

MONTHLY SEMINAR

Topic: Volunteers in the judiciary? Surely not! The role of active citizens and civil society in delivering public services and developing social policy: A UK and European perspective

Speaker: Barbara Coulson
British Citizens Advice Bureaus

Time: 13:00-15:00, 12 March 2014

Venue: East China Normal University, Minhang Campus, Shanghai
(华东师范大学闵行校区)

ABSTRACT OF THE TALK

This talk will examine the ways in which in the UK ordinary people as part of voluntary organisations can be effective in delivering public services and developing social policy with particular reference to the criminal justice system, provision of advice services, and cross border projects in the EU. The main focus will be the UK and will look at a short history of the UK Voluntary Sector and issues related to the range, depth and power of citizens as volunteers in the decision making processes of the criminal justice system, the expertise of the citizen volunteer and the challenges of working cross border with different national legislation and different social histories.

BIOGRAPHY

Ms. Barbara Coulson has worked since 1976 entirely within the field of citizens organisations which rely on volunteers to deliver a large array of services to the community. Ms. Coulson has a UK-based experience of the legal advice sector, the criminal justice system, social welfare development and the provision of leisure facilities for the disabled. Additionally Ms. Coulson has a wide knowledge of the operation of Civil Society across many European countries through the EU projects that Ms. Coulson has managed as UK partner over the years.