



## INFORMATION

CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation is an international organisation dedicated to strengthening citizen action and civil society throughout the world. Today it has over 600 member organisations in 100 countries.

In order to respond more directly and effectively to the needs of and serve better its more than 100 member organisations in the region, after a long preparatory process a CIVICUS European Regional Office was set up in January 2000 in the offices of one of its Hungarian member organisations, the European House. It carries out its activities under the guidance and supervision of an elected Board; its composition is:

Stuart Etherington, Chair National Council for Voluntary Organisations, UK

Nina Belyaeva Interlegal Foundation, Russia

Gojko Bezovan Centre for Development of Non-Profit Organisations, Croatia

Bam Björling Foundation of Women's Forum, Sweden Christiana Weidel, Treasurer The World of NGOs, Austria

Pasquale Ferraro International Development Law Institute, Italy Katarina Kostalova SAIA-SCTS, Slovakia

Ognian Lipovski Union of Bulgarian Foundations and Associations, Bulgaria

Miklós Barabás European House CIVICUS European Regional Director ex officio member

The Board has identified the following field of activities in Europe:

- Civil Society Index Project
- NGO-State Relationship
- Capacity Building
- Globalisation and IT

Results of these activities will be presented to the next CIVICUS World Assembly, a major CIVICUS event to be held in Vancouver, Canada on 19-23 August, 2001 with the central theme "Putting People at the Centre: Voluntary Action Shaping Social and Economic Change".

An important event for CIVICUS was a meeting of its European member organisations in Rome on 18-19 February, 2001. Because of the open character of the event participation of non-members was possible and encouraged.

For the duration of the year 2000, CIVICUS in Europe was financially supported by the National Council of Voluntary Organisations, Charities Aid Foundation, Hungarian Government, Carpathian Foundation and Levi Strauss Europe. Furthermore, the European regional Office has received in-kind contributions from numerous organisations throughout the year.

If you would like to learn more about or join CIVICUS, please contact its European Regional Office.