



Newsletter 55

August 2020

Charter of European Rural Communities

Index

1.

President Boy Scholtze

2.

Extension reFORM
and LYCEUM

3.

New dates annual
meetings

4.

Mayors' meeting

5.

Farewell and Hello

6.

New webmaster

7. Library project

Dear friends,

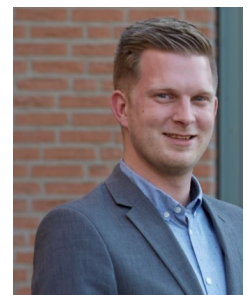
Although summer has arrived all over Europe, it feels different this year. All European countries still suffer from the COVID-19 pandemic and measures are still in force. Travel advices change colour as if it were traffic lights, face masks belong to the outfits of many and tourist destinations miss their guests. Also for us, the Charter of European Rural Communities, 2020 will not be a year full of meetings as you know. However, this doesn't mean we can't create new memories. The friendship between our communities and individuals is strong and we will not let that disappear. On the contrary!

I don't know what about you (even though I can guess), but I miss 'us'. Of course, nowadays digital means of communication offer great solutions. To stay connected and see what the Charter enthusiasts are up to nowadays, I recommend you look us up on Facebook or visit our website.

But digital get-togethers, are definitely not the same as meeting in person. As soon as it's possible, I wish to see all of you somewhere in Europe. As I've mentioned before: in 2021 we will celebrate our friendships and connections more than ever! Therefore, I'm pleased to send you this newsletter and to be able to announce the preliminary new dates for the meetings which had been postponed. We must make the reservation that we are allowed to and could travel again in the coming year, but let's assume we can and let's maintain a positive mind-set.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude and admiration towards the Social Media and Web Team, as well as the YCT. Even though we didn't have official meetings this year and for the first time in Charter-history, the annual meeting had to be postponed, a lot of work is done behind the scenes and online by these girls and boys. Charter-trips-down-memory-lane, European Music Day, a digital Presidium meeting, the election of new YCT-members and so on. This proves that our community extends beyond individual countries and that even in these difficult times we can continue to do what we love most: people meeting people, even if it is in a different way than we are used to. Enjoy reading, enjoy the summer and stay healthy! See you soon again!

Boy Scholtze
President
Charter of European Rural Communities



2. Extension reFORM and LYCEUM projects

Due to the coronavirus all meetings in 2020 are postponed. Brussels has officially approved the extension of both our youth project (Lyceum) and our adult project (reFORM). Yeah! The end date for LYCEUM is now December 2021 and for reFORM it is March 2023.

With the approval of the extension of the projects it was possible to reschedule the 2020 meetings.

The LYCEUM meetings in 2021 will be:

- Cashel 27-30 May 2021
- Bienvenida 8-12 July 2021
- Ockelbo 26-29 August 2021.

The reFORM meetings in 2021 will be:

- Esch 12-16 May 2021
- Bienvenida 8-12 July
- Tisno 30 sep-3 oct 2021.

*All meetings are under the precondition that the coronavirus is contained in 2021 and there are (regular) passenger flights to and from these destinations.

3. New dates Annual (summer) meetings

Due to the coronavirus it was also necessary to reschedule the Annual meetings which were already planned until 2023.

Last month we were supposed to meet in beautiful Bienvenida in Spain. Fortunately all the preparations made by locals are not in vain. In 2021 we will meet there from 8-12 July. The other annual meetings are:

2022: Ibănești, Romania

2023: Tisno, Croatia (celebration of 10 years as an EU member)

2024: Nagycenk, Hungary

4. Mayors' meeting

Attention all mayors (and representatives)!!

The mayors meeting 2020 will be a digital meeting held on Thursday 27 August 2020 at 7 pm (central European time). The agenda will be a short one; the main item being the Financial Report. The Financial Report will be send to you some time prior to the meeting.

To join the meeting mayors must reply to this e-mail to the Charter secretary before Wednesday 26 August 2020. An invitation with a link will be send to you. If you do not wish to join the meeting you do not have to take any action. No participation in the mayors meeting will be interpreted as an approval of all agenda items.

5. Farewell and Hello

Two familiar faces will be leaving as members of the youth coordination team (YCT) Nicolai Røge (Denmark) and Zsuzsanna Lukacs (Hungary) have helped organise so many youth meetings for which we are eternally grateful.

Zsuzsanna is also a member of the presidium and will stay on in that position. And I'm sure we have not seen the last of Nicolai either :)

The presidium wishes a very warm welcome to Adrija Kindzule (Kandava, Latvia) and Joshua Henning (Hepstedt, Germany) whose pictures are below. Two fresh faces who are taking over from Zsuzsanna and Nicolai. This must be a weird time to start your job, with no physical meetings in the near future. But we hope you will enjoy your time in the YCT nevertheless. Congratulations and all the best of luck to you!!



6. New webmaster

Niall Gregory (Cashel, Ireland) has been our webmaster for many years. Recently he has decided to retire from this position. We want to thank Niall for everything he has done for the Charter over the years as webmaster. This is a hard job and you have always made it a priority to do it well and keep the presidium up to date with everything that was going on or necessary steps to take. Fortunately for us you will still be a member of the web & social media team.

Adina Gruia, (Ibanesti, Romania), as a member of our this team is already familiar with all things C will take over the position as webmaster. We have every faith in you and know that you will keep things running smoothly :) Adina can be reached through info@europeancharter.eu.

7. Library project

Last but not least...In 2019, Tisno (Croatia) organised the successful library conference “Bridges Connecting Libraries”. This fall that conference was supposed to get a sequel organised by Nadur (Malta). Due to obvious reasons this will not take place this year, but next year. A date has yet to be set and we will keep you posted on that.