



World News

Summer 2018

V WELCOME TO Vienna!



EC and BD Meeting
August 10 - 12, 2018

The Council of International Fellowship Magazine

From the Editor's Corner

Dear CIF members and friends,

Living in the 20th century and trying to catch up with all that is going on in the world is a challenging process and one that all of us need to adopt, accept, progress and manage to process correctly.

Many things have been already accomplished in this first half of 2018. Time is flying and we need to increase the pace of our doings in order to manage to deal with everything going on around us. The economic crisis in Cyprus has started to decrease and new developments are seen to be in place; construction, new developments in buildings, in job opportunities, in education, in politics, in banking, in municipalities, in public health and many more. However, along with these we have a tremendous increase in drug abuse, in societal disruption, in the number of refugees, in the number of health issues, in dissolved family issues, children and women abuse, in changes in values and society's priorities.

Is this really progress? Is this really what we want from life? Is this what we really want for our children?

People now are full of un-answered questions. People are now puzzled on what is right and what is wrong. Children have lost their simplicity, have lost their childhood image and status, and are growing in a different world full of challenges. Families are trying to cope with the demands of society and the demands of their families. Children are raised by 'others' as parents and grandparents need to work. Living longer and aging later makes us work more and be out of the house more. Our children are exposed from day one with the technology and the new trends of the 21st century. But where does this lead us? Are we happier now than "then?" Are we "richer" than "then?" Are we healthier than "then?" Are we more educated and more professional than "then?" Questions, questions, questions – can somebody answer these with certainty?

Once again it is my great pleasure and satisfaction to address this new editorial to you. My experience as the editor of the World News for CIF International always excites me as it opens up my



by Maria Christopoulou,
Editor, World News

horizons regarding the multicultural status, and gives me a lot of joy to communicate briefly with you and share some thoughts and news. I would like to mention that the Composium on Motor Speech Disorders which was organized by the Cyprus Speech Pathology Association in collaboration with the International Association of Phoniatrics and Logopedics (IALP) in Cyprus this passing March 2018 was a huge success with 160 participants

from all over the world joined together at the European University of Cyprus in a three day professional development and cultural program. This event was very important for all speech and language pathologists of Cyprus as it was the first after 20 years. It was a world composium and the first of its kind.

META-KINISIS has really played a big role in our lives as we do move along and over with our lives. The one thing though we need to see, is not to let negative or bad things overcome the positive and good ones, but

move humanity to a better level, a level of living which will be better than today and not worse. So, I am closing this short message with a positive note: **Each and every one of us can make a difference and bring only happiness, love, and smiles to all people on earth.**

Maria Christopoulou, CIF Cyprus
World News Editor



The one thing though we need to see, is not to let negative or bad things overcome the positive and good ones, but move humanity to a better level, a level of living which will be better than today and not worse.

Message from CIF President, Mireille Boucher

Bonjour,

It is with pleasure that I give you news of our Association.

Everyone is very busy with their personal activities, with their family, but you always find time for CIF. Being a volunteer is not easy and requires a lot of energy, and you have all of them to do.

National Branches continue to grow even though it is not always easy, but everyone's investment is rewarded. Professional Exchange Programs (PEPs) are held throughout the year in more than 20 countries and this is our strength. Former participants are mobilizing to create new branches: Algeria, Thailand. We are very attentive and CIF supports these projects the best we can.

We are here to continue the CIF mission – working for understanding, respect and peace. Peace Projects are underway and others will be born.

A big project is underway – **CIF 2028!** The objectives are: to develop through our values, rejuvenate the members, and organize new actions. Everyone can make a contribution to the building for CIF's future.

The new Executive Committee (EC) team is working with pleasure and determination to organize and meet the needs of CIF International. Our next meeting is in Vienna in August and it will be followed by the meeting of National Branch presidents. I expect many of you to attend, because in addition to work, rich and constructive exchanges, there will be the pleasure of meeting to share beautiful moments of conviviality. Thanks to the team of CIF Austria who organizes and will welcome us warmly as they know how to do it.

A word about the next conference in Saint Malo, France – the CIF France team is actively working to organize a quality event in an exceptional region.

The important thing for all is to participate in and continue our actions with passion, dignity and respect for everyone in a world where life is not so serene for some. We believe in the future.

Let us stand together and live beautiful moments thinking of all those who have allowed us to be in this great adventure that is CIF. Have a nice summer and with pleasure we will work for you in Vienna.

Amitiés from France



A CALL FOR PEACE PROJECTS!

Dear all:

Hope that you all are doing well.

Perhaps you have been planning for a Peace Project. I am publishing this message to encourage you to develop and submit your plan right away. It would be good if CIF continuously has Peace Projects.

The Projects until now have been good and we have learned from them. No projects have been submitted so far this year to the date of this publication and the deadline is the end of May.

Do review the Guidelines below and send your Peace Project plan now!

The initial deadline of the end of May has passed; however, we may still be able to consider your project – if not this year, then in the future.

CIF International has budgeted 750 euros for Peace Projects. Let us do something precious with the money. Remember, not all Projects will need a lot of money. Small not so expensive projects are likely to be effective if they are planned well.

Do not hesitate to contribute money for Peace Projects or to ask for more funds.

Sincerely yours,

Merja Niemelä

EC member at large, Peace Projects coordination

Guidelines for Peace Project Proposals

Proposals will be reviewed for the following types of projects:

- International Professional Exchange Program (PEP) participants representing equally conflicting countries/groups.
- Conference participation grants with equal representation from conflicting countries/groups, with the condition to jointly conduct a workshop on the conflict situation experience.
- Any other project in collaboration with other organizations involved in peace and conflict resolution issues, sharing the same philosophy as CIF.

Review Process

Proposals are presented to the Executive Committee (EC) Secretary to be put on the next Board of Directors (BD) agenda. The BD will discuss and decide on the project. If approved by the BD, it will be included in the budget line allocated for Peace Projects. Donations earmarked for Peace Projects will clearly appear in the annual financial statement. *(Approved in Sweden, BD 2015)*

Five (5) euros per person are added in the conference fees beginning from 2019, to be included in Peace Project Funds.

(Approved in Utrecht Holland DB 2016)

It is possible that the Peace Project grant is sent in advance or after the project is finished, according to the proposal.

The final report should consist of general and financial parts (how the money was spent).

The general part should consist of:

- Objective of the project
- Activities
- Outcome
- Results, what went well what did not

The financial part should consist of:

- How much money they received and what was spent
- The expenses should be accompanied by bills and receipts for review by the treasurer
- Operational result

EC and BD Meeting August 2018, hosted by CIF Austria



Welcome to Vienna!



Executive Committee (EC) Meeting

The meeting will be held in Schoderleh, a place close to Vienna in the country side where the whole EC will stay. CIF Austria provides the transfer and food and board. The place has of course WIFI.

Board of Directors (BD) Meeting

Date: 10th till 12th August 2018 (it starts Friday 13:30 and ends Sunday 16:30)

The meeting will be in a hotel called **KOLPING WIEN – ZENTRAL**. It is the same hotel as at the BD in 2008. Kolping is an organisation named after the Catholic priest Adolph Kolping who founded Journeymen Associations in the 19th century to combat the misery of young crafts journeymen in the era of industrialisation. Kolping, Austria is running various social projects and

centres and student homes. More information about the hotel you will find on the web: <https://www.kolping-wien-zentral.at/en/home-en/>

It is located in the 6th district, very close to the famous Naschmarkt and the typical Viennese Café Sperl and many other nice places in walking distance and easy to reach with public transport.

The package includes breakfast (Sa and Su), coffee breaks with drinks and little snacks, dinner buffet and party feeling at a social institution called 'wohnpartner' (FR and SA) and two nights at the hotel. **Price with single**



room: € 295, in a double room it is € 245.

Extra nights (including breakfast) can be booked – see application form.

Lunch is not included as there are so many places in the neighborhood where you can get it depending on your budget and taste and so we can keep the price lower (and there are little snacks during break time).

To make it possible for as many NBs as possible to attend we offer five places in **host families** for those who could otherwise not come due to financial reasons. **They pay only € 100 (conference venue, dinner, ticket).**

*Judith Lamatsch, Martina Hopp and Gabi Kronberger on behalf of
CIF Austria*



Seven grantees submitted reports from *CIF Kalamata Conference* – a summary of report highlights

**By Merja Niemelä,
EC Member at Large,
Grants**

"The grantees must send a short report to the Executive Committee (EC) on the Conference they attend within five weeks after the Conference. These reports may be published." There is no guideline about the kind of reports expected; therefore I asked the grantees to write about how significant a role the financial grant had so that they were able to attend the Conference, the influences on their future CIF activities and any possible comments.

Susana, Spain

Participating in the Conference was a unique experience. The Conference also included a social and cultural part that allowed me to meet incredible people from different countries and gave me the opportunity to know the work of my colleagues in other settings. I am sure that having participated in the Conference will help me to improve my ability to develop the work in CIF Spain, because I will be able to transmit the information better to the other members and participate more

actively in it as CIF Spain is working to open a new program next year.

Hocine, Algeria

This participation allowed me to enrich my knowledge and good practices in the field of the association and in the creation of a branch and programs of exchanges. The highlights of the conference, which benefited from several angles, were the exchange program meetings (PEP) and the contact person meeting.

Enriching exchanges to arrive at creating the CIF branch but also the opportunity to look into the difficulties and obstacles encountered in order to benefit from everyone's experience and arrive at solutions based on sharing. I consider the workshops and meetings as a great opportunity and lever to strengthen its CIF knowledge network, and maintain and sustain the values brought by the CIF since its creation in 1956.

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is a big part of a CIF conference experience. All of this is what makes CIF conferences different from any other conference. Aristotle has once said: "Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." I think in CIF conferences both the mind and the heart get some "exercise." It broadens your horizon both personally and professionally, makes you a better person and therefore also a better professional. Getting a grant in my opinion means also responsibility to somehow "pay it back" to the CIF organisation. To commit myself to the work of the EC for the next two years is one way to do that.

Galina, Russia

CIF conference is an event where one can better feel and understand the processes taking place in the social sphere, meet colleagues and friends, inspire new ideas and find ways to develop CIF programs in one's country. The subject of the conference is meta-kinesis. This concept that is quite clear for Greek colleagues. But for me it was not so easy to understand. The essence of the concept of meta-kinesis is change and action. But what does it mean for me personally and for my professional work? Are the modern technologies always good? How to cope with new challenges of the era of globalization? May globalization destroy or damage our identity and make the life of people harder? Can representatives of other cultures bring damage to the culture of your country? What is more important in modern social work for help those who need it? Is it psychology, charity, training or quick mobilization of resources? As a result

of the lectures and master-classes I could better understand modern processes in the world and realize the role of specialists of the social sphere in changing world.

The CIF International community is not just a group of high-level professionals. This is a community of active people who share the values of social work and respect diversity of traditions and cultures. This is a community of professionals who organize training programs for colleagues helping to develop social work in each country.

To wrap-up

I gathered the highlights from the reports. The reports are full of enthusiasm and deep thinking. I must say that choosing was not easy so I chose different angles. When reading these you may feel the warmth of Kalamata, meeting old friends and new friends, interesting topics and visits, lectures and conversations. The grantees are thankful to the EC for the grants and praised the Conference topics and arrangements and CIF Hellas. Future plans are professional and personal, plans to go on with CIF work in their homeland and internationally and wishing to meet again.

Nine grantees were given the conference fee to attend the CIF Kalamata Conference. Two grantees were given also part of the travel costs. Seven reports were submitted. All said, "Thank you for the great opportunity to join the Conference."

Austrian social work students assist in the preparation and implementation of PEP

- The CIF Project: Vienna April 2018

Again this year CIF Austria organized their annual PEP (Professional Exchange Program) in cooperation with the University of Applied Sciences. Three students under the supervision of **Doris Stephan** (CIF Austria) wrote the following article about their experiences with the current PEP for the World News.

At the beginning of the semester, we, a mixed group of social work students in our final semester at the University of Applied Sciences in Vienna, sat together for the first hour of the optional CIF course. Many of us had never heard of the organisation up until that point. All we had to go on was a tantalising course description: "direct and intensive exchange with social workers from different countries and from different fields." Beyond that, we had little idea what was in store for us. We were given a timetable and asked to plan for an eighteen-day series of events and talks.

It was with an air of openness and curiosity that we began planning a series of activities and events to help our (as yet unknown) guests become acclimatised to the Viennese social system. The course was centred on

*By – David Titcumb, Veronika Witzani and Fabio Menches
– social work students from the University of Applied Sciences
in Vienna, Austria*

four specific events: a city tour, a welcoming party, a main public event in which the participants presented their individual countries and working conditions, and a reflection round in which everyone had the chance to discuss all aspects of the two week visit. Each of these was taken over by a small task-group whose responsibility it was to plan their event – there was room for innovation but, in practice, the program was quite tightly regulated.

We met the participants for the first time on a sunny Tuesday morning in April. Immediately they greeted us with open arms, answering questions, being inquisitive about our studies. They came from a wide variety of fields: child protection, healthcare, probation services and youth welfare, among others. They also represented a wide range of ages and demographics. It did not take long for them to start asking questions about the things

we had been studying. It was striking how interested they all seemed to be in our studies and our lives – much more, in fact, than in the fabulous baroque buildings around us.

Apart from the obligatory walk around Vienna's beautiful historic centre, we had the chance to visit many of the Viennese social welfare institutions with the participants. The city is rightly proud of its social system. There are provisions for many groups of marginalised people, provided by both state and non-governmental organisations. In the course of the project, we were able to take a closer look at these institutions and experience them through the eyes of professionals, taking note of the questions they were asking and experiencing how they compared their own systems with those they were seeing in Austria for the first time.

The best part, of course, was meeting the participants and sharing with them some of their more valuable experiences in the field. It is impossible to quantify how much can be learned from this kind of exchange; the personal questions you feel empowered to ask as the night wears on and you get to know each other a little more are the most revealing. I found it fascinating to hear how the participants coped with their workload and why they were motivated to work in their chosen fields. I also enjoyed learning about the customs and cultures in all of the different countries. It was a fascinating journey to many different corners of the world, and we quickly created strong bonds with one another.

"I can't tell you how interesting it has been talking to the students here – it's really amazing to see what social workers of the future are being taught," said Pantelis, a Greek youth probation worker, who himself often hosts



interns in his department at home. Having such deep conversations about the state of the European Union, about identities and nationalities was enriching. We felt challenged to consider our role as social workers on an institutional and political level, in an international context, as the borders between our countries seemed to shrink before our eyes.

Towards the end of the stay, the participants hosted a so-called 'World Café' in which they presented some facts about their countries, their jobs, and also the social and political context in which they work. There was representation from the 'richer' north as well as the south of Europe, which has been blighted by austerity, in addition to less economically developed countries such as the Philippines and Nepal which enjoy much less state provision of welfare. All of the social workers demonstrated the passion and dedication they have for their respective causes – this was truly inspiring.

The last event invited us all to reflect on the visit and we were able to put into perspective what we had all learned. During the course of our studies, we students have been confronted with the destructive aspects of



human nature. Most of us came of age during the financial crisis, the late effects which have dramatically altered social work practice. We have also seen firsthand the results of the populist backlash following mass immigration into Europe in 2015, including all of the vitriol and political opportunism that accompanied it. Over the last three years in particular, we have endured an era of tumult and turmoil. This drip-feed of negativity highlights the complexities of working with some of society's most vulnerable people.

However, being around these eight inspiring professionals allowed us to reflect on our position in Austria. Talking to the participants was inspiring, but seeing them in action and hearing about their projects helped to remind us why we wanted to become social workers in the first place. The experience was invigorating and I was particularly inspired by the tenacity, energy and creativity of every single one of the members. The best part was that this was reciprocal. "It's you, the students, which have made this trip such a brilliant success," said Pantelis again. "You have inspired us all, and I really mean that. Without you, the CIF experience would not have been half as good."



European Project ReSport Continues

CIF FRANCE continues work on the Erasmus + project with European partners. The fourth meeting was held in Ankara from 16 to 18 May 2018. The experts and partners (Croatia, Hungary, Northern Ireland, Slovenia, Portugal, Turkey, Italy and CIF France) met to continue action on the reintegration through sport for people with disabilities.

Mireille Boucher coordinates for CIF France, Dr. Mohammed Mammad (future CIF Algeria) works as an expert on the subject. He prepares the actions to be carried out for the day of

September 26, 2018: day where all partners will develop joint action with people with disabilities.

The good practices are on the way for everybody. Next meeting will be in Croatia on June 2018

You can follow on Facebook: CIF France ReSport and on ReSport – Hrvatska



Austrian participant describes her experience in Mumbai

AUSTRIA

By Sita Sieberer,
social worker
from CIF Austria

Here is the gist of my observations during the CIF Mumbai India Exchange Program. I found the opportunity to learn new dimensions of social work there and had a great time with the CIF Mumbai group of social workers, some of the last participants of PEP Austria, two lovely host families, their relatives and common friends.

We had a tight schedule. The first three days gave detailed insight into the organisational structures of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences (TISS) – a multi campus public-funded research university creating human service professionals. It was established in 1936 as the first university of social work in India. It offers innumerable possibilities of research in the field of social work plus planning and implementation of projects. Notable initiatives I got to learn about are Koshish (social work on homelessness and destitution), Prayas (social work in criminal justice), Jiyo Parsi (work with Parsi community), etc.

Several field visits gave insight into the hard facts of social and community work specially with women, children, slums, homes for high-risk women and children, crime and prostitution, domestic violence, work in government hospitals for taking care of basic financial needs of the patients and psycho-social care of their families, fund raising to compensate the meager welfare system, emergency services, networking with state agencies and non-governmental organisations (NGOs) for intervention, advocacy and resource mobilization.

Here are some of the highlights:

1) Social work in government hospital: Multi-professional teams with service offers (as seen on the photo attached) cooperate to take care of the patients. One big resource for social workers is the readiness of business people and companies to give financial



Inauguration event TISS with CIF Mumbai group

support to poor patients (bearing costs of operation, rehabilitation, emergency help, etc.). It seems that the business sector in Mumbai has always been ready to give money for charity. In addition, an India-wide change took place in company law in April 2014, the so called "2 percent law", according to which at least 2 percent of profits are to be spent for charity.

2) Micro-business enterprises: Numerous self-help groups, created and initiated after having surveyed the needs in different parts of Mumbai and Maharashtra with the help of bank credits, like Vermiculture manure (compost produced and sold); delivery of home cooked food to offices; domains of handicrafts; tailoring, etc. During a three day rural camp in the small town Mahabaleshwar, it was impressive to see the manifold management of an extensive strawberry culture, funded by micro bank credits.

3) Visit to a diamond factory: under the supervision of social workers.

4) Intensive cooperation with various NGOs involved in



Family Patil, my first host family



Family Kakad, my second host family

slums: for women and child development, handicapped people, homes for high risk groups, work with socio-economically vulnerable communities and individuals who are at greater risk of being criminalized or exposed to trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, etc.

5) Mumbai-sightseeing: A restaurant with unique concept and great food where the serving staff is hearing- and speech-impaired (the menu card has hand signs to order food, thus offering a crash course in sign language); Dhobi Ghat, the world's largest outdoor laundry; visit to a naturopathy health center.

6) Creative Handicrafts: A boutique (a private initiative) with three chain stores and a catering service in Mumbai. Women from surrounding slums are selected by social workers, are given tailoring training and employed there under very good terms. Less talented women in the tailoring branch work in the catering and deliver homemade food to offices.



Government hospital and the social workers



Women working in different self-help groups



Vermiculture/organic fertilizer - compost produced and sold

Israeli shares experience with host living in Baltic PEP

ISRAEL

By Judith Shlasky,
CIF Israel

In May and June of 2016, I spent three weeks in Estonia and Latvia, and participated in the PEP in each country. I will concentrate here only on the aspect of personal hospitality that I experienced, and not on the professional aspect, of which I've written before. I'll just say that all in all the whole experience was exceptional and unforgettable in all ways, and I cherish the many wonderful memories from the time I spent in those countries.

In Estonia, I spent 10.5 days in Tallinn, and after the first three nights at the apartment that CIF rented for the four of us together during the orientation, I spent eight days and nights with a local young couple, who lived in a charming private house with a large yard, with a dog, in a neighborhood of Tallinn. The hostess, Anni de Forest, an active member of CIF Estonia, is a social worker who

worked at the time in a large hospital in the city. Her partner is not directly involved with CIF but supported her and helped during my stay. I was immediately made to feel very welcome in their home, was given a private room and encouraged to take anything from the refrigerator and kitchen.

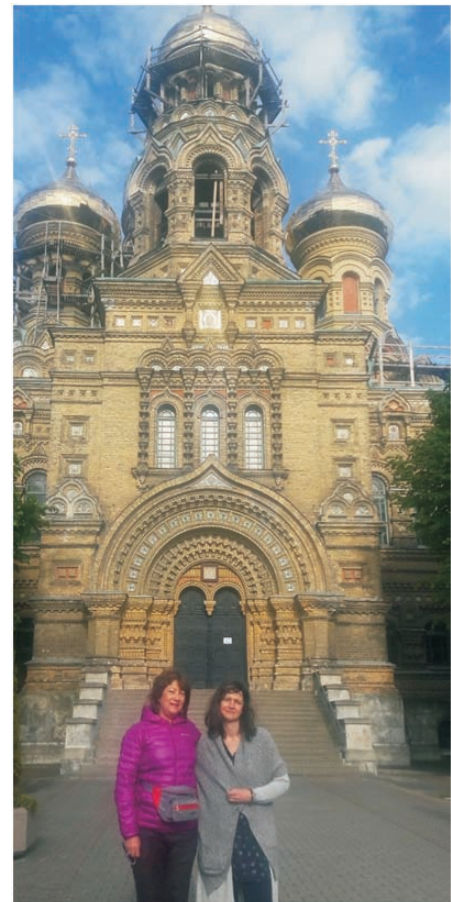
Anni and her partner left early for work, but I managed very well by myself with the breakfast and had plenty of things to choose from. I ate the main meal with them later in the day, or some days were taken out to dine with other CIF members. Anni was very friendly and made efforts to help me acclimate, showed me around the neighborhood with all the bus stops and train station I needed, explained how to walk, and told me about their surroundings. On Saturday, a day off, she took me with another CIF participant to her home town of

Haapsalu, including to her parents' home, and gave us a wonderful tour of the interesting and historic town. Anni also hosted us at her workplace and showed us departments of the hospital and the social service where she worked. She and her partner also helped me with rides home from the city at certain times and always tried to be of help in many ways. One day after our program she took me (with the other participant) to her dog's sport class which was a lot of fun, and then we walked along the beach, and enjoyed a nice evening with her.

Anni and her partner, Artur, hosted the farewell event for the other PEP participant in Tallinn and myself on the last evening at their yard, and made it a lovely and heartwarming event, when most of the CIF locals attended. The other two CIF participants were staying in other towns so did not attend. It was hard to say goodbye to them! I am still in touch with Anni, who sends me greetings for occasions like New Years and my birthday!

In Latvia I spent eight days with a hostess in Riga and two nights and days with another hostess in Liepaja, a town on the West Coast. In Riga I stayed with Zena, a lovely lady (former social worker and active CIF member) who also made me very welcome and comfortable in her cozy apartment. I had a private and spacious room to myself. Zena also gave me an informative tour of her neighborhood, showed me all the important transportation landmarks and taught me how to navigate in Riga. She bought different delicacies and spoiled me with delicious local foods and treats, making sure I tried everything! Since Zena also left early for work, I managed well myself, took my breakfast alone, and enjoyed delicious main meals with her at the end of the day. Zena showed a keen interest in me and my activities. She also accompanied me (with another participant) to some of the professional visits. She is very interesting to talk to and made very good company. I felt very welcome and comfortable with her and enjoyed her company all through my stay, and was sorry to leave!

In the town of Liepaja I spent two days and nights with Vinita, a social worker who worked with



Anni de Forest and Artur, CIF Estonia Vinita and Judith, Liepaja, CIF Latvia

handicapped people and also taught social work at the University. Vinita gave me a private studio apartment right next to her own, with my own bath, and comfortable facilities. Vinita made many efforts on my behalf, and wanted to make my visit memorable. She picked me up from the bus the first day and right away took me on a short tour of the town! She had her brother drive us in his car to some very interesting sites in the town in between my professional visits, and showed me everything worth seeing. She arranged for me to lecture twice, once in her class in the University and once at the municipal social agency before the whole staff, which was exciting! Vinita also provided tasty meals and made sure I was well fed! She also arranged for a translator to accompany me to most professional visits since the professionals there did not speak English well. She also came with me to some visits and then helped as she spoke English very well.

I established warm relationships with each of my hostesses. I am still in touch with both Zena from Riga and Vinita from Liepaja, and correspond to them from time to time, always good to hear from them, as they made my visits very special!

Never too late for Peace... looking towards CIF 2028!

CIF Italia invites you to attend the 1st Meeting of CIF Peace Project to be held in Sassone (Rome) Italy from Thursday 17 September to Sunday 30 September 2018.

ITALY


Printed below, you will find:

- The Invitation Letter from Domenico Antonio (Mimmo) Merola, president of CIF Italia
- The tentative meeting agenda
- The registration form and booking form (see www.cifitalia.it for registration and booking form)

More details and content will be given upon registration as soon as available, on the website: www.cifitalia.it

COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP C.I.F. ITALIA 1 st CIF Peace Project Meeting September 2018	
TENTATIVE PROGRAM 27/9/2018 – 30/09/2018	
Thursday 27. 20:00 21:00 – 22:00	Arrival and accommodation from 4 p.m. Dinner Socializing and sharing among participants
Friday 28. 07:30 – 08:45 09:00 – 09:30 09:30 – 10:00 10:00 – 10:30 10:30 – 11:00 11:00 – 11:30 11:30 – 11:45 11:45 – 12:30	Breakfast Welcoming and introduction to the Meeting: How it all started... ...and the CIF Italia Experience The CIF Norway Experience Break The CIF Finland Experience The CIF Israel Experience Break All about "Ossim Shalom" NGO of Arab and Jewish Social Workers for Peace and Welfare
13:00	Lunch
15:00 – 19:00	Introduction and workshop 1 – Nansen Center for Peace and Dialogue – Norway (break times to be arranged) www.peace.no
19:30 21:00	Dinner Concert
Saturday 29. 07:30 – 08:45 09:00 – 13:00	Breakfast Workshop 2 – Nansen Center for Peace and Dialogue – Norway (break times to be arranged)
13:30 15:00 – 16:00 16:00 – 16:30 16:30 – 17:30 19:00 20:00	Lunch CIF 2028 The future of the CIF Peace Project Break Conclusions and new Beginnings Dinner Departure for a Tour of Rome by Night
Sunday 30. 07:00 – 09:00 09:30 – 12:00 13:00	Breakfast Excursion to nearby Castel Gandolfo, Former Summer Residence of the Pope, situated next to a volcanic lake Lunch Departure





FIRST MEETING CIF PEACE PROJECT

S. Maria C.V., 23/12/2017


Dear CIF Friends,

The year 2017 has marked an important achievement to us: 30 years of existence and activities! It was our intention to make it a special moment and an opportunity to reminisce all that we have shared, see ourselves as we are today and think about the future, but we did not want to interfere in any way with the wonderful Conference in Greece.


Thus, we decided to postpone the event to September 2018 and organize a long week-end in Sassone-Rome (same location of our Conference in 2001) from Thursday 27 to Sunday 30 in the month of September 2018, where we hope to celebrate our 30 years (actually 31) of existence.

In line with the newly introduced CIF 2028 strategic planning idea, we hope to discuss and analyse with everyone interested, in particular the Branches that have conducted a Peace Project, all those who have joined us in the venture as The Nansen Center for Peace and Dialogue (www.peace.no), our past participants and anybody else who would like to explore the possibility of becoming part of the experience, what has been achieved and, thinking out of the box, what still awaits us in this modest but fulfilling commitment called the CIF Peace Project started in 2011!

We are therefore happy and hopeful to be able to share this life-moment with you... so arrivederci in Sassone-Rome!



Domenico Antonio (Mimmo) Merola
President of CIF Italia



PEP in Morocco receives high recommendations

I'm a social worker from Stockholm, Sweden. I participated in the CIF Morocco professional exchange program 2018 in Oujda. I was in the programme with my dear friend Maria Caravaca from Los Angeles, USA.

SWEDEN

By
Marie-Anne Karlsson

The first two days we spent together with CIF Morocco. We experienced interesting seminars, and a lovely trip to the Rif Mountains and to the Mediterranean Sea.

During the program I had two different placements. The first week I participated in the daily work at a center for abandoned, vulnerable children. There were children from the street and children who couldn't stay with their families for different reasons. And, the second week placed in a center for girls and women. The center had different activities to struggle against violence toward women and children.

On the weekend, the president of CIF Morocco and his lovely family took us on a nice trip to Fès, Meknès and Volubilis.

I am so happy that I had the opportunity to participate in the program. I can recommend it with all of my heart. Interesting program, nice and warm people, very good food...

Thank you from all of my heart for the very nice stay in Oujda! I really recommend CIF members around the world take the chance to participate in the Moroccan program.



Marie-Anne Karlsson pouring coffee at the home of Aziz and Maria.

The recent Professional Exchange Program in Morocco as described through photos



Aziz and Maria host at their home



PEP Morocco



Goodbye cake



Presentation/discussion

Social worker from Athens experienced a professional and enjoyable CIF program in Spain

The CIF program organized by Spanish colleagues was the first in terms of reception of social workers, while Spain actively participates in the mission of colleagues in other CIF member countries.

The program included four social workers (Greece, Germany, Costa Rica and Argentina). The first phase was grouped where all the participants shared the same activities and the second phase was individual where each participant followed an individual schedule. During the program in Madrid, I had the chance to visit the community social services, be informed about the public network of social care for people with mental disease and understand how the Council and the Associations of Social Workers act in Spain.

On 16-5-2018 I traveled to León, a town in the northern part of Spain where my individual program started. I visited structures to protect immigrants and refugees, social services, the private School of Social Work in León, older people's accommodation structures, and hospitality structures for persons with mental illnesses. I also had the opportunity to take part in the General Assembly of the Association of Social Workers in León. At the meeting I had the honor to



GREECE

*By Klainos Evangelos,
Social Worker, Athens*

present the work of the social workers in Greece.

Making an assessment of my participation in the program, the feeling that is prevalent is a positive one and satisfaction of my expectations. The daily program was demanding, complete, full of new knowledge.

The contact with the social services has enabled us to get to know the welfare system, its structure, the benefits, and the role of the social workers in it. We found differences and similarities in the way we practice, not only in Spain but also in the countries where the other participants came from.

Beyond the benefits at a professional, educational level, the bonding created between the participants in the program was something unexpectedly enjoyable. The Spanish colleagues, always willing to learn from us and not to teach us, have been loyal and supportive throughout the program. The program was experiential, alive and characterized by interaction, respect for the work and personality of each other and fellowship.

In closing, I have to admit that I am happy on my personal level, because my self-confidence has improved. I have improved my knowledge of Social Work Science and Practice, successfully applied my knowledge of the Spanish language and acquired new friends.



CIF Hellas conducts their 13th professional exchange program

By Catherine Psarouli, CIF Hellas IPEP Coordinator

Dear CIF friends,

We would like to share some information and moments from the 13th CIF Hellas International Professional Exchange Program, which took place in Athens from 07-19 May 2018 with four professional social workers:

1. **Andria Cubero** from Arizona, USA working at **Area Agency on Aging - Mosaic Refugee Program (MERP)**; 2. **Ceylan-Pinar Karatas** from Turkey working at **Istanbul Provincial Management Department of Adoption**; 3. **Maria Johanna Manninen** from Finland **In charge of housing for children without parents who have arrived to Finland as asylum seekers**; and 4. **Taylor Daniel** from Michigan, USA social work/psychotherapist working at **North Country Community Mental Health, in Petoskey, Michigan**.

The program included:

- **Orientation Seminar** to get together participants and organizers
- **Lectures** to familiarize participants with the socio/economic situation in Greece
- **Agency visits** as group to organizations for refugees, juvenile offenders, abused women, child protection and mental health
- **Placement to agencies** dealing mainly with refugees, child protection issues and elderly
- **Cultural activities and cross-cultural** exchange work methods and intervention practices amongst themselves as participants came from different countries

Host-family living provided them with a unique cultural experience and develops lasting cross-cultural friendships

The last Day participants shared gained knowledge and experience during the evaluation process and received their certificates during the farewell party.

CIF Hellas would like to thank the Hellenic Social Workers Association, the governmental and non-governmental organizations, the host families, the speakers, the president of the National Center for Social Solidarity (EKKA), CIF Hellas members and friends who helped to organize and implement the CIF Hellas IPEP 2018.

Cyprus Organizes an International Exchange Week

February 5th – 9th 2018, the European University Cyprus, the University College Leuven-Limburg, and Windesheim University of Applied Sciences organised an international week for social work and youth studies students that took place in Zwolle, in the Netherlands.

Students from the three universities accompanied by a lecturer contributed by preparing a presentation about their respective countries, and two presentations about how specific case studies (one describing child sexual abuse and one describing neglect that were made available in advance) would be dealt with in their countries. In order to prepare the cases the students had to familiarise themselves with the law, guidelines, available services, etc. in their countries of origin.

The International Exchange Programme included lectures and case studies, teamwork, field visits, and cultural (e.g. international buffet) and social activities. The main goal for this International Exchange Programme 2018 in Zwolle was to allow students to interact with students of other nationalities and give them an opportunity to share their experiences as students in the fields of social sciences.

Additionally, all students worked on designing a prevention project for a special target group: offenders, parents, professionals (social workers, pedag., teachers), teenagers, etc. In small groups, they were asked to design a European project that could be implemented in

CYPRUS

By Eleni Athanasiou,
CIF Cyprus

the Netherlands, Belgium and Cyprus, thus filling a gap, or trying something that has yet to exist in the respective countries. The Cypriot students received an award by the Rotary Club in Nicosia that contributed towards their expenses. Feedback sought on the last day, as well as conversations with individual students indicated that they all enjoyed the week and felt they benefited in many ways. The European University Cyprus together with CIF Cyprus are aiming to host a similar international exchange week next year.



In Memoriam –

Jakob Braun

With deep regret we announce, that Jakob Braun from CIF Germany / Munich, passed away January 29th. Jakob was in the CIP group 1974 and spent his time for exchange in Louisville /USA. From there he brought longlife friendships and exchange contacts into his professional life as professor for social work at the University of Applied Sciences in Munich. Jakob was on the German Board from 1980 till 1988. He was

involved in all the organization work for the conferences in Königstein 1980 and Bonn 2005 as well as into the work for the 50th anniversary in Hamburg 2010. Rest in peace. Our prayers and thoughts are with his wife and family. The funeral services were held in Munich in the chapel of his university in Munich, February 8th.



Mona Djurestad

With deep regret I have to announce, that Mona Djurestad, passed away March 3rd. Mona has been an active member of CIF Sweden for a long time and participated in exchange programs in The Netherlands and Israel (the first in 1997). She was also an active attendee at CIF conferences. Rest in peace. Our prayers and thoughts are with her husband and family. The funeral services were held in the church of Danderyd, March 28th.



Lollie Bailey-Nilsson

As we go to press, we do not have a formal obituary to print. However, as many of you know, our dear CIF member and friend Lollie Bailey-Nilsson died on May 8, 2018 in Stockholm Sweden. She spent several weeks prior to her death receiving medical care in Germany and Sweden after a stroke. During that time there were many visitors, cards and words of love and encouragement from CIF friends in both countries. She is survived by her step-daughter, Lena Dahlström lena.dahlstrom@gmail.com, and extended family in Sweden and the USA. Lena has let us know that she and Lollie's friends in Sweden have started to prepare for the funeral and memorial service. She also sent a poem written by the son of Lollie's cousin, Kelvin Bailey.



*The funeral will be in Matteuskyrka June 4th, at 11.00. (Västmannagatan 92, Stockholm)

*Memorial service will take place on August 25th, Lollie's birthday, in the English Church in Stockholm. Members active in CIF have many memories of Lollie and her contributions to our organization – her dedicated leadership as well as through song. Dagmar Demme, our longtime CIF member from Hamburg Germany offers strength with her words, "I have had many memories to share with her (Lollie) way back since 1957. The CIF-family will certainly think of her and this togetherness might give us individually some consolation."

Liny Hillenaar

Liny Hillenaar, one of the oldest and most faithful members of CIF the Netherlands passed away on May 19 2018 after just a few days of illness. Her death comes unexpected and as a shock for us.

Liny participated in the 1960 exchange program in Cleveland. She referred often about the profits of her participation in the Cleveland Program, how grateful she was having been in that Program and how the American period influenced her work as Director of the Institute of Family-Support in the Netherlands.

Liny has been involved in CIF ever since she came back. She was a very committed and loyal person, active and always interested in all activities of CIF-CIP.

We remember her interest in the yearly exchange program and the individual candidates, she followed all developments in CIF in the Netherlands as well as

internationally and gave her view on subjects. She opened her house several times for our yearly membership meeting. When the Conference was held in the Netherlands in 1999, she volunteered and took up many tasks, she was a person we could count on. Liny attended almost all CIF conferences and was always involved in setting up the Dutch Booth for the Market of the Nations. The last conferences she did not attend any more, because she felt it became too much for her.

"Don't Mourn Me when I Go"

by Kelvin Bailey

I've lived a great life my family
I just want you all to know
So listen to me closely
And don't mourn me when I go.
I've seen my shares of darkness
But God has always been my light
He's my Comforter, and my Deliver
And with Him, I knew that everything would always be all right.
I've looked across the valley
And I've seen the promise land
I've lived through segregation, the KKK
And got to see President Obama, yes A black man
I've seen some shiny lights
Amidst the darkest nights
but if you allow God to be your head
He will guide you through even the most hopeless of nights
My life has been blessed
I just want you all to know
This is just a pit stop here
So don't mourn me when I go.
No more walkers, no more canes
No more aches and no more pains
I've had a long journey and I've enjoyed my life
but the best thing I ever did was when I gave my life to Jesus Christ.
Because this is not a period
Signifying that this is the end.
This is just my comma
I'm waiting for the trumpet sounds to begin
Like the Bible says In 1 Thessalonians 4
**For the Lord Himself shall descend from heaven with a shout
And the trump of God and the dead in Christ shall rise first.**
And I want you all to know that I was one of those people
That Paul was talking about when God inspired that verse.
So Please don't mourn me
Cause I finished my race
I just hope when Jesus come back to get us
In that crowd I will see your face
I thank each of you for always being there me,
an always showing me that you really cared.
You are my loved ones, you are my friends
The greatest family a person could ever share
So please don't shed no tears
For this is a celebration, don't you know!
And I want to say this one more time to you
Please, "Don't Mourn me when I go".

A poem written for Lollie Bailey-Nilsson by the son of her cousin in the USA.

Council of International Fellowship (CIF) / Council of International Programs USA (CIP USA)



International Professional Exchange Programs (PEP) 2018-2019

for professionals of social work, social welfare and human services



COUNTRY	DURATION	DATES	DEADLINE	LANGUAGE	PROGRAM FEE	No. OF PARTICIPANTS
Argentina	3 weeks	Sept 7 th - 30 th 2018	Feb 15 th 2018	Spanish	€ 400	4 – 6
Australia		No program at the moment				
Austria	2,5 weeks	Apr 23 rd – May 10 th 2019	Dec 1 st 2018	English	No fee	8
Estonia	2 weeks	May 2019	Dec 1 st 2018	English	€ 300	3 – 5
France	3 weeks	Sep 19 th - Oct 13 th 2018	Apr 15 th 2018	French	€ 250	3 – 6
Finland	3,5 weeks	May 2019	Dec 1 st 2018	English	No fee	6 – 7
Germany	2,5 weeks	June 1 st - 17 th 2018	Dec 1 st 2017	English, German if possible	€ 350	4
Greece	2 weeks	May 2019	Jan 30 th 2019	English	€ 300	5
India	3 weeks	Jan-Feb 2019	Dec 31 st 2018	English	€ 325	2 – 10
Israel	2 weeks	Apr - May 2019	Dec 31 st 2018	English	€ 350	2 – 3
Italy-Slovenia	3,5 weeks	Sept 27 th - Oct 14 th 2018 + 1 week Slovenia	March 15 th 2018	English	€ 250 (Italy) € 100 (Slovenia)	4
Japan		Next program 2019 or 2020				
Kenya		No program at the moment				
Morocco	2 weeks	March - Apr 2019	Jan 15 th 2019	French and English, Arabic if possible	€ 350	2 – 4
Netherlands	2 weeks	Sep 29 th - Oct 13 th 2018	Apr 1 st 2018	English	€ 350	6 – 8
Nepal	3 weeks	Nov 18 th - Dec 8 th 2018	Aug 15 th 2018	English	€ 500	3 – 5
New Zealand	4 weeks	Oct 26 th – Nov 23 th 2018	March 30 th 2018	English	NZ\$ 500	4 – 6
Norway		No Program at the moment				
Russia	10 days	May 25 th – June 4 th 2018	Dec 1 st 2017	English, Russian if possible	€ 300	2 – 4
Scotland (UK)	4 weeks	May – June 2019	Dec 1 st 2018	English	£ 300	4 – 6
Spain	2 weeks	May 11 th -27 th 2018	Dec 1 st 2017	Spanish	€ 350	4
Sweden	4 weeks	Apr - May 2019	Nov 1 st 2018	English	No fee	4– 6
Switzerland	2,5 weeks	May 23 rd - June 8 th 2018	Dec 1 st 2017	English	CHF 400	4 – 6
Taiwan	2 weeks	March 9 th – 23 rd 2019	Oct 31 st 2018	English	NT\$ 13,000	3 – 5
Turkey	3 weeks	Apr - May 2019	Feb 1 st 2019	English	€ 350	4
USA www.cipusa.org	4-6 weeks	March or August	Open	English	US\$ 1,000 – US\$ 1,500	Open

All programs provide participants with housing – usually **host families living** - during the program and **local travel**.

For more information and latest updates visit our website: www.cifinternational.com

May 7th 2018

DIRECTORY OF CIF NATIONAL BRANCHES

June 2018

Argentina: Ms. Silvia Nutter
cif2010argentina@gmail.com

Australia: Penny Clark
prc@senet.com.au

Austria: Ms. Judith Lamatsch
cifaustria@yahoo.com, www.cifaustria.at

Cameroon: Dr. Nzume Gilbert
cifcam@yahoo.com

Cyprus: Dr. Maria Christopoulou
kdg@cytanet.com.cy

Estonia: Ms. Margit Randaru
cifestonia@gmail.com, margit.randaru@gmail.com
www.cifestonia.info, Skype: cif.estonia

Finland: Mr. Leo Heikkilä
info@ciffinland.org, leo.heikkila@gmail.com
www.ciffinland.org

France: Ms. Mireille Boucher
ciffrance@orange.fr, mirboucher@aol.com
www.cif-france.org

Germany: Ms. Renate
Info@cif-germany.de, rene.wisbar@cif-germany.de
www.cif-germany.de

Hellas: Ms. Elisavet Bakagianni
cifhellas@cifhellas.org, elisavetb@gmail.com
www.cifhellas.org

India: Ms. Iva Athavia
cif_india@yahoo.co.in, ivathavia_17@yahoo.co.in

Israel: Dr. Edna Bar-on
baroned@013.net.il, www.cif.org.il

Italy: Mr. Mimmo Merola
cifitalia@cifitalia.it, mimmo@thelanguagecentre.it
www.cifitalia.it

Japan: Mr. Masamichi Sakamoto
cifjapan08@gmail.com, http://cif-japan.papnet.jp

Kenya: Mr. Ronald Miller Mbehele
kenyacif@gmail.com

Kyrgyzstan: Ms. Gulasel Nogoibaeva
cifkl@mail.ru, gulasel2004@yandex.ru

Lithuania: Ms. Diana Stankaitiene
cif.lietuva@gmail.com

Morocco: Mr. Aziz Elboudiri
cifmaroc2014@gmail.com

Nepal: Mr. Mohan Neupane
cif.nepal2010@gmail.com, cifnepal.mohan@gmail.com

Netherlands: Ms. Mieke Weeda
info@cifnetherlands.nl, www.cifnetherlands.nl

New Zealand: Ms. Sue Ross
cifaotea@gmail.com, mlskross@hotmail.com
www.cifanz.org.nz

Norway: Ms. Linda Pettersen
lindacifnorway@outlook.com, www.cifnorway.com

Russia: Maria Meshcheryakova
cifrussia@mail.ru, mm1983@bk.ru

Scotland (UK): Ms. Anne Robertson
cifscotland.uk.scio@gmail.com, annejrobertson@gmail.com

Slovenia: Ms. Tatjana Prašnikar
tatjana.prasnikar@gmail.com

Spain: Ms. Maria José Sánchez
spaincif@gmail.com

Sweden: Ms. Tina Trygg
info@cifsweden.se, www.cifsweden.se

Switzerland: Ms. Elisabeth Fischbacher Schrobiltgen
fischbacher@cif-switzerland.ch
http://www.cif-switzerland.ch

Taiwan: Mr. Tung-Ru Shieh
ciftaiwan@gmail.com

Turkey: Ms. Irem Cosansu Yalazan
cifturkey@cifturkey.org, www.cifturkey.org

CIF-USA: Mr. Michael Cronin
mcronin@mcronin.com, www.cif-usa.com

CIP-USA: Ms. Lisa Purdy
lisa@cipusa.org, www.cipusa.org



Preparations are underway for the 2019 CIF Conference in France

We are working hard to prepare our next CIF Conference which will be held in Saint Malo, a historic walled city in Britany (more informaton online: www.saint-malo-tourisme.com).

We all keep wonderful memories of Kalamata. Britany is diferent from Greece, but the landscape and the local traditons are worth discovering! Our topic: the impact of new management models on social services both for professionals and clients – we will shortly ask for contributions from the different branches to organize a participatory moment as the CIF Conference offers a wonderful opportunity to share experiences.

**Save the dates in 2019 from
July 1st to 6th!**



We're on the Web!
www.cifinternational.com

CIF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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Contact Persons for Countries without a Branch Office

Algeria: Mr.Hamoudi Hocine, Algiers, Algeria
hocinelesouk@gmail.com

China: Cathy Xi Cao, daziquyiheng@126.com
Cathycao111@gmail.com

Jordan: Bassam I. Haddad, bhs.jordan@yahoo.com

Kosovo: Adem Shala, ademmd@gmail.com

Latvia: Vinita Vitola (Latvia no longer a CIF Branch, on their request) ciflatvia@gmail.com

Madagascar: Mr. Theodoric Rajaonary
theo.doric2525@yahoo.com

Pakistan: Ms. Tajreen Midhat, tmidhat@gmail.com

Palestine: Dr. Mohammed Alami
mdalami@gmail.com Skype: mdalami

Philippines: Juliet Vergara, vergarajuliet@yahoo.com

Romania: Elena Ulmeanu, Ulmeanu_elena@yahoo.com

Serbia: Dr. Olivera M. Cirkovic, olivera.cirkovic@map.org.rs

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This issue of CIF NEWS was designed and printed in Cyprus
by Gregory Hadjimichalakis, e-mail: hadjimichalakis@yahoo.gr

read