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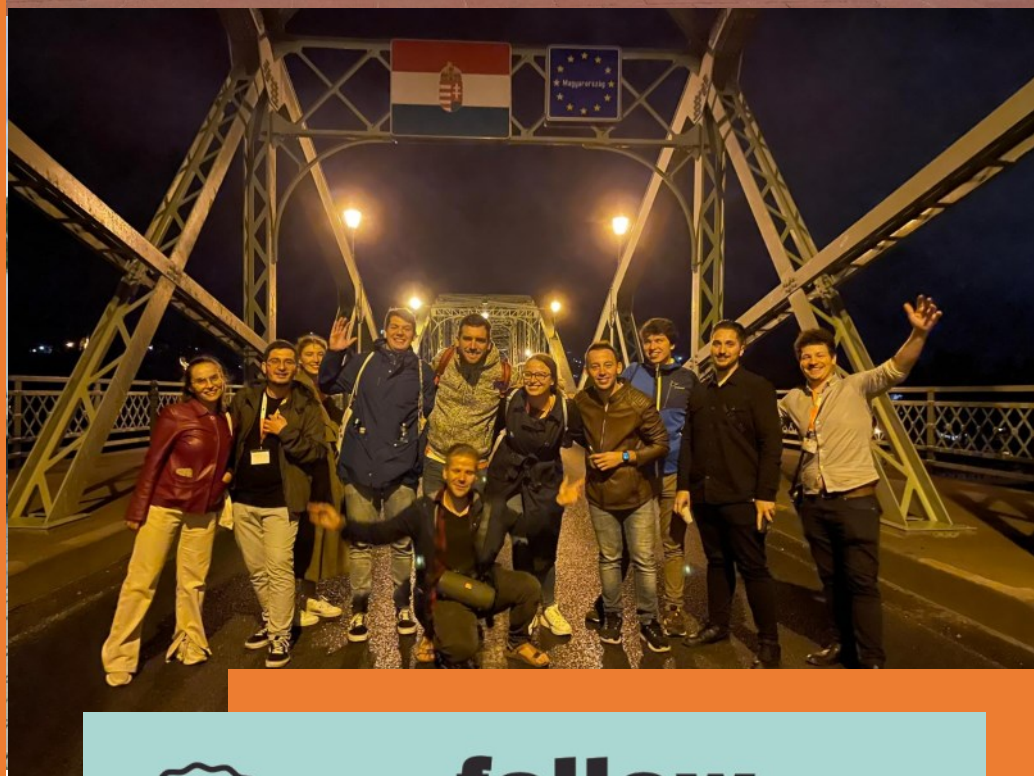
Membership
Meeting '22

Presentation
of the new Board

SAVE THE DATE:

Membership
Meeting
21-23 April 2023
Novi Sad, Serbia

European Youth
Week
07-13 August 2023
Szeged, Hungary



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Dear Kolping sisters and brothers,

The Board of Kolping Youth Europe would like to wish you and your families a blessed happy new year, filled with new hope, joy, and opportunities to be thankful. The last year was very eventful for all of us, in the Kolping community and in the world. There were many joyful moments, which will remain in our memory, and there were unfortunately also unpleasant situations where the world had to face big challenges. A series of difficulties followed one after the other that we all had to overcome. They could have easily impacted our daily lives, and our everyday feelings. It would have been easy to become frustrated, depressed and devastated.

Although the human mind is easily capable to focus only on the bad memories, we have to look forward and think of the good things and memories, joyful moments we received from others and gave to others. We would like to thank all those who have strengthened and motivated us, given us hope and made our life easier in these times.

We would also like to encourage you all to take the opportunity to be thankful and express this to the people around you. It could be just a smile, a good word, a friendly hug. The start of a new year gives us a chance to reflect on all that has happened to us last year and to be grateful for the precious moments and our loved ones.

As Kolping Youth we are in the same situation. We share happiness and also share sadness. Especially in these hard times, the Kolping Family stood up, and like brothers and sisters helped others through their difficult moments. We showed people in need that we care and support them. We never let them down.

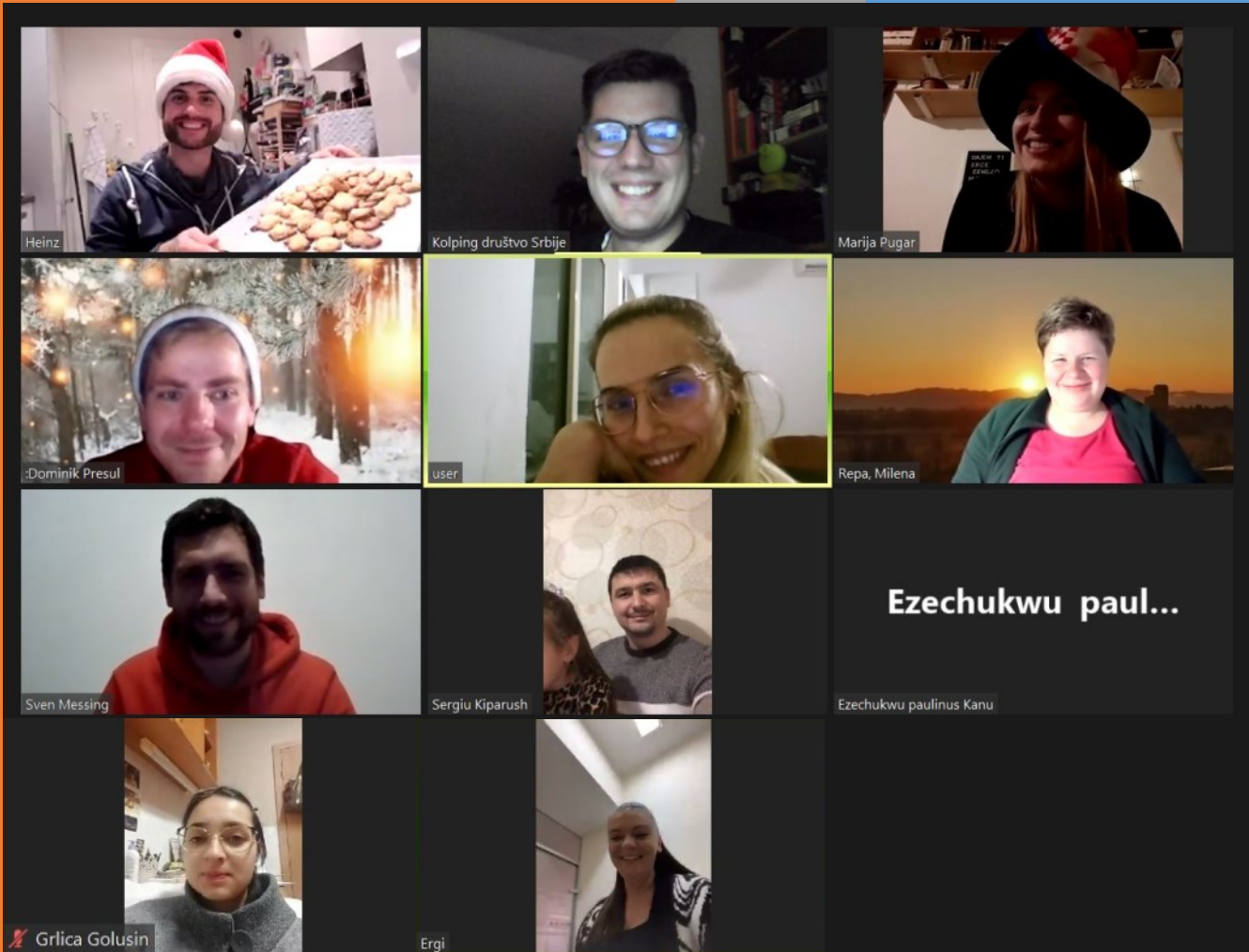
Luckily we also shared many happy moments. We are thankful to have met in person during our two events. Where we had the chance to make new friends and share many good memories. We want to thank all those who believed in us and supported our work in this year. We also would like to thank all those young people in the Kolping families, who made huge effort in their community. Each person counts when making the world a better place. We would like to wish you a happy, healthy and successful New Year,

Ágoston,

Board member of KYE



Kolping Christmas Apero



Kolping Youth of Europe had its final event for 2022 on 15th of December 2022! The members met online for an evening of talking about their year, sharing Christmas traditions and listening to Christmas stories. Heinz Strässle, Vice President of Kolping Youth Europe, showed how to bake some cookies and everyone was happy to meet one last time in 2022.

Cookie Recipe

Macadamia & White Chocolate – Cookies

Ingredients:

White chocolate	100g
Macadamia nuts	100g
Vanilla sugar	1 pack
Butter	75g
Brown sugar	50g
Salt	1 pinch
Egg	1
Flour	100g
Baking powder	1 tbsp



Steps:

1. Finely chop chocolate and macadamia nuts with a large knife and set aside.
2. Beat softened butter, brown sugar and vanilla sugar until creamy.
3. Add salt, egg, flour and baking powder and continue to beat.
4. Stir in three quarters of the chocolate-macadamia mixture.
5. Using a teaspoon, place small mounds of dough a little apart on baking sheets lined with parchment paper and press some of the reserved chocolate-nut mixture into each.
6. Bake in a preheated oven at 175°C / convection oven 150°C for about 6-8 minutes (longer if the cookies are larger).

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EUROPEAN YOUTH WEEK 2022



After a long break, a new European Youth Week could be organized, with participants from 11 European countries. The event took place in Novi Sad, Serbia and was themed "Let's get digital! Innovation in digital youth work".

What is the impact of digitalization on volunteer activities? How did the Kolping youth in different countries adapt to the situation changed by the pandemic? How do you create effective content that grabs viewers' attention? And how do you optimize marketing for volunteer activities and events? These were questions that the participants addressed during the youth week with the support of various experts.





In several interactive sessions, the participants learned about the **CapCut application** and gained experience using it to create the requested videos. These **skills** will not only be useful in the **personal lives** of the participants, but also open the **possibility for local Kolping groups** to create innovative videos. Thus, not only the individual participants will benefit, but also the national or regional Kolping families.

In order to get exciting footage and at the same time learn more about the diverse culture of Serbia, there were **several tourist excursions**, from a **guided tour** through the city center, to a visit to the **Petrovaradin fortress** and its impressive tunnel system, to a trip to **"Strand"** (German for beach), a section of the Danube, which invites to relax at a beautiful sandy beach in one of many sun beds.

The main goal of the week was to create several **promotional videos** about volunteer activities. The participants, who mainly had little experience on these topics, were thrown into the deep end and had one week to create a video that would **introduce volunteering** and motivate people to find out more about opportunities within Kolping.

Two experts from Serbia accompanied the young adults in this task and prepared them well for this challenge with exciting workshops about **storytelling**,





As a change of pace from the production of digital content, a **lecture by a university professor** highlighted for the participants the effects of digitalization on their social behavior and psyche. One focus was the topic of empathy, which participants learned about through interactive group work.

After five days of **intensive work, cultural exchange** and **lively evenings**, seven videos were produced that could not be more different. From simple explainer videos to Instagram reels to a video story featuring Adolph Kolping as a rescuer in need; participants excelled in their creativity and headed home with a filled backpack of useful skills, happy memories and new friendships. The participants are looking forward to the next meeting, the Membership Meeting of Kolping Youth Europe in September, which will take place together with the Continental Assembly of Kolping Europe in Esztergom, Hungary.





The Kolping Youth Europe thanks Kolping Serbia for the excellent local organization and expresses its gratitude to the Renovabis Foundation, Kolping Europe and Kolping Switzerland for their generous support, without which such an event would not have been possible.

Heinz Strässle, Vice President of Kolping Youth Europe

[Click here for the videos!](#)



Annual Report 2021/2022 published



The board of Kolping Youth Europe published its annual report 2021/2022, providing an overview about the activities during the last 12 months. The year meant a restart for youth work at European level: The Membership Meeting 2021 in Ludbreg (Croatia) was the first in-person meeting after a break of two years. Additionally, a European Youth Week took place in Novi Sad (Serbia) in August 2022 - due to organisational reasons and the pandemic, this was even the first Youth Week since five years!

The report includes information on events of Kolping Youth Europe, public relation activities and improvements regarding the internal organization. Another section describes the cooperation with other organizations. It was presented at the Membership Meeting 2022 of Kolping Youth Europe and - in a shortened version - at Kolping Europe's Continental Assembly 2022 in Esztergom (Hungary).

Sven Messing, President of Kolping Youth Europe

News of Kolping Youth Europe on Instagram!



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Membership Meeting 2022

History was made at Kolping Youth Europe's Membership Meeting 2022: For the first time ever, the event was organized jointly with Kolping Europe's Continental Assembly.

Both conferences - the highest decision-making bodies of each organization - took place from 16.-18. September 2022 in Esztergom (Hungary) which is known as the "Hungarian Rome".

The city is famous for its monumental basilica - the largest church of the country - and is located at the bank of the Danube.



Young Kolping members from 12 European countries attended the Membership Meeting which started with an informal get-together on Friday evening.

On Saturday, during the official part of the meeting, the board of Kolping Youth Europe presented its annual report for 2021/2022 as well as a financial report. In addition, all delegates shared information on current Kolping Youth activities within their countries and discussed ideas for the future development of the organization.





The new board of Kolping Youth Europe

The Membership Meeting resulted also in a change of the board of Kolping Youth Europe. The previous board has been in office since 2019; key achievements were an increase of public relations activities (including a new website and a new appearance on social media), the development of digital offers during the pandemic and reviving the tradition of European Youth Weeks after a five-year break. The delegates thanked the board members who did not run again for their voluntary work in previous years: Dominik Presul (Slovakia, 2013-2022), Grlica Golusin (Serbia, 2019-2022), and Jerzy Wolf (Poland, 2019-2022). Afterwards, the 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).



To strengthen the collaboration with Kolping Europe and to facilitate an intergenerational networking, parts of the programme were organized together with the delegates of the Continental Assembly: After a joint sightseeing tour through Esztergom and Sturovo (Slovakia) - which is located on the opposite bank of the Danube - and a Holy Mass, the delegates spent the evening together at a networking dinner hosted by Kolping Hungary.

Furthermore, the board of Kolping Youth Europe presented recent developments in European youth work to the Continental Assembly. On Sunday, the delegates of both conferences took part in a joint workshop, discussed their experience in encountering crises, and the role Kolping could take in this context.

Sven Messing, President of Kolping Youth Europe

**The next
Continental
Assembly &
Membership
Meeting will take
place from 21.-23.
April 2023 in Novi
Sad (Serbia).**



Labor action in Serbia

Although it's winter, Kolping Youth from Serbia provided a garden furniture set and flowers to prepare for summer time in Kolping's house in Sajan.

Our initiative has been supported by the Ministry of Youth via the project "Šta nam teško" and we used allocated funds to provide something useful for many occasions that take place in Sajan - especially the international cooking festival in July (mark a date!).

On 8.11.2022, we went to Sajan and, together with senior members, set up the benches and a table. From the photos you can see that we had a great time. We are happy that there is a place like the Kolping house where we can realise our ideas and look forward to enjoying time outside as soon as it gets warmer!

Grlica Golušin, Kolping Youth Serbia





Children's Day in Romania

Every year, Children's day is celebrated in Romania on the 1st of June. It's an emotional day for all Romanian children, especially this year, when the young volunteers of Kolping Oituz decided to share their joy with children in Chernivtsi (Ukraine). For the 6th edition of "The champions of Oituz" an imaginary bridge was created between Romania and Ukraine and the two cities celebrated together by playing sports and outdoor games. In the end, the winners were given prizes and everyone got little gifts for participating, prepared by one of our donors.

It has been great to see the support for the kids and the two Kolping families collaborating. See you next year with more youth activities!

Iulia Elisa Gabor, Kolping Youth Romania



Kolping Youth Europe



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