



**REPORT
OF THE BOARD
2022/2023**

Dear friends of Kolping Youth Europe,

Only half a year ago, we met in Esztergom for the Membership Meeting 2022. Due to the close collaboration with Kolping Europe – who usually organized their Continental Assembly in spring in pre-Covid times – we meet now in a different time of the year.

This Membership Meeting might be a historic one and could result in a formal reunion of Kolping Europe and Kolping Youth Europe, if the new statute receives the support of you as delegates. The statute will come along with some organizational changes but it will not affect our autonomy in decision-making within Kolping Youth Europe. Most importantly, the new statute will make us fit for the future in terms of legal aspects, and can enhance intergenerational collaboration within Kolping at the European level!

In this report, you can find information about the following topics:

1. EVENTS

2: PUBLIC RELATIONS

3. INTERNAL ORGANISATION

4. COOPERATION

5. ORGANISATION OF THE BOARD

All your ideas on how we can improve our work are more than welcome. Feel free to tell us your suggestions and recommendations for the future. Also, there are plenty of opportunities how you can support Kolping Youth Europe as a volunteer. Please contact us if you are interested!

Best regards,

Your board of Kolping Youth Europe

1. Events

1.1 Membership Meeting 2022

Our last Membership Meeting was held in Esztergom, Hungary in September 2022. Members from 12 different countries came together and took part in common activities with the delegates of Kolping Europe's Continental Assembly. A new board of Kolping Youth Europe was elected: Sven Messing (Germany, President), Heinz Strässle (Switzerland, Vice-President), Dorina Kiffer (Hungary, Managing Director), Luis Saavedra (Portugal), Daniela Pali (Albania), Nikola Hrubenja (Serbia) and Agoston Szrenka (Hungary).

You can find a detailed report about the last Membership Meeting on our website ([see link](#)).

1.2 Kolping Virtual Apéro

In December 2022, Kolping Youth Europe organized a Christmas Virtual Apéro. Participants from different countries joined as well as newly elected and previous board members. It was nice to share the holiday spirit with Kolping Youth members around the world and to get to know new people.

1.3 European Youth Week 2022

During the European Youth Week 2022 in Novi Sad / Serbia, several interesting videos were created by volunteers. These videos are now published on Kolping Youth Europe's YouTube channel @kolpingyouthurope2204 ([see playlist](#)).

A detailed report about the last European Youth Week is available on our website ([see link](#)).

1.4 European Youth Week 2023

The next European Youth Week will take place from August 6th-12th in Szeged, Hungary. More information will be published on our website soon!

2. Public Relations

2.1 Social Media

Kolping Youth Europe has its own social media profiles – the Instagram page is active since March 2020 and 360+ people follow our news on it (“ky_europe”).

At the same time, our Facebook page is active with 770+ followers (“Kolping Youth Europe”).

You can always support our social media channels, by liking and sharing posts and inviting people to follow our activities.

We will continue to simultaneously share posts on Instagram and Facebook to reach as many members as possible.

2.2. Website

On the website, you can find different sections such as news, about us, events, newsletter, and our contact information.

Since September 2022, we published articles about:

- The European Youth Week 2022 (see section 1.3)
- The Membership Meeting 2022 (see section 1.1)
- Our Annual Report 2021/2022
- Invitations to the Membership Meeting 2023 and to an event of Kolping Youth Bavaria (“Startklar”)

We aim to add some diversity to our content, and we are inviting you to help us with that: Share with us your news from your national Kolping Societies and we will be happy to publish them on our website and across our social media channels.

2.3 Newsletter

Kolping Youth Europe has published one newsletter since the previous Membership Meeting in autumn 2022. You can download this newsletter and access the newsletter archive on our website ([see link](#)).

On this website, you can also **subscribe** to our mailing list in order to receive every newsletter as soon as it gets published.



3. Internal Organization

3.1 Board of Kolping Youth Europe

At the Membership Meeting 2022 in Esztergom/Hungary (see section 1.1), a new election for the board of Kolping Youth Europe took place with the following results:

- Sven Messing (Germany, President)
- Heinz Strässle (Switzerland, Vice-President)
- Dorina Kiffer (Hungary/Switzerland, Managing Director)
- Luis Saavedra (Portugal)
- Nikola Hrubenja (Serbia)
- Agoston Szrenka (Hungary)
- Daniela Pali (Albania; resigned in January 2023 due to personal reasons)

The newly elected board meets online on a monthly basis. Tasks and responsibilities were defined in a common process and divided between the board members (see section 5)

3.2 Funding

In autumn 2022, the European Union published a call for proposals in Erasmus+ (Civil Society Cooperation in the field of Youth, ERASMUS-YOUTH-2023-CSC-OG-SGA, ERASMUS-YOUTH-2023-CSC-OG-FPA). Kolping Youth Europe would have been eligible to apply for funding. However, we could not take this opportunity due to a lack of time of volunteers in the board. Other Kolping organizations were contacted as well but did not have the resources to support the application process at this point in time.

3.3 Data management

In 2020, the board of Kolping Youth Europe created a digital archive on pCloud to allow future generations of board members to access and store important documents that will simplify their work. The digital archive was continued, and additional documents related to activities in 2022/2023 were stored.

4. Cooperation

4.1 National Kolping Societies

For Kolping Youth Europe it is important to have a good communication with all national Kolping Societies. In particular, an intensive cooperation took place with Kolping Serbia (Youth Week 2022, Membership Meeting 2023) and Kolping Hungary (Membership Meeting 2022, Youth Week 2023). Furthermore, we are extremely grateful for Kolping Switzerland's financial support for the Youth Week. We are also grateful for the effective communication with all other Kolping Societies, especially in the context of Kolping Youth Europe's events.

4.2 Kolping Europe

Since 2021, the following people are elected board members of Kolping Europe:

- Vasyl Savka (Ukraine, President)
- Renate Draskovits (Austria, Vice-President)
- Istvan Gödri (Romania, European Praeses)
- Erich Reischmann (Switzerland, European Secretary)
- Klaudia Rudersdorf (Germany)
- Martina Messner (South Tyrol)
- Patrycja Kwapik (Poland)
- Anton Salesny (Austria, European Commissioner)

The collaboration between the boards of Kolping Europe and Kolping Youth Europe is excellent, and there is a common understanding of what is needed at the European level of Kolping. In September 2022, for the first time ever, the Continental Assembly (Kolping Europe) and the Membership Meeting (Kolping Youth Europe) were organized jointly at the same place. This was an important step to strengthen the collaboration between both organizations and to facilitate intergenerational networking.

As in the previous reporting period, the board of Kolping Europe invited two representatives of Kolping Youth Europe to join an in-person meeting for preparing the Continental Assembly & Membership Meeting. This meeting took place in Novi Sad/Serbia in December 2022. Besides the program of the events, the new statute and internal processes of Kolping Europe were discussed.

Additional online meetings were scheduled on a case-by-case basis, whenever this was needed.



4.3 COMECE Youth Platform

The Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Union (COMECE) set up a Youth Platform to facilitate the exchange between Catholic youth organizations and to plan common activities. Kolping Youth Europe is part of this platform but currently board members do not have the capacity to be strongly involved in all processes. If delegates from National Kolping Societies were interested in getting involved, the board could potentially delegate someone else to represent our association in this platform.

5. Organization of the board

All board members have monthly online meetings to ensure regular communication and continuous work on the different tasks. Responsibilities among all volunteers were divided in the following way:

Events	Main responsible Person(s)
Membership Meeting 2023	Dorina Kiffer (HU/CH) & Sven Messing (DE)
Youth Week 2022	Agoston Szrenka (HU), Heinz Strässle (CH), Nikola Hrubenja (SRB), Luis Saavedra (PT)
Public relations	
Website	Dorina Kiffer (HU/CH) & Heinz Strässle (CH)
Social Media: Visuals	Luís Saavedra (PT)
Social Media: Texts	Dorina Kiffer (HU/CH)
Social Media: Videos	Luis Saavedra (PT)
Newsletter: Layout	Lead: Nikola Hrubenja (SRB); Support: Dorina Kiffer (HU/CH), Luis Saavedra (PT) & Heinz Strässle (CH)
Content management	Agoston Szrenka (HU) & Sven Messing (DE)
Internal organization	
Board meetings: Agenda, moderation	Nikola Hrubenja (SRB), Heinz Strässle (CH) & Sven Messing (DE)
Board meetings: Notetaking, protocols	Dorina Kiffer (HU/CH), Agoston Szrenka (HU), Heinz Strässle (CH) & Sven Messing (DE)
Funding: Grants	Dorina Kiffer (HU/CH), Agoston Szrenka (HU), Nikola Hrubenja (SRB) & Sven Messing (DE)
pCloud: Data management	Dorina Kiffer (HU/CH) & Heinz Strässle (CH)
Finances	Dorina Kiffer (HU/CH), Heinz Strässle (CH) & Sven Messing (DE)
New Statute	Heinz Strässle (CH) & Sven Messing (DE)
New Logo	Luís Saavedra (PT)
Representation and cooperation	
Kolping Europa	Dorina Kiffer (HU/CH) & Sven Messing (DE)
COMECE Youth Platform	-
Kolping Youth Bavaria (event in June)	Nikola Hrubenja (SRB), Agoston Szrenka (HU) & Sven Messing (DE)

Impressum

Kolpingjugend Europa e.V.
Kolpingplatz 5 – 11,
Cologne, Germany

contact@kolpingyouth europe.com

www.kolpingyouth europe.com