy at July 10-13, 2012. ISTR will accept paper, panel and poster proposals for the Democratization, Marketization and the Third Sector Conference until **October 24, 2011**. Conference will focus on the uprisings in the Middle East and the role of social networks in mobilizing these movements. Proposals related to theme areas such as philanthropy, voluntarism and volunteering, civil society, citizenship and democracy, policy, politics and relations, governance and leadership, management and organizational practice, social entrepreneurship, social enterprise, social economy, justice and

development, gender, research and teaching paradigms, methodologies and practice, evaluation, legitimacy, accountability and impact and emerging areas of theorizing and practice can be submitted. For more information on the conference please visit [www.istr.org](http://www.istr.org)

### **TUSEV Launched the Second Phase of the Social Entrepreneurship Project**

TUSEV launched the second phase of the "Social Entrepreneurship Project" with cooperation and support of the British Council. The second phase will mainly include awareness raising, information sharing, networking and infrastructure development activities. While a bi-weekly Turkish e-newsletter has been launched, TUSEV organizes also bimonthly meetings to facilitate communication and information exchange between interested stakeholders as well as promoting partnerships among them. A meeting on social innovation was held on April 22, 2011 with participation of Milena Stoycheva, the CEO of Junior Achievement, and Matteo Bonifacio the former Policy Adviser at the Bureau of European Policy. On June 22, the meeting series continued with a panel on internet entrepreneurship. Arzum Meleksoy, the founder of Alis Bagis ([www.alisbagis.com](http://www.alisbagis.com)), Ali Kobanbay and İlkyay Gültaş, co-founders of Ekle Destekle ([www.ekledestekle.com](http://www.ekledestekle.com)) presented their initiatives with reference to the relationship between internet entrepreneurship and social entrepreneurship. Please subscribe to [www.sosyalgirisim.org](http://www.sosyalgirisim.org) website if you would like to receive updates on social entrepreneurship in Turkish.

### **REMINDER: CIVICUS World Assembly, 10-12 September 2011, Montréal: Engage with civil society representatives from all over the world**

Organized each year by CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation, The World Assembly is a key global gathering for civil society and governments, donors and business, to engage constructively in finding common solutions to building a more just world. The 2011 World Assembly builds on the overarching theme of "Acting Together for a Just World" by focusing on Civil Society and Global Decision-Making: Doing it Better. To ensure a balance of width and depth under the annual focus theme, the 2011 World Assembly will be divided into four "thematic tracks" which are development effectiveness, climate justice, connecting people through technology, and civil society and democratic space. More information on the programme tracks is available at [www.civicusassembly.org](http://www.civicusassembly.org).

### **News from Our Members**

#### **Sabancı Foundation Elected as Member of the European Foundation Center Governing Council**

At the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual European Foundation Center Annual General Assembly and Conference in Lisbon on 28 May 2011, the Sabancı Foundation was elected as a member of the Governing Council of the European Foundation Center (EFC), which serves as the meeting point for the third sector with 236 members from 40 countries including leading European and Global foundations such as the Robert Bosch Foundation, Ford Foundation and the Rockefeller Brothers Fund. Manager of Programs, Filiz Bikmen, will represent the Sabancı Foundation on the Governing Council for a post of three years. Please [visit](#) here for more information.

#### **Koc Family Presented with BNP Paribas "Philanthropist Award"**

Koc Family was presented with the "Philanthropist Award" of major European bank BNP Paribas. BNP Paribas, listed among the six biggest banks in the world, presented this year's "Philanthropist Award" to Koc Family for its outstanding initiatives. Speaking at the award ceremony held in the Paris on June 21, Koc Holding's Honorary Chairman Rahmi Koc said he is happy to see that philanthropic activities are gaining importance in Turkey. Koc underlined that, Vehbi Koc Foundation's commitment will continue to extend its support for philanthropic activities in the light of its mission, its passionate but achievable vision, and notion of high professionalism. Please visit [www.vkv.org.tr](http://www.vkv.org.tr) for detailed information.

#### **ACEV Became the First Turkish Foundation to Maintain a Functional Relationship with UNESCO**

ACEV, one of the six winners of the 2010 International WISE Awards of the World Innovation Summit of Education, was selected as the first Turkish foundation to maintain a functional relationship with UNESCO. UNESCO's General Director Irina Bokova noted that the functional relationship will strengthen the information exchange between the organizations and ACEV will be represented at UNESCO meetings. Please visit [www.acev.org](http://www.acev.org) for more information.

#### **Winners of the Aydın Dogan International Cartoon Competition Announced**

28th Aydın Dogan International Cartoon Competition was held with the participation of 2729 cartoons from 79 countries. Following the evaluation process, English caricaturist Ross Thomson was awarded with the winner prize. Israeli caricaturist Ilya Katz and German caricaturist Werner Rollow were awarded with the second and third place awards. Caricaturists will receive their awards on a ceremony held in Istanbul on October 18, 2011. Please visit [here](#) for more information.

### Cherie Blair Visited Istanbul for Signing Ceremony of Vodafone Foundation

Founder of the Cherie Blair Foundation for Women and Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair's wife Cherie Blair, visited Istanbul on June 27,2011 as Vodafone Foundation's guest of honor. As a global opinion leader for human rights and women entrepreneurship, Cherie Blair participated in Vodafone Foundation's protocol signing ceremony for Turkey's participation in the mWomen programme that aims to empower women by ensuring their inclusion in economic activities through the use of mobile technology. please visit [www.turkiyevodafonevakfi.org.tr](http://www.turkiyevodafonevakfi.org.tr) for more information.

### TEGV's Fundraising Event will Provide Education Support for 50.000 Children

As part of its education support programme, TEGV held its fundraising event on June 22, 2011. The live TV show was broadcasted on Kanal D with the participation of TEGV volunteers and many Turkish celebrities. TEGV collected an overall donation of 75.000 SMS and around 3 million Turkish Liras which will provide education support for 50.000 children. Please visit [www.tegv.org](http://www.tegv.org) for more information.

### UMUT Foundation "Awareness of Citizenship and Prevention of Discrimination" Scientific Research and Analysis Contest

Umut Foundation is dedicated to help Turkish youth internalize the supremacy of law and contribute to its application as well as teaching the skills of peacemaking, peacekeeping and peacebuilding. As part of this objective, Umut Foundation holds the "Awareness of Citizenship and Prevention of Discrimination" scientific research and analysis contest to offer scientific solutions. The deadline for researcher applications and research submissions is **August 26, 2011** until 17.30. Applications should be submitted to Umut Foundation Secreteriat at Yıldız Posta Cad. 52, Esentepe- Istanbul address in return for a signature. Please visit [www.umutvakfi.org](http://www.umutvakfi.org) for more information and application.

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