

I can't quite believe that this is the last EFC Update of 2010- the year seems to have gone by so quickly. It has indeed been an eventful 2010 for all of us at the EFC, from the first ever [Foundation Week](#) here in Brussels to the final event in the EFC calendar for 2010 - the European Forum on Philanthropy and Research Funding annual stakeholders' conference in Stuttgart. You can check out highlights from the two-day event in Germany in the [Networking](#) section on the right hand side of this page.

I am delighted that the European Parliament has launched a written [declaration](#) calling on the European Commission to table three proposals for European statutes for foundations, associations and mutuals respectively.

Half of the Members of the European Parliament must sign the declaration before February 2011 for the declaration to be adopted, and consequently the EFC has joined forces with the principal organisations representing associations and mutual societies at EU level to mobilise and convince MEPs to add their signatures.

I would implore all EFC members and partners to approach your MEPs and convince them to sign the declaration- if you need any materials or documentation please do not hesitate to write to eu@efc.be or visit <http://www.europeanstatuteswritendeclaration.eu>

Hopefully by now you will have seen the new "Spotlight On" feature on our homepage which gives one EFC member per month the chance to tell their story and be "in the spotlight". In this first installment, Tomasz Perkowski of the Foundation for Polish Science talks about the foundation's main achievements to date, the challenges it faces and what plans it has in store for the future. Any EFC members interested in taking part should write to membership@efc.be

All that remains is for me to wish you a peaceful and relaxing end to the year, and to offer season's greetings and all the very best from all of us here at the EFC.

Warm regards,

Gerry Salole

EFC Chief Executive

THIS MONTH'S HIGHLIGHT

European Parliament launches declaration in support of a European Foundation Statute- Help us mobilise MEPs

EU Affairs & Advocacy

Consultation starts on Commission's proposal for the Single Market

European Year of Volunteering 2011 launched. Do not miss the opportunity to get involved!

Provide your input for EFC contributions on Single Market Act, cohesion policy, citizenship and VAT

Commission presents "European Platform Against Poverty and Social Exclusion" initiative

European Forum on EU cooperation in education, training and youth: key messages released

New Skills for New Jobs: addressing labour market challenges

EU Forum discusses future CSR initiatives

European institutions agree on European Citizens' initiative

EU Affairs Monthly Snapshot-December 2010

Legal & Fiscal matters

UK Charity Commission launches consultation on investment guidance

US Council on Foundations working group ends campaign to revise US Government's Anti-Terrorist Financing Guidelines

High Court of Australia affirms charities' right to lobby

International Center for Not-for-profit Law publishes report on the legal framework for volunteerism

UK's Charity Tax Group argues for extension of VAT relief to charities

European Commission launches public consultation on VAT

European Commission calls for less bureaucracy and more legal certainty for European Citizens

Networking & Collaborations

Research Foundations gather to nurture talent

Research Forum Officer at European Foundation Centre

Collective Impact article published in Stanford Social Innovation

[Review](#)

[Research Forum Intellectual Property Seminar](#)

[EFC Research Forum annual conference: Highlights of Day 1](#)

[EFC Research Forum annual conference: Highlights of Day 2](#)

EFC Member & Partner News

[Africa investor Foundations Investor Roundtable on Social Entrepreneurship in Africa](#)

[Banks and philanthropy advice: are there dangers?](#)

[December issue of Alliance magazine focuses on Social Justice](#)

[European Cultural Foundation Routes Award 2011](#)

[German foundations initiate open letter calling for measures to strengthen European integration](#)