



FUNDING TO ‘CHANGE WORLD’ – COMPETITION WINNERS TELL THEIR STORIES AT FOUNDATION WEEK

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Brussels, 31 May – In 2004 seven individuals were given five years’ funding to go and change the world and on Tuesday 1 June journalists and the public can find out how they did on day two of the European Foundation Centre’s “Foundation Week” taking place at “SQUARE” rue Mont des Arts, Brussels.

The Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (JRCT) will reveal how the winners selected from 1,600 applicants have succeeded in reaching their goals of bringing justice to illegal enclaves, establishing an independent diplomacy service, building an economics of equality, pointing the way to a sustainable food future, saving lives through health broadcasting, and building peace within local communities. The Visionaries - Karen Chouhan, Roy Head, Mark Hinton, Heather Parker, Carne Ross, Clive Stafford Smith, Geoff Tansey - will talk about their experiences in the ‘Visionaries for a just and peaceful world’ session 17:30 – 19:30 Hall 400.

Other highlights of activities taking place on Tuesday 1 June include:

16:00 - 18:00 Room: 215

Reshaping the financial sector: The importance of civil society activity

Organised by: Carnegie UK Trust

The Commission of Inquiry into the Future of Civil Society, supported by the Carnegie UK Trust, believes that the financial crisis offers a historic opportunity to reshape the financial system to align it better with values of responsibility, good governance, human well-being and environmental sustainability. This session will explore the roles of civil society groups (including foundations, NGOs and co-operatives) in growing a more ‘civil economy’, leading to a more transparent and accountable financial sector, a growth in responsible investment, and more active citizen investors.

09:00 – 17:00 Room: 201 AB

Peace and security policy briefing: A view from Europe (Part 1)

Organised by: Berghof Foundation for Conflict Studies, Carnegie Corporation of New York, EFC, Fondation Bernheim, Fondation Charles Léopold Mayer pour le progrès de l’homme, Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust, Open Society Institute, Peace and Security Funders Group, Stewart Mott Charitable Trust.

Join European and North American funders for an in-depth look at Europe’s foreign, security and peace policies and capabilities. This two-day briefing represents a rare opportunity for funders on both sides of the Atlantic to come together and discuss with policy makers, policy analysts and practitioners how they, as funders, can work more effectively on these issues. Key topics on the agenda include: Europe’s role in promoting global security: a look at priorities, politics, and prospects; ground truths and lessons from the Balkans and Afghanistan; changing geopolitics in a

multi-polar world; EU responses to drivers of contemporary conflict; and discussions on European and North American peace and security philanthropy.

14:00 - 16:00 Room: 214

From bio-fuels to biomass: Certification as the ideal sustainability scheme? A transatlantic dialogue

Organised by: Bellagio Forum for Sustainable Development

The session aims to explore the feasibility of extending sustainability criteria for biomass to biofuels. The session will facilitate a discussion between civil society and policy makers from the US and the EU and identify areas and opportunities for fostering transatlantic cooperation with regard to developing sustainability criteria and certification schemes.

14:30– 16:00 Room: 216

Migration, public opinion and politics: Rhetoric or reality check?

Organised by: Barrow Cadbury Trust

Across Europe, immigration dominates the headlines. This panel discussion will explore the interplay between migration politics, public perceptions, and the media. What do the public think about immigration in the context of still rising unemployment and ongoing debates about citizenship and identity? How do politicians – both mainstream and fringe – play a role in this debate? How do public attitudes towards immigrants and immigration affect political debate and policy?

For Foundation Week, *Alliance* has assembled an international team of contributors that will be blogging throughout the week. They will post regular updates and responses to sessions on this blog site, as well as video interviews and end-of-day summaries. Go to: <http://alliancemag.wordpress.com/>

For media credential information and other details related to Foundation Week, please contact:

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