CALL FOR A POLICY FELLOW IN EDUCATION AND LIFELONG LEARNING

SOLIDAR Foundation for Progressive Education and Democratic Participation is the Learning Hub of SOLIDAR, a network of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) working to achieve a Just Transition to Social Justice in Europe and worldwide. With 50+ member organisations based in 27 countries (24 of which are EU countries), member organisations are national CSOs in Europe, as well as some non-EU and EU-wide organisations, working in one or more of our fields of activity. SOLIDAR voices the values of its member organisations to the EU and international institutions across the three main policy sectors: social affairs, education and lifelong learning, and international cooperation.

If you are analytical, engaged and with a burning heart for progressive development, social rights, and European politics – this is the position for you! We’re looking for a candidate with a firm belief in the European labour and citizens’ movements. This role will support the policy analysis work of the Education and Lifelong Learning team, including the SOLIDAR Foundation flagship publication providing an overview of the status of Citizenship Education and Lifelong Learning situation in Europe while advocating for building inclusive learning societies.

SOLIDAR Foundation is looking for a policy fellow in the Education and Lifelong Learning team who can start in early May for a duration of 8 months. The person will be part of the SOLIDAR Foundation team, supporting it in policy research while developing knowledge and experience of the fast-paced work of our network.

This fellowship programme is open to activists, recent graduates and students in the final phase of their master’s looking for an experience in a dynamic and multicultural working environment. The role will allow you to discover the working environment of Civil Society Organisations in Brussels in a member-based European network. It will give you an introduction to strategic advocacy work on the EU level as well as an understanding of the impact on the national level.

**Key tasks:**
Within the SOLIDAR Foundation fellowship programme, fellows have an opportunity to support and analyse the policy developments on both the national and EU level in education and lifelong learning policy. The fellow will contribute to the work of SOLIDAR by supporting the team with desk research, policy analysis and contributing to the development of the annual publication Citizenship and Lifelong Learning Monitor.

The fellowship program is under the form of “La convention d’immersion professionnelle” registered under Belgian law. The foreseen monthly allowance is approximately €800.

During the programme, the fellow will be expected to make substantive contributions to:
- The monitoring of EU policy impact with SOLIDAR members and partners;
- Supporting the work around the publication of the Citizenship and Lifelong Learning Monitor in cooperation with SOLIDAR members and SOLIDAR partners;
• The drafting of briefing papers, position papers, policy papers and desk studies about citizenship education, lifelong learning and the civic space across Europe;
• Participation in meetings, conferences, workshops in and around the EU institutions for the purpose of reporting back to SOLIDAR Secretariat
• Supporting the organisation of internal and external events to engage the membership and advocate for the policy recommendations drawn from the research findings;
• Supporting the team with communications tasks, such as drafting the monthly newsletter and social media posts.

Requirements
• Degree in relevant field (politics; European studies; education studies; public policy...)

Key skills and competences:
- Fluency in English (written and spoken)
- Ability to conduct qualitative desk research
- Well-developed writing and editing skills, analysis and synthesis skills
- Ability to write briefing papers and monitoring reports as well as news articles
- Good organisational skills and time-management competences
- Interest in education and lifelong learning policies, and democratic participation
- Eagerness to learn about EU policies and EU decision-making process
- Digital literacy: good command of digital environments such as Microsoft Teams/365 and Google suite; ability to use efficiently video-conferencing tools; good command of social media (FB, TW)
- Dedication to the values of SOLIDAR: solidarity, equality and democratic participation

Assets
- Fluency in French, German or Spanish
- Experience with activism/volunteering in SOLIDAR member organisations or in non-formal and informal learning environments

If you are interested in participating in the SOLIDAR policy fellowship programme, please send:
- Your CV of max. 2 pages
- A one page cover letter explaining why you think you are suited for this position, and what your objectives and expected outcomes are for this experience to Elisa Gambardella (elisa.gambardella@solidar.org) with subject line ‘Fellowship - SOLIDAR Foundation - Your name and Surname’ by 12th April 2021.
Only short-listed candidates will be interviewed. Tentative dates for interviews: 21st to 28th of April.