EUROPE OFFICE WAGGGS BUREAU EUROPE AMGE Rue de l'Industrie 10 B-1000 BRUSSELS, BELGIUM TEL + 32 2 8932420 EMAIL : europe@europe.wagggsworld.org



WOSM - EUROPEAN REGIONAL OFFICE OMMS – BUREAU REGIONAL EUROPEEN 5 RUE HENRI-CHRISTINE, BOX 327 CH-1211 GENEVA 4, SWITZERLAND TEL + 41 22 705 11 00 - FAX + 41 22 705 11 09 EMAIL : europe@scout.org

INVITATION

Network Meeting for Guide and Scout External Representatives Study Session of the Council of Europe 6-11 November 2016 - Budapest

In order to assist in the implementation of resolution "Society 7" adopted at the 8th European Guide and Scout Conference the Europe Region organised a meeting in 1996 for those Scouts and Guides involved in influencing Youth Policy on behalf of their organisations in a National Youth Council and those representing European Guiding or Scouting in the European youth structures. As a result of that first meeting it was decided to organise a similar meeting annually – 2016 will see the 20th meeting.

The Network Meeting is an annual event organised by the Europe Region WAGGGS and the WOSM – European Region and inviting Guides and Scouts that represent their MO/NSOs in various platforms/organisations including their National Youth Councils.

The aim of the meeting is to improve our members' (MOs and NSOs) impact on society by supporting them in the field of External Relations. The network meetings provide the opportunity for volunteers or staff members from each Organisations that are working in the field of External Relations, partnerships or other closely related areas to come together, explore how conducting external relations can help our members to better fulfil the Scouting and Guiding missions and improve their position and recognition in society, in collaboration with other national partners.

The specific objectives are to:

- Strengthen the position of MO/NSOs within their National Youth Councils or any other external platforms
- Provide knowledge and support to participants to enhance Youth Participation in the development of European and National Youth Policies
- Create a network of participants sharing ideas on the challenges and good practices in of the field of external relations and advocacy
- Encourage mutual European co-operation, support and transferability of knowledge.
- Explore social media tools and new digital opportunities to enhance Youth Participation in public policies affecting their lives at local, national and European level.

The expected outcomes are:

- Increased participation of Scouts and Guides within their National Youth Council
- Increased awareness of what is done by other members in the field of external relations
- Increased awareness of what is happening in external relations at the European level, how this benefits the members and how young people can contribute to the development of youth policies in Europe

What will be not tackled during this meeting:

Partnerships with the corporate sector (the Fundraiser Network Meeting of WOSM will address this topic)





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Participant Profile

The main objective of the Network meeting is to allow volunteers or staff members in charge of representing Scouting and Guiding in external platforms to share their best practices and ways of working. As the exchange among participants will be a key of success of this event, more experienced participants but also newcomers are welcomed.

Specific profile:

Participants should:

- Have been appointed to represent their organisation externally, in their National Youth Council or any other external platforms and institution
- Or, in case of an organisation having little involvement and experience in external relations, the volunteer should be ideally a member of the board or executive team of the MO/NSO.

There is no age limit for taking part in the event but it is recommended that associations follow the Council of Europe limit and select participants under the age of 30. The Study session rules require us to have 75% of participants below 30 years old.

Participants should be available for the entire duration of the event. More experienced participants can propose themselves to facilitate a session when completing the registration form.

When

The meeting will start on Monday 7 November 2016 in the morning and continue until Thursday 10 November 2016 in the evening. Participants are expected to arrive on Sunday 6 November and leave at any time during the day on Friday 11 November.

Venue

The meeting will take place in the Youth Centre of the Council of Europe in Budapest, Hungary. Participants will be accommodated in shared bed rooms.

Programme

Through role-play, work in small groups, exercises and plenary discussions, participants will share information and examine the role of Guiding and Scouting in the development of youth policy at national and European level, and current European policy initiatives. A detailed programme and information on how to prepare for the meeting will be sent to participants after receiving the acceptance letters.

Participants may be asked by the organisers to assist in the facilitation of training sessions according to individual experiences and interests.

Planning Team

The Planning Team is composed of members of the resource pools of volunteers from the Europe Region WAGGGS and the European Scout Region WOSM. An educational expert from the Council of Europe will also support the delivery of this event.

Languages

The event will be run in English with participants assisting with translation (into French) as required.

Participation Fee

The participation fee for the meeting is 50 euro per person (covering four-nights accommodation and subsistence for 4 days). All transportation will be reimbursed directly to the participants by the Council of Europe upon arrival. The 50€ fee will be then deducted from this reimbursement. Transportation will be reimbursed upon presentation of relevant invoices and boarding pass.

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All MOs/CAs of the Europe Region WAGGGS and NSOs/NSAs of the European Scout Region WOSM are eligible to this meeting.

One space per MO/CA or NSA/MO will be offered. The space will be distributed on a first come first serve basis. It is therefore recommended to register your participant as soon as possible.

Should you wish to send more participants, please write to <u>mpotard@scout.org</u>. Information on registering extra participants at the expense of the MO, NSO/NSA will be made available upon request.

Travel and visa arrangements

Confirmed participants will be responsible for making their own travel arrangements. Please, do not book your flights before receiving a confirmation letter where we will provide more information about the logistics. Flights tickets will have to be bought using the cheapest means possible.

All participants will be required to provide all their travel information details through a form that will be circulated to the confirmed participants.

Should you need a visa to enter into Hungary, please fill in the extra information required into the google form by 5 September 2016.

Cancellation

The Europe Region WAGGGS and European Scout Region reserve the right to charge the association for any expenses incurred, if participants cancel their registration after their acceptance has been confirmed.

Insurance

The European Scout Region and the Europe Region WAGGGS do not cover the participants for insurance neither during the event nor during the travel to or from the venue. Please note that it is the exclusive responsibility of the National Scout Association / Member Organisation to check and make sure that participants are covered by insurance (illness, accident, repatriation).

Registration

Complete the online form by 5 September 2016.

The candidate's <u>International Commissioner</u> will need to confirm her/his approval of the application by sending a quick to email to Europe Support Centre WOSM at <u>mpotard@scout.org</u>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Marguerite Potard from the Europe Support Centre WOSM, mpotard@scout.org

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