

**IMPORTANT
TOPIC**
European
Voluntary
Service

**OUR MEETINGS
AND WORKSHOPS**

- Stiavnicke Bane
- Uzhorod
- Alsopahok
- Cologne

KOLPING YOUTH

11/2016



INTERNATIONAL WORKSHOP IN UZHOROD



MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF KYE

**MORE ABOUT
COUNTRIES**

- Romania
- Slovenia



Dear Kolping Friends
in Europe,

three years just passed by since the last board elections in Krakow in 2013. The former board of Kolping Youth Europe (KYE) and the quite active membership have done a great job as you have seen in the last years: plenty of camps, workshops and other events and activities all around in Europe. Let me to say a great THANK here to all of you and to the former board members by name Galyna Ieromina (Ukraine), Xhon Nika (Albania), Martin Huzvar and Dominik Presul (Slovakia). We are thankful to Patrycja Kwapik (Poland) who helped (and still helps) us a lot in

every kind of activities. I think we had a really successful three years and we are looking forward to a more active, more eventful and efficient cycle.

In the new board I welcome Blejan Henrietta (Romania), Viktorija Erjavec (Croatia), Rita Amaranta Krammer (Hungary) as new members, and from the former board Dominik Presul and Bernhard Burger. Patrycja Kwapik is going to continue her work by KYE, so if you have any questions, problems or you just need any support to your nationwide youth work, do not hesitate to ask her.

Let us build further the heritage
of Adolf Kolping!
Faith to Kolping!

Gellért Szabó
President of Kolping Youth Europe



The Membership Meeting in Krakow, October 2013

European Voluntary Service (EVS)



Volunteering in another country is a great way to experience different cultures and make new friends, whilst also helping others and learning new skills that could be helpful in later life.

One of the great opportunities gives **European Voluntary Service (EVS)**.

An EVS project is a partnership between two or more promoting organisations. These organisations are responsible for recruiting volunteers for their project.

Volunteers participate in EVS through a Sending Organisation in the country where they live and a Receiving Organisation that receives and hosts them during their period of service.

Projects last from 2 weeks to 12 months, and as a volunteer you can work in a wide range of fields, such as culture, youth, sports, children, cultural heritage, arts, animal welfare, environment and development cooperation. At the end of your EVS period, you will receive a certificate confirming your participation and describing your project – the Youthpass.

You will receive free accommodation, food, insurance and pocket money. The only thing you might have to pay is a small part of your travel costs.

So, if you are between 17 and 30, feel free to find out more at the European Youth Portal (https://europa.eu/youth/eu/volunteering/european-voluntary-service_en).

A lot of organisations all across the Europe are waiting for you as well as written experiences from former volunteers that might help you to decide. You just need to choose, apply and enjoy in your life volunteer adventure. Join to this big family of more than 100 000 volunteers that participated in this programme during past 20 years.

Congratulation for this success of 20 years of existence and importance on European level to all European Voluntary Service team: creators, coordinators, organisations and volunteers.

Source: https://europa.eu/youth/eu/article/46/73_en

“Four experiences, one common solution”



29th August – 4th September 2016

“Four experiences, one common solution” - the summer school for Visegrad countries (PL-HU-CZ-SK) in Štiavnicke Bane, Slovakia

The Kolping Society in Poland and Slovakia invited young people from the Visegrad group to join a summer school focusing on the topic of minorities named „Four experiences-one common solution.“

17 participants from Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and Slovakia arrived at Štiavnické Bane to take part in a one-week event in the Kolping House.

There were lectures tackling various aspects of the existence of minorities, such as social, political, legal and cultural viewpoints. As a follow-up, there were several workshops linked to the main topics.

As part of the programme, the participants visited a community centre at Šobov and met Roma inhabitants.

- the summer school in Stiavnické Bane, Slovakia

Lectures:

- *Minorities living in our countries – Current situation of minorities in Slovakia,*
Lecturer: Mgr. Ján Marko, PhD.
- *Nations and nationalities of the middle Danube: Historical perspective,*
Lecturer: Doc. Miloš Marek, PhD.
- *Situation of Slovak minority in Hungary,*
Lecturer: Mgr. Pavol Zatko
- *Social and cultural diversity of Roma in the region Spiš and the contribution of the Kolping Society in Slovakia to the solution.*
Lecturer: PhDr. Margita Marková
- *Teach for Slovakia – Working with Roma minority – account of the situation,*
Lecturer: Mgr. Anežka Marková
- *Cultural identity in the process of preservation of minorities,*
Lecturer: PhDr. Bohumír Bachratý, CSc

Other activities:

- visit to the historic centre of Banská Štiavnica
- national evening
- meeting with a local Roma community in the settlement of Šobov
- trip – a climb to the Sitno Hill and the holy Mass in the open air
- putting on a performance for the flash mob
- presentation of the flash mob in Banská Štiavnica - street event. Issues: migration and minorities



Also, there was a sightseeing tour of Štiavnické Bane and Banská Štiavnica in order to introduce this region of a spectacular natural beauty and historical monuments to the visitors.

The international party climbed the legendary Sitno Hill and participated in a holy Mass.

At the end of the summer school the participants put on a performance and appeared in a flash-mob on September 3rd at the Trinity Square in Banská Štiavnica. They wanted to demonstrate the fact that regardless of differences among nations and nationalities, currently in a tense political atmosphere, we are able to unite and respect values which make our societies more colourful and richer.



This project was supported by the Visegrad Fund.

“Historical memory and reconciliation”

From 7th to 11th of September 2016 the NGO „Kolping Society in Ukraine“ had an international youth seminar „Historical memory and reconciliation“.

The event took place thanks to financial support of Renovabis foundation in cooperation with Kolping Youth Europe. The representatives of Kolping Youth Hungary, Czech Republic, Croatia, Germany, Poland and Ukraine took part in the seminar.

The aim of the seminar was to educate young people to feel the responsibility for spreading the peace and reconciliation, also to support the peaceful living together in Europe. Not a less important aim of the event was to make a contribution to intercultural multinational coexistence. The youth from different countries received a chance to be in a constant dialogue with people from other countries and this helped the promotion of respect to another cultures.



International workshop in Uzhorod, Ukraine



European Membership meeting with board election 22-25 September 2016, Alsópáhok, Hungary,



Last weekend of September was reserved for the yearly Membership meeting of Kolping Youth Europe (KYE). Representatives (19 in total) from 9 different European countries gathered in Hungarian picturesque place called Alsópáhok.

After the introductory evening and the sightseeing of the Kolping Hotel Spa & Family Resort, where the meeting was, the work has started. Main, common and highlighted topics during those days were the evaluation of the KYE work both on European level and on country levels, as well as ideas about improvement of Kolping activities on European level. World cafe method pointed out several ideas and perspectives for further activities. Country representatives shared yearly reports from their Kolping activities. There was also included and shared

the report of KYE board work. Parycja Kwapik informed about it. As this meeting was also a KYE board election meeting, representatives discussed about the board activities and duties and also about the expectations from the new board. Interested youngsters could candidate themselves and become official KYE board members candidates. All of them represented their ideas and explained their tendency to enter into the KYE board. Each country participated in election with two voices and in the end, the new KYE board members became:

Gellért Szabó (Hungary) – President
Henrietta Blejan (Romania) – Vicepresident
Dominik Presul (Slovakia)
Viktorija Erjavec (Croatia)
Rita Amaranta Krammer (Hungary)
Bernhard Burger (Switzerland)

New KYE board had their first board meeting, while other youngsters participated in interesting games and common time. Intercultural evening was this time also very interesting and joyful.

This meeting ended up with common „thanksgiving” Holy Mass in two languages, Hungarian and English.

It was one more successful Kolping meeting, with a lot of possibilities to exchange experiences among participants and for improving the international Kolping friendships.

Kolping youth Hungary made a big effort in planing and realization of this event. Thank you!



Results of the World Café



What can we do for better communication and cooperation between young people:

- Meetings, physical contacts;
- Internet, FB, Twitter, Skype;
- Work-camps;
- Sport activities;
- Indoor and outdoor games;
- Due trainings and workshops in communication skills;
- Platform in Internet for Kolping Youth Europe;
- Systematical refreshing of FB-page of KYE due sending the information about new activities;
- To send the information to different countries.

The expectations of the new Board:

- To be present on the Board meetings;
- To make each board member as a presentative person of the regions (Balkan countries, Eastern Europe...);
- To be more visible – to give systematical reports to the countries and Membership meetings ;
- To be creative;
- To spread the information, to offer help to the countries, which have not so strong Youth work;
- To activate the "sleeping" countries;



Interesting topics for seminars, trainings and workshops:

- Topics connected with A. Kolping and Kolping Society (history, biography etc.);
- Workshops and trainings for trainers, leaders;
- Intercultural learning, Cross-cultural communication;
- Start-ups;
- Work-camps;
- Sports activities;
- Workshops for developing of social skills.

Smart communication – smart youth participation



Kolping Poland in cooperation with the partners from Germany, Romania and Slovenia coordinate the international project dedicated to youth.

In project are planned 4 international workshops about following topics:

1. *International Communication between Kolping Youth groups (Germany)*
2. *National Communication between Kolping Youth groups (Romania)*
3. *Internal Communication between Kolping members (Slovenia)*
4. *External Communication of Kolping (Poland)*

After all workshops, each country organizes multiplier events to disseminate the results of the project. A summary of all results will be provided in a manual. The end of the project is May 2018.

Project is dedicated to young people from partnership countries (Germany, Poland, Slovenia and Romania) but the results (tolls and online-manual) will be available in English language for all countries .

Funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union



- first transnational workshop in Cologne, Germany

Transnational Workshop "International communication and promotion tools to enhance links between different European youth associations"

20.10. – 23.10.2016
in Cologne, Germany

Gregor Federhen introduces the participants to the topic. His presentation deals with the differences of digital natives and digital immigrants, competences needed by youth workers in the digital age and possible perspectives on online social networking.

The participants get to know the work of Kolping International by visiting the offices and getting to know a part of the staff.

Sven Messing presents the project "Total sozial 2015" which has won the "Kolping Youth Price" of Kolping Youth Germany this year. At the beginning an interactive game was played ("Total sozial Activity") which lead to the question what the participants perceived as being totally social. At the end the participants discussed in small groups what "Total sozial" means for the Kolping Youth in Romania, Slovenia and Poland.

After a lunch break, the participants visited the Domradio, a Catholic radio station in Cologne. Heike Leibeck presented the work of the radio station and discussed with the participants about what needs to be considered for an effective PR work of NGOs and youth organizations.

Jona Hölderle, specialist in Online Marketing, is invited as a coach for the training day (22.10.2016). In the morning he deals with the question how the outreach can be increased and new participants can be reached. In the afternoon he focusses on the topic of participation and communication, which is mainly linked to social media. During a group work, the participants work on the questions: (1) What is our goal? (2) How can we define our target group? (3) What can we offer our target group? (4) Which pages should link to our offers?

On Sunday morning Gregor Federhen concludes the workshop with a speech about ethical questions regarding the use of social media.

Cooperation:

Sven Messing, Kolping Youth Bamberg, Germany



KOLPING YOUTH ROMANIA



Kolping's work in Romania is outspread to all parts of the country and it is important part of the Romanian society. The Kolping Society in Romania is very supportive when it comes to youth work. Initiatives and new ideas are always encouraged and financial support is given when seminars, workshops and workcamps take place.

Around a dozen Kolping youth groups gather more than 120 members. But the total number is much higher, because there are a lot of youngsters all across the country who are part of different Kolping families.

The biggest achievement of Kolping Youth Romania during past few years is created core of volunteers that are always active and constantly get involved in different activities. Another important thing is that the local group leaders got to know each other better by participating at the national events and activities which also improved connection between them.

Year 2015 was reserved for regional and national workcamps in Caransebes, Ivo and Ploscuteni (*interesting tasks were successfully done such as cutting grass, planting flowers, repairing and painting fences*), for charity events and promotional moments (*group of six young Kolping members made an interesting Christmas „video card“*):

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WzV5FfK7iY8>).

Year 2016 was a year of regional and national seminars for youth leaders. At the end of February 2016, each Kolping Youth group was given the opportunity to send 2 volunteers to the seminar for youth leaders that took place in Braşov.

At the middle of July 2016, Caransebeş was the place that hosted the seminar „Teambuilding, Project management“. The purpose of these seminars was to form leaders and encourage them to carry out projects that help the Kolping organization grow.

Beside being active in Romania, Kolping youth members are also participating in different events on European level in order to improve their contact network, to get a new experience, new knowledge, as well as exchange experience with other Kolping members from other countries. In year 2016 Romanian youth participated at: International Football Tournament in Hungary, European Youth Week in Krakow, Membership meeting in Alsopahok and workshops of Erasmus+ projects, they are being part of. Erasmus+ "*Strengthening global awareness in the local communities – Kolping 2020 Strategy*" and Erasmus + "*Smart communication - smart youth participation*" are the names of those two projects, which invited and encouraged Romanian youngsters to participate at seminars in Cologne (*March and October*), Štiavnicke Bane (*April*) and Kaunas (*September*).

Mentioned activities are not the only ones. Kolping Romania, also its younger Kolping members, are also partners with Kolping Limburg and last year they have also started a partnership with Kolping Budapest.

It is hard to put in few sentences all activities of Romanian Kolping youngsters but for sure they deserve a huge recognition for all the beautiful and good things they are doing for their society.



Kolping Youth Romania

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<https://www.facebook.com/Kolping-Tineret-If%C3%BAs%C3%A1g-Rom%C3%A2nia-1691541581127501/?fref=ts>

<https://www.facebook.com/kolpingtineretbanat/?fref=ts>



KOLPING YOUTH SLOVENIA



around the Slovenia are working hard to spread the Kolping's spirit and give through it their best to the society they are part of.

Focus from summer camps with workshops for children that are being part of their work throughout many years, also from projects for soft skill development of youth and intergenerational workshops, was moved on and enriched, improved and expanded in year 2016. Those activities got new younger volunteers and new members, as well as new activities also became part of the Kolping youth's work. As Kolping Youth members are part of Kolping families, common and quality cooperation is very important to them. This cooperation is very precious to all Kolping members and all of them work on their connection and community.

With an support and encouragement of the Kolping Society, younger members had an opportunity in October 2016 to organise the first Kolping youth meeting for their younger members and do together a SWOT analysis, evaluation of all existing activities and make a strategy of their work for the next calendar year.

Year 2016 was also an electoral year for Slovenian Kolping youth members. As Mateja Šavc started to work on Kolping's projects at Kolping Society Slovenia, new leader and representative of Kolping Youth became Milena Repa, Kolping member from Maribor. Few Kolping members have participated on several meetings on European level



The work of Kolping Youth Slovenia is being recognizable and significant for longer time in Kolping Slovenia's history and also on European level. Last few years were important and rich in many different meanings, both for youth and Kolping seniors.

Around 100 active young Kolping members gathered in 8 groups all

Kolping Youth Slovenia

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Mladi Kolping SLO – Kolping Youth SLO

during past year (*Kolping Youth Week in Krakow, Membership meeting of Kolping Youth Europe in Alsopahok*), improving this way the connection with Kolping youth members from different European countries.

One of the biggest achievements of past year is also participating in Erasmus+ projects: "Strengthening global awareness in the local communities - Kolping 2020 Strategy" and "Smart communication - smart youth participation".

Advantage of this inclusion is an possibility for joining more youngsters and also for improving skills of existing Kolping members. All international experiences will continue to have a significance also for Slovenian Kolping youth and Slovenian Kolping society.

Year 2016 was for Kolping Youth Slovenia rounded with more members, active members, new interesting ideas and projects and for sure year 2017 will be even better and even more adventurous in Kolping meaning, both on Slovenian and European level.

If you are interested to find out more about Slovenian activities during last years, feel free to visit this page with their regular newsletters: <http://www.kolping-zdruzenje.si/index.php/si/literatura/kolping-bilteni>.





**KOLPING
YOUTH**

Kolping Youth Europe

