



**The poor across Europe are paying too heavy a price for the Crisis as austerity measures bring severe cuts in public services, increased unemployment and spiralling living costs.**

At this topical conference we'll hear about the way the Crisis is affecting poor communities in Europe and the UK, and how people are organising to try and influence solutions to the Crisis.

**Jean Lambert**, Member of the European Parliament, will open the conference for us and tell us what the members of the European Parliament are discussing in relation to moving out of the Crisis and she'll outline the work of the important Social Protection Committee that develops European policy to address poverty and social exclusion.

**Maria Marinakou** from the European Anti Poverty Network in Greece will be talking about the situation at street level in her own country.

We'll hear from **people experiencing poverty in England** who are fighting back by making their voices heard and their experience listened to in the UK and Europe.

**Colin Hampton** of Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centre will talk about some of the campaigning and action going on in this country.

**Dr. Katherine Duffy** will bring us the main points of her recent work for the European Anti Poverty Network that brought together views from poor communities across Europe about the effects of the Crisis and policy ideas to bring fairer solutions.

**Ray Phillips** of LVSTC will report on findings from the pre-conference workshop for London groups looking at the relationship between areas of persistent poverty in London and the recent riots and considering the effectiveness of the European Social Funds in addressing poverty issues.

We'll finish with what will surely be a lively discussion about how best we can strengthen the participation of poor communities in finding solutions to poverty.

**2011 is European Year for Volunteering and EAPN England will present awards to recognise the extraordinary contribution of volunteers to alleviating poverty and social exclusion in their communities.**

**Europe House**, where the conference will be held is a stone's throw from the Houses of Parliament, and is home of the **European Parliament Information Office** and the **European Commission Representation in the UK**.

## Programme of the day

**11.00 – 11.30 Registration and refreshments**

**11.30 – 12.30 Jean Lambert - Member of the European Parliament** will make the keynote speech opening the conference.

### **Voices on Poverty – taking our experience to Europe**

Members of the UK delegation to the 10<sup>th</sup> European Meeting of People Experiencing Poverty

Justine – Diary of a Jobseeker

Older people from Merseyside – looking forward to participation in 2012 European Year of Active Ageing

**12.30 – 12.45 European Anti Poverty Network England AGM**

**12.45 – 1.30 Lunch** West African dishes created by Global Women

**1.30 – 1.45 European Year for Volunteering Awards for Volunteers' contributions to fighting poverty and social exclusion**

**1.45 – 3.45 Action against Poverty across Europe**

Katherine Duffy – EAPN England

Maria Marinakou – EAPN Greece

Colin Hampton – Derbyshire Unemployed Workers' Centres

Ray Phillips – LVSTC

**Questions to the panel and discussion of how we can best work together to strengthen the voices of the poor and influence solutions to the crisis.**

**This programme may be subject to small changes on the day.**

**To reserve a place at the free conference contact:**

**Nazek Ramadan on: 020 8960 0121 or email: [nazekramadan@aol.com](mailto:nazekramadan@aol.com) or [info@migrantvoice.org](mailto:info@migrantvoice.org)**

### **2011 European Year for Volunteering Awards**

Send us your nominations for individual volunteers or small volunteer run groups that you would like to see receive an award at the conference for their exceptional contribution to alleviating poverty and social exclusion in their communities.

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