

January 28, 2008

Sarajevo Notebook: European Union Policies towards the Western Balkans (2004-2008)

Open Society Fund-Bosnia and Herzegovina

Organizer: Mediacenter Sarajevo

Summary: Initiative for opinion-makers, analysts and civil society activists in Croatia, Slovenia, Macedonia, Kosovo, Serbia, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina, to engage public participation in and attract public attention to perspectives of EU policies in the western Balkans and to offer a communication platform to promote civil society engagement in informing processes of European integration for the countries of former Yugoslavia.

Strengthening NGO Capacity in Transnistria: Czech Experiences in Building Democratic Society (2006-2008)

Soros Foundation-Moldova

Organizers: Increderea (Confidence Building) Association of Moldova in collaboration with the Regional Center for NGOs Assistance and Information CONTACT-Balti Center and in partnership with the People in Need Foundation Prague, National Endowment for Democracy Czech Office and Maidan.org.ua e-Association, Ukraine

Summary: Initiative for civil society representatives and non-governmental organizations, to promote international dialogue and partnership, to promote collaborative initiatives drawing on experiences of non-governmental organizations in the Czech Republic and to encourage social and community activism among the non-governmental community in Moldova by offering partnerships with civil society organizations in Ukraine and the Czech Republic.

Local Community Engagement with Local Governments: Environmental Protection of Forests (2007-2008)

Open Society Foundation for Albania

Organizers: National Association of the Communal Forests, Albania; Federation of Communal Forests, Kukes Qarku, Albania; and, Federation of Communal Forests and Pastures, Qarku Diber, Albania; in partnership with Association of Private Forests of Kosovo, Association of Private Forest Owners of Macedonia, SNV/Balkan Netherlands Development Organization, Skopje Branch and SNV/Balkan Netherlands Development Organization, Peshkopi Branch

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental organizations and local authorities in Albania, Kosovo and Macedonia, specifically to build cooperative relationships, learn from each other's experiences and make use of successful ones to improve local democracy, local governance and community participation in decision-making regarding environmental protection and sustainable management of private and communal forests.

Lessons Learned: Security Sector Reform and Euro-Atlantic Integration of Slovakia and Serbia (2007-2008)

Subprogram for European Integration

Fund for Open Society-Serbia and Open Society Fund-Bratislava (Slovakia)

Organizers: Center for Civil-Military Relations, Belgrade and Center for European and North Atlantic Affairs, Bratislava

Summary: Initiative for analysts and experts in security sector reform in Serbia and Slovakia, specifically to transfer knowledge and best practices from Slovakia into Serbian policies and decision-making through lobbying and advocacy toward state institutions, based on thorough research of the past experiences of Slovakia in its own pre-accession process, and to promote security sector reform in the framework of the stabilization and association process and the EU rapprochement/accession process for Serbia.

Building a Common European Future for Environmental Sustainability (2007-2008)

Fund for Open Society-Serbia

Organizer: Environmental Ambassadors, Belgrade in partnership with Biosfera, Bitola; MOST, Zabljak; Sun of Ligenas, Korca; Konak, Orahovac; and, Twinning Platform/Centar bez granica, Sarajevo

Summary: Initiative for environmental NGOs in the Western Balkans and Central European EU member states, specifically to strengthen organizational and institutional bridges of cooperation among environmental NGOs in the EU and in the Western Balkans and to strengthen civil society engagement and knowledge networking preceding the ministerial conference in Belgrade in October 2007.

Local Government Involvement in EU Assistance Programs: Albania, Croatia and Macedonia (2007-2008)

Open Society Foundation for Albania

Organizer: Albanian Institute for International Studies, Tirana in partnership with the Center for Research and Policy Making, Skopje www.crpm.org.mk and CEPOR SME Policy Center, Zagreb www.cepor.hr

Summary: Initiative for local authorities and non-governmental organizations in Albania, Croatia and Macedonia, to strengthen the capacities of Albanian local authorities in border regions to attract and absorb EU originating support (INTERREG) and to share and benefit from best practices in Croatia and Macedonia, to support the performance of local authorities while addressing local socio-economic concerns by promoting existing and future cross/trans-border cooperation assistance tools and skills and to increase local authorities' participation in and utilization of present (INTERREG) and future (Structural and cohesion funds) EU support to the overall development of remote and border areas in Albania.

Creating Peace Actively: Processes of Demilitarization and Reconciliation (2007-2008)

Open Society Fund-Bosnia and Herzegovina

Organizer: Association Why Not?, Sarajevo, on behalf of the regional network "Objection for Peace" in partnership with Antiwar Campaign, Croatia; Peace Action, Macedonia; and Regional Center for CO, Serbia

Summary: Initiative for civil society activists in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Macedonia and Serbia, to address problems of militarization of the societies in the Balkans region, to support processes of demilitarization and reconciliation and to engage public awareness and participation in offering alternatives for development, especially to engage youth groups in these processes.

Europe without Borders (2007-2008)

Subprogram for European Integration

Fund for Open Society-Serbia

Organizer: Association for Protection and Promotion of Mental Health in Children and Youth, Nis in partnership with Free Youth Center, Vidin and PRO et CONTRA, Institute for Culture in Dialogue, Slovenia

Summary: Initiative for youth in Serbia, Bulgaria and Slovenia, specifically designed to reinforce European identity of youth in Serbia through networking and transfer of European values, especially relevant in the context of Serbia's EU rapprochement processes and to provide opportunities for young people in Serbia to obtain a direct, insider's perspective of European integration from peers in the EU.

Sustainable Development of the River Cijevna Basin: Montenegro and Albania (2007-2008)

Foundation Open Society Institute-Representative Office Montenegro

Organizer: Green Home, Podgorica www.greenhome.cg.yu in partnership with AAEE Shkodra

Summary: Initiative for civil society organizations in Montenegro and Albania, to strengthen cross-border cooperation addressed to sustainable development of River Cijevna Basin, to promote collaborative activities among NGOs, communities, authorities and business in promoting understanding of the needs of communities and responsibilities of local self-government and to prepare an analysis of the environmental conditions and sustainable development perspectives as the basis for policy recommendations concerning environmentally sustainable economic development.

Cooperation on Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy: Montenegro and Croatia (2007-2008)

Foundation Open Society Institute-Representative Office Montenegro

Organizer: Green Home, Podgorica www.greenhome.cg.yu in partnership with Green Action Croatia

Summary: Initiative for civil society activists and decision-makers in Montenegro and Croatia, to establish a platform for cooperation among civil society organizations addressed to energy issues through improved information access, promoting public and sharing best practices and educational activities, to provide opportunities for activists in Montenegro to learn experiences of activists in Croatia in implementing EU standards in the energy sector and to enhance activists' capacity to advocate for rational and diverse energy consumption.

Enhancing e-democracy in Mongolia: Introduction of Citizen Participation Initiatives in Estonia (2007-2008)

Open Estonia Foundation and Open Society Forum Mongolia

Organizer: e-Governance Academy Foundation Estonia, Tallinn www.ega.ee in partnership with Open Society Forum Mongolia; Information and Communications Technology Authority of Mongolia, Ulaanbaatar www.icta.gov.mn; Central Electoral Committee, Estonia; PRAXIS Center for Policy Studies, Tallinn; State Chancellery, Estonia; and, Network of Estonian Nonprofit Organizations

Summary: Initiative for leaders of public institutions, non-governmental organizations, interest groups and research institutes in Mongolia, to introduce challenges, opportunities and best practices in successful implementation of Information and Communication Technologies in the public sphere, with a special focus on e-democracy, e-participation and e-voting, based on experiences in Estonia.

Election Law and Conflict of Interest: Experiences in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Croatia (2007-2008)

Open Society Fund-Bosnia and Herzegovina

Organizer: Association of Election Officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo www.aeobih.com.ba in partnership with CeSID, Belgrade and GONG, Zagreb

Summary: Initiative for representatives of non-governmental organizations and decision-makers at state institutions, to promote non-governmental engagement in formulating recommendations to improve legislative procedures concerning elections based on best practices in other societies and to promote transparency and accountability in election law in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia and Croatia.

Environmental NGOs as Watchdogs of Pipeline Projects in South East Europe (2007-2008)

Organizer: Human Rights Center, Zagreb www.human-rights.hr in partnership with Eko Kvarner, Njivice www.ekokvarner.hr and Heinrich Boll Foundation, Zagreb www.boell.de

Summary: Initiative for environmental non-governmental organizations to establish the South East Europe Pipeline Network, a network of environmental NGOs in Romania, Serbia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Italy, Bulgaria, Macedonia, Greece, Albania and Montenegro, specifically to prepare civil society for the construction of three new pipeline routes in South East Europe by engaging non-governmental organizations to monitor the construction of these pipelines from the perspective of maximum prevention of environmental degradation and negative effects on people's health.

Democratic Behavior in You(th)! (2007-2008)

Soros Foundation-Moldova

Organizer: European Student's Association AEGEE, Chisinau in partnership with Free International University of Moldova, Chisinau and European Student's Association AEGEE, Bucharest

Summary: Initiative for young people in Moldova and Romania, to increase youth participation in social and civic life in Moldova by analyzing motivational factors which influence youth behavior and interest in civic participation based on experiences in Romania and to develop strategies to increase civic engagement and participation in social life, particularly in universities, in Moldova and Romania.

Now I Understand My Rights / UN Child Rights Convention from the Children to the Children (2007-2008)

Open Society Fund-Bosnia and Herzegovina

Organizers: Save the Children Norway, Bosnia and Herzegovina in partnership with the Center for Child Rights of Serbia and the Center for Child Rights of Montenegro

Summary: Initiative for elementary school teachers and pupils, child focused/child rights non-governmental organization, policy makers and officials, within a larger initiative to raise awareness about children's rights as based on Child Rights Convention, specifically to create children-friendly information about children's rights to be distributed to elementary schools in Serbia, Montenegro and Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Religion and Schooling in Albania (2007-2008)

Open Society Foundation for Albania

Organizer: Open Society Foundation for Albania

Summary: Initiative for theologians, anthropologists, sociologists and education curriculum specialists, to compare experiences of the role of the state regarding teaching of religion in schools, particularly to promote open and public dialogue in Albania about the relationship between individual rights, religion and schooling in a democratic society and to analyze practices of education in public schools which prevent indoctrination and instills understanding and respect in a pluralistic society.

Alternative Forms of Professional Training in Entrepreneurship: Success on the Labor Market (2007-2008)

Open Society Institute-Sofia (Bulgaria)

Organizers: Vocational School Vidin www.pgaz-vidin.hit.bg, Valmiera Pargauja Gymnasium and Agriculture School Shumatovac, Alexinac

Summary: Initiative for teachers in Bulgaria, Latvia and Serbia, to transfer knowledge and innovative methodologies according to European standards in vocational training in entrepreneurship for high school students and to examine evaluation and monitoring approaches of training in entrepreneurship to compare quality and effectiveness of secondary education in economics in these three countries and in the European Union.

Finding Common Ground: Lessons from the EU Accession Process (2007-2008)

Open Society Fund-Bratislava (Slovakia)

Organizer: Research Center of the Slovak Foreign Policy Association, Bratislava in partnership with Turkish Daily News and Referans, Istanbul; Faculty of Social and Economic Science, Comenius University, Bratislava; Turkish Economic and Social Studies Foundation, Istanbul; and, Istanbul Kultur Universitesi

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental organizations and civil society activists in Slovakia and Turkey, specifically to create networks and facilitate communication among civil society and media representatives in Slovakia and Turkey, to contribute to a more informed debate on Turkey and Turkish EU accession in Slovakia, to share Slovak experiences from transition towards more open society and know-how from the EU accession process and to identify areas in which Slovak experience and expertise may be of use for Turkey's accession process.

Local Self-Governance Development Strategy in Bosnia and Herzegovina: Experiences in Serbia (2007-2008)

Open Society Fund-Bosnia and Herzegovina

Organizer: Enterprise Development Agency, Banja Luka www.edabl.org in partnership with PALGO Center, Belgrade www.palgo.org

Summary: Initiative for development experts and practitioners and decision-makers, to create a regional group of experts to analyze and exchange knowledge and practices of models of local self-governance development and decentralization to inform the realization of a development strategy for Bosnia and Herzegovina, to propose new approaches to wider mutual cooperation among government institutions and professionals in creating policies related to decentralization and to support advocacy capacity of the regional group of experts for establishment of a regional think tank on local self-governance development.

Lifelong Learning in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Macedonia (2007-2008)

Open Society Fund-Bosnia and Herzegovina

Organizer: Research and Organizational Development Association, Sarajevo www.rod-a.com in partnership with Telecentar Travnik www.telecentar.ba, Telecentar Prijedor www.telecentar.org, Telecentar Slavonski Brod www.telecentar.hr, IAN Telecentar, Belgrade www.telecentar.co.yu, NS Telecentar, Novi Sad www.nshc.org.yu, Telecentar Gostivar www.telecentar.org and Telecentar Zagreb www.telecentar.org

Summary: Initiative for public authorities, institutions and social service organizations responsible for education and training, employment and poverty reduction, to promote the Lifelong Learning and Telecentar Network in Western Balkan countries in order to build inclusive societies which offer equal opportunities for access to quality learning through life to all people, to develop new teaching and learning modules by sharing knowledge and experiences and implementing best practices in teaching methodologies and to mobilize regional and local actors, authorities, organizations and associations to a committed and effective involvement and support to Lifelong Learning.

Western Balkans Network for Inclusive eGovernment (2007-2008)

Open Society Institute-Macedonia

Organizers: Metamorphosis Foundation, Macedonia www.metamorphosis.org.mk; Belgrade Open School, Serbia www.bos.org.yu; ZaMirNet, Croatia www.zamirnet.hr; Internet Society, Bulgaria, www.isoc.bg;

E-Governance Academy, Estonia, www.ega.ee; and, ARC Seibersdorf research GmbH, Austria

Summary: Initiative for government officials and civil servants, Information Technology experts and academics and non-governmental activists engaged in the information society, to provide expertise and transfer of know-how in order to achieve higher quality of eGovernment services, leading to higher eInclusion rates, by supporting the western Balkan countries to implement fully operational e-Government services, to build synergy among relevant stakeholders and mobilize regional research capacities to enable quality implementation of sustainable, inclusive, participative and democratic information and eGovernment solutions and to formulate recommendations for a Regional eGovernment Roadmap for policymakers towards achieving the level of eGovernment services on the level of EU.

Development of Health Law in Transforming Countries (2007-2008)

Open Society Fund-Prague (Czech Republic)

Organizer: Association for Medical Law and Bioethics, Prague in cooperation with Center for Health Law, 3rd School of Medicine, Charles University, Prague

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental organizations and decision-makers, to analyze performance in health care systems and health-related civil rights protection, to exchange experiences with legal aid clinics particularly with regard to patients' rights protection and to analyze best practices and mistakes made in transforming health care laws in Central Europe.

Southeast Europe Heritage Network: Diversity in Cultural Heritage (2007-2008)

Open Society Institute-Macedonia and Foundation Open Society Institute–Representative Office Montenegro

Organizers: Southeast Europe Heritage Network

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental organizations of the Southeast Europe Heritage Network, to strengthen collaboration among NGOs working to protect and promote diversity in cultural heritage as a common value in Southeast Europe, to exchange experiences, discuss and propose solutions/recommendations concerning problems of misuse of cultural heritage and to raise public awareness about the need to promote, protect and preserve the cultural heritage.

History and Collective Memory in Southeast Europe: Dilemmas and Implications of Political Discourse (2007-2008)

Soros Foundation-Moldova

Organizers: Resource Center for Teaching and Learning History, Chisinau and Institute of History and Political Sciences, Free International University of Moldova www.iisp.ulim.md in partnership with Faculty of History and Philosophy, Babes-Bolyai University of Cluj-Napoca www.hiphi.ubbcluj.ro/hiphi

Summary: Initiative for scholars and researchers, non-governmental activists and media, to promote and support an active discussion concerning the interaction between researching and teaching of history and the politicized and ideological discourse present in southeastern Europe in order to make this information accessible and available to the civic society and the interested public in Moldova, to offer space for different opinions about the interaction of science and ideology in post-totalitarian society by analyzing experiences in southeast Europe and to elaborate solutions and recommendations to discourage attempts of social manipulation.

Methodologies of Integrating Vulnerable Groups in Society: Homeless and Unemployed People (2007-2008)

International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizer: Community of Mutual Aid Oselya, Lviv, in partnership with the Barka Foundation, Poznan, and Kofoed's School, Denmark

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental organizations and activists and decision-makers in Poland and Ukraine, to analyze experiences in Poland in implementing innovative methodologies of integration of socially vulnerable groups, particularly professional outreach in support of social rehabilitation, to disseminate new methods of education work and social assistance in Ukraine and to strengthen professional capacity of non-governmental organizations to work with authorities in Ukraine to implement new methodologies of working with vulnerable groups in society.

Municipal Housing Utilities Tariffs: Engagement of Citizens (2007-2008)

International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizer: Center for Municipal Government Studies, Lviv in partnership with Cracow Association of Municipal Dwelling Administration, All-Ukrainian Association Housing Exploitation Kyiv, Mykolayiv Regional Civil Organization Innovative Development Center and Regional Entrepreneurship Support Fund of Poltava Region

Summary: Initiative for citizens' advocacy groups and non-governmental organizations in Ukraine and Poland, to share experiences and best practices of involving the public in municipal decision-making, particularly concerning housing and housing services and to promote in Ukraine implementation of European standards of public participation and monitoring of municipal decisions based on experiences in Poland.

Designing Policies to Combat Social Exclusion in Albania (2007-2008)

Open Society Foundation for Albania

Organizer: Open Society Foundation for Albania

Summary: Initiative for decision-makers, non-governmental organizations and associations and representatives of socially marginalized communities, to analyze socio-economic positions of excluded communities, including education, un/employment and economic development perspectives; to share experiences in social and political participation and decision-making; and, to expose all stakeholders in Albania to best practices and lessons learned in social inclusion in southeast Europe and Central European EU member states.

Youth for European Integration: Lessons from Latvia (2007-2008)

Soros Foundation-Moldova

Organizer: Institute for Development and Social Initiatives Viitorul, Chisinau www.viitorul.org in partnership with the Latvian Institute of International Affairs, Riga www.lai.lv

Summary: Initiative for young leaders in Moldova and Latvia, to contribute to the facilitation of European integration processes in Moldova by supporting a generation of young leaders in Moldova by providing an opportunity to analyze European integration processes and experiences in Latvia, to promote relations and collaborative initiatives for public policy studies jointly in Latvia and Moldova and to enhance public perception and understanding in Moldova of advantages and disadvantages of European integration.

Fiscal Decentralization Processes: Experiences in Slovakia and Ukraine (2007-2008)

Open Society Fund-Bratislava (Slovakia) and International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizers: M.E.S.A. Center for Economic and Social Analyses, Bratislava and Institute of the Budgetary and Socio-Economic Research, Kyiv

Summary: Initiative for representatives of municipal government, analysts and policy-makers, to share knowledge and best practices in formulating new systems of territorial self-government funding strategies in Ukraine based on experiences in Slovakia, to contribute to the preparation of legislative and developmental conditions for municipal self-government in Ukraine and to examine relations between the public and private sectors, state administration and local self-government and citizen participation in decision-making.

Psycho-Social Rehabilitation of Children with Special Needs in Azerbaijan: Experiences in Estonia (2007-2008)

Open Estonia Foundation and Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Azerbaijan

Organizers: Open Estonia Foundation and Rainbow Rehabilitation Center for Children with Disabilities, Baku

Summary: Initiative for directors and specialists of rehabilitation centers, parents and children in provincial regions of Azerbaijan to visit rehabilitation centers in Estonia, to exchange experiences and analyze innovative methodologies of rehabilitation as practiced in Estonia, to promote social integration of children with disabilities based on experiences in Estonia and to prepare recommendations for decision-makers to ensure protection of rights of people with special needs.

Turkey's Neighbors in Partnership (2007-2008)

Organizer: Santralistanbul, Istanbul Bilgi University

Summary: Initiative for cultural producers, leaders of cultural institutions and centers, academics and researchers to brainstorm about possibilities for collaborative initiatives and to create a communication platform for continued discussion of the advantages as well as risks and obstacles of creative cooperation.

Social Network Systems: Cooperation among Government, Local Government and the Third Sector (2007-2008)

Open Estonia Foundation

Organizer: NGO Youth to Youth, Tallinn in partnership with Tallinn City Government Social Welfare and Health Care Board; Estonian Health Insurance Fund, Tallinn; Ministry of Social Affairs, Tallinn; North Estonian Regional Hospital, Tallinn; and, Anti-Violence Network of Georgia, Tbilisi www@avng.ge

Summary: Initiative for representatives of non-governmental organizations and municipal authorities in Estonia and Georgia, to share experiences and best practices in cooperation between the third sector and decision-makers based on experiences in Estonia, to promote non-governmental organizations as watchdogs and monitors of expenditures in social services, health care and insurance and to engage the public in awareness and involvement in local decision-making.

Improvement of Gender Policies in Azerbaijan: Experiences in Estonia (2007-2008)

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Azerbaijan

Organizer: Center of Political Culture for Azerbaijani Women, Baku in partnership with Estonian Women's Research and Resource Center, Tallinn

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental organizations and civil society activists in Azerbaijan and Estonia, to compare experiences in mainstreaming gender balance in public life, to study experiences in Estonia of promoting women's status in society particularly from the perspective of preparation to join the EU and to analyze media coverage of women's issues in Estonia to see if similar approaches are relevant to implement in Azerbaijan.

Practical Mechanisms for Implementing Gender Legislation in Ukraine: Experience of Lithuania (2007-2008)

International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine) and Open Society Fund-Lithuania

Organizers: Center for Equality Advancement, Vilnius; Ukrainian Women's Fund, Kyiv www.uwf.kiev.ua; Sumy City Crisis Center www.aidincrisis.iatp.org.ua; Business Initiative Public Center, Ivano-Frankivsk www.di.if.ua; and, Center for Ukrainian Reform Education, Kyiv www.cure.org.ua

Summary: Initiative for representatives of local communities and civil society activists engaged in women's and gender issues and representatives of local authorities, to promote practical implementation of gender legislation in two regions of Ukraine through establishing cross-sectoral partnerships and integrating gender sensitive practices into the work of local authorities as based on experiences in Lithuania and to test new methodologies and models of implementation gender legislation for possible adaptation to other regions of Ukraine.

Perspectives for Development of the State and the Civil Society in Central Asia (2007-2008)

Soros Foundation-Kyrgyzstan

Organizer: Soros Foundation-Kyrgyzstan

Summary: Initiative for analysts, decision-makers and the non-governmental sector, to analyze reform processes taking place in Central Asia and to develop models for sustaining democratic institutions, to establish an ongoing communication framework to engage the public in debates about social reform and development in Central Asia and to encourage collaborative information and knowledge networking in constructing forecasts and models of social development in Central Asia.

Prevention of Child Abuse and Assistance to Abused Children (2007-2008)

Soros Foundation-Moldova

Organizers: Child Rights Information Center, Chisinau www.childrights.md; Podrugi, Almaty; www.podrugi.kz; and, Parents for City Jurmala, www.iemetaci.lv in partnership with Service of Prevention and Social Readaptation, Nice www.association-alc.org; Etoile Business Center for Women, Barnaul; Club of Business Women, Zlatoust; No To Alcohol and Narcotics, Moscow www.nan.ru; League for Voluntary Youth Work, Minsk; Reliable Future Youth Organization, Baku; and, International Catholic Child Bureau, Paris, www.bice.org

Summary: Initiative for professionals and volunteers working with children and youth, to study models of raising awareness of child rights and sexual abuse against children, to analyze efficient methods and strategies used by professionals in order to assist children who are threatened with violence and to examine practices of efficient partnership between state institutions and NGOs in providing quality assistance to abused children.

Platform for Social and Cultural Development of Rural Regions in Western Balkans (2007-2008)

Open Society Institute-Macedonia

Organizer: Contemporary Arts Center Skopje www.scca.org.mk in partnership with the Mozaik Foundation Bosnia and Herzegovina, Sarajevo www.mozaik.ba, Committee for Civic Initiative Serbia, Nis www.ogi.org.yu and MOST Montenegro, Zabljak www.ngo-most.org

Summary: Initiative for local development non-governmental organizations, representatives of municipalities and artists, teachers of art and students, to raise issues of social and cultural development of villages in rural regions of the western Balkans, to create a network of organizations and professionals as a communication platform to share experiences and explore innovative solutions to sustainable cultural development and to initiate a regional engagement in cultural and social development of rural regions, villages and small communities.

Conscience and Power: Accountability of Elected Officials in Small Communities (2007-2008)

Open Society Fund-Bosnia and Herzegovina

Organizer: Women from UNA, Bihac in partnership with Association of Women, D. Lapac Municipality

Summary: Initiative for grassroots activists in small communities in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Croatia, to conduct public opinion surveys about the performance of elected officials and to engage the public in debates about the performance of local governments and to promote partnership among non-governmental organizations, decision-makers and citizens for social development of small communities.

Civil Society for Clean Parliament (2007-2008)

Kosova Foundation for Open Society

Organizers: Organization for Democracy, Anticorruption and Dignity (COHU!), Pristina www.cohu.org and Romanian Academic Society, Bucharest

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental organizations and activists, to promote citizens' interest in transparency and accountability in government by analyzing models of civic engagement in Romania and to promote standards of public integrity in Kosovar politics by raising awareness of the general public on the costs of corruption and the importance of clean and transparent institutions.

Independent Election Monitoring in the post-Soviet Space: Comparative Experiences (2007-2008)

International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine) and Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Moscow Center

Organizers: International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine) and Carnegie Endowment for International Peace Moscow Center in partnership with the Agency for Legislative Initiatives, Kyiv and Inter-regional Electoral Network of Assistance, St. Petersburg

Summary: Exchange for election monitoring organizations to share methodologies of monitoring, to evaluate the performance of monitors during elections in Ukraine and Kazakhstan, to draft new collaborative initiatives in the region and expand approaches for "full-cycle" election monitoring and to establish an ongoing communication framework to share experiences beyond a national context of election cycles.

Alex and Vladi / Strategies for Public Health Services for Children with Genetic Diseases

Open Society Foundation for Albania

Organizer: Children's Human Rights Center of Albania, Tirana www.crca.org.al in partnership with UNICEF, Tirana; Child Rights Center Belgrade www.cpd.org.yu; Child Rights Center Kosovo; Parents in Action Bregana, www.roda.hr; South East European Child Rights Action Network SEECRAN, Ljubljana; and, Neglected Children Society, Sofia
January 2008, Tirana

Summary: Initiative for scholars, activists, non-governmental organizations and decision-makers, to review and propose strategies to improve public health services for children with genetic diseases within the framework of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, to identify and address gaps in legislation and public policies for children with genetic diseases, to raise awareness among decision-makers on the conditions of children with genetic diseases and to increase public awareness and NGO participation in public health policy formulation and influence legislation to respect needs of children to be treated according to their rights.

Students in Decision-Making at Universities in Azerbaijan: Experiences in Lithuania

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Azerbaijan and Open Society Fund-Lithuania

Organizers: Javad Khan Youth Union, Genje and National Union of Student Representations of Lithuania, Vilnius
www.lsas.lt

January 2008, Vilnius and Kaunas

Summary: Initiative for representatives of student unions and student activists in Azerbaijan and Lithuania, to strengthen student engagement and representation in decision-making in universities in Azerbaijan based on experiences in Lithuania, to compare experiences in systems of student organization, students' roles in improving quality of education and student approaches and requirements in higher education reform.

Civil Society Activists and Leaders in Latvia and Ukraine

Soros Foundation-Latvia and International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizer: Latvian NGDO Platform LAPAS, Riga www.lapas.lv

January 2008, Riga, Cesis, Ogre and Daugavpils

Summary: Initiative for civil society activists and leaders in Latvia and Ukraine, specifically from non-governmental organizations and networks in eastern, southern and northeastern Ukraine, to exchange experiences in strategic development of local communities; social assistance and human rights, including governance and non-profit cooperation in social projects; and, trilateral cooperation among local government, business and NGOs in socially active businesses and community foundations.

Common Way to Europe: Knowledge – Experience – Development

Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)

Organizer: Working Community of Associations of Social Organizations (WRZOS), Warsaw www.wrzos.org.pl in partnership with SOCIA Social Reform Foundation, Bratislava www.socia.sk; ANHSH: Association of Nonprofit Human Services of Hungary, Budapest www.humszolg.hu; Association of Non-Governmental, Non-Profit Organizations Active in the Areas of Social Assistance and Social Health Care, Prague www.skok.biz

January 2008, Warsaw

Summary: Initiative for civil society activists and non-governmental development organizations in the Visegrad countries, to compare and publicize experiences in new EU member states of civil organizations' participation in planning and implementing processes of National Development Plans and participation and experiences of civil organizations in EU supported projects addressed to human resource development.

Legislation and Legal Frameworks for Volunteering

Open Society Foundation-Bratislava (Slovakia)

Organizer: Open Society Foundation-Bratislava (Slovakia) in partnership with PANET – PDCS, Bratislava, www.panet.sk; C.A.R.D.O. Center for Volunteering, Bratislava www.dobrovolnictvo.sk; Slovak Nonprofit Service Center, Bratislava www.lsnsc.sk

January 2008, Bratislava

Summary: Initiative for lawyers, representatives of public administration and non-governmental organizations, to compare existing legislation and legal frameworks to support volunteerism and the sustainability of the non-governmental sector and to promote the adoption in Slovakia of a law on volunteering based on best practices and lessons learned in Central and Eastern Europe.

***Institutional Capacity for Combating Intolerance and Extremism in the Black Sea Region
Public Partnership Promotion in Moldova, Ukraine and Romania***

Soros Foundation-Romania, Soros Foundation-Moldova, International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizers: Institute for Public Policy, Bucharest; Institute for Public Policy, Chisinau; and, Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy, Kyiv

January-June 2008, Bucharest, Chisinau, Kyiv

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental, governmental and international organizations, to formulate a regional approach to overcoming intolerance and extremism in the Black Sea region, to monitor institutional reaction to extremism in Romania, Moldova, Ukraine, to identify potential common sources and to propose viable local and regional solutions, including recommendations to EU policies and international bodies, and to promote civil society engagement in overcoming intolerance and extremism.

NGO and Local Government Partnership: Rhetoric or Reality?

Soros Foundation-Romania

Organizer: Regional Association for Rural Development, Romania in partnership with Oltenia Social Institute, University of Craiova, Romania; FOKUS, Macedonia; University of St. Cyril and Methodius, Department of Sociology, Skopje; iDEMO Institute for Democracy, Croatia; Department of Sociology, University of Zagreb; Civil Society Promotion Center, Bosnia and Herzegovina; and, Faculty of Law, University of Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina

January-July 2008, Romania, Macedonia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina
Summary: Initiative for representatives of local governments, local and regional non-governmental organizations and community stakeholders, to demonstrate the positive impact and influence of non-governmental involvement in partnership with local governance as well as to identify areas for improvement, to present an analysis of different NGO/local government partnerships in the Western Balkans and Romania and to highlight relevant information and best practices to contribute to the engagement of the non-governmental sector in local decision-making.

European Integration Skills for Young People

Public Partnership Promotion in Moldova, Ukraine and Romania

International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine), Soros Foundation-Romania, Soros Foundation-Moldova

Organizers: Alliance NGO, Ukraine; Youngsters without Borders Association, Romania; and, Public Association CUTEZĂTORUL, Moldova

January-July 2008, Ukraine, Romania and Moldova

Summary: Initiative for young people and non-governmental organizations and civil servants working with young people in disadvantaged small towns and villages in Ukraine, Moldova and Romania, to promote the development of youth leaders in Ukraine and Moldova through capacity building and knowledge transfer about European integration processes and to encourage young people to engage in local community development and influence reforms as empowered partners of local administrations based on experiences in Romania specifically in European integration processes.

Think Tank Cooperation for Society's Security

Public Partnership Promotion in Moldova, Ukraine and Romania

Soros Foundation-Moldova, Soros Foundation-Romania, International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizers: Institute for Public Policy, Chisinau www.ipp.md; Center for Conflict Prevention and Early Warning, Bucharest; and, Institute for Euro-Atlantic Cooperation, Kyiv www.ieac.org.ua

January-September 2008, Chisinau, Bucharest, Kyiv

Summary: Initiative for analysts and researchers in Moldova, Romania and Ukraine, to evaluate threats to Romania, Moldova, Ukraine in problems of societal security and to identify common approaches and specific solutions for Romania, Moldova and Ukraine in consideration of EU experiences and opportunities and to formulate an assessment of mechanisms, necessary reforms and updates to ensure societal security in Moldova and Ukraine utilizing Romania's position as a member of the EU and recommendations to relevant governments and EU bodies.

Overcoming Stigmatization of Minority and Marginalized Groups

Public Partnership Promotion in Moldova, Ukraine and Romania

Soros Foundation-Romania, Soros Foundation-Moldova, International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizers: Media Monitoring Agency – Romania, Bucharest www.mma.ro; Independent Journalism Center – Moldova, Chisinau www.ijc.md; and, Regional Press Development Institute, Kyiv www.irrp.org.ua (under construction)

January-December 2008, Chisinau, Bucharest, Kyiv

Summary: Initiative for media professionals, human rights specialists and representatives of state authorities, to promote the rights of minorities and marginalized groups by promoting journalistic standards of covering minorities and marginalized groups in Romania, Moldova and Ukraine and to establish a regional communication platform for civil society activists and media organizations working to de-stigmatize media coverage of minority and disadvantaged groups and to increase the voice of minority and disadvantaged groups in Romania, Moldova and Ukraine.

Capacity Building in Early Childhood Education in Chechnya: Experiences in the Czech Republic

Open Society Fund-Prague (Czech Republic)

Organizers: Poryv, Czech Republic and Progress, Grozny

February 2008, Prague and Plzen

Summary: Initiative for educators and representatives of non-governmental organizations, specifically to build capacity of non-governmental organizations and the education community in Chechnya by providing an opportunity to exchange experiences, best practices and lessons learned in early childhood education in the Czech Republic, to analyze experiences in the Czech Republic of community involvement and decentralization processes of education system reform and to exchange practical examples and models of child-centered methodologies and inclusion of children with disabilities as based on experiences in the Czech Republic.

Students in Open Society: Estonia and Azerbaijan

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Azerbaijan and Open Estonia Foundation

Organizers: Estonian Student Union www.eyl.ee and Educational Center for Youth, Baku

February 2008, Tallinn and Tartu

Summary: Initiative for students in Azerbaijan and Estonia, to share experiences of university life in each country, specifically student representation systems and protection of students' rights, to introduce students in Azerbaijan to European mechanisms of communication and information exchange and to promote greater representation of students in university life based on experiences in Estonia.

Free Legal Assistance: Experiences in Poland, Georgia, Ukraine and Armenia

Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)

Organizer: YMCA Poland, Gdynia branch www.gdynia.ymca.pl in partnership with Donetsk Civic Organization

Alliance www.alliance.iatp.org.ua; Association Georgian Youth for Europe, Rustavi www.gve.ge; and, Youth Center,

Stepanavan www.stepanavanyouthcenter.org

February 2008, Gdynia

Summary: Initiative for students of law and high school students, to promote the quality of legal education in Georgia, Ukraine and Armenia based on experiences in Poland, to promote young people to become involved in non-governmental activity and legal clinics and to offer high school students an opportunity to learn about the study of law and working as a lawyer.

Strengthening Inter-cultural Dialogue among Youth: Estonia and Serbia

Fund for an Open Society-Serbia and Open Estonia Foundation

Organizers: Center for Politics and Euro-Atlantic Partnership, Novi Sad www.atlanticpartnership.org.yu and

University of Tartu, EuroCollege www./ec.ut.ee/ecu

February-March 2008, Novi Sad and Tartu

Summary: Initiative for high school and university students and non-governmental organization activists, to promote socio-political competence of young people by strengthening youth civil engagement and active citizenship, to change governmental accountability to youth specifically concerning youth employment, to raise awareness of European values and standards and to change approaches to ethno-cultural diversity by encouraging mutual respect and understanding through international collaboration

Social and Community Services and Outreach for Persons with Disabilities

Open Society Fund-Bosnia and Herzegovina

Organizers: Association of Youth with Disabilities InfoPart, Banja Luka and NVO Miteinander GmbH, Linz

February-March 2008, Linz

Summary: Initiative for persons with disabilities and non-governmental organizations working with persons with disabilities, to build capacity of non-governmental organizations in Bosnia and Herzegovina to provide social and community outreach and skills to overcome marginalization of persons with disabilities and to analyze best practices and experiences in Austria in inclusive education in secondary schools, college for physically disabled persons, employment support programs, psychosocial work for adults with disabilities, sport, recreation and health maintenance for persons with disabilities and independent living programs.

Introduction of EU Patients' Rights Standards in the Public Health System: Bulgaria and Ukraine

International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizers: Physicians' Association of Nikolayev Region and Bulgarian Association for Patient's Rights Defence, Sofia
www.patient.bg

February-April 2008, Kyiv and Sofia

Summary: Initiative for experts in medical rights and public health services and representatives of the medical public and the civil society organizations in Bulgaria and Ukraine, to create a system for the realization of patients' rights in Ukraine based on experiences in Bulgaria, to provide information to experts and citizens in Ukraine concerning the introduction and maintenance of patients' rights according to EU standards and to influence reform of public health services in Ukraine.

Building Civil Society Capacity in Partnership with Local Public Authorities

Public Partnership Promotion in Moldova, Ukraine and Romania

Soros Foundation-Moldova, Soros Foundation-Romania, International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizers: Institute for Conflict Resolution INRECO, Chisinau; Agency for Information and Development, Timisoara
www.aid-ong.ro; and, Association of Economic Development of Ivano-Frankivsk www.aedif.if.ua

February-June 2008, Chisinau Municipality, Timisoara and Arad Municipalities and Ivano-Frankivsk Municipality

Summary: Initiative for representatives of local public administrations and non-governmental organizations in Chisinau, Timisoara and Ivano-Frankivsk municipalities, to encourage social activism of local non-governmental organizations and civic activists and inhabitants, to improve capacities of civil society for promoting good governance at the local levels and to promote non-governmental organization engagement in participatory democracy and decision-making in local community development.

Restorative Justice and Mediation: Overcoming Juvenile Violence

Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)

Organizer: Polish Center for Mediation, Warsaw www.mediator.org.pl *in partnership with Ukrainian Center for Agreement, Kyiv* www.sfcg.org, www.commonground.org.ua *and Social Center of Legal Reforms, Moscow* www.sprc.ru

February-June 2008, Warsaw

Summary: Initiative for educators and teenagers in Poland, Russia and Ukraine, to share methodologies of peer mediation in high schools as a long-term approach to reducing/eliminating juvenile violence, to engage stakeholders in local communities to address causes of juvenile violence and criminal activity and to promote positive participation of young people in community building through tools to strengthen civil society.

Peer Support as a Methodology of Overcoming Social Exclusion

Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)

Organizer: Center for Education and Dialogue Theotokos, Gliwice www.theotokos.org.pl *in partnership with Regional Development Agency Donbass, Donetsk* www.ard.dn.ua

February-July 2008, Gliwice and Donetsk

Summary: Initiative for village and community leaders, non-governmental organizations and civil activists in Ukraine and Poland, to analyze methodologies of peer support in community development implemented in Poland for possible adaptation in Ukraine, to promote cooperation addressed to social inclusion among local government, non-governmental organizations and business in Ukraine and to formulate models, best practices and lessons learned in overcoming social exclusion in community development.

Regional Trends and Approaches to Migration and Asylum Challenges

Public Partnership Promotion in Moldova, Ukraine and Romania

Soros Foundation-Romania, Soros Foundation-Moldova, International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizers: Romanian National Council for Refugees; Save the Children – Moldova; and, Chernivtsi Regional Public Union Bukovinian Perspectives

February-July 2008, Iasi, Chisinau and Chernivtsi

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental and governmental representatives, to analyze experiences of Romania's accession to the European Union in the context of migration and asylum regulations, standards and challenges, to explore opportunities to harmonize best practices on reform of migration policies, including combating trafficking of human beings, among Romania, Moldova and Ukraine, to formulate recommendations for regional approaches to international migration and engage civil society activists in decision-making.

Promoting Gender Equality in the Educational System in Belarus: Experiences in Poland

Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)

Organizer: Educational Association Common Knowledge, Gdansk in partnership with the Vitebsk Women Club, Open Educational Project EuroUniver and Social Association Private Initiatives

February-July 2008, Gdansk and Vitebsk

Summary: Initiative for secondary school teachers, pupils and parents, to support and develop gender enlightenment in Belarus within the framework of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, to overcome stereotypes of masculine and feminine roles in society by promoting education and popularization of gender equality in educational environments and to activate teachers, leaders and parents in local communities to engage in forming educational models to overcome gender discrimination.

Civic Skills Academy: International Partnerships for Young People

Soros Foundation-Romania

Organizer: Regional Association for Adult Education, Suceava www.areas.ro

February-November 2008, Galati, Vidin, Svrlijig, Cahul, Tetovo

Summary: Initiative for young people and non-governmental organizations working with young people, to build capacity of young people to contribute to and benefit from local community development, to support grassroots engagement in local community development based on European integration experiences in Romania and to promote empowerment of youth to participate in international initiatives to influence local community development.

Election Monitoring Strategies and Civil Society Advocacy for Transparency in Electoral Processes

Open Society Forum Mongolia

Organizer: Open Society Forum Mongolia www.opensocietyforum.mn

March 2008, Ulaanbaatar

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental and civic activists, election monitors and international experts, to share experiences and best practices in engaging civil society to promote transparency in electoral processes, specifically to build capacity of non-governmental organizations in Mongolia to advocate for change in the legal framework for election processes in Mongolia and to transfer knowledge and skills to monitors in Mongolia based on international experiences in monitoring elections.

Civic Counseling and Citizen Advice Bureau: Experiences in Ukraine and Poland

Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)

Organizer: Krzyzowa Foundation for Mutual Understanding in Europe www.krzyzowa.org.pl in partnership with the Association Citizen Advice Bureau, Wroclaw and Law and Democracy Foundation, Lviv www.fond.lviv.ua

March 2008, Wroclaw

Summary: Initiative for representatives of non-governmental organizations and local authorities, to analyze possibilities of establishing citizen advice resources in Lviv, Ternopol, Rivne, Ivano-Frankovsk and Sevastopol based on experiences in Poland and to promote the concept and implementation of civic counseling and access to information in Ukraine.

Open Community School – Best Practices and Lessons Learned in Local Community Development

Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)

Organizer: Center for Promotion and Development of Civil Initiatives OPUS www.opus.org.pl in partnership with Republican Public Organization Club FIRN, Ulan-Ude, Republic of Buryatia www.firnclub.ru

March 2008, Buryatia

Summary: Initiative for representatives of non-governmental organizations and social service providers, to share experiences of civic activism in local communities, to support civic and local community leaders in Buryatia as a force for community empowerment and engagement and to use experiences of local community development in Poland as the basis for formulating strategies for local development and sustainability in Buryatia.

Youth Clubs in Secondary Schools: Experiences in Poland and Ukraine

International Renaissance Foundation and Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)

Organizers: Center for European Information Program, Sumy and Pawel Wlodkowic University College, Plock

March-April 2008, Sumy, Plock

Summary: Initiative for educators and students in Ukraine and Poland, to support dissemination of information and knowledge about European Union standards and civic engagement, to analyze the creation and sustainability of youth clubs at secondary schools based on experiences in Poland and to promote youth engagement in local community development and international dialogue.

Monitoring Gender Standards in the Context of the EU Neighborhood Policy

International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizer: Women's Prospects, Kyiv www.gender.net.ua in partnership with KARAT Coalition, Warsaw

www.karat.org www.womenslabour.org

March-May 2008, Kyiv

Summary: Initiative for representatives of women's organizations, mass media and public servants, to raise awareness in Ukraine of EU gender equality standards, including directives, European Employment and Lisbon Strategy and European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument 2007-2013, to build capacity and skills of civil society groups in Ukraine to monitor implementation of international standards of gender quality and to promote collaborative monitoring of gender equality by non-governmental organizations in countries engaged in the European Neighborhood and Partnership Instrument.

Participation of the NGO Sector in Decision-Making Processes in the EU

Subprogram for European Integration

Open Society Institute-Sofia

Organizer: European Policies and Civic Participation Program, Open Society Institute – Sofia

March-June 2008, Sofia and Brussels

Summary: Initiative for representatives of the non-governmental sector and civil society activists, to promote engagement and involvement of the non-governmental sector in Bulgaria in decision-making processes at the EU based on experiences in Central European member states, to strengthen capacity and knowledge of the non-governmental sector in Bulgaria of the existing European NGO platforms, their function, objectives, conditions for membership and benefits of membership and to promote collaborative civil sector initiatives among Central European EU member countries.

Productive Learning: Alternatives to Traditional Education

Soros Foundation Romania

Organizer: Center Education 2000+, Romania in partnership with the Center for Educational Initiatives Association, Bulgaria; Pro Didactica, Moldova; and, Institute for Productive Learning in Europe, Germany

March-June 2008, Bucharest

Summary: Initiative for experts in education reform in Romania, Bulgaria and Moldova, to enhance the quality of cooperation among educational experts in efforts to support processes of development of educational methodologies, to promote a new concept in the educational field for young students with disabilities in order to respond to their educational needs and interests and to compare models of Productive Learning curricula as developed and implemented in Romania, Bulgaria and Moldova.

Protection and Rights of Children: Overcoming Trafficking, Abuse and Exploitation of Children

Public Partnership Promotion in Moldova, Ukraine and Romania

Soros Foundation-Romania, Soros Foundation-Moldova, International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine)

Organizers: Save the Children Romania, Iasi Branch; Community Association Faclia and Regional Resource Center for Youth, Ungheni; and, Association of Economic Development, Kolomya

March-September 2008, Iasi, Ungheni, Kolomya

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental organizations and local authorities in Romania, Moldova and Ukraine, to formulate efficient interventions aimed to prevent and eliminate violations of children's rights through promoting local best practices into cross-border approaches, to improve the capabilities and abilities of non-governmental organizations to promote and protect children's rights by elaborating collaborative strategies to overcome trafficking and exploitation of children and to mobilize public institutions to take action to protect children found to be at risk of exploitation.

Internet Stock Market of Youth Initiatives

Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)

Organizer: Happy Childhood Foundation, Lublin fsd.lublin.pl in partnership with the Fortress Association for the Protection of the Laws and Dignity of a Student, Ternopol

April-June 2008, Motycz Lesny and Ternopil

Summary: Initiative for teachers and young people in Poland and Ukraine, to create the Internet Forum of Youth Initiatives as a tool for collaborative social entrepreneur education and analysis of social needs of local communities, to create a model of partnership between schools to encourage civic engagement of young people and to formulate joint social initiatives for local community development.

Development and Sustainability of Palliative Care: Experiences in the Czech Republic

Open Society Fund-Prague (Czech Republic)

Organizer: Sue Ryder International CZ, o.p.s., Prague www.sueryderinternational.eu in partnership with The Homecoming, Prague www.cestadomu.cz, www.umirani.cz; Ryder Albania Association, Tirana; and, Sue Ryder Care – Ryder Kosova Association, Pristina www.RyderKosova.org

April-September 2008, Prague

Summary: Initiative for palliative care providers, medical professionals, decision-makers and non-governmental organizations in Albania and Kosovo, to share experiences in providing palliative care in the Czech Republic, specifically education of health care providers and other caring professionals, recommended procedures and standards in partnership with medical societies, utilization of proven methods of palliative care and establishing international cooperation, ongoing popularization of the theme of care for the dying and recommendations for legislative changes and implementation in the health care system of the Czech Republic.

Inclusion and Exclusion in and on the Borders of Europe

Organizers: Peace Institute, Institute for Contemporary Social and Political Studies, Ljubljana www.mirovni-institut.si and School for International Training (SIT Study Abroad – World Learning), Zagreb www.sit.org/studyabroad/europe
June 2008, Ljubljana

Summary: Initiative for experts in migration, students in social sciences, non-governmental organizations active in migration issues, policy-makers and mass media within a long-term project, to improve policy debates on inclusion and exclusion with special emphases on the redefinition within and outside the EU border regimes (in connection to asylum politics, trafficking processes, etc.), to provide an analytical approach to the idea of “civil power Europe” as a player of human rights and democratic values in the global world and to enrich existing expertise, knowledge and activism through contacts with issues on the agenda of the Slovenian EU presidency, including Kosovo, constitutional charter, Mediterranean EUROMED/Barcelona process, dialogue between cultures campaign and enlargement and accession processes.

Donors Message Services: Experiences in the Czech Republic

Open Society Fund-Bratislava (Slovakia)

Organizer: Slovak Donors' Forum (SDF), Bratislava

Timeframe to be determined, Kosice, Banska Bystrica and Bratislava

Summary: Initiative for non-governmental organizations in Slovakia and the Czech Republic, to present best practices in the Czech Republic of Donor Message Service mechanism for outreach and fundraising for the non-profit community, to contribute in the long-term to a local understanding of individual and corporate philanthropy and to promote transparency and accountability of NGOs in fundraising and demand-driven initiatives.

New Perspectives for Rural Community Development

Public Partnership Promotion in Moldova, Ukraine and Romania

Soros Foundation-Moldova, International Renaissance Foundation (Ukraine), Soros Foundation-Romania

Organizers: Cross-border Cooperation and European Integration Agency, Cahul; Regional Agency for Cross Border Cooperation Lower Danube Euroregion, Odessa Region, Reni; Regional Center for Sustainable Rural Development, Constanta; and Eco Alpex 024 Association, Braila

Timeframe to be determined, Cahul, Reni, Braila

Summary: Initiative for local community development non-governmental organizations in the south of Moldova, southeast of Romania and Odessa region of Ukraine, to develop and strengthen cross-border cooperation among rural communities by increasing public participation in decision-making processes to solve community issues and to build capacity of local non-governmental organizations in Moldova and Ukraine to engage in projects for sustainable development of rural communities using experiences of Romania's accession to the European Union.

European Integration and Media Practices: Poland and Azerbaijan

Open Society Institute Assistance Foundation-Azerbaijan

Organizers: Newspaper “Journalist,” Baku and Institute of Journalism, Faculty of Journalism and Political Science, Warsaw University

Timeframe to be determined, Warsaw and Baku

Summary: Initiative for students of journalism and journalists, to promote the teaching and practice of journalism in Azerbaijan to European standards based on experiences in Poland, to overcome deficiencies in the media in Azerbaijan by sharing practical experiences to promote independence and objectivity in media and to encourage global integration of media in Azerbaijan through international partnerships.

Entrepreneurship Centers for Youth: Overcoming Unemployment in Local Communities

Stefan Batory Foundation (Poland)

Organizer: Education for Democracy Foundation, Warsaw www.edudemo.org.pl in partnership with Youth Social Center Etalon, Ivano-Frankivsk www.etalon.iatp.org.ua; Students' Association of Nadvirna, Ivano-Frankivska oblast; Youth for Freedom of Speech Center, Kaliningrad oblast www.yfs.ru; Center of Civic and Legal Training, Rostov-on-Don www.pravcenter.narod.ru; Third Millennium Generation, Falesti, Moldova; Local Education Center, Swietochlowice www.cel.swietochlowice.org.pl; and, Development of Swietochlowice Foundation, Swietochlowice www.frs.swietochlowice.org.pl

Timeframe to be determined, Warsaw

Summary: Initiative for representatives of non-governmental organizations working with young people, to provide training to establish and entrepreneurship centers in Ukraine, Moldova and Russia based on experiences in Poland, to engage schools, employers and local authorities in entrepreneurship and local community development in disadvantaged regions and to promote public awareness of innovative solutions to challenges of local community development.