

**ELISAN WAS FORMED ON JANUARY 28TH, 2008 AT THE COMMITTEE OF THE REGIONS IN BRUSSELS AND IS AN NGIO ENJOYING PARTICIPATORY STATUS WITH THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE.**

Local communities, which are highly involved and capable as regards maintaining social cohesion in most of the European States, have a vital role to play in the deepening of social Europe which is respectful of national models. It is the ambition of the ELISAN network to speak up for elected representatives for local social action on the European stage.

### **ELISAN MEMBERS**

The ELISAN network is open to European territorial communities, as well as town networks, experts in local social action and European networks acting in the field of social action or interested in working to develop a social Europe which guarantees the basic rights of all citizens.

### **ELISAN GOVERNING BODIES ARE ELECTED FOR 3 YEARS**

ELISAN governing bodies are elected for 3 years. ELISAN is composed of:

- ★ a Board of Directors consisting of one representative per college and per member country;
- ★ an Executive Board;
- ★ and a steering committee.



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**EUROPE,  
IT'S SOCIAL,  
IT'S TOGETHER,  
IT'S NOW.**



**European Local Inclusion and Social Action Network**



## ELISAN IS A TOOL FOR REFLECTION, ANALYSIS, PROPOSALS AND THE EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE

Consideration about social Europe must guarantee access to the basic rights of our citizens and answer their social needs in the interests of community. ELISAN's wish is to increase awareness of local social action and ensure that a better account is taken of the participation of the elected representatives in the implementation of an effective and coherent European social policy.

ELISAN contributes to the overarching goal of social cohesion the Union has set itself, with all its capacity for innovation and resourcefulness. Faced with diverse social problems, it enhances the wealth of local community policies and approaches by drawing up and implementing European Union policies.

### 3 PRINCIPLES

#### THE PRINCIPLE OF SUBSIDIARITY.

ELISAN emphasises the need to combine the concept of solidarity with the concept of subsidiarity. Our Network considers that applying the principle of subsidiarity without regulation runs the risk of increasing inequality between territories and individuals. Applying it implies that the financial and human resources necessary for carrying out the transfer of skills are also provided.

#### THE PRINCIPLE OF SOCIAL COHESION.

One ambition lies at the root of ELISAN's work and contributions: achieving an integrated model of sustainable development in our societies.

#### THE PRINCIPLE OF TERRITORIAL COHESION

It thereby aims to complement the Union's principles of economic and social cohesion. It is an essential component in the building of Europe. Maintaining this requirement contributes to the respect for the concepts of equality before the public service and territorial equality.

**From the viewpoint of these great principles, ELISAN's policy aims to guarantee the basic social rights of citizens in the European Union.**

## ELISAN POLICIES:

### Speaking up for local and territorial elected representatives who are responsible for social action in Europe...

**...By expressing their position on strategic issues and by contributing to European Commission consultations** in order to defend the interests and increase the value of action taken by European territorial communities

### RAISING AWARENESS ABOUT LOCAL SOCIAL ACTION IN EUROPE, ITS ISSUES AND ITS PLAYERS...

**...By arranging events and participating in European conferences:** ELISAN raises awareness of and enhances the position of network members in European conferences. It organises events on European current affairs in order to make social action players think, encourage exchanges and formulate common recommendations.

**...By spreading European social innovation and the exchange of good practice, ELISAN:**

- Encourages the exchange of information and experience regarding social policies at a local level
- Encourages innovative European partnerships to emerge
- Increases the value of social innovation by European territorial communities
- Sets up a database for European social innovation
- Launches the European Award for Social Innovation

**...By informing its members about European policies in the social field and by increasing the value of the work of the European Union as regards social protection and social inclusion thanks to its various communication media:** ELISAN's monthly newsletter, ELISAN's website, News alerts...

### AND DEVELOPING THE NETWORK...

**...By coordinating its members' actions and supporting them by structuring and motivating the European network they form.**

