

News

Discussing new opportunities and challenges of volunteering



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Author: Núria Comas (Fundació Pere Tarrés)



NCVO champions the voluntary sector and volunteering by connecting, representing and supporting voluntary organisations / Image: NCVO.

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IVSSN

ntary Sector Studies Net

VSSN promotes understanding of the UK voluntary sector through research and is a meeting place for voluntary sector researchers in the UK / Image: VSSN.

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Institute for Volunteering Research

NCVO's Institute for Volunteering Research is a research and consultancy agency specialising in volunteering / Image: IVR.

Researchers, policy makers and practitioners will meet in Nottingham at the 2016 Voluntary Sector and Volunteering Research Conference on 8-9th September.

The [2016 Voluntary Sector and Volunteering Research Conference](#) will be held on 8-9th September at the [Nottingham Conference Centre](#). This annual conference is organized jointly by [NCVO](#), the [Voluntary Sector Studies Network](#) (VSSN) and the [Institute for Volunteering Research](#) (IVR).

It is an opportunity for academics, policy makers and practitioners to share **new and emerging research and network** across different contexts, sectors, and different parts of **the UK and internationally**. The conference will gather contributions from the UK, South Africa, Nigeria, the United States and Canada.

Over two days, there will be a mix of plenary sessions, parallel paper sessions and panel sessions. Specific sessions for new researchers will run alongside the main conference programme. [Campbell Robb](#), Chief Executive of [Shelter](#), will be the keynote speaker.

The themes for this year's conference are:

- **civil society and democracy**: ongoing challenges and opportunities
- volunteering and **participation**: present and future
- **new methods, new data**: what are the **opportunities and challenges** presented in research data and methodology on the sector?
- **grassroots voluntary activity**: past perspectives and new forms
- navigating the **funding** landscape: funding, fundraising and philanthropy
- voluntary sector **governance and management**: new challenges and responses
- advancing **theoretical debates**: old ideas, new directions
- what's new? **Historical perspectives** on the voluntary sector and voluntary action
- the role of the voluntary sector in a new world of **public services**

A draft version of the [programme](#) is already available. Early bird [bookings](#) are open until 17.00 on 22 July 2016.

Tags: [volunteering conference](#)

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