

## TUSEV E-Newsletter, No. 6, February-May 2010

### Civil Society Law Reform

#### **NEW TUSEV PUBLICATION: Barriers to Freedom of Association of Associations in Turkey**

Freedom of association is one of the most important issues of civil society. Preparation of Methodology for the Monitoring of Freedom of Association in Turkey Project which is funded and supported by the European Union's European Instrument for Democracy and Human Rights (EIDHR), studies the limitations to freedom of association from deficiencies and implementation point of view. The project was implemented by the Third Sector Foundation of Turkey (TUSEV) in cooperation with the Civil Society Development Center Association (STGM).

In the scope of the Project, a comprehensive report entitled "Barriers to Freedom of Association of Associations in Turkey" has been drafted in order to identify the barriers to freedom of association. The report is made up of two parts: the first contains the study titled The Evaluation of the Associations Law through the Perspective of Freedom of Association. The second, titled Monitoring Assessment Report contains the findings of the pilot monitoring mechanism created and implemented after a series of national and regional workshops involving civil society representatives and experts in the field. The report also contains the results from the surveys that were distributed to various associations around the country. Additionally, the study goes on to give key recommendations that would improve the current situation and mend existing problems with the laws and legislation concerning civil society.

Please [click here](#) to download the executive summary.

#### **Seminar on Law on Associations, 4 March 2010, Istanbul**

On March 4th TUSEV held a seminar regarding the Associations Law to inform representatives of CSOs about the details of the law and also to underline the changes that were made to it. Over 25 attendees representing various CSOs listened to the thorough presentation of Mr. Tevfik Bařak Ersen, TUSEV program director, after an opening speech by the general secretary Mr. Namık Ceylanođlu. Mr. Ersen provided an in-depth explanation of the Law and highlighted issues that are frequently raised by associations. After the presentation CSO representatives had the opportunity to ask questions to both Mr. Ersen and Mr. Ceylanođlu. Overall, it was a very beneficial meeting in which many attendees took the opportunity to find answers to their questions and exchanged ideas with each other.

#### **Publication: The Compendium of International Legal Instruments and Other Intergovernmental Commitments Concerning Core Civil Society Rights**

For the first time ever, CIVICUS has brought together all the commitments made by national governments to protect the rights of citizens and organizations to exist and take an active part in shaping policies and practices of governments and institutions of their country. The Compendium of International Legal Instruments and Other Intergovernmental Commitments Concerning Core Civil Society Rights, is a dynamic tool to help protect the rights of civil society. Please go to <http://www.civicus.org/civicus-booksandpublications> to download a copy of the compendium. (Source: www.civicus.org)

### News from the Third Sector

#### **Invitation to Panel: Turkish Foundations: An Old Tradition in Service of New Horizons, 1 June 2010, 10.00-13.00, Brussels**

The Third Sector Foundation of Turkey (TUSEV) is delighted to invite you to a panel on "Turkish Foundations: An Old Tradition in Service of New Horizons" which will take place on June 1st, 2010 at 10 am within the context of European Foundation Centre's Foundation Week and bring together leaders of the European and Turkish third sectors, European policy makers and the general public. The foundation has been the major philanthropic vehicle in Turkey and North Cyprus for thousands of years. Its most significant characteristic has been its ability to adapt to major societal changes at this crossroad of civilizations. Today, Turkish foundations are once again emerging as agents of change in the context of the country's development, democratization and European Union accession agenda. The event aims to give a better understanding of foundations in Turkey and North Cyprus by providing them with a background and cases from the field; to hint to possible transformations the foundation sector is likely to go through in the

next decade; and to start a dialogue between Turkish foundations and the international philanthropic community. Please visit [www.tusev.org.tr](http://www.tusev.org.tr) for the program.

### **Visit Turkish Foundations Stand during the Foundation Week, 31 May-4 June 2010, Brussels**

European Foundation Centre is organizing this year the very first Foundation Week in Brussels. An interactive fair including vast array of stands, displays, exhibitions, film screenings will be held during the Foundation Week. Turkish Foundations will be displaying a rich selection of books, brochures, visuals and other materials in the Turkish Foundations Stand. The stand will showcase the richness and diversity of Turkish foundations today, while also providing a glimpse of their rich past. Visitors will also be able to network and share information with foundations operating in different areas.

### **ISTR 9th International Conference, 7-10 June 2010, Istanbul: Online Registration is Open**

9th International Conference of the International Society for Third-Sector Research (ISTR) will take place in Istanbul between July 7-10, 2010. The conference is being hosted by the Third Sector Foundation of Turkey (TUSEV) and Kadir Has University. Held biennially at a different country with the participation of over 600 stakeholders, the Conference will be focusing on "Facing Crises: Challenges and Opportunities Confronting the Third Sector and Civil Society". Founded in 1992, ISTR is a major international association promoting research and education in the fields of civil society, philanthropy, and the non-profit sector. ISTR has a wide network of members including academicians, institutes, universities and civil society organizations. An online registration page was created for those who interested in attending the conference. The registration deadline is **June 21, 2010**. Please visit [www.istr.org](http://www.istr.org) for more information on registration.

### **Fundamentals of Fundraising Course, June 9-11, 2010, Bogazici University, Istanbul**

Boğazici University Lifelong Learning Center- IUPUI /The Center on Philanthropy–TUSEV and Bogazici University Foundation (BUVAK) are offering a basic and most important course; "Fundamentals of Fundraising Course" for the third sector in Turkey. All fundraisers and management people in this sector should take the course for understand the multiple dimensions of fundraising, its related processes, its management functions and the tools & techniques which are needed to initiate and build an effective fundraising plan. Fundraisers will be able to make a case for appropriate donor markets by using matched strategies and know how to work with volunteers, board members, potential donors to raise more funds for their institution. The training language will be English and simultaneous translation to Turkish will be provided. Please contact Ms. Ece Gökakin at [ece.gokakin@boun.edu.tr](mailto:ece.gokakin@boun.edu.tr) or +90.212.257.31.27 for more information and registration.

### **New book by Mercator Fund: "Global Philanthropy"**

Edited by Norine MacDonald QC and Luc Tayart de Borms, **Global Philanthropy** follows in the footsteps of *Philanthropy in Europe: A rich past, a promising future*, published by the NEF Mercator Fund in 2007. It aims to provide a snapshot of philanthropy, past and present, from all corners of the globe - from Africa, East Asia, Oceania, the Indian sub-continent, and the Gulf States to North and South America. The chapters in the book provide stories of philanthropy from around the world and essays on the issues facing the global philanthropic sector. It is hoped that the book provides information and inspiration on innovative international philanthropy and philanthropic collaboration, and that it will contribute to achieving a sense of global community within the philanthropic world. TUSEV's Secretary-General Mr. Namık Ceylanoğlu and Programme Director Ms. Zeynep Meydanoğlu contributed to the publication with an article on philanthropy in Turkey, entitled "**Foundations in Turkey: Vehicles of Philanthropy, Agents of Change**". Please visit [http://www.mercatorfund.net/modules/publications/global\\_philanthropy](http://www.mercatorfund.net/modules/publications/global_philanthropy) for more information. Global Philanthropy is available through Alliance Publishing ([www.alliancemagazine.org](http://www.alliancemagazine.org)) and at Amazon.com.

## **News from Our Members**

### **27th International Ankara Music Festival, 5-30 April 2010, Ankara**

SCA Music Foundation's 27<sup>th</sup> International Ankara Music Festival took place between 5 April and 30 April. In addition to musicians from Turkey, over 350 participants from countries like France, Russia, Israel, Bulgaria, Spain, Germany, Lithuania, Japan, Austria, Korea and Finland shared their talents with music lovers. The festival, along with spring brought life to the capital city of Ankara. The SCA Music Foundation was established by a music-loving couple, Sevda and Cenap, founders of the Kavaklıdere Wines Co. of Ankara. Since its founding, SCA has played an active role in the integration of the European music and values into Turkish culture. Once a year, Ankara Music Festival brings the tastes of Europe and Turkey to countless audiences and guarantees an enjoyable time for all music lovers.

### **The Corporate Volunteer Association became member of CEV**

The Corporate Volunteer Association (ÖSGD) recently became member of the Brussels based The European Volunteer Centre (Centre européen du volontariat, CEV). CEV is a European network of nearly 80 mainly national and regional volunteer centres and volunteer development agencies across Europe, that together work to support and promote voluntary activity. CEV channels the collective priorities and concerns of its member organisations to the institutions of the European Union. It also acts as a central forum for the exchange of policy, practice and information on volunteering. The member organisations of CEV represent

thousands of volunteer organisations, associations and other voluntary and community groups at local, regional, national and in some cases international level. CEV aims to develop the foundation of volunteerism in European countries and works to create a more effective and efficient voluntary sector.

**TEGV nominated for the Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA)**

TEGV has been nominated for the 2010 Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) with it's "I read, I play" project. Author Aytül Akal and TEGV's "I read, I play" project have been presented by the Association of Publications for Children (ÇGYD) as 2010 candidates from Turkey and will be evaluated alongside authors, illustrators and reading projects from all over the world. The Astrid Lindgren Memorial Award (ALMA) is the world's largest prize for children's and young adult literature. The "I read, I play" project, continuing since 2006 with the support of Yapi Kredi Bank, aims to provide children with reading experience and culture through creative reading techniques. Since its foundation, TEGV has been active in reading projects that promote interest in children's literature. TEGV sites in various Turkish cities have been running short and long-term reading activities to improve the reading, listening, speaking and comprehension skills of children and to develop reading habits. For more details please visit [www.tegv.org](http://www.tegv.org)

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