

## Call for Participants

### North-South Capacity Building “A Common Future in the Eurozone?”

The European Union is in a deep crisis. Citizens seem to have lost faith in the European project which has been so important for peace, welfare and stability in the region after World War II. The problems in the eurozone have deepened the crisis and have led to an increasing north-south gap. The debt and economic crisis on the one hand and a disturbing unemployment, especially youth unemployment, threaten to undermine the social structure and of southern European societies and threaten democracy. Young people grow up without perspective and Europe does not seem to offer one; on the contrary, people tend to perceive Europe as the cause of all evil. In times of practically limitless technical communication possibilities, the mutual understanding of Europeans risks to get drowned by waves of narrow-minded populism and neo-nationalism.

The Heinrich-Böll-Stiftung European Union (hbs EU) as part of a political foundation from a northern EU Member State invites 15 young people from the southern member states of the eurozone and from Germany to Brussels in order to discuss the economic, social and political problems in their countries; their perception of their own future, that of their countries and of Europe with each other and with actors of the European institutions and organisations.

The capacity building will take place **from 30 September till 4 October 2013** (arrival 29 September evening – departure 5 October morning). The hbs EU will reimburse the travel costs; participation, accommodation and catering are free. Candidates should have the German, Cypriot, Greek, Italian, Portuguese or Spanish nationality and reside in their respective countries; be aged between 18 and 30 and active in a professional, social and/or political context where the offered experience and knowledge will be useful. They should be interested in European solutions for the current problems and have an affinity with green political ideas. Fluency in written and oral English is required. Candidates should before **15 June** write a letter of motivation in which they explain why they want to participate and what they expect from the programme. Applicants will be informed about their selection before **1 July**. Participants have to commit themselves to prepare for the capacity building a presentation of ten minutes relating to the social, political or economic situation in their countries. After 1 July the web site of hbs EU will feature a drop box where the participants will be able to find material for the programme, leave their own contributions and material and communicate with other participants.

#### Applications should be sent to:

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#### For further information:

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