

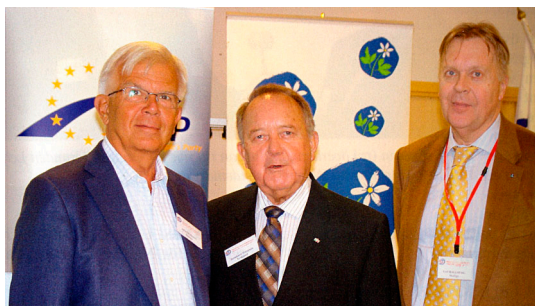
The evening before the International Remembrance Day for the victims of the holocaust at the end of January a foundation was formed to support the **“Mount of Remembrance & Reconciliation” in Auschwitz (Oświęcim, PL)**. For the mayor of Oświęcim, **Janusz Marszalek**, this gives hope that the ambitious project in the vicinity of the Auschwitz concentration camp memorial can be realised by 2012.

For the European Senior Citizens' Union **values-based political action** remains the basis of further integration and development in Europe. Particular support is deserved by all honest efforts to strengthen families, explained **Dr. Worms** before employees. (On the photo with General Secretary **Ms. Uhlenbrock**) In this he is unanimous with the European Senior Citizens' Union membership associations and parties in 24 countries. The European Senior Citizens' Union will continue to strive for the reconciliation of economic rationale, ecology and social justice.



The 7th Congress of the European Senior Citizens' Union on 4th and 5th of November 2010 in the Cologne/Bonn region (D) goes under the motto of “INNOVATION AND SOLIDARITY, the pillars of the future of Europe.”

Vincent Houssiau, advisor to the Belgian Prime Minister, urged for **transparent and communal EU Policy**. Speaking in mid January before representatives of older citizens in Flanders and Wallonia. Further issues covered by the conference initiated by the senior citizens of the CD&V (Christian Democratic & Flemish party) with the Committee of the Regions of the EU in Brussels: the situation of older citizens and their social involvement. The next European Senior Citizens' Union regional conference “Centre” – also in Brussels in June – will follow the theme “active and healthy aging”.



Meeting of ESU President **Dr. Worms** (middle) with vice president **Leif Hallberg** (right), the leader of seniors of the Swedish Christian democrats. (Left): Honourable chairperson of the senior citizens organization **Alf Svensson**, who since 2009 is the member of the European parliament. (Source: Malmö 2007)

Sweden's Christian Democratic Senior Citizens (president: European Senior Citizens' Union Vice President **Leif Hallberg**) have seen themselves for 17 years “primarily as a political movement”, writes member of the board **Bo Streiffert**. Their activities are directed toward a good life for citizens also beyond the professional sphere. The association has around 2000 members across the country, organised into twelve districts. For cost reasons the board of thirteen members holds every second meeting as a telephone conference. In 2010 the parliamentary elections will be supported. (Details see www.eu-seniorunion.info/mainmenu_en.html)

The first European Senior Citizens' Union “Summer Academy” in Vienna should provide a forum for the activities of senior citizens unions and exchange of experiences, above all in the strengthening of the democratic structures of our European Senior Citizens' Union member countries. The event will be prepared in cooperation with the political academy of the Austrian Senior Citizens Association and is scheduled for July or August.

The Senior Citizens Club of the Slovenian Democratic Party (SDS) has a new president. Successor to Ivan Bizjak, who did not candidate on health grounds, is **Mitja Ljubeljsek**; **Eva Perman** and **Karl Midlil** were elected as Vice Presidents; **Vera Ban**, to whom we thank this information, continues as the General Secretary. The “Club of Senior Citizens (KSS)” intensively supports the founding of further local and regional groups; working in cooperation with the women's and youth organisation of the SDS. Currently the precarious social position of pensioners and disputed application of additional social security contributions are the core of the organisations' activities.

The CDU (D) **advocates a fair generation-based pensions policy**. According to the statement of mid January the CDU will address pensioner poverty in future also through an “adequate pension income” without overloading contribution payers.

The Bulgarian Prime Minister Borrissov, six months in office, spoke in Berlin before an audience of several hundred in detail on his intensive endeavours to regain the trust of the population and European partners through reforms in almost all areas. Internal security is the primary concern. The senior citizens' organisation of his party, GERB, (Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria) called SGERB (Senior Citizens' Organisation of the GERB Political Party) is a member of the European Senior Citizens' Union. Chairman: **Prof. Nikolay Andreev**.