

1 **Document PP1**

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3 **Policy Paper**

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5 **Document Title:** Policy Paper for Volunteering

6 **Organization:** Cyprus Youth Council Pool of Trainers

7 **Date:** 20 / 08 / 2011

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9 **Summary / Introduction:** (120 – 150 words):

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11 **Benefits of Volunteering**

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13 Today more and more people around the world engaged in voluntary activities aimed at
14 the unconditional offer for charitable purposes. Volunteering is an expression of
15 altruism, of disinterested work and active citizenship, fostering values such as solidarity
16 and social cohesion. Volunteering as an institution has to offer both individual and social
17 level. Starting from the individual benefits, it is worth the feeling of moral satisfaction felt
18 by the volunteer after the offer. Secondly, is formed and develops the personality by
19 acquiring experience and enrichment of knowledge and skills. Apart from the above,
20 allow the volunteer to socialize and improve their quality of life.

21
22 In social terms the institution of voluntary help in social progress and development.
23 Promote social tolerance and respect for diversity and develop social consciousness,
24 the offer and understanding. Beyond this, the public awareness on various emerging
25 problems.

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27 Unfortunately there are several obstacles / challenges that inhibit the development of
28 volunteering. Like the fact that many consider volunteers as something outdated or
29 wasting time or underestimate. Modern life values cultivate alienation, indifference and
30 consumerism, many persons has problem with free time to escape from everyday
31 routine. Non-formal education is not recognized as a form the public service, there is
32 lack of information / promotion of volunteerism as Media.

33
34 The training for volunteering, goals and values is inadequate, financial difficulties due to
35 unemployment and economic difficulties of voluntary organizations lack financial
36 support and sponsorship, hindering the development of volunteering. Many young
37 persons have failed to match their interests with existing volunteer opportunities, not
38 everyone has equal opportunities for voluntary action as non-urban residents.

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47 **Policy positions (in the form of bullet-point)**

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49 To promote and recognize volunteerism in CYC recommends:

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51 • Inclusion of volunteering in schools to raise awareness at a young age, familiarity with
52 the principles / concept of volunteering and offering general, cultivation of positive
53 attitude

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55 • Liaison involvement of parents / teachers / School Board

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57 • Visibility events and volunteer opportunities for employment / offer online and through
58 media.

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60 • Issuing monthly form on volunteerism within and outside Cyprus.

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62 • Consolidation of links with common action / purpose to enhance their work

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64 • Developing / promoting voluntary activities by municipalities.

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66 • Promote better use of resources / entities organized all

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68 • Establish a European body for volunteering to coordinate to coordinate the voluntary
69 bodies of the European countries.

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71 • Proper use of funds

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73 • Networking / collaboration between voluntary bodies of the European countries, to
74 integrate / adapt-tested regular exchange of ideas.

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76 • Development of social planning through policies that promote volunteerism.

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78 • Recognition of the supply of volunteer action as an additional