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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

*Brussels, 2 December 2008*

### **Mental Health Europe and the European Parliament discuss the Mental Health and Wellbeing of the New Generations**

Mental Health Europe is holding a debate event addressing a key priority of the European Pact for Mental Health and Wellbeing, namely the mental health of children and young people.

**WHAT** Whilst the majority of young people in the EU enjoy good mental health, with around 80% of young people in Europe reporting a high level of mental wellbeing up to 50-75% of mental disorders present in adult life have their onset during adolescence.

**WHO** The event will be hosted by Mr. Rasmussen MEP, former Danish Prime Minister, and Mr. Berlinguer MEP, member of the Committee for Health and Environment. It will foster discussion between representatives from the EU Institutions and key experts on policy perspectives in the field of mental wellbeing of young people across the EU.

**WHY** Taking forward the commitments taken in the European Pact for Mental Health and Wellbeing, which recognises the key role of educational and community settings in reaching children and young people and determining their level of mental health and wellbeing, the European Parliament Committee for Health and Environment is due to vote on the motion for a European Parliament resolution on Mental Health.

Mental Health Europe believes that the mental health and wellbeing of children and young people is fundamental to the future social and economic growth of the European region and that much more can be done to promote mental health and wellbeing and prevent mental disorders in the early years of life and amongst children and young people.

**WHEN** Wednesday, 3 December 2008  
12:00 a.m. – 2:30 p.m.

**WHERE** European Parliament, Brussels, room P7C050

#### ***For media inquiries and to register, please contact:***

*Mental Health Europe Secretariat*

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#### **Notes to Editors:**

Mental Health Europe (MHE) is a European non-governmental organisation committed to the promotion of positive mental health, the prevention of mental distress, the improvement of care, advocacy for social inclusion and the protection of human rights for (ex-) users of mental health services, their families and carers. For more information: [www.mhe-sme.org](http://www.mhe-sme.org)