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# **Invitation Letter | The Academy 2017**

Esztergom, Hungary
31 October - 5 November 2017

# What is The Academy?

The Academy is a unique Scout and Guide event designed to provide participants with high quality training and networking opportunities around the core priorities of WAGGGS and WOSM European Regions.

# Who should attend The Academy?

The event is open to everyone holding a position at National or Regional Level in any of our Associations, from members of particular working groups to Chief Commissioners.

# What are the topics at The Academy?

During the event, participants will be able to choose a learning pathways for the five categories mentioned below. We would like to encourage participants to choose from a variety of sessions per day (ideally from the same of similar pathways), composing their own training plan to match their position and particular needs. A broad range of sessions dealing with different areas of work will be offered simultaneously, with enough on offer to make the event interesting for everyone.

There will be five main learning paths available:

- Learning & innovation (eg. Contemporary programmes, core values, global education, skills for life)
- Social Impact (eg. Youth Empowerment, Youth voice, Advocacy, international development)
- Thriving Organisations (eg. Vision and strategy, Diversity, Growth, External partnerships/relationships)
- Leadership & Management of Adults (eg. Recruitment, Training, Retention, Diversity / reflecting society)
- Communications (eg. Branding, Reach and impact, Building people networks)

An overview of the sessions will be published on the Academy website no later than 1 August 2017 and will help participants deciding whether or not to register.

A detailed description of each session, providing goals, objectives and expected outcomes, will be published on the website of The Academy no later than the 1 October 2017.

In addition to the sessions, the host team will organise various social activities. The participation fee excludes any additional cost of social activities outside of the Academy "educational" Programme. The hosting team are putting together a number of low-cost or free options that will be announced in due course.

## How to register for The Academy?

The registration will be opening on 10 July 2017 and you can register online on The Academy website (<a href="www.thesgacademy.eu">www.thesgacademy.eu</a>) **BEFORE 15 September 2017.** Once you register online, an email will be sent to International Commissioners for their approval.

The participation fee is **EUR 400** and includes accommodation, meals and tea/coffee breaks, free access to the venue's facilities, as well as session materials for the full event. The registration page will have more information about the 5 DAYS, 4 DAYS, 3 DAYS, 2 DAYS and 1 DAY (no overnight stay) options. If you choose not to stay for the entire event, the participation fee will is EUR 80 per day.





In addition to this, there is a possibility for accommodation in pilgrim rooms, and the participation fee for this type of accommodation is **EUR 320**. And it also includes accommodation, meals and tea/coffee breaks, free access to the venue's facilities, as well as session materials for the full event. Participation fee for accommodation in pilgrim rooms per day is EUR 64.

Participant accommodation will be provided on the following basis: shared rooms, full board, two coffee breaks (per day), use of conference rooms, and free internet access. Special requests such as single rooms will be assessed upon availability and at an extra cost.

The Academy will take place at the St. Adalbert Conference Centre in Esztergom, Hungary. Participants will be accommodated in St. Adalbert Hotel or the hotels nearby. For more information about the venue, please visit: <a href="http://www.szentadalbert.hu/">http://www.szentadalbert.hu/</a>

Due to a very restrictive cancellations policy applied by the venue, we are urging all associations to ensure their participants are registered on time.

# Follow the Academy!

Follow the Academy on Facebook: facebook.com/ScoutGuideAcademy and on Twitter: @thesgacademy

# **Travel arrangements**

Once participants have been selected and approved they will receive acceptance letters. **All participants should then make their own travel arrangements and, if necessary, obtain a visa**. If you require an official invitation letter to obtain a visa please complete all information in the application form. Please be aware that it may take a significant amount of time to obtain a visa so please apply early enough.

Participants wishing to attend the full event will be expected to arrive on Tuesday 31 October to start the programme at 20.30 (following the provided dinner), and departure is at any time on Sunday 5 November 2017.

Information on travel to Esztergom, through Budapest International Airports, will be available on the official Academy website.

# Funding to support participation

Applications for funding have been submitted. If any is granted, associations benefitting from this support will be contacted directly to give them further information on the support.

Participants who have difficulties with the fee and travelling costs should contact in confidence their WOSM Regional Director or their WAGGGS Member Organisation Relationship Manager to request information on the possibility of financial assistance from the Region.

# Language

The event will be held in **English**. All participants are requested to be able to effectively communicate in this language.

# Additional information

All additional information can be found at the **official Academy website www.thesgacademy.eu** 

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Jordan Bajraktarov from the Europe Support Centre, Geneva of WOSM or Nefeli Themeli from WAGGGS office, London at <a href="mailto:info@thesgacademy.eu">info@thesgacademy.eu</a>.

## 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 Associations to check and make sure that participants are covered by insurance (illness, accident, repatriation).

## Cancellation

If participants wish to cancel within one month of the event, the European Scout Region will invoice any non-refundable cancellation fees that may apply.



