

# Balancing family life and work

'Exploring the possibilities of a  
European family-friendly label'



A Raise Awareness Meeting  
in the European Parliament

With the participation of  
**László Andor, Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion**  
**Professor em. Philippe de Woot**

**Convened in observance of the International Day of Families  
and as part of preparations for the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family (2014)**

Co-organized by  
International Federation for Family Development  
The Family Watch  
Make Mothers Matter International  
World Youth Alliance  
Federation of Catholic Family Associations in Europe  
European Federation of Parents and Carers at Home  
New Women for Europe  
Forum Européen des Femmes  
European Federation of Parents and Carers at Home  
European Large Families Confederation  
European local inclusion and social action network (ELISAN)  
CARE for Europe  
Veneto Region

**Brussels, 15 May 2013**

**European Parliament, room Jozsef Antall 6Q2**  
**Hosted by the Working Group on Family, the Rights of the Child and Solidarity between generations**

The 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family offers an opportunity to refocus on the role of families, take stock of recent trends and share good practices in the field of family policies, review challenges faced by families worldwide and recommend solutions. Therefore the Organisers kindly invite you to take part in the preparations for the 20th Anniversary of the International Year of the Family in 2014 by participating in the 'Balancing family life and work' Raise Awareness Conference that will be held on 15 May in Brussels, Belgium.

The event will focus on work-family balance that is one of the three main themes of the 20th Anniversary; besides confronting family poverty and social exclusion, and advancing intergenerational solidarity. The first panel on the 'Rush hour of life and the life cycle approach' will explore practices that proved to be effective in promoting a better work-life balance for families. With reference to these good practices, the speakers of the second panel will provide their expert opinion on how the different stakeholders (employers, employees, civil society) can work together to enhance these practices. The conference shall also provide an opportunity to explore the possibility of creating a European family-friendly label as an initiative of the European civil society.



The language of the conference will be English

More information and registration:  
[www.family2014.org/brussels.php](http://www.family2014.org/brussels.php)

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## Draft Program

12.30 - 13.00

### Registration

13.00 - 13.10

### Welcome address

Working Group on Family, the Rights of the Child and Solidarity between Generations in the European Parliament

13.10 - 13.50

### The "rush hour" of life and the life cycle approach - best practices at work

Moderator: Ines Mortreuil (HR-Strategy Consultant)

- Work-life balance policies and examples in the Veneto Region (Italy)
- Betreut.de - providing online support for families (Germany)
- Company initiatives for workers with care responsibilities for disabled children or adults (Eurofound)
- Fédération des particuliers employeurs (France)
- Family-friendly certificate (Spain)

13.50 - 14.05

### Debate with the floor

14.05-14.45

### Various perspectives on the implementation of best practices

Moderator: Pierluigi Brombo (European Economic and Social Committee)

- Employee representative
- Employer representative
- Policy / decision maker
- European Economic and Social Committee representative
- A civil society representative

14.45 - 15.00

### Debate with the floor

15.00 - 15.15

### Towards the empowerment of families in the United Nations Framework

Video message from the representative of the United Nations Focal Point of the Family and address by a representative of the civil society

15.15 - 15.45

### Exchange of views with Commissioner László Andor

Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Inclusion

15.45 - 16.00

### Concluding remarks: Corporate Social Responsibility and Families

Philippe de Woot (Emeritus Professor, Université Catholique de Louvain)

