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World Organization of the Scout Movement
Organisation Mondiale du Mouvement Scout
Всемирная Организация Скаутского Движения
Organización Mundial del Movimiento Scout
المنظمة العالمية للحركة الكشفية



Invitation

7th European Scout Forum on Educational Methods

Sinaia, Romania, 30 May to 3 June 2012

www.emforum.scouts.org

Background

Since 1999, leaders involved at national level in the areas of youth programme and adult resources from all over Europe have gathered every two years to take part in the Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources. The Forum is one of the most popular events that takes place in Europe, and has a very special atmosphere due to the participants having similar interest on the educational aspects of Scouting and sharing backgrounds, challenges and concerns.

After Malta (1999), Spain (2001), Slovenia (2003), Luxembourg (2005), Denmark (2007) and Portugal (2009) the European Scout Region is renewing with its tradition of organising the most important European meeting for Programme and Adult Resources Commissioners and members of their teams – the European Scout Forum on Educational Methods.

Aims

The aim of the Forum is to assist National Scout Associations in monitoring and improving their Youth Programme and Adult Resources strategies, in order to increase the impact of the work carried out at national level to support the action at local level.

Objectives

By the end of the Forum, the participants:

- Had the opportunity to work with leaders from different national Scout associations on topics of common interest, sharing information and expertise and networking with peers
- Had opportunities to work with other national leaders on exploring the relevance of our work and gather interesting and useful ideas
- Updated their knowledge and skills for effective support to the local level
- Were informed about the proposed priorities for the Region in what relates to Youth Programme and Adult Resources
- Feel empowered, inspired, motivated and supported in their role

Theme

The theme of this edition of the Forum is "Relevance", focusing on how we can ensure that Scouting is keeping up to date with the current needs and interests of young people being, in the same time, a movement able to identify and play a role in tackling's today's young people's challenges.

What can one expect from the Forum

- An opportunity to debate, partake in training, work on and get inspiration regarding a number of issues dealing with scouting's relevance in today's European society
- A place to meet and exchange ideas with members of different European national teams for youth programme, age sections, training and/or adult resources
- An opportunity to get informed on the latest initiatives, projects and programme ideas developed by the World and/or European level of WOSM (Messengers of Peace, SoW, ESVP)
- An opportunity to share your NSA's successes and challenges, best practices and interesting projects and learn about the work and projects of many other European NSAs
- An opportunity to influence the work of the Region in the next triennium by proposing topics and issues to be considered in the Regional Scout Plan starting in 2013
- Work in international teams with people sharing the same interests/challenges as your NSA
- A place where existing Regional initiatives and programme frameworks (such as Lands of Adventure, Rovernet...) are evaluated and adapted to better fit the needs and expectations of the NSAs
- A place where existing networks (Training Commissioners, Rover Commissioners...) or new ones (Cub Scouts Commissioners, Scout Commissioners...) have a chance to meet and decide on potential future actions, share expertise and renew/make contacts.

- An opportunity to experience the Carpathian nature, in a venue located in Romania's biggest mountain resort, literally meters from the huge forested slopes of the Transylvanian Alps.

The Forum is a great opportunity to share the experiences, to form networks and to use the resource that the people themselves represent. This is why, besides the formal sessions prepared and facilitated by members of the Planning Team, we rely on the representatives of NSAs to get involved and actively participate in a series of opportunities where they'll have the lead role: network sessions on age sections and interests, International Team Tasks, Best Practices presentations, Open Space, Project market, 1to1s, etc.

More information about all these, as well as consultation regarding the proposed sessions organized by the Planning Team members can be found on the event's webpage: www.emforum.scoutshub.org

Dates

30 May - 03 June 2012

Participants are requested to arrive on Wednesday, 30 May, in the afternoon. The departures are from Sunday, 3 June, after lunch.

Venue

The meeting will take place at hotel "Mara" in Sinaia, the most important mountain resort of Romania. The hotel is situated at the border of the Carpathian forest and, weather permitting, we will have as many outdoors sessions as possible. The venue offers accommodation in single and twin rooms as well as the necessary working conditions.

Methodology

Scouting methods will be used during the Forum, including training sessions, workshops, group discussions and team challenges, audio-visual presentations, keynote speech, activity games, case studies, exhibition, social and informal networking time and different other active methods.

The success of the Forum depends much on the participants' full participation, before, during and after the Forum.

The NSO and the participants will be asked to participate in pre-event electronic contacts and they will be put in contact with their NSO at home during the event.

Languages

The work will be conducted mainly in English, so participants are expected to be able to communicate easily in this language. However, French-speaking participants are welcome and support will be sought to enable a meaningful exchange.

Participants profile

- National Adult Resources/Training Commissioners and members of their teams
- National Programme Commissioners and members of their teams
- National age sections' Commissioners and members of their teams
- Able to communicate well in English and/or French

Number of participants

The minimum number in order to run the event is 60 participants (no more than 5 from each NSA). The maximum number of participants is 100.

Applications

The enclosed application form should be mailed or faxed to the WSB - European Regional Office or e-mailed to europa@scout.org by **8 April 2012**. If the application is sent by e-mail, please send it through your national office or international commissioner (to confirm the support from your national association). Applications received directly from individuals will not be considered.

Travel arrangements

Once participants have been selected they will receive acceptance letters by 21 April 2012. They should make their own travel arrangements and obtain a visa, if necessary. If you require an official invitation to obtain a visa, please indicate this on your application form.

The venue is 90 min. from the Bucharest Airport and the transfer will be provided by the host organisation (if travel details are sent in time). Travel forms will be included in the information package to be sent to participants with the acceptance letter.

Participation fee

The maximum fee per participant is EUR 200. A potential funding (still under negotiations) from the Romanian Ministry of Education might further lower this - we will keep you informed.

The fee covers the transfer from/to the airport, Forum materials, all accommodation (on a twin room basis) and meals from dinner on Thursday, 30 May to lunch on Sunday, 3 June. The fee does not cover travel costs to Bucharest.

A supplement of EUR 10/night is perceived for single room accommodation. Please mention this clearly in the application form.

The invoices for the fees will be reported to all participants in the acceptance letter.

The Romanian Scout Association applied for support from the YiA programme of the EU. If the application is successful, most of the costs for those who sent Partnership Agreements will be covered by the grant. We don't have yet an answer from the YiA National Authority and cannot guarantee that the support will be ensured.

Before and after the event

You can benefit from the ideal position of Sinaia to explore some more the Carpathians and Transylvania before or after the event. The Romanian Scouts will be happy to assist you in your plans should you wish so. The Forum website has some more information about possible destinations for your trip in Romania:

www.emforum.scoutshub.org

Insurance

There is no insurance that covers the participants during the event neither during the travel to or from the venue. Please note that this is the exclusive responsibility of the national association to check and be sure that the participants are covered by an insurance (illness, accidents, repatriation etc...)

Additional information

If you need any further information please visit the Forum website www.emforum.scoutshub.org or contact Radu Stinghe, Director, Youth Programme, at: rstinghe@scout.org

Annexes

- Application Form

Planning Team

- Diana Slabu, ONCR, Romania
- Giedre Markuckaite, LS, Lithuania
- Mary Scriven, SI, Ireland
- Marion Karali, SHP, Greece
- Milena Pecarski, SIS, Serbia
- Sinziana Rasca, ONCR, Romania
- Ib Jammer, VCP, Germany
- Jon Ingvar Bragason, BIS, Iceland
- Jordi Ferrer Fontanet, EC, Spain
- Jukka Tulivuori, SP-FS, Finland
- Tadej Pugelj – ZTS, Slovenia
- Petr Vanek – European Scout Committee
- Christian Lose Ramos - European Scout Committee
- Jordan Bajraktarov, WSB-European Regional Office
- Radu Stinghe, WSB - European Regional Office

