



# OKRA CAN MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

## BELGIUM

EZA-Seminar  
Euromf vzw



# ABOUT OKRA

**-210 000 members**

**-18 regions in Flanders**

**-1 coordinating  
organisation (Brussels)**

**-1180 local meetingplaces**



# MAIN ACTIVITIES

- **uniting** retired/aged **people**
- **offering** a diverse and high-quality range of **activities** (*sports, culture, travelling,.....*)
- **creating social involvement**



# STEP BY STEP OKRA



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# PROMOTING THE INTERESTS OF AGED PEOPLE

- **LOCAL - NATIONWIDE**  
*training volunteers, also to represent*
- **SERVICES**  
*=assistance questions related to  
pension and care*
- **PRESSURE GROUP (lobby)**

# DEMONSTRATION

## 13 -09 - 2011

**ONS  
PENSIOEN:  
GEEN  
VETPOT!**



EEN OP DE VIER OUDEREN IS ARM. EEN SCHANDE

# INFLUENCE GOVERNMENT

- ❖ DEMONSTRATIONS
- ❖ PETITIONS
- ❖ REPRESENTATION
- ❖ DISCUSSIONS
- ❖ STUDY GROUPS



# TRADITION



**PENSION**

**HEALTH**



**PUBLIC TRANSPORT**

**AFFORDABLE LIVING**



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# DEMONSTRATION - WHY?



- **25% of the elderly live below the poverty line !**
- **Reinforcement of the basic pension (1st pillar)**
- **Minimum pensions are too low**
- **Eldest pensions upgrading to the current level prosperity**
- **NO to a Europe reducing social protection!**

# BELGIAN PENSIONS



- **2 major principles**
  - insurance
  - solidarity
- **Based on three pillars**

**PILLAR 1**

**STATUTORY**

**PILLAR 2**

**ENTERPRICE/  
COMPANY**

**PILLAR 3**

**INDIVIDUAL  
(tax reduction)**

# BELGIAN PENSIONS

- ✓ **REPARTITION** VS **CAPITALISATION**
- ✓ **Normal age: 65** VS **EARLYR RETIREMENT**
- ✓ **Minimum: €1 025** VS **Max.: €1 913 (+/- 1500 nett)**
- ✓ periods of working, made equal non-working (unemployed..) revaluation/indexation, single/head of the household

# SOCIAL EUROPE ?

- Against social exclusion
- Promoting social justice
- Promoting solidarity between generations

**VERSUS**

**European ‘greenbook’** = main focus on additional pension (2nd pillar) = economic + budgetary reasons !