



# NEWSLETTER

May 2018

European IFYE Alumni



*Already curious about the 60th Anniversary Report?!*

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## Greetings from the Board

Dear all,

It's almost summer outside the windows. Yesterday I played basketball in shorts with my sister's kids and their friends. It's quality time for me.



A week ago I got a telephone call that change so much, one of my best friend's husband had decided to not live any longer. He leaves his wife and two young daughters. This tell me to take care of the people around me and also to lift the phone and talk to people I don't talk to so often. We never know what is going on in a person and we can maybe don't change it, but we can show that we care. Psychology unhealthy is very hard to see and still a little bit unspoken. We have to talk about it, so people with it can feel okay to talk about it.

I look so much forward to see you all this summer in Northern Ireland, to meet all my old friends and learn to know new friends. I have followed the work with the conference and it looks like lots of fun.

See you all,

Anna Persson

European IFYE President

*IFYE from Sweden to Scotland 1991*

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# Inspirations to learn another language

*written by Neil Brims (IFYE from Scotland to USA 2013)*



In spring this year I travelled to Germany. This trip would have never happened had it not been for IFYE and the seed being planted not too long ago in the summer of '14. This was my first European conference in Hesselberg, Germany. Without reminiscing too much it was an awesome week but what struck me was how uneducated I was in terms of speaking another language, nearly everybody could speak at least two languages and the non-native English speaking folk could speak proper English better than I. I have to admit I was embarrassed about this. To cut a long story short, I decided during that week to learn another language and as the majority of the people there were Germanic speaking then German would be the best to start with.

Home I went all keen and confident to get learning, then the real hard work began... Fast forward a few years and luckily finding a local German tutor in between, I decided to sign up to a 14 day intensive language course in Dresden through the Goethe Institute (on recommendation from Mary Turner). I thought that this would be an excellent way to progress further being totally immersed in the language and culture. I was away for almost 3 weeks and visited Jens, Anita and Paul, I also managed to catch up with Bettina and Neele, it was a great few days before travelling down to Dresden. The course was excellent and well put together, as in the title the course was certainly intense and the 2 weeks passed very quickly. I do hope in the future that I can go back, if you don't have too many annual holidays I thoroughly recommend at least a city break weekend holiday to Dresden. Through sheer luck the German IFYE Association was having their spring AGM meeting on the weekend after my course and thankfully they allowed me to attend.

On the Friday night we listened to some presentations of exchangees who went to Finland and the USA and on Saturday we went to a motorbike/car museum and a castle which looked as if it had been used in the filming of Game of Thrones, both were very interesting. .





I however didn't expect the snow, normally when you holiday from Scotland the weather has got to be better than at home! On the Saturday night the AGM was held where two long standing board members Bettina Heinemann and Gesche Kohler were standing down after 15 years, I am sure their experience will be missed but the folk who have stepped up to take on their roles are as capable. I thought that seeing I had been on the course I would be able to understand conversations a bit easier in real life instead of just in the classroom, it certainly helped but I have a long way to go with the language. Thanks to everyone who patiently listened to my basic German. I hope in the future I'll manage a few Austrian and Swiss words as well.

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## IFYE Conference 2018 Update



Dear IFYE friends around the world,

Preparations are gathering speed for this year's conference so with around 2 months to go here are a few things you might need to consider.

1. **Pack for all eventualities.** We are an island in the North Atlantic so weather conditions are very changeable. We could have tropical temperatures but, if so, they don't usually last for long so when you're packing your speedos or bikini don't forget to bring a sweater and a waterproof or umbrella as well.

2. **Remember your travel insurance.** Recent disputes across Europe mean some flights have been cancelled at short notice and on occasion luggage has been known to take the scenic route, so please be prepared. Also fingers crossed there will be no medical emergencies but better safe than sorry.
3. **Notify us of your travel arrangements.** As usual we will aim to pick you up as close to the venue as you can get i.e. Antrim train station, Templepatrick bus stop or Belfast International Airport but if you could let us know your general plans so we can be prepared and organise the necessary transport for the peak times.
4. **Bring your IFYE spirit.** We will do our best to organise the building blocks of the week, beds, food, trips and entertainment but what always makes the week memorable is the magic that happens when IFYEs get together. We look forward to welcoming you to Northern Ireland.

(The full 'What to bring List' will be sent to you and is available at [www.ifye2018.com](http://www.ifye2018.com))

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## IFYE60 Display Room

The Association will celebrate it's 60th Anniversary of Conferences in 2018. To mark the event a commemorative report to record these events will be presented. In the report there will also be memories from the inception of the Association in 1948.

In connection with the 60th Anniversary of IFYE Conferences at this year's conference in Belfast, we plan to make an exhibition of the 60 years in what we call the IFYE60 Display Room.

*Did you know*

*- how it started?*

*- that we once upon a time had conferences in Italy?*

*- that there is even much more to see in the IFYE60 Display Room!*

To make it nice and worth visiting, **we need help from:**

We want to show memorabilia, photos, videos and other things from the 60 years of IFYE conferences and from other memorable IFYE events. A classroom is at our disposal.



- **You as a contact person/member.**

We ask you as a contact member to organize or bring, from your country, something from one conferences you have organized, if possible.

OR.

It can be decorations of any kind that are special for your country and which can be placed on the tables, walls or in the ceiling.

- **You as a participant.**

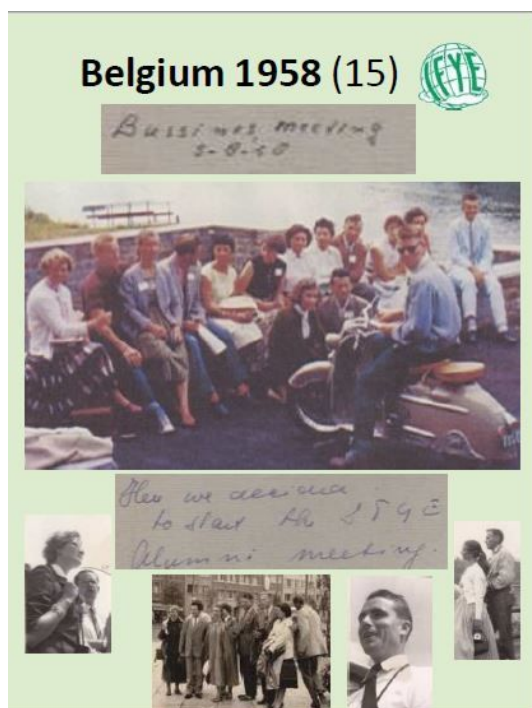
We will also ask participants to bring photos, albums or other things that all may see during the week. You can take it with you as it is or in an USB memory stick.

We also ask you to take the things with you back home afterwards.

Sincerely

Birgitta Sigfridsson, Sweden,  
for the IFYE60 Display Room

[birgitta.solshester@gmail.com](mailto:birgitta.solshester@gmail.com)



# World Conference 2023 "Kick Off"

*written by Andreas Pölzl (IFYE from Austria to Colorado 2003)*

Dear IFYE's

The Austrians would like to inform...

From 03. - 04. March 2018 we had the Austrian IFYE AGM. The Outgoing Seminar was also held this weekend. We met on 03. March 2018 in Steiermarkhof in Graz. At this meeting, not only the new IFYE's were prepared for their adventure, we made also a look into the future. Austria will host the European IFYE Conference 2023. At the same time, the next World Conference will take place in Europe.



In 2017, at the General Assembly of IFYE Alumni Austria, the unanimous decision was made, to apply to host the European IFYE Conference in 2023. After the application was successful, Austria will hold the European IFYE Conference in 2023, which will be the next World Conference, at the same time.

Currently we are setting the location. There are more or less 3 places in the shortlist:

- in the area of Vienna, (<https://www.wien.info/en/sightseeing/sights>),
- near St. Pölten ([http://www.wieselburg.gv.at/KULTUR\\_FREIZEIT/Sehenswuerdigkeiten](http://www.wieselburg.gv.at/KULTUR_FREIZEIT/Sehenswuerdigkeiten))
- near Klagenfurt (<http://www.klagenfurt.at/die-stadt/stadtbummel/woerthersee.html>).

Each location has its own special advantages and provides the conditions, for a great conference. Of course it can also go to another region of Austria, but one thing we can already assure now: This World / Europe Conference will be a conference with Austrian hospitality. It will leave a lasting impression on all participants. It will become a mix of tradition and modernity and probably leaves boundaries aside.

We will, as in 1998 and 2010, do our best to organize a great conference. We ask for your understanding that we cannot give more details yet, but we will catch up on that, at the time. We are still at the beginning, but the first steps to the goal have already been taken. After a productive discussion with the Landjugend Österreich (Austrian youth organization similar to the 4H-Club), we can also look forward to the announced support from Landjugend Österreich, with their approximately 90,000 members.

The Austrian team wishes you all a nice spring and we will keep you informed, if there is something interesting and / or important to report.

Have a nice day.....

Your IFYE Austria Team



From left to right:

Martin Stieglbauer (Chairman of Landjugend Austria), Benedikt Fritz (GM of Landjugend Austria), Andreas Poelzl (1<sup>st</sup> Vice President European IFYE), Lydia Zagler (IFYE Coordinator Austria), Reinhard Polsterer (GM of Landjugend Lower Austria) and Alois Wolf (Chairman of Austrian IFYE Alumni)

**Deadline next issue: 15th August 2018**

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**European IFYE Alumni Association**

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