

Notes about the contributors

Paola Bortini is a member of WAGGGS and has worked for the development of the movement in Central and Eastern Europe. She has always been interested in management theories and believes in the role of the non profit sector and the contribution it can make to changes in society. Paola has a Master of Arts in Comparative European Social Sciences and now works in the South of Italy in the field of professional training and local development.

Ulrika Eklund works as a free lance trainer and web designer. She has run projects for Youth for Europe in Sweden, in particular as a trainer in the Cocktail projects I and II. She has also been working in the National Council of Swedish Youth Organisations (LSU). Her interests and experiences are especially focused on gender issues, leadership, creative meetings, using the Internet and teamwork.

Maria Frerichs is a trainer on intercultural learning for the international centre for youth and adult education in Berlin, Germany, Jagdschloss Glienicke - Internationale Begegnungsstätte für Jugendliche und Erwachsene. Her major areas of work include intercultural learning, international team work, communication and leadership training and organisational development.

Rui Gomes has been working as a full time free-lance trainer and consultant since 1996. He has just moved from Sweden to Hungary where he has taken up the function of Programme and Training administrator at the European Youth Centre.

Vegard Hølaas worked as National Expert in the European Commission for the last two and a half years, until December 1999. He has now returned to the Ministry of Children and Family affairs in Norway, where he has been working on child and youth policy since 1989.

Peter Hofmann was involved with the AFS Intercultural Programmes in Vienna for seven years after a year as an Exchange Student in England. He has studied history and political sciences in Vienna. He was in charge of the EVS National Agency in Austria from 1996 until June 1999. Since then he is focusing on training at European level mainly within the European Voluntary Service programme.

Manja Klemenčič comes from a little village in the vineyards region in the East of Slovenia. She graduated in International Management from the University of Maribor. As a student in the U.S., she got involved in competitive debating, imported the concept to Slovenia and started a Slovenian high school and university debate programme. She became a trainer in formal debate for the Soros network and, in 1997, a member of the Governing Board of the International Karl Popper Debate Association. Since 1998 she has worked as Director of ESIB - The National Unions of Students in Europe. The highlights of 1999 for her were ESIB's projects in Kosovo. Manja has just moved from Vienna to Brussels, where ESIB has its secretariat since January of this year.

Leen Laconte studied Comparative Cultural Studies in Gent. She developed "The Imagination", a national project on youth-(sub)culture, the arts and multicultural society. After that she was a lecturer and tutor in a school for social workers (or Sociale Hogeschool). Until the

beginning of this year she worked as a project officer for the Flemish Youth for Europe Agency in Belgium.

Sonja Mitter lives in Strasbourg where she works at the Directorate of Youth and Sport of the Council of Europe. As a member of the educational team since 1995 she helps to run study sessions with youth organisations and is part of training teams for international training courses organised by, or in co-operation with, the European Youth Centres. She has been particularly involved in intercultural learning, Euro-Mediterranean youth work and youth work in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Her background is in history with a focus on migration issues.

Carol Ann Morris is the Project officer for Training and Membership Services at the European Youth Forum She is responsible for the co-ordination of its Pool of Trainers and the training programme. She deals with membership applications and as an information service to the 88 members. Other responsibilities include liaison with the Council of Europe Youth and Sport Directorate concerning training courses and the ACACS programme; working on the Coyote and T-Kit editorial teams; working with the European Commission in the selection of projects for funding through the YOUTH programme. With a background in counselling psychology, she used the latter as a basis for her training and project work with international and local development organisations in India and the UK.

Josyane Pierre is French and lives in Brussels, where she has been Director of Mobility International since January 1998. She has always been working with disabled people, first at the Rehabilitation and Re-education Centre in Mulhouse where she was involved in setting up an individualised training system for young disabled people doing vocational training, then as an expert for the European Commission within the HELIOS programme for the integration of disabled people. She is convinced that taking on responsibilities, training and confidence building are important for the integration, social and political participation, of young people with disabilities. Josyane has a background in social studies and economics, education and information sciences.

Mark Taylor works as a freelance trainer and writer. Until 1993, he worked for four years (1986-89) at the Youth Exchange Centre, London, as development and training officer, and then three years (1990-92) at the European Youth Centre, Strasbourg, as a tutor. Since then he has worked throughout Europe for a wide range of organisations, institutions, agencies and businesses, acting as co-ordinator, trainer, supervisor of teams, or general rapporteur. He has long experience in writing publications for an international public. Major areas of work: intercultural learning, international team work, human rights education, training for trainers, constructive internet use, international youth projects.

Karolina Vrethem works as international coordinator for the Proni Institute of Social Education in Travnik, Bosnia and Herzegovina. Her former experiences include her work as international secretary of the Swedish Youth Council and as vice president of CENYC, the Council of European National Youth Committees, before it merged in to become the European Youth Forum. She also does training for youth organisations and the Council of Europe, mainly in Eastern Europe.