



**Message from G.H. Oettinger
Commissioner
Budget and Human Resources**

FAIRPLAY, COOPERATION AND FRIENDSHIP, VALUES OF THE SCHUMAN TROPHY

The Schuman Trophy is a unique opportunity to bring together colleagues from across the Commission DGs and services as well as from other institutions. This event plays an important role in strengthening the Commission's corporate identity all together enjoying friendly competition.

I am a long-standing supporter and fan of football, and I know the great benefit of such a sport. It is good for both physical and mental health. This event fits perfectly with the Commission health and wellbeing policy to have healthy, happy and safe staff members who are close to the society.

Football is about value of fair play and working together; Football also teaches us how to be magnanimous in victory and how to accept defeat gracefully; Football helps to build international friendship and understanding.

Another values which are of primary importance for me are diversity and inclusion. Therefore I would like to encourage our female colleagues to participate to the Women's Tournament. The fact that some teams are also mixed, shows the importance and the relevance of having men and women working together towards a common goal. Today's event is already an achievement on gender equality, but I am personally convinced that we should go even further.

SOLIDARITY - CHARITY FOR DEPRIVED CHILDREN

I would like to emphasise what has been the key driver of this event from the very beginning: Solidarity! Solidarity being as you know a key value of the European Union as enshrined at the forefront of the Treaties.

This event is first and foremost a charity event: raising funds to support projects and associations working to help deprived children generosity for poor children.

I am very impressed that the Schuman Trophy has collected more than 700.000 Eur since the beginning to finance almost 200 charity projects.

MAKE THIS YEAR'S 22ND SCHUMAN TROPHY A HUGE SUCCESS!

The group stage of the 22nd edition of the Schuman Trophy will be played during the whit Monday week-end (19-20 May) at the sports facilities of Royale Union Rixensart in Rosières. The final knockout cup competition will take place on Monday 21st May in the European

Inter-Institutional Center at Overijse together with many other activities such as Tennis, Padel, ping pong, biodanza, petanque, mini foot for children, playground and bouncy castle.

I would wish to see the greatest participation of DGs and of colleagues and their family to this event. I would encourage all senior managers of the institutions to promote it to make this year's 22nd Schuman Trophy a huge success!