



**“What’s new, Committee 2?”
Social Policy and Public Health
HOLIDAY EDITION
December 2009**

Dear AER members,
Dear Friends,

As the holiday season is closing in on us, the AER Committee 2 Secretariat would like to thank you all for your contributions and initiatives this year. We look forward to developing new and exciting activities with you all in the New Year and wish you a wonderful holiday season with some well-deserved rest.

Here is a flavour of 2010 – the AER’s 25th anniversary!

AER Committee 2 Secretariat



**ALEC2010 Conference
e-health: together we make it happen!
3-5 February 2010, Luleå (Norrbotten, S)**

ALEC2010 is the only e-health conference addressed directly to the regions! We encourage you to bring your regions’ decision-makers, policy officers, businesses and university experts to Luleå. This is an opportunity for you to experience what other regions are doing in e-health, create new partnerships and contribute to the formulation of the future e-health strategy for Europe’s regions.

For further information and to register, please visit:
<http://www.aer.eu/events/health-social/2009/ehealth-nll.html>



Alcohol

**AER Conference: what does alcohol do to your region
and what can you do about it?
11-12 May 2010, Barcelona (Catalunya, E)**

Alcohol has been estimated to cost Europe 125 billion € per year in total tangible costs. That is the figure that emerges if we calculate the burden on our health and social services, on our police and judicial systems, in lost working hours, in accidents and damage to property. Join us for this conference to learn from other regions the policies that work in preventing alcohol-related harm and how to implement them.

The Committee 2 Spring plenary meeting will be held on 12 May 2010 and will be an opportunity to discuss latest developments in health and social affairs, both within the regions and also at European level, and to learn about our networks’ progress.

Further information will be available at:
<http://www.aer.eu/events/health-social/2010/spring-plenary-com-2.html>



Emergency Planning

Emergency Planning Network

Following the success of our seminar on regional preparedness for floods, we are developing a further series of thematic workshops. Our aim is to help regions learn from each other and improve their regional preparedness and response plans.

You will find the AER best practice guide on putting together a regional prevention and response plan for floods on our website:

<http://www.aer.eu/events/health-social/2009/epnseminar.html>

If your region is interested in contributing to this activity or you have a proposal on an issue you think the AER Emergency Planning Network should address, then please contact us!

NEW Project - FLINKMAN-Flood Management

FLINKMAN will develop an overarching framework that allows all actors involved in flood management to be linked. The project has been accepted for co-financing under the European Civil Protection Financial Instrument and will be launched in 2010. It is lead by Central Macedonia (GR) and also involves the regions of Noord-Brabant (NL) and Hessen (D). We will keep you posted of the project's progress and activities.

Health

Structuring & Financing Healthcare

We are preparing an AER Training Academy, expected to take place in March-April 2010, to give regions the opportunity to go into the details of how private-public partnerships, e-health technology and change management can help improve the quality of their services.

If you have expertise in this subject or if you are interested in participating, please contact us!



Demographic Change

Regions interested in cooperation - contact us!

The AER Roadmap for demographic change has charged our Committee with helping regions identify partners, cooperation proposals and funding sources for regions interested in cooperating in the field of demographic change.

If your region is interested in developing cooperation projects in this area, please contact us.

We will be organising a networking meeting for interested members in the first half of 2010.

Disabilities

AER network focusing on the implementation of the UN Convention on the rights of persons with disabilities

The AER network will focus on the policies that regions should adopt and the changes they need to make in order to satisfy their legal obligations under the UN Convention. We will focus on accessibility, awareness-raising, health and habilitation & rehabilitation.

We will organise thematic seminars with expert presentations on what obligations the UN convention creates for regions and regional exchange on the policies that work and how to implement.

Dates to be announced soon!

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