



Dear all,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to you all to the **II European Volunteering Conference** Web site. This site marks the beginning of a process of experience and knowledge sharing that will culminate in a conference in Barcelona, to be held November 9, 10 and 11.

It is not the first time that Catalonia has organised a European conference on the topic of volunteering. The **I European Volunteering Conference** was held in Sitges in 1998.

2011 is the **European Year of Volunteering**. Also, volunteerism is closely linked to Catalonia's identity. Thus it is pertinent that the Catalan government has decided to adopt a European approach in the organization of the conference.

Catalonia has always been a country open to Europe. Consequently, we would like volunteers, organizations, social networks, companies, public administrations, academia and other stakeholders from all over Europe to be able to take part in this conference from this very moment.

Europe is rapidly evolving and changing. Catalonia being part of this Europe means it is of the utmost importance that the conference and the joint works that will follow lay the grounds for the construction of a socially robust Europe. A Europe made of committed communities, articulated regions and even more importantly in which citizens' personal commitment and volunteer activities allow for a social transformation to take place and for the incorporation of values such as respect, civic mindedness and living together.

I wish you all a very successful conference and I look forward to meeting you in Barcelona.

Josep Lluís Cleries i González

Minister of Social Welfare and Family



Organitzadors:



amb la col·laboració de:

