



## PRESS RELEASE

### European Foundation Centre joins coalition for an age-friendly European Union

**Brussels, 9 November 2011 – The European Foundation Centre (EFC) has joined a growing coalition of stakeholders in signing a manifesto to promote an age-friendly European Union. The manifesto envisions a society for all ages where everyone can play an active part in society and enjoy equal rights and opportunities in all stages of their life - regardless of age, sex, race or ethnic origin, religion or belief, social or economic status, sexual orientation, physical or mental condition, or need for care.**

AGE and the Stakeholders' Coalition for the European Year 2012 for Active Ageing and Solidarity between Generations launched its manifesto on 7 November during a meeting at the European Parliament in Brussels. This Manifesto presents the decalogue of an age-friendly society and includes a number of recommendations to the EU and stakeholders at national and local level to achieve an age-friendly European Union by 2020.

The objective of this political statement is to encourage stakeholders to make the most of the momentum created by the European Year 2012 to create partnerships at EU and national level in order to promote active ageing and solidarity between generations. The manifesto was sent to the EU Presidency Trio together with a letter calling on them to support the preparation and the implementation of the EY2012 Coalition's recommendations.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

[Download the EY2012 Coalition Manifesto](#)

[Read the Age-Platform Europe letter sent to the EU Presidency](#)

[Read the EFC Press Release 'European foundations provide innovative solutions to age-old problem'](#)

### **About the EFC**

The European Foundation Centre (EFC), founded in 1989, is an association representing more than 230 public-benefit foundations and corporate funders active in philanthropy in Europe and beyond. The EFC develops and pursues activities in line with its objectives: creating an enabling legal and fiscal environment for foundations; documenting the foundation landscape; strengthening the infrastructure of the foundation sector; and promoting collaboration, both among foundations and between foundations and other actors, to advance the public good in Europe and beyond.

[www.efc.be](http://www.efc.be)

### **About Age-Platform Europe**

AGE Platform Europe is a European network of around 165 organisations of and for people aged 50+ which aims to voice and promote the interests of the 150 million senior citizens in the European Union and to raise awareness on the issues that concern them most.

[www.age-platform.eu](http://www.age-platform.eu)

### **About foundations in Europe**

It is estimated that there are some 110,000 foundations in Europe, collectively spending between 83 and 150 billion euros annually on projects and programmes, and providing employment to up to one million Europeans. Foundations come in many shapes and sizes, with some offering grants while others prefer to operate their own programmes. In towns, cities, regions and countries across Europe, they can be found running or funding hospitals and universities; protecting historic buildings, promoting cultural activities, stimulating economic development and employment, supporting scientific excellence, advancing civil and human rights, engaging in environmental conservation, and much, much more.