

Workshop 2 “defining EPSU’s role in social services”.

Workshop report

Question 1.

Please prioritise the following issues for EPSU social services work:

- EU *legal* definition of solidarity
- the role of the volunteer in services
- gender issues
- social services and quality
- Migrant workers in the sector
- training and qualifications in the sector
- OTHER ISSUE???

Workshop reports (3 workshops)

Workshop one:

- 1 Quality was first issue, then the legal definition of solidarity followed by training, gender, role of volunteers/ migrant workers**

Comments: everyone scored the topics, then the points were added up and final order was based on the score.

Workshop two:

- 2 Training qualifications with a link to Quality was first followed by Migrants workers, Gender issues then Volunteer, legal definition (both for 2007-2008).**

Comments: Still an issue to DEFINE social services, which groups are being talked about. To identify we need to look at training and quality. Migrant workers seen as people working across borders. EPSU could take a role in this.

Workshop three

3. Social services and quality/ training qualifications/ Legal definition/ Volunteers/ Migration.

Other areas included ethical/ quality of life/ stability of society. Gender problem are horizontal. There is a separate European and national perspective. Legal definition is priority from EU area, but from national level it is different. The GENDER question is so important that it should be MAINSTREAMED, as it is horizontal.

Question 2

What EPSU event should be organised for social services (2006/2007)?

1. Training would be good for members.

We should enlarge the group, get material and have NGO participation.

Firstly an additional seminar for EPSU. SO first wider group of EPSU affiliates, then NGO.

2. 2006 for the affiliates ONLY and to have training and qualification and the MIGRANT issue as the subjects. Including moving cross border. Should have guests, but should consolidate EPSU.

3. Too early but concentrate on EPSU. The EPSU social services working group should be the steering group.

Question 3

What is your national understanding of the legal definition of solidarity?

1. Fundamental principle is the same at all levels. ALL citizens have the power to live right. SOLIDARITY should inspire. STATE should guarantee. Provision of services in Spanish means regardless of status of the person.

2. Not so much time on question (NEED GREATER RESEARCH). We see a legal definition, but also we see the tension between the mechanism. Formally it IS part of the legislation.
3. We are NOT lawyers so we CANT identify. The issue is what parameters should be “collective way to cover individual risks that can not be covered by the individual. Risks. Contribute according to ability - benefit according to needs. Strong shoulders should bare the heaviest burdens. Should be able to introduce laws that lead to solidarity.

Question 4

How should the HSS Standing Committee structure the social service work?

1. General approach was that sub-committee should continue the work. Should be separate.
2. Continue the working group. Should take part in having contacts with constituencies. The representatives should be experts in social services.
3. Meetings of standing committee should be structured health and social issues (e.g. working time, 2nd health care, 3rd social care).