

Regional Circular 9 2017

# **Invitation**

# Scouting for Peace "Building the Open Spiritual Development Network (Spiriteco)"

\*it is understood as being the strengthening of Spiriteco
but was presented so in the Council of Europe – European Youth Foundation Work Plan 2017 application

9 - 11 June 2017, Brussels, Belgium

NOTE: Participants are requested to arrive on **FRIDAY, 9 June 2017** in the morning but latest beginning of the afternoon. The departures are from **SUNDAY, 11 June 2017** after 14:00

# **Background**

The European Scout Region successfully applied to the Council of Europe – European Youth Foundation for the Work Plan 2017 – Scouting for Peace, which aims to strengthen NSOs/NSAs capacities in peace education, inter-religious dialogue and open spiritual development and introducing these aspects in their educational curricula.

Many Scout organisations in Europe are so far only proposing religious-based spiritual development. Spiritual development being one of the 5 elements of the Scout Method. Many of them built their programmes in a way that offers young people a place to practice, for example, their catholic or protestant beliefs. However, it prevents young people with no particular confession, or those who have a different religious background, to be included in Scouts activities.

At present, the Spiriteco Network is active in the European Scout Region as a place to discuss and express the position of NSOs/NSAs in regard to spiritual development, but less active in the aspect of direct tailored support of the organisations in implementing new directions in their spiritual development curricula. We can say that the work done by Spiriteco has set the basis and by strengthening its structure and members, the Spiriteco Network will be able to develop a tailored support approach, offering direct support and expertise to NSOs/NSAs and the European Scout Region.

## **Aims**

The aim of this activity is to offer structure and support to the Spiriteco Network to be ready to support European NSOs/NSAs in introducing open spiritual development, targeting spiritual development for young people regardless of their confession of personal beliefs, in their curricula.

# **Objectives**

- Build a cohesive team that can deliver the necessary support to the NSOs/NSAs on Open Spiritual Development topics as part of the Dialogue for Peace programme
- Assess the available tools on WOSM Dialogue for Peace Programme and material and the new training pack for leaders and propose amendments that would include aspects of "open spiritual development"
- Further develop / strengthen policy paper, reference documents and tools on Open Spiritual Development and share on the Diversity and Inclusion Europe website (online library)
- Build a strategic work plan for Spiriteco for the remaining period of the triennium (tailored support, trainings, promotion of Open Spiritual Development at Regional events etc.)

# **Expected results and outcomes**

- A structured Spiriteco Network providing a more hands-on/ tailored support approach in reaching the
  objectives of the Regional Scout Plan, composed of at least 15 members coming from different
  NSOs/NSAs in Europe. Some members will have been trained in the frame of the present Work Plan or
  would have expertise on Open Spiritual Development gained through other means (participation in
  Spiriteco work and meetings, professional, volunteering etc.).
- o Clear two years strategic plan for potential involvement and support for the NSOs/NSAs in Europe on the aspects of Dialogue for Peace and Open Spiritual Development in the frame of Scouting.
- o Action plan for the first year of work.

### **Dates**

Participants should arrive on **FRIDAY, 9 June 2017** in the morning but latest beginning of the afternoon. The departures are from **SUNDAY, 11 June 2017** after 14:00.

#### Venue

The event will take place at Auberge de Jeunesse Génération Europe, Rue de l'Eléphant 4, Brussels, Belgium (http://www.lesaubergesdejeunesse.be/en\_US/website/action/hotel?id=1)

The accommodation will be on shared rooms basis (4) and training will take place at the same location.

# **Methodology**

In order to meet all the learning styles and needs, a variety of Scouting methods will be used, such as: presentations, case studies, self-directed learning, role-plays, debriefs, simulations, brainstorming and reflection groups.

# Follow-up

The participants and their respective sending NSO/NSAs are identified as the target group to achieve multiplying effects in the long term, in particular by supporting the participants to provide inputs and further dissemination within their organisation and in the European Scout Region.

# Languages

The Scouting for Peace – Building the Open Spiritual Development Network (Spiriteco) will be held in English.

## **Participants profile**

- Volunteers aged 18 35 preferably
- Already involved at national, regional or local level in spiritual development or interested in
- Ready to support the Spiriteco Network, NSOs/NSAs and the European Scout Region
- · Able to communicate well in English

## **Number of participants**

The event is designed to accept up to 20 participants, each NSA can send one participant at the cost of the Council of Europe – European Youth Foundation.

## **Applications**

The enclosed application form, or photocopies, should be mailed or faxed to the World Scout Bureau - Europe Support Centre or e-mailed to europe@scout.org by **22 May 2017**.

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 be referred back to the association

# **Participation fee**

Because the event is supported by the Council of Europe – European Youth Foundation, accommodation, food and travel costs are fully covered from Friday 9 June 2016 dinner until Sunday 11 June 2017 lunch.

# **Travel arrangements**

Please note that completion of the application form does not necessarily mean that applicants are accepted onto the event. Please do not book travel until participants have been selected, and have been advised in an acceptance letter which will be send by 23 May 2017. Only then should they make their own travel arrangements and obtain a visa, if necessary. If you require an official invitation to obtain a visa, please indicate this clearly on your application form. Please be aware, that it may take up to six weeks to obtain a visa, so please send your visa form with the application form in order to allow sufficient time for that process.

Travel forms will be included in the information package to be sent to participants with the acceptance letter.

## **Insurance**

The WOSM - European Region does not cover 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...)

# **Planning Team**

- Filip de Bock, Slovenia, Diversity and Inclusion Team Leader, European Scout Region
- Stefano Casalini, Italy, Spiriteco
- Matic Stergar, Slovenia, Spiriteco
- Laurent Geeraerts, Belgium, Spiriteco
- Rose-Marie Henny, Switzerland, WSB Europe Support Centre Geneva

## **Additional information**

If you need any further information please contact:
Rose-Marie Henny, Director Diversity & Inclusion (<a href="mailto:rmhenny@scout.org">rmhenny@scout.org</a>)
Filip de Bock, Diversity and Inclusion Team Leader (<a href="mailto:filip.debock@scout.org">filip.debock@scout.org</a>)

## **Annexes**

- Annex 1 Application Form
- Annex 2 Draft Programme (Version 28 April 2017)