



European Network of  
Single Parent Families

**European Network  
of Single Parent Families (ENoS)**

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### **ENoS Annual Report of the President, Edith Schwab**

May 2010 (Bolzeno) to May 2010 (Vienna)

Since the last ENoS-Meeting May 2010 more than two years have passed – quite a long time, good, that we now again join together!

The reasons for this quite long time of intermission are different: We had planned an ENoS-Meeting for 2011 in Austria, but that couldn't be conducted as we thought before. We in Germany (Federal Association of Single Mothers and Fathers, VAMV) first thought we might take over and organize a meeting in Berlin – but when it came clear that we would have a change of general secretary, it also came clear that this plan wouldn't work out. Nowadays everybody is in place, so we go on with full speed ahead!

But this does luckily not mean, that nothing happened in the past two years:

At the occasion of the ÖPA-Conference on child poverty in October 2010 in Linz several ENoS members took the opportunity to gather around for a short informal meeting.

2010 was the European year against poverty and social exclusion. There was an European conference about child poverty, that the German Association of Family Organisations (AGF) conducted together with the European Commission. The VAMV is one of the big five family leagues aligned in the AGF. The general secretaries of the AGF met at working level with representatives of the EU-Commission, the EU-Parliament and European NGOs to discuss about the intended measures against child poverty. In January 2011 the VAMV was invited for a statement by the European parliament for a hearing about „The situation of single mothers“.

These were the main events on national and international level we were able to introduce ENoS to the public:

1. Linz, October 2010F (Schwab, Liebisch, Priebe, Priebe-Czadzeck)
2. European Commission: Workshop “Supporting lone parents”, Brussels, June 2012 (Liebisch)
3. European Anti Poverty Network (EAPN), General Assembly, Cyprus, June 2010 (Liebisch)
4. AGF & European Commission, Off-The-Conservation about child poverty an European strategy 2020, Brussels, September 2010 (Liebisch)
5. AGF: European Conference about child poverty, Berlin, November 2010 (Schwab, Liebisch)

6. Hearing of the European parliament about „The situation of single mothers“, Brussels, January 2011 (Liebisch)
7. Round Table with the German President Christian Wulff, Berlin, February 2011 (Schwab)
8. Round Table with the German Chancellor Angela Merkel, Berlin, September 2011 (Schwab)
9. Round Table with the Federal Minister of Family Kristina Schröder, Berlin, December 2011 (Hoheisel)

Our Main Office and our board kept contact to the ENoS-Members during the year. We claimed the fees fixed by the statute for 2010, for the year 2011 unfortunately not until 2012. Due to the change of the general secretary this got lost. The financial report for this reason looks worse as the situation is. But nevertheless there are members that didn't pay the fees for years, France and Sweden even not since 2009. We have to discuss how to handle this situation.

The member fees paid are still on a special bank account. There hasn't been spent anything of the money yet, so we should so we can discuss what is the best how to spend it for ENoS.

In March 2011 my deputy Roland Lüthe retired from the Vice-President of ENoS. As we didn't have our ENoS meeting since then, his function still needs replacement.

We have contact with a new emerging Single-parents Organisation in Hungary, who is quite interested in the exchange with Single-parents Organisation in other countries and ENoS. Unfortunately no one could come to Vienna.

Edith Schwab

Vienna, October the 20<sup>th</sup> of the year 2012