

Civil Society Law Reform

Elections Held for the II. Term of the Council of Foundations

A Council of Foundations composed of representatives of foundations as well as public officials was established as the highest decision-making body of General Directorate of Foundations (GDF) after the adoption of a new Law on Foundations in 2008. The elections for the 5 seats allocated to foundations' representatives for the second term of the Council was held on December 25th, 2011. Süleyman Savat, İslam Emiroğlu, and Ahmet Özdemir were elected as the representatives of “new” foundations (established after 1923) while Bilal Sarı and Pandeli Laki Vingas will represent “old” foundations established by non-Muslim minority communities and Muslim founders during the Ottoman Era.

Regional Policy Dialogue between Governments and CSOs- Regional Conference Partnership for Change, Belgrade, 15th March

A Regional Conference “Partnership for change: Civil Society and the Governments in the Western Balkans and Turkey” will be held in Belgrade on March 15th organized by the Office for Cooperation with Civil Society of the Government of the Republic of Serbia in the partnership with BCSDN, Office for Cooperation with NGOs of the Government of the Republic of Croatia and TACSO . This conference will for the first time bring together representatives of the Governmental institutions responsible for cooperation with CSOs and CSOs from the Western Balkan and Turkey in direct discussion on most pertinent issues such transparent financing of civil society and consultation process. The conference will continue the regional exchange and cooperation between Offices started at a joint workshop held in Skopje in March, 2008, but by including representatives of CSOs. The conference is not aimed to be a one-off event, but rather a new impetus to a structured and effective regional cooperation between the Offices and their cooperation with CSOs and will be followed up within the framework of the BCSDN project Cross-Sector Regional Partnership for Enabling Environment for Civil Society Development.

(Source: BCSDN)

Workshop on the New Legal Framework for Associations in Libya

As an expert TUSEV participated in the “Workshop on the New Legal Framework for Associations in Libya” in 13-14 February in Tripoli. The workshop was organized by UNDP & ICNL and held under the auspices of the Ministry of Culture and Civil Society, and included the presence of a small

group of renowned experts and practitioners on the matter of not-for-profit legislation in order to guide the review and enrich the discussion with comparative cases from the Arab region and beyond. Members of the drafting Committee, the National Transition Council members, and representatives of the CSO sector were widely participated in the workshop. Topics as; regulation of CSOs, funding of associations, government supervision, reporting & sanctions were discussed thoroughly align with the Draft Law on associations. You may reach the short documentary of the meeting prepared by UNSMIL from [here](#).

News from the Sector

The International Social Entrepreneurship Conference took place in Istanbul

29 February-1 March 2012

The International Social Entrepreneurship Conference took place in Istanbul

The International Social Entrepreneurship Conference took place in Istanbul on 29 February-1 March 2012. The Conference is organised by TUSEV, [British Council](#), and [TACSO Project](#). The strategic partner of the Conference was the [Vodafone Turkey Foundation](#), while the [Kadir Has University](#) was the host. This conference gathered 150 participants from the Western Balkans, Turkey, Ukraine and Georgia and United Kingdom. During the two days the participants created an important opportunity for the development of social entrepreneurship in the region. *“In the last two years, TÜSEV has devoted a lot of effort to the development of social enterprises in Turkey”,* said Prof. Üstün Ergüder, Chairman of the Third Sector Foundation of Turkey during his welcoming speech. *“The Conference will complement these efforts, as it presents a unique opportunity for all who are involved in the social entrepreneurship field to share experience and knowledge and to network with counterparts from more than 20 countries. We hope that the discussions will inspire both civil society organisations and individual entrepreneurs to start or develop their social enterprises and to become more innovative while approaching social problems.”* Ergüder also thanked to the co-organisers, Vodafone Turkey Foundation and Kadir Has University for their support in making this event possible. A detailed Conference report will be soon published.

10 Predictions for Turkish Philanthropy in 2012

How Turkish philanthropy will take shape in the New Year? What should foundations expect and what should donors be ready for? What changes are foreseen on the horizon? TUSEV has drafted some predictions about the way the Turkish Philanthropy may evolve in 2012. The document aims to provide philanthropists, NGOs and fundraisers a general landscape of philanthropy in the light of global, regional and national political, economic and social developments. Please visit [here](#) to see

the document.



Education Reform is on the Spotlight of NGOs in Turkey

On February 23rd, National Education, Culture, Youth and Sports Commission at the Grand National Assembly of Turkey has submitted a draft bill to the Parliament.

According to the bill, the current eight years of compulsory education, which only includes a primary school education,

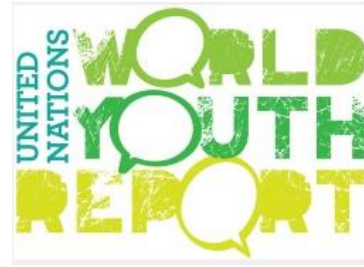
will be extended for another four years of high school education. However, the compulsory 12 years of education will be divided into three levels: four years of primary school, four years of middle school and another four years devoted to high school education. Women, disabled, and education NGOs as well as experts are protesting the bill affirming that the bill paves the way for different types of schools to intervene and take up the education of children. According to the experts, the proposed structure may propagate child labor, jeopardize efforts towards inclusive education and harm the right to education of girls. Please click [here](#) to see Education Reform Initiative's opinion document. An article on the position of women NGOs is available at [Bianet](#).

Call for Application: Southeast Europe and the EU Leadership Development Programme

In an effort to contribute to the reform process in Southeast Europe, the Transfuse Association and the College of Europe jointly launched a programme in 2006 for young people from the region, as well as from the rest of Europe, who aspire to play an active role in the future of their countries. The Programme runs over a ten-month period and aims to transmit knowledge about the EU and its relation to the region, to stimulate the leadership and professional skills of participants and to encourage the exchange of views. Young people under the age of 26 from Balkan countries and Turkey are eligible to apply. Applications to the Programme are made exclusively through the online application form and must be submitted before Tuesday, 24 April 2012. Please visit www.seeyoungleaders.org for further information and application.

The World Youth Report 2011 Released

Published by the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA), the World Youth Report, entitled Youth Employment: Youth Perspectives on the Pursuit of Decent Work in Changing Times outlines the situation of young people in the labour market and youth employment trends.



Young people and representatives of youth-led organizations were invited to share through digital and social media platforms their views, experiences and recommendations on preparing for, entering, and remaining active in the workforce. A total of approximately 1,100 contributions (as well as photos and videos) were received from young people around the world during the four-week consultation period. The report includes recommendations of the consulted young people while providing a general picture of youth employment in relation with the themes such as poverty, participation and education. Please visit www.unworldyouthreport.org for full report.

EFC and DAFNE study explores the transparency and accountability of foundations in Europe

With the strings tightening on government purses across Europe and the role and influence of non-profit organisations growing, a number of questions have been raised concerning the legitimacy of foundations in particular and whether existing public regulation and self-regulatory frameworks are enough to ensure that the sector is open and held accountable. Seeking to offer answers to these questions, the EFC and DAFNE mapped and analysed how the transparency and accountability of foundations is framed by legal and tax legislation and self-regulatory initiatives across Europe. Please visit [here](#) for full report.

Call for Project Proposals: Anna Lindh Foundation

Members of the National Networks of the Anna Lindh Foundation are invited to apply to the Call for Project Proposals 2012. The call aims at supporting projects that promote the mobilisation and empowerment of civil society for inclusion and citizenship in line with the Anna Lindh Foundation's '4D' Strategy. This strategy conceives Intercultural Dialogue as a civil society mobilisation factor, aimed at valuing Diversity, promoting the participation of the society in building open and plural Democracies, and fostering inclusive and sustainable human Development. The deadline for applications is **April 16th, 2012**. Please visit <http://grants.annalindh.org> for further information and application.



Registration is now Open for the CIVICUS World Assembly 2012

The CIVICUS World Assembly, first held in 1995, is the premier global gathering of civil society, where CSOs and activists, and representatives of donors, governments, international institutions and businesses, come together to seek ways to strengthen the rights of citizens to exist, express and engage collectively. Around 1,000 people, representing organisations and alliances large and small and Northern and Southern, and operating across the entire gamut of civil society experiences and territories, will attend the World Assembly to collectively start making sense of this changed world. The Conference will take place in Montreal, Canada, on 3-7 September 2012 under the theme Defining a new social contract making the future together. The CIVICUS WA Programming Committee welcomes activity proposals until 9 March 2012. All CIVICUS members, partners and friends are particularly encouraged to participate in this call. Please visit www.civicusassembly.org for more information.

News from Our Members

The Vehbi Koç Award was Presented to Prof. Nermin Abadan Unat

The Vehbi Koç Award, which is a part of philanthropist Vehbi Koç's heritage and which was initiated after he passed away, annually gives substantial financial support to distinguished individuals and/or enterprises in education, culture and health. This year the award was presented in the field of education to Prof. Nermin Abadan Unat for her professional accomplishments on political science and sociology. As Turkey's first female political scientist and professor, Prof. Abadan Unat represented Turkey at the Council of Europe. She also has a long history as a devout advocate of women's rights in Turkey. Please visit here for more information. http://www.vkv.org.tr/egitim_project_award.aspx



NGO's Share the Dream of the Sabancı Foundation

The 2012 application process for the Social Development Grant Program has been completed on February, 24th. Through the Social Development Grant Program, Sabancı Foundation supports projects of NGOs that aim to create equal opportunities and active participation of women, youth and persons with disabilities in the society. A total of 192 projects from 45 provinces have applied to

Program to change the lives of women, youth and persons with disabilities. The applications are subject to a preliminary screening held by the Sabanci Foundation team and independent experts. Following the preliminary screening, an independent Evaluation Committee reviews the applications and prepares a short list of grantees. The minimum grant to be allocated for a project in 2012 is 40.000 TL and the maximum is 200.000 TL. A total of 1,2 million TL has been earmarked for the grants.

TEGV Volunteering Conference

Annual 'Volunteering' conferences, which Turkih Education Volunteers Foundation (TEGV) organised in Istanbul for the 6th time on the International Volunteer Day 5 December 2011, now has a theme of 'Volunteer! Make a Difference' to mark European Year of Volunteering and 10th anniversary of United Nations International Year of Volunteering. While the first ever "United Nations State of the World's Volunteerism Report" was launched in New York on 5th of December 2011 at the United Nations General Assembly and in many countries around the world; a national launch in Turkey took place on the same day. The UN report was launched in a conference organised by Educational Volunteer Foundation TEGV, in cooperation with the Centre for European Union Education and Youth Programmes (Turkish National Agency) and United Nations Volunteers (UNV) in the scope of 2011 European Year of Volunteering. Please visit [here](#) for more information.



©2014 Third Sector Foundation of Turkey | Bankalar Cad. Minerva Han No: 2/5 Karakoy, İstanbul - Turkey

Powered by [Mad Mimi](#)®