

# European Regional Assembly 13-16 October 2017 Minutes

## Introductions

The first working day starting with introducing new people that arrived late the day before, followed by welcome and acknowledgement of all people present at the assembly - **delegates** from associated and affiliated movements; **guests**- Henrik Hansson (Conference of European Churches), Annette Klinke (staff member of German member movement ESG), Hannah Weber (board member of Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe), Necta Montes (WSCF Secretary General); and WSCF **ERC** members and **staff members of WSCF-Europe**- Natia Tsintsadze and Maria Atanasoaei. The Chair, Zuzka explained the safe space guidance, pastoral care support available throughout the assembly, voting procedures and roll calls.

### Roll Call

**Present affiliated and associated movements:** Austria (delegated) x2, Belarus x1, Denmark x1, Finland SKY x1, France x1 (delegated), Georgia x1, Germany x2, Italy x1, Ireland x2, Lithuania x1, Norway x2, Sweden x2, Armenia x1

**Absent affiliated and associated movements:** Britain, Czech Republic, Finland OOL, Netherlands InnBetween, Poland, Slovakia, Bulgaria

**Voting ERC members:** Chair, Treasurer, ExCo(x2), Global Networking Coordinator, Regional Networking Coordinator

**24 voting members**

The WSCF-Europe Chairperson Zuzka explained the agenda and voting procedures, the agenda was approved with **23 votes**.

### **1. Movement membership**

Netherlands SSR-NU Association\_Netherlands SSR-NU stated their request to join WSCF as an associated movement. They outlined the background and structure of SSR-NU, a Christian student association based in Utrecht. Following questions from the floor, a vote was held, and associated membership of Netherlands SSR-NU was approved by **24 votes**. Following that, voting cards were delivered to SSR NU as they now have the right to vote.

**25 voting members**

### **2. Programmatic reporting on WSCF-Europe Nov 2015-Oct 2017**

Presenting the staff and the team of dedicating volunteers, Programs done during this period, report outlines : 2 conferences, 2 annual trainings, No hate Speech photo competition and movement support in activities , Senior Friends gathering, Lingua Franca, Campaign, Global Cooperation within the Federation, Europe region being present at partner events, established communications: social media,

newsletter, postcards etc, annual report, Mozaik publications, History Projects fundraising, Senior Friends initiatives, past leaders project, visual communication improvement, photographer volunteer, branding tools development- t shirt & bag  
 Communications, International organization,

3. Break: 11:45

4. **Financial reporting.** 12:00 Started with the roll call, SCM Georgia (SCM Paris) was late so it is not included this time

**24 voting members**

**Finances**

The Chairperson, Zuzka started talking about the donors and organisations that give grants to WSCF- Europe- Council of Europe, European Commission and WSCF Inter-regional Office. With small funding from Otto Per Mille and General Board of Global ministries. The Chair outlined prospective funders: Bread for the World and Robert Bosch Stiftung. Later followed the high level overview of the income and expenditures.

	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenditures</b>
2015	120 000 €	123 226 €
2016	111 240,73 €	109.223,14 €
2017 (as of Sep 2017)	113,280 €	80,057 €

All the income and the expenditures of 2016 are in the final Annual report as well. It was noted that in 2016 we had less income compared to previous year since the last year conference we had was supported and financially was organized from the EYF so there was no income and expenses flow due to that- we only got a small grant for the publications- our Mozaik Magazine. There was a question about moving the office from Berlin to Trento. A draft for 2018 budget was also explained and the details will come later, it pretty much resembles the last year but it is higher a bit because we want to do two conferences.

<b>2018</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Expenses</b>
Program budget	77 5000€	77 5000€
Admin. Budget	89 0000€	89 0000€

The participant's contribution is always stated as an income, EYF is never 100% fund received, that's why the participants/ movements contribution to the event. Income number on the draft 2018 budget is 2000 minus, its a mistake on the powerpoint probably. Membership fee does not go to WSCF Europe, it goes to WSCF-IRO, that's why it is not included there. A question was raised why we spend more money on Staff and Officers and less on Lingua Franca, because Lingua Franca is organized in east, south east Europe so the costs are less. Why are the salaries lower than before, because it is a cost saving solution (example we have communication officer one day per week as before it was 3-4 days) Throughout 2016-2017 we experienced a decrease of income from WSCF IRO by 30/40 % (15-20 000 € annually). It was noted that WSCF-E made a decision though not easily that the debt pending from WSCF-IRO would be cancelled- 30 000 €. This debt was accumulated since around 2011 when the region was not paid full RS salary and by WSCF IRO. It was explained by that there wasn't a realistic expectation to have that money back any years to come. The decision was made at ERC, and ERC is elected by the assembly, the cancellation of the debt was because, realistically that money won't be paid back, and we wanted to give the IRO confidence that's why we canceled it.

Throughout the years we have very similar income, what is different is how we spend the money- what we try to spend money less in order to flow money where it is essential. It was highlighted the former Communication officer of WSCF-Europe, Maria worked more days as mentioned but not only for Europe Region but also she contributed to WSCF Global, from Feb 2016 to Feb 2017, donated time and work in the amount approx 8000 euro. Maria Kozhinova's work was very appreciated as Necta shared that her job and the job of the Europe Region is very essential to WSCF Global. WSCF Europe received a new income generated through structural grant of Council of Europe EYF for 2016-2017. In terms of not direct financial support- skills giving registration was mentioned as the important initiative. The launch of regular giving donation money and donate your skill as well.

**Internal organisation reporting:** new staff members hiring (Communications Officer and Finance Officer), dissolution of WSCF-Europe in Hungary and Germany. WSCF-ERC Meetings- in 2017 there was only one ERC meeting in order to save some money as well because we normally have 4 meetings in person with the ERC. Feb 2016 Finland, June 2016 Germany, April 2017 Lithuania

What is the current stand of the finances? Do we have reserves?

The financial status for 2016 and 2017 was reported based on data available in [Annual Reports of WSCF-Europe](#). The Chair reported that over last years WSCF-Europe needed to decrease own internal expenses in order to react to the decrease of income from WSCF IRO. Hence, there are no space to create reserves. Reserves are at the moment not possible. (A comment with the flat in Budapest- when the flat was sold a few years ago, the sum was split between WSCF-E and the Centennial Fund- co owners- and it was not a lot of money (less than 20K) and the money was used to wherever there was need of, not into reserves. The question was raised what will happen once Natia goes on maternity leave, from 70 days she will use 40 days, she hopes to be one/two months on maternity leave. Melany, Finance Officer is helping to run the office, not just financial, her job will be focused on some of the parts the Regional Secretary was doing and the Chair, Zuzka will absorb some workload too. The financial stuff will be done by the accountant, and the accountant will be paid more for this period. The Italian state covers the expenses when Natia is on a maternity leave.

SCM Norway asked for the detailed version of the financial report- the response was -everytime when WSCF-E produces the annual report there is always an account approved, the very final report is included by the global office. The report and discussion is followed by approving the report presented.

Approving: 18 , Abstain: 1 , : 4 (SCM Sweden and SCM Norway), without SCM Georgia

### **Financial report on WSCF Global from ExCo**

WSCF-E Exco member, Annika Foltin presented updates from the Exco and giving high level overview. 6 Regions, some changes in the team will happen, 117 SCMs, 6 Regions, 6 RSs, 1 GS, 4 Officers. The General Assembly is supposed to take place in 2019, however it is not yet decided where it will be, and only one delegate from each movement can be sent. Annika explained the composition of the ExCo group - 12 Exco members 2- from each region; 4 Officers, chair, treasurer, 2 Vice Chairs, one woman, 1 student. Within Exco there are 2 committees- finance and personal committee. There are following thematic areas- biblical and theological analysis, advocacy and solidarity, ecumenical transformational diakonia, capacity development, movement building, eco justice, higher education, identity diversity and dialogue, peace building. Different regions have slightly different work fields; in Europe we focus on Gender Justice, Capacity Building , Interfaith Dialogue and ASC. The transitional team (TT), was formed at the GA ExCo meeting in Bogota in 2015 with a mandate for 6-9 months work. The work of the TT, what they have done: mandate from GA to look at short term medium term and long term

solutions for the stability of the federation, they worked out ideas, proposals for the ExCo meeting in Palermo (2015) for the future of the federation. The TT Spoke with partners and friends of WSCF. ExCo met in Palermo, only 1 ExCo per region was able to come. The TT presented changes, online GA, and the regional secretaries job descriptions were changed and they got a global programmatic responsibility. The online GA was held in May 2017, the outcomes: regional assembly should take place before the GA, the General Secretary shall be appointed by the ExCo with overall executive responsibility for the Federation. The ExCo will then present their choice to the GA for its approval. Criteria for the nomination of ExCo members need to be more specific. The personnel Committee shall have one resource person co-opted among senior friends. Minutes of all ExCo meetings shall be distributed to SCMs no later than 3 weeks after the meeting. (no minutes were sent from the last meeting). Affiliation of SCM Denmark. Exco meeting was held in August 2017 in Cairo, our Exco were not able to be there in person, and lot of people were not able to attend due to visa problems, but they joined online. New possible staff models were discussed and will be further developed until the GA 2019. Preparations have to start for the next GA in 2019. We are staying with the current staff model. The office in IRO -the reduction was carried out in Geneva- there is only one office room for the Accountant (Jean Luc). Since 2016, IRO has also an office in Manila for the GS. There is a discussion to move the office to the global south with another regional office, but will be more discussed once a new staff model is in place.

**Finances:**

Main donors core costs (2017): EMW, United Church of Canada, United Church of Christ, Methodist Church GB.

Main donors program costs: Harold Smith Foundation and Karibu Foundation, Otto per Mile, Council for World Mission

Other income include: Give one be one campaign, 10% admin contribution from each region

Main expenditure 2017, staff salaries- including Regional Directors, General Secretary, IRO staff

Program costs: IRLTP India, Cairo Youth Conference and Exco Meeting, Office and travel, office in Manila

Other expenditure includes: Dhaka event 2016, website, audit fees, Red Book Publications

Comments to the presented information: It is important to know the dates of the GA, it is great that we have one, but we need to know it in advance, when it is happening, there is a new staff model, (we don't know what that really means, we want to discuss this, due to lack of time it would be great to talk about this). Concerning constitutional changes, what was discussed in Palermo, with only 1 ExCo member is not accepted to not have only one representation. If we meet before GA takes place, will there will be time, the amendments need to be submitted 6 months before the GA, as the SCMs are doing the amendments. What is the percentage of the Membership fees from the SCMs? It is in the Red Book, last year it was less than 10 000 EURO. Maybe it will increase a little bit, the campaign GOBO (Give One, Be One) got the Global Office 20 000 dollars last year. There was a comment about the name of the campaign, as they are considering changing it. The online Conference and meetings, were a bit of an experiment, to lower the costs, of course there were a lot of challenges and there were some mistakes and there are lot of things that need to be developed and improve. But it was necessary, because with every assembly we are in debt, 4 years is not going to be enough to raise enough money for the next one. The online GA was an effort that will allow us time to gather the resources. It is important to have the explanation, what does it mean to have an online GA, the way of making decisions makes some of the SCMs uncomfortable, as some feel it is way better to meet in person and talk about everything. Some movements were not informed properly, or some movements did not agree with it, and were not involved, because not really informed. Some people by accident at

the same place and writing lots of emails but there is a concern that nobody read the emails. There is an understanding that is not easy, but no student is longer than 6 years, so the period of between assemblies is just too long. There were a lot of difficulties at the last GA, concerning the mission and the federation of the generation, when we organize the next one, we have to start a process of discussion, and we need to recover that, the GA is just one of many different events, that a student can participate. Planning of the Assembly needs a lot of input from you. The General Assembly is the decision making event, for inspiring we have conferences and everything, but for the Assembly we need someone more involved. 6 years it's too much for student movement, as it can be turned into senior friends assembly. The location of the GA will be decided on the next meeting, one of the proposals was to be organized on the financial situation, all the SCMs will be informed soon.

## **Lunch break**

14:45

We started the afternoon session with the amendments to By-Laws. There were no suggestions from the SCMs, but from the ERC. The page number 6 of the current version of the Bylaws: The original wording: *The ERC has the right to co opt up to two resource persons and/or movement representatives (no vote). Co-opted members may be from a country where there are no affiliated or associated movements (see Appendix of the By Laws).* A new wording in : *The ERC has the right to co-opt up to two resource persons and/or movement representatives (no vote). Co-opted members may be from a country where there are no affiliated or associated movements (see Appendix) The ERC can define the role that the Co-opted member will take, except Chair, Vice Chair, Treasurer and Exco members. It was explained that this suggestion is to give a due title to the person assisting and leading some projects inside ERC for 2 years.* Some thoughts were raised as if it is not too dangerous to do this, taking the power away from ERA. It was reacted that this is mostly it is about the title, not the power of the person in the position of the co-opted member- the language used in WSCF-E to describe a person on ERC from a contact movement. The ERC co opts a person as a part of the team. And the roles will stay as they are for the movements .

Votes: 22 for

Abstain: 3

After the voting, there was a suggestion if it is possible for people who abstain or are against to maybe explain why, but we want to have a safe space and to give them a privacy and they can share it in an informal way maybe but it is their right and privilege to do that- to abstain.

In addition to this amendment, an outcome of the WSCF online votes was explained. The Online GA in May 2017 approved the suggested amendment from the exco that *the regional assembly should take place before the General Assembly.* There were comments that it is difficult to have the right time for the regional assembly, that is a question. Maybe we shouldn't create much stress around this as theoretically. This amendment will be included into the By-laws of WSCF-Europe at the appropriate place.

**Break:** 16:30-17:00

**Working groups session followed by debriefing:** 17:00-19:00

**Interfaith** working group, conference about migration with different religions partnering

**Gender:** Conferences about: workshop how to get tools, bring safe space back home, what topics need to be not just for LGBTQ people, but for everyone else, collect stories and experiences from the local movements, participating in social events, keeping in mind it is a personal topic, not putting anyone out there, don't out people,

**Advocacy and solidarity group:** Migrants and refugees in different countries is of a different importance, projects to help refugees, solidarity with the movements. Youth voice in other organisation, death penalty in Belarus, Committee focused on Advocacy and Solidarity and this committee is ready to act. Promoting gender justice through sharing

**Eco justice-** it is very important to be practical, permanent coffee cups, what going on in Germany, disposal of coffee cups, permanent coffee cups, plastic bags, lots of countries in Europe don't have plastic bags. Trees were a very big part of our discussion, could we plant trees to exchange the damage we do, just buy arriving here for example. SCM Armenia, cleansing activities, finding monasteries or places that really need help, polluted areas, for two nights, camping there and cleansing the area, and we need to promote what SCMs are doing, and share with the others.

**Fundraising:** What makes a good fundraising, having a bank of good powerful case stories, not just past but current stories, making it very clear and why is WSCF important, not that it has been existing forever, but to actually point why we share this vision. Continue to engage people and next year we have anniversary 50 years. We can do a celebration and a fundraising -local fundraising, local churches towards supporting WSCF, and that would actually maintain the relationship on the regular bases, just trying to convince local leaders of the value of WSCF, what we can give back? We have to make them know that it is a benefit for them as well, so we have to give them back something, something concrete that will benefit people not just a nice feeling.

**Global networking:** Awareness raising about the existence of the other regions as well, personal contacts within the SCM are vital to this work, SCM Sweden and Norway has done, like Germany as well, encourage the connections that we make with other regions easy access to communicate and exchange it's inspiring and enriching for both sides.

## **Sunday 15th Oct**

9:10 start with roll call- 25 voting members present

**Elections,** brief explanation of process. All speeches will precede elections. Followed by secret ballot elections.

Chair: 1 candidate, Zuzana Babicova. Zuzka outlined her WSCF-E experience and her motivation for applying. No questions to Zuzka

Vice Chair: no candidates

Program Coordinator x2: 2 candidates, Lina Leonaviciutė and Christiane Gebauer

Lina talked about her academic experience, SCM/WSCF experience, EYCE experience and motivation for applying. Christiane talked about her involvement in her national SCM and her experiences through this, and her motivation to organise more conferences. SCM Denmark asked about what the candidates' passions were. Lina and Christiane both shared an aim to ensure that they find good people to work with. Lina was particularly keen to work on the theme around identity and gender. Christiane talked about theology and spirituality- and learning the history of places around Europe.

Fundraising Coordinator: no candidates. David Cleary, former Fundraising Coordinator talked about the importance of this role and his perspective of what this role is about.

Global Networking Coordinator: 1 candidate, Krista Autio. Krista talked about her experience in this role already and her aims for the next two years. She outlined her strengths and her willingness to be guided in her role by ERA candidates.

Regional Networking Coordinator: no candidates. Jurgita, former post holder, talked about what the role entailed, as outgoing post-holder in this role.

ExCo- Annika Foltin, current Exco member outlined what the role is about and emphasised the collaboration with others from around the world, she mentioned the chance to meet others and experience different cultures. Ellis talked about how the finance committee was vital for the ongoing work of the federation, and talked about the opportunity to shape the role and the future direction of the Federation. Marius expressed an interest but needed time to think- the ERA agreed to proceed with elections and return to the ExCo vote later. Elections proceeded. Candidates were all elected.

ERA has to elect a Vice chair- this cannot be co-opted. The ERA agreed to return to this election and the ExCo election at the end of today before the ERA is closed, to allow time for representatives to find any interested persons from their own SCMs- 25 votes in favour of doing this. Luise Klein stated that she would like to stand for regional links coordinator- and outlined her involvement in her SCM. SCM Ireland asked about involving non-Christian individuals in events as well. Luise suggested some ideas for contact persons in local universities and said she was open to ideas about how to proceed.

#### **Election results:**

**Chair:** elected Zuzana Babicova, 21 votes for, 1 ron (re-open the nomination), 2 abstain, 1 Against

**Programs Coordinator 1:** elected Christiane Gebauer 25 votes for

**Programs Coordinator 2:** elected 25 votes for

**Global Networking Coordinator:** elected Krista Autio 21 votes for, 1 abstain, 1 against, 1 ron

**Regional Links Coordinator:** elected Luise Klein 24 votes for and 1 abstain.

We started after a short coffee break again at 11:00 with **presentation from Necta Montes**, the WSCF General Secretary on the WSCF transition work: towards a stable and sustainable WSCF. At the GA 2015 with the topic *we are many, we are one*, there are a lot of materials and reflections you can read about what happened and also the minutes are published online, as it was a very challenging and difficult assembly, we all agreed that the Federation needs fast reaction in order to survive and thrive. Our global family is having some crises at the moment, WSCF in transition, after every assembly we are in debt of about 200 000\$- the extent of the problem that was not known to the national movements at all. Financial but also there are several problems that came out, problems with the communications between the national, global and regionals. There were problems with trust between us. We needed a process to be able to identify the problem. The transition team was created, at the GA we didn't elect a strong leadership at the global level, that's why the Transition team was made to follow up the work. The staff and officers meeting in Birmingham in August 2015 was an important meeting, and then in Dhaka in December 2016. The GA Bogota gave a Transition team a mandate: to articulate common global vision and mission understanding for WSCF, it is an ongoing thing, to reform governance structure and constitution, to improve reporting and documentation of all wscf activities and events, to improve trust and communication between inter regional office IRO, Exco, regional officers, SCMs and partners and donors, to rebuild trust and communication with traditional and new donors, (and few more points). Palermo transition proposal was also presented and all the points that were suggested but didnt pass. (put the points) Co-Generals to one Secretary General (constitution amendment change), to re-focus the work of the six regional staff to movement building and strategic programming with a change in the title of the regional secretaries to Reg Exco and Global Program Director, to remove the

provisions of the two Exco proxies, General assembly held every 6 years, Global operational work performed \*(not finished).

What has been accomplished?

- Paid off WSCF debt 200,000USD in January 2016
- Reduced global operating cost by moving to Manila and prudent financial control
- IRO Office and re Office relocation studies reports completed and submitted to the exco in march 2017 for decision
- And the strategic plan for 2016-2019, although we go through difficult times and changes in the structures, transition period, focus on the changes, we want to show that we have a plan and we want to continue and work better,
- We have 4 strategic issues, eco justice, Latin America region, peacebuilding and the middle east region will work on it, identity diversity and dialogue, Interfaith Dialogue Natia is the Lead for this issue
- Strategic plan to work more into: Bible and Theological Analysis, Advocacy and Solidarity, Exumenical Transformative Diakonie, Capacity Building, and Movement
- A common understanding of the meaning of Culture Change within the Federation, building financial solidarity within the family of the federation and resourcing ourselves, summing up on wscfs regionalization experience
- The process of developing the WSCF staff model,

The role of the regional structures are vital in the future survival of WSCF. Hence the regions needs to reflect and evaluate it roles vis a vis the global family of the federation. We planted the seeds and we tried as much as we can, but we want to believe that we can make changes. A comment was added that it is very much inspiring what WSCF is trying to implement, it is very good to hear something very clear from the Global level, we need the global level, we are one family and worldwide but for that we need strong regions, where people communicate and build each other. A statement was read from SCM Norway, pointing out that SCM Norway was not informed about the elections until last night, and in order to have a nomination from SCM Norway there is a procedure that needs to be followed, example three weeks in advance at least. SCM Norway presented two options. Option 1. The ERA decides to have one position in ExCo filled by a representative from SCM Norway. The national board of SCM Norway will assign one person to fill this position by November 5<sup>th</sup> (which is when we have our next national board meeting). Option 2. The ERA postpones the elections to November 11<sup>th</sup>. All delegates already approved for the ERA 2017 will still be approved as delegates at this point. The elections will be held over telephone conference or Skype meeting. Leading up to the election, there will be a process in the WSCF-E, where all member organizations are properly informed about the elections and their procedures, and are asked to find suitable candidates. SCM Norway offers to cover the practical and financial issues with solution #2, and we also guarantee to have at least one candidate nominate for election at that point. A Senior Friend, Vera Papp, on behalf of senior friends, commented that every ERA there are elections and everyone is well known of that, including all the infos on the web site and email communications. The clarification was made that Exco roles was announced as open only shortly before the ERA, since the resignation of the current Exco happened one week before ERA. As Marius read the statement, he also stated that those are not his words but of the leadership this morning, and Zuzka asked whether this is only referring to ExCo or in general. Natia added that one of the main task of the regional coordinator, and she is sending emails, and maybe we can check if SCM Norway contact person shared this information with the movement. And our regional coordinator Jurgita sent emails maybe 4 times. Marius was asked if he can repeat whether it is only about the ExCo position.

(Our bylaws do not include online meeting option for the assembly so it would be unconstitutional, but the ERC continues to search for the people) we decided we will write down the proposals from SCM Norway, after working groups we come back and discuss this more.

17:00

After the lunch break and the working groups, we came back debriefing and voting on the policy paper for the next ERC

### **Advocacy and solidarity: 19 for, 5 abstain.**

We recommend the ERC to put the emphasis on advocacy and solidarity work in Europe and developing the concept. The introduction of ASC work should be sent to the movements within the next 3 months after the ERA. The working group suggests thematic areas to be for the next two years

1. Working with topics related to refugees and migrants
2. Strengthening the movement participating in campaigns
3. ASC should be more available for the SCMS to raise the issues and bring their concerns.
4. ASC should facilitate the issues on the global level enabling people to raise their voices
5. ASC Linking the SCMs to the relevant stakeholders
6. ASC working group recommends creation of the working group

The following steps could be taken- capacity building training on migration and eco justice, establishing partnership network with the organizations (NGOs, international organizations) working on advocacy and solidarity, participation GA EFECW in Helsinki 2018, August. Act Alliance GA October 2018, raising awareness on gender issues and mapping the gender inequality via SCM survey. ASC increasing participation in the work of WSCF Europe in other thematic areas, like interfaith, human rights, eco justice, etc.

### **Interfaith, working group :votes: 23 for, abstain 1**

- to organise a conference on the topic on interfaith and migration (refugees)
- partners: work together with EIYN, member organisations of EIYN and Scout movements (muslim Scouts)
- participants: of all religions (balanced) and also Atheists
- place: Netherlands (invite WSCF-E to host the conference)
- develop during the conference a campaign which could be used afterwards

### **Ecojustice working group voting : 22 for, abstain 2**

- The region can support ecojustice by raising awareness and creating **visibility of movements activities** in the area of ecojustice. This shall enable the movements to create collaboration. The region can be provide promotional support to activities done locally for others to copy and be inspired. (This relates also to regional networking group).
- We suggest that **WSCF-E considers running a practical campaign in the future** based on what movements would like to do (e.g.: coffee cups alternative, tree planting, sustainable bags). To create something from the grassroots.
- Some ideas done or for the future: *WSCF Plants the Forest-* Senior Friend having a land and organizing tree planting for us; Churches have gardens; *Trees for Peace*, SCM Norway has a Liturgy for Green mass, campaigning against oil industry; (Biodegradable cups, edible cutleries, leaves instead of plates)
- Fundraising ideas: Bread for the World supports Ecojustice

### **Gender sexuality : 23 for, 1 abstain**

- An outspoken safe space- important to make it clear
- Change society, not only church
- Tools at home (not only LGBTQ people but everybody else)
- Booklets on how to create safe space in the church, what words to use, connected to the Bible
- Participating in social events
- A very homogenous group when titled "gender", gender and sexuality for the themes, not the events, family as a theme (a conference on gender issue in different countries, personal experience, very careful)
- Praying, a big part
- An organisation benefits from diversity- why
- inclusion=diversity
- Guidelines for sensibility in dialogue with the speaker, invite gender scholars
- Change the name of the theme, however when naming the conferences and activities using more neutral terms. Because difficult to attract more conservative participants. We want diversity.

### **Theology and Spirituality Voting: 24 for, APPLAUD!!!!**

- The copyrights of the songs, they need to be checked and the search option
- Organise a conference addressing the theme of the church's role in addressing different forms of nationalism in Europe, and best practices for example to use church resources to influence democratic elections. Location directly affected by this experience.
- Training, deliver a training, hold meetings in countries directly affected by the issue of suicide, for young people to become campaigners in their communities + churches on the issue of Youth suicide, in a country affected, -connect to human rights - well being of youth - \
- Example: 13 reasons why we need to talk about suicide
- Online resource providing clear info about denominational traditions in a fun wall/facebook (together with the communication officer, we started this on our facebook page, but it need to be more developed)
- Develop ecumenical song library on website, publish prayers developed at all conferences etc

### **Regional networking group voting: 24 for**

- Update the contact person contacts/email from different movements
- Be informed about what is happening in the region, through constant communication, for example if some SCM asks for help about some idea/initiative they want to implement and in case some other SCM is doing something similar to just get connected and share info/materials
- Together with the communication officers create a menu of resources/platform online, on the web site for example, so SCMs can share their projects/outline of different events/fundraising etc, and can be used to inspire or even implement the same/similar ideas at different SCMs
- Visits, meeting people in person is very important and for the regional coordinator to have a good network it has to make contacts with the SCMs, receive invitations from SCMs to local meetings etc
- Sharing info/news about what is happening on ERC/ as well as different SCMs in the region, encouraging SCMs to connect to other SCMs, together organizing projects,
- Share funding ideas, applying together

### **Global Networking group voting: 24 for**

- To create the information page gathering contacts and interest/topics of SCMs and what they like to offer to other movements. The role of the region shall be raising awareness and bringing grassroots info to centralized platform of info for exchange and collaboration. (the survey could be sent by the global office)
- To encourage inviting students to activities of other regions' movements and of regions (this needs global support and financial support shall be carried by the guest not creating burden for the hosting region/movement)
- To encourage offering French and Spanish translation service
- To promote the use of Global Networking Coordinator as the person who can connect movements among each others
- To write a recipe book of national meals and food blessings, prayers before meals
- To make it requests for information simple and easy to use/respond
- To explore fundraising for costs for students to come to SCMs and regions
- To find out about the platform "WSCF Connect" used in the past

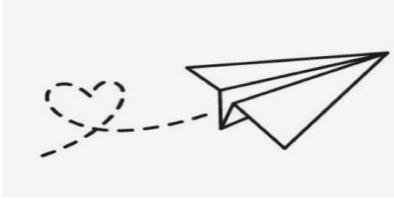
### **Fundraising 20 for, abstain 3, against 1**

- To create an online interactive history timeline about WSCF Europe in time for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the organization in 2019.
- Alongside this, we will continue to build an alumni database for WSCf Europe.
- AUDIENCE: past ERC members from 1968 to present. Why? Because they are the most connected people to our work.
- MESSAGE: past involvement and nostalgia for WSCF Europe (with photos of past events, ERCs, stories and key dates from the past). Also talk about value of what we are doing now – current students, stories about importance of diversity and safe spaces.
- WHAT: an interactive timeline online, with photos, events, key dates, profiles and stories from the past 50 years of WSCF Europe. To get this information, we will continue the projet to access the archives at Yale University (crowdfunding campaign), and conduct interviews with past members and leaders (e.g. liaising with SCM Britian to contact previous WSCF Regional Secretaries who can share their memories). Online timeline would be part of the redesigned website and launched in 2019 in time for the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of WSCF Europe.
- RESOURCES:
  - 5,000 EUR for trip to Yale (potentially speak to Necta about working with contact person at Yale, if funds cannot be raised).
  - Volunteer to design and put together the content into a timeline (can be done for free, or may need to hire a web developer).
  - Volunteer to look at Yale archive, and conduct interviews with past members/leaders, and work with local SCMs to contact relevant people.
  - Fundraising committee and fundraising coordinator – to oversee the project and ensure we are working to budget and deadlines.
  - Volunteer to contact current SCMs to interview students involved in WSCF to get their stories and form case studies.
- AFTER LAUNCH: ask potential WSCF Europe donors to join a 'members network' – they donate a regular gift in exchange for various benefits.

There were comments upon the History project and where we find the money, funding for it, and how are we gonna profit from it, main source of donation, the alumni donation

## Communication and marketing working group : for 24

- Visual design for the items and products produced (t shirt, bags)
1. Picture the map of Europe as a background for logo, so that we have the exact message of WSCF in Europe
  2. Paper plane



Replace the heart with 50 years anniversary

3. An icon of young people outlined and holding the WSCF logo or note in their hands
- As the creation of a slogan or an exact message is quite difficult we bring some ideas to be discussed in the future:
    1. The message must be short with max 4 words
    2. Words that we have put by priority:
      - Faith
      - Europe or something that can emphasise the meaning of europe
      - Young or youth
    3. The message Since 1968 at the bottom of any item
  - Items and products that we like to recommend to be produced:
    1. Bags with long handles so they are more comfortable and usable
    2. Hoody
    3. Mug
    4. Notebook A5/A4
    5. Matches - for donors
    6. Candles - for donors

The next point is how we will manage to finish the elections. On behalf of SCM Norway and other people present, a suggestion was presented how to handle nomination process. Members of the group producing this proposal: David Cleary, Audun, Marius, Annette, Zuzka, Hannah.

### **Nomination committee**

*The ERA will establish a nomination committee with at least 3 members who are elected by the ERA. The ERA will mandate them to search for suitable candidates for the next elections*

- A) For the ERC
- B) For the Nomination to the ExCo

*Their role is also to prepare the elections. The nomination committee is autonomous to the ERC*

*Other than this, the committee will get the task of advising the By laws committee what changes to the by law they would propose, so to make their work easier and the process more democratic. They shall help the By Law committee by sharing their views on how to;*

1. To ensure fair representation between movements, genders and experience in WSCF
2. The nomination committee shall actively approach members to consider ERC roles

*The members of the nomination committee are not allowed to run for the ERC roles or an exco position.*

*The committee members are allowed to meet, speak and propose at the following ERA, disregardless of if they`e sent from a movement. As this is not yet stated in the by laws we can only ask the ERA to consider geographical location, gender distribution and student involvement*

*The election is proposed as followed:*

*The ERA will nominate and elect two (2) persons to be members of the committee*

*The ERC will nominate and elect their representative at their earliest convenience. This person will lead the committee.*

**OR**

**DELETE THE PREVIOUS PARAGRAPH**

**OR**

*The ERA will nominate and elect (2) people to be members of the committee*

*The ERC will nominate and elect A representative at their earliest convenience. This representative does not have to be a current member of the ERC.*

### **By laws committee**

*The ERA will establish a By laws committee with at least 5 members who are elected by the ERA. We propose the committee to consist of one member from the ERC, three members from national SCMs and one senior friend. The ERA will mandate them to Write and propose suggestions for changes and improvements to the By laws for the following ERA.*

*We ask them especially, but not limited to, look in to:*

1. *Procedures for voting*
2. *Procedures for nominating members of the ERC and connected committees*
3. *Empowerment of member organisations*
4. *Procedures for replacement of members of the board (in the situation someone withdraws)*
5. *Other changes the committee sees fit to propose*

*The committee members are allowed to meet, speak and propose at the following ERA, disregardless of if they`e sent from a movement. As this is not yet stated in the by laws we can only ask the ERA to consider geographical location, gender distribution and student involvement.*

*The election is proposed as followed:*

*The ERC will nominate and elect their representative at their earliest convenience. This person will lead the committee.*

*The ERA will elect three national SCMs to be able to name one (1) person of their choosing within 01. November 2017 to be members of the board.*

*The ERC will nominate and elect a senior friend to be a member of the committee.*

The question was raised whether it is for the next elections 2019? Is it only for ExCo or the Vice Chair, we have nomination committee, but it doesn't solve the problem, because we don't have nomination for vice chair. Internal management practice can be fed to the Bylaws for the next elections. The nomination committee we are treating it as an experiment and if it works, task the bylaws committee to suggest we include it for the next assembly. It's only to make sure there are enough candidates, that ERC does not need to do everything, and of course this assembly is autonomous, this is only to make the list, and to encourage more people that the sitting board dont have the responsibility for the new board. To make it clearer that it is not about control but it

is more about managing, to see which are the positions we need to fill in and find people to stand up for. It is about coordinating staff. There were more clarifications what does it mean to have a nomination committee and whether it brings any good or if it will be functional and whether not this committee will have more power/influence over the people.

Dinner break

20:00 Role call, everyone

Due to the end of the assembly time, two options were presented- either we will continue the discussion tonight with voting on proposal to establish nomination and bylaws committee or a group of individuals will work on it more intensively after the assembly or we vote on it as it right now, doing it with secret discussion.

**Option 1:**

Continue the discussion that we were having before dinner

**Option2:**

A group of voting ERA delegates from the group which started this proposal and other voting ERA delegates and non voting guests as agreed by the ERA works together to refine the proposal

**Option 3:**

We immediately vote on the proposal as it is currently written

With 3 options you don't end up with a winner, maybe we can choose between option 1 and option 2, and then whoever wins will stand again number 3

But that puts option 3 in favour, so we choose between 1,2 and 3.

**The first round :**

**Option 1** receives 9 votes. **Option 2** receives 12 votes. **Option 3** receives 4 votes, no abstains

**Second round:** was voted between 1 and 2.

**Option 2** receives 13 votes. **Option 1** receives 12 votes, so option 2 wins.

It was suggested that since the option 1 received a significant attention, a group shall continue to work on the proposal after the assembly and present it for the next assembly. It was asked who would like to stay in the group, SCM Norway responded they wont be part of the group continuing the work. Carin, Christiane, Yulia, Lina, and Simon joined the group. The group remains open for other people to join if there is need for that and there was a general agreement on that with just raising hands.

Elections continues with two more positions if anyone is willing to stand. Does anybody here is willing to stand as vice chair? The Movement from Netherlands contacted the president of the board and she is willing to present her and her position and the second nomination is Emanuelle from SCM Italy. Anna Ten Boom willing to apply for vice chair, she is a law student, president of SSR NU, president of Happitaria (running of a big charity restaurant. Emanuelle from Italy presented himself and we all read the recommendation letter for Emanuele De Bettini.

Vice Chair: elected Emanuele receiving in favour of 19 votes, 4 votes for Anna, 1 Abstain and 1 Re open nomination

The next task is if someone wants to apply for Fundraising Coordinator, nobody applied and the ERC is now allowed to go and open a call for Fundraising Coordinator. And the last one is ExCo, but since there was no other candidate, the ERC has the right to open the call for ExCo. Closing the official assembly giving thanks from the whole ERC to Natia, for the commitment she has for the organisation and Zuzka for the chair. Special thanks and encouragement from Zuzka towards all the SCMs to approach the new ERC and come to her with

all the concerns, joys and critics. Special thanks to Annette for helping a lot with the elections, special thanks to the old ERC as well for their commitment and great work and to John, for being great host.

## Annexes

### 1. 2018 budget

Draft 2018 budget				
		Administrative	Programs	
EXPENSES	Salaries (Regional Secretary, part time Finance Officer, part time Communications Officer and project based Designer)	71 000 €	2 conferences (one to be financed by European Youth Foundation by 100%, not managed financially by WSCF-E)	30 500 €
	2 statutory meetings -ERC	7000 €	Lingua Franca	15 000 €
	Other costs (accounting, auditing, bank charges, annual report, T Shirts, Thank you postcards, Mozaik costs)	5000 €	Staff and Officers meeting	19 000 €
	Office costs (rent and utilities, phone, internet, office supplies, postage)	6000 €	Campaign (funding for movements' activities)	13 000 €
		<b>89 000€</b>		<b>77 500 €</b>
		Projected		Projected
INCOME	WSCF IRO (approx. 55% of RSs salary)	30 000 €		
	European Youth Foundation, Council of Europe	12 300 €	Otto Per Mille	4000 €
	Erasmus+ program of the European Union	46 700 €	Event participants contributions	5 500 €
			Erasmus+ program of the European Union	3300 €
			Co financing (GBGM, Helsinki Parish U., Robert Bosch Stiftung)	13200€
			European Youth Foundation -annual work plan	50 000 €
			Regular giving contributions	2700 €
	<b>89 000€</b>		<b>77 500 €</b>	

### 2. Participant list

#### Participants of Europe Regional Assembly, Ireland 2017

	Name	Organisation	Country
ERC members	1. Clare Wilkins	Treasurer	UK
	2. Rachel Power	Vice-Chair	Ireland
	3. Zuzana Babicova	Chair	Slovakia
	4. Pavlina Manavska	Campaigns Coordinator	Macedonia
	5. Jurgita Koženiauskaitė	Regional Links Coordinator	Lithuania
	6. Ellis Tsang	Exco	UK
	7. Annika Foltin	Exco	Germany
	8. Krista Autio	Global Networking Coordinator	Finland
WSCF staff	9. Natia Tsintsadze	Europe Regional Secretary	Italy
	10. Necta Montes	Secretary General	Philippines
	11. Maria Atanasoaei	Europe Communications Officer	Romania
guests	12. Hannah Weber	Ecumenical Youth Council in Europe-member of the board	Germany
	13. Henrik Hansson	Conference of European Churches-Communications Officer	Belgium
	14. Annette Klinke	Evangelische Studierenden and Hochschulgemeinde - staff	Germany
Member movements representatives	15. Christine Gebauer	Evangelische Studierenden and Hochschulgemeinde	Germany
	16. Luise Klein	Evangelische Studierenden and Hochschulgemeinde	Germany
	17. Tove Helminen	Kriss Stockholm	Sweden
	18. Simon Aspberg	Kriss Stockholm	Sweden
	19. Carina Crogh	Danish YMCA/YWCA	Denmark
	20. Katri Jussila	Suomen Kristillinen Ylioppilaisliitto SKY	Finland
	21. Emanuele De Bettini	Federazione Giovanile Evangelica Italiana	Italy
	22. Hanna Radzko	Ecumena	Belarus
	23. Yulia Bajelidze	Young Christians for Peace and Democracy	Georgia
	24. Lina Leonaviciute	Lithuanian Evangelical Lutheran Church Youth Center	Lithuania
	25. Lusine Simonyan	Youth Union of Jervezh	Armenia
	26. Marius Magnussen	SCM Norway	Norway
	27. Audun Stranden	SCM Norway	Norway
	28. Rebecca Zeilstra	S.S.R.-N.U.	Netherlands
29. Derk Van Bergen	S.S.R.-N.U.	Netherlands	
30. John Delap	SCM Ireland	Ireland	
31. David Cleary	SCM Ireland	Ireland	
Others	32. Seamus	Photographer	Ireland

### 3. Agenda

European Regional Assembly 13 <sup>th</sup> -16 <sup>th</sup> October, 2017, Ireland					
	Friday 13 Oct	Saturday 14th Oct	Sunday 15th October	Monday 16th	
07.30-08.30	Arrivals	Breakfast			
08.30-09.00		Morning Worship			departures
09.00- 10.45		<b>Intro:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Roll call</li> <li>Participants role explanations- delegates, guests, ERC</li> <li>Safe Space Guide</li> <li>Voting procedure</li> <li>Approving agenda</li> </ul> <b>Membership status change voting (SCM Netherlands)</b> <b>Reporting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ERC Report 2015-2017 &amp; Questions</li> </ul>	<b>Thematic Working Groups</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gender</li> <li>Advocacy and Solidarity</li> <li>Eco-Justice</li> <li>Theology and Spirituality</li> <li>Interfaith</li> </ul>		
10.45-11.00		Coffee Break			
11.00-13.15		<b>Roll call</b> <b>Reporting Continued</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>ERC 2015-2017 Financial Report &amp; Questions</li> <li>WSCF Global &amp; Questions</li> </ul>	<b>Working Groups</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Networking</li> <li>Fundraising</li> <li>Global networking</li> <li>Marketing and Communications</li> </ul>		
13.15-14.45		Lunch/Lunch Break			
14.45-16.30		<b>Roll call</b> <b>Bylaws</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Amendment to the Bylaws (each separately discussed and voted on)</li> </ul> <b>ERC Election (secret ballot)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair &amp; Vice Chair</li> <li>Program Coordinator 2 x</li> <li>Fundraising Coordinator</li> <li>Global Networking coordinator</li> <li>Regional Networking Coordinator</li> </ul>	<b>Working Groups</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Regional Networking</li> <li>Fundraising</li> <li>Global networking</li> <li>Marketing and Communications</li> </ul>		
16.30-17.00		Break			
17.00-19.00		<b>Thematic Working Groups</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gender</li> <li>Advocacy and Solidarity</li> <li>Eco-Justice</li> <li>Theology and Spirituality</li> <li>Interfaith</li> </ul>	<b>Roll call</b> <b>Reporting</b> from Working Groups and vote on Policy Papers		
19.00-20.30		Dinner			
20.30-21.00	Evening Worship				
21.00-22.30	Intro & teaming	Guest presentations SCM Market & Cultural Evening	Closing Party and Goodbyes		

### 4. Delegation supporting documents

Dear ERA organizers,

Due to unavailability to join the assembly, SCM Paris delegates the voting right to the representative of SCM Georgia, Yulia Bajelidze at the WSCF-Europe Assembly 13-16 October 2017.

Salma Charaf Salma.charaf@hotmail.fr

0033783230792

Due to our absence we, SCM Austria, hereby delegate our votes in the WSCF European Regional Assembly 2017 to the delegates from SCM Germany, Christiane and Luise.

  
Mirjam Meindl  
(vice-chair)

  
Mag. Gerda Pfandl  
(university chaplain)

## 5. SSRNU support document

### S.S.R.-N.U. - structure and activities

#### Introduction

S.S.R.-N.U. is a Christian student association of approximately 160 members.

Our student association is based on the idea of 'the message of the bible as guideline for life'. There are three different ways in which we encourage the accomplishment of that basic idea:

- (1) By affording a contribution in the education of Christian faith and other forms of intellectual and personal development;
- (2) By affording the awareness of the responsibility of Christian students in the society;
- (3) By advancing the amity/friendship between our members.

In S.S.R.-N.U. there is a huge diversity of Christian beliefs, and all members agree that it's important to think about our position as (Christian) students in the society.

Our association is led by seven students who are responsible for the extern and intern representation and the organisation of (the activities of) our association. Furthermore, there are subcommittees who organise their own activities.

A few times throughout the year, all our members are coming together to assemble about (big) decisions that are need to be taken.

#### Outline of the activities by S.S.R.-N.U. in 2017-2018

##### Weekly group meetings

Throughout the year there are members coming together in a small group to discuss about a specific theme. This could about be a religious or a social topic. There are also people who are doing volunteering work every month.

##### Get-togethers

Throughout the year we organise get-togethers in our own building on every Tuesday and Thursday evening, which is open for all our members: to have a drink, to have good conversations and to make new friends or get to know each other better. Every Thursday evening our members are welcome to have dinner in our own building, to start the evening together.

##### Dies Natalis

To celebrate the birthday of our association we have a week filled with a lot of activities and festivities: several workshops, a glamorous dinner, a play, a prayer and the week ends with a big gala.

##### Christmas activity

In the week before Christmas we have a Christmas activity. Last year this was a dinner with all our members with an short preach and moment of reflection of a pastor.

##### Easter activity

In the Easter period we have an Easter activity. Last year our lecture subcommittee organized a portrait painting workshop with refugees where students and refugees could meet each other. This year we will again organise something socially involved.

##### Lectures

Throughout the year we organise lectures for all our members about different themes. We invite all kinds of speakers, for example academics or politicians. This year we will also organise a lecture with an international theme.

6. ERA Booklet