



EUROPEAN ANTI POVERTY NETWORK

## Annual Report EAPN Czech Republic 2013

### **Mission of EAPN CR:**

Members EAPN CR are bearers of ideas of social inclusion and combating poverty. EAPN CR created a forum for sharing ideas, information and experience in this area and is led by willingness to participate in the work of the European Anti-Poverty Network (EAPN Brussels).

### **Objectives:**

The aim is general public involvement and public administration in the Czech Republic to the issue of social exclusion, removing social and political barriers to persons at risk of social exclusion and promoting their inclusion.

### **Introduction:**

The year 2013 – European Year of Citizenship – in our area was marked by the renewing work of the Commission for Social Inclusion of MOLSA, which processed the governmental concept. Members of EAPN CR are members of the Committee. The process was involving all sectors and therefore it was not easy to come to a reasonable consensus. Some representatives of ministries have shown themselves as persons with retrograde attitudes and with persistent effort to maintain them. EAPN CR fought together with the Agency for Social Inclusion to ensure that the concept will not miss important features, bringing significant changes such as social entrepreneurship, social housing issues and inclusion of people living in excluded localities especially Roma people. NGOs also founded Platform for social housing based in Brno. Immediately, we have established contacts with its members. We signed the open letter to the government based on the same conclusions that emerged from the workshop on social housing EAPN CR in Prague on 24<sup>th</sup> October 2013. There is a strongly missing plan of prevention of homelessness, helping people in critical social situations and other issues. Families with children, mothers - single parents, people with disabilities and low-skilled

in the Czech Republic belongs among the people most at risk of poverty and social exclusion. Women 50+ in the Czech Republic are becoming also socially vulnerable body.

Brussels took place for a long period of expected changes, in particular the resignation of the founder of EAPN Fintan Farrell and the arrival of a new director Barbara Hellferich (from October 2013). We believe that EAPN maintain the respect of both the European Commission and even national networks where all changes directly reflect. New themes such as poverty of young people, growing youth unemployment and their free time have shown up. In December 2013 a project of unification of minimum income schemes in all Member States was declared under the name Minimum Income European Network (EMIN). This is an ambitious project to which together with other national networks we have connected to. For the purpose of this project were vice minister of MOLSA consulted and a group of officers appropriate with EMIN was established.

In accordance with the principles of the European Anti-Poverty Network I would like to reiterate the key points of our program such as the participation of people with experience of poverty in decision-making processes, mainstreaming social inclusion, dignity for all people regardless of age, race, religion and social status.

Thank you all who stand up for our program and have worked for him.

*Milena Cerna, President of EAPN Czech Republic*

## **Calendar of 2013**

22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> January the **inaugural conference of the European Year of Citizenship 2013** in Brussels attended by K. Schwarz

26<sup>th</sup> January S. Mrózek attended the meeting of **National Coordinators Meeting** of People Experiencing Poverty in Brussels.

29<sup>th</sup> January EAPN CR became a **member of the Association of NGOs** in the country.

28<sup>th</sup> February the **inaugural meeting of the National Alliance of NGOs on the European Year of Citizenship 2013** in Prague participated by K. Schwarz.

5<sup>th</sup> March **Working Group Meeting for the European Year of Citizenship 2013** in Brussels attended by K. Schwarz.

14<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> March: the **Executive Committee of EAPN** in Brussels - attended by K. Schwarz.

25<sup>th</sup> March **Working meeting of EAPN CR**: preparation of the 12<sup>th</sup> Meeting of PEP (Brussels, 16 to 20 June) and the National Meeting of PEP (Ostrava 17<sup>th</sup> May).

9<sup>th</sup> April the Deputy EAPN CR took part at III. **Forum of the European Year of Citizenship 2013** hold in Prague.

26<sup>th</sup> April: eight **EAPN General Assembly of the Czech Republic** where new members were admitted: Committee of Good Will - The Olga Havel Foundation, Retirement home Usti nad Orlici, the Czech Association of street work, Association of Trigon, Ostrava.

6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> May **European Demographic Forum** to the extent of poverty in the EU in Brussels attended by K. Schwarz.

**Working Group on Social Inclusion:** Two times meeting of EU Inclusion Strategies Group: 10<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> May Brussels, 25 - 26<sup>th</sup> October Palma de Mallorca – participation K. Klamková.

**Working Group on Structural Funds** - turned over problems with technical assistance, missing of context. (See current subcontracts Ernst and Young to MPSV and efficiency, logic, style controls technicality, without contextual and long-term orientations). Progress was the adoption of the principle of minimum volume of 20 % of the ESF to issues of poverty and social exclusion.

17<sup>th</sup> May: **National meeting of people experiencing poverty and social exclusion 2013**, Ostrava, organized by EAPN CR, Festival of Roma in Ostrava - both events were attended by representatives of local NGOs, Ostrava City and EAPN CR.



*Ostrava, 2013*

22<sup>nd</sup> - 25<sup>th</sup> May **Educational seminar 'Learning Forum'** in Laulasmaa in Estonia - participation S. Mrózek and K. Schwarz.

13<sup>th</sup> - 14<sup>th</sup> June Czech Association streetwork organized the international conference entitled "**Social exclusion, poverty and human rights**".

14<sup>th</sup> - 15<sup>th</sup> June **Annual General Assembly EAPN** in Belgrad, Serbia: In 2012, the statutes changed and new rules of procedure were adopted. Reduce the number of delegate. General Assembly entitled Strategic Congress will be held every three years and will be attended by three delegates from each member country. The first Strategic Congress fell in 2013. On the agenda was the adoption of the work program for 2014, the changes associated with the replacement of the Director of EAPN and austerity measures. The Congress was attended by M. Cerna, S. Mrózek and K. Schwarz.



*Participants of General Assembly at the Hotel Srbija, Belgrad*

18 - 20<sup>th</sup> June **Meeting of People Experiencing Poverty** was held in Brussels: This took place thanks to EAPN Director Fintan Farrell who in 2013 secured funding from the EC. Topic: Young unemployed. The event was attended by three men and one woman from the Silesian region. The delegation was accompanied by the national coordinator S. Mrózek. Mr. Milan Furak spoke at the opening ceremony.



*Mr. Furak, second from the right*

8<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> July Working Group **Meeting and Conference of the European Year of Citizenship 2013** in Zagreb attended by K. Schwarz

30<sup>th</sup> September – 1<sup>st</sup> October Conference **Capacity Building Day & Policy Conference** was held in Brussels, participation S. Brisova, J. Maresova and K. Schwarz.

15<sup>th</sup> October **Seminar on University of Ostrava on "Families at risk of poverty"** within Days for the eradication of poverty, Caritas Ostrava and the Salvation Army follow the action of

**International Day for the Eradication of Poverty** in Silesian deacony: lectures and discussions for secondary schools on issues related to poverty and social exclusion, a collection of supplies for families with children at risk of poverty, meeting with people living without shelter, food collection organized by I. Sniegoňová.

16<sup>th</sup> October: “**European Opportunities**” – regional 7<sup>th</sup> conference on the use of EU Structural Funds in the Moravian-Silesian region, Havířov. Participation: I. Sniegoňová.

17<sup>th</sup> October: Open Air Happening of EAPN Czech Republic **Day of the fight against poverty** in Ostrava - participation K. Schwarz, S. Brisova.

24<sup>th</sup> October EAPN CR seminar "**Current issues of social housing and the 2020**" in Prague, was attended by members and cooperating organizations. The main report was held by Iija Hradecky/ FEANTSA.

October, November - Volunteers at food collections for people at risk of poverty and social exclusion – organized by food bank in Ostrava.

22<sup>nd</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> November - The **Executive Committee EAPN** in Reykjavik, Iceland - participation K. Schwarz.

26<sup>th</sup> - 27<sup>th</sup> November: **3rd Convention Poverty and Social Exclusion**, Brussels - participation K. Schwarz.

9<sup>th</sup> December: **Meeting of coordinators for the project EMIN 2014** Paris, attended by D. Kocmankova

11<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> December: **Education Forum** Leuven, Belgium, participation S. Mrózek.

6<sup>th</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> December: **EAPN Training seminar** on the development of the network EAPN Brussels - participation K. Schwarz.

12<sup>th</sup> - 13<sup>th</sup> December: **Closing Conference of the European Year of Citizenship**, Vilnius, Lithuania - participation K. Schwarz.

Association Christian and the work involved in European organizations **EZA Platform** for the harmonization of work and family life, worked for women's employment issues and intergenerational cooperation.

#### **Basic data on EAPN Czech Republic:**

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**Members of EAPN Czech Republic:**

- Salvation Army, Mgr. Paula Vopelakova
- Association of Trigon, Mgr. Olga Rosenberger
- Centred, Mgr. Jan Vojvodik
- Czech Association Street work, Mgr. Martina Zikmundova
- People in Need, Jan Cerny
- The Diaconia of the Evangelical Church, David Sourek
- The Diaconia in the Czech Republic, David Sourek
- Retirement Home Ústí nad Orlicí, Mgr. Jan Vojvodik
- Dzeno, Jarmila Balazova
- Caritas Czech Republic, Mgr. Luke Curylo
- IQ Roma servis, Mgr. Katarína Klamkova
- Christian and Work, Ing. Lidmila Nemcova
- New Space, Dagmar Kocmankova
- Bliss without Risk, Dr. Hana Malinova, PhD.
- SKOK, Hana Vlckova
- Silesian Diaconate, Mgr. Ilona Śniegoňova
- Committee of Good Will - The Olga Havel Foundation, Milena Cerna, MD
- Life Together, Mgr. Sri Kumar Vishwanathan

**Members of the Executive Committee:**

Milena Cerna, MD (Chair)  
Mgr. Katarina Klamkova  
Dr. Karl Schwarz  
Mgr. Ilona Śniegoňova  
Dagmar Kocmankova  
Bc. Stanislav Mrózek

**Inspector:**

Ing. Czeslav Santarius

**Member of the Executive Committee EAPN Brussels:**

Dr. Karl Schwarz

**National Coordinator meeting people with experience of poverty:**

Bc. Stanislav Mrózek

**Manager:**

Sona Brisova