

**solidar**



## Social Policy

### Together for Social Europe - the view of social workers

On 29 April 2009, social workers came to the heart of European democracy, the European Parliament, to share their experiences of working with poor and vulnerable people with European decision makers.



**Leo Coenders from Humanitas, The Netherlands**

*What do you do?*

I support all home administration projects in East Holland. That is to say helping out people to get their administration at home sorted out, giving them an insight into their financial situation and teaching them to do it themselves in the end.

*What does the Humanitas do?*

[Humanitas](#) aims to encourage citizens' participation in society.

*What are the main issues that you face working with overindebted people?*

That some people live in a vicious circle and cannot get out; they need to be empowered to take control of their lives.

*What are your top tips to European decision makers?*

You can only succeed when you change the attitude and behaviour of people, and organisations must be supported financially to be able to work on programmes with long term goals.