



# 12th World Scout Youth Forum Report

12<sup>TH</sup><sub>E</sub> WORLD SCOUT  
YOUTH FORUM  
FORUM DES JEUNES  
DU SCOUTISME MONDIAL  
**SLOVENIA 2014**



**SCOUTS**<sup>®</sup>  
Creating a Better World



## **Table of Contents**

Introduction	1
General Information	2
SUMMARY OF FORUM DISCUSSIONS	3
<i>Society Changing Scouts</i>	3
<i>Scouts Changing Society</i>	3
<i>Scouting Changing Individuals</i>	3
<i>Individuals Changing Scouting</i>	3
<i>Conclusion</i>	4
Appendixes	5
<i>Proposal World Triennial Plan 2014-2017</i>	5
<i>Draft resolutions of the 12<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum</i>	9
<i>The 12<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum Declaration</i>	10
<i>Summary of Needs, Successes and Challenges of youth in Scouting (Per WOSM region)</i>	12



# 12<sup>TH</sup> WORLD SCOUT YOUTH FORUM REPORT

## INTRODUCTION

The theme of the 12<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum was "One tree, many branches", a concept symbolizing our Movement's strength in unity, as well as unity in diversity. With Forum activities also being aligned with the World Scout Conference theme ("Shaping a common future"), as well as the international teams methodology, the participants enjoyed fruitful discussions in a truly global environment. The Forum was conceptualized around four major themes: *Society Changing Scouts*, *Scouting Changing Society*, *Scouting Changing Individuals* and finally, *Individuals Changing Scouting*. These contributed to a holistic approach to discussing Scouting and its impact in local communities as well as on individuals, but also offered space for participants to debate about possible improvements and the ways in which Scouting can address the fast-changing needs of today's youth.

This Forum witnessed a novelty in the type of output produced by participants and brought to the Conference: instead of recommendations to the World Scout Committee, Forum participants this time around produced 13 amendments to the proposed Triennial Plan 2014-2017 and proposed Conference resolution for adopting the Triennial Plan, as well as two draft resolutions and a Declaration. Each of these brings valuable input for the Conference, and gives voice to a youth opinion about the common future of our Movement.

We would like to thank all participants at the 12<sup>th</sup> WSYF for recognizing the capacities and readiness of young people in the Movement and investing their energy, knowledge and passion for Scouting into creating an excellent event. We also take the opportunity to congratulate the Host Committee for the impeccable support during the event.

Yours in Scouting,  
*The 12th World Scout Youth Forum Planning Committee*

*Felipe de Paulo, Chairperson and Youth Advisor to the World Scout Committee*

*Sarah-Rita Kattan, Youth Advisor to the World Scout Committee*

*Vemund Ovesen, Youth Advisor to the World Scout Committee*

*Doina Postica, Youth Advisor to the World Scout Committee*

*Esben Holager, Youth Advisor to the World Scout Committee*

*João Armando Gonçalves, World Scout Committee member*

*Hany Abdulmonem, World Scout Bureau*

*José Figueira, World Scout Bureau*

*Hana Pasic, World Scout Bureau*

*Eva Bolha, Host Committee ZTS*

## GENERAL INFORMATION

### About the Participants

The 12<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum was held at Rogla, Slovenia, from 4th – 7th August 2014. A total of 176 participants were present (from 72 different countries), making this the most attended ever World Scout Youth Forum.

### Regional Reports

During the Forum, the regional youth advisors and representatives had the opportunity to address regional matters, discuss goals and plans and gave the participants an excellent insight into the weaknesses and strengths of Scouting in their regions. The appendix contains a summary of the main needs, success stories and challenges of young people from each WOSM region. This formal experience was complimented by the international coffee breaks, where participants had the opportunity to explore the cultures and traditions of each region.

### International Teams

A new working method was applied during this World Scout Youth Forum, by which delegates and observers worked, throughout the Forum, in international teams, not in their national delegation. The Planning Committee assigned the teams to each of them, reflect a balance in age, gender, region and experience, creating a learning environment based on intercultural dialogue and cooperation.

### Online Communication

Several channels of online communication were used in facilitating communication with and among participants before, during and after the Forum. In particular, the Youth Wall (sub-page on scout.org and Facebook page), a dedicated page for communication within WOSM about youth involvement and participation was formed, as well as a closed Facebook group. Youth Wall has officially replaced ScOutPost, and can be visited here: [scout.org/youthwall](http://scout.org/youthwall) and here: [facebook.com/scoutsyouthwall](https://facebook.com/scoutsyouthwall). Additionally, the Planning Team created an e-learning tool, called COMPASS, which aimed at preparing participants for the Forum and its working methods.

### Election of the Youth Advisors to the World Scout Committee

The following six delegates were elected by the 12th World Scout Youth Forum to serve as Youth Advisors to the World Scout Committee for the next triennium (2014-2017):

Mr. Montaser Hosny Abdelmaged (Egypt)  
Mr. Luis Antonio Aguayo Miranda (Mexico)  
Mr. Jérémy Apert (France)  
Ms. Máire Fitzgerald (Ireland)  
Ms. Daiana Neil (Argentina)  
Mr. Maeed Mohamed Zahir (Maldives)

The Youth Advisors elected Mr. Jérémy Apert as the Chairperson of the 13th World Scout Youth Forum and the WSYF Planning Committee.

## **SUMMARY OF FORUM DISCUSSIONS**

### **Society Changing Scouts**

The first of the four topics focused on the relationships between society and Scouting. Throughout the second day of the Forum, participants were inspired to discuss global trends, and think of local solutions for those affecting their own communities. A keynote address provided by United Nations Secretary General Envoy on Youth, Mr. Ahmad Alhendawi, motivated the participants to look into the universal priorities of young people around the world, and reflect upon the role of Scouting in contributing to the achievement of the UN Millennium Development Goals. International teams took time to reflect upon the address afterwards, and produced problem trees under several different themes (economics, education, health, society, politics and security). The results of these discussions impacted the participants' opinions about WOSM's proposed Triennial Plan 2014-2017, and in particular, the creation of amendments in action points on diversity and inclusion, Youth Programme, as well as raising an emphasis on intercultural dialogue, migration issues, minority issues and sexuality.

### **Scouts Changing Society**

Following the session on global trends, the participants were invited to "turn the table" and discuss how Scouting changes society. They had the opportunity to exchange best practices and projects developed in their NSOs in a project fair. The projects tackled a wide range of topics (from crisis response, reaching out to marginalized groups, mobility and connectivity, international solidarity to environment education and sustainable development). These topics were also the main discussion points for groups led by Youth Advisor candidates. Apart from this time being beneficial for participants in meeting the candidates, it also gave the participants an opportunity to discuss project ideas on these very different themes that could be implemented in different countries around the world. Back in the plenary, over 40 ideas were presented on a World Map: they were ideas of camps, trainings, instruction seminars and other creative initiatives.

### **Scouting Changing Individuals**

The purpose of the session "Scouting changing individuals" was to explore how Scouts notice the impact of the Youth Programme and Scouting activities on their lives and their personality. It also had an additional purpose to challenge the participants to talk about the new skills they think need to be devoted more attention in the Youth Programmes of their National Scout Organizations. The participants were offered training sessions on the following topics: Advocacy, Employment, Skills for life, Communication, Leadership, Project Development, Entrepreneurship, Global citizenship, Human Rights education, Volunteering, Intercultural dialogue and National Youth Policies. This wide range of topics allowed the participants to delve deeper into discussing what is missing in their national Youth Programmes, and what kind of skills should be devoted more attention within Scouting. As a result, an amendment was proposed to the Triennial plan, requesting support for NSOs to develop "a tool that could formalize Scouting skills into competencies to aid in employability".

### **Individuals Changing Scouting**

As the participants discussed the first few days "our Movement" and "our community", they addressed "our future" the last day of the Forum, through an introductory session on intergenerational dialogue, which is of vital importance for increasing the collaboration between members of our Movement from different generations in the future.

Under the heading of "Individuals changing Scouting", the WSYF participants were invited to provide input on the direction they see WOSM heading to for the coming years. The agenda focused on the World Scout Committee's proposals for a new Strategy for Scouting and for the Triennial Plan 2014-2017, but the participants could also submit draft-resolutions or proposals to be included in the Forum Declaration as a way of voicing their opinions. Through a range of creative activities and exchanges in international teams, the WSYF participants were informed about the proposed Triennial Plan, and were given time to think about changes that would voice their needs better.

As a result, the participants passed 13 amendments to the Triennial Plan 2014-2017, two Draft Resolutions and a Forum Declaration on six topics (see appendix). All Strategic Priorities in the Triennial Plan were addressed. The majority of the amendments were related to increased youth involvement and making Scouting even more inclusive and relevant for today's youth. In addition, a special emphasize on Duty to God and the membership situation of the Palestinian Scout Association was made through Draft Resolutions. The Final Declaration mostly addressed the future of the WSYF and the Youth Advisor system.

## **Conclusion**

The 12<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum was a success. Once again, it was confirmed as the best educational event that gathers young decision-makers from NSOs around the world (and this Forum gathered the highest number so far), which proves that NSOs want young participants to experience the Forum.

But, nevertheless, it is important to underline that 23% of Forum participants are not attending the Conference after the Forum. We strongly encourage NSOs in the future, to send their young delegates to the World Scout Conference.

The four main themes of the Forum have shown that Scouts are an integral part of their communities, are achieving a positive impact in them every day.

Changes have been made in the rules of procedure of the Forum, so the Forum would adopt not just recommendations, but actual draft resolutions and a Final Declaration. The purpose of this change was to prepare participants for using these decision-making tools at the Conference as well, and not just leaving them as an outcome of the Forum. Participants felt empowered to participate directly while proposing amendments to the Triennial Plan, and amend the Conference resolution on the World Triennial Plan 2014-2017. By doing this, they were actually shaping the proposed work for the next three years for World Scouting.

The international teams, as one of the innovations of this Forum, created the space for delegates to break the national, cultural and religious barriers. Through this working method, participants expressed a unique opinion of the whole team while making proposals for amendments and resolutions, blogging and providing input during different activities of the Forum and thus addressing the future of the World Organization of the Scout Movement.

Lord Robert Baden-Powell once said: "An individual step in character training is to put responsibility on the individual".



## APPENDIXES

### Proposal World Triennial Plan 2014-2017

#### Legend

**Marked in yellow:** Proposed for taking out of the Triennial Plan

**Marked in green:** Proposed to add to the Triennial Plan

#### Youth Engagement

- Support implementation of the World Youth Involvement Policy on World, Regional and National level as well as on World Scout Events
  - ~~○ Strive towards more young people in decision-making positions (world and regional)~~
  - Ensure that more young people are in decision-making positions (worldwide and regionally), including the World Scout Committee and regional committees
  - Ensure young people are trained, supported and effectively utilised ~~used~~ by WOSM as ~~youth~~ external representative / spokesperson
  - Develop an intergenerational dialogue project to foster collaboration between generations in WOSM
  - Prepare a report, engaging stakeholders at the World, Regional, and National levels, regarding actionable strategies on increasing meaningful youth participation and involvement in World-level decision-making processes, including, but not limited to, the Youth Advisor role and the structure of the World Scout Committee, to be delivered one year prior to the 2017 World Scout Conference
  - Strive to have young people involved in committees and projects regardless of the nature of the committees and projects

#### Educational Methods

##### General

- Develop a leading e-learning platform, usable for all NSOs, building on internal and external knowhow
- Conduct an in-depth review of "Duty to God" (how do we define and understand this core principle today)
- Implement the outcomes of the 1<sup>st</sup> World Scout Education Congress on World and Regional level and encourage follow-up on NSO level
- Support the organization of the 2<sup>nd</sup> World Scout Education Congress in 2016, with a strong emphasis on achieving greater youth participation at the event, as well as in other world event
- Ensure exchanges between the different Regions of WOSM on Educational Methods
- Revisit, and revise if appropriate, the description of the Scout Method and its elements in the light of 21<sup>st</sup> century social, cultural, environmental and economic developments

##### Youth Programme

- Support implementation of the World Youth Programme Policy on World, Regional and National levels as well as on World Events
- Ensure further alignment, development and implementation of the existing World Programmes and Initiatives (MOP, SCENES, WSEP, SOW, SFH)
- Explore and consolidate the "learning" approach (learning environment, learning opportunities, etc.) as a contribution to have the young person in the centre of Scouting educational process

##### Adults in Scouting

- Continue implementation of the World Adults in Scouting Policy on World, Regional and National levels as well as on World Events
- Finalize guideline development of the Woodbadge framework (3 and 4 beads)

#### World Youth Events

- Support the host of the World Scout Jamboree 2015 in planning, delivery and evaluation
- Support the host of the World Scout Moot 2017 in planning, delivery and evaluation,
- Conduct a review process of the concept of World Scout Moots, with a special emphasis on investigating possibilities for young people to take a bigger part in the selection of the location as well as the organization of the event.
- Support annually the organization of JOTA/JOTI with the aim of increasing participation numbers and ensuring quality of the programme.

#### Diversity & Inclusion

- Further develop the Youth Programme resources for NSOs, fostering good practices and policies, with an emphasis on
  - Intercultural dialogue, migration issues, minority issues, diversity, sexuality & integration
  - People with disabilities and special needs
  - A programme that caters for boys and girls, young men and young women children and youth, regardless of gender
  - Strive towards gender balance in WOSM leadership
- Ensure the World Scout Interreligious Forum supports effectively the work on strengthening the spiritual development in Scouting

#### Social Impact

- Further develop the Youth Programme resources for NSOs, fostering good practices, with an emphasis on
  - Active Citizens/Employability skills (life skills)
  - Community service and projects
- With help of existing good practices, help NSOs develop a tool that could formalize Scouting skills into competences to aid in employability
- Implement WOSM's leadership model by supporting NSOs to
  - innovate their youth programme in this regard
  - communicate Scouting's added value in leadership development to relevant stakeholders
- Increase WOSM's capacity in measuring the impact of Scouting

#### Communication & External Relations

- Improve WOSM's internal communication by
  - Reviewing the current communication channels and tools
  - Developing the scout.org intranet as a one-stop-shop for NSO communication and support
  - Establishing a transparent process for the appointment of external representatives of WOSM in order to ensure the high quality of representation
- Improve WOSM's external communication & relations by
  - Conducting a reputational audit, by measuring perception of Scouting and subsequently reviewing our external communication policies
  - Strengthening digital engagement (on scout.org & social media), improving the profile and reputation of World Scouting
  - Collaborating with key partners to strengthen Scouting's position as the leading youth movement
  - Clarifying World Scouting's position on advocacy
  - Supporting NSOs in telling the story of Scouting and its impact on society

#### Governance

- Support the host of the World Scout Conference & Youth Forum 2017 in planning, delivery and evaluation

- Conduct a review process of the concept of the World Scout Conference and World Scout Youth Forum
- Strengthen the new strategic framework of WOSM (Vision 2023) across the organization:
  - Ensure alignment of Regional strategies
  - Provide support to NSOs to use WOSM's strategic framework
  - Develop an adequate monitoring tool to measure progress in the Vision, enabling the World Scout Committee & Conference to better steer the organization
- Strengthening the common approach on NSO capacity strengthening between Regions through the Global Support cycle by
  - Integrating the Global Support Assessment Tool as a key asset on World and Regional level towards best practices in NSOs
  - Ensuring easy access for NSOs to a pool of experts and resources
  - Improving monitoring of results and impact of support projects, fostering best practices
  - Acquire external accreditation of WOSM's own adherence to good governance (lead by example)
- Implement the World Adults in Scouting Policy in World bodies
  - in recruitment, induction, review and handover of adult positions
  - in the partnership between staff & volunteers
- Innovate participation, working methods and decision-making processes
  - for NSOs to contribute to World level projects
  - within the World Scout Committee meetings and the World Scout Bureau
  - in the relation between the World and Regional bodies, **including youth advisors and representatives from all levels of WOSM**
- Develop a knowledge management system on world level
  - Ensuring complete & comprehensive "standing orders" (documented procedures) for the WSC in place and being followed

**Proposed Conference Resolution**

**WORLD TRIENNIAL PLAN 2014-2017**

Moved by: World Scout Committee

The Conference,

- welcoming the World Scout Committee's initiative to develop a World Triennial Plan proposal for consideration by the Conference, based on a situational analysis of World Scouting and aligned with the new Strategy for Scouting
- considering the outcomes of the discussions between National Scout Organizations on the World Triennial Plan 2014-2017 during the related session at this Conference
- approves the proposed World Triennial Plan 2014-2017 as the overall strategic guideline for the work to be carried out during the next Triennium

*ANY AMENDMENTS TO THE PLAN CARRIED BY THE CONFERENCE TO BE INSERTED HERE AS BULLET POINTS*

- requests the World Scout Committee
  - to incorporate the outcomes of this World Scout Conference into a final version of the Triennial Plan and its subsequent translation into yearly operational plans.
  - to share this final version with all National Scout Organizations no later than January 1st, 2015
  - ~~to share regular progress updates with National Scout Organizations, to produce an annual public report outlining the results achieved in relation to the established objectives in the triennial plan, as well as membership data and best practices from the six WOSM regions~~
  - to develop the World Triennial Plan 2017-2020 using a similar approach, incorporating lessons learned during this process.

## **Draft resolutions of the 12<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum**

During the 12<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum, participants have prepared the following two draft resolutions, to be endorsed by either the World Scout Committee or a National Scout Organization, and further carried as proposed resolutions for voting at the Conference.

### **Draft Resolution A: Voting rights for the Palestinian Scout Association**

- Deeply concerned by the fact that the Palestinian Scout Association has been practicing Scouting since 1912 and does not have the right to be actively involved in the decision making process of the World Organization of the Scout Movement,
- Taking into consideration, that by actively participating in the Scout Movement since 1912, they should be given the right, like the other NSOs, to be a full member and to be actively involved in the decision making process of World Organization of Scout Movement,
- Taking into account that the Palestinian authority has been a non-member with observer status of the United Nations since 29th November 2012 and has been a full member of UNESCO since 23rd November 2011.
- Finding that the Palestinian Scout Association fulfils the requirements of the WOSM Constitution - Chapter III (Membership) on conditions for full membership.
- Requests the World Scout Conference to grant the Palestinian Scout Association full membership of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, including full voting rights.

### **Draft Resolution B: Implementing the "Duty to God" review**

The Conference

- Affirming the Strategic Priority Diversity and Inclusion, as presented in Conference Document 6, and particularly noting the phrase "Scouting should reflect the societies in which it exists and actively work to welcome all individuals without distinction",
- recognizing that Duty to God and spiritual development are concepts that many NSOs find difficult to define or to communicate,
- acknowledging the trend in increased atheism and agnosticism among young people, as outlined in the Global Youth Trends report,
- understanding that young people go through many stages of questioning and exploring their own beliefs during adolescence and young adulthood
- understanding that spiritual development goes beyond adherence to a religion and includes concepts of global citizenship, ethics and morality
- welcoming the proposed in-depth review of the concept of Duty to God outlined in the proposed Triennial Plan, document 7
- Requests the World Scout Committee to:
  - actively consider the needs of young people who are questioning their beliefs, are agnostic, are atheist, or have alternate understandings of God and/or spirituality in the Duty to God review, with a view to ensure they can be welcomed without distinction,
  - incorporate the views of young people in the Duty to God review.

## **The 12<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum Declaration**

### **on Equal opportunities for all young people**

The WSYF participants strongly feel that Scouting should

- Provide tools to ensure equal opportunities for all people regardless of their gender, ethnicity, age, religion, sexuality and disability, respecting the legal environment of WOSM member countries.
- Welcome everyone, without discrimination regardless of their sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability in accordance with Human Rights.

### **on Effective communication**

- Noting that the Youth Advisors (2011-2014) highlight in their report the need for a better communication between YAs and NSOs,
- Acknowledging that the scout.org website is not enough to have direct communication between Youth Advisors and NSOs,
- Reaffirming the need of mutual exchange between YAs and Youth Representatives of each NSOs,

*The WSYF participants highlight that provisions should be made to facilitate a regular exchange between Youth Advisors and the Youth of each NSO at least after every WSC meeting. This exchange would include the following information:*

- *World Scout Committee updates,*
- *Updates from the Working Groups,*
- *Topical issues,*
- *Progress updates on the Triennial Plan and Resolutions adopted by the WSC2014,*
- *World Scout Events,*
- *Information deemed relevant by the Youth Advisors,*
- *Annual report outlining the outputs and results of the work progress.*

*The WSYF participants suggest using the current Youth Wall page on scout.org and regular e-newsletters for this exchange of communication.*

### **on Meaningful Preparation of Participants**

- Recognising that the WSYF is an educational tool and a place of decision-making;
- Noting that the WSYF is a platform for discussion and raising issues concerning all members in the Movement;
- Highlighting the importance of participants coming well prepared to the Youth Forum to ensure full participation;
- Acknowledging the Compass as a good starting point for developing preparation tools for the WSYF;

*The WSYF participants recommend that the Planning Team of the 13th WSYF ensures that future Forum participants are fully prepared for a meaningful participation by:*

*Providing an e-learning platform, immediately after registration closes and before the Forum officially starts, that includes:*

- All official Forum and Conference Documents
- All other WOSM documents relevant to the Forum and the Conference
- Discussion Groups
- Proper interactive learning tools should be developed in order to help participants prepare for and understanding the concept of the Forum, working methods and the topics of the documents. The platform should ensure that all participants get the opportunity to share their expectations of the Forum and raise relevant questions regarding the agenda items.

*These measures should be provided within a sufficient time for processing ahead of the Youth Forum and with regards to deadlines of the World Scout Conference.*

### **on The Youth Advisor elections**

- Noting that the participants did not have enough time for acquiring an impression about the candidates,

*The WSYF participants recommend that, prior to the election of the Youth Advisors:*

- *A clarification be provided for the role of the Youth Advisors, including a presentation of the position description and tasks of the Youth Advisors*
- *The participants be given sufficient time for collective discussions with the candidates.*

**on Regional Collaboration**

- Recognising the needs for equal global representation to the World Youth Advisors and World Scout Committee;
- Noting the value of communication between WOSM regions;
- While recognising that the current selection process for Youth Advisors ensures the most suitable candidates are elected by a fair democratic vote;
- Also observes that the method of election for Youth Advisors does not always result in representation of all the regions;
- Recognises a need for a formal group of Youth Representatives from all regions who can, at the request of the Youth Advisors, provide regional specific support and insight, also aiding in the dissemination of information from the Youth Advisors to a local level,

The WSYF participants strongly recommend that the Youth Advisors explore possibilities for a more meaningful collaboration with Regional youth representatives, which would facilitate greater regional representation.

**on support for full membership of the Palestinian Scout Association**

We 12th World Scout Youth Forum participants recommend,

- That the World Scout Committee actively facilitates the formal application process for the Palestinian Scout Association to be granted full membership of WOSM with full voting rights.

## Summary of Needs, Successes and Challenges of youth in Scouting (Per WOSM region)

Region	Needs	Successes	Challenges
<b>Africa</b>	More youth involvement and representation at all levels	Revived Youth Forums	War and conflicts
	Review of Youth Programme	Unity in diversity through Messengers of Peace	Lack of relevant skills and quality education
<b>Arab</b>	Improved Trainings corresponding to the needs of youth	National Youth Forums are very active	Lack of community awareness of Scouting's work
	A platform for greater networking among youth within the region	Youth appointed to regional sub-committees	Lack of stability and security in the region
<b>Asia-Pacific</b>	More Intergenerational Dialogue	Young Adult Member Group and full voting rights for Chairperson	Overcoming the generation gap
	Purposeful and beneficial programme development	APR Ticket to Life project	Cyber safety and lack of awareness of cyber threats
<b>Eurasia</b>	National Youth Programmes for every NSO	Increased youth involvement on national and regional level	Weak interest of youth for volunteering
	Scouting's Image policies for NSOs	Increased exchange and partnership projects	Lack of rover involvement
<b>Europe</b>	More youth representation within some sub-regions	Agora as an event organized by rovers for rovers	Achieving greater flexibility in the operations of already existing structures and procedures
	More job opportunities for young people	More youth participation at European-level events and working groups	Lack of recognition for the quality of young people's work and contributions
<b>Interamerica</b>	Greater access to information	Young people occupy more decision-making positions in Scouting	Breaking the paternalistic culture
	More programme activities linked to developing necessary competencies for meaningful youth involvement	More than half of the region's NSOs has established youth involvement platforms	Conducting research and investigation for the purpose of obtaining necessary information