

Kolping Connect People

MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF KYE WAS HELD IN BUDAPEST

Photo contest
2019



Managerial and leadership skills

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Kolping and the elections to the European Parliament 2019



Liliane MAURY PASQUIER, President of the Council of Europe and member of the Swiss Council of States, in conversation with Anton SALESNY, the European Representative of the International Kolping Society.

*Photo:
Council of Europe, Strasbourg*

The next elections to the European Parliament will be held in May 2019, but not on a single day. The member states determined that the election will be held in their respective countries on four different days between the 23rd and 26th of May 2019.

Besides, there are differences concerning the minimum percentage, which is needed for a party to delegate a deputy to the European Parliament. Nine countries apply a sticking point of 5 %, 13 countries

do not know any obstacle and others have determined something in between. Furthermore, the electoral constituencies have been

defined differently on national and regional level. In most member states, citizens from other EU countries are eligible to vote, but not in Ireland, Malta and Slovakia. In all member states every citizen has the right to vote who is 18 years or older, except Austria, where people are allowed to vote with 16 years. Moreover, the voting system is varying: some countries apply closed lists, where one has to vote for the preferred list. Ireland has a complicated so-called single transferable vote system.

All these distinctions complicate the election procedure and reflect in this vein, what many citizens think of the EU presently. Many have difficulties to understand how

the EU is actually functioning. The real and actually perceived complicity of the EU and its institutions are part of the biggest challenges, which have to be tackled, if Europe wants to be successful. In a world which is earmarked by tremendous changes, the European Kolping Society wishes to see a successful European Union (EU). That is why it calls upon all candidates of the next European election, to explain always and everywhere in simple words, how the EU is working and what they do wish for the EU. The European Kolping Society supports the European unification, which allowed for peace and stability on our continent in the face of huge changes in the world and still ensures this. Currently the EU is undermined by its complexity and by contradictory and incomprehensible political announcements, in addition due to unrealistic promises it is threatened internally. The European elections do offer all candidates the opportunity to bring up these problems. The European Kolping Society hopes that a big majority of them will use this chance. The next European Parliament should determine with emphasis on helping Europeans to better realize the limits, the functioning of the EU and its indisputable value.

The European Kolping Society has been engaged as a catholic social association since the end of the second world war in favour of the European integration and has accompanied actively the European integration process. In all countries, where it is operating, it has sought for solutions to social problems, it has started initiatives in the sector of vocational training and youth exchange and continues to empower and encourage especially young members to get engaged in politics and furthermore tackles continuously topics of the European integration in the frame of its own educational work.

As part of an international association, the European Kolping Society and its joined national societies, networks and forges links to other continents and thus takes seriously its global responsibility. In its activities, the Kolping Society is guided by its Christian idea of man, by consistently emphasising the dignity of the human person, by engaging for its rights and at the same time to point out the social responsibility of each individual. It enables the individual to unfold his or her personality through its educational work and realizes its social duties regarding the common good as a community. The European Kolping Society perceives in marriage and family basic cells of society, in a just design of the working sector a method of resolution of the so-called "social question" und in the commitment towards the international solidarity a contribution to the promotion and securing of peace.

The further participation in the embodiment of the European integration and the elaboration of common values as a base for the European consciousness, remains a constant task of the European Kolping Society and its members.

See as well the European declaration of "European Kolping Society" versus the elections of the EP in 2019:

https://www.kolpingwerk-europa.net/themen/politische_erklaerungen.html

**Senior civil servant Anton Salesny
Appointee for Europe of the
International Kolping Society**

Translation: Gregor Federhen

Kolping and the elections to the European Parliament 2019



The slogan „*This time I am voting*“ is the motto of an information campaign prepared by the European Parliament with a view to the upcoming European elections. „If we all vote, we all win,“ writes the authors of the initiative and encourages young people to participate in the elections.

Visit the page: www.thistimeimvoting.eu

Why vote in the European election in May 2019?

As Europeans we face many challenges, from migration to climate change, from youth unemployment to data privacy. We live in an ever more globalised, competitive world. At the same time, the Brexit referendum has demonstrated that the EU is not an irrevocable project. And while most of us take democracy for granted, it also seems under increasing threat, both in principle and practice.

That's why we have started building a community of supporters to help encourage a higher voter turnout at the European Elections.

For more information about the elections visit www.european-elections.eu



Kolping Youth Germany calls for "more Europe" and has set up a social media action for the upcoming elections to the EU Parliament. Dominik Presul from Slovakia and Vasyl Savka from Ukraine explain why Europe is so important for all of us!

MEMBERSHIP MEETING OF KYE IN BUDAPEST 8-10.08.2019

23 representatives from 11 different countries met in Budapest from 08.-10. March 2019 for the annual Membership Meeting of Kolping Youth Europe. The delegates represented the national Kolping Societies from Croatia, Germany, Hungary, Poland, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Switzerland and Ukraine.

Thanks to the local Kolping Youth from Budapest, the meeting began with a delicious self-made Hungarian dinner and an intercultural evening close to the Hungarian Parliament. In a nice atmosphere, the delegates were meeting old friends and new youngsters from different parts of Europe.

The current situation and recent activities of Kolping Youth Europe and all national Kolping Associations were presented on the next day. For example, the Kolping Youth of Serbia informed about their event series "You in the eyes of an employer", while the Kolping Youth of Romania directed the interest of the delegates towards a social project in which Kolping Families collect shoes for children in need. The German Kolping Youth advertised the 72-hours-campaign that consists of plenty of social projects being organised end of May 2019.

Afterwards, Marko Bojin (Serbia) and Sven Messing (Germany) were elected as new members of the board of Kolping Youth Europe; supporting the current board members Gellért Szabo (Hungary), Viktorija Erjavec (Croatia), Henrietta Blejan (Romania) and Dominik Presul (Slovakia) as well as the Youth Advisor Patrycja Kwapik (Poland).



In the next months, the board will continue to work on the results of the workshops in which the delegates exchanged their experiences and wishes regarding communication, advertising, fundraising and local youth work.

Information about future events will be published on the Facebook page "Kolpingjugend Europa" as soon as the funding is ensured.

Sven Messing
Kolping Youth Germany



KOLPING YOUTH ALBANIA



Kolping Youth Albania was founded in year 2003 and since then it has an active role in the activities organized by the structures of the Catholic Church. Young Kolping members are part of Kolping families. In Albania there are currently three Kolping families and young members are part of the Kolping families of the place they live/work in. All younger members from those three different families are connected and do things together. Their meeting place is mostly Shkodra.



Different activities are being organised in collaboration with different congregations. Last year was for the Kolping Youth Albania the year of volunteering. All activities that have been done have had a focus on volunteering.

Here are some of the most important activities of Kolping Youth Albania during last years.

Kolping Youth Albania is engaged in human and social activities and they collaborate with organisations operating in Shkodra region-

Kolping Youth is providing a food and support for poor people. In the Canteen for poor people "Bread of the St. Anthony" is being offered free dinner to 200 poor people every day and Kolping Youth members are volunteering every Saturday in this canteen. Beside taking care in sharing the food, they talk to users of the Canteen, they clean the place etc.

As Albanian Kolping is collaborating with Kolping Hövelhof (Germany), who is providing various food items and sends to Albanian Kolping, Kolping Youth is helping in preparing packages for families in need.

A very important event for Albanian catholics took place in Shkodra. There was organized the Holy Mass on the 1st anniversary of beatification of 38 martyrs.

Albanian Kolping offered its voluntary help in the organization of this event (members of Kolping Family Shkodra). Young Kolping members gave their great contribution to this big and important ceremony.

Kolping Youth of Kolping family Shkodra were participating also in two events called "Ascension of Christ" and "The journey of our Martyrs". The events were organized from the cathedral of Shkodra to the catholic cemetery "Rrmajt". Different groups from local parish carried the cross through 14 stations and one of these groups was also the group of Kolping Youth.

Members of Albanian Kolping Youth attended different training courses in different fields such as: foreign languages, computer sciences as well as training in social fields.

Albanian Kolping Youth also participated in different pilgrimages to sacred places in collaboration with their Kolping families. In this pilgrimages, beside praying, there were organised also some discussions on religious topics.

Pavla Melquiza
Kolping Youth Albania



KOLPING YOUTH SOUTH TYROL



**Very active
Kolping Youth group
comes from South
Tyrol. Find out more
about their great
activities!**

Stube -2

A weekly meeting spot for Kolping Youth members, inhabitants of the Kolping dormitory and interested people have the chance to meet up, have a drink and enjoy an evening together. The Stube offers various games such as darts, ping pong, table football and a pool table which are used with great enthusiasm but what has been the greatest attraction to the young people is the sense of community that established itself overtime and the Kolping Youth has gained various precious volunteers through it and many projects and ideas were born in it as this is a wonderful opportunity for interested people to get to know the Kolping Youth with no strings attached. We love this project especially because it brings out the family aspect of Kolping.



Trainee tutors

This is one of the most long-lived programs of our Kolping Youth. We work with professional schools, companies and volunteers to help troubled or struggling teens find and keep up an internship and possibly find their first job. Through the years we were able to help people of all backgrounds and with all kinds of difficulties to get a foothold in life and the feeling that they are supported, no matter the difficulties they might be going through. Some former tutored trainees are amongst the most active members of the Kolping Youth today which is an incredible blessing for our group.

Kolping Kids Summer

Born last Summer, this project is a newcomer on the Kolping calendar but a very popular one already, as many families struggle to find affordable childcare during the Summer. This project was very well received, especially since the parents are very much involved in the program throughout all six weeks and the groups are kept small. This project is the result of Kolping South Tyrols initiative to cater to the needs of young families and children and attempt to lift some weight off their shoulders.

Workshops

From building percussion instruments to Yoga and Anti-racism projects the last year was filled with courses and workshops



organized and/or hosted by Bozens Kolping Youth. Many of them were individual projects but some are planned to continue for years to come and continue to bring fun, curiosity and an opportunity to grow to the residents of the Kolping dormitory and interested young people of Bozen.

Franziska Ninz
Kolping Youth South Tirol



TRAINING FOR YOUTH WORKERS



During the training participants took part in the activities and interactive workshops about management and leadership skills, held by Katarzyna Gotlib. On the next day the participants analyzed the new manual for international youth work "Model of communication and promotion in youth work", together with one of the authors of the publication Magdalena Szczudło.

„Managerial and leadership skills” was the topic of the training for 21 youth workers from Poland, Romania and Serbia.

The meeting took place from 16 till 20 of May 2018 in Krakow, Poland and is a part of the international project "Model of youth development for employment" financed by Erasmus + programme of the European Union.

One of the most interesting points of the programme was the visit to the embroideress Anna Dużyńska, beneficiary of the project "Tak, Potrafię (Yes, I can)" realized by Kolping Society in Poland. Anna shared the experiences by creating her own company with the financial support from EU project.

Participants visited the city center of Krakow and beautiful places nearby - National Park Ojców and castle in Pieskowa Skała.

You can find more about the project on the internet site: modelyde.net



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

Photo contest 2019!!!

What does Kolping mean to you in one picture?

Rules:

On the photo we need one visible Kolping sign.

Post the photo with sort description, location and personal details on our FB page in section Photo Competition 2019

There will be 3 prizes :

- 1 "Wir sind Kolping"
- 2 The most original
- 3 The funniest

Evaluation of the contest will be in the last newsletter of the year, winners will get special presents from Kolping Romania and winning photos will be presented in the newsletter.



SAVE THE DATE
21.-24.11.2019

MEMBERSHIP MEETING
of Kolping Youth Europe
in Luborzyca near Krakow,
Poland

The next Membership Meeting of Kolping Youth Europe will take place in Poland from 21. to 24. November 2019. As every year, two delegates from each national organization can take part and decide about the future of Kolping Youth Europe. An invitation with detailed information will be sent in autumn to your national offices.

Kolpingjugend Europa e.V.

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**KOLPING
YOUTH**
Kolping Youth Europe