



**10th Europe Conference  
10e Conférence Européenne  
Bremen, Germany 21 – 25 August 2019**

Document 2

**Triannual Report**

**Sub regions:**

**Nordic Baltic: 6 National Scout and Guide Fellowships**

Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Lithuania, Norway and Sweden

**Western Europe: 5 National Scout and Guide Fellowships**

Belgium, France (North), Ireland, Luxembourg and United Kingdom

**1 Central Branch country:** The Netherlands

**Central Europe: 11 National Scout and Guide Fellowships**

Austria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Switzerland (North)

**Southern Europe: 8 National Scout and Guide Fellowships**

Cyprus, France, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Spain, Switzerland (South) and Turkey

**1 Central Branch country:** Israel

**The Europe Conference was held in France, Tours – 11<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> Sept. 2016**

The Europe Region Committee was formed on the last day of the conference. At that time none of us knew each other, however during our half hour meeting the following was decided:

Doris Stockmann, Chair	Nordic-Baltic Sub-region (Finland)
Pierre Decoene, Vice chair & Treasurer	Western Europe Sub-region (Belgium)
Angela Dernbach, Secretary	Central Europe, Sub-region (Germany)
Ana Matoso Rodrigues, PR & Liaison to WAGGGS/WOSM	South Europe, Sub-region (Spain)

**7<sup>th</sup> European Workshop – 3<sup>rd</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup> March 2017**

The Workshop was held in Slovakia, Smolenice, a very nice place to meet. Hans Slanec the previous Europe Region Chair, found the venue and he helped with the initial planning. The theme was, "ROUTE to 2020"- STEP BY STEP TO THE FUTURE and 32 people from 13 countries attended. We worked on how to use new media to attract new members and how to keep your members.

**Europe Region Committee meetings**

Most of our meetings have been on Skype. Our first challenge was the organisation of the Workshop, where we were also able to meet together. It was decided that we should have a longer meeting together in the summer. We were invited to Belgium and stayed in Izegem at the home of Pierre Decoene. Unfortunately, Ana Rodrigues was ill and could not attend, but we had contact with her by phone. One of the important matters discussed was that there had been difficulties with our ISGF ING EUROPE account, and we had taken the decision to open an

account in Belgium, which we did. The new account with KBC bank, has worked very well and is much cheaper than the ING account. We also planned for our 3-year period.

The other times that we have been able to have meetings together have been at the World Conference in Bali and at the Gatherings in Gothenburg, Eastbourne and Bremen. In 2016 we had 5 meetings, in 2017 we had 14 meetings, in 2018 we had 10 meetings and in 2019 we have so far had 5 meetings. One meeting was held in Bremen.

## **28<sup>th</sup> ISGF World Conference**

The conference was well arranged and the programme interesting. At the World Conference 17 countries from the Europe Region were present and 7 countries had given a proxy, which means that 24 countries from Europe were represented. At this World Conference the total number of countries represented was 51 including the ones with a proxy, which means that almost half of the participating countries were from Europe. At present on the World Committee Europe is represented by:

Runar Bakke from Norway whose term of office will finish in 2020

Elin Richards from Iceland and Mario Bertagnolio from Italy, whose term of office will finish in 2023.

The next World Conference will be in Madrid, Spain in 2020.

## **The Sub-regions work in different ways.**

**The Central Europe Sub-region** has a committee that was elected for three years during their Gathering in 2018 and the following were elected:

- President: Teresia Tarkowska-Dudek (Poland)
- Vice president: Hans Slanec (Austria)
- Secretary: Manfred 'Manne' Bosse (Germany)
- Meinhard Perkmann (Austria), Treasurer
- Vladimir Janecka (Slovakia)
- Representative of Central Europe Sub-region on the European Committee: Angela Dernbach (Germany) whose term of office finishes at the Europe Conference in 2019. Hans Slanec takes over from her.
- Counsellors for the following countries: Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Romania and Hungary
- Auditing: Hana Kapralkova (Czech Republic) and Christa Schmeisser (Germany)

**The Nordic Baltic Sub-region** has a board and one country, usually for a three-year period, which is responsible for calling the meetings and for the finances. Finland was Chair for 3 years and Norway took over the Chairmanship after the Gothenburg event. The board consists of the Chair and Vice Chair from the 5 countries. The Europe Committee member who is responsible for NBSR is invited to their meetings.

They meet yearly, mostly in Copenhagen, near Kastrup, because that is the most central location to reach, except when there is a World or Europe Conference, then the meeting usually takes place during these events.

**The South Europe Sub-region** has a Chairman elected for a period of three years. The countries representatives get together during the Med Gathering, the South Sub-region Gathering and during the World Conference. The present Chairman of the Sub-region is Christos Kouzis from Cyprus.

**The Western Europe Sub-region** does not have a committee. At the Gathering of the Sub-region, the member countries always have a meeting, where current issues are discussed. Including, who is going to host the next Gathering and who will be their representative on the Europe committee. At their meeting in 2018 Pierre Decoene agreed to continue for the next three years. Allan Page pointed out that since the Sub-region was formed it had always been represented on the Europe Region Committee by a member from either UK or Belgium. It was time that another country provided a representative for the Europe Region Committee.

Hosting the next Western Sub-region Gathering was discussed, as no country volunteered. Pierre Decoene agreed to find out if Northern France would organise the next gathering. A positive answer has been received. A discussion took place on how we can increase the number of members, particularly younger members in each country, but no conclusions were reached.

## Europe Sub-Region Gatherings

### The 29<sup>th</sup> Nordic Baltic Gathering 24-28 August 2018 in Gothenburg Sweden.

There were 65 members from the Nordic countries: Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden as well as representatives from Australia, Belgium, England, Germany and The Netherlands. The participants could choose between different activities during the day, followed by a group dinner in the evening. Groups of participants visited art museums, a church, the Botanical Garden and the Volvo Museum. Many participants went to a scout and guide cabin just outside the city, which was very interesting. On Saturday night, a joint boat trip was made around the island of Hisingen. It was a nice trip among the many islands outside the city. In the Botanical Garden time was also set aside for the traditional "Skotthällekastning" competition (hitting a wooden stump with a metal disc), which was won by Iceland.

One of the very useful events, was when we were divided in groups and discussed the future of ISGF in our countries. Notes were taken and afterwards we got a small booklet containing the ideas.



The next Gathering will take place in Iceland in 2021.

### The 9<sup>th</sup> Conference of Central Europe Sub-region 5-9 September 2018 in Poznan



Poznan, the capital of the Polish Province, Great Poland, hosted CESR from 5-9 September. All delegates, observers and guests were accommodated in the student's hotel of the nearby university, very close to the historic centre of the town. More than **60 participants** – delegates, observers and guests- took part in the conference and 10 of our member countries were present, either personally or by proxy. Only Latvia was absent.

Reunions and conferences do have different reasons:

- To meet long-time friends and to make new ones
- To develop ideas for the future of the movement (region)
- To learn something new about the host country – see the area, hear and see something about the history and current state of the country.

About 40 members from Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Germany, Liechtenstein, Norway, Poland, Rumania and Slovakia came to the conference. There was also a group of visible and invisible helpers who gave the gathering a pleasant feeling. At the conference a warm welcome and reception for the participants was given by prominent politicians and functionaries in a special place, the courthouse of the province Greater Poland, Voivodeship. Mrs. Marzena Wodzińska, vice-president of the Voivodeship and member of the Fellowship, gave her welcome. The president of the Polish Scouts, Dariusz Supel, and the commander of Poznań, Tomasz Kujaczyński, honoured us by participating.

Alf Runar Bakke (ISGF-World Committee) and Angela Dernbach, (European Committee) brought greetings from their committees. The conference itself was well prepared by the secretary of Central Europe, Manne Bosse. Items during the conference were:

- the activity report and developments in the Sub-region during the last three years

- the activity plan for the next three years period
- financial report by the treasurer,
- re-election of the board and the ballot for the new constitution.

An application from Austria to shorten the time of the conference was rejected.

**The next Gathering will take place in Wandlitz (near Berlin), Germany.**

**The 27<sup>th</sup> Western Europe Sub-regional gathering 8-12 October 2018 in Eastbourne, England.**



The event was held 8-12 October 2018 in Eastbourne. There were participants present from 17 countries and altogether 100 participants. The hotel was the Claremont, looking directly out onto the sea and the pier of Eastbourne. We had the whole hotel for the Gathering. The staff were very nice, and the food was delicious. The event started with an opening ceremony and a very interesting talk about Eastbourne and the surrounding area. We had great weather for most of the week, which was perfect for tours; one to Beachy Head and Sovereign Harbour and one to Battle Abbey. At one of the business sessions organisations presented how they work. It was fascinating to hear the different ways they conduct their Fellowships. One evening we could practice Handbell Ringing and the last evening included Morris dancers, which really brought a great end to the whole gathering.

Questionnaires were completed. Several members commented that they had a 'super week', that it had been good to meet friends old and new and that they had enjoyed the event.

**The 28<sup>th</sup> Western European Gathering in 2021 will be in France probably in the North of France.**

**The 16<sup>th</sup> Mediterranean Gathering October 19-24, 2018 in Athens, Greece**



The theme was "The Odyssey of a Sea". The meaning of odyssey usually means an adventure, where obstacles steer us to our destiny.

The participants had a full 4 days. Apart from the tours of Athens, there was a fantastic visit to the Acropolis Museum and delicious meals. There was also time for some more formal moments. The themes discussed at the roundtables, what the Mediterranean region are doing, and the subject of the refugees, on which we were given a presentation. We learnt about the activities that the Scouts and Guides of Greece are carrying out. One of the highlights was the trip to the training ground of the Guides of Greece, where we were split into workshop groups. The activity ended with a large lunch, where the Greek salad was queen!

During the Med Gathering the South Europe Sub-region had its meeting, where they discussed theme of interest to the Sub-region and where they held elections

**The next Med Gathering will take place in Cyprus in 2021**

## Planning Events

Since 2018 the Europe Committee has been busy with planning the 10<sup>th</sup> Europe Conference in Bremen, Germany. Angela especially has been involved, but also Pierre, and they have attended several meetings in Bremen. All four members have been involved with writing documents.

## World Committee meeting

The World Conference in Bali decided that in future there would be only 6 members on the World Committee. The World committee has decided to invite Regional Chairs to their meetings, who can be present but without having a voting right. The Committee had a meeting in Madrid in March 2019 and Doris Stockmann was present for the first time, representing Europe region. All the regional Chairs gave a 30-minute presentation about their Regions. Among other matters discussed were the following items:

- Ways of communicating with the members of the Region: Newsletter, Web page, E-mail, other.
- Strategy of development.
- Relationship with ISGF - World Committee and World Bureau, WAGGGS, WOSM, UNHCR and others.
- Finances, Fundraising, Stamp Bank.

One of the matters that Doris Stockmann presented was:

### Members in Europe 2017 Compared with 2016

South Europe	-251	11821
Central Europe	-250	10205
Nordic Baltic	-302	6527
Western Europe	-15	5931
<b>Europe</b>	<b>-818</b>	<b>34484</b>

### Presentation of the NSGF of the Region Central Europe

- Nordic Baltic
- Central Europe
- Western Europe
- South Europe



Central Europe		
Austria	75	3403
Poland	-210	2896
Czech Republic	-114	2801
Germany	0	558
Liechtenstein	-10	140
Slovakia	0	125
Estonia	2	100
Latvia	0	125
Romania	0	30
Hungary	7	27
<b>Total 10 countries</b>	<b>-250</b>	<b>10205</b>

South Europe		
Italy	-1	6141
Portugal	-436	1826
Greece	265	1815
Spain	50	389
Switzerland	-92	371
Turkey	0	184
Cyprus	0	155
France	-37	940
<b>Total 8 countries</b>	<b>-251</b>	<b>11821</b>

Nordic Baltic		
Denmark	-219	3898
Norway	-44	1230
Finland	-2	587
Sweden	-23	519
Iceland	-14	233
Lithuania	0	60
<b>Total 6 countries</b>	<b>-302</b>	<b>6527</b>

Western Europe		
Belgium	23	5244
Ireland	20	310
United Kingdom	-8	242
Luxemburg	-50	135
<b>Total 4 countries</b>	<b>-15</b>	<b>5931</b>

Slovenia 314 members do not want to belong to the Europe Region

Hopefully the membership situation for 2018 will be available later this year. If so, you will receive updated information in Bremen.

**The Europe region had 34,798 members in 2017. ISGF world membership was 45,130 in 2017, so the membership in the rest of the world in was 10,332. This means that the Europe region is extremely important for the future of ISGF.**

**The world is changing in many ways and people are busy. It is a challenge for all member countries in Europe to find new ways to attract especially younger persons to be interested in becoming a member of ISGF. Hopefully we can all work together and share ideas and methods on how to get new members.**