

**The European Federation of UNESCO
Clubs, Centers and Associations**

**2001-2016
15 years of activity**

Daniela Popescu

For Adeline, who understood together with me that it is worth to share an idea which adds value to generosity, the beauty of thought, and the perseverance for the dream to live peacefully on these lands.

Azure 3

We would like to thank the Belarusian Association of UNESCO Club and its President Dzmitry Subtselny for printing this booklet

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PREFACE

I dedicate this publication to my colleagues for over 25 years, together with whom we have built and stylized this edifice named the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations.

I bow and light a candle in sign of gratitude for those who are no longer with us but are watching us from the sky. Thus, with all my acknowledgement I dedicate this publication to: **Paula Iacob, Yuri Borisikhin, Marialuisa Stringa, Albert Rutter, Leonard Latkovski.**

Our path started in 1990, and throughout this period we tried to bring this movement of UNESCO Clubs in Romania, to create the first self-sustaining organisation, and finally, to build a Romanian Federation (together with Paula Iacob, the founding president and lawyer) hoping that we would also build a European Federation. Thus, I bring my gratitude and my acknowledgements for all the Secretaries General of the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO who have given their support for this movement. With their precious help we have managed to organise in Romania an international Congress of Clubs for UNESCO and 2 European Congresses, many Executive Councils, international or European. Through all our joint activities we created a tremendous transparency for our movement of Clubs for UNESCO. I could not have done this without the help of the Secretaries General: Mircea Ifrim, Victor Iancu, Alexandru Mironov, Sergiu Nistor and Ani Matei.

This year Romania celebrates 60 years of being a Member State of UNESCO. Thus, I am bowing and I am trying to emphasise through a limited number of words on a piece of paper the activity of the UNESCO Civil Society. This demonstrates that the United Nations Organisation for Education, Science and Culture could not exist without the help of the partners who bring solutions to the problematic of this millennium which is difficult, and at the same time believing in the power of HOPE. These 15 years have demonstrated through the quality of the projects and through the longstanding commitment to the common values and ideals that the future generations have examples or patterns that they can follow.

Our EFUCA temple has at its foundation the beauty of the thought that we are all part of the UNESCO constellation.

Daniela Popescu

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This book, as a document of the Federation, brings in the first plan a part of the most important events of the last 15 years of activity that I hold in my personal archive: the General Assemblies and the Intermediate Congresses from Geneva and Turin.

As it is known, in 2001 I edited together with Mihaela Varga – the Vice-President of the Romanian Federation of Clubs, Centers and Associations for UNESCO who, in her 25-year-experience in the UNESCO Civil Society, has participated in almost all major events of the European Federation – the book “The European Federation for UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations”. This enclosed all the documents starting from the creation of the European Federation, which took place in Romania. For all my colleagues who were not present at the constitution of the Federation I will reproduce a part of the materials presented in 2001 in order to celebrate together these delightful events from our organisation’s history.

The preliminary path to the foundation of EFUCA

Illustrated by some documents, the long way to this new federation could be taken as an example of the necessary perseverance to reach the constitution of a new unit of action in the field of the Civil Society.

It is known that there were other attempts to create a European Federation – the first one dating back twenty years ago. It is almost impossible to obtain quick results if the democratic ways are respected, and success can be obtained only through teamwork. By right, Mrs. Marialuisa Stringa and Mr. André Zwejacker were elected honorary co-presidents of the new federation, because they were the ones who had pursued this ideal with a profound belief and tenacity, and they succeeded in convincing a younger generation of their rightness. Thus, the Working Group came into being, in which people like Lionel Vinour, Silvio de Matos or Antonio Casares acted with enthusiasm and perseverance. Lionel, with his typical Cartesian spirit, has always had the wisdom of what is to be done and prepared. Silvio proved an amazing coagulating energy and Juan Antonio brought tenacity. Even from the beginning, Jean Pierre Dehouck has always supported us in a competent and efficient way, managing to moderate things whenever the case was.

So the Group became not only a working group, but also a group of friends who discovered with pleasure in sharing a lot of common values. Some of those are the respect for every human being and every culture, and the belief in the necessity of a democratic approach to every action you take part in.

The Group grew from the beginning, but also during the two years’ work, thanks to other people’s will to join us. The Catalonians, the Moldavians (who being stimulated by the new effervescence of the European UNESCO movement, have established a federation of their own), the Slovenians and the Hungarians, who unfortunately could not participate in the Constituent Assembly, the Croats, The UNESCO Club of Malta and others – all of them were conquered by the idea of creating a European Federation. Finally, one can consider that all the delegations that signed the Constitutive Document began to believe in the necessity of a European Federation, which would now allow us to develop our friendly relations.

We, the members of the Romanian delegation, despite the fact that being hosts imposed a lot of stressing work, felt this friendly atmosphere that governed at Busteni, even with those who did not join us in the new federation. We really hope to preserve these friendly relations and to develop them with the aim to enrich the direct relations between the UNESCO Clubs of the European Region. Because we believe that the success of the new federation should and will be measured by the multiplication of these direct relations and by the good example of acting.

The Working Group's activity

During the European Conference of the UNESCO Clubs in Florence, November 1998, Daniela Popescu, representing the Romanian delegation, presented to the organizers, before the start of the conference, an Appeal for the Constitution of a European Federation:

APPEAL ADDRESSED TO THE NATIONAL FEDERATIONS OF UNESCO CLUBS, CENTRES AND ASSOCIATIONS

Animated by the desire to contribute to creating some efficient and representative European structures of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations,

Aware of the importance of a European dialogue, developed at the level of those non-governmental structures which intend to promote in their programs the ideas of UNESCO,

Confident that the National Federations of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations will consider useful any effort done for the purpose of establishing a European organization for the UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations movement,

Acknowledging that we are answering to a longing aspiration of European co-operation,

The National Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Association in Romania launched THE APPEAL FOR ESTABLISHING a European structure: THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF UNESCO CLUBS, CENTRES AND ASSOCIATIONS and proposes the following concrete actions:

1. The European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations should be established during an Extraordinary European Conference of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations taking place between the 5th-7th of July, 1999 in Romania; all expenses related to organization will be supported by the Romanian part.
 2. Each National Federation interested to become a member of this structure should be represented by a delegation comprising maximum 3 persons.
 3. Between the 1st-3rd July, 1999, the European Conference should be preceded by a preparing meeting attended by maximum 5 National Federations which had assumed the responsibility of the final versions of the necessary documents prepared for this Extraordinary Conference.
 4. In order to prepare the first draft of document, the same 4 National Federations should meet in February 1999, in Romania. These documents will be submitted until the 1st of March, 1999 to all the interested European Federations so they can formulate their observations.
 5. The European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations should detain a firm location and a Permanent Secretariat with a staff comprising 3 employees. Each of these 3 persons has to co-ordinate 1-2 European programs approved by at least 3 National Federations.
- All the expenses related to the Permanent Secretariat will be supported via a special fund that will be supported by the National Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations in Romania.
6. The preparing meeting in February 1999 should take place in the presence of Mr. Patrick Gallaud, Secretary General of WFUCA and Mrs. Marialuisa Stringa, Vice-President of WFUCA.
 7. Until the 16th of February, the federations interested in becoming members of this organization can request to be admitted.

The organizers of the Conference introduced in the program a round table dedicated to this subject. Several delegations expressed their interest in joining this initiative: the French, the Portuguese, the Spanish, the Russians, the Italians and the Belgians. There was a debate on the

principles, a Working Group was established and a group's reporter was designated in the person of Silvio Matos. The Working Group approved a second reunion in Romania.

The second meeting of the Working Group took place in Sinaia, in March 1999, in order to begin the concrete work. The delegations that participated were from Belgium, France, Italy, Portugal, Spain and Romania. The sketches were made from the statute and the programs viable for the development of the new structure. Thus, a program called "Knowledge of Europe" was conceived and an open letter addressed to all interested groups from the European region was prepared:

Dear friends,

It's been more than ten years since the birth of the idea of a European Federation. In 1995, in Sinaia, a meeting of the European representatives decided to make a decisive step in this sense by creating a Commission on the spot.

After issuing a call in this sense, only eight federations responded. Most of them were in favour of the idea of a European Federation.

In November 1998, at the European Conference in Florence, a workshop led to the conclusion that almost all representatives from twenty-four countries were willing to support the creation of a European structure. On this occasion, Romania launched an appeal in favour of the European Federation in order to accelerate the process.

A Working Group was created and countries were designated to make contacts and prepare the documents necessary to summon a constitutive reunion. At the invitation of the Romanian Federation, the Working Group met in Sinaia between the 4th and 7th of March 1999, in the presence of Belgium, Spain, France, Italy, Portugal and Romania; Russia was excused.

Having no doubt about your engagement on our side to finalize this ambitious project, we would like to send you, dear friends, our best thoughts.

Sinaia, 12th March 1999

The Working Group

The third meeting of the Working Group was conducted in Malaga thanks to the kindness of the Spanish Confederation; unfortunately, the Romanian delegation could not participate. The French, Italian, Belgian, Portuguese and Spanish delegations have prepared the first draft of the statute.

During the World Congress of WFUCA in Ekaterinburg, an informal meeting was organized, outside of the official work, where all the European delegations were invited and the Working Group presented its first steps and results. Many delegations affirmed that they were not prepared for the constitution of a new federation so the Working Group made a decision to delay the process and to postpone the date of the Constituent Assembly that was scheduled for October of the same year, in Paris. The Romanian delegation proposed another meeting of the Working Group in Romania; the proposal was accepted.

In Romania, in Busteni, April 2000, the Working Group successfully adopted the final forms of the drafts of the procedures and statute. The date and place for the Constituent Assembly was established: October 2000, Paris.

Another meeting of the Working Group and representatives of WFUCA's Executive Board – Paul Ortega, President; Patrick Gallaud, Secretary General; George Christophides, Vice-president – initiated by the French Federation took place in Paris, in July 2000. Three candidatures for the Constituent Assembly were retained: France, Romania and Cyprus.

Again, some of UNESCO federations and clubs considered that the moment for a European Federation was still not favourable, or that a new structure was not necessary. This position led to the Hannover Document addressed to WFUCA's president, George Christophides.

In order to respect their reticence, the Constituent Assembly was again postponed. Another meeting of several delegations who could not cancel their departure was held in Paris instead. It was decided to send the point of view of the organization favourable of the founding of a European Federation, through the voice of André Zwejacker, to the WFUCA's Executive Board at its meeting in Bilbao, in November 2000.

WFUCA's Executive Board decided to accept the candidatures of Romania and Cyprus to host the Constituent Assembly, in this order. WFUCA's Secretariat was charged to send the official invitation and to receive the proposals for amendments to the procedures and statute. Some reserves were appeased in this way. The amendments were sent to the Romanian federation some days before the meeting and here they were structured by articles so that the Assembly could analyse them in logical order.

*Lettre d'André Zwejacker,
Président d'honneur de la Fédération française des Clubs UNESCO,
adressée aux participants de l'Assemblée constitutive de la Fédération Européenne des
Associations, Centres et Clubs pour l'UNESCO*

Chers amis,

Je voudrais tout d'abord exprimer à nos hôtes de la fédération roumaine des clubs UNESCO, nos vifs remerciements pour avoir pris la relève de la tenue de cette assemblée constitutive et pour l'accueil que nous est réservé. Félicitons-nous du nombre important de délégués et de membres présents de toute l'Europe.

En m'appuyant sur le privilège de l'ancienneté – privilège ou handicap! - je vais tenter de faire un peu d'histoire sur la longue genèse qui devrait aboutir à la création de la Fédération européenne, en retraçant quelques dates.

Déjà en 1970 à Trogen, lors d'une rencontre clubs-écoles associées d'Europe, la complémentarité entre les écoles (enfants légitimes de l'UNESCO) et les clubs (enfants naturels) avait été esquissée. La création de la Fédération mondiale des Associations Centres et Clubs UNESCO à Paris en 1981, reprenant la classification de l'UNESCO, définissait une région Europe et l'élection de membres devant la représenter au conseil exécutif.

En 1984, à l'occasion de l'année internationale de la jeunesse, une rencontre européenne à Marly-le-Roy en France, permettait de coordonner les activités centrée en Europe sur les thèmes de l'A.I.J. En 1990, à Strasbourg dans les locaux du Conseil de l'Europe où un nombre important de représentants des fédérations et des clubs d'Europe étaient présents, la réflexion finale a été centrée sur la coordination nécessaire du mouvement des clubs en Europe.

Au congrès de la Fédération mondiale à Sinaïa en Roumanie en 1995, une réunion fut consacrée à un tour de table sur le projet de créer une fédération ou une coordination européenne. Quelques volontaires se proposèrent de donner suite au projet, notamment la vice-présidente mondiale Maria-Luisa Stringa, Jean-Pierre Dehouck et moi-même. Un questionnaire fut envoyé aux fédérations, des échanges de courrier eurent lieu, un débat fut organisé pour le cinquantième anniversaire de l'UNESCO. Mais il a fallu attendre la rencontre organisée par la fédération italienne et la FMACU en novembre 1998 à Florence pour que la question se précise et qu'elle soit portée à l'ordre du jour. Il en ressortit la création officielle d'un groupe de travail chargé de préparer un projet de constitution et de fonctionnement. Il se réunit à Sinaïa sur invitation roumaine en mars 1999, où est échafaudé

un programme concret mettant l'accent sur les initiatives possibles et réalisables sous le nom de Connaissance de l'Europe: programme de mobilité européenne. Quelques mois plus tard, à Malaga en mai 1999, à l'invitation de la confédération espagnole, des projets de statuts sont élaborés. L'absence de temps et de lieux de réunion n'a pas permis au congrès d'Ekaterinbourg d'exposer valablement le résultat des travaux menés mais rendez-vous a été donné pour 2000. À la rencontre de Buşteni en mars 2000, dans les lieux accueillants où nous nous trouvons aujourd'hui a été mis la dernière main aux statuts et proposé la tenue d'une assemblée constitutive. Afin d'avoir une concertation préparatoire la Fédération française a pris l'initiative d'une réunion en juillet 2000 à l'UNESCO entre les membres du groupe de travail, les représentants du conseil exécutif de la F.M.A.C.U: Le Président Ortega, le vice-président Christophides et le secrétaire général Patrick Gallaud, ainsi que Madame Brigaud-Robert de l'unité des clubs UNESCO.

Au sujet du lieu de l'assemblée constitutive, trois propositions ont été faites: dans l'ordre la France, la Roumanie et Chypre. La fédération française a proposé de tenir les assises à Paris du 26 à 29 octobre 2000 et les a préparées. Des défections successives et tardives, sur lesquelles je n'ai pas l'intention aujourd'hui de m'étendre, ont conduit à annuler la tenue de l'assemblée. Le projet a immédiatement été repris par la fédération roumaine et après un report de dates y voici!

Gestation laborieuse dira-t-on à laquelle il faut, je crois, apporter plusieurs réponses parmi lesquelles je retiendrai l'une d'entre elles qui me semble pertinente. Elle consiste dans l'ensemble des mutations qu'a connues l'Europe. Jamais sans doute ce continent n'a connu au 20ème siècle tant de drames, de bouleversements et de profondes mutations. Qu'il s'agisse de l'Europe de l'après première guerre mondiale avec l'effondrement des empires et la naissance de nouveaux états, de l'Europe de 1945 en partie dévastée, ruinée, sans véritable règlement de paix globale avec ses déplacements massifs de population, avec cette division idéologique et territoriale de l'Europe, la guerre froide où s'opposent deux Europes antagonistes et où l'UNESCO à partir de 1954 a pu établir un pont qui a permis les échanges culturels et rompre l'isolement.

Cela durant 45 ans, jusqu'en 1989-91 qui marque la naissance ou la renaissance d'états. Avec le conflit yougoslave, ce sont 14 états en pleine souveraineté en moins de 10 ans.

C'est une nouvelle Europe avec une dynamique d'espoir démocratique que manifeste par exemple, l'accès de 40 états (soit le double d'il y a 20 ans) au conseil de l'Europe et la ratification de la convention européenne de sauvegarde des droits de l'homme et des libertés fondamentales de 1950. Mais parallèlement à cette avancée, les craintes existent que les conflits récents – la guerre en Europe que l'on croyait impensable – ont révélées, les risques d'intolérance, d'intégrisme, de ségrégation, d'ostracisme à l'égard des minorités, des réfugiés, des immigrés en quête de dignité.

Il y a là, et les statuts y font référence, sous le titre "Connaissance de l'Europe", une connaissance géographique, politique, sociale, culturelle à partager par un effort d'éducation, de rencontres, d'échanges, de solidarité, que les clubs mènent et devront mener davantage dans une approche de citoyenneté Européenne pour une Europe de paix, de coopération et de démocratie. Les clubs UNESCO, riches de leur diversité culturelle, riches des valeurs qu'ils défendent et de leur ancrage dans la société civile au titré d'associations doivent jouer un rôle et saisir l'opportunité qui leur est offerte.

S'interesser à l'Europe en signifie nullement créer un nouvel isolement, un nouveau cloisonnement du monde. Nul en songerait à se priver du regard Europe-Afrique, Europe-Méditerranée, Europe-Asie, Europe-Atlantique. À l'heure de la globalisation, de la mondialisation, plus que jamais les échanges et les relations avec les autres régions du monde sont indispensables et le rôle de la FMACU est d'y pourvoir. Les grandes questions de la paix, du développement, de l'environnement, du patrimoine doivent être appréhendés à diverses échelles, du local au planétaire.

Au fond, il semble y avoir un relatif consensus, d'une part sur l'intérêt, voire le besoin de favoriser, grâce à l'existence d'une fédération, les relations entre fédérations nationales et clubs en Europe, propice à une meilleure connaissance et à un développement des échanges. Consensus aussi sur les buts d'une telle fédération, tels qu'ils sont exposés dans les statuts présentés.

Restent les questions relatives à l'organisation proprement dite. Puisqu'une structure doit exister, faisons-la souple, permettant aux initiatives de s'exercer d'une façon créative, préservant un minimum d'autonomie dans le cadre de la fédération mondiale.

Ne calquons pas notre fonctionnement sur le schéma sclérosant, inhibant, et rigide d'une structure intergouvernementale. Proposons un fonctionnement s'adressant plus directement aux clubs.

Que savons-nous des clubs en Europe? Voilà la grande question! C'est de leur diversité, de leurs activités que nous tirons notre richesse. Par expérience, je sais qu'une fédération nationale en vaut que par les clubs qu'elle fédère. Les clubs pourraient à la limite vivre sans fédérations mais les fédérations en pourrait se passer de clubs? C'est un travail de terrain entre clubs, facilité par les fédérations, jouant le rôle d'initiateur, de relais, de conseil, d'accompagnement.

Il est indispensable que la fédération européenne permette la plus large représentation – sans exclusive autre que légitime – de la diversité des situations en Europe, et facilite les procédures d'admission.

Permettre cette initiative, cette mobilité, cette vie, est d'autant plus nécessaire que les moyens financiers sans doute, mais ce n'est peut-être pas le plus important. Le plus important, ce sont les ressources humaines et c'est dans une dynamique de ces ressources humaines que les autres moyens peuvent être obtenus.

Il y a là sans doute un travail de recensement nécessaire que l'outil informatique favorise sur ce que se fait, se propose, se projette, sur le recoupement des thèmes et la création naturelle et thématique de réseaux auxquels on peut joindre les thèmes que la communauté internationale, l'UNESCO, la FMACU peuvent proposer. Les liens à définir avec les institutions européennes et notamment le conseil de l'Europe peuvent favoriser projets et rencontres en particulier pour les jeunes.

Alors allons-nous nous dérober à cette opportunité de créer la fédération européenne des associations, centres et clubs UNESCO, d'une fédération nullement concurrentielle et antagoniste de la fédération mondiale mais au contraire, riche d'une complémentarité et d'un développement mutuel? Une fédération ouverte et accueillante à tous ceux que veulent participer à la promotion des idéaux de l'UNESCO.

Le moment est venu, je le pense.

André Zwejacker

The way to the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations

OFFICIAL INVITATION

To the active European members of WFUCA and Clubs known for WFUCA in the European region

*Mr. President,
Mr. Secretary General,*

We have the honour of informing you that a Regional European Meeting will take place from the 16th to the 18th of February 2001 in Buşteni, Romania. The principle aim of this meeting is the creation of a European Federation.

We have, in fact, already dispatched to you, on 22 December 2000, the draft Statues and Rules of Procedure of the Constituent Assembly. The Secretary General requested you at that time to send us your proposals of amendments concerning both these texts, which should reach WFUCA's Secretariat no later than 27 January 2001.

The Romanian Federation has the pleasure of inviting two participants from each country to attend this meeting. Their expenses will be covered from the 15th February in the evening until the 19th February after breakfast. We kindly ask you to indicate your flight or travel schedule on the attached registration form, to be returned simultaneously to the Romanian Federation and to the World Federation, before February 1, 2001. This information is needed to enable us to meet you on your arrival in Bucharest. Also, please kindly check whether you need a visa to enter Romania.

We wish to draw your attention on the importance of this meeting, which is part of the process of regionalization in Europe, as approved and adopted by all the members of the Executive Board of WFUCA, at its 20th Session held in Bilbao. The General Secretariat forwarded the decisions taken at this meeting to you on the 10th November 2000 (by letter PG/00/780).

We are looking forward to meeting you soon in Romania.

Yours sincerely,

Paul ORTEGA
George CHRISTOPHIDES
Jolanta ROSTWOROWSKA
Patrick GALLAUD

President
Vice-President for Europe
European Member of the Executive Board
Secretary General

Constituent Assembly of the European Federation of UNESCO

Clubs and Associations

(16-18th February 2001, Romania, Busteni)

Proposed Schedule

Thursday, February 15th

9 – 20	Arrival of the delegates in Bucharest and transfer to Silva Hotel in Buşteni
20	Festive dinner

Friday, February 16th

9:30	Opening ceremony, Presentation of the delegates Opening speeches from WFUCA, Romanian Government Officials and Mr. André Zweyacker
11	Break
11:30 – 13:30	Plenary under the temporary presidency of Mrs. Paula Iacob, President of the Romanian Federation of UNESCO Associations, Clubs and Centres Election of the Bureau of the Constituent Assembly Agreement upon the interior regulations of the functioning of the Constituent Assembly Election of the Credential Committee
14	Lunch
15 – 17	Debate upon the Statues and voting on the articles
17	Break
17:30 – 19:30	Debate upon the Statues and voting on the articles
20	Reception hosted by The Secretary General of the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO

Saturday, February 17th

9:30 – 11	Debate upon the Statue sand voting on the articles
11	Break
11:30 – 13:30	Voting of the Statues
14	Lunch
15-17	Election of the Candidature Commission

	Submission of candidatures
17	Break
17:30 – 19:15	Elections
19:30	Show
20:30	Official Dinner

Sunday, February 18th

9:30 – 11	Debates upon future EFUCA programs
11	Break
11:30 – 13:30	Debate upon future EFUCA programs / EFUCA Executive Committee first reunion
14	Lunch
15 – 19	Debates upon future EFUCA programs / Meetings with delegates of Romanian UNESCO Clubs
20:30	Reception hosted by the UNESCO Centre of the Romanian Federation of UNESCO Associations, Club and Centres

Monday, February 19th

9 – 17	Departure of the delegates
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Seventeen delegations arrived in Busteni, at the UNESCO Centre of the Romanian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations, to take part in the Constituent Assembly of the European Federation of the UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations.

They represented national federations or clubs of European countries where there were no structures at national level, and also a regional federation, the Catalonian federation.

The national federations were represented by the Armenian, Belarusian, Cypriot, French, German, Greek, Italian, Moldavian, Polish, Romanian and Spanish delegations. The Russian delegation announced three days before the beginning of the Assembly that they could not participate. All these national federations are active members of WFUCA.

The delegations that represented clubs from countries without representation at national level were the Belgian, Bulgarian, Croatian, Maltese and Portuguese delegations, three of them being also active members of WFUCA (Belgium, Bulgaria and Malta).

The Catalonian Federation, founding member of WFUCA until the founding of the Spanish Confederation (to which it was also founding member) also participated in the Constituent Assembly. The Catalonian Federation left the Spanish Confederation, but it is recognized as a UNESCO non-governmental organization by the Spanish National Commission for UNESCO.

The work of the Constituent Assembly began by electing the Assembly's Bureau. In order to reconcile different points of view about who should lead the Assembly, there was a first vote to

establish the procedure. Thus, a Co-presidency of the Constituent Assembly was established: Mr. George Christophides, Vice-President for Europe of WFUCA (new rule) and Ms. Paula Iacob, President of the host country federation (WFUCA rule). This new rule had 8 votes in its favour. The rapporteurs were established by consensus: Ms. Marialuisa Stringa (Italy) and Mr. Patrick Gallaud (WFUCA).

Then there was the vote to establish if the new procedures proposed by the Working Group, taking into account the proposed amendments, would be followed. There were 9 votes for the new procedures. It must be mentioned that the Armenian delegation, which came later, did not participate in the first two vote sessions. During the afternoon of the first day (the 16th of February), the procedures were adopted article by article, after debating on each amendment proposed for the procedures.

The Statute was adopted in the same way on the 17th of February. Several amendments were adopted. Consensus was not reached in some cases and a voting session was necessary, being adopted the variant of the majority.

The only delegation that decided not to sign the Statute at the end of the work and, consequently, not to join the new organization was the German delegation.

In this way, the Constituent Assembly concluded to establish the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations having as founding members, 15 active members and one associate member, the Catalanian Federation.

Through the adopted statute, there was founded an international, non-governmental organization, new regional branch of WFUCA that was named “European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations” and that reaffirmed the support to the UNESCO Constitution, ideals and principles. It defines the European Region as an area of multiple cultures, civilizations and common values in the sense retained by UNESCO. It also understands the need to respect this cultural diversity, engaging itself in a partnership meant to promote the common objectives of European fellowship, peace and development in order to apply effectively the ideas and principles of UNESCO.

The elections took place and the Statute was signed on February 18. All the elected members are mentioned in the Constitutive Document. Two Honorary Presidents were elected: Ms. Marialuisa Stringa and Mr. André Zwejacker. An Honorary Member, Mr. Josep Marines de Foix, was also elected. As Mr. George Christophides, the WFUCA’s Vice-President for Europe was elected President of the new federation, the only other nominated member of the new Executive Board was Ms. Jolanta Rostoworowska. The members of the Nominations Committee were established by consensus as being members of the Belgian, Croatian and Italian delegations, because they decided not to send candidates for the new Council.

Due to the requirements of the Romanian law, in order to establish the juridical status of the new organization, an Account Commissioner was also elected in the person of Ion Grosu, Romanian. It was established by consensus that the subscription will be 50\$/ year.

Mrs. Maxim Victora and/or Iacob Paula were authorized to handle the procedure of obtaining the juridical status for the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations, and were given the task of opening a bank account to the initial patrimony. The juridical status was obtained on the 5th of March, 2001; file 1/2001/Romania, Prahova County Court, and the bank account for the initial patrimony was opened (no. 183/22.02.2001).

We have succeeded in finalizing the efforts to constitute the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations despite all the difficulties and divergences, in a highly democratic spirit, open to free speech, explicitly appreciated by several participants.

A letter on behalf of WFUCA was prepared and sent towards all the UNESCO National Commissions.

To the Secretaries-General of the National Commissions of the European Region

Madam, Sir,

We have the pleasure of informing you that the Constituent Assembly of the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations was held in Busteni, Romania from 15 to 18 February 2001.

The Federation elected a President, Mr. George-CHRISTOPHIDES (Cyprus), Vice-Presidents Ms. Paula JACOB (Romania) and Messrs. Juan Antonio VERA CASARES (Spain), Silvio DE MATOS (Portugal) as well as a member of the Board, Mr. Jean LAMMOTE (France). Ms. Jolanta ROSTOWOROWSKA (Poland), member of the Executive Boards of WFUCA for Europe, is a member of the European Board in her own right. The Executive Secretary is Ms. Daniela POPESCU (Romania) and the Treasurer, Mr. John MARONITIS (Greece).

This Federation is in line with WFUCA's policy of decentralization as approved by the last two of its World Congresses. Thus, after Asia and Africa, WFUCA now has a third regional branch.

Due to our limited funds, it was unfortunately impossible to send invitations to representatives of National Commissions to this meeting, contrary to our usual procedures on the occasion of international congresses. There was a slight misunderstanding in this connection, inasmuch as the technical organizers invited some National Commissions a few days before this meeting. As you may be aware, the National Commission of Slovenia reacted strongly, and in our view, reasonably. The Secretary-General of WFUCA had an opportunity of clarifying the matter with Ms. KLEMEN-KREK during the seminar "Reading to Build Peace" which was held last week.

It is our responsibility of informing you, as advising members of WFUCA that this European entity has been the object of many debates and divergences of views, even controversies most of which were solved at the constituent assembly. Both of the Executive Board of WFUCA and the practical majority of our active members consider that the essential points were approved by all: the creation of the Federation within WFUCA, and a clear confirmation of the status of a regional branch attributed to this European Federation. We are at your disposal for any additional information you may wish to receive and, thanking you for your cooperation, remain,

Yours sincerely,

Patrick Gallaud,

Secretary General, the World Federation UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA)

George Christophides,

WFUCA Vice-President for the Europe Region, President of EFUCA

Jolanta Rostoworowska,

Member of the WFUCA Executive Board for the Europe Region, Member of EFUCA Executive Board

In place of conclusion

The Romanian Federation was very honoured by the privilege to host the Constituent Assembly and it was conscious that other federations of greater scope and tradition deserved this honour. However, we thought that in those circumstances we had to be completely devoted to the idea that the hour of the European Federation finally arrived.

We had great emotions and even fears about the success of this meeting, but we quickly realized that everybody was in search of a consensus. The Co-president of the Constituent Assembly, George Christophides, played a main role in the reach of the consensus. Jean Pierre Dehouck, the respected voice by all the jurists present to the meeting (and there were six of them) and by all the participants also played an essential role in choosing the best juridical solution. Finally, Lionel Vinour had the capacity to clearly explain the reasons for which an article or another had its particular content.

We think that a person like Lionel Vinour with such a dedication for the idea of European co-operation will continue to work in this way with us. For his moral verticality, the Romanian Federation decided to award him the Excellence Prize for the year 2000.

If an analysis of the proposed amendments is to be taken into account, it can be noticed that most of them express only the fear to create one more useless structure. Such a peril cannot be denied. Unfortunately, only some time after the founding of the new structure, it is possible to realize if this is the case. It is our duty to prove the contrary through our teamwork.

In a Europe that wants to be Europe of peace and cultural dialogue, we can find our field of action, even if our powers are quite modest, because we hold in our title a name that oblige us – the name of UNESCO.

The European Federation at its beginnings

Constituted in Romania in February 2001, the European Federation of UNESCO Centers, Clubs and Associations has reaffirmed the adherence to the UNESCO ideals and principles by trying to discover and build new methods of cooperation for the European Mobility Programme, Knowing Europe. This movement was triggered by the desire to raise the awareness also in the youth.

The acknowledgement of this federation was done several times by UNESCO. For instance, in the first issued number of the magazine “SINERGIE” (publication of the Division of the UNESCO Commissions and the new partners) the creation of the European Federation was mentioned. Also, in March 2001, the Secretary General, Alexandru Mironov, presented the documents from the Constitution of the European Federation altogether with the wish to collaborate in the near future with China and Japan.

In July 2001, the UNESCO Conference for the European region took place in Montreal, Canada. It was the first participation of the Federation in a tremendously important UNESCO event. Paula Iacob, the EFUCA Vice-President together with George Christophides represented our organization. The EFUCA members together with Alexandru Mironov put emphasis on the next concepts: “The construction of EFUCA was necessary and it is a ground working tool in raising the roles of the NGOs and the democratization of the UNESCO's activities. It is important to involve the civil society in the UNESCO movement. It is very just for the secretaries of UNESCO, the Regional NGOs, and perhaps for a few hundred more National Commissions (that do all the work with only 4-10 employees) to develop the UNESCO policies on education, science and culture. The EFUCA exists only out of the will of the participants in Busteni, and it can prove to be useful for the UNESCO ideals, in developing programs, especially in the at-risk European regions. An example: backing up the program presented by Romania – Intercultural Dialogue in the Balkans – by the UNESCO partners, and especially by the activities of the established UNESCO Clubs. These clubs, often being of a high calibre, are working with the assistance of specialists in the field of education, theatre, television, radio, journalism, and with youngsters willing to get involved in re-establishing the peace in the Balkan Region. Romania can export its stability, being one of the steadiest countries in the region”.

Furthermore, the EFUCA Secretariat launched a book “The European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations (printed by: MAIKO, Bucharest, 2001). Also, the magazine “Curier” was presented, which contained pages dedicated to the Movement of the UNESCO Clubs in Europe.

Also, in Montreal an informal meeting between the EFUCA President, George Christophides, Vice-President Paula Iacob, the Secretary General Daniela Popescu and Kuni-Aki Yamashita (UNESCO, Paris) took place. During this meeting the EFUCA President announced that a European Conference regarding Human Rights would be organised in November in Cyprus. This message was forwarded in Porto where, in September 2001, an international meeting of the UNESCO Clubs altogether with some members of the EFUCA Executive Board was held: Paula Iacob, Daniela Popescu, André Zvejacker, Juan Antonio Vera Casares, Silvio de Matos, and Jean Lamotte.

We have to acknowledge the fact that wherever there was a meeting of the Federation – be it Canada, Portugal, France, Cyprus or Romania – there was an intense discussion around the issues of the new organisation in order to find the solutions to all the barriers or to raise awareness about the initiatives in promoting the European UNESCO Clubs Movement.

The Secretariat of the European Federation was visited in 2001 by Alexander Karankevich, the President of the Federation of UNESCO Clubs from Belarus and member of the EFUCA Executive Board. Also, the following persons participated in the meeting: Mihaela Varga – Vice-President FRACU, Crina Bocan – Vice-President FRACU and Daniela Popescu.

In the period 22-24.06.2001, Daniela Popescu participated in the meeting that took place in Athens (Greece) and had the creation of a new European organisation as a core theme. The activity was organised by the EFUCA Treasurer Ioannis Maronitis. Also, on the occasion of the event that took place in Piraeus in the name of EFUCA, Daniela Popescu gave a speech on the subject “The Intercultural Dialogue in the Balkans”. Around 300 persons were present at this event, with the big majority being part of the diplomatic corps accredited in Greece. There were also interviews and press trusts.

In November 2001, during the General Conference in Paris, the Treasurer of the Federation, Ioannis Maronitis together with Daniela Popescu represented EFUCA at the meeting with Miss. Mary-Luise Kearney, Director of Division of Relations with National Commissions and new Partnerships and also miss Graciela Samuels – Chief of Section for UNESCO Clubs and new Partnerships. This meeting put emphasis on the importance that this division gave to the UNESCO Clubs movement. In present the emphasis is put on the permanent connection between the National Commissions and the members of the UNESCO Clubs movement.

In December 2001, the Secretary General received an invitation to participate in an exchange of experiences organised by the youngest National Federation – Federation of UNESCO Clubs from the Republic of Moldova. The President of the Federation, Renata Verejanu – member of the EFUCA Commission for reconciliation, presented the most important actions in which the members EFUCA had been invited to participate.

On the invitation of the President of UNESCO Club from Malta, Albert Rutter, there was another exchange of experiences between the Federation of the Republic of Moldova and the aforementioned. This exchange targeted future bilateral actions.

In the summer of 2002, in the presence of the Ambassadors of Romania, Israel and Czech Republic, there was an exhibition of the Romanian painter Marilena Murariu. These pictures were exhibited in one of the most marvellous synagogues, the Synagogue of the Jubilee, and had as a central theme the funeral stones from Jewish cemeteries from the area where the artist had been born.

Also, the Polish Federation, being very active at that period, presented in Europe the project **Now Children** (2002-2003), in which a lot of countries took part by children’s painting on the same day, 1st of July. The paintings were then sent to Krakow.

The Balkan “Youth: Deconstructing Balkan Stereotypes”, which was held in August 2003 in Brasov, Romania, brought together the delegations from many countries of Europe which discussed the geostrategic problems of the region.

The First Activities

The youth European meeting on the topic “The democratic trainings of the European youth” was held in Strasbourg on July 26-3, 2004 at the “European Youth Center” with the support of UNESCO and the European Council.

At the Executive Council of EFUCA, which took place in Nafpaktos (Greece) on 7-10 November 2002, it was decided that the French Federation had to take charge of the organisation of this encounter. As you already have found out from the received correspondence, Mr. Jean Lamotte, member of the Executive Council of EFUCA and Vice-President of the French Federation, is the person who was trying for almost a year to make this project come true.

Furthermore, many activities were organised in France in the period 2003-2007, as the Secretariat of EFUCA, which was under my coordination, has had its location in Paris:

UNESCO General Conference, Paris, 2003

The International Meeting of the UNESCO Clubs, Paris, 2003

International Conference of the NGOs, Paris, 2003

The Commemorative Celebrations on the 60 years since the Normandy Disembarkation (D-Day), France, 2004

Round Table: “Partnership between Romania and Greece”, Paris, 2005

UNESCO Conference: “Eradication de la pauvreté”, Paris, 2006

Here I would like to stop and start presenting the Report of the **EUROPEAN YOUTH MEETING OF THE UNESCO CLUBS MOVEMENT** which took place in the period of 1-3 December, 2006 in Athens.

The European Youth meeting of the UNESCO Clubs Movement, organized by the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA), took place from 1 to 3 December 2006, in Athens, Greece, hosted by the Hellenic National Commission for UNESCO. It was considered as a follow-up to the European Youth meeting (Strasbourg, 26-30 July 2004), where the young representatives of UNESCO Clubs developed the Declaration of Strasbourg. However, the Strasbourg meeting took a theoretical approach. This event was more action-oriented.

17 European countries were present. The transitional Executive Board of WFUCA was represented by Mr George Christophides and Mr Yves Lopez. Mr Massoud Abtahi and Ms Akané Nozaki represented the UNESCO Secretariat. Workshops were animated by Mr Yiannis Vacondios, Secretary General ad interim of WFUCA and Mr Benoit Guillou, member of the French Federation of UNESCO Clubs. (*See Annex II: List of participants*).

Ms Ketty Tzitzikosta, President of the Hellenic National Commission for UNESCO, welcomed the participants, underlining civil society’s growing role in today’s world and the Commission’s support to the institution of UNESCO Clubs. While speaking of UNESCO’s ideals and actions in order to promote elements which unite cultures through an open dialogue based on the respect of each other, she indicated the important role that UNESCO Clubs can play in this regard.

Following her welcome address, Ms Vasso Kolia, Secretary-General of the Hellenic General Secretariat for Youth, proceeded to the opening of the meeting. Addressing herself to the young delegates, she expressed her satisfaction with the presence of so many countries at this event. She emphasized the important role that young people can play in today’s world and invited them to take every opportunity in order to make the difference. Referring to the Secretariat for Youth, she indicated that this body was also there to support young people’s initiatives and finished her address by underlining that the endless talking needed to stop and that words must be put into action.

Mr Massoud Abtahi, Chief of the Section of UNESCO Clubs and New Partnerships, addressed the plenary expressing his satisfaction to see so many young and motivated participants from different countries. He thanked the President of the Hellenic National Commission for her hospitality and her efforts to support this meeting and underlined the importance that UNESCO attached to the reinforcement of the UNESCO Clubs Movement, which is considered as one of the most important civil society partners of the Organization. Emphasis was given to the upcoming World Congress of the World Federation, which was to take place in 2007. He finally expressed his sincere thanks and appreciation to Mr Yiannis Vacondios for his work in coordinating this event, which was considered as the first regional project of the WFUCA since its renewal in 2005.

Mr George Christophides spoke on behalf of the transitional Executive Board of WFUCA. He welcomed the participants by expressing his gratitude to the implication of all European delegations to this meeting and encouraged everybody to continue acting in favour of UNESCO's ideals and values with the same enthusiasm. He guaranteed that the World Federation would do its best so that together with UNESCO they could revitalize the Movement and give it a better impact. He also referred to the UNESCO Euro-Mediterranean Youth Forum which had taken place in Cyprus two weeks earlier. He individually thanked the President of the Greek Federation, Ms Katerina Dimitriou for being there and supporting the event and the WFUCA Executive Board and Mr Yiannis Vacondios, Secretary-General ad interim of WFUCA, for his work and devotion. He finally mentioned that the year 2007 was very important for the UNESCO Clubs Movement in general, as the World Congress of the World Federation would take place.

Ms Anastasia Drossini welcomed the participants on behalf of the Greek Federation of UNESCO Clubs by thanking the National Commission for UNESCO for the excellent organization and expressing a regret that there was no further role assigned to the Greek Federation as host.

The Minister of National Education and Religious Affairs, Ms Marietta Giannakou, who was unable to attend the opening, sent a message which was read at plenary by Ms Fenia Rougkouni, representative of the Hellenic National Commission for UNESCO. In her message, Ms Giannakou welcomed all participants on behalf of the Greek government by indicating the country's honour to host such events which sent out the message of hope, idealism, solidarity and tolerance, in the same way as the Olympic spirit, which was born in the land of Attica, does. Referring to the important role that actions by youth can play in our society, she highlighted how important it is for an international organization with outstanding achievements such as UNESCO to join forces with dynamic and creative groups of young people. She finished by inviting the participants to take initiatives and expressed her confidence that this meeting in Athens would be productive and fruitful.

The plenary continued with the revision and adoption of the agenda (*See Annex I: Agenda*) and a presentation of the programme and the main orientations of this meeting. Mr Benoit Guillou explained the main ideas as well as the elements that linked this event with Strasbourg. Insisting on the fact that we should not start again from zero, but use the positive outcomes of the Strasbourg meeting, he focused on cultural diversity and the role UNESCO Clubs in the promotion of intercultural dialogue. Indicating that the "Declaration of Strasbourg" was a first step that could lead to a better identification and a bigger promotion of the Clubs Movement at a regional level, he underlined that the important objective of this meeting was to set up concrete joint projects.

Mr Yves Lopez added that the European dimension makes it easier to talk on cultural diversity. Europe could be seen as an intermediate in order to sensitize other regions, like Africa. Response to misery and to conflict is essential. In this direction, a North-South cooperation could provide the first answers. Finalizing his address, he insisted on the fact that what was not achieved following the Strasbourg meeting must be achieved in Athens: engagement to joint actions.

During the plenary debate that followed, all participants agreed that words must be put into action. Some proposals were made, such as the establishment of an online forum for participants in

Athens. The Maltese delegation raised the aspect of solidarity with UNESCO Clubs in other regions. Taking the sad example of the recent crisis in Lebanon, Malta proposed to UNESCO or the World Federation to open a bank account in favour of the Lebanese coordinating body of UNESCO Clubs. Next to that, during a fixed period of one year, a cultural event could be organized in every country (by National Federations of UNESCO Clubs) in order to raise money to be put on this account.

Before finishing the morning session, young participants were equally separated in two working groups. A volunteer group of eleven heads of delegations, namely Cyprus, Estonia, France, Italy, Latvia, Malta, Portugal, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation and Switzerland was formed in order to treat questions on the role of UNESCO Clubs. This group met in private during the afternoon. The results of this meeting were presented at the next plenary.

The afternoon session was dedicated to information exchange. Before starting the workshops, Ms Dora Bei, representative of the Hellenic General Secretariat of Youth, intervened in order to present European programmes and actions. Her intervention was concrete, based on measures that promoted active citizenship and helped in the implementation of youth-related projects. Specific objectives and actions (e.g. youth exchanges, seminars, voluntary work) as well as information sources (Eurodesk) were presented in order to sensitize the participants and invite them to find and contact their respective national agency on youth affairs.

The young participants went on separated in two working groups, both working in a similar way. With the help of animations and intercultural games, they had the opportunity to better know each other and exchange thoughts and experiences on the work of their Clubs. This first session was important in order to make all participants feel comfortable and free to express themselves. Following a first round table debate and having in mind that the main objective was to identify partners in order to implement joint projects, participants were asked to share their expectations and reply to the 3 following questions:

- *What do you expect to develop, understand or learn during this meeting?*
- *On which subjects connected to UNESCO Clubs have you been working/participating in projects?*
- *What is your vision of possible cooperation of youths from European UNESCO Clubs? (subjects, projects in common, proposals...)*

An interactive method was used (post-its on posters) in order to be able to easily proceed with the identification of common interests.

On the second day, the plenary started with the report of each working group on the results of the workshops. Young delegates from Russia and Ireland presented the outcomes. Mr Silvio Matos (Portugal) presented the discussions of the volunteer group notably related to the role of UNESCO Clubs in the promotion of intercultural dialogue and their means of action. Conflicts in today's world were highlighted and the vision of a North-South cooperation and partnership was underlined.

Following the debate on these reports, the plenary session continued with three important interventions. Firstly, Ms Kaliopi Nedelkou, representative of the Deputy Ministry of Sport, presented the Greek proposal for the UNESCO observatory "*Women, Sport and Physical Education*". While speaking about the fourth International Conference of Ministers and Senior Officials responsible for physical education and sport, held in Athens in December 2004, Ms Nedelkou dwelled on the role of sports and physical education as tools for development, indicating their critical role in achieving the objectives of *Education for All* and the *Millennium Development Goals*. It is worth to mention that Ms Nedelkou has recently been awarded the honourable mention "*ordre du mérit*" by the French government.

Ms Sophia Mandilara presented the ideas and recommendations of the Euro-Mediterranean Youth Forum, which had been organized by UNESCO in Cyprus, two weeks earlier. The Forum

was concentrated on the question of how the intercultural and interfaith dialogue can ensure peace, what precise actions can be held by youth organizations and NGOs and in what ways young people can be involved in such projects. Giving the example of recommendations of the Forum, she emphasized the necessity for youth organisations to put together multicultural youth festivals and summer camps, as a project of non-formal education, and to use the network that can be created between UNESCO clubs and other NGOs to promote those projects and campaigns. Exchange programs, especially between culturally diverse areas were also recommended as a means to increase intercultural knowledge. She finally mentioned the empowerment of youth through networking as a field of action and pointed out the importance of the media.

Mr Yiannis Piliouris, representative of the Hellenic National Council of Youth proceeded with a very dynamic intervention, trying to present to participants the potential of youth nowadays and the opportunities that exist, notably at a regional level. Reference was made to the structure of Youth Councils that exist all over Europe and their role in policy development.

After lunch break, the plenary session continued for about an hour with presentations of activities and best practices of UNESCO Clubs in Estonia, Russia, Romania, Republic of Moldova and Italy.

Then, the two workshops continued. The question of possible cooperation of youth between European UNESCO Clubs (subjects and proposals for projects in common) was treated again. Participants were inspired by the plenary interventions and the interactive method (post-its) was very productive, as it resulted in the identification of main axes for youth related projects as well as in the constitution of smaller groups – partner countries for the designing and implementation of projects.

The first workshop was oriented towards the reinforcement of the UNESCO Clubs network at a European level, notably using information technologies.

During the second workshop, participants focused on intercultural dialogue. The identified main axes were: cultural integration and tolerance, history and tradition, sports.

Four project proposals were made at the end of the afternoon session, a joint meeting of all participants took place in order to brief on the work and results of the two workshops as well as to constitute a drafting group that would prepare an action plan to be adopted at the last plenary. The drafting group included Mr Yiannis Vacondios and young delegates from Russia, Ireland and the Republic of Moldova.

During the last morning session, the working groups continued on the design of the proposed joint projects. The drafting group prepared an action plan to be distributed and adopted at the last plenary session.

The closing plenary session started immediately after the coffee break. At the beginning, reporters from the two working groups presented the proposed projects to be implemented in the coming two years. The Portuguese delegation presented their project of cultural visits and invited other countries to join and take advantage of its potential.

The draft action plan was distributed to all participants for opinion and approval. After examination, the participants revised and approved it entrusting to UNESCO and the Secretariat of the World Federation the exact wording of the text. The plenary expressed its wish to distribute the results of this meeting to all National Federations and coordinating bodies of UNESCO Clubs as well as to all National Commissions for UNESCO in the European region.

In the end all participants were free to express their feelings and comments on the entire event. All delegations expressed their satisfaction and their appreciation to the authorities that contributed to the organization of this meeting. They agreed that it was a real opportunity for everyone to exchange their experiences and, most important, that it provided the ground for the reinforcement of the UNESCO Clubs network at a regional level.

Conclusions & Remarks:

- *As an objective, this meeting intended not only to be a "gathering" of European UNESCO Clubs, but the "Initiator" of a better collaboration and future joint projects, in order to have a "double" success: enhancement of visibility and impact of UNESCO Clubs in Europe and establishment of collaboration between Clubs in different countries.*
- *The programme was absolutely in conformity with this idea and objective. Taking into consideration the action plan, the closing remarks and the participants' engagement, this meeting was very successful.*
- *The plenary interventions were exactly in the spirit of a youth meeting which intended to have concrete results. Greek authorities were well prepared on this aspect. Participants were clearly inspired by these interventions, as it was obvious during workshops.*
- *The entire organization was excellent, logistics preparation and support was more than expected for a youth meeting.*
- *The young delegates showed big enthusiasm and motivation. Working directly with them brings up to mind the exact meaning of the words "...it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed".*

Following this meeting, Romanian delegation proposed with the help of Alumnus Club and UNESCO 2 important projects which resisted in time, being organised annually. Youth and Museums and Metamorphoses were presented at the General Conference in Paris, 2009 as examples of good practices.

YOUth and MUSEums:

Panel discussions reprised major points addressed in the paper presentations and raised questions regarding museum identity and development. They concluded that an appropriate way to draw in and to hold the attention of the young European generations to museums is to strengthen and further develop the social and communicative nature of museums.

Touching young people's minds and hearts, promoting pleasurable or satisfying leisure activities, involving all of the senses in a variety of experiences including the young public's total immersion into a newly recreated culturally specific framework, promoting big events along with personalised learning opportunities that could enable learners to feel valued as individuals, developing a network of peer leaders ready to mentor constitute successful ways of reaching both a high rate of young (return) visitors as well as a high quality of the young audience's engagement with the museum.

Metamorphoses:

Proposed targets are: to develop personal views of common European cultural ideas and values along with a comprehension of certain European cultural aspects as antidote to intolerance; to strengthen the sense of a common, "tangible" European identity in addition to national and regional identities, and as response to the European diversity and minorities integration problems; to promote cross-cultural communication and cultural exchange through accessing, analysing and using information about different European cultures.

The first ten years of EFUCA activity have also brought new members and I am delighted that the Swiss Federation, Federation from Ural-Siberia, Vienna Club, Monaco Federation and the USA Federation for UNESCO Clubs have joined the membership of EFUCA.

The following message is the one that Mr. George On. Christophides, the first elected president of EFUCA has sent on the occasion of the celebration 2016.

15th ANNIVERSARY OF THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF UNESCO CLUBS, CENTERS AND ASSOCIATIONS (EFUCA)

Message by George On. Christophides first elected president of EFUCA

On the occasion of the celebrations of the 15th anniversary of the establishment of the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations (EFUCA) within the framework of the 4th General Assembly, organized in Minsk, Belarus from 11-13 November 2016, it is my pleasure, and honor, responding to the kind invitation of the president of EFUCA Daniela Popescu, to convey this message of friendship and solidarity to all colleagues from various parts of Europe and North America - presidents, vice presidents, executive secretaries, treasurers, members and activists for their valuable services in previous and recent Executive Boards of EFUCA and in their UNESCO clubs and National Federations with best wishes for a healthy long-lasting life and happiness.

Our joint efforts have contributed a lot to having a strong and active EFUCA today, member of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations (WFUCA) with active members National Federations from countries in Europe and North America. Observing the European map through the link of EFUCA <http://www.efuca-unesco.org/members-of-efuca/map/> prepared by the Belarusian Association of UNESCO Clubs and with reference to this semi - coloured map of Europe as shown in the link, I wish gradually more national Federations from Europe and North America to become active members of EFUCA and the map having been just mentioned to become fully colored one day.

On the occasion of the 15th anniversary of EFUCA, I pay tribute to those who envisaged the establishment of EFUCA and their joint efforts in Europe. Some of them have passed away like Maria Luiza Stringa from Italy, Paola Jacob from Romania, Yuri Borisikhin from Russia and Albert Rutter from Malta. I also pay tribute to Andre Zweyacker from France and to Silvio Matos from Portugal for their significant contribution. I make specific reference to the above and to the Romanian Federation which initiated and forwarded all preparatory work and procedures and follow all formalities in registering EFUCA in the Romanian Ministry of Justice and in hosting the Constitutive First General Assembly of EFUCA in Romania with the participation of the founding National Federations at this historic event.

In my capacity as former president of WFUCA I also consider this message as a chance to express my satisfaction about the excellent relations between EFUCA and WFUCA under the successful leadership of the president of EFUCA Daniela Popescu and the other members of the Executive Board to whom I wish every success in their further services to the movement. All memories regarding our long lasting cooperation will remain live and vital along with all other collective efforts of people and colleagues who offered their time and some of them their life to create an active and productive platform in promoting the ideals of UNESCO.

Today with the ongoing globalization the cooperation among nations and societies has been raised to a major necessity; accordingly, it is necessary to coordinate efforts nationally, regionally and globally for less unjustified diversities and for better results. Recent tragic incidents occurred in Europe and other places in the world like terrorist attacks and negative reaction towards the waves of refugees show that we all have to reset our minds and adopt ourselves as individuals, NGOs and Governments to a new humanitarian agenda with mutual understanding and by working together with tolerance and open minded way and a common vision placed in the framework of ideals of UNESCO. EFUCA and the UNESCO Clubs movement can bring this change in promoting values and practices which can increase hopes for peace and security, for partnership and cooperation.

It is time to understand that with the waves of refugees and the new ways of living though the dissemination of information by the social media, the model of multicultural, multiethnic, multireligious societies has replaced the previous models of rather more closed and less open

societies and countries and has generated the necessity adapting our way of living in the new circumstances where people from societies and countries outside Europe with different cultures, and religions can have their role and place in Europe due to many problems in their countries.

By referring to the experience and work that was done during these years starting with the establishment of EFUCA up to this day and by reflecting to the challenges of today as described above we can facilitate the new leadership and the new members of EFUCA by reshaping our priorities in an effort to successfully and productively promote the framework of values of UNESCO which consist the indisputable key and solution to the many problems of today and tomorrow.

Having the pleasure to cooperate with most of the leaders and activists of the European and North America National Federations and UNESCO clubs, I avoid to make reference in a detailed way to each one expressing my personal respect and appreciation to all, however I can't miss this opportunity to reveal my full content for the rich and vast framework of activities and initiatives taken place within these 15 years by EFUCA in many areas of action not only in Europe but also on other continents like North America and Asia with specific reference to initiatives like the Asia-Europe Forum with the cooperation of two regional Federations. This initiative has developed a new path of cooperation by working together two or more regional federations in the area of Education and other areas like sustainable development and others and present a new model of action reflecting to the needs of the globalized work and the multicultural interaction and cooperation.

We are all familiar with the difficulties in mobilizing volunteers in certain regions and countries, due to many reasons which are beyond their will, however we should continue working together in two directions i.e. in increasing the number of the members of EFUCA within European region on one level and in developing further the relations with other regional federations like we have done with Asia. For this purpose, we should open paths of communication and cooperation in collaboration with WFUCA with the other regions Africa, Latin America- Caribbean.

During the last years my presence in activities in the Arab region in Beirut Lebanon, in the Africa Region in Yaounde Cameroon and in Latin America in Brazil and Mexico and in the United States of America I realized that similar hopes and efforts exist in the corresponding regions for a better and further cooperation. Our colleagues in these regions, are expecting from European and Asian Regional Federations more efforts and initiatives to bring together colleagues from these regions and continents to be involved in joint activities. In this direction I am ready to support your efforts in my capacity as Hon President of WFUCA.

EFUCA being active for the last fifteen years, through its activities and action plan programs has mobilized the private sector, at the grassroots level of society in many areas of Europe and North America and has managed to inspire and reinforce people, societies and Governments, for better and faster development. Therefore EFUCA as the result of these joined efforts of the UNESCO Clubs leaders, has become a model platform of coordination and cooperation within the European region and Asia and has managed to promote values and practices that are of major concern in our lives.

Throughout its 15 years of life, EFUCA, has been working hard in bringing together people from different places and countries, with respect to their diversities and by promoting intercultural dialogue and by developing tolerance and respect to human rights so that to experience better communication and understanding helping each other in times of vast changes and social necessities to reveal their positive innate capacities of cooperation. The significant number of events such as international or regional conferences and other activities, have formed a rich spectrum of activities of EFUCA in achieving its goals with dynamism and determination.

Being all challenged with major changes in all aspects including the vast technological advancement and social media, our contemporary world has become smaller, more transparent and more approachable in the way that it prevails for all citizens to contribute for the betterment of our societies so that to become more interactive and cooperative. In this framework EFUCA and UNESCO Clubs movement along with WFUCA and other regional federations can play a

significant role, and therefore all individuals have to continue working together to accomplish UNESCO ideals for the best interest of our new world as it appears more demanding and more challenging day by day.

The 2nd Congress of the EFUCA , Paris from 10 to 13 December 2008

Dear members of the outgoing executive council of the FEACU,
Dear founding members of the FEACU, Dear friends,
The 7th of July. 2008, Paris,

Our European Federation did not renew its authorities since its creation in 2001, as the statutes envisage it. As several meetings of the executive council took place, in a statutory or informal way, the convocation of a general meeting in 2005 could not take place and since this date, no appropriate measure was taken making it possible to overcome this democratic vacuum. Today the FEACU is neither capable of functioning nor putting in action the principles, values and projects which it had set.

During the last world congress, in July 2007 in Athens, the president, treasurer and general secretary of the FEACU were elected within the world executive council; making impossible the exercise of their responsibilities at the European level. They indeed officially noted that.

Believing in the European ideal to which our movement refers, wishing to work for a consensual revival, noting that none the statutory solutions envisaged by the texts is from now on applicable without possible dispute, the French federation made an offer - in dialogue with several members of the outgoing European executive council, with a thanks particular to Silvio de Matos - to organize the second congress of the European Federation of Clubs UNESCO at the end of this year, thus benefiting from the (opportunity offered by:

- the celebration of the 60 anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
- the announced presence of the General Director of UNESCO to the yearly event of French UNESCO Clubs,
- the French presidency of the European Union.

Having been informed of no other credible alternative proposition since our proposal for July 2007, that is to say for one year, we assure you that the congress could take place in Paris in the premises of the head office of UNESCO on December 10-13, 2008 and include an important statutory part - a meeting of young people.

We carried out, these last months, an exhaustive census of UNESCO clubs in Europe. We made all the contacts and insurances necessary, in particular at UNESCO, in order to make possible this event. We currently study the methods of reimbursement and the material organization of the event.

In accordance with the article V, section 6, of the EFUCA's Statutes, the extraordinary general assembly can be organized at the request of two thirds of the active members, that is to say 10 out of 15 officially affiliated.

By this mail, we solicit you to exert on your behalf a double mission: on the one hand to convene in the name of 10 members at least the next congress and on the other hand, to check the quality of active member whom can exercise his mandate and with this intention, proceed to the call and perceive the subscriptions 2008 (and possibly arrears). Those will be restored in their entirety to EFUCA as of the election of the new executive council. This is why, I ask you to turn over without delay, if possible by email, the document, filled out and signed.

According to the stated above, only this procedure, which claims the majority of the founding members, can guarantee the legitimacy of the convocation and ensure, by our common investment and adhesion, the success of the next congress. The survival of our European movement is at this

price.

If we could not join together the totality of the necessary mandates, within one month as from the sending of this mail, we let us be in the obligation to give up in front of the heavy human, financial investment of the French Federation. Each one measures the consequences so much for our European Federation than for the world movement as a whole of a new adjournment.

The convocation of the congress as well as a provisional programme and the conditions of participation, will have to be sent next September the latest. By then, we remain waiting for your particular suggestions, proposals or requests.

Counting on your engagement and in the hope to manage to define together, within a redynamized and renovated EFUCA, the projects and future actions that UNESCO clubs of Europe could lead to the service of the values and ideals of UNESCO, I send you, dear friends, my friendliest greetings.

Lionel Vinour
EFUCA adviser

To the founding members of the FEACU, to the European members of the FMACU, to the UNESCO Clubs of Europe, to the National Commissions:

*Dear Presidents and General Secretaries,
Dear friends,*

Following the agreement of the members of the outgoing executive board and almost all the founding members of the European Federation of UNESCO clubs, centers and associations, the FFCU organizes the 2nd Congress of the EFUCA to be held in Paris from 10 to 13 December 2008.

This letter is worth: CONVOCAATION for the members of the EFUCA
INVITATION for the European members of the WFUCA
INFORMATION for the UNESCO Clubs not yet federated of the UNESCO European and North America region and the National Commissions

The aim is unnaturally to renew the authorities, but also following the renewal of the World Federation, to relaunch the activity of the European Federation, within the framework of Europe democratic and open to the world, which counts approximately 750 Clubs.

The medium-term strategy of UNESCO 2008-2013 underlines the need to strengthen the partnership of the Organization with all components of civil society. However, associations, centers and UNESCO Clubs concretely work with citizens to build a lasting peace and to spread the ideals of UNESCO. The European Congress will be enclosed within the celebration of the 60th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, in presence of the members of French UNESCO Clubs and most probably of the General Director of UNESCO.

Please find enclosed a provisional program of the Congress, terms and conditions of participant support costs, and a registration form to be returned as soon as possible. Our common future depends on your presence. While waiting to welcome you to Paris, please accept the expression of our most cordial greetings.

Yves LOPEZ
President of the FFCU

Georges CHRISTOPHIDES
President of the EFUCA

PROVISION PROGRAMME OF THE SECOND CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN
FEDERATION OF UNESCO ASSOCIATIONS, CENTRES AND CLUBS
PARIS-UNESCO – 10/13 DECEMBER 2008

Wednesday, 10 December 2008

Welcoming of European Delegations

Installation

Presentation of the Congress

Thursday, 11 December 2008

9h30-10h30: **Opening Ceremony**

- Mr Andrew Zweyacker, honorary president of the FEACU
- Mr George Christophides, outgoing president of the FEACU and president of WFUCA
- Mr Yves Lopez, president of the FFCU

10h30-11h00: Setting up of the Congress Board, Nomination of Rapporteurs

Setting up of a Commission of votes (mandates and subscriptions)

11h00-12h00: **Plenary Session:** Challenges, objectives and prospects for FEACU

12h00-14h00: Lunch

14h00-16h30: **Plenary Session:** Review of the FEACU by the outgoing Executive Council

- Moral Report : Mr. George Christophides (Chairman) assisted by Mr. Silvio Matos, Ms. Paula Jacob and Mr. Vera-Casares (Vice-Presidents)
- Activity Report : Ms. Daniela Popescu (Secretary General)
- Financial Report: Mr. John Maronites (Treasure)

Friday, 12 December 2008

9h00-12h00: **Two workshops** for studying the future activities and projects of the FEACU

12h00-14h00: Lunch

14h00-17h00: **Plenary Session**

14h00-14h30: Review of requests to join the FEACU by new members

14h30-15h00: Presentation of candidates for the new Board of FEACU

15h00-15h30: Break and Votes

15h30-16h30: Reports of morning workshops

16h30-17h00: Results and Closing of the Congress by the new Executive Council

Saturday 13 December 2008

9h00-12h00: For the new Executive Board of FEACU: First Meeting

For all other delegations: free time

12h00-14h00: Lunch

14h00-18h00: **Plenary Session**

Celebration by the FFCU and the present members of the European delegations of the 60th anniversary of the UDHR in presence of 400 younger members of UNESCO French Clubs.

Announced presence of the Director General of UNESCO

These aforementioned are the documents of the Second Congress, held in Paris. It is mandatory to stop here and to emphasize the efforts of our beloved colleague: Lionel Vinour, who has always been dedicated to the UNESCO Clubs Movement for ten years of activity. He's also had 2 Presidency mandates of EFUCA.

Report of the second congress of the European Federation of UNESCO Association, Centers

and Clubs
Paris / UNESCO – 10-13/12/2008

The second congress of the European Federation of UNESCO Associations, Centers and Clubs (EFUCA), organized by the French Federation of UNESCO Clubs, has been held in Paris between the 10th and the 13th of December 2008. Working sessions happened in UNESCO. The objective of this congress was to redefine the objectives and working methods of EFUCA.

The participants of the congress came from 21 countries (Austria, Belgium, Belarus, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Spain, Estonia, France, Greece, Italy, Republic of Macedonia, Malta, Moldavia; Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russia, Serbia, Slovakia, Switzerland and the USA)

THURSDAY, 11 DECEMBER

- Welcoming speeches

The first working session of the congress, on Thursday 11th of December, has been introduced by Mr. André Zweyacker, honorific president of EFUCA.

He shared his happiness about this new step for EFUCA and reminded about the importance of discovering and sharing the content of UNESCO priorities and activities.

Based on the historical background and the geopolitical evolution of Europe, he mentioned also the interest to collaborate with the Council of Europe.

Finally, he encouraged the participants to take profit of this congress, to create new dynamic projects and reinforce collaborations.

Then, Mr. Georges Christophides, outgoing president of EFUCA and president of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs and associations, also welcomed the participants and reminded some of the steps of EFUCA, from its beginning in Romania to successful meetings in Strasbourg or Athens.

Mr. Yves Lopez, president of the French Federation of UNESCO Clubs expressed his view on the importance of regional Federations like the European one. He mentioned that the establishment of EFUCA is a responsibility of each national federation of the region. Expressing his sadness about the state of the world in 2008, he reminded that rich countries like European ones have a global responsibility to create a Europe based on generosity and solidarity.

Mr. Vladimir Kouchnirenko, chief of the Section for UNESCO Clubs and New Partnerships in UNESCO also welcomed the participants, reminding that he's been working at this position only for a year, and that he had a chance to discover the qualities and the diversity of the UNESCO clubs movement. He reminded the different partnerships existing between UNESCO and the civil society. He expressed his regrets about the fact that UNESCO has a small budget to support civil society's actions, but he mentioned the French Federation of UNESCO Clubs as an example for its capacity to organize high quality events with a limited amount of money. To finish his intervention Mr. Kouchnirenko challenged the Congress by asking the following: What can we altogether do?

- ***Constitution of the board of the congress***

President: Mr. Yves Lopez (France)

Vice President: Mrs. Maria Luisa Stringa (Italy)

Vice President: Mrs. Paula Jacob (Romania)

- ***Constitution of the votes commission***

Mr. John Maronitis (Greece)

Mr. Claude Vielix (France)

Mr. Julio Santos (Portugal)

Mrs. Sylvia Martinez (Spain)

Mrs. Daniel Popescu (Romania)

- ***Plenary session #1***

Topics:

- **How to give a new dynamism to EFUCA?**
- **Democratic functioning of EFUCA**
- **Links between EFUCA and WFUCA**
- **Defining new priorities for EFUCA**

The plenary session started with a message from Freddy Conrad, president of the Helvetic Federation that Mrs. Doris Neuenschwander has been reading for the assembly.

In his message, Mr. Conrad expressed his doubts about WFUCA, based on the fact that he didn't feel any follow-up after the meeting in Athens in 2007.

He also mentioned the need for WFUCA to have a real secretary, hosted in UNESCO, and suggested making a request by UNESCO to finance the salary of one person in this secretariat. He also reinforced a proposition which had been presented by the Swiss Federation in the last Congress of WFUCA with the idea that all the European UNESCO Clubs and Centres should suggest that their Mayors give the name of UNESCO or UN to a street or a square of their towns.

Mr. Christophides (Cyprus) stated that the responsibility for this decision was given to UNESCO. He reminded that a proposition has been made to UNESCO for nominating a person from the Arabian Federation, as secretary of WFUCA. He also pointed out that the cost of it is around 50 000 \$ per year.

Then, Mr. Lionel Vinour (France) mentioned the UNESCO program, International Coalition of Cities against Racism as a potential point of involvement for European federations. He also expressed his view on the fact that the success of this congress would be achieved only if there was a collective involvement from all participants.

Mr. Yves Lopez noticed with regret that ambitions of UNESCO Clubs had such a limited financial capacity. He said that he believed that Europe could be an example of good practices by the development of important projects led by different national federations together. He also emphasized the importance of calling the attention of the European Ministers of Education to the importance and urgency to reinforce the civic education of the young people, being this task one to which the UNESCO clubs dedicate much of their energy, capacities and time.

Mr. Rutter (Malta) reminded about the importance EFUCA's unity and shared with the participants a program of activities he had to celebrate the anniversary of his UNESCO club in Malta in 2009.

Mr. Guillou (France) reminded that financial support can be found at the European level. But he warned the participants that it was possible only for concrete projects that had to be developed still.

Mrs. Dromnjakowicz (Serbia) expressed her will to have a head office for EFUCA, in order to have an easier access to information about other members of EFUCA and possibilities of partnerships.

Mrs. Bocsan (Romania) expressed her interest for the development of the chances in the field of volunteering and work experiences acquired by the different members of the EFUCA and as well as the international contests.

Mrs. Paula Iacob intervened to remind about the importance of integrating the action of the European UNESCO Clubs in the board of UN.

Mr. Christophides (Cyprus) reminded that a project of common structure of a website for WFUCA, regional federations and individual UNESCO Clubs had been at work, but some technical and human problems appeared and blocked its realization.

Finally, Mr. Lionel Vinour (France) summarized the potential objectives of EFUCA by defining 7 points:

- To develop the structure of EFUCA (secretariat, funding);
- Initiate collaborations with main European institutions (Council of Europe and European Commission);
- To reinforce capacities of each member of EFUCA;
- Initiate new international projects;
- Reinforce links with WFUCA;
- Support local initiatives;
- Valorize good practices.

• ***Plenary Session #2: EFUCA report by the outgoing Executive council***

Activity report by Mrs. Daniela Popescu (Romania)

She started by projecting a movie about the Constitution of EFUCA.

She reminded that EFUCA had formal or informal meetings nearly every year.

A book has been produced about EFUCA.

A website has been created.

She mentioned the problem of sharing information inside the network.

Mr. John Maronitis (Greece) delivered the financial report. He mentioned the federations which already paid their annual membership.

As a moral report, Mr. Christophides (Cyprus) reminded the importance for the European network to have its own federation. He mentioned the meetings in Strasbourg and Athens as example of good activities led in the frame of EFUCA.

Mr. Matos (Portugal) answered by mentioning that Portugal was the only country which made a follow-up of the meeting in Athens by organizing a Youth exchange in Portugal during summer 2008.

Mr. Guillou (France) expressed his disappointment about the easy satisfaction expressed during those reports, considering a weak amount of quality projects led that time.

Several participants expressed then their difficulties to collaborate with their National Commissions, in terms of cooperation and funding.

• ***Presentation of new candidates for membership of EFUCA***

Austria

Switzerland

Serbia

Russia

Estonia

Republic of Macedonia (To be confirmed)

- *Presentation of the exhibition "Mosaïque des peuples et cultures du monde"*

FRIDAY, 12 DECEMBER

The morning of the second day of the congress was dedicated to two parallel workshops where participants had been invited to reflect and share about the projects and future activities of EFUCA.

- *The conclusions of workshop 1*

EFUCA was described as having 3 levels of actions: Supporting, Initiating, Representing

The need of defining objectives that have to be collectively reached and common fields of actions were clearly expressed.

Also, the importance to identify some fields of cooperation with the other regions of the world were mentioned.

The main topics mentioned to give an orientation to future projects were the following:

Human rights, cultural heritage, trainings (including training for trainers), fundraising, sustainable development, intercultural learning, language (especially for minorities and migrants), communication.

Then, few concrete propositions were made:

- Summer meeting in Malta called "Discovering the wonderful world of Hellas on the way to the culture of peace and harmony"
- Meeting in Poland in May 2009 around the topic of "Participation of young people in education to sustainable development"
- Definition of an annual topic to introduce a campaign / Proposition of a Training course to start it.
- Development of an internet platform (database, newsletter)
- *The conclusions of workshop 2:*

During that workshop, it was clearly said that it was necessary for EFUCA members to reinforce the concept of belonging to a common movement, specially by the reinforcement of actions of common upgradings and by engaging the action vectors of the UNESCO Clubs with the priorities of UNESCO by means of monthly publications of each of its divisions.

It was also reminded about the fact that Europe was a rich continent that gave everyone a responsibility of being involved in topics related to migrations, especially the ones about women and children.

A stronger partnership between EFUCA and other European institutions seems to be an obligation for the development of the movement by establishing the real objectives to be obtained, in real time, as for example for 2009—Planet Earth International Year

Finally, the biggest involvement in international priorities was mentioned as an important way to connect different regions of the world inside the movement of UNESCO clubs, centers and associations.

The afternoon of the final day of the congress was dedicated to the vote for the new council of EFUCA.

18 federations had the possibility to vote.

FUNCTION	NAME	COUNTRY	VOTES	STATUTE
President	VINOUR Lionel	France	18	Elected

Executive secretary	DE MATOS Silvio	Portugal	15	Elected
Treasurer	POPESCU Adeline	Romania	14	Elected
Vice-chairman	VERA CASARES Juan Antonio	Spain	12	Elected
	AZZARIO CHIESA Maria Paola	Italy	12	Elected
	AVERINA Julia	Russian federation	10	Elected
	BOGDANOVA Olga	Estonia	7	
	PAPATHOMA Konstantinos	Cyprus	7	
	VEREJANU Dan	Moldavia	5	
Members	KHABIBULINA Olga	Belarus	10	Elected
	RUTTER Albert	Malta	9	Elected

Mrs. Paola Iacob (Romania) has been named honorary member of EFUCA.

The First Intermediary Congress of EFUCA has been prepared thanks to the President Lionel Vinour and the Secretary General Silvio Matos, helped by the Swiss Federation with the financial support of UNESCO.

1st intermediate Congress of the Associations, Centres and UNESCO Clubs of the European region

SWITZERLAND - Geneva - 9-11 June 2011

· Human Rights and Cultural Diversity ·

Agenda

Wednesday, June 8: *afternoon arrival of delegations, registration*

Thursday, June 9 (9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.): Plenary (English / French)

9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.: Opening session

- Lionel Vinour, President of the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (EFUCA)
- Corinne Ziegler, President of the Swiss Federation of UNESCO Clubs (SFUC)
- Madeleine Viviani, General Secretary of the Swiss National Commission for UNESCO (SNCU)
- Genc Seiti, Director of the Division of National Commissions and civil society of UNESCO (ERI / NCS)

11:00 to 11:30: Coffee break

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.: Introduction by Gerard Fellous, expert consultant on human rights for the United Nations, the European Union and the Francophonie (former Secretary General of the National Consultative Committee on Human Rights).

Are the universal human rights threatened by cultural diversity? Setting on application of article 4 of the Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity of UNESCO.

- *Open discussion*
- Facilitator: Silvio Matos, executive secretary of EFUCA

[A book signed by Mr. Fellous book "Human Rights, a universal threat" will be held on site]

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.: lunch on site

Thursday, June 9 (2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.): Workshops (English and French)

A facilitator will be present in each group

2:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m: exchange of experience at language workshops

- Human rights and cultural diversity in everyday life in Europe: What reality, what assessment for associations, Centres and UNESCO Clubs

4 :00 p.m. to 4 :30 p.m: Coffee break

4 :30 p.m. – 6 :00 p.m: exchange of experience at language workshops

- The UNESCO Clubs movement in Action for Human Rights and Cultural Diversity: good practices.

6:00 p.m. to 7 :00 p.m: Wine of the state, home by Fabienne Bugnon, Executive Director of the Office of Human Rights of the Republic and Canton of Geneva.

8 :00 p.m: dinner and then back to the hotel

Friday, June 10 (9:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.): Plenary (English / French)

9:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.: Group Report

9:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m.: Johanne Bouchard Neff, Observation for diversity and cultural rights, IIEDH - University of Fribourg

- The declaration of Fribourg: presentation and comments
- Facilitator: Corine Ziegler, President of SFUC

10:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. : *Coffee break*

11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.: Eva Ottavy Association Migreurop

- Human Rights to the test: Europe facing migrations.
- Facilitator : Maria-Paola Azzario, Vice-President of EFUCA

1:30 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.: *lunch on site*

Friday, June 10 (2:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.): Workshops (English and French)

2 :30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.: ethical references and action programs

- UNESCO and Human Rights today (French)
- UNESCO and Cultural Diversity today (English)

4 :00 p.m. to 4 :30 p.m. : *Coffee break*

- 4 :30 p.m. - 6.00 p.m. : Closing session
- One UN Strategy: what ambition for UNESCO ?

Closing Speech

6.00 p.m. : *Celebration of 10 Years of the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations with Juan Jose Medina, baritone from Paraguay and Pedro Aledo, Spanish singer and guitarist.*

8.00 p.m : *dinner and then back to the hotel*

Saturday, June 11 (9:30 a.m. to 12:30 a.m.)

09 :30 a.m. – 12 :30 a.m. : guided visits and exchanges

- Geneva, City of Human Rights (symbolic places: outside of the Palais des Nations) in small groups led by the Swiss.UNESCO Clubs

12 :30 a.m. to 2:30 : *free lunch*

2:30 p.m.: **Departure of participants**

NB : An open executive council will be held on Thursday night : 9 p.m. to 11 p.m

Déclaration de Genève

Nous, représentants des membres actifs et associés de la Fédération européenne des associations, centres et clubs UNESCO, réunis à Genève le 9 et 10 juin 2011 à l'occasion de son premier congrès intermédiaire sur le thème « Droits de l'Homme et diversité culturelle dans l'espace européen »,

Rappelant notre engagement en faveur de la défense et de la promotion des droits de l'Homme affirmés dans la Déclaration Universelle des Droits de l'Homme de 1948 et les autres instruments universellement reconnus.

Soulignant notre adhésion militante aux fondements de la Déclaration Universelle sur la diversité culturelle de l'UNESCO de 2001 et les autres instruments universels et régionaux pertinents,

Réaffirmant en notre qualité de associations, centres et clubs UNESCO notre attachement aux idéaux, valeurs et principes, contenus dans l'acte constitutif de l'UNESCO,

Opposés au relativisme culturel qui tend à remettre en cause l'universalisme des droits au sein du système des nations-unies et de ses agences,

Convaincus du caractère essentiel des droits culturels énoncés dans la Déclaration de Fribourg de 2007 pour le respect de la dignité humaine,

Conscients de l'urgence de mobilisation pour les citoyens d'Europe pour le respect du droit d'asile et la protection des migrants en particulier des publics vulnérables, notamment des femmes et des enfants, face à des politiques migratoires de plus en plus guidées par des critères économiques restrictifs et une conception étroite de l'espace européen qui font le lit du racisme et de la xénophobie,

Faisons appel auprès du Conseil de l'Europe pour qu'il intervienne auprès de tous les Etats européens afin que le droit à l'éducation et à la formation professionnelle des jeunes soit respecté quelle que soit leur origine, leur condition sociale ou leur statut juridique,

Proposons qu'une initiative populaire soit lancée dans le cadre prévu par le traité de Lisbonne pour que l'enseignement des droits de l'Homme figure obligatoirement à tous les niveaux des programmes scolaires dans tous les pays de l'espace européen,

Invitons chaque association, centre et club UNESCO à obtenir l'adhésion de sa ville à la coalition européenne des villes contre le racisme,

Appelons au développement partout en Europe de projets à l'initiative des associations, centres et clubs UNESCO, pour promouvoir une identité européenne basée sur la diversité des expressions culturelles sous l'égide des droits de l'Homme en faveur d'une Europe solidaire ouverte sur le monde.

Mister Lionel Vinour has accepted the invitation of EFUCA to participate at the forth Congress in Minsk where he sent the following message:

*Madame la présidente, chère amie, très chère Daniëla,
Mesdames, Messieurs les autorités en leurs grades et qualités,
Mesdames, Messieurs les délégués et invités,
Chers amis,*

Quinze ans déjà ! Qu'il est loin le temps du Pachkovski ? L'idée d'une Fédération européenne ne remonte pas aux 15 années que nous célébrons aujourd'hui. Elle est même venue avant l'idée d'une Fédération mondiale !

Mais parce que les blessures du continent étaient profondes et ne demandent qu'à se rouvrir, parce que la division des idéologies et des peuples est toujours entretenue par des apprentis sorciers, parce que l'Europe au sens commun de l'UNESCO est territoire immense et complexe, par ce qu'enfin la force des clubs UNESCO européens reste très inégale, la Fédération européenne n'a pu voir le jour qu'en 2001, après un travail acharné de deux années né à Florence un soir autour d'un piano bar au Pachkovski. Ce fut une aventure humaine, une histoire d'amitié qui s'est construite pas à pas de Porto à Varsovie, de Paris à Bucarest, d'Ekaterinbourg à Athènes, de Limassol à Malaga, de La Valette à Turin...

A cette époque les européens étaient divisés dans les instances mondiales -toujours des questions d'ambitions personnelles qui j'en suis sûr n'existent plus aujourd'hui !- et ceux-là même qui avait tenté d'interdire la création de la FEACU jusqu'au congrès fondateur en Roumanie, ont finalement rejoint ce projet et l'ont fait leur au-delà des espérances.

Après l'élection du premier président de la FEACU comme président de la FMACU, j'ai été élu à la tête de la toute jeune fédération. Mes objectifs étaient ambitieux mais simples :

- Accroître le nombre de membres et apaiser les conflits nationaux notamment avec les commissions nationales*
- Assurer un fonctionnement démocratique et transparent des instances en renforçant l'exemplarité et le respect des règles et statuts*
- Etablir des finances saines, en payant les dettes existantes, en organisant le paiement des cotisations et en développant les finances de la Fédération*
- Engager un travail de réflexion qui a abouti au congrès de Genève sur Droits humains et diversité culturelle avec le premier programme de participation régional de l'UNESCO soutenu par les commissions nationales*
- Ouvrir la fédération sur l'extérieur en nouant des coopérations avec les autres membres de la FMACU*

Avec l'équipe constituée, sur chacun de ces objectifs nous avons progressé. J'aimerais saluer Daniela, Silvio, Adeline, Juan-Antonio, Iulia, Maria-Paula, Iannis, Mihaela, avec qui j'ai eu plaisir à travailler. Sans y être obligé, j'ai choisi de partir après le congrès mondial de Hanoï car son déroulement m'a profondément déçu et heurté. Il était contraire à bien des égards au travail mené à la FEACU. Le pouvoir n'est qu'un moyen au service d'une ambition pas une fin en soi ; c'est du moins ma conception et j'y suis resté fidèle.

Rester président après Hanoï, c'était renoncer à ce qui fonde mon engagement. Partir, c'était préserver l'idéal que représentent pour moi les clubs UNESCO. Le choix était douloureux mais absolu.

Je suis un homme de compromis pas de compromission. Je ne crois pas en l'homme ou la femme providentiel-le, mais en la force de l'intelligence collective et de l'engagement sincère et désintéressé. Mon départ a permis à d'autres de continuer le chemin jusqu'à la FEACU d'aujourd'hui. Je demeure profondément européen et attentif à l'évolution des associations, centres et clubs UNESCO.

Alors ? Que souhaiter pour la Fédération européenne pour les 15 ans qui viennent ?

De continuer à convaincre afin que, dans tous les pays du continent européen, des clubs UNESCO se développent et que leur pays rejoigne la FEACU. Le chemin est encore long, même si je veux saluer le travail accompli ces dernières années.

D'exister encore bien sûr, oui mais en étant fidèle à ses statuts, à sa charte, à ses valeurs. Rien ne serait pire que de sombrer dans une pâle copie de l'UNESCO. Nous ne

sommes pas des organismes gouvernementaux, et en cela, nous sommes différents des commissions nationales avec lesquelles nous devons maintenir un lien honnête et constructif.

Le risque majeur pour moi n'est pas la disparition de la FEACU et encore moins des associations, centres et clubs UNESCO, mais leur perte d'autonomie et de substance. Il est facile de créer des coquilles vides ou de simples agences de voyage. Le dialogue interculturel est exigeant et jamais l'universalité des droits de l'Homme ne doit être sacrifiée sur l'autel de la diversité culturelle et de particularismes liberticides.

La FEACU doit être à l'avant-garde de l'idéal démocratique parce qu'il est aussi l'idéal européen. Les clubs UNESCO sont les enfants naturels de l'UNESCO. En tant que tels, nous devons à la fois respecter la grande maison et l'aider à relever ses défis mais en même temps revendiquer un rôle d'aiguillon chaque fois que la démocratie et les droits de l'Homme sont menacés afin de demeurer fidèles aux valeurs humanistes de l'UNESCO qui nous ont rassemblées.

Les associations, centres et clubs UNESCO n'ont jamais été aussi utiles qu'aujourd'hui où l'idéal européen est menacé :

- La montée des nationalismes et du repli sur soi
- Le développement des guerres au cœur même de l'Europe
 - Le défi des migrations et le risque du rejet de l'autre jusqu'au racisme

Ce qui a fait l'intérêt de cette Fédération, c'est l'amitié et la volonté de comprendre l'autre, de croire -surtout lorsque que cela difficile- que ce qui nous rassemble est plus fort que ce qui nous divise. Je pense, à cet instant, à tous ceux qui ne sont plus là aujourd'hui – Albert, Maria-Luisa, Iuri, Paula et tant d'autres visages amis - mais dont le souvenir des heures passées ensemble aux quatre coins de ce beau continent ne s'éteindra jamais.

Pour eux, pour nous, mais surtout pour les générations futures, les clubs UNESCO européens doivent approfondir leur travail de dialogue et de compréhension interculturels, promouvoir une exigence de démocratie et de droits de l'Homme, cultiver sans relâche l'impératif de solidarité et le devoir d'ouverture aux autres.

Alors oui, dans ces conditions, cet anniversaire – 15 ans – au sortir de l'adolescence et au seuil de l'âge de raison, en appellera d'autres porteurs d'espérance pour de longues années encore.

Je vous remercie.

After the demission of the President Lionel Vinour in 2011, the Executive Council of EFUCA nominated Ms Maria Paola Azzario as President for 2011-2012, as she organised continuously in Italy events of the highest quality(The Executive Boards of EFUCA, the International Conferences, Bilateral Partnerships and the Second Intermediary Congress).

As Former President of EFUCA (from 2011 to 2012) and current Vice President, I am glad to celebrate 15 years of activity of the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations.

The Italian Federation of Clubs and Centres (FICLU) is one of the founder members of EFUCA, sharing its aims and collaborating actively to their achievement.

During my Presidency, several important activities took place. On October 2011 I organized, with the support of the Centre for UNESCO in Turin and the city government, the International Conference “Protection of Material and Immaterial Heritage: UNESCO’s and EFUCA’s commitment” in Turin. It was also the occasion for the meetings of both the Executive Board of EFUCA and the Executive Board of FICLU. Local authorities, the General Secretary of Italian National Commission and EFUCA and FICLU members of Executive Boards were present. The Conference, open to the public, was successful and

meaningful thanks to qualified speakers and comprehensive interventions. Guided visits to Palazzo Madama and Venaria Reale (Savoy Residences, UNESCO World Heritage Site since 1997) were organized in order to promote the knowledge of Italian Heritage.

In December 2011 I **completely refurbished EFUCA website** in order to be more user-friendly and to provide up-to-date information about each National Federation member of EFUCA.

At the beginning of 2012, a survey was carried out in order to point out the situation of European Federation and its member countries. The results were presented during the EFUCA Executive Board meeting held in Minsk on April 2012. On the basis of the answers collected, it emerged the need to create a newsletter presenting the activities of all member Federations and of UNESCO, to organize regular training for members and to launch some unitary themes for common initiatives. At this meeting, it was also scheduled the General Assembly of EFUCA, to be held on November/December 2012 in Bucharest, in collaboration with the Romanian Federation.

In 2012 the proceedings of the **1st International Intermediate Congress of EFUCA “Human rights and Cultural Diversity” (Geneva, 8-11 June 2011)** were realized by the Centre for UNESCO in Turin. The publication, in double languages, English and French, included a DVD with video records of all interventions, including those of President of EFUCA and President of WFUCA. The Final Declaration of the Congress confirmed the commitments that members of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations decided to put into practice in their own countries in collaboration with local authorities and population:

- the defence and promotion of Human Rights;
- the militant adhesion to the milestones of the UNESCO Universal Declaration on Cultural Diversity (2001);
- the essential character of cultural rights enunciated in the Declaration of Fribourg since 2007.

My commitment to EFUCA’s action continued as **Vice President for the period 2012-2016**.

In September 2014, the **2nd Intermediate Congress of EFUCA “Global Ethics and Equal Opportunities: women’s contribution to the development of Europe and the Mediterranean”** and the meeting of the Executive Board of EFUCA took place in Turin, organized by me as President of the Centre for UNESCO in Turin. The 220 participants, coming from 16 countries (Belarus, China, Cyprus, Greece, Egypt, France, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Nigeria, Romania, Serbia, Somalia, Spain, Tunisia, USA), took part in the plenary sessions and workshops on the themes “Women and Culture”, “Women and Nutrition”, “Women and Violence.” The discussions were conducted with passion and efficiency. The **Declaration of Turin**, adopted by unanimity, reaffirmed the common engagement in continuing the activities for the safeguard of Equal Opportunities for everyone and the promotion of Human Rights, multicultural dialogue, mutual knowledge and understanding.

The **Official Report**, realized by the young volunteers of the Centre for UNESCO in Turin, is a 391 page-long publication (in double languages: Italian and English) collecting all the contributions, interventions and testimonies provided by the participants. It also contains a DVD with the most significant images of the event.

In November 2014 I was appointed President of FICLU and I was reconfirmed in April 2016 for the period 2016-2019. International collaborations and cooperation with EFUCA are key points for the Italian Federation proved by the signing, in January 2016, a **three-year partnership agreement, 2016-2019, between FICLU and FRACCU (Romanian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations) for the joint organization of the International Conference “Youth and Museums”, under the umbrella of EFUCA**. The Conference is divided into two parts, one takes place in Italy and one in Romania, with the participation of a delegation of 15 young people aged between 17 and 35 of the two

Countries. The topic chosen for the 8th edition of the International Conference was **“The woman and her creativity”**.

This Partnership is fully a part of the activities for the ongoing **UNESCO International Decade for the Rapprochement of Cultures (2013-2022)**. In fact, the UNESCO’s Action Plan invites to establish significant and lasting collaboration at national and international level to:

- foster mutual knowledge and understanding of the cultural, linguistic and religious differences;
- build a pluralist context of shared common values;
- promote intercultural dialogue through quality education.

This Partnership is a significant opportunity for dialogue, mutual knowledge and cultural exchange which leads to the creation of collaborations between Italian and Romanian museums involved in the Project.

It fully responds to UNESCO programmes for the promotion of the participation and the active involvement of youth in the protection and valorisation of Heritage and it contributes to acknowledge their fundamental role of positive agents of change and of bearers of a culture of Peace.

Another recent example of cooperation between FICLU and EFUCA is the National and International Competition, organized by the Italian Federation with EFUCA Patronage, entitled **“The Factory in the Landscape”**, which aims at promoting sustainable development based on a balanced relationship among social needs, economic activity and environment.

As briefly described, it is evident that the commitment of the Italian Federation for EFUCA has been concrete and was marked by significant stages, both for the European Federation and for its visibility at international level. The wish for next years is to **foster bilateral and multilateral relationships in order to promote cultural dialogue and mutual cooperation.**

Maria Paola Azzario

Vice President of EFUCA

Former President of EFUCA (2011-2012)

Ex officio member of WFUCA

President of FICLU

President of Centre for UNESCO in Turin

The Third Congress of the European Federation for UNESCO

Clubs, Centres and Associations

(BUCHAREST, ROMANIA – 29 NOVEMBER/ 3 DECEMBER 2012)

OFFICIAL INVITATION

The Romanian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations has the honour and pleasure to be the host for the 3rd General Assembly of European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations: Cultural Diversity – Europe’s Wealth. We strongly believe that it will be a productive and interesting meeting with great impact on the future of the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations through all the major projects which will be presented

and also through all the permanent commitment of the members to the global community of UNESCO civil society.

We would be thankful to all the participants to this important meeting. Each representative will give a special importance to this event and it will be held primarily into the unit. We consider this major event an opportunity to gather valuable personalities with expertise in various fields, who can build up new horizons for the development of the European Federation on a long term.

This event will be a boldly step towards the solidification of the UNESCO civil society representatives around common values and ideals. Through this meeting, as well as by many other concrete initiatives, the European Federation seeks, through each of its members, a vital objective: coagulation of all the federations of UNESCO clubs in a united community of strategic importance in promoting the UNESCO ideals and objectives.

The SCHEDULE

THE THIRD CONGRESS OF THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION FOR UNESCO CLUBS, CENTERS AND ASSOCIATIONS (BUCHAREST, ROMANIA – 28 NOVEMBER/ 3 DECEMBER 2012)

Wednesday, 28 November 2012:

- Arrival of participants
- 20.00 – 21.30 - EFUCA Executive outgoing Council meeting

Thursday 29 November 2012 :

- 07.00 – 16.00 - Trip to Bran Castle (Dracula's Castle)

For those who do not attend the trip:

- Until 14.00 - Free schedule
- 14.00 – 15.00 – Visit to the Romanian Parliament
- 15.00 – 17.30 – Workshop - Exchange of experience with the Romanian Federation and with the young people representatives of the national minorities

For all the participants:

- 18.00 – 19.30: Honorary ceremony at the Romanian Parliament including a concert offered by Madrigal Choir – Good of UNESCO Universal Patrimony for 20 years.
- 19.30 – Reception

Friday 30 November 2012 :

- 9h30-10h30: Opening Ceremony
- 10h30-11h00: Election of the committees for the Congress
- 11h00-13h30: Plenary session:

The future and the role of EFUCA: actions and perspectives in the light of the European and world situation. Ethical perspectives within UNESCO and WFUCA framework regionally and globally.

- 15h00-16h30: Plenary session: EFUCA Reports by the Executive Board

Saturday 1 December 2012 – National Day of Romania

- 09.00 – 9.30: Celebration of the National Day of Romania
- 9.30 -10.00: Introduction

- 10h00-13h30: Two workshops English/ French on the theme “Cultural diversity - cultural wealth of Europe. Suggestions for the activity of our federation.”
- 15.00h-18h30: Plenary Session: Election procedures

Sunday 2 December 2012

- Departure of the participants

During **28th November – 2nd December 2012**, there was held in Bucharest, Romania, *the 3rd General Assembly of the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations* having the main theme:

The Cultural diversity – Europe’s wealth

At this international event of great importance for the UNESCO civil society movement, participated delegations from 25 countries worldwide. On this occasion, there was also marked the **National Day of Romania** on the 1st of December 2012. During this manifestation, there were celebrated seven great personalities from around the world at Romanian Parliament who dedicated their life to promoting the ideals, objectives and programs of UNESCO:

- *Sorin Dumitrescu, UNESCO*
- *Marialuisa Stringa, Italian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations*
- *Jean Baptiste de Weck, Swiss Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations*
- *Albert Rutter, UNESCO Club from Malta*
- *Andre Zweyacker, French Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations*
- *Eiji Hattori, Honorary President of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations*
- *Paula Iacob, Founding President of the Romanian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations*

The placard „**A life dedicated to UNESCO**” demonstrated to these personalities the recognition of their merits during their activity in serving the ideals of humanity.

At the end of the ceremony took place a concert offered by the **National Chamber Madrigal Choir – Good of the UNESCO Universal Patrimony for 20 years.**

THE 3rd GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF UNESCO CLUBS, CENTRES AND ASSOCIATIONS (EFUCA) 29 NOVEMBER TO 1 DECEMBER, 2012, BUCHAREST, ROMANIA

DRAFT REPORT

INTRODUCTION

The Romanian Federation for UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (FRACCU) in collaboration with the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO organized and hosted the 3rd General Assembly of the European Federation for UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (EFUCA) in Bucharest, Romania from the 29th of November to the 1st of December 2012.

The General Assembly opened on the 29th of November 2012 with the ceremony “A life dedicated to UNESCO”, which took place at the Romanian Parliament, an event that honoured important representatives of the UNESCO Clubs movement who consecrated their life to the UNESCO ideals. During this ceremony at the Parliament, the floor was taken by representatives of the Romanian Parliament and Government of Romania, as well as UNESCO officials. Before this international event a round table took place on the theme “The Cultural Diversity - Wealth of Europe” where representatives of UNESCO Clubs and other international NGOs participated.

The General Assembly had the participation of representatives from twenty-five countries from the UNESCO Clubs movement (EFUCA and WFUCA), of the Government of Romania, of the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO, of UNESCO and of other organizations and entities such as universities.

Representing the Director General of UNESCO, Mrs. Irina Bokova, Mr. Andrei Chevelev participated in the General Assembly.

The General Assembly focused on EFUCA’s future action plan based on proposals made by the delegates taking into consideration WFUCA’s project on “Global Ethics” as well as UNESCO’s ideals and values.

PLENARY SESSION I (30 NOVEMBER 2012)

OPENING CEREMONY

The opening session started with opening speeches and addresses of representatives of UNESCO, Romanian Government, Romanian National Commission, WFUCA, EFUCA and other representatives of the Civil Society, including **Mr. Andrei Chevelev, Representative of the UNESCO Director General and Mrs Irina Bokova.**

Mr. Chevelev referred to the founding of EFUCA which was initiated by FRACCU in 2001 and noted that the movement represents the voice of the people. He mentioned that regular reports are requested in order to prevent the incorrect and illegal use of UNESCO’s name and logo. He explained that ignorance is the main cause of conflicts and following Kyoto, youth and their education should be the focus of activities within the UNESCO Clubs movement.

Mrs. Daniela Popescu, President of the Romanian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (FRACCU) welcomed all the participants and expressed her hope that UNESCO would maintain its strong position.

Mrs. Christiane Gertrud Cosmatu, Department for Inter-Ethnic Relations, Government of Romania: Mrs. Cosmatu referred to diversity and the presence of the minorities living in Romania and said that many minority languages were recognized as official languages of Romania.

Mrs. Maria Paola Azzario, EFUCA President ad interim for the period 2011-2012: Mrs. Azzario expressed her wish that National Commissions should be more accessible and supportive towards the UNESCO Clubs movement. She referred to the questionnaire which was circulated to the members of EFUCA in 2011 and mentioned that the results differ between countries, expressing the richness of the existing diversity. In addition, she stated that fear, laziness and poverty must be defeated.

Mr. George On. Christophides, President of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA): Mr. George Christophides expressed his wish that the UNESCO Clubs movement should become stronger in order to reach citizens all over the world. He referred to the meeting he had had with the Director General (D.G.) of UNESCO, Mrs. Irina Bokova and stated that WFUCA has excellent and productive relations with the UNESCO D.G.

Mr. Eiji Hattori, Honorary President of WFUCA: Mr. Hattori referred to the “Global Ethics” project and quoting Paul Valery and said that there is a real need for global ethics.

PROCEDURES: ELECTION OF THE OFFICE OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

After the opening speeches, the nomination of candidates for the designation of the officials of the General Assembly took place.

Upon consensus of the delegations, the designation of the officials of the General Assembly had the following results:

- **President of the General Assembly:** Mrs. Daniela Popescu (Romania)
- **Vice Presidents of the General Assembly:** Mrs. Mihaela Varga (Romania) and Mr. Lionel Vinour (France)
- **Reporters of the General Assembly:** Ms. Olga Khabibulina (Belarus), Mr. Robert Pobitschka (Austria) and Mrs. Corrine Ziegler (Switzerland)

ADOPTION OF THE DRAFT AGENDA

The draft agenda of the 3rd General Assembly of EFUCA was distributed to all the delegates and was adopted by consensus.

ELECTION OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

The General Assembly designated Armenia (Ms. Astghik Sayadyan), Italy (Mr. Antonio Vernier) and France (Mr. Claude Vielix) as members of the Credentials Committee.

The General Assembly designated Ms. Adeline Popescu as president of the Credentials Committee, Romania in her quality of treasurer of EFUCA.

PLENARY SESSION II – “FUTURE AND MISSION OF EFUCA: ACTIONS AND PERSPECTIVES IN THE LIGHT OF EUROPEAN AND WORLD SITUATIONS AND OF GLOBAL ETHICS UNESCO PROGRAMME”

Reference was made to the outgoing Executive Board meeting of EFUCA, held on the 28 November 2012 and to the decisions regarding the addition of new members of EFUCA; the Portuguese Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Centres and the National Commission for UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations.

Ms. Adeline Popescu mentioned that only members who had paid their contributions could take part in the elections for the new Executive Board of EFUCA. The status of Armenia was discussed due to pending fees. The delegate from Armenia, Ms. Astghik Sayadyan read a letter written by the President of the Armenian Federation who referred to the reasons of the pending fees.

A decision was taken to allow new members and members who had not paid their fees to pay during the General Assembly. The deadline was set at 17.00 in the afternoon of the same day. 4

CANDIDATURES COMMITTEE

Mr. Lionel Vinour, one of the Vice Presidents of the General Assembly, raised an issue regarding the Candidatures Committee which was not mentioned in the statutes of EFUCA. Mrs. Mihaela Varga also Vice President of the General Assembly and the President of WFUCA, Mr. George Christophides mentioned that there was a real need for addition of the internal rules and regulations in the statutes of EFUCA.

The designation of the Candidatures Committee was made by consensus.

Results of the designation of the Candidatures Committee: Monaco (Mrs. Milène Escaras), Switzerland (Mrs. Doris Neuenschwander), Greece (Mr. Yiannis Maronitis).

NEW MEMBERS OF EFUCA

Following the examination of the applications received by the Portuguese Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Centres as well as the USA National Commission for UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations, the General Assembly elected by absolute majority the above mentioned associations entitled as new members of EFUCA.

Regarding the election of the Portuguese Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Centres, Mr. Lionel Vinour explained, upon election through the General Assembly of any new national federation follows an automatic replacement of any club that until then had been representing the same country.

Mrs. Mihaela Varga referred to Austria's membership in EFUCA and to the absence of a national federation in Austria.

PLENARY SESSION III – EFUCA REPORTS OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD

ACTIVITY REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY OF EFUCA

Due to the absence of the Executive Secretary of EFUCA, Mr. Silvio Matos, Mr. Lionel Vinour briefly referred to the following achievements of EFUCA during the period 2008-2012.

- New logo of EFUCA
- New website of EFUCA
- Dissemination of information through a circular letter regarding projects
- Promotion of UNESCO values
- Introduction to new regulations for UNESCO clubs
- Consolidation of financial situation
- Opening of a new bank account
- Strengthening the relationship between EFUCA members
- EFUCA support of projects in the Republic of Moldova, Romania, France, Spain, Portugal, Italy
- Increase of the regularity of the meetings with UNESCO officials
- Good relations with WFUCA: attendance in the Executive Board meetings of WFUCA in Alexandria, Beijing and Hanoi
- Attendance of celebrations related to UNESCO Clubs
- Participation in a youth competition in the Republic of Moldova
- First meeting of the Spanish Confederation in Ceuta

Mr. Vinour also presented the results from the Intermediate Congress of EFUCA with the theme "Human Rights and Cultural Diversity" held in Geneva, Switzerland in June 2011. All the participants received a relevant booklet containing all information regarding the congress as well as an informative CD.

Mrs. Azzario presented the report for the period of 2011-2012 with reference to the Turin meeting in October 2011 and to the protection of the Cultural Heritage, to the report of the EFUCA Executive Board meeting in Minsk in December 2011 and the update of EFUCA's website and to the EFUCA Executive Board meeting in Paris held in November 2011 at the UNESCO - WFUCA offices in Paris at Miollis building.

Mrs. Azzario proposed the creation of a newsletter on EFUCA's website with information about each member of EFUCA in order to discover common projects to be launched.

Following the presentation of the activity report the General Assembly approved it by consensus and the participants took the opportunity to comment on the reported information as well as on the all mentioned achievements during the period 2008-2012.

The representative of the UNESCO Director General, Mr. Chevelev proposed to strengthen the relationship between members of EFUCA and National Commission as well as with UNESCO in order to overcome financial difficulties.

FINANCIAL REPORT BY THE TREASURER OF EFUCA

Ms. Adeline Popescu, the Treasurer of EFUCA, presented the financial report to the General Assembly which was approved by the absolute majority of the General Assembly (one country was absent).

PRESENTATION OF THE PROPOSALS FOR THE PROGRAMME AND THE BUDGET FOR THE NEXT 4 YEARS

Delegates were invited to express their views and proposals for the next four years regarding EFUCA's action plan.

The Belarusian delegation proposed to develop further communication between UNESCO Clubs and the civil society through the media promotion, relevant websites and social networks. A proposal was made to promote youth training through non-formal education. In addition, reference was made to the need to improve fund raising procedures.

Mrs. Marialuisa Stringa, Honorary President of EFUCA, spoke about the development of the efforts for funding since the establishment of EFUCA. The Cyprus delegation proposed to improve the dissemination of information about the activities of EFUCA and its members through the creation of a social network page such as Facebook in order to provide the opportunity to the members to post news regarding their activities.

Mr. George Christophides spoke about WFUCA's "Global Ethics" project and invited all interested delegates to participate as observers in the meeting of WFUCA's Executive Board, which was held after the end of first day of the General Assembly.

1 DECEMBER 2012

OPENING – CELEBRATION OF ROMANIA'S NATIONAL DAY

All participants met in the morning in the conference room in order to celebrate the national day of Romania. A music celebration took place and delegates waved Romanian flags while listening to the national anthem of Romania.

WORKSHOPS

Two workshops (in English and French) were dedicated to the topic "Cultural diversity, cultural resource for Europe. Proposals for the future Programme of EFUCA".

PLENARY SESSION IV

REPORT OF THE CREDENTIALS COMMITTEE

In the light of the report of the Credentials Committee, twenty-two members were still active members of EFUCA with sixteen of them being present and with a right to vote.

The absolute majority of the General Assembly approved the report.

PRESENTATION OF THE CANDIDATES TO THE NEW EFUCA EXECUTIVE BOARD

The Candidatures Committee announced the candidates for the EFUCA Executive Board 2012-2016

President	Daniela Popescu (Romania)
Treasurer	Julia Averina (Russia)
Executive Secretary	Marina Christophides (Cyprus)
	Silvia Martinez Canton (Spain)
Vice-Presidents and Members	Dzmitry Subtselny (Belarus)
	Jorge Oliveira (Portugal)
	Maria Paola Azzario (Italy)
	Milica Dromnjakovic (Serbia)
	Renata Verejanu (Republic of Moldova)
	Silvia Martinez Canton (Spain)

The President of WFUCA, Mr. George Christophides, raised an issue regarding the interpretation of the article 5 s. 4(h) of the EFUCA Statute and the right to present candidatures to two different positions of the Executive Board of EFUCA. Following discussions it was decided that the elections would take place in two rounds; in the first round all members with a right to vote would vote for the EFUCA president, treasurer and executive secretary and in the second round all members with a right to vote would vote for the EFUCA vice-presidents and members

PRESENTATION OF THE FILE TO SUPPORT A CANDIDATE FOR THE POSITION OF THE SECRETARY GENERAL OF EFUCA

The two candidates for the position of the Executive Secretary presented themselves and each of them had a few minutes to inform the General Assembly about the reasons of their decision to become candidates for the position of the Executive Secretary of EFUCA. Following the presentation of the two candidates, delegates from the General Assembly had some time to submit their questions to the two candidates.

ELECTION OF THE THREE MEMBERS OF THE CONCILIATION COMMITTEE

The General Assembly elected the following members of the Conciliation Committee:

- Mrs. Corinne Dominique Ziegler (Switzerland)
- Mr. Guy Djoken (USA)
- Mr. Juan Antonio Vera Casares (Spain)

REPORTS OF WORKSHOPS

Following the two workshops that were held in the morning the following results were presented to the General Assembly:

English Group:

Cultural variety: it is not easy to define “culture” and its roots

- People are connected with the historical background of their country of origin but can also be influenced by other cultures from different territories
- It is important to find a minimum level of consensus accepted by everybody
- Dramatic changes during the last 30 years, societies are experiencing multiculturalism
- In the light of the existence of illegal immigration there is a need of protection of human rights
- A large number of people come from a variety of different national backgrounds
- Protection of national heritage: protection of diversity
- Education is a way to initiate resolutions on how to avoid crisis
- Presentation by Austria: Vienna Charta as well as a project from Great Britain about education of character. Agreement by consensus to become a subject in schools.
- Presentation by Kazakhstan: “Teaching the youth moral values, issues and challenges”
- Presentation by Spain: short film about a school in Great Britain that can be seen as a model for integration and diversity
- Proposal for joint future actions. “Global Ethics”
- Need to establish a working committee

French Group:

Discussion about what is a European project

- Discussion about projects based on the promotion of multiculturalism
- Discussion on how national projects can become regional - European projects
- Discussion on how to choose projects that can become European projects
- Focus on environmental projects
- Each country should propose projects

After the presentation of the results of the two workshops, the delegate from Serbia Mrs. Milica Dromnjakovic spoke about ethics, including access to clean water.

Mrs. Patrizia Favati, the representative of the City of Lucca, made a presentation regarding the City of Lucca and made reference to the planned activities for the next meeting of the Executive Board of WFUCA, in Lucca - Florence, 8-13 March 2013 and all events related to “Global Ethics”.

RESULTS OF THE ELECTIONS AND PRESENTATION OF THE NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD

FIRST ROUND

POST	NAME	VOTES
President of EFUCA	Daniela Popescu	Fifteen votes
Executive Secretary of EFUCA	Marina Christophides	Ten votes
Treasurer of EFUCA	Julia Averina	Fifteen votes

SECOND ROUND

POST	NAME	VOTES
Vice-President of EFUCA	Dimitry Subtselny	Eight votes
Vice-President of EFUCA	Maria Paola Azzario	Eight votes
Vice-President of EFUCA	Silvia Martinez Canton	Ten votes
Member of EFUCA	Jorge Oliveira	Seven votes
Member of EFUCA	Milica Dromnjakovic	Six votes

CLOSING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Mrs. Daniela Popescu, a new President of EFUCA, expressed her sincere gratitude to all the participants of the General Assembly and also her hopes for a more prosperous future for the European UNESCO Clubs movement, looking forward to further cooperation with all the members of EFUCA as well as with WFUCA and UNESCO, including the organization of new projects.

International Meeting and 2nd Intermediate Congress of EFUCA “Global Ethics and Equal Opportunities: Women’s Contribution to the Development of Europe and the Mediterranean”

Video message from: Irina Bokova Director-General UNESCO

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a pleasure to address this International Meeting of Education on “Global Ethics and Equal Opportunities, on the contribution of Development of Women in Europe and the Mediterranean.”

I congratulate the organisers of this meeting, especially Professor Maria Paola Azzario, President of UNESCO Centre in Turin, with which UNESCO has long collaborated through the Division for Gender Equality in my Office.

Gender Equality is UNESCO global priority and it is my personal commitment as Director General.

Education is a breakthrough strategy for empowering girls and women and the transformational force for inclusive and sustainable development.

There is simply no more powerful investment for societies as a whole. We have seen great progress over the last fifteen years, in parity and in primary education, but we need to do far more.

An estimated 57 millions children remains out of school, the majority are girls.

Some 780 million adults still can not read, write, or count; 2/3 are women.

UNESCO is committed to tackling this challenges through all means: through advocacy, policy dialogue, normative and standing setting, technical assistance, and capacity development.

To these ends, I launched the global partnership for girls and women's education in 2011, for action to keep girls in school, beyond the primary level and address literacy.

We are acting across the world, supported by governments and private sector companies, and this is bearing fruit and committed to deepening this ever more, including in collaboration with UNWOMEN and other partners.

I'm confident this meeting will provide additional impetus to all this work, this is especially important as the international community shapes a new global education agenda to follow 2015, where UNESCO is playing a leading role. In this period I thank you again and look forward to your contributions.

THURSDAY 11th SEPTEMBER

Arrival of the participants

Meeting of the Executive Board EFUCA/FEACU (4.30 - 7.30 p.m.)

Hotel Concord (Via Lagrange, 47)

FRIDAY 12th SEPTEMBER

8.45 - 9.30 a.m. Welcoming of the participants

MORNING - I PLENARY ASSEMBLY

9.30 a.m - 1.00 p.m.

Sala Rossa, City Hall of Turin (Piazza Palazzo di Città, 1)

*Coordinated by **Maria Paola Azzario.***

Opening ceremony:

- ❖ Video-message from Ms. **Irina Bokova**, General Director UNESCO, Paris
- ❖ **Maria Paola Azzario**, Vice President EFUCA/FEACU, President of UNESCO Centre in Turin
 - **Daniela Popescu**, President EFUCA
 - **George Christophides**, President WFUCA
 - **Sanye Gülser Corat**, UNESCO, Director of the Division for Gender Equality (message)
 - **Ilaria Borletti Buitoni**, Undersecretary, Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and of Tourism (Italy)

Welcome addresses from authorities:

- **Ilda Curti**, Chairperson Committee for Equal Opportunities, City of Turin
- **Monica Cerutti**, Chairperson Equal Opportunities, International Affairs, Region Piedmont
- **Laura Ferraris**, Vice Prefect, Turin
- **Bruna Sibille**, Mayor, City of Bra (CN)
- **Maria Luisa Ascheri**, Mayor, City of La Morra (CN)
- **Simonetta Cavazza**, Manager Rights at Work and Gender Int. Training Centre/ILO
- **Lorenza Operti**, Chairperson Defense of Quality, University of Turin
- **Laura Montanaro**, Pro-Rector, Polytechnic of Turin
- **Giuliana Bausano**, Governor I. Inner Wheel District 204
- **Anna Chiara Invernizzi**, Vice President Fondazione CRT

Relations and testimonies:

Introduction

- ❖ *The strategy of Equal Opportunities in the UNESCO documents:* **Marina Christophides**, Executive Secretary EFUCA
- ❖ *The strategy of Equal Opportunities in the EU documents:* **Adeline Popescu**, Auditor EFUCA

Specific Themes

1. Women and Culture:

- ❖ **Patrizia Asproni**, President Fondazione Torino Musei
- ❖ **Daniela Finocchi**, Project Manager national literary Contest Lingua Madre

2. Women and Nutrition:

- ❖ **Maria Lodovica Gullino**, University of Turin, Agroinnova Director
- ❖ **Cinzia Scaffidi**, Dir. Slow Food Study C., University of Gastronomic Sciences, Pollenzo, Terra Madre

3. Women and Violences:

- ❖ **Vittoria Luda di Cortemiglia**, Programme Coordinator Crimini Emergenti, UNICRI
- ❖ **Paula Iacob**, Lawyer, honorary member EFUCA

1.00 - 2.00 p.m. - Buffet, offered by the City of Bra. Sala Marmi, City Hall of Turin.

AFTERNOON - Thematic Workshops 2.00/5.00 p.m.

Sala Capigruppo, Sala Orologio, Sala Congregazioni, City Hall of Turin.

1) Women and Culture coordin

ated by: **Milica Dromnjakovic**, Council member EFUCA, Serbia and **Luisa Giacom**, University of Turin. **Planned intervention:** *Maria Luisa Cosso*, President Fondazione Cosso, *Blandine Pélissier*, spokesman of “Mouvement HF”, constituent of CA CLEF, France, *Oluyemisi Alatise*, Inner Wheel Club Lagos, Nigeria, *Soukeina Bouraoui*, Director CAWTAR, Tunisia, *Giuliana Bausano* I.In W Distr. 204, *Barbara Arrighetti*, National Councillor AITI, *Cinzia Franza*, “I Culur” Association.

2) Women and Nutrition coordinated by: **Cinzia Scaffidi**, Director of the Slow Food Study Centre and **Mihaela Varga**, Vice President of Romanian Fed. of UNESCO Club, Centres and Associations, Romania.

Planned intervention: *Zahra Hussein*, Ain Shams University Hospital of Cairo, Egypt, *Dianella Savoia*, University of Turin.

3) Women and Violences coordinated by: **Michèle Vianès**, President of "Regards de Femmes", France and **Silvia Martinez Canton**, Vice President EFUCA, Spain. **Planned intervention:** *Michèle Vianès*, President “Regards de Femmes”

4) Editing Group of the Final Declaration, coordinated by **Daniela Popescu**, President EFUCA. With other EFUCA Executive Board Members and experts.

7.00 p.m. Palazzo Madama: Guided tour in Italian/English offered by Fondazione Torino Musei

8.00 p.m. “Dinner at Palace” - with the participation of Patricia Lowe and Paolo Serazzi, Palazzo Madama (Piazza Castello)

SATURDAY 13 SEPTEMBER

MORNING - Thematic Workshops: 1) Women and Culture, 2) Women and Nutrition, 3) Women and Violence.

9.00 a.m. - 11.00 a.m. Sala Capigruppo, Sala Orologio, Sala Congregazioni, City Hall of Turin

- Continuation of the group work
- Final draft of the reports and of the Final Declaration.

11.00 a.m. - 1.00 p.m. *Sala Rossa, City Hall of Turin:*

II PLENARY ASSEMBLY

- Workshops reports from the secretaries of each group.
- Presentation of EFUCA's website by Dzmityr Subtselny, Vice President EFUCA, President Belarusian Association of UNESCO Clubs.
- Approval of the Final Declaration of Turin.

1.00 - 2.00 p.m. – *Buffet, offered by the City of Bra. Sala Marmi, City Hall of Turin*

AFTERNOON- 5.00/7.00 p.m. Public Event - FREE ENTRANCE *Gallery of Modern and Contemporary Art, Via Magenta, 31*

III PLENARY ASSEMBLY

“RAJO... everyone has his/her own star” by and with Suad Omar – Directed by Gabriella Bordin. Theatrical Play by Almateatro

- **Talk show** moderated by **Stefanella Campana**(La Stampa) **Guests:** Patrizia Asproni, Chiara Benedetto (Fondazione Medicina a Misura di Donna), Nicoletta Polla Mattiot (WE-Women for Expo), Daniela Popescu, Maria Paola Azzario, George Christophides, the workshops coordinators: Milica Dromnjakovic, Luisa Giacoma, Cinzia Scaffidi, Mihaela Varga, Michèle Vianès.
- **Results of the International Contest "Culture, nutrition, violences: experiences of women of any age and country"**
- **Reading and endorsement of the Final Declaration of Turin.**
- **Closing ceremony.**

SUNDAY 14 SEPTEMBER

Guided tours of Turin and Piedmont, on request/Departure of the participants.

In collaboration with:

UNESCO, UNWOMEN, UNICRI, EFUCA, Fondazione Torino Musei, Regione Piemonte, Città di Torino, Città di Bra, Comune di La Morra, Università degli Studi e Politecnico di Torino, Forum Internazionale Donne del Mediterraneo, Concorso letterario nazionale Lingua Madre, Regards de Femmes, I. Inner Wheel Distretto 204 e Club Torino Europea, Club UNESCO di Barge, La Morra, Pollenzo, Rete per la Parità, Associazione Almateatro, UnipolSai Assicurazioni Agenzia Turati, TO, Promotur s.r.l

GENERAL REPORT

THURSDAY 11th SEPTEMBER

From 3:00 p.m., the participants started to arrive at the Congress hospitality desk. They received a personal badge, a folder and a USB key with all the Congress documentation and some gifts from the official sponsors.

As scheduled, the **Executive Board of the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations**, started at 4:30 p.m. During 3 hours, the Executive Board worked together on the following issues: The International Meeting / 2nd Intermediate Congress of EFUCA which was about to begin, the AZURE Magazine of EFUCA's activities, the EFUCA's Website, the

EFUCA Members' 2014 financial contribution situation, the next Executive Board meeting of EFUCA in 2015 and the WFUCA activities.

The meeting ended at 7:30 before sharing a dinner all together in a reserved room of the Concord Hotel with the delegates from EFUCA member countries and part of the staff of the UNESCO Centre in Turin.

FRIDAY 12th SEPTEMBER

Sala Rossa of the City Hall of Turin (Piazza Palazzo di Città, 1)

From 8:45 a.m. To 9:30 a.m. the participants have been welcomed by the staff of the UNESCO Centre in Turin. All participants received a personal badge, a folder and a USB key with the Congress documentation. Next to the hospitality desk, Italian coffee was offered by the *Lavazza Company*. It was also possible to taste biscuits offered by the *City of La Morra*.

At 9:30 a.m., at the beginning of the Opening Ceremony, during the I Plenary Assembly, there were minutes of emotion when, in her [video message](#), the **General Director of UNESCO, Irina Bokova**, in addition to thanking the UNESCO Centre in Turin, EFUCA and WFUCA, recalled her personal commitment to the respect of women around the world and concluded by saying that she will looking forward to receiving the Declaration of Turin. She pointed out that such information would be valuable precisely because coming from the movement of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations.

Similar requests and great interest on the topic were also present in the letters sent to the UNESCO Centre in Turin by: the **President of the Italian Republic, Giorgio Napolitano** (letter accompanying His Adhesion to the event), the **Director of the Division for Gender Equality at UNESCO, Saniye Gülser Corat**, the **National Italian Commission for UNESCO**, the **European Commission**, the **Italian Federation of UNESCO Centres and Clubs (FICLU)**, and several Local Authorities who granted their patronage to the initiative.

The **I Plenary Assembly** continued as scheduled, with the introductory notes by **Maria Paola Azzario**, Vice President EFUCA and President of UNESCO Centre in Turin, **Daniela Popescu**, President of EFUCA, **George Christophides**, President of WFUCA, and **Ilaria Borletti Buitoni**, Undersecretary of the Italian Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities and of Tourism. Afterwards, local authorities took the floor for their welcome addresses.

After a coffee break, the strategy of Equal Opportunities in the UNESCO and EU documents have been introduced by **Marina Christophides**, Executive Secretary of EFUCA, and **Adeline Popescu**, Auditor of EFUCA. The specific topics of the International Meeting (Culture, Nutrition and Violences) have been presented by Italian and foreign women experts.

From 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. the **lunch offered by the City of Bra**, in the *Sala Marmi* of the City Hall of Turin, allowed all the participants to taste the excellent gastronomy and wines from Piedmont, which has recently obtained a prestigious reward. In fact, in June 2014, the Vineyard Landscape of Piedmont: Langhe-Roero and Monferrato became [the 50° Italian World Heritage Site](#).
Sala Capigruppo, Sala Orologio, Sala Congregazioni of the City Hall of Turin.

During the afternoon (from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.), the three thematic workshops took place in different rooms of the City Hall of Turin. In each workshop, people coming from several countries presented good practices to promote the gender equality related to culture, nutrition and violence.

Workshop 1 - Women and Culture

Coordinated by:

Milica Dromnjakovic, Council member of EFUCA from Serbia

Luisa Giacomina, University of Turin from Italy

30 participants from 4 different countries.

Interventions by:

- **Maria Luisa Cosso**, President Cosso Foundation,
- **Blandine Pélissier**, spokesman of “HF Movement” and member of the CLEF organisation, France,
- **Oluyemisi Alatise**, Inner Wheel Club Lagos, Nigeria,
- **Giuliana Bausano**, Governor International Inner Wheel Distretto 204,
- **Cinzia Franza**, “I Culur” Association,
- **Barbara Arrighetti**, National Councillor AITI,

Workshop 2 - Women and Nutrition

Coordinated by:

Cinzia Scaffidi, Director of the Slow Food Study Centre, Italy

Mihaela Varga, Vice President of Romanian UNESCO Clubs federation, Romania

15 participants from 5 different countries.

Interventions by:

- **Zahra Hussein**, Ain Shams University Hospital of Cairo, Egypt
- **Dianella Savoia**, University of Turin.

Workshop 3 - Women and Violences

Coordinated by: **Michèle Vianès**, President of "Regards de Femmes", France and **Silvia Martinez Canton**, Vice President EFUCA, Spain

15 participants from 8 different countries

Interventions by:

- **Michèle Vianès**, President “Regards de Femmes”,
- **Soukeina Bouraoui**, Director CAWTAR, Tunisia,

The **Editing Group** started working on the Final Declaration. It was coordinated by **Daniela Popescu**, President EFUCA, and it was composed by other EFUCA and WFUCA Executive Board Members and experts.

In the evening, participants got the opportunity to participate to a guided tour in Italian or English, offered by *Fondazione Torino Musei*, of **Palazzo Madama** (Piazza Castello), one of the 22 Piedmont Royal Palaces, Savoy Residences, included in the **UNESCO World Heritage List in 1997**.

The following “**Dinner at Palace**” was a tribute to the Immaterial Piedmont Heritage and to the wines of the Region. The duo **Patricia Lowe** and **Paolo Serazzi** (members of the UNESCO Centre in Turin) accompanied the evening with their live music. Many guests sang international melodies or from their own countries, in a joyous blend of material and immaterial culture.

SATURDAY 13th SEPTEMBER

Sala Capigruppo, Sala Orologio, Sala Congregazioni of the City Hall of Turin.

From 9:00 a.m. To 11:00 a.m. continuation of the group work in order to elaborate the final draft of the reports and of the Final Declaration of Turin.

From 11:00 a.m. To 1:00 p.m., in the *Sala Rossa*, the **II Plenary Assembly** took place along with the workshops reports from the secretaries of the three groups, the presentation of EFUCA's website by Dzmitry Subtselny, Vice President EFUCA, President Belarusian Association of UNESCO Clubs and the approval of the Final Declaration of Turin.

From 1:00 p.m. To 2:00 p.m. lunch was again offered by the *City of Bra* in the *Sala Marmi* of the City Hall of Turin. In the spare time from 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. many participants discovered Turin by visiting its museums or simply walking along its streets and squares.

GAM (Gallery of Modern and Contemporary Art, Via Magenta 31, Turin)

The **III Plenary Assembly**, a public event with free entrance, started at 5:00 p.m. with a brief ESTRATTO of the theatrical play **“RAJO...everyone has his/her own star”** by and with **Suad Omar**, from Somalia, directed by **Gabriella Bordin (Almateatro)**. This interpretation remembered us of the painful condition of migrant women and their not easy integration in the cultures and the countries of arrival. An important starting point for all the clubs to plan future projects.

Afterwards, **Maria Paola Azzario, Daniela Popescu, George Christophides, Marina Christophides, Chiara Benedetto** (Fondazione Medicina a Misura di Donna), **Daniela Finocchi** (Ambassador WE-Women for Expo) took part in a **Talk Show**, moderated by the journalist of *La Stampa Stefanelle Campana*. During this moment, a further collection of indications of joint work and of Good Practices have been presented.

Two important projects were presented: **“Born with Culture”** that the *Sant'Anna Hospital* in Turin devoted to motherhood and the care of women, launched together with the *Fondazione Torino Musei*, on September 23rd, during the "Culture Week of Turin". Due to this project the parents of the children born at Sant'Anna Hospital will be allowed to freely visit the three Museums of the Foundation for one year. This initiative could be repeated throughout Italy, as well as in other parts of the world. **“WE-Women for Expo”** is an EXPO 2015 project about nutrition and women. In 2015, in fact, Milan will host the **EXPO**, whose title is **“Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life”**. Thanks to WE, women from participating countries will be invited to express their views on the nourishment of the body and nourishment of freedom and intelligence. The sustainability of the planet is expected to form a new alliance between food and cultures and it is women who will be the driving force behind this. This project was illustrated by **Daniela Finocchi**, Ambassador of WE-Women for Expo and Project Manager of the National literary contest *Lingua Madre*.

The Talk Show ended with the reading of the **Final Declaration of Turin** by **Marina Christophides**, Executive Secretary of EFUCA.

Afterwards, the results of the **International Contest “Culture, Nutrition, Violences: experiences of women of any age and country”** were presented. The UNESCO Centre in Turin realized a publication including all the testimonies arrived from Europe, the Mediterranean countries and Africa. The book was distributed to all the public which crowded the Auditorium of the GAM. The winner of the Contest is **Qiong Wu**, a young Chinese girl, who read out loud her story entitled “The opportunity is for the ready person”.

At the end of the afternoon, the President of EFUCA, **Daniela Popescu**, honoured Maria Paola Azzario with a certificate.

In the evening, EFUCA and WFUCA members had a cocktail at Platti, a famous and historic café of the town.

SUNDAY 14th SEPTEMBER

The President and the Vice President of the World Federation, with the Secretary of the European Federation, were accompanied by the President of the UNESCO Club of La Morra and other members to meet the Mayor of the City and to visit the **Langhe-Roero and Monferrato**, the 50th Italian site included in June to the UNESCO World Heritage List, while other guests were visiting the City of Turin, guided by a member of the UNESCO Centre.

CONCLUSION

The participants have taken part in the works of 12th and 13th with passion and efficiency, for a total of 220 people. Participants came from **16 countries**: Belarus, China, Cyprus, Greece, Egypt, France, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Nigeria, Romania, Serbia, Somalia, Spain, Tunisia, USA. For the Italian Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Centres (FICLU), there were present, in different manners, 21 Centres and Clubs from Arezzo, Barge, Baronissi, Cagliari, Cerignola, Cuneo, Erice, Foggia, La Morra, Florence, Foligno, Lucera, Modena, Sanremo, Pollenzo, Terre del Boca, Turin, Trapani, Trieste, Venice, Verona.

Lunches, dinners and tasting gifts, all made in Piedmont, were offered by **UNESCO Club in Pollenzo**, on the initiative of the President *Valerio Tibaldi*, the President of the **UNESCO Club in La Morra** *Rosanna Boglietti*, along with *Paola* and *Enrico Cordero di Montezemolo*, who involved their Mayors *Bruna Sibille* and *Maria Luisa Ascheri*. The **UNESCO Club in Barge**, on the initiative of *Valerio Airaudo*, contributed with gourmet gifts.

The network has worked beautifully, thanks to the cooperation offered by the **Mayor of Turin**, the Councillor *Ilda Curti* and the **Office of International Affairs**, the **Piedmont Region** and the Councillors *Monica Cerutti* and *Gianna Pentenero*, the President of the **Fondazione Torino Musei** *Patrizia Asproni* and her collaborators. Other sponsors, **Galfrè, Lavazza, MoleCola** and **Sebaste**, with their typical Piedmontese products, have made the meeting more welcoming.

Fondazione CRT has given a very valuable contribution.

The passionate and competent commitment of young people and members of the UNESCO Centre did the rest. For **30 years**, the UNESCO Centre has been working thanks to young people. This confirms that the trust of the UNESCO Centre in Turin in the collaboration among different generations is winning.

Barbara Costabello

Lucas Jamin

International Meeting and 2nd Intermediate Congress of EFUCA “Global Ethics and Equal Opportunities: Women’s Contribution to the Development of Europe and the Mediterranean”

Declaration of Turin, adopted on 13th September 2014

We, the representatives of Clubs, Centres and Associations for UNESCO, Non-Governmental Organizations, Foundations and Academic Institutions, coming from sixteen countries – Belarus, China, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Nigeria, Romania, Serbia, Somalia, Spain, Tunisia, U.S.A. – assembled in Turin, Italy on 11th – 14th September 2014 during the International Meeting “Global Ethics and Equal Opportunities: Women’s Contribution to the Development of Europe and the Mediterranean” within the framework of the 2nd Intermediate Congress of EFUCA, organized by the UNESCO Centre in Turin in collaboration with the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (EFUCA) with the adhesion of the President of the Italian Republic and the Government of Italy, the

Municipality and the Prefecture of Turin, the Local Authorities in Piedmont, the private sector and the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA) with the patronage of UNESCO and the Italian National Commission for UNESCO and European Commission,

Bearing in mind the Universal Declaration on Human Rights, in particular Article 1 and the right to the birth registration for each child, the ideals and the UNESCO Action Plan regarding Gender Equality and Equal Opportunities between men and women, girls and boys and strategic Millennium Development Goals, *UN Millennium Development Goals 2015*,

Considering the specific engagement of Irina Bokova, the Director General of UNESCO, for the realization of Gender Equality, through the training of present and future generations for the promotion of multicultural dialogue, mutual understanding and the rapprochement of cultures,

Recalling the *Declarations on Global Ethics* of WFUCA, the *Florence Declaration on the Proclamation of the International Day for Global Ethics*, adopted in Florence, Italy, on 11th March 2013, and the *Astana Declaration on Global Ethics*, adopted in Astana, Kazakhstan, on 23rd August 2013,

Emphasizing the importance of the UNESCO programmes for Education for All and the promotion of the Culture of Peace and the Sustainable Development and Gender Equality,

Underlining that Education for all is fundamental in order to promote positive attitudes and programmes, to meet global challenges such as Gender Equality, Gender-based discrimination, Global immigration, Poverty, illiteracy and the economic crisis. It is also fundamental to make citizens aware and responsible in promoting communication, global interaction, cooperation and partnership.

Considering and evaluating the outcome of the plenary sessions, workshops and discussions of the International Meeting “*Global Ethics and Equal Opportunities: Women’s Contribution to the Development of Europe and the Mediterranean*” and specifically on the themes: **women and nutrition, women and culture and women and violences,**

Reaffirming the adhesion to the following documents:

- the *CEDAW Convention*, on the elimination of any form of discrimination against women (1979);
- the *Belem do Paro Inter-American Convention* on the Prevention, Prosecution and Elimination of Violence Against Women (1994);
- *Beijing Platform for Action*, on Human Rights of women (1995);
- the *Additional Maputo Protocol of the African Charter on Women and Peoples Rights*, in relation to the Rights of Women in Africa (2003);
- the *Istanbul Convention* on the Prevention and Fight Against Violence towards Women and Domestic Violences (2011),

Encouraging and promoting awareness on the importance of Gender Equality and the role of women in research for sustainable development and in the realization of the strategic Millennium Development Goals, in particular Article 3: “*Promote gender equality and empower women*”,

Stressing the necessity to establish gender mainstreaming, responsive policies towards gender to encourage the development of norms, values and behaviours for a more inclusive and equitable society, based on democratic values and the rule of law, referring to the Recommendations of the UN General Assembly and UNESCO *Post-2015 Development Agenda*.

We declare our commitment to:

- 1) **Continue** our action of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations worldwide, for the promotion of Human Rights, multicultural dialogue, mutual knowledge and understanding. In particular, the European Federation will promote education and training Programmes for women and men, girls and boys in order to guarantee Equal Opportunities for all,
- 2) **Promote** Education to Sustainable Development and post 2015 Programmes, asking the respect of Equal Opportunities and equal participation of women and men in decision-making positions, as well as in science and technology,

- 3) **Implement**, in cooperation with the media, programmes addressed primarily to strengthen positive visibility of women and eliminate:
 - gender stereotypes regarding the role of women and men both in society and in everyday life;
 - any kind of gender based violation.
- 4) **Further declare** our commitment to strengthen the ties established thanks to this International Meeting through global partnerships and cooperation, through joint programmes which realize the above mentioned values,
- 5) **We address** to UNESCO, to its Director General Irina Bokova, to National Federations of Clubs, Centres and Associations for UNESCO, to the President of NGO-UNESCO Liaison Committee Patrick Gallaud, to Governments, National assemblies and Parliaments, to work together with us, WFUCA and EFUCA, in raising awareness in the civil society and circulate the present Declaration in order to be effective based on specific programmes with periodical evaluation procedures.

*The present Declaration has been approved by unanimity of the participants
Turin, Italy, 13th September 2014*

The signatories are the participants coming from:

Belarus, China, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Morocco, Nigeria, Romania, Serbia, Somalia, Spain, Tunisia, U.S.A.

***International Meeting and 2nd Intermediate Congress of EFUCA
“Global Ethics and Equal Opportunities:
Women’s Contribution to the Development of Europe and the Mediterranean”***

Attachment 1: Workshop “Women and Culture”

Coordinated by: **Milica Dromnjakovic**, Member EFUCA and

Luisa Giacoma, University of Turin

It clearly emerged during the meeting, featuring speakers from Italy, France, Nigeria, Israel and Romania, that, despite being vital, the contribution of women to culture has often been overlooked, especially with respect to the past. The personal story of an entrepreneur, who then became the founder of the Fondazione Cosso, attests to the importance of recalling times when life was certainly more difficult for women, including in the not so distant past. On the same line, formalising a decade-long commitment to defending ethical working practices and the right to a healthy living environment, representatives of the association I Culur employed art to call attention to the story of the IPCA colour factory, which over time has generated great suffering, caused the death of hundreds of people and deeply damaged the surrounding environment. Keeping the memory of this story alive is crucial to ensuring that "no one can claim not to have known" in the future.

Historical memory is precious, so that women are aware of the **progress made**, despite there still being a lot to do.

So, what can still be done? As referred by the representative of the Inner Wheel of Lagos, the status of women in Nigeria is still extremely difficult, both in relation to culture and to basic civil rights, such as those concerning inheritance. Women participating in the workshop brought experiences differing in type and countries of origin, but all sharing the desire to continue on the path towards a single common objective. Underlying all of this is the financial independence of women, which is indispensable to their freedom. The critical points to be worked include:

- 1) the image of women in the media;
- 2) workplaces for women;
- 3) women with disabilities.

We propose the following solutions:

- 1) to eliminate gender stereotypes and sexism;
- 2) fight to stop violence against women;
- 3) equality in access to employment;
- 4) ensuring the participation of women in political and public decisions;
- 5) participation of women in the management of businesses and cultural institutions, in order that places are not reserved exclusively for men;
- 6) protection of individual rights in order for democracy to function;
- 7) respect for the legal state;
- 8) international monitoring of directive implementation.

During the meeting, the female governor of Inner Wheel District 204 illustrated the association's important contribution to culture through the restoration of numerous works of art. During the workshop, the research and restoration of works of art by women and no longer (only) by men was viewed as the next step in this praiseworthy commitment.

In this regard, representatives of the H/F movement and La Clef provided France's contribution on the importance of beginning to speak of "matrimoine" (perhaps translatable with "mothermony") and not just of "patrimoine" [patrimony] to ensure that women are aware of the efforts, in this case artistic and cultural efforts made by their predecessors and to ensure that future generations of women will not always be forced to start from scratch. In respect to this, the British also refer to history/herstory. The achievements of women have not been forgotten as a result of the lack of value of the same, but because they were accomplished by women.

In relation to this, the initiative of the Inner Wheel Club di Monza, which, together with the Politecnico di Milano created the cultural website www.regineditalia.net on powerful women in Medieval Italy, has been extremely useful. This fruitful collaboration has also led to the establishment of the Premio Policultura contest (which from 2006 until date has collected more than 1000 stories created by more than 30,000 students aged between 4 and 18 years). The contest also includes the Premio internazionale Inner Wheel Club di Monza section, dedicated in 2013 to "Women in history and culture". The Inner Wheel di Monza also promotes participation in the Expo 4 Women project.

Everyone is familiar with Leonardo da Vinci, Picasso, Oscar Wilde or Mozart, but few are able to indicate the names of equally excellent women. The list of omissions of females in common knowledge is very long, however, this is not due to the being a lack of great female painters, writers, musicians or cultured women: what is clearly missing is a widespread perception of their existence and their work, almost as if contributing to culture is an exclusive prerogative of men. There is therefore still a long way to go before important contributions made by women are recognised and become widespread common knowledge. Correspondingly, the road to Ipazia, Ildegarda, Artemisia Gentileschi and others being included in school programmes and books and studied together alongside their equally illustrious colleagues, is still long. In addition to accurately portraying numerous brilliant minds, such an innovation would contribute significantly to enriching our culture with important facets. It can, in fact, be claimed that **the contribution of women to culture should become a subject of study to be introduced in schools**, where until date only the quarter of the moon illuminated by the work of men has been illustrated. Today, there are means and models to aspire to, in order that the light from the other quarter of the moon, which has surprisingly been ignored for too long, can be seen, so that not only the moon, but also culture can claim to be "full".

During the meeting, the vital importance of translation, often performed by women, also emerged in this process. The United Nations General Conference in Nairobi, on 22 November 1976,

adopted a recommendation which reads: "translation promotes understanding between peoples and co-operation among nations by facilitating the dissemination of literary and specific works...across linguistic frontiers and the interchange of ideas". This recommendation has been embraced by the representative of the Italian Association of Translators and Interpreters and further extended in the association's code of professional conduct. It is precisely translators and interpreters, who continually observe diverse languages and cultures, who are able to become the promoters of a **feminisation of language**. A feminisation committed to assigning names to female functions, since the unnamed does not exist, supporting, for example, the use of "councillor" and "mayor" instead of "councillor" and "mayor", thus underlining the difference and preventing it from disappearing in a male noun or the ambiguity of a neutral term. All women, in fact, should follow suit, so as not to have to indiscriminately take on the male order. If society envisages itself as a "society of men", women will be outsiders in any part of the world. This is why the idea of the difference applies and must apply to all, even to men called, together with women, to respond to the contradictions of a symbolic order that does not take the latter or the relativity of the two subjects - masculine and feminine - into account.

The individuals and associations present at the meeting are favourably disposed to building a network for future projects relating to the subject. To this end, it is recommended that any such network be open to existing networks of women and the valuable work already achieved by the same, in order to draw attention to, promote and share their achievements.

Turin, Italy, 13th September 2014

Translation realized by AITI (Associazione Italiana Traduttori e Interpreti)

International Meeting and 2nd Intermediate Congress of EFUCA
“Global Ethics and Equal Opportunities:
Women’s Contribution to the Development of Europe and the Mediterranean”

Attachment 2: Workshop “Women and Nutrition”

Coordinated by: Cinzia Scaffidi, Director Centre Study Slow Food and

**Mihaela Varga, Vice President Romanian Federation of Clubs, Centres
and Associations UNESCO.**

Women by nature have ethical, ecological, economic, sanitary roles in their families. They also play an important role in the promotion in the society and in the young generation, awareness, mindfulness and consciousness to preserve and respect the nature by avoiding waste and by developing positive attitudes and best practices in nutrition and healthy food.

The important role of women in nutrition is generally accepted in traditional and modern cultures but this assessment has to be recognised in the public area and in the decisional forums in order to get an improvement of the society and of the women’s conditions of life.

Even today women in some areas have no voice: for example, in rural districts and in a lot of countries, women do not participate in decision-making regarding agricultural and nutritional matters.

Women, when they share domestic responsibilities, will have more time for family life and will be able to contribute further in their education of their children.

The present society facilitates women’s domestic activities, but there are still several negative aspects related to nutrition especially as a result of the globalisation of the market and of the mass media.

According to the United Nations General Assembly Resolution in 2007 which established an International Day of Rural Women on the 15th October, “the critical role and the contribution of

rural women including indigenous women in enhancing agriculture and rural development” are improving “food security and eradicating rural poverty”. In addition, the United Nations declared in 2014 the year of Rural Family in order to strengthen their role in providing nutrition despite of their economic and social unprivileged condition.

The women have to get out of the private area and out of the kitchen by sharing with the partner the daily responsibilities, in order to be part of the society, the economy and the feeding system.

Our recommendation is to raise awareness to these subjects in our UNESCO movement from the European and Mediterranean level to each club or association.

Turin, Italy, 13th September 2014 Cyprus, Egypt, France, Italy, Romania

International Meeting and 2nd Intermediate Congress of EFUCA
“Global Ethics and Equal Opportunities:
Women’s Contribution to the Development of Europe and the Mediterranean”

Attachment 3: Workshop “Women and Violences”

Coordinated by: **Michèle Vianes**, President of “Regards de Femmes” and

Silvia Martinez Canton, Vice President EFUCA

We, present at the conference that is based on international conventions on violence against women: CEDAW, the action programme of Beeijing, the Belem do Para Convention, the Maputo Protocol and the Istanbul convention duly ratified by our countries.

Remembering that women’s rights are an integral part of human rights, we ask our States to make a commitment to:

- make effective and spread the contents of the above mentioned Conventions, including the right of every child to be registered at birth;
- change laws discriminatory against women, such as that concerning nationality, age of marriage, property ... ;
- promote education for peace, integrating the respect for human dignity and life, particularly during the International Peace Day on September 21st.

Turin, Italy, 13th September 2014

Belarus, Cyprus, France, Italy, Nigeria, Romania, Tunisia, USA.

Translation realized by AITI (Associazione Italiana Traduttori e Interpreti)

EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF UNESCO CLUBS CENTRES AND ASSOCIATIONS (EFUCA) - GENERAL ASSEMBLY

CELEBRATIONS FOR THE 15TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF EUROPEAN FEDERATION OF UNESCO CLUBS CENTRES AND ASSOCIATIONS

CONFERENCE : “UNESCO CLUBS MOVEMENT IN EUROPE
- PAST, PRESENT AND FUTURE”

MINSK, REPUBLIC OF BELARUS 11TH -13TH NOVEMBER 2016

DRAFT AGENDA

Friday, 11th of November 2016

Arrival of the Participants – Transfer to President Hotel

17:00 Meeting of the Outgoing Executive Board of EFUCA

20:00 Welcome Dinner

Saturday, 12th of November 2016

8:00 Breakfast

9:00 – 11:45 First Plenary Session

Opening of the General Assembly - Conference

“UNESCO Clubs Movement In Europe – Past, Present And Future”

Dedicated to the Celebrations of the 15th Anniversary of the Establishment of EFUCA
Speeches:

- President of the Belarusian Association of UNESCO Clubs
- Belarusian National Commission for UNESCO Representative
- UNESCO Representative
- President of EFUCA
- President of WFUCA
- Former Presidents of EFUCA
- Belarusian Civil Society Representative
- UNESCO Clubs Movement Activists
- Group Photo

11:45 – 12:00 Coffee break

12:00 – 14:00 Accreditation of the office of the General Assembly

(President, Vice – Presidents and Rapporteurs)

Appointment of the Credentials Committee

Appointment of a Nominations Committee

Adoption of the Report of the previous General Assembly

(Bucharest, Romania in November – December 2012)

Activity report of the EFUCA Executive Secretary

14:00 – 15:30 Lunch

15:30 – 17:00

Financial report by the EFUCA Treasurer

Evaluation of the work of different bodies

Program and budget report until the following General Assembly

Relation with the policy of WFUCA and UNESCO

17:00 – 17:15 Coffee break

17:15 - 19:00 Second Plenary Session

Elections - First Round

President, Executive Secretary, Treasurer

Elections - Second Round

3 Vice- Presidents and 2 Members

Designation of the Auditor

Election of the Conciliation Commission

Closing remarks

19:00 – 20:00 Meeting of the newly elected Executive Board of EFUCA

20:00 Party dinner – Event offered by the host Belarusian Association of UNESCO Clubs

Sunday 13th of November 2016

8:00 Breakfast

10:00 – 15:00 Free time in Minsk or an excursion to a UNESCO World Heritage Site

Lunch, Departure of the participants

In the following lines, it is presented the message from the President of WFUCA, Mr. Dhriendra Bhatnagar

MESSAGE

I am delighted to learn that the 4th General Assembly of European Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations (EFUCA) will be held from 11th to 13th November 2016 in Minsk, Belarus. It is also heartening to know that EFUCA will be celebrating the completion of 15 years of its activities. The idea to form the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations was floated by Ms. Daniela Popescu, President of the Romanian Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations in the year 1998 at a meeting in Florence, Italy. Following her appeal European Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations (EFUCA) was created in the year 2001 at Busteni (Romania) with the membership of 15 countries in Europe. Subsequently, it was also decided to include North America in the regional federation.

Ever since its formation, EFUCA has been working on democratic principles to spread the ideals of UNESCO and strengthen the UNESCO Club movement in the region. Over the years, EFUCA has organized number of activities, held its Executive Board Meetings at regular intervals with active participation of its members earning the reputation of most active regional federation of UNESCO Clubs and Associations.

I wish 4th General Assembly of EFUCA a grand success.

DHIRENDRA BHATNAGAR
PRESIDENT, WFUCA

Participation to other important EFUCA events

MAGELLAN MOMENT 2012

The Romanian Federation of Associations, Centers and Clubs for UNESCO in collaboration with Alumnus and SPANDUGINO Foundation wanted to bring a Romanian contribution through the MAGELLA MOMENT project in 2012. This initiative has as a primary scope the launching of a movement that puts emphasis on the cultural and scientific European patrimony. Furthermore, the project wants to bring at the table the relevant actors from the academia sphere and also from the scientific and cultural institutions and from the governmental and non-governmental sector. The Project has as objective growing the awareness about the importance of the intercultural dialogue and about the relevance of the exchange of information between all the members aforementioned and not only.

Alumnus Club for UNESCO, along with SPANDUGINO Foundation organized between 17 to 19 September 2012, the pilot event of the MAGELLAN MOMENT, which consisted of the invitation to Romania of the NOBEL laureate for Medicine, Professor Luc Montagnier, to enter into a cultural and scientific dialogue with the academic Solomon Marcus. The meeting was held under the auspice of the **MAGELLAN Moment of Medicine**

ASIA-EUROPE FORUM ON EDUCATION

In today's ever changing altering, developing, dynamic and irresolute world, we, as societies are facing threats and provocations unknown to previous generations. These continuous mutations that are developing at a personal, local, national and global level are generating an increasingly convoluted and labyrinthine international geopolitical situation.

In order to be capable to cope in an efficient manner with these sets of newly emerging problems which are unique to our times we need skilled, proficient people, with a certain know-how who fully understand the challenges of these Gordian times. Education is crucial and it is necessary for society to have a meaningful conversation regarding the way future generations will be brought up.

In this context, we would like to insert the present forum, the first of its kind to be hosted on European soil. This forum aims specifically at promoting innovative solutions for a meaningful intercultural education and aims at promoting intercultural dialogue which would lessen the existing tensions between different cultures and help everybody work together in order to create a better world for themselves, their beloved ones and future generations through sustainable development.

Sustainable development in education means to invest in people and create a mindset of responsibility and ethics which whose outcome would be an international, all-inclusive dialogue. Interdisciplinary cooperation is needed in order to encourage responsible behavior and actively engage citizens.

Europe and Asia can productively work together in order to achieve a harmonic environment balanced by the different philosophies which have been harbored by the two and which have marked humankind; a perfect equilibrium between the Occident of Roman law and Greek philosophy and the Orient of the Spring and Autumn Period.

Romania's main contribution at the conference was the launch of an innovative document, created for young people around the world, Passport for Global Ethics, an efficient tool for the younger generation, a symbol of the values that UNESCO seeks to provide to youngsters through various programs and platforms that support intercultural dialogue. This paper proposed and initiated by our country at the event was a real success and UNESCO Director-General, Mrs Irina Bokova, publicly thanked the Romanian team for the initiative.

From 12 -15 July 2013 Beijing hosted the Forum Asia - Europe, the first UNESCO event dedicated entirely to this complex and timely issue of ethics in education - GLOBAL ETHICS - our main hosts were the National Commission and the Federation for UNESCO Clubs and Associations from China.

Romania took an active part in the forum, knowing that since December 2012 and until 2016 our country holds the presidency of the European Federation for UNESCO Clubs, Centers and Associations. In my capacity as Romanian National Commission for UNESCO expert and President of the Federation, represented Europe and Romania on these extremely important meetings for the development of educational and cultural relations between Asia and Europe, focusing on the issue of youth from both continents .

During the event and the meeting with the Deputy Minister of Education and Chairman of UNESCO in China, Mr. Hao Ping, "Passport for Global Ethics" was launched, an innovative document which advocates the formation of a new generation of moral conduct in the future, and also represents an effective tool, a symbol of the values that UNESCO seeks to provide to young people through various programs and platforms that support intercultural dialogue. This passport was presented at the General Conference in Paris.

I would like to take advantage of this opportunity in order to thank all those who have made this important educational event possible. My gratitude goes out to the organizers, the partners and the participants who brought forward interesting and challenging themes for discussion and have come from all over the world in order to discuss and present pressing academic issues.

It is paramount that relevant personalities who are active in the educational field come together and discuss from a global perspective the contemporary dilemmas regarding educational ethics. Constant, well-organized and efficacious dialogue is the only solution to the obstacles in education determined by issues such as energy supply security, an efficient and responsible energy mix, the spread of technology and its consequences on the human psyche, economic development, migration, cultural diversity, environmental responsibility and the list may continue. The Asia-Europe Forum on Education was established in 2013 as an international gathering where such problems are specifically targeted.

The first edition of the forum was hosted by the Huijia School in Beijing, China in 2013. The second edition of the forum, themed *The Multicultural Challenge*, was hosted by the Jilin HuaQiao Foreign Languages University in China. This year's edition is the first one to be hosted on European soil, namely **in Bucharest, Romania from October 7-11, 2015**. The third edition of the Asia-Europe Forum on Education (AEFE) is dedicated to an important historical landmark: **the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of UNESCO**. The main pillar for discussion regards current challenges to education; AEFE 2015 is dedicated entirely to the themes regarding *Sustainable Development in Education*.

The forum has brought together personalities who are active in the field of education, are dynamic and interested in shaping educational progress in order to elevate humankind through knowledge.

Event dedicated to the 70th Anniversary of UNESCO

The 60th anniversary of Romania's membership in UNESCO

In the world of economic globalization, computerization and increasing cultural diversity, the problem of educational ethics for young people has become the central topic of a dialogue in most countries. As a way of efficiently exploiting the modalities of bringing ethical education to schools and improving the quality of education for the younger generation, the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (WFUCA), the International Bureau for Education (IBE), the European and North American Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (EFUCA), the Asia-Pacific Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations (AFUCA)

have decided, as of 2013, to annually organize and promote the **Asia-Europe Forum on Education (AEFE)**.

For 2015, it was proposed in Changchun, China, that the third edition would take place in Europe, choosing Romania as the host-country. The main theme was **education and sustainable development**. As such, in **October 07-11, 2015 Alumnus Club UNESCO coordinated the organization of the III Asia-Europe Forum on Education in Romania**; an event which main aim was promoting innovative solutions for an efficient intercultural education through a dialogue which would help diminish the existing tensions in some cases in different areas.

This forum was the creation of the following organizers: the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research, the Romanian Government through the Department for Interethnic Relations, the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO, the European and North American Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations, the University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine in Bucharest, Alumnus Club UNESCO. Other partners from different domains included the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Alliance of Civilizations, the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations, the People's Republic of China National Commission for UNESCO, the Bucharest Municipality, ARCUB- the Cultural Centre of Bucharest, the Romanian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations, the Progress Through Education Foundation, Corciu and Associates and Thumbelina Kindergarten.

The forum has brought together personalities who are active in the field of education, dynamic and interested in shaping educational progress in order to elevate humankind through knowledge.

This event was included into the III Romanian National Plan for the **Alliance of Civilizations**, an UN initiative launched in 2005.

More than 100 delegates from 34 countries participated in the debates or delivered their papers during the three days of debating. The most numerous delegations were the ones from China, Italy, Russia, Belarus and Romania.

On October 8, the participants visited the Pietroasele Wine Resort and the Muddy Volcanoes in Buzau and they appreciated both the products of the resort and the beautiful landscape.

Delegations of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations, the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations and the Romanian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations presented a last homage to Ms. Paula Iakob, a lawyer and the founding President of the Romanian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations. A condolences book *In memoriam* was opened at the beginning of the III Asia-Europe Forum on Education.

On October 9, the Asia-Europe Forum on Education commenced with the opening of the "Here, Bucharest Romania" exhibit and an artistic moment offered by the children at the Degetica Kindergarten. The President of the Romanian Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations and the author of the children's book "The Spectator" offered books to all the children.

The opening ceremony of the works of the Forum began with a message from Mr. Klaus Werner **Iohannis**, President of Romania, who was presented by Mrs. Ligia Deca, State counsellor for the Romanian presidency, followed by speeches by Mr. Sorin Mihai Câmpeanu, Minister of Education and Scientific Research, and Mr. Aledin Amet, Secretary of State of the Romanian Government – the Department for Interethnic Relations.

Within the same ceremony, several other speeches followed: Dharendra Bhatnagar, President of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations, Daniel Tanase, General director in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs, Adrian Cioroianu, Romanian ambassador to UNESCO, Ani Matei, Secretary-General of the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO, Răzvan Ionuț Teodorescu, rector of the University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine in Bucharest, Eliot Minchenberg, UNESCO, Yu Xiaoping, the People's Republic of China National Commission for UNESCO, Ana Dumitrescu, **Metamorphoses** project coordinator, Daniela Popescu, President of the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations.

The works approached subjects related to the central theme: **education and sustainable development**.

The four main sub-themes of the Forum were structured as follows:

1. *Education and the Alliance of Civilizations* – debate moderated by Mr. Petru Dumitriu, plenipotentiary Minister, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Papers were presented by the participants from China, Japan, Cyprus, Spain, and Romania.

2. *Excellence in language studies and intercultural education, bilingualism and multilingualism, education through acknowledgement of patrimony, access to education for disadvantaged groups, the relevance of UNESCO clubs roles and civil society regarding these challenges*, moderated by Mr. George Christofides, honorary President of the World Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations.

Participants from Belarus, Switzerland, Cyprus, Greece, Italy and Portugal discussed different aspects regarding this theme, underlying UNESCO's role in implementing these changes.

3. *From theory to practice, the partnership between school and business in professional, vocational/dual education*, is the theme which started on the second day of debates. The moderator of this theme was Mr. Werner Braun, President of the German Economic Club, Deutscher Wirtschaftsklub, Braşov. He gave the floor to the speakers who dealt with the subject from their country's policies perspective: Germany, Romania, USA, Russia, Italy, Serbia.

4. *University education- tying technology and innovation on the labour market*

Moderated by Mr. Ioan Dona, professor at the University of Agronomic Sciences and Veterinary Medicine in Bucharest. Speeches were delivered by the representatives of Lebanon, India, France, Romania, Kazakhstan, and Pakistan.

Young participants of the **METAMORPHOSES VII** project took part in the work of the Forum and in the debates. The project put together members of UNESCO clubs from 18 countries and focused on European culinary traditions. It hosted a series of workshops which included presentations of traditional recipes, belonging to the immaterial patrimony of their respective countries, in order to sustain European cultural identity.

Each participant of the **Asia-Europe Forum on Education** received a “**Passport for Global Ethics**” certification, branded by Alumnus Club for UNESCO.

On October 10, a city tour was organized. The participants of the Forum visited the „**Elite Art Gallery**”, which belongs to the Elite Art Club UNESCO.

An extraordinary concert „**Youth, Talent and Classic in Bucharest**” offered by the **Royal Camerata** along with young laureates of musical competitions, closed the III Asia-Europe Forum on Education.

Conclusion

In today’s ever changing, altering, developing, dynamic and irresolute world, we, as societies, are facing threats and provocations unknown to previous generations. These continuous mutations developing at personal, local, national and global levels are generating an increasingly convoluted and labyrinthine international geopolitical situation.

We need skilled and proficient people with certain know-how who will fully understand the challenges of these Gordian times, in order to cope efficiently with these sets of newly emerging problems which are unique for our times. Education is crucially important, and it’s necessary for a society to have a meaningful conversation regarding the way how future generations will be brought up.

Sustainable development in education means to invest in people and create a mind-set of responsibility and ethics resulting in an international and inclusive dialogue. Interdisciplinary cooperation is needed in order to encourage responsible behaviour and engage citizens more actively.

Europe and Asia can work together productively in order to achieve a harmonic environment balanced and harboured by the two different philosophies and which have marked humankind. It’s a perfect equilibrium between the Occident of Roman law and Greek philosophy and the Orient of the Spring and Autumn Period.

PASSPORT FOR GLOBAL ETHICS

Passport for Global Ethics is an innovative document created as a token of gratitude to those, who promote through their activities the formation of a new generation of moral conduct. The Passport for Global Ethics also represents an effective tool, a symbol of the values that UNESCO seeks to provide young people with through various programs and platforms that support intercultural dialogue.

History - Passport for Global Ethics

For the first time the document was presented in July 2013, in Beijing, China, at the UNESCO “Asia-Europe Forum on School Ethics Education”, by Dr. Daniela Popescu, Romanian National Commission Expert and the President of EFUCA. It was presented to Mr. Hao Ping, the Deputy Minister of Education of China and the President of the UNESCO General Conference which took place in November, 2013.

In August 2013 in Astana, Kazakhstan, during the International Conference “Global Ethics: Save the Planet Earth”, it was presented to Mrs. Irina Bokova, Director-General of UNESCO.

In September 2013 in Bucharest, Romania, the Passport was presented to Mr. Remus Pricopie, Minister of National Education of Romania, during the International Symposium “Passport for Global Ethics – UNESCO and the Private Sector”.

In September 2013 in Greaca Domain, Romania, during the Executive Board meeting of EFUCA, the passport was presented to Mr. George Christophides, the WFUCA President, and to all the EFUCA Executive Board members.

In November 2013 during the UNESCO General Conference, passports were presented to all the participant countries. Mr. Remus Pricopie, President of the Romanian National Commission and Minister of Education, and Mr. George Christophides, the WFUCA President, underlined the importance of this project in their speeches.

Passport for Global Ethics was considered by Mr. Ani Matei, the Secretary-General of the National Commission for UNESCO, the most important project for Romania to appear in the annual report of the National Commissions for UNESCO.

We propose that starting from 2016, the Passport for Global Ethics to become a Passport for UNESCO Clubs.

UNESCO AND THE PRIVATE SECTOR 2013

An international symposium **UNESCO and the Private Sector** took place on September 19, 2013 at the headquarters of the National University of Political and Administrative Studies.

The event also gathered together representatives of the Civil Society affiliated to UNESCO from **Belarus, Cyprus, Russian Federation, Greece, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Serbia and Spain.**

The event was opened by Mr. **Remus Pricopie**, Minister of National Education, who underlined the major role of UNESCO in the international social-educational landscape. He expressed the institutional and personal support for the Romanian initiative of creating a **Passport for Global Ethics.**

The symposium represented an open-debate platform which aimed at identifying and defining a strategy of initiating and strengthening the relations between UNESCO and the private sector. The participants of the symposium presented their personal and institutional perspectives, and so emerged the need to establish an effective and open dialogue between UNESCO and the Private Sector. The main purpose of this dialogue is to develop initiatives and projects that may have a positive medium- and long-term impact over the educational, scientific, cultural, economic and social aspects.

The financial crisis resulted in a crisis of the financing sources, the solutions being represented by a series of measures that have to be simultaneous applied: an enhanced presence in the mass-media; more clearer projects and better defined; the promotion of private sponsors; the launch of information campaigns etc. We must also maintain a balance between the need for sponsorship and the ethical principles that UNESCO promotes, in order to avoid the promotion of partners with the purposes contrary to the UNESCO principles.

ACROPOLIS – A Unique Monument of Worldwide Cultural Importance – The return of the Marbles Athens, 6 October, 2014.

The conference was organized under the aegis of the Melina Mercouri Foundation, the World Federation of Clubs Centers and Associations of UNESCO (WFUCA), the European Federation of Clubs Centers and Associations of UNESCO (EFUCA), the Greek Department of ICOMOS and the Cultural Center ATHINAIS. The aim of the conference was to strengthen the awareness of the local community about the cultural importance of the return of the Parthenon's sculptures.

In the 3rd millennium, we, the people who work for UNESCO, want to address all those who are responsible for the education in the world with a message: to understand that there is only one truth and only together, being aware of it, we can build a COMMON FUTURE.

10 YEARS SINCE THE CREATION OF THE UNESCO CLUB IN BELGRADE, 2014

In the name of EFUCA, there has been the first participation at the celebration of the first decade since the constitution of the aforementioned club. On this occasion EFUCA has met the UNESCO civil society from this country. It was also proposed to establish a bilateral relation between Romania and Serbia. Furthermore, Ms. Milica Dromnjakovic, President of the UNESCO Club in Serbia, stated that she would be delighted to organize an Executive Council of EFUCA in Belgrade.

AZURE, 8 March, 2014, New York

Proposed by Alumnus Club, Azure, the EFUCA magazine, is aiming to become a new step in the direction of the solidarity of the civil society through the quality of its projects and its actions which cover the UNESCO ideals and values. The presentation of this magazine took place during the Programme "Closeness between cultures" which was held on 8 March, 2013 in New York. Ms. Simona Minculescu, Ambassador of Romania at UN, was also present.

3RD WORLD FORUM ON INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE BAKU

The global event was organized by the Government of Azerbaijan in partnership with UNESCO, the UN Alliance of Civilizations, the UN World Tourism organization, the Council of Europe and ISESCO.

The World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue, also known as the "Baku Process", was initiated in 2008, and has become a global platform for exchange and discussions of major contemporary challenges pertaining to intercultural dialogue and sharing of related universal values; pressing issues in today's globalized and more and more diverse societies.

The main subject of the 3rd Edition of the World Forum on Intercultural Dialogue: "Culture and Sustainable Development in the post-2015 Development Agenda" was dedicated to the celebration of the World Day for Cultural Diversity and Dialogue (21 May).

CONFERENCE „PATRIMONY, DIVERSITY AND TRADITION”

PORTO 10-14.06.2015

From the 10th to the 14th of June 2015, the Portuguese Federation of UNESCO Clubs organized a meeting in Porto for the representatives of the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations on the subject of "Heritage, Diversity and Tradition".

In the framework of this international meeting, she presented the material: "Metamorphoses 2015: evaluation and promotion of the European patrimony", and invited all the countries to participate with a representative in this project. The EFUCA Executive Board meeting was held in Portugal during the same period.

LA FABBRICA NEL PAESAGGIO

Foligno – Italia 24.10.2015

"La Fabbrica nel Paesaggio " contest organized by the Italian Federation of UNESCO Clubs and Centres - FICLU was, as always, a practical expression of the European Convention's Provisions for Landscape, signed in Florence on October 20th, 2000. Therefore, the context aimed

at promoting landscape protection, management and planning, as well as at European cooperation in this field.

The award ceremony takes place in Foligno every year, and the prize consisted of a piece of art belonging to the artist Sergio Marini.

ROMA YOUTH EMPOWERMENT

BRUXELLES 11.10.2015

The event "Roma Youth Empowerment", organized on the 11th of November at the European Parliament, aimed at building an objective perception of the Roma community in Europe by presenting successful examples among this minority.

The president of the European Federations of Clubs, Centres and Associations of UNESCO presented the progress made in promoting Roma culture, arguing that both the Romanian Government and UNESCO civil society facilitated artistic cultural expression within this community in Europe.

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- LA NUIT DES ARTS ET DES MONDES

- Festival des Arts et de l'Interculturalité Edition 03, Pantin-France 2016

"The 3rd edition of "The Night of the Voyage at the end of the Arts and the Worlds ", festival of Arts and Interculturality created in 2007, and organized by the Association "Arts-Worlds-Cultures" (Laura Petrache and Yannick Le Guern) took place from 21 May until 14 June in Pantin, France.

The theme of this-year festival was "United towards Renewal" and it was placed under the patronage of the French National Commission for UNESCO, the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO, EFUCA, the Mona Bismarck American Center and benefits from the support of Pantin City.

The objectives of the festival were:

* Promote the values of citizenship, solidarity, transmission, live together and especially build together in a common frame, that of the republican values.

* Gather and create links between the populations of all the districts and any socio-professional or cultural category in a common event and in a production of collectives-common works: the walls of renewal.

* Create intercultural links and synergies, this year between 3 guest countries: the Romanian, French and American cultures.

This festival completely joined the values and the philosophy of the UNESCO which allowed to improve human relationships on a daily basis, the humanist reflection on the evolution of the world. The « Nuit des arts et des mondes » Festival was an intercultural exposition of living cultural heritage. Free to the public, each Festival typically draws hundreds of thousands of visitors.

Initiated in 2007, the Festival has become a national model of a research-based presentation of contemporary living cultural and intercultural traditions. Over the years, it has brought thousands of musicians, artists, performers, craftspeople, workers, cooks, storytellers, and others in order to

demonstrate the skills, knowledge, and aesthetics that embody the creative vitality of community-based traditions and languages.

Usually divided into programs featuring a nation, region, state, or theme, the Festival has featured exemplary tradition bearers from more than 25 nations...The Festival generally includes daily and evening programs of music, song, dance, celebratory performance, crafts and cooking demonstrations, storytelling, illustrations of workers' culture, and narrative sessions for discussing cultural issues. The Festival is an exercise in cultural democracy, in which cultural practitioners speak for themselves, with each other, and to the public. The Festival encourages visitors to participate: to learn, sing, dance, eat traditional foods, and converse with people presented in the Festival program.

In place of conclusion

La Société Civile Intellectuelle

... Il s'agit de ce monde fabuleux qui est celui des Clubs UNESCO, de ces groupes et formations que aiment bien s'occuper de la culture, de l'éducation, de la science, mais qui considèrent également que l'associativité - "... Qu'est-ce que c'est apprivoiser?", demande le Petit Prince. "C'est une chose trop oublié", le Renard lui répond. "... ça veut dire: créer des liens..." -se trouve parmi les paramètres que l'Homo Sapiens doit avoir pour faire marcher le monde.

C'est grâce à cette associativité – dont j'ai été partisan toute ma vie – que la Commission Nationale UNESCO de la Roumanie a soutenu de toute sa force la réunion constitutive de la Fédération Européenne des Associations, Centres et Clubs pour UNESCO à Bușteni, dans les Carpathes, où nous avons tout mis à la disposition des intellectuels associatifs. (même deux sommets ensoleillés, avec, à la fin, un peu de neige et un tout petit bout d'orange – pour l'effet dramatique, évidemment...).

Elle existe maintenant, cette FEACU, nous lui souhaitons une vie aussi longue et riche que la vie même du continent que nous habitons et nous assurons les intellectuels associatifs du Vieux Monde que notre Commission UNESCO fera le lobby nécessaire pour que les Commissions Nationales de partout dans le monde soient dans les meilleures rapports avec les Clubs, Associations et Centres pour l'UNESCO de leur pays.

... L'Europe Unie, n'est-ce pas?...

Alexandru Mironov

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Events:

-Date of Establishment: 2001

-Between WFUCA regional branches: “Asia-Europe Forum on Education” which has being held annually for the past three years (China; in 2015 in Romania)

-General Assembly: Romania, France, Belarus

-Intermediary Congresses: “Human Rights and Cultural Diversity” (Switzerland 2011); “Global Ethics and Equal Opportunities: the Women Contribution to the Development of Europe and Mediterranean” (Italy 2014)

-Bilateral activities between European national federations: Serbia/France, Belarus/Russian Federation, Italy/Romania, France/Spain, Greece/Russian Federation, Romania/Serbia etc.

-Annual Executive Board Meetings: Spain, France, Malta, Greece, Cyprus, Romania, Belarus, Italy, USA, Portugal, Serbia

-Monthly Skype meetings on current matters of the federation

-International and national annual EFUCA activities:

- Summer University of UNESCO Clubs (Belarus)
- ”Little Prince” Festival (Republic of Moldova)
- Celebration of Human Right Day (France)
- “Factory in the landscape” (Italy)
- International Children's art competition (Russian Federation)
- Celebration of international Jazz Day (Austria)
- Youth and Museums - Metamorphoses (Romania)
- Conference of UNESCO world heritage (Greece)
- The international model United Nations summer camp (USA)
- Excursions regarding the UNESCO heritage in Europe (Serbia)

- Other activities national and international:

- Education in schools on human rights (Cyprus);
- Training of different areas for unemployed people (Portugal);
- Training courses youth means of communication (Armenia);
- Mediterranean meeting of the UNESCO centres, clubs and associations (Spain);

- Implementation of the “21” Agenda in the schools (Monaco).

- **EFUCA distinctions:**

- “**A life dedicated to UNESCO**”, distinction given by the European and Romanian Federations, aim to recognize world personalities who dedicated their life to the ideals and objectives of UNESCO;
- **Passport for Global Ethics** the innovative document which advocates the formation of a new generation of moral conduct in the future (Alumnus Club from Romania-initiative);
- Honorary diplomas for the long contribution to the UNESCO Civil Society;

-**EFUCA publications:**

- “**Azure**”, EFUCA's magazine, edited annually presents the synthesis of the activities of its member Federations;
- **EFUCA** book edited in 2001 for the Founding General Assembly;
- “**EFUCA - after 15 years**” book.

I want to thank the editing team :

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