

WYD IN KRAKOW: GLOBAL MEETING OF KOLPING YOUTH



ABOUT EVENTS:

- FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT
- POLISH—LITHUANIAN YOUTH EXCHANGE



ABOUT COUNTRIES:

- CROATIA
- HUNGARY



Kolping Youth Europe... Who we are?

by Viktorija Erjavec, Kolping Youth Croatia



Kolping Youth Europe is a global European organisation with its own juridical person (Kolping Youth Europe e.V.). It is a part of Kolping Society that has task to coordinate networking on the European level, support national and regional Kolping youth groups and also to distribute relevant European information. Kolping Youth Europe organises once per year Summer camp for European Kolping youth and also Membership meeting for country representatives. Also different events (projects, workshops, seminars, trainings...) are being organised during

one calendar year all over the Europe by regional national or local Kolping groups which are supported by Kolping Youth Europe. Interesting and relevant topics for youth population, Kolping life, activities, experience and current noticed needs in the society are being the main guidelines while organising events. All those meeting opportunities during one year are great to exchange ideas, news, create new common projects, start something new in own country or improve already existing activities. Every activity has its roots in love and respect toward Adolph Kolping's heritage and wants to make a world better place in surroundings, thought out the activities which could and can contribute to strenghten the civil society and on the global meaning also the European and Kolping identity. Great characteristic of all of this youth groups is a help they offer each other and in the end they give each other. Incredible network of friendships (and collaborative groups) is being built during last years, with its tendency of growth. That is the best proof that all this „Kolping Youth Europe story“ has its meaning and importance. Of course there are always fields which can be improved but it can be said for sure that eighteen European countries are very fortunate by having strong, creative and enterprising Kolping youth groups. May the Adolph Kolping's advice of „blossoming at place where God has put us“ continues to live across the Europe.

The activities of Kolping Youth Europe are supported by the Erasmus + Programme of the European Union



Kolping Europe: Continental Assembly 2016 in Vienna



Presentation about KYE made by Galyna Ieromina (v-ce president of KYE)

Vienna was the center of Europe for one weekend – at least from the Kolping point of view. About 45 delegates from almost 20 member states of the European Kolping Society held their annual Continental Assembly from 20 to 22 May 2016 here.

Apart from the reports of the European President and the European Praeses and the dealing with questions relating to structures and statutes, the delegates also treated the topic "generations in community" in an educational part. The problem of becoming of age and the social isolation poses a big challenge in practically all European countries. The Kolping Society meets this challenge with different approaches ranging from associational offers, visiting services and "care at home" to special accommodations for older people. On this occasion Kolping Austria presented the concept of the two Kolping Houses "Living together" in Vienna, where people in need of care and mothers with children live under the same roof. The guests had the opportunity to directly experience the concept of care and support, during one afternoon by participating in various "active groups", e.g. in the garden group, a singing group or a "sitting football" match where most of the players play in wheel chairs.

Moreover, the delegates of Kolping Europe treated the current refugees' crisis, a challenge, according to the European Praeses Josef Holtkotte, that can only be met together. Instead



of the fear from the refugees, the wish to treat them with dignity should be in the foreground; he named the biblical character of the Good Samaritan.

In the frame of the meeting also two Austrian Europe politicians were honored who co-shaped for years the cooperation on the continent: Othmar Karas, delegate and vice-president retd. of the European Parliament, and the former General Secretary of the Council of Europe, Walter Schwimmer. In his words of thanks Karas quoted the founder of the Kolping Association, Adolph Kolping: "If everybody gave his best within his own circle the world would soon change to the better"! and impressed with a both brief and expressive definition of the principle of subsidiarity rooted in the Catholic social teaching: "We don't leave anybody alone, who cannot help him/herself." In times like these a principle with dynamite.

source material : http://www.kolpingwerk-europa.net/en/archiv/news_details/artikel/wir-lassen-niemanden-allein.html

Hungary: Kolping Football Tournament



by Kolping Youth Transylvania, translation: Szilárd Szabó

The XIII. International Kolping Football Tournament took place on 4th July 2016 in a Hungarian village called Érsekvadkert.

The competing teams are invited individually and in this year we also got the opportunity to take part in this challenging event. All together 10 teams were playing coming from Czech Republic, Slovakia, Romania and Hungary. Our team was built up from 8 active young members. We started our trip on Friday at around 3 pm. Some of us arrived from Kolozsvár in the morning, whereas a couple of our players came directly from their workplaces. It was about 9 pm, when we arrived in Érsekvadkert. The Kolping House is located more or less 4 km from the village in the forest, surrounded by the beauty of the nature and a really calm atmosphere. The hosts prepared

delicious dinner and we started to get to know each others.

On the following day at 8 am we gathered on the local team's football pitch, which was divided into two parts. The weather was just perfect for a great sport event. However we had a slight cloud in the morning, during the whole day it was absolutely shining. We were separated into two groups, each group consisted of 5 teams. Our included Blansko (Czech Republic), Nyíregyháza (Hungary), Csíkszereda and Székelyudvarhely (Transylvania). With 3 won and 1 lost game we ended up at the second place in our group which meant to play in the semi-final against Kézdivásárhely. The result

Would you like to take part in the next football Tournament in June 2017?
Contact the organisation team:
ifjusag@kolping.hu

was 1-0 for the other team so we had a last match for the third place against the Slovak team. Because of the equal result with shootout we won the game for 5-4 earning the 3rd place in the tournament.

The winner of this fascinating event was Kézdivásárhely preceding Székelykeresztúr, followed by Tasnád(our team), Ipolyszakállos, Érsekvadkert, Víziváros, Blansko, Nyíregyháza, Gyergyószentmiklós and Csíkszereda.

After all the award ceremony was in the local parish hall, where were live music, dance, dinner and a lots of cheer and fun. This tournament was organised professionally. We spent the whole night together with the other teams in a really friendly mood. On Sunday at 9:30 am we celebrated the Holy Mass after the breakfast, then we left for home.

We would like to thank to the organisers for their generous effort to make such a wonderful tournament and also congratulations, as organising requires a great amount of accuracy and dedication as well.



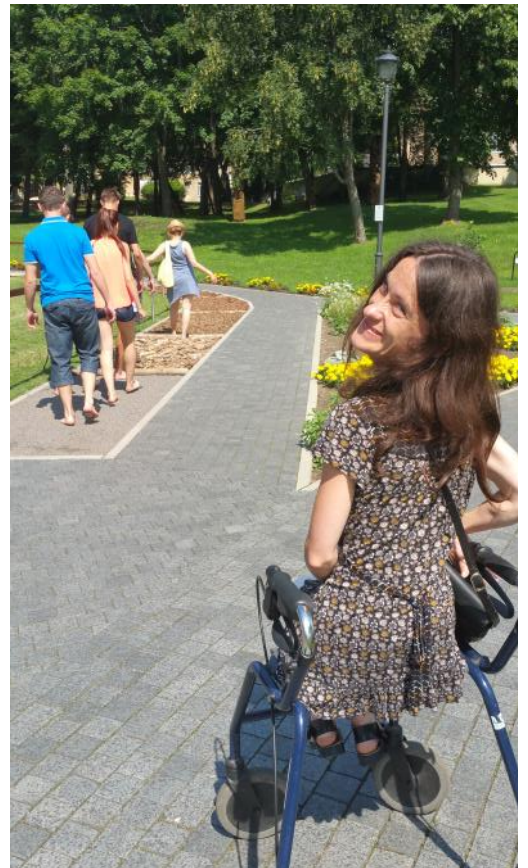
Polish – Lithuanian youth Meeting in Kaunas



9 Members of Kolping Youth Poland with 2 youth leaders participated on Polish-Lithuanian youth exchange organised from 30.06 till 07.07.2016 in Kaunas, Lithuania where the headquarter of Kolping Lithuania and the Kolping University of Applied Sciences is situated.

The main aim of this young exchange project is an intercultural dialogue between Lithuanian and Polish youth and raising of interest in ecology and nurturing values opposing consumption through creativity and arts. Project organizers and promoters was Lithuanian Kolping Society jointly with Kolping Society of Poland. They sought to involve less abled youth members into common activities in such a way strengthening tolerance and openness. In project takes part young people from small cities and villages, most of them participated for the first time in international Kolping youth meeting.

The program was lasting for 6 days. Participants were learning about cultural differences and similarities, ecological issues and had the opportunity to generate ideas and to create ones. Various methods promoting creativity was used, such as interactive theatre method, discussions, team work, excursions. Project results were presented through the performance on ecological topic to the local community (several dozen of people) showing the experience obtained in collaboration among project participants.



The project "Creative Cooperation of Lithuanian-Polish Youth in Nature Guarding (COLPYNG)" has been confirmed by the Lithuanian-Polish Youth Exchange Fund under the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour of Lithuania.



World Youth Day and European Youth Week in Krakow 2016

A good atmosphere was indeed pre-programmed for the World Youth Day in Krakow. Hundreds of thousands of young people celebrated and prayed with Pope Francis in Poland. For all Kolping members, Wednesday afternoon certainly was another highlight of these days of faith. At the invitation of the Kolping Youth of Europe, they spent the afternoon and evening at a Kolping Youth meeting on the grounds of the Holy Family Parish in Krakow. Although General Praeses Ottmar Dillenburg was not able to be present in Poland, he had sent a video message, wishing the celebrating Kolping community much joy.

After celebrating Holy Mass together, there was singing, dancing, and partying. During the events of World Youth Day, one could see all the time groups from Africa, Asia, Europe, and Latin America who had one thing in common: the orange T-shirts showed that Kolping is certainly in attendance in Krakow – and surely also next time in Panama.





Presentation of the countries: HUNGARY



Hungarian Kolping Youth members are very active both on their local and national level. From year to year they have more possibilities to increase the number of the active youngsters, to improve the fields of their engagement and it is very successful part of their work.

Around 60 Kolping Youth members in all Hungary meet every half of the year, where they do the evaluation of past period and make plans for the upcoming one. Those meetings are also great opportunity to improve their friendships, share experience both on Kolping and private level, talk about spirituality, improving the knowledge of Adolph Kolping's priceless heritage. Special part of their common time are also several unofficial meetings through the year, which they all appreciate very much.

Kolping Youth Hungary supports each year more and more the needs of their members in soft skills area, leadership skills organising seminars and workshops. Every half of the year young Kolping members meet, each time at different place (host is always different Kolping family). The last one was in Lenti, in a town close to the Slovenia. It was a strategical meeting, because the inner construction of Kolping youth Hungary will be improved. A lot of youngsters are also friends, so they often make some common excursion, play together board games etc.

Nice quality and important part of their work is also the cooperation with the senior Kolping members, which support the Kolping youth actions and needs. For example, they organise together national Kolping day, they celebrate together Kolping day, they do pilgrimages and common workshops.

Different international workshops and meetings through the past years were organised by Kolping Youth Hungary. Already traditional International football tournament is being held each year. In year 2016 it was held from 2nd until 4th June in Érsekvadkert and was very well organised and it was a wonderful experience for all participating groups.

Kolping Hungary and Kolping youth Hungary have also partners. Every year they organise at least one

meeting / summer camp and exchange program with Kolping youth Augsburg. It is a very good possibility for the youngsters to learn the culture, the language, travel and change experiences with other youngsters.

From 2016 Kolping youth Hungary, and especially Kolping youth Budapest, has a partnership with the youngsters from Timisoara, Romania.

Another international event organised and maintained in Hungary in year 2016 will be the Membership meeting of Kolping Youth Europe. It is planned in Alshopahok from 22nd until 25th September. Beside being a yearly meeting of Kolping youth representatives and beside exchanging new ideas and reports about Kolping youth activities during past year, it will be also a new election of the board members of Kolping Youth Europe.



Year 2016 is also an election year for the Hungarian Kolping youth.

Being a part of European Kolping family is very important for Hungarian youngsters. The value of exchanging experiences and improving leadership skills with international groups is very priceless to them.



Kolping Youth Hungary

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Presentation of the countries: CROATIA

Croatia is one of the European countries that have had adopted Adolph Kolping's idea very soon after its beginning of spreading through out the Europe. Adolph Kolping brought it to Croatia by himself and it has been living on this area for over 160 years. Although in the past there were Kolping families in different parts of Croatia, today is Kolping present mostly at its northern part.

Young Croatian Kolping members are part of the Kolping families from Archdiocese of Zagreb and Diocese of Varaždin.



Past ten years have been very active and refreshing in Kolping youth fields. Main youth activities on Croatian level were, and still are:

- workshops and weekly meetings with children from age 6 until age 14;
- summer camps for the most active children through the year;
- participation in Kolping families and parish events (charity events/workshops, parish celebrations-way of the cross, rosary praying, old people's day, st. Nicolas day, Advent activities and market, Christmas, Easter, Kolping's day...), archdiocesan/diocesan events...;
- creative workshops which as a result have products which are being sold and the collected money goes to the people in need (specific families, specific person...);
- common meetings and activities with Kolping youth members from Archdiocese of Paderborn (specially Kolping family Hoerste);
- preparation/participation in yearly parish meeting for families and their children;
- motivating and encouraging activities for new potential younger Kolping members;
- participating in Kolping radio programmes (monthly programme on Radio Maria)...

The new part of Kolping youth's activities in year 2016 were preparation and participation with children at parish „Advent market“ and work and meetings with group of youngsters from age 14 until age 18, which are former members of younger Kolping groups. Also, that group was a leading group of the „Summer camp for children 2016“ in mountain part called „Cerina“. It was their first time to lead most of the activities during the camp, of course with a preparation and the support on the spot of Kolping youth leaders. At the yearly meeting of Kolping Croatia in November 2016 there were also presented all activities of Kolping youngsters during past three years and also new plans and ideas for closer future. Croatian Kolping board members were regulary familiar with everything but now there was an opportunity to bring closer the activities to more Kolping members. It was also a way to thank for the strong and constant support from senior Kolping members.

Beside traditional and new activities at home, youngsters started to build a network also with European Kolping youth members strongly during past three years. Participation on several seminars, meetings and workshops helped to the Croatian youngsters to get more experience and also a knowledge to organise for the first time in the history of Croatian Kolping one workshop for European participants. It was a workshop „Creative leader-motivated group“, held in October 2014 in Ludbreg. This network was improved during years 2015 and 2016.

In year 2016 Croatian youngsters participated at: Kolping Europe continental meeting in Vienna, Kolping Youth Week in Krakow, World Youth Day in Krakow (volunteers), workshop „Historical memory and reconciliation“ in Uzhorod, Membership meeting in Alsopahok, workshop „Project Cycle Management“ in Novi Sad, unofficial meeting in Košice and at Kolping Youth Europe board meeting in Cologne. There was also a friendly visit to Croatia of representatives of Kolping Youth Romania and visit of Croatian member to Romanian Kolping.

Kolping Youth Croatia

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Plans for year 2017 are:

- to continue with existing work (both on Croatian and European level);
- to improve and encourage youngsters from age 14 until 18 to engage themselves more with Kolping activities, to give them an opportunity of international experience;
- to increase the number of active youngsters in Kolping;
- to help with refreshing of Kolping youth activity in one diocese;
- to improve the connection with Kolping Youth Slovenia and to organise first working camp for participants from both countries;
- to improve connections also with other Kolping youth members from another countries.





KOLPING YOUTH

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