

# EFIL

## Biennial Report 2015/2016

General Assembly  
**Prague** Czech Republic  
25-28 May 2017





## European Federation for Intercultural Learning

Editor

Paul Claes

Pictures

EFIL

Member Organisations

Publisher

**EFIL**

Roger Vandendriesschelaan 18  
B-1150 Brussels, Belgium

Layout

Tinna Sveinsdóttir



## The Federation of AFS Organisations in Europe

### Table of contents

#### Introduction

4

Foreword

4

European Federation for Intercultural Learning

5

#### Governance

6

#### Activities

8

EFIL Advocacy: Networking and lobbying

8

EFIL Expand: New Partner Development

10

EFIL Programmes and Projects

12

EFIL Academy: Training activities

16

EFIL Voice: Communication

21

#### Resources

22

People Resources

22

Financial Resources

25

EFIL Member Organisations

26

## Foreword



Today, more than ever, we live in a world where the challenge is LEARNING TO LIVE TOGETHER, develop an understanding of each other's realities, and find solutions to manage the inevitable conflicts in a peaceful way. Multiculturalism has entered our vocabulary, no longer referring to something happening far from our garden or our desk. It's right there, at our doorstep, it's a reality in our schools, our neighbourhoods, on our work floor, in our cities and nations.



The European Union is facing unprecedented demographic changes – an ageing population, low birth rates, changing family structures – making it important, both at EU and national level, to review and adapt existing policies. But the greatest challenge for Europe nowadays comes from the political upheaval in the Middle East and across Africa, which is reshaping migration trends in Europe. The growing numbers of migrants and asylum seekers poses complex challenges for Europe.

The absorption of these masses in itself is affecting our societies, our economies, our social structures. Important in this is the idea that cultural practices, no matter how unusual, should be accommodated and tolerated as a matter of respect. Multiculturalism should enter our education systems, whereby schools should rework their curricula to introduce students to diversity at an early age. By its supporters, multiculturalism is seen as a fairer system that allows people to truly express who they are within a society that is more tolerant and that adapts better to social issues. Culture is not one single definable thing based on one race or religion, but rather the result of multiple factors that change as the world changes.

The EU's collective response to its growing migrant crisis has been more focused on securing borders than on protecting the rights of migrants and refugees. Recently governments in several European states have reversed the national policy and returned to an official monoculturalism. Several heads-of-state have expressed doubts about the success and effectiveness of multicultural policies for integrating migrants, they have adopted "fortress" policies and have voiced concerns about Islamic terrorism. The lack of a coordinated EU response to Middle Eastern and African migration is illustrative of the ways in which individual countries continue to see this issue through the lens of national security rather than international protection and we are moving away from one of the main pillars of Europe, which is the free movement of people.

For several decades now, AFS intercultural exchanges have encouraged mutual understanding through cultural awareness. AFS is profiling itself as an educational organisation and our educational programmes are based on the principle of total cultural immersion,

helping participants to develop personal skills, to form interpersonal relationships, to develop their intercultural knowledge and sensitivity, and to become aware of global issues.

In today's world, our mission – to help people develop the knowledge, skills and understanding needed to create a more just and peaceful world – is more relevant than ever. Peace is a dynamic concept, threatened by injustice, inequity and intolerance. Our activities are based on the core values of dignity, harmony, tolerance and respect for differences, for human rights and fundamental freedoms without distinction as to race, gender, language, religion, social status, ...

AFS must continue to provide quality intercultural learning opportunities to growing numbers of young people, families and other stakeholders, this way developing an inclusive community of global citizens, working for peace and understanding in a diverse world, determined to build bridges between cultures and to tackle the challenges that Europe and the world are facing today.

**Ekaterina (Katya) Bagdasarova**

Chair of EFIL Board of Directors

**Paul Claes,**

EFIL Secretary-General

*"As an experienced umbrella and network organisation in the field of intercultural exchange, EFIL sets an example with an application of exceptional quality. On top of that it shows a clear vision on EU, Erasmus+ and the role of EVS projects. On several occasions EFIL 'goes the extra mile' taking this application and project from good to excellent."*

From project evaluation.





### Focus on Citizenship Education (2015) and Peace Education (2016)

EFIL, the European Federation for Intercultural Learning, is the umbrella organisation of 28 members, all of them AFS Partners. AFS is a non-profit, volunteer based, educational organisation offering intercultural exchanges for young people involving more than 100 countries around the world. AFS traces its roots back to volunteer ambulance drivers during the World Wars of the previous century.

As a global education network, EFIL supports its members in establishing programmes that bridge the gap between the training provided by most educational systems and the intercultural skills and global perspectives needed to foster a harmonious world. EFIL promotes intercultural understanding among countries, organisations and citizens, and actively helps its Members to operate within the European environment.

Each year EFIL decides on a theme that closely relates to the Federation's mission and goals. Several of EFIL's activities throughout the year include sessions or agenda topics that refer to the annual theme. For 2015 the chosen theme was *"Citizenship education: contributing to a more just and peaceful world"*, for 2016 our focus was on *"Building peaceful societies through intercultural education"*.



#### OVERALL OBJECTIVE

Contribute to peace and justice in a diverse world threatened by inequity and intolerance, by promoting intercultural understanding and sensitivity among European and other countries, organisations and citizens, hereby endorsing the ends of AFS-IP.

#### SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

1. Be a competent partner in Europe in the educational field, with substantial expertise and experience in intercultural learning.
2. Actively help Members to operate within the European environment and to develop their organisations in order to ultimately support and implement the AFS Mission and Strategic Plan.

#### RESULT AREAS

##### EFIL ADVOCACY

Engage in overall advocacy of Intercultural Learning on the European level and lobby to remove structural obstacles to youth exchanges, meanwhile confirming and strengthening EFIL's position as a key player in providing Intercultural Learning opportunities and ensuring EFIL's involvement in strategic alliances of interest to the AFS core business.

##### EFIL ACADEMY

Support Member Organisations in gaining knowledge and developing skills and intercultural competences, by offering training opportunities for their volunteers and staff, so that they will be better equipped to grow with quality, and be empowered to operate within the AFS and European environment.

##### EFIL PROGRAMMES and PROJECTS

Offer attractive projects and programmes that foster European identity and intercultural understanding, this way supporting Member Organisations to grow with quality through empowering their volunteer networks, increasing their visibility and/or help them grow their sending/hosting numbers.

##### EFIL EXPAND

Enlarge the Federation by developing new partner representations in European countries where there is no current presence of EFIL/AFS, with focus on the European Union.

##### EFIL VOICE

Communicate EFIL-related issues internally and through external communication channels to stakeholders, in order to inform, engage and inspire internal and external audiences about EFIL's work and mission. Share and spread knowledge and expertise about Intercultural Learning and mobility in the network.

## Board meetings

**The** EFIL Board of Directors administers the Federation. The 7-person Board focuses on strategic matters and EFIL's long-term vision. Other items on the agenda include finances and fundraising, developments in Europe, the state of the global AFS network and of the Federation, EFIL's activities in the various result areas, etc. For the composition of the EFIL Board in 2015-2016, see p.22.

Next to the standard agenda topics, several matters received special attention in 2015 and 2016, among them:

- the evaluation of EFIL's experience with Erasmus+, the new EU funding programme 2014-2020;
- solidarity initiatives within the EFIL network, e.g. to support AFS Latvia and the young organisations in Croatia and Slovenia;
- the situation in Europe (refugees and migrants) and the security circumstances and its effect on us;
- a number of new large scale initiatives incl. setting the stage for a Global Citizenship Trimester Programme between EFIL and AAI (the Asian AFS Partner Organisations), EFIL's management role in two editions of the Japanese government's MIRAI programme, and an Erasmus+ sponsored Strategic Partnership on intercultural training for teachers and pupils;
- a discussion focusing on several issues related to membership (the transition from Affiliate to Full Membership, admitting new members, review of the current membership fee system);
- improvement of EFIL's visibility through an increased focus on communication and the use of social media,
- a survey was conducted in 2016 among all EFIL Member Organisations to evaluate EFIL's work.



The EFIL Board of Directors 2015-2016 and EFIL Secretary-General Paul Claes

Six in-person meetings of the EFIL Board took place:

Venice, Italy, 20-22 February 2015

Budapest, Hungary, 17 May 2015

Riga, Latvia, 25-27 September 2015

Moscow, Russia, 26-28 February 2016

Reykjavik, Iceland, 10-12 June 2016

Kraków, Poland, 18-20 November 2016

## Heads of Office

**The** Heads of Office (HOO) meetings aim at building a sense of unity and common identity within the network of European partners, based on their commitment to the European dimension of AFS, and provide a platform to discuss matters of relevance for the European AFS network. Heads of Office meetings are attended by the National Directors of the EFIL Member Organisations. Topics on the agenda include updates and discussions on developments in Europe, EFIL and the AFS global network; the EFIL activity calendar including training events, projects, programmes, new partner development; etc.

The HOO meeting in Krakow in 2015 included sessions on the new EU regulations on data protection and record retention, refugees and migrants in Europe, and balancing NH/SH cycles. In 2016 the National Directors of EFIL's Member Organisations met in Lisbon for a HOO retreat. HOO retreats take place every 2 or 3 years and have a wider scope than the regular HOO meetings. They aim at fostering solidarity and stronger collaboration, learning from each other, and developing leadership and management skills. Main theme of the retreat in Lisbon was motivation as a driver for success. Next to this there was a specific focus on marketing.



European National Directors at the HOO retreat in Portugal, June 2016

Two HOO meetings took place:

Krakow, Poland, 22-25 November 2015

Lisbon, Portugal, 14-18 June 2016



**The** General Assembly has the supreme authority to work towards the attainment of the aims set out in the EFIL statutes and has the exclusive competence to adopt the budget, approve the balance sheets, elect or dismiss Board members and amend the statutes. It takes place in May/June of the uneven years. The extraordinary General Assembly in the even years mainly (but not exclusively) serves to elect members of the EFIL Board.

In May 2015, the leadership of all of Europe's AFS organisations gathered in Budapest for EFIL's biennial General Assembly. To commemorate the AFS centennial year, the event included a video presentation by Roberto Ruffino, EFIL Honorary Chair, about the history of the early years of AFS. Agenda sessions further included an overview of EFIL's achievements over the period 2013-2014, a presentation of the Business Plan 2015-2016, and ICL- and advocacy-focused sessions facilitated by EFIL's support bodies TICLAB and EPOR (see pages 23-24), whose annual meetings were scheduled to take place parallel to the GA.

One General Assembly and one extraordinary General Assembly took place:

Budapest, Hungary, 14-17 May 2015

Lisbon, Portugal, 16 June 2016 (e.o.G.A.)



Leadership of EFIL Members meets in Budapest for the General Assembly 2015

# Activities

**EFIL** contributes to the debates within the European and international institutions that affect the AFS core business. Advocacy also includes the enhancement of EFIL's visibility and credibility as a leader in intercultural learning and global education. EFIL builds strategic alliances and is a member of several platforms to make sure its priorities are addressed at the appropriate level. In order to follow the developments on a number of topics, EFIL has a volunteer Pool of Representatives (EPOR) whose members attend events on behalf of the Federation. In order to give continuity to its advocacy work, within EPOR EFIL has appointed some members for long-term positions of external representation towards platforms or institutions: the EPOR core group. To coordinate national and European advocacy efforts, EFIL is in contact with the Advocacy Liaisons of each EFIL member organisation. EFIL offers an annual online training for its Pool of Representatives and Advocacy Liaisons, and an in-person training every two years.

## The main external partners of EFIL

EFIL is a member of the *European Youth Forum* (YFJ), the Platform of International Youth Organisations and National Youth Councils in Europe. Within this framework, EFIL regularly meets with the YFJ members focusing on mobility and education - the Exchange Organisations Group.

EFIL is an associate member of the *Lifelong Learning Platform* (LLLP), the Platform for stakeholders in the field of formal and non-formal education.

EFIL is an associate member of *KeyCoNet*, a growing network of more than 100 organisations representing educational stakeholder groups from 27 European countries, focused on improving the implementation of the 8 key competences in school education.

EFIL is an alternate member of the *EESC Liaison Group*. EESC is the European Economic and Social Committee, a consultative body of the European Union, representing a wide range of national civil society organisations.

EFIL is a member of the INGO Conference of the Council of Europe, thus enjoying participatory status towards this institution, together with other 340 International NGOs.

Through these platforms, EFIL is connecting and cooperating with other actors in the field of civil society and education: European School Heads Association (ESHA), European Association of History Educators (EUROCLIO), SOLIDAR (a network of Civil Society Organisations), and World Organisation of the Scout Movement (WOSM).



EFIL Advocacy Coordinator, Elisa Briga, at the European Platform for Learning Mobility Conference, Istanbul, Turkey, October 2015

## Advocacy on principles

### Promotion of intercultural learning

In March 2015 the Ministries of Education of EU countries issued the Paris Declaration, calling for actions promoting citizenship and the values of freedom, tolerance and non-discrimination through education. The Council of Europe developed a framework for assessment of Competences for Democratic Culture, including intercultural competences.

EFIL has profiled itself as a key actor in these processes. In the past two years EFIL presented practices to promote Intercultural Dialogue and Citizenship at the Lifelong Learning Week in Brussels. EFIL has been advocating to address intercultural learning initiatives to all, creating bridges between non-formal education and school education, promoting teacher training on intercultural competences.

EFIL has been promoting quality mobility programmes with a strong intercultural learning focus and support dimension. We have organised a dedicated event in Brussels in 2015, and we have been active in the European Platform for Learning Mobility. In particular, we have presented AFS practices in the workshop on 'Quality mobility' at their Biennial conference in 2015, and we have contributed as experts to the drafting of the Charter on Quality Learning Mobility.

EFIL has a seat in the Advisory Council on Youth, defining the youth policy cooperation among the member states of the Council of Europe, where the EFIL representative holds the portfolio 'Intercultural dialogue'.

### Promotion of youth participation & active citizenship

EFIL actively took part in the EU Structured dialogue with young people which focused on the topics 'youth empowerment for political participation' and 'enabling all young people to engage in a diverse, connected and inclusive Europe'.

EFIL took part in the European Youth Event in Strasbourg to promote youth participation in the EU institutions and the role of youth organisations in promoting citizenship education.





## Advocacy on better conditions for youth exchanges

### Funding

EFIL is a member of the Erasmus+ Civil Society Coalition which actively follows the mid-term revision of the EU funding programme, taking into account the specific nature and key contributions of European NGOs. EFIL also advocates for a stronger focus on school education within Erasmus+ and enhanced possibilities for cross-sectorial cooperation.

### Mobility

EFIL has been following the revision of EU regulations related to visas for long term pupil exchanges and volunteering and for shorter stays up to 3 months. Representatives from the Federation also engaged in lobby missions at national level.

### Recognition of study periods abroad

In April 2015 EFIL and EEE-YFU successfully launched the campaign 'Recognise Study Abroad', with the key support of European Parents Association (EPA), KeyCoNet, EUROCLIO and OBESSU. After launching a website and Facebook page including practices for recognition from different countries, EFIL organised two events to present the initiative, one at the European Youth Event hosted by MEP Julie Ward, and one at the European Parliament hosted by MEPs Mercedes Bresso and Victor Negrescu.

### Recognition of non-formal learning

EFIL attended the European Youth Work Convention, supports the 'We are Youth Work' campaign, and closely follows the EU legislation in the field, namely the Council 'Recommendation on the Validation of Non-formal and Informal Learning' and the European Commission's New Skills Agenda which includes the revision of the 8 key competences and the Europass.



Alexandra Ruivo Cordeiro and Alexandra Singpiel representing EFIL at the European Youth Forum Council of Members, Brussels, Belgium, May 2016

## Creating links – from local to global

### Cooperation with national level advocacy

EFIL is part of a structured cooperation with the National Exchange Organisations Platforms in Switzerland (Intermundo) and Germany (AJA). The group meets once a year.

### International advocacy

EFIL, through its Pool of Representatives, attended several events linked to cooperation with regions of Europe and of the world, including meetings on youth policy in the Balkans, those related to Euro-Africa, Euro-Mediterranean, Euro-Arab and EU-China youth cooperation. EFIL also attended the World Forum for Democracy by the Council of Europe. Furthermore, EFIL has been supporting AFS International in its advocacy towards the UN and UNESCO, in particular related to Global Citizenship education.



Panel discussion, Lifelong Learning Week, Brussels, Belgium, October 2016

# Activities

## AFS programmes in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia



Seminar, Banja Luka, Bosnia & Herzegovina, March 2016

**EFIL** continued to focus on the consolidation of the young Affiliate Members in the Balkan region. Support was mostly given in matters of transition of leadership and strategic planning. The goal remained to establish sustainable AFS organisations in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia.

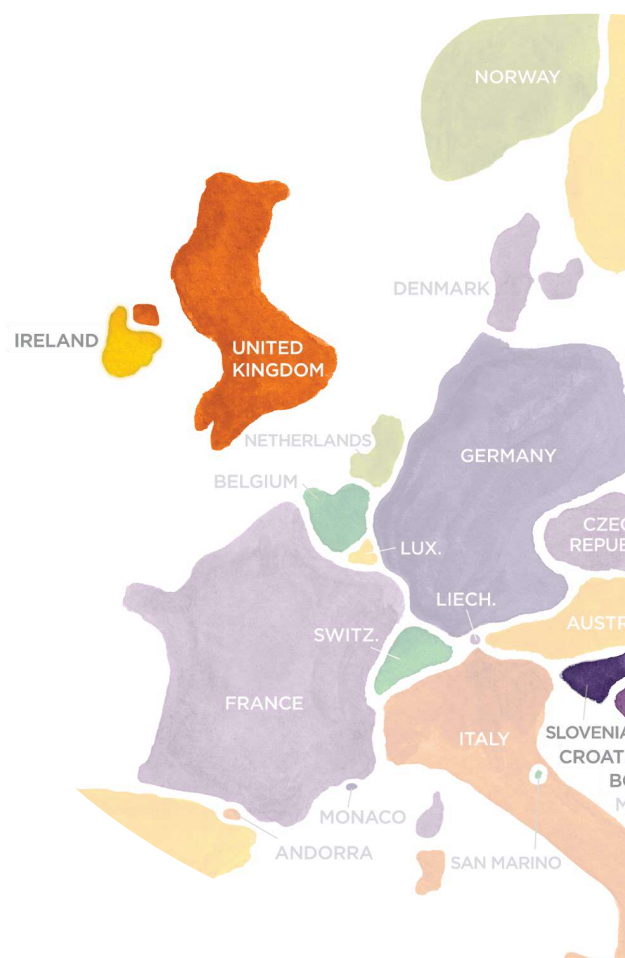
In 2016 a new project was launched to boost the development of the AFS organisations in Croatia and Slovenia. A development plan was drafted and agreed on by all relevant stakeholders. With the commitment of the leadership of both organisations, and significant financial support from EFIL members, the new combined office (based in Zagreb) serving AFS operations in both countries, opened in September 2016, steered by the newly hired Programme Director. The project will continue until spring 2018. EFIL is closely monitoring the developments.

AFS Serbia has continued its development as a financially independent and stable organisation. They continue to run their office and many activities with volunteers, backed by two part-time staff members. Bosnia and Herzegovina has passed a period of transition of leadership and has managed to run its operations independently without external financial support, with the strong commitment of volunteers and two part-time staff members. AFS Slovakia continued being supported by AFS Czech Republic.

Several EFIL events took place in the Balkan region. A Risk Management training took place in Belgrade, organised by EFIL in close co-operation with AFS International. Serbia also hosted EFIL's biennial Support Staff Meeting, while a volunteer training focusing on post-war reconciliation in the Balkans took place in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In addition, volunteers and staff members of the Affiliate Member Organisations participated in most EFIL training events and meetings.



Office of AFS Croatia and AFS Slovenia, Zagreb, November 2016



## AFS in Poland

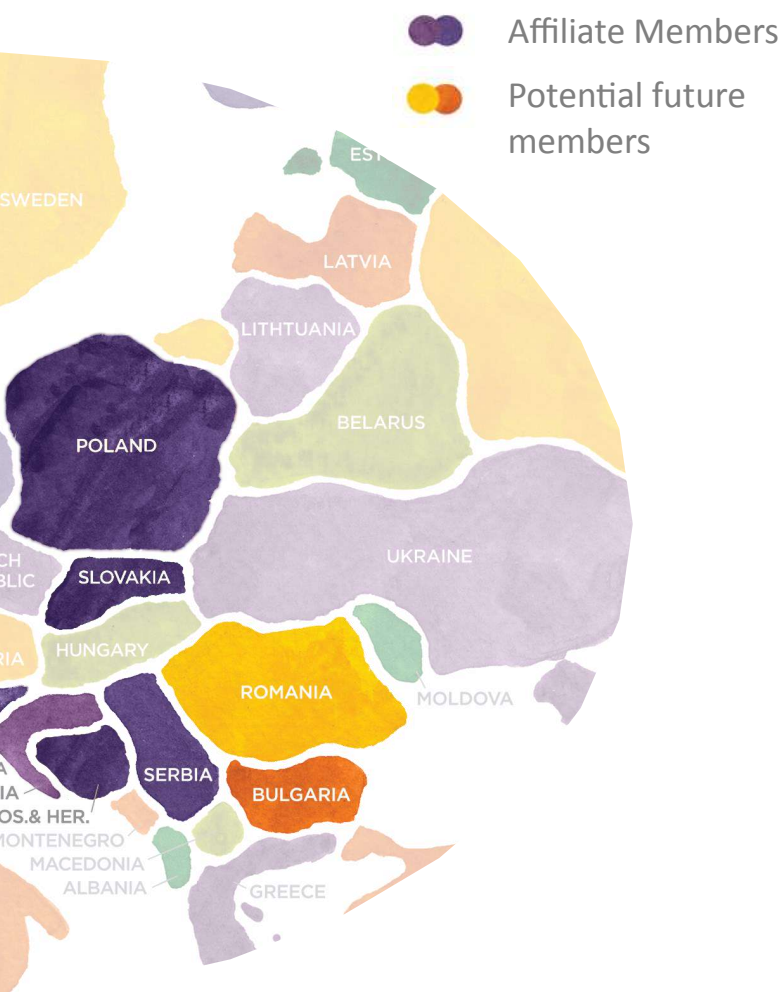
**AFS** Poland has become independent from the Father Siemaszko Foundation. The new AFS Polska was approved as International Associate in the AFS network, and at EFIL's extraordinary General Assembly of June 2016 the Affiliate Membership of the Fr. Siemaszko Foundation was transferred to AFS Polska. The transition was supported by EFIL, AFS International and Intercultura (AFS Italy). The Foundation will stay closely involved with AFS and will continue financing scholarships.

The new organisation had its first General Assembly in 2016 and has an office with five full and part-time staff members.



AFS Poland General Assembly, Krakow, June 2016





## EIL Ireland and AFS in the UK



Training for Trainers, York, United Kingdom, October 2015

The efforts to include Ireland and the UK in the AFS network are coordinated by AFS International and supported by EFIL.

The good relations between Experiment in International Living (EIL Ireland) and EFIL have grown closer over the past two years. EIL has sent several participants to EFIL staff and volunteer training events and hosted the annual EFIL Programme Directors Meeting in 2016 in Cork.

A branch office was established in the UK by AFS International in 2015 and the first ECTP exchanges took place with two students hosted in the UK. To support local volunteer structures, in 2015 EFIL

## AFS in Romania and Bulgaria

EFIL's work in Romania and Bulgaria in 2015/2016 largely focused on the official registration of a national organisation in each country and preparing both organisations to formally join the AFS network and EFIL in the near future. Intercultural Exchanges Bulgaria (IEB) was established in 2015 and elected a new Board at its General Assembly in 2016. The registration of Intercultura Romania followed in 2016. IEB has already gathered all required documents to become an AFS Associate in early 2017.

Both organisations continued sending to several AFS Partner Organisations. The volunteer groups running the operations in Bulgaria and Romania have been rather stable and both countries have sent participants to several EFIL training events.



Programme Directors' Meeting, Cork, Ireland, March 2016



Intercultural Exchanges Bulgaria General Assembly, Sofia, Bulgaria, August 2016



# Activities

## European Citizenship Trimester Programme



Check out [www.ectp.eu](http://www.ectp.eu)

Since 2009 EFIL has organised its annual European Citizenship Trimester Programme (ECTP), a host-family and school-based programme with an additional strong focus on active European citizenship. Each year, 15-18 year old participants meet their peers from all over Europe at the joint Camp in Brussels, before returning to their home countries. EFIL coordinates the Camp in Brussels together with a large team of committed volunteers from its Member Organisations.

At the Brussels Camp, the participants have the unique opportunity to share their AFS experience and reflect on their stay abroad. In dynamic workshops they link their intercultural experience with the concepts of Europe and its diversity, and reflect on their role as young people helping to shape this diverse community. A day trip to Europe's capital city includes a visit to the European Parliament and the Parliamentarium - the European Parliament Visitors' centre. At the European Parliament participants have the chance to meet Members of the European Parliament, in particular Austrian MEP Ulrike Lunacek who is the EP Vice-President and an AFS returnee.

In 2015, the topic of change-making was introduced to encourage students to develop their own personal project to impact their local community. During the 2016 edition of ECTP, participants could claim Open Badges related to their learning during the exchange programme, in order to receive recognition of the gained competences (see also p.16).

To ensure the programme's quality, EFIL has defined learning objectives and prepared learning tools for participants, including the



ECTP Volunteers 2016

ECTP Booklet, which guides participants in the learning process to become European active citizens. The ECTP Brussels Camp preparatory team, through online contact with students during their exchange, challenged them with tasks and questions. Tools were not only offered to participants, but to the other groups too. Volunteers at the Brussels Camp followed an online training on European Active Citizenship, and volunteers at the grassroots level had access to an ECTP Volunteer Manual with information to run orientations. AFS organisations received an updated ECTP Manual which covers all the aspects of the programme, including relations with families and schools. Both Manuals reflect the approach of the newly developed AFS Student Learning Journey Curriculum and focus on monthly reflections. The new ECTP website addresses all these audiences.

ECTP is a successful programme. In 2016, 260 participants from 25 countries participated. **In 2015 ECTP was presented as a best practice at the European Parliament's meeting with National Parliaments**, and in 2016 an article on ECTP appeared in the School Education Gateway, the European online platform for school educators.

Since 2009, ECTP has grown from 100 participants to 260 and more and more hosting and sending organisations got involved: we started with 16 and now there are 27!



ECTP participants 2016 at the European Parliament



## EFIL Volunteer Summer Summit

**The** EFIL Volunteer Summer Summit was first organised in 2008. This has become an annual event on the EFIL calendar, hosted by one of EFIL's member organisations. The purpose of the event is to bring together a large number of AFS volunteers from all over Europe and beyond to share experience and improve practices in volunteer work and training through a series of learning tracks and workshops linked to an annual theme. Next to this learning experience, the Summit aims at having a significant motivational impact on all participants. It is a great opportunity for volunteers to network with their peers from across the continent and beyond.

The majority of the trainers at the Volunteer Summer Summit are part of EFIL's European Pool of Trainers (see p.22/24). They have been trained to facilitate workshops using non-formal learning methods. Content of the workshops include internal work of AFS, intercultural learning, global education, citizenship education, personal development through volunteering, intergenerational learning, etc.

A community project is included in every Summit to allow volun-

teers to promote the values of AFS and provide support for the local community. The projects vary in shape and scope and are co-organised by the national AFS partner and a local community stakeholder.

In 2015 and 2016 the Summits were hosted by our member organisations in Germany and Italy. Both Summits – like many others before – have been financially supported by the Council of Europe.



Participants at the Volunteer Summer Summit, Italy, 2016



Participants at the Volunteer Summer Summit, Italy, 2016



Participants and teams at the Volunteer Summer Summit, Germany, 2015

### Germany 2015

More than 220 volunteers from 33 countries gathered in Blossin, near Berlin, to work on "Democratic citizenship education as the foundation for engagement in civil society"; the theme of the 8th EFIL Volunteer Summer Summit. The place offered great facilities allowing trainers to truly use their creativity in designing their workshops. Training contents linked democratic processes and citizenship education with AFS work. Also dealing with the VSS topic was a large-scale simulation that took place throughout the event, focusing on global issues and in small self-organised groups participants worked on how to tackle them. For the community project participants chose from different grassroots initiatives, including organisations working with refugees and with disadvantaged youth, the Federal Agency for Civic Education, etc. An exhibition about the German separation and reunification was produced by local volunteers and can be viewed here: [www.efilsummersummit.org/2015](http://www.efilsummersummit.org/2015)



### Italy 2016

For its 9th edition the EFIL Volunteer Summer Summit gathered over 290 volunteers from 40 countries in Venice to discuss "Education for Peace". The largest Summit so far, the event presented several new elements including a sustainability corner and eight sessions lead by external trainers, each focusing on one particular field of specialisation. Overall the age spread and country diversity of this year's Summit was wider than in the past, which was appreciated by participants and organisers. The community project allowed participants to gain some insight in the new and old Venice. One afternoon was spent in an open space and invited participants to bring forward projects on peace education for funding. The projects were presented in plenary, after which participants could vote online. Next to the funding of the Council of Europe, the VSS in Venice was also financially supported by Intercultura (AFS Italy) and EFIL.





# Intercultural Dialogue Day

Intercultural Dialogue Day (IDD) has become a fixed item on the EFIL calendar since it was celebrated for the first time in 2008. Every year on the last Thursday of September grass root AFS volunteers all over Europe organise events in their local communities to promote intercultural dialogue and exchanges. AFS volunteers reach out to the public through big and small events and fun activities such as workshops, conferences, flash mobs, exhibitions, web events, dance and sport events, creative meals and much more, often getting coverage in their local or national media.



IDD, Budapest, Hungary, 2016

In order to stimulate local IDD initiatives, every year EFIL puts in place several incentives and tools. Toolkits and booklets of the past years help to inspire the volunteers in putting into practice their own ideas. A Facebook page connects the grassroots volunteers internationally and helps in the project visibility. The Facebook page is the main source of communication for this project and a less formal way of reaching out to the volunteers and engaging with them through text and images. Furthermore, the Facebook page is where the IDD Photo and Video Contest takes place. In 2015 the winners of the IDD contest were Novi Sad Chapter, AFS Serbia (best photo) and the combined efforts of Roma Est, Ovest and Sud Chapters, AFS Italy (best video). In 2016 the winners were Roma Est Chapter, AFS Italy (best photo) and Budapest Chapter, AFS Hungary (best video). The top 3 places are also featured in the IDD Toolkit which can be found on the EFIL website.



IDD, combined AFS Croatia and AFS Slovenia, 2016



IDD, East Alexandria, Egypt, 2015

These past years the leading theme of IDD has followed the yearly theme of EFIL. In 2015 the theme was 'Citizenship education: contributing to a more just and peaceful world' and in 2016 it was 'Building peaceful societies through intercultural education'. AFS volunteers were encouraged to organise activities that focused on these themes, using some of the content materials and stimuli developed by EFIL.

EFIL again held its annual IDD Quiz, a fundraising event in Brussels to raise money for scholarships for the EFIL Volunteer Summer Summit. The scholarships go to volunteers of small and new AFS organisations in the EFIL network. The quiz brings together teams representing several departments of the European institutions, other international organisations and NGOs, current and former AFS programme participants and volunteers, and more.



IDD Quiz, Brussels, Belgium, 2016



# Forum on Intercultural Learning and Exchange

**The** Forum on Intercultural Learning and Exchange is an annual meeting of two days bringing together about 60 researchers and practitioners from all over the world to discuss issues that are relevant in the field of educational exchange. This recurring event was initiated as a follow up of the Berlin Conference 'Moving Beyond Mobility' in 2008.

In the period 2015-2016 the Forums focused on the topic of the role of teachers in promoting and assessing intercultural competences. They were organised by the Intercultura Foundation, EFIL and AFS Intercultural Programs, and both Forums of the past two years were hosted by the Intercultura Foundation in Colle Val d'Elsa, Italy.

In October 2015 the 6<sup>th</sup> Forum focused on **“The school assessment of the intercultural learning of pupils during and after individual exchanges abroad”**. The opening inputs came from Mario Piacentini (OECD), Emanuele Pesoli (International Baccalaureate) and Martyn Barrett (Surrey University). Testimonials and suggestions on assessment were presented by experts from University of Rome 'Tor Vergata', French Erasmus+ National Agency and by teachers from schools in Germany and India.

In November 2016 the 7<sup>th</sup> Forum took place focusing on the theme **“The intercultural training of teachers: what, when, how?”**. The opening inputs came from Ken Cusher (Kent State University, USA). Testimonials and suggestions were presented by researchers such as Ildiko Lazar (Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest), Alicia Cabezudo (International Peace Bureau, Geneva), Petra Daryai-Hansen (University of Copenhagen), and Carola Mantel (Pädagogische Hochschule, Zug). Case studies were presented by practitioners from Barcelona University (Spain), DICE project (Ireland), World Savvy (USA), and German-French Youth Office.

In both years, we had the pleasure to host representatives from the Council of Europe's Education department and the European Commission's School Unit, and had practices of AFS Intercultural Programs shared.

In this journey of two years we came to realise that next to the work on assessment frameworks for intercultural competences done by the main international institutions in the field of education (OECD



Workshop, Colle Val d'Elsa, Italy, 2016

and Council of Europe), teachers still need to be empowered to include intercultural learning in their work and to assess students' intercultural competences. Intercultural learning needs to encompass all subjects and all levels of education and it should be a component of teachers' education both in initial and in-service training. Also, participants concluded that the best way to gain intercultural competences is through in-person training based on experiential learning methods, bringing learners from practice to theory and building on emotions, personal stories, biographies etc. Any training of this kind should also include field work, namely intercultural experience made through mobility or by encountering a different environment at local level. Teachers, when including intercultural learning in their teaching methods, should be role models, foster reflection, include competences and emotions of pupils, and be empowered as change agents in the faculty/school. Teachers should be able to count on a community of peers dedicating time to research and cooperation on the topic, striving together for implementing new methods and pedagogies, and exploring the complexity of diversity. Finally, formative assessment was confirmed as a successful method in the case of intercultural competences, since it triggers reflection and transformation.



Participants and facilitators in Colle Val d'Elsa, Italy, 2016

# Activities

## Other projects

### MIRAI

**M**IRAI - the Japanese word for future – stands for Mutual-understanding, Intellectual Relations and Academic exchange Initiative and is a one week exchange programme, sponsored by the Japanese Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and targeting 150 graduates of universities in Europe and Central Asia, recruited and selected by the Japanese embassies. EFIL had been appointed by the Japanese government to act as the European secretariat of its MIRAI programme both in 2015 and 2016, in partnership with AFS Japan (in 2015) and the Japanese International Cooperation Centre - JICE (in 2016). EFIL was in charge of the intercultural learning component including online courses, webinars and in-person training (in 2015 participants obtained the Global Competence Certificate), the project visibility through social media, the project evaluation, financial management and the reporting.



## Projects supporting education for active citizenship

### Active Citizenship Tools in Various Environments (European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe - [afsactivecitizens.org](http://afsactivecitizens.org))

The project focused on the topic of active citizenship within the AFS network and created a link between intercultural learning and active citizenship at all levels of society. Several tools were developed (manuals, videos, webinars). The ACTIVE Manual includes 10 activities divided into “before, during and after the exchange” and can be applied to exchange programmes ranging from 3 to 10 months. It has been designed in cooperation with AFS International and based on the already existing cooperation with Ashoka youth venture. The Manual is referred to in the AFS Student Journey Learning Curriculum as a resource to enhance the Global realm goals of AFS.

### Common European Citizenship, Different local approaches – job shadowing (Erasmus+)

The project aimed at improving the European Citizenship content of AFS exchanges, in particular for ECTP (see p.12), and consisted of a series of ‘job shadowing’ experiences for AFS staff members. Among other activities, the project included visits of staff from various AFS organisations to the ECTP Brussels Camp. The outcomes of the project were included in the revised ECTP Manual.

EFIL Secretary-General, Paul Claes, with MIRAI participants in Hiroshima, December 2015

## Projects contributing to the educational profile of EFIL

### Intercultural Learning for Teachers and Pupils (Erasmus+, [www.intercultural-learning.eu](http://www.intercultural-learning.eu))

The project is coordinated by EFIL and includes several partners from across Europe. It aims at providing tools for enhancing intercultural education in secondary schools, through the training of teachers and policy reforms. Project activities and outcomes include a training for teachers, a toolbox, studies and policy recommendations on including intercultural learning in teachers’ education and in secondary school curricula.

### European Badge Alliance (Erasmus+, [ebawebsite.net](http://ebawebsite.net))

The project is led by UNISER, an Italian organisation expert in VET mobility, with project partners from various European countries, and aims at the recognition of competences from youth mobility through the innovative system of Open Badges, and gathers organisations running mobilities in a variety of educational sectors, ranging from volunteer to youth and school exchanges. Partners are using the Badge issuing platform ‘Badgecraft’ and EFIL tested this recognition system during ECTP 2016.



Kick-off meeting , Colle Val d’Elsa, Italy, November 2016



Examples of badges from the ECTP programme, autumn, 2016



## Training events

### Meeting of Organisational Development Coordinators

Colle di Val d'Elsa, Italy, 13-18 January 2015

This year's meeting enjoyed the presence of 21 participants from 19 AFS Partners – mostly from within the European EFIL membership, but also including a representative of AFS Kenya. The agenda elements included some recurring contents (such as sharing best practices and organisational structures, introduction to European and international AFS structures or connection between intercultural learning and OD work), as well as sessions specifically requested by the participating ODCs: modern communication tools, change management, school relations in volunteer development.



### Study Session "Intercultural Learning with Migrants and Minorities - exchange organisations exploring a new dimension"

Citizenship Education 2015 Annual Theme

Budapest (European Youth Centre), Hungary, 8-15 February 2015

Supported by the European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe

The study session explored a topic of growing importance: local cultural diversity and how it relates to the context of AFS programmes. Over half of the group came from AFS organisations. The other participants represented two different networks: Voices of Young Refugees in Europe (VYRE) and Phiren Amencia, an organisation promoting Roma & non-Roma dialogue through voluntary service programmes. Together they constituted a very diverse and fascinating mix of backgrounds. The most important outcomes were the very concrete follow-up projects developed. Next to a range of ideas on the more general level, there were 11 specific action plans in principle involving synergies between work with minorities/migrants and AFS exchanges.



### Programme Directors' Meeting

Cairo, Egypt, 9-13 March 2015

Programme staff of EFIL Member Organisations and AFS Argentina, met in Cairo, Egypt, for the 8th edition of the annual EFIL Programme Directors' meeting. A total of 32 participants and facilitators enjoyed three intense days of workshops, information sessions, debates, discussions and corridor talks aiming at better understanding each other's realities, sharing best practices and learning from each other, looking for common solutions and improving the overall programme quality. Included in the programme was a training by Ashoka, focusing on change-making and the field of social entrepreneurship, and a session about the challenges of implementing the recommendations adopted by the World Congress in Paris related to the work done by the Traditional School Programme Working Group (AFS International).



### "Youth exchange: community engagement across generations" - seminar on learning of AFS families

Sigtuna, Sweden, 14-19 April 2015

Supported by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Commission

25 participants from 17 different AFS organisations gathered in Sweden (Sigtuna) to re-think the learning process within AFS families, focusing mainly on host families. The project was a nice concrete example of intergenerational learning, thanks to the diversity in age and roles represented. Concrete outcomes were not only the participants' individual action plans but also ideas for concrete future improvements and initiatives, leading to learning and involvement of hosting and sending families, which can be used by different AFS organisations. The results of the seminar also fed into the work of the AFS International Educational Methodology Review Working Group, whose focus is on host families.







## "Exchange Voices" - seminar on European and national advocacy

Leuven, Belgium, 4-8 June 2015

*Supported by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Commission*

The training gathered 29 participants from the EFIL and EEE-YFU networks to discover advocacy and especially the links between European and national level policies impacting youth exchanges. The participants visited European institutions in Brussels, and were given valuable inputs from MEP Ulrike Lunacek, Marko Grdasic (member of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe), the secretariat of the European Youth Forum, and Guido Frey from Intermundo. Participants also "played advocacy", explored macro and micro level advocacy, drafted an advocacy strategy and then wrote a personal action plan with reflections on what their role in advocacy will be and how they will raise awareness on advocacy within their organisation.



## Seminar "Inclusive Europe"

Kirov, Russia, 13-20 September 2015

*Supported by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Commission*

The seminar was attended by 29 participants (staff, board members and volunteers) from 16 countries to discuss and share practice on school relations. The sessions included topics such as Global Citizenship Education in AFS and how to approach ministries of education. The needs of smaller partners were taken into special consideration and space was given to sharing of best practices between the countries. Among the highlights of this seminar were the visits to Russian schools organised by local AFS volunteers and staff.



## "DEAR21 - Developing Educational Activities from Research in the 21st Century"

Mollina, Spain, 20-27 September 2015

(project in partnership with EEE-YFU, Experiment and CISV)

*Supported by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Commission*

DEAR21 aimed at bridging the gap between recent intercultural theories and current practice through the development of interactive educational tools in order to better support participants of intercultural programmes organised by 4 youth organisations: AFS, YFU, CISV and Experiment. The programme included workshops prepared by participants for participants, where the new ICL theories were presented, sessions devoted to redesigning existing intercultural activities as well as gamification and creative techniques sessions. The output of the DEAR21 is a practical handbook, containing new and revised intercultural educational activities along with intercultural theories they were built upon.



## Training for Trainers on Active Citizenship

**Citizenship Education 2015 Annual Theme**

York, United Kingdom, 17-26 October 2015

*Supported by the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe*

The 2015 EFIL training for trainers tackled two special aspects: the citizenship education content in AFS training, and the support for the growing volunteer networks in the UK and Ireland. The concept of the training was that the participants acquire new competences in the first half of the event and then, towards the end of the week, prepare and run "practice training sessions" for the local volunteers. This way not only could they try out their trainer skills but also other AFS volunteers from developing organisations could benefit from the delivered content. The training brought together 23 participants and 5 trainers from 20 countries. The programme included both discussions and input on Active Citizenship content, as well as sessions focused on basic trainer competences. The trained participants were expected to become key trainers in their AFS organisations, sharing the expertise with other volunteers.



## Training for Facilitators on Change-making

**Citizenship Education 2015 Annual Theme**

Antwerp, Belgium, 30 October - 1 November 2015

This training was requested by EFIL members and facilitated by Vipin Thek from Ashoka Youth Venture, based in Washington D.C., USA. 20 participants from 12 different countries came together to develop a passion for change-making on a personal level in order to inspire others. Questions such as "Why do we become change-makers?", "What are we passionate about?" and "How can we inspire others?" were tackled throughout the training. Participants explored their own passions, were pushed out of their comfort zone, reflected on their experiences and discussed how to implement change-making in their AFS organisations.

## Seminar "Shaping Identities - shaping societies"

Building Peaceful Societies 2016 Annual Theme

Piekary, Poland, 25-31 January 2016

Supported by the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe

The seminar initiated the discussion on today's role of AFS in building peaceful societies. The event involved 25 representatives of 15 AFS organisations from the EFIL network. The main focus of the event was on personal and group identities – their growing complexity and fading connection with geography and ethnicity on one hand, and their role in conflict situations and the mechanisms of "othering" on the other hand. Exploring these topics was additionally enriched by several experiential activities using the Betzavta method, which aims to bring to light dilemmas and conflicts, both in society and in oneself. An important programme element was also a visit to the Auschwitz/Birkenau museum, where many links between past and present were made. In the last part of the seminar, the group moved on to making recommendations and future plans for AFS.



## Seminar on South-East Europe cooperation, with focus on Post-War Reconciliation through Immersive Exchange

Building Peaceful Societies 2016 Annual Theme

Banja Luka, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 1-4 March 2016

Supported by the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe

This seminar brought together 20 participants from parts of ex-Yugoslavia (Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Serbia and Slovenia). It was the first regional seminar of EFIL that tackled the topic of post-war reconciliation. Participants learned about different perspectives on the topic. An external trainer from the European Association of History Educators (EUROCLIO) joined the event for an afternoon to lead a session on understanding how history can be, and is, manipulated. Starting from the past, participants used the opportunity to discuss conflicts that plague the region still today. Concrete action plans were developed to increase the cooperation between the different countries in the Balkans and help facilitating lasting peace.



## Programme Directors' Meeting

Cork, Ireland, 7-11 March 2016

A record total of 33 participants from 29 countries, including representatives from AFS partners in Argentina, Brazil and South Africa, enjoyed the meeting hosted by Experiment in International Living (EIL) Ireland, the partner organisation of AFS in the Republic of Ireland. David Blythe from AFS International facilitated several sessions on topics related to support and risk management issues. Other sessions focused on the sharing of best practices and will contribute to an increased and better cooperation and programme quality. EIL invited the whole group to a one day study tour including school and host family visits, to get to know EIL better and its way of working.



## EFIL Advocacy e-Training

March-May 2015 and 2016

The online course on advocacy has become an annual activity. The e-training is mandatory for new members of the EPOR (see p. 24) and is recommended for Advocacy Liaisons nominated by EFIL member organisations. In 2015 and 2016 the course was completed by 13 EPORies and 5 Advocacy Liaisons and required 20 hours of work. The modules include getting to know EFIL; exploring advocacy topics; the advocacy environment: structures, partners, platforms and links between national and European advocacy; mapping of the national advocacy environment and links with the European level. The 2015 edition included interaction with representatives of YFU organisations in order to initiate cooperation on national level advocacy and to get prepared for the in-person training that was organised in partnership with "Exchange voices".



## Seminar "Islam in Europe – between assimilation and rejection"

Building Peaceful Societies 2016 Annual Theme

Dilbeek, Belgium, 5-11 April 2016

Supported by the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe

Participants from 14 EFIL member organisations widened their basic knowledge of Islam and interfaith dialogue, explored the reasons behind Islamophobia in Europe historically and today, discussed the role and responsibility of AFS in fighting religious discrimination, and outlined their own follow-up projects. The programme also included a day with field visits to a local refugee centre, a mosque in Brussels, CEJI (a Jewish organisation against discrimination), and FEMYSO (Forum of European Muslim Youth and Student Organisations). One of the main discussions of the seminar was how AFS should address Islamophobia, and if this is a responsibility and role of AFS. The participant group left committed for working through AFS to inspire more people, local communities, and the society as a whole, to take measures on all levels to combat Islamophobia and other forms of discrimination.







## Study Session "Active Citizenship in the refugee crisis"

**Building Peaceful Societies 2016 Annual Theme**

Budapest (European Youth Centre), Hungary, 21-28 August 2016

Supported by the European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe

This event brought together 29 participants from 12 different countries and 6 trainers. The participants were recruited in pairs, each consisting of one AFS volunteer and one participant from an organisation working with refugees. The aim of the study session was to establish local cooperation between AFS and external organisations that are experts in working with refugees, as well as cooperation between the initiated projects themselves. Different local realities were shared and explained. Participants had an opportunity to explore their motivation and what personal resources and talents they possess to carry out their projects and thus make a change. Support groups (peer groups) were formed to continue the cooperation after the event.



## Leadership and Governance seminar

Prague, Czech Republic, 24-28 August 2016

20 board members – mostly from Europe but also beyond (Thailand and South Africa) - and 4 preparatory team members met in Prague to reflect on their role as board members and to increase their leadership skills. The diversity between the experiences and perspectives of the participants, combined with the expertise of the facilitators, let the group discover challenges boards face. These include strategic planning, the relationship with the national director, external relations, building connections with the constituency and different roles in the board, the diversity of governance structures, board's work and its responsibility, AFS Network context and organisational models. Special sessions were also offered to board members from small/developing organisations to address their specific needs.



## Training for Trainers "Who needs intercultural education?"

**Building Peaceful Societies 2016 Annual Theme**

Dworp, Belgium, 7-16 November 2016

16 participants and 5 trainers from 16 different countries met in the yearly training for trainers, this time daring to look outside the usual AFS training circles. The starting point was a discussion of the competence and readiness of AFS trainers to address audiences outside the mobility context, and the relevance and necessity to do so. Next to sessions on basic trainer competences, the participants reflected on which new target groups can be approached, which specific learning needs they have and how we can use our AFS background when we work with external groups. After several days of training the participants prepared for a "practice training event" with different external groups such as: scouts, young Muslim girls, high school students, refugees and expatriates following an integration course in Belgium.



## Meeting of Support Staff

Belgrade, Serbia, 5-9 December 2016

The biennial EFIL Support Staff meeting took place for the 4th time. This year's meeting enjoyed the presence of 26 participants from 19 AFS Partners – mostly from within the EFIL membership, but also including staff of AFS organisations outside Europe, as well as some key volunteers dealing with local support. The agenda included some recurring contents (Risk Management, AFS Standards and Procedures, sharing best practices, case studies, introduction to AFS international structures, office-to-office communication), but there were also some specific topics, such as mental health of participants, sexual orientation in exchange, constructive use of social media in support, and the role of support staff in implementing the new AFS Participant and Host Family Curricula.

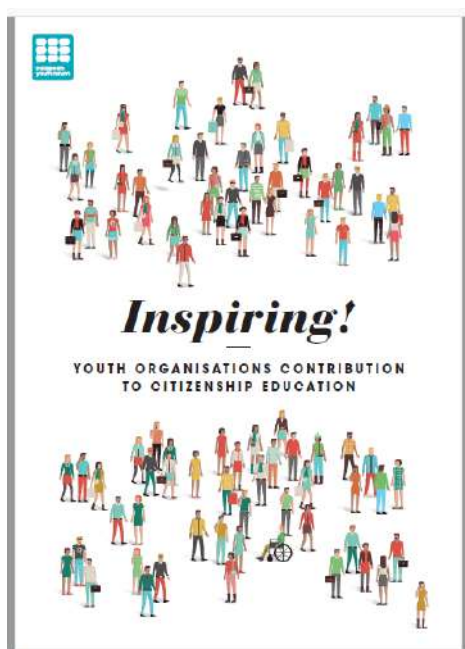


## Online course on Active European Citizenship for ECTP volunteers

October-November 2015 and 2016

In 2015 and 2016 the ECTP Trainer Coordinators offered a 3-module online course on Active European Citizenship and Change-making to the volunteers of the ECTP Brussels Camp. The online course was mandatory for trainers of the ECTP Camp.

## Publications



**EFILife** is a news magazine (5 issues a year) aiming at informing the Member Organisations and external subscribers about EFIL's recent activities and about developments of interest to the Members and the AFS network.

EFIL publishes and distributes project, seminar and training reports, available for Members shortly after each event.

Every other year EFIL issues its Biennial Report with an overview of all its main activities in the various result areas of the past two years.

In 2016 EFIL has contributed to two external publications: 'Study on the Social Value of Youth Organisations' and 'Inspiring! Youth Organisations Contributions Citizenship Education' both published by the European Youth Forum.

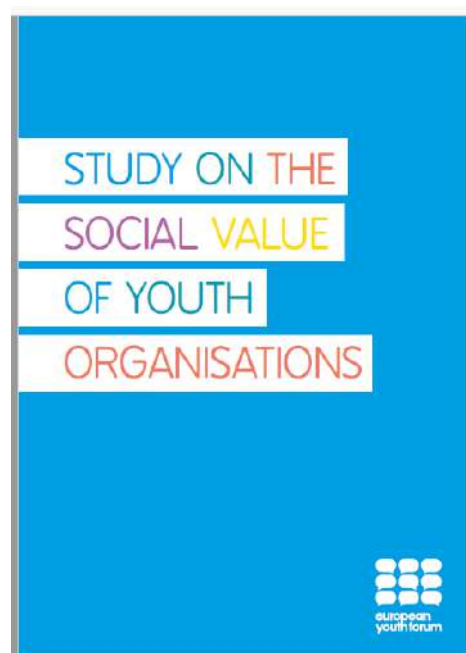
The best practices of EFIL for the promotion of active citizenship and intercultural dialogue are included in leaflets targeting policy makers prepared by the Lifelong Learning Platform (LLLPlatform) and the European Youth Forum (YFJ).



Assorted pictures from EFIL's Instagram feed

The **website** <http://efil.afs.org> contains key information and updates on activities developed by EFIL. Preparations have started for migrating to the new EFIL website in 2017.

EFIL is present on **social media** and posts texts and pictures from various events and activities, both internal and external. Follow European Federation for Intercultural Learning on Facebook and @EFILafs on Twitter and Instagram.





# Resources

## Board of Directors

**The** Board of Directors acts as the Executive Body. It consists of seven volunteer members elected by the General Assembly. The Board meets 3 times per year in person.

The following Board members served on the EFIL Board in 2015 and 2016:

Ekaterina Bagdasarova (Russia) – Secretary from June 2013 to June 2016, Chair since October 2016  
Sinemis Candemir (Turkey) – joined in June 2016, Secretary since October 2016  
Bart van Doveren (Belgium Flanders) – joined in June 2011, Treasurer since June 2011  
Jatta Erlund (Finland) – joined in June 2014  
Andrea Franzoi (Italy) – joined in June 2014  
Jörn Lehmann (Germany) – joined in June 2010, Chair from June 2013 to June 2016, left in June 2016  
Sabine Siegrist (Switzerland) - joined in June 2016  
Ragnar Thorvardarson (Iceland) – member from June 2014 to June 2016  
Philipp Wagner (Austria) – joined in June 2011, Deputy Chair since June 2013



EFIL Secretary-General and Board of Directors, Budapest, Hungary, May 2015



EFIL Board of Directors, Krakow, Poland, October 2016

## Auditors

**In** the first trimester of each year the EFIL auditor checks the EFIL accounts and provides recommendations to improve the quality of the accounting.

The General Assembly of May 2015 reconfirmed Charles-Henry de Streeel as EFIL's external auditor for the years 2016-2018.

## Election Committee

**An** Election Committee is elected at each General Assembly to assist in the recruitment and supervision of the EFIL Board elections. Members of the Election Committee for the 2015 General Assembly were Sabine Siegrist (AFS Switzerland), Jan Van Keirsbilck (AFS Belgium Flanders) and Ivana Pavlovic (Interkultura Serbia) and for the 2016 Extra-Ordinary General Assembly Caroline Steyaert (AFS Belgium Flanders), Anni Siltanen (AFS Finland) and Jona Fridriksdottir (AFS Iceland – left in 2016).

## European Pool of Trainers

**EFIL** can rely on its European Pool of Trainers (EPOT) to help organise and actively participate in its training programme. In 2015-2016, 141 trainers from 27 AFS Member Organisations were part of the pool.



EPOT trainers at the EFIL Volunteer Summer Summit in Italy 2016

## Secretariat

The following staff and volunteers were active at the EFIL Secretariat in 2015 and 2016:

Paul Claes, Secretary-General, since 1 June 2006

Frini Ezunkpe, Executive Manager, since 9 February 2004

Izabela Jurczik-Arnold, Senior Training and Project Coordinator, since 12 February 2007

Inga Menke, Partner Development, Training and Project Coordinator, since 24 May 2010

Elisa Briga, Advocacy, Project and Programme Coordinator, since 23 May 2011

Tinna Sveinsdóttir, Communication Coordinator, since 1 September 2016

Paola Cane, Fondazione CRT intern, from 1 September 2014 to 28 February 2015 and staff member from 1 March to 30 June 2015

Marín Björt Valtýsdóttir, EVS volunteer, from 1 September 2014 to 31 October 2015

Alexandra Ruivo Cordeiro, EVS volunteer, from 1 July 2015 to 30 June 2016

Ingvild Grini, EVS volunteer, from 1 September 2015 to 31 August 2016

Chiara Mercogliano, Fondazione CRT intern, from 1 October 2015 to 31 January 2016

Anica Rimac, EVS volunteer, since 1 July 2016

Lynn Bemus, intern, since 1 September 2016



EFIL staff and volunteers 2015



EFIL staff and volunteers 2016

## Training and Intercultural Learning Advisory Body

In 2006 EFIL established the Training Advisory Body (TAB) – the working structure providing input to training related matters, as well as developing some tangible results, such as the EFIL Training Strategy. In 2013 the TAB was re-shaped into the TICLAB – Training and Intercultural Learning Advisory Body. This added a clear and necessary focus on intercultural learning and resulted in drafting the first EFIL Intercultural Learning Strategy to accompany the already existing Training Strategy.

The TICLAB met twice in 2015-2016:

Budapest, Hungary, 15-17 May 2015

Istanbul, Turkey, 7-9 March 2016

The members of the TICLAB 2015-2016:

Emilija Gagrcin, AFS Serbia / AFS Germany, EPOT trainer

Ömer Ongun, AFS Turkey, EPOT trainer and ICL responsible

Roberto Ferrero, AFS Italy, regional Volunteer Development Coordinator

Gábor Csikos, AFS Hungary, Organisational Development Coordinator and ICL Responsible

Melissa Liles, AFS International, Chief Education Officer

Izabela Jurczik-Arnold, EFIL Senior Training and Project Coordinator

Inga Menke, EFIL Partner Development, Training and Project Coordinator



EFIL TICLAB 2015/2016



## European Pool of Representatives

**EFIL**'s European Pool of Representatives (EPOR) was set up in April 2011 and consists of AFS volunteers supporting EFIL's Advocacy Coordinator, by representing EFIL externally in different areas and contributing to advocacy efforts. In the period 2015-2016 the EPOR involved 17 volunteers from 10 Member Organisations. Within the EPOR, some are holding long-term representation roles in Platforms and European Institutions: the EPOR core group.

The members of the EPOR core group in 2015-2016:

- Alexandra Singpiel (AFS Germany), representative for the European Youth Forum April 2014 to April 2017
- Charlotte Klinting (AFS Denmark), representative for the EU structured dialogue with young people 2014-2015; member of the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth 2016-2017
- Alexandra Ruivo Cordeiro (AFS Portugal), representative for the EU structured dialogue with young people January 2016 to June 2017
- Viktória Bedő (AFS France/AFS Hungary), representative for the INGO Conference of the Council of Europe June 2015 to the end of 2016
- Elisa Briga, EFIL Advocacy Coordinator, representative for the Lifelong Learning Platform

The EPOR core group met twice in 2015-2016:

Budapest, Hungary, 16-17 May 2015

Strasbourg, France, 22-24 May 2016



EPOR members at the European Parliament, Brussels, June 2015

## EFIL VOLUNTEERS 2015-2016: Preparatory teams, trainers and support teams

Adriano Longobardi  
Alejandro Del Castillo Beorlegui  
Aleksandar Todorovic  
Alessandro Sola  
Alexandra Ruivo Cordeiro  
Alexandra Singpiel  
Alina Araslanova  
Alisa Danilova  
Alma Dóra Ríkarðsdóttir  
André Carvalho  
Andrea Sordano  
Andreas Heyerick  
Anica Rimac  
Annarita Marini  
Annarita Signorello  
Anne Reck  
Annika Menke  
Antonio Dau  
Antonio Garcia Gonzales  
Anze Valtl  
Arleen Pimentel  
Balasz Beregszaszi  
Barbara Lucas  
Barbora (Bara) Fenclova  
Beatriz Fonseca  
Bernd Andersson  
Blaz Damjan  
Busra Kiriscioglu  
Camilla Mitillo  
Camilla Soulere  
Catalina Carabas  
Charlotte Klinting  
Chiara Mercogliano  
Claudia Chiaperotti  
Corrina Rus  
Daniela Hrušková  
David Kalwar  
Domenico Riolo  
Dúlio Santos  
Ece Omur  
Egill Örn Thorarinsson  
Ekaterina (Katya) Derkach  
Eliud Nedo

Eliza Popper  
Ema Sare  
Emilija Gagrčin  
Eva Popp  
Fareeda Atwan  
Ferruccio Fiordispini  
Filipa Lagoa  
Flavio Rino  
Francesca Finocchiaro  
Fredericke Weiner  
Frederik Jensen  
Gabor Csikos  
Georgi Boyadzhiev  
Gert Lucas  
Gianluca Farinelli  
Gloria Defilippi  
Hamdican Gülgen  
Hannes Verdegem  
Helena Vandenbulcke  
Hugrún Vigfúsardóttir  
Ingvild Grini  
Irene Manganini  
Ismail Eddegdag  
Jade Vervisch  
Jana Holla  
Jasmina Henniova  
Jenný Lárentsínusdóttir  
Jeroen Vandenbempt  
Jessica Paiva  
Joshua Fittousi  
Jules Ortega  
Karolina Caruso  
Karolina Kania  
Katerina Kahanova  
Katharina Schulze Herking  
Katie Sims  
Katrina Kalnina  
Kevin Heyer  
Kevin Li  
Laura Hannula  
Lea Schaumann  
Lejna Čelebičić  
Linn Silje Thun

Lisa Wagner  
Lore Vekeman  
Lukas Findeisen  
Lynn Bemus  
Maja Miholjek  
Maria Acatrinei  
Maria Fanlo  
Mariana Rico Montaña  
Marie Nuzzo  
Marieke De Smet  
Marija Simic  
Marín Björt Valtýsdóttir  
Marina Saglietti  
Marion Fritsching  
Martin Berghold  
Martina Neglia  
Massimiliano Verri  
Matteo Farina  
Max Reichel  
Michela Manente  
Mira Wold  
Mirella Simeonova  
Miriam Skipalova  
Monika Landlová  
Nashwa Azzam  
Nele Goetsch  
Nevena Sičević  
Nicolas Coudret  
Niklas Mengel  
Nikolina Sladojevic  
Noomi Peter  
Norma Peter  
Oana Ria Nasaudeanu Ghinea  
Ole Oberste Berghaus  
Omer Ongun  
Pablo Armas  
Paola Cane  
Petra Móri  
Pieter Verstuyf  
Raffaella Troito  
Rebecca Schütte  
Riccardo Scandroglio  
Roberta Hulanska

Robin Frick  
Rodrigo Alves  
Rossella Carissimi  
Saadet Tas  
Sarah Brazil  
Sebastian Diem  
Sercan Selvi  
Sérgio Gonçalves  
Silvia Riehl  
Staša Stojkov  
Stefan Ubiparipovic  
Stefanie Jauk  
Stefano Ambrosini  
Tabea Glindemann  
Thanakon Tiwawong  
Thomas Lacroix  
Tiago Bozzolo  
Tinka Valtl  
Tinna Sveinsdóttir  
Tom Van der Vliet  
Torsten Berger  
Úlfur Atli Stefáníuson  
Valentina Milanese  
Veronica Vismara  
Viktória Bedő  
Vinicius Dalpiccol  
Viviana Galli  
Wiktoría Moritz  
Yannick De Schaepe meester  
Yasar Ohle  
Yves Gheysen  
Zehra Merdzanic Abrahamsdotter  
Zsófi Hutvágner



Plenary Session, EFIL Volunteer Summer Summit, Italy, August 2016

### Financial Policy

The General Assembly of EFIL adopted a Financial Policy intended to maintain the financial health of the organisation. It embodies the rules and guidelines applicable to all aspects of the financial management of the organisation.

EFIL's financial management aims at sound procedures, to:

- 1) guarantee the financial health of the organisation, through a diversified income composed of membership fees, grants, and coordination fees on projects, programmes and trainings;
- 2) guarantee the sound financial management of the organisation, through a set of internal guidelines and procedures;
- 3) guarantee transparent information about the financial status of the organisation, through appropriate accounting tools; through a meaningful financial planning and reporting.

### Financial reporting procedures

- The Board of Directors provides a yearly financial report to the Members (income and expense statements as well as the balance sheet).
- From the Secretariat, every quarter each Member receives an overview of the transactions, invoices and credit notes that relate to the Member.
- The Secretariat provides the Board with a regular update of the financial health of the Federation.
- The Secretariat provides the Treasurer and the Auditors with draft copies of all documents of a primarily financial nature.

A reserve fund is built and maintained at a level of at least 35% of the budgeted yearly administrative expenditure.

The Federation shall aim to raise at least 20% of its administrative costs from sources other than the membership fees.

### Annual financial report

With the aim of promoting transparency and providing a complete overview of its activities, EFIL presents an annual financial report to its Members.



# Resources



## Austria

**AFS Austauschprogramme für interkulturelles Lernen**  
Maria-Theresien-Straße 9/6  
1090 Wien

tel: +43 1 31 92 52 00  
e-mail: office@afs.at



## Belgium (Flanders)

**AFS Interulturele Programma's vzw**  
Hendrik Consciencestraat 52  
2800 Mechelen

tel: +32 15 79 50 10  
e-mail: info@afsvlaanderen.be



## Belgium (French-speaking)

**AFS Programmes Interculturels asbl**  
Place de l'Alma 3/11  
1200 Bruxelles

tel: +32 2 743 85 40  
e-mail: info.please@afs.org



## Denmark (incl. Greenland/ Faroe Islands)

**AFS Interkultur**  
Nordre Fasanvej 111  
2000 Frederiksberg

tel: +45 38 34 33 00  
e-mail: afs.interkultur@afs.org



## Egypt

**AFS Egypt – For Intercultural Educational Programs**  
18 Nawal Street, 8th floor  
Agoza – Giza

tel: +20-109 88 84 837  
email: info-egypt@afs.org



## Finland

**AFS Intercultural Programs Finland ry**  
Malmirinne 1 B  
00180 Helsinki

tel: +358 9 66 66 44  
e-mail: afsfin@afs.org



## Iceland

**AFS a Íslandi – Alþjóðleg fræðsla og samskipti**  
Skiptahólf 50c, 4th floor  
IS - 105 Reykjavík

tel: +354 552 5450  
e-mail: info-isl@afs.org



## Italy

**Intercultura**  
Via Gracco del Secco 100  
53034 Colle Val d'Elsa (SI)

tel: +39 0577 90 00 11  
e-mail: info-italy@afs.org



## Latvia

**AFS Latvija - Starpkulturu programmas**  
Blaumana iela 38/40  
1011, Riga

tel: +371 67280646  
e-mail: info.latvija@afs.org



## Norway

**AFS Norge Internasjonale Utveksling**  
Trondheimsveien 135  
0570 Oslo

tel: +47 22 31 79 00  
e-mail: info@afs.no



## Poland

**AFS Polska Programy Międzykulturowe**  
Piekary 2  
32-060 Liszki

tel/fax: +48 12 28 06 287  
e-mail: poland@afs.org



## Portugal

**Intercultura AFS Portugal**  
Rua de Santa Justa, nº38 – 4º  
1100 – 485 Lisboa

tel: +351 21 324 70 70  
e-mail: info-portugal@afs.org



## Russia

**Charity Foundation Intercultura Russia**  
17, Bolshaya Andronovskaya st.  
Moscow, 109544

tel: +7 495 987 3275/ 620 4710  
e-mail: info-russia@afs.org



## Serbia

**Intercultura**  
Lomina 26  
11000 Belgrade

tel: +381 659844700  
e-mail: info.interkultura@afs.org



## Slovakia

**Intercultura Slovakia**  
Official address : Vinohradnícka 40  
Postal address: Ružová 33  
949 01 Nitra

tel: +421 948 676 766  
e-mail: info@afsslovakia.sk



## Slovenia

**Educational Association Intercultura**  
Ulica Ubalda Vrabca 10  
2000 Maribor

tel: +386 41 876 241  
e-mail: info@interkultura.si



## Spain

**AFS Intercultura España**  
c/ Augusto Figueroa 3, 5º  
28004 Madrid

tel: +34 91 523 45 95  
e-mail: info-spain@afs.org



## Sweden

**AFS Interkulturell Utbildning**  
Tullvaktsvägen 2  
115 56 Stockholm

tel: +46 8 406 00 00  
e-mail: info@afs.se



## Switzerland

**AFS Interkulturelle Programme**  
Kernstrasse 57  
8004 Zürich

tel: +41 1 218 19 19  
e-mail: info@afs.ch



## Tunisia

**AFS Tunisia Intercultural Programs**  
7, Rue d'Autriche, app 7  
1002 Tunis Belvédère

tel: +216 71 79 25 79  
email : afsinfo@afs-tunisia.org.tn



## Turkey

**AFS Türk Kultur Vakfı**  
Valikonagi Cad.  
Konak Apt. 67/4  
Nisantasi 34371  
Istanbul

tel: +90 212 246 45 91  
e-mail: info-turkey@afs.org



## Bosnia and Herzegovina

**UG Interkulturni susreti u Bosni i Hercegovini**  
Hamdije Kreševljakovića 61  
71000 Sarajevo

tel: +387 33974606  
e-mail: info-bih@afs.org



## Croatia

**Globus Association for Intercultural Learning**  
Petrova ul.32  
10 000 Zagreb

tel: + 385 95 8226 243  
e-mail: sonja.kezeric@afs.org



## Czech Republic

**AFS Mezikulturni Programy, o.p.s.**  
Jana Masaryka 44  
120 00 Prague 2

tel: +420 2 22 31 71 38  
e-mail: info@afs.cz



## France

**AFS Vivre Sans Frontière**  
46 rue du Commandant Jean Duhail  
94132 Fontenay Sous Bois Cedex

tel: +33 1 45 14 03 10  
e-mail: info-france@afs.org



## Germany

**AFS Interkulturelle Begegnungen e.V.**  
Postfach 500142  
22701 Hamburg

tel: +49 40 399 22 20  
e-mail: info-germany@afs.org



## Hungary

**AFS Magyarország Nemzetközi Csereprogram Alapítvány**  
Dózsa György út 62. F/1.  
1071 Budapest

tel: +36 1 212 18 21  
e-mail: info-hungary@afs.org



## Netherlands

**Stichting AFS Nederland**  
Van Asch van Wijkstraat 9  
3811 LP Amersfoort

tel: +31 85 04 71 525  
e-mail: info@afs.nl





**EFIL** would like to extend a sincere word of thanks to the numerous people that have supported the Federation over the past years, sparing no time or effort to keep things moving, challenge and help us think of directions for the future and improve our services: the staff and boards of the national offices and of AFS International, members of the EPOT, EPOR and TICLAB, and all the wonderful AFS volunteers across Europe who participated in our activities and helped us with the coordination of events as members of the preparatory teams, support teams or trainer teams.



European Federation for Intercultural Learning (EFIL)

Roger Vandendriesschelaan 18  
B-1150 Brussels  
Belgium

Tel: +32 2 514 52 50

E-mail: [info@efil.be](mailto:info@efil.be)

