Red Cross EU office update

Camille Freixinos, Policy officer
About Red Cross EU office (RCEU)

- 276,000 employees
- + 920,000 volunteers

Thematic units:
- Disaster Management and Development;
- Social Inclusion;
- Migration.

Humanitarian aid, civil protection, development and cooperation, migration & asylum, health & social services, poverty and exclusion…
RCEU strategic objectives

Heighten Red Cross influence on EU policy, legislation and practice

Increase EU resources for our members’ domestic and international work to maximise their reach and scope

Serve our members on EU-related issues by monitoring the legal framework, exchanging information and knowledge, and providing tailored capacity building and technical support.
RCEU work around MHPSS

National Societies priorities + EU agenda
What policy areas should RCEU social inclusion unit prioritize in its advocacy work towards EU institutions? (Please rank from 1 to 5 in order of importance where 1 is the most urgent/for your NS and 5 is least)
EU and MHPSS: a momentum

Comprehensive approach to Mental Health (June 2023)

- Own-initiative report on MH (end 2023)
- Sets of conclusions on MH (MH in precarious work, young people, people with substance abuse issues...)

10 November 2023
Insights on our Humanitarian Diplomacy work

Joint contribution to E.C consultation for the new initiative "A comprehensive approach to M.H" (Feb.22)

Latvian and Ukrainian RC young volunteers' participation in the Youth Policy Dialogue on Mental Health with DG SANTE Commissioner (Feb.22)

Croatian RC presentation in an EU webinar "Mental health and the environment" (Feb.22)

Red Cross and EU Strategic Dialogue (Oct.22)

Mental Health & Psychosocial support in natural hazards

Marlja Juztišić, Head of Psychosocial support & Protection of vulnerable group unit, WHO/Europe and Mental Health Europe

10 November 2023
Red Cross and EU
Technical discussion on MH (May 2023)
PS Centre, Belgian RC, Austrian RC, RC Mali

World Mental Health Day high-level event with the EU Commissioner on Health (Oct 2023)
Outcomes and next steps

- On EU Communication on a Comprehensive approach to MH
  - + on the content: wider health determinants, vulnerable groups, loneliness, PS risks for workers...
  - Red Cross mentioned in the finale document as implementer of 1 of the 20 EU flagship initiatives with EU4h/UA

- Visibility: positioning as a key stakeholder in the EU

- RCEU HD strategy on Health incl. MH
  - Supporting coordination of HD in EU4H project, working with members to ensure maximum impact of the project at both the EU and Member States’ levels

- Challenge: EU elections in 2024…
Thank you!

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