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20th European Scout Conference – Document 7

Candidates for Election to the European Scout Committee



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Candidates for Election to the European Scout Committee

Candidates will make short presentations to the Joint Conference on Sunday, 18 July. (Day 2)

The elections will take place on 19 July, during the separate Conferences. (Day 3)

The results of the election will be declared on 19 July.



Andrea Demarmels

Age:	45
Nationality:	Swiss
Education:	Doctorate in Law
Profession:	Lawyer, Consultant and advisor (business, governmental affairs); co-founder and co-owner of various companies
Languages:	Italian (mother tongue), German (fluently), French (fluently), English (good and improving knowledge) and Spanish (good understanding, basic level of speaking)
Interests:	History, travel, skiing, reading (books and comics), surfing

Nominated by Mouvement Scout de Suisse (MsDs) – the National Scout Organization in Switzerland.

A word from the candidate

Scouting is one of the reasons why I had a wonderful childhood. As an adult, I now consider it as an obligation to give something back to the Scout Movement. I would like to offer the European Region my many years' experience as a Scout leader at a local, regional, national and international level, as well as my professional skills in finance, law and business management. More specifically, I would like to assure the administrative, juridical and financial conditions for the continuation of the activities in the European Region, especially with regard to tailor-made support. Furthermore, I would like to pay due attention to the financial situation by increasing opportunities for funding and by minimizing the risks.

I would work hard to develop the Region alongside all European NSOs.

Please do not hesitate to contact me before, during and after the Conference!

I aim to live my life and act in accordance with the following message in the last words of our Founder:

"(...) the real way to get happiness is by giving out happiness to other people. Try and leave this world a little better than you found it and when your turn come to die, you can die happy in feeling that at any rate you have not wasted your time but have done your best. "Be Prepared" in this way, to live happy and

to die happy - stick to your Scout promise always - even after you have ceased to be a boy- and God help you do it."

Scouting experience (positions held)

Since 1973 Scout (cub, scout, scout leader)
 1983-1985 Group leader
 1985-1990 Member of the Board of the Locarno Region
 1987-1993 Chief editor of "La Scolta", the monthly review for Italian-speaking Swiss Scouts
 1987-2007 Member of the Board of the Scouts of the State of Ticino
 2001-2009 Member of the Swiss National Board (responsible for financial and legal affairs, and also responsible for external relations)
 2004-2009 Vice President of the Swiss Guide and Scout Movement
 Since 2004 Member of the Friends of Europe, European Scout Foundation
 Since 2004 Member of Kandersteg International Scout Centre
 Since 2009 Honorary Member of the Swiss Guide and Scout Movement

International Scouting events attended

1987 World Scout Jamboree, Sydney
 2003 Joint Task Force Fundraising, Paris
 2003 German Speaking Conferences (also in 2004, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009,2010)
 2004 European Guide and Scout Conference, Reykjavik
 2005 WAGGGS World Conference, Amman
 2005 WOSM World Conference, Yasmine Hammamet
 2007 European Guide and Scout Conference, Portoroz
 2007 SAGNO Meeting, Rieneck Castle
 2007 WOSM Governance Meeting, Jambville
 2007-2008 Trilateral Agreement WOSM-KISC-MSdS, London/Kandersteg
 2008 WOSM Governance Meeting, Frankfurt
 2008 WOSM World Conference, Jeju
 2008 Lisboa Group Meeting, Narmur
 2008 Chief Scouts' Meeting, Zürich
 2009 Scout Academy, Kralupy
 2009 International Commissioners' Forum, Malta St. Julian's
 2010 Lisboa Group Meeting, Madrid
 2010 Scout Symposium, Budapest
 Facilitator and/or leader at many seminars and workshops during WOSM World and European level events, SAGNO events, etc.



Christos Hatzidiamandis

Age:	37
Nationality:	Greek
Education:	BEng. Computer Systems Engineering, MSc. Satellite Communications Engineering, MSc. Technoeconomics
Profession:	Experienced Solution Architect in Ericsson Hellas
Languages:	Greek, English, Basic French, Basic Spanish
Interests:	Music, Trekking, Travelling

Nominated by Soma Hellinon Proskopon –
The National Scout of Greece

A word from the candidate

'The boy is not governed by don't, but is led by do.' Sir Robert Baden-Powell.

A quote that means a lot to me and strongly influenced me to decide to be a candidate for the European Scout committee.

Given the opportunity and the privilege to work as an Assistant Group Leader up to the level of the Deputy International Commissioner for my National Scout Organization, I tried to make real the vision I had for scouting based always on our core values the Scout Promise and Law. *Scouting which makes a real contribution to creating a better world.*

On a European level I am aiming to contribute to and promote initiatives in fulfilling the triennium plan that we will collectively agree upon. Focusing on volunteering, growth through quality, regional cooperation, youth empowerment and embracing change as these have been the main issues that European Scouting is challenged today.

Working on achieving the maximum towards our common goals, in close cooperation and efficient interaction with all members in the Committee, I am determined to see Scouting growing even stronger in Europe. With these thoughts I would like to present myself as a candidate to our Conference for election, willing to work hard and with persistence to respond to our common challenging needs all across Europe.

Scouting experience (positions held)

2009 Deputy International Commissioner
2008 Region Rover Commissioner
2007 Assistant International Commissioner
2005 Unit Leader in Athens
2002 Assistant Unit Leader (cubs, scouts, ventures, rovers) in Athens
2000 Assistant Venture Leader in Athens
1995 Assistant Venture Leader in Thessaloniki
1992 Cub Leader in Thessaloniki Joined Scouting in 1982

International Scouting events attended

2010 European Scout Symposium in Budapest
2010 Friends of Scouting in Europe Meeting, Athens
2009 Hosted North South Network in Athens
2009 Contingent Leader & Jambassador for the Roverway in Iceland
2009 International Commissioners Forum in Malta
2008 North South Network Meeting, Sweden
2002 World Scout Conference in Thessaloniki



Christian Loste-Ramos

Age:	42
Nationality:	Spanish
Education:	University Graduate in Veterinary Studies, and University Expert Degree in Social Services Management
Profession:	Human Resources and Management in the social sector
Languages:	Spanish, English, French, German
Interests:	Travelling, Reading Books, Music, Social and Cultural Affaires

Nominated by Federacion de Escultismo España –
the National Scout Organization of Spain

A word from the candidate

In the horizon of the next three years, the European Scout region will be requested to take many decisions which will greatly determine the evolution of the World Scout Movement:

WORLD GOVERNANCE: It will be quite important that the final document incorporates the importance of respecting diversity and that the presence and participation of young people in WOSM debating and decision taking bodies is further improved.

DIVERSITY, PARTICIPATION, BALANCE: We need to recognize the vital importance of diversity as an essential value of scouting and to guarantee respect and tolerance to different points of view. We equally need to pay attention to issues related to gender and equal opportunities.

VOLUNTEERING: We have to work for the development of policies focused on supporting all people voluntarily working for Scouting. Everybody should have a correct training, the right to participate and the recognition of his/her contribution. We should guarantee the existence of forums, gathering and tools.

GROWTH: Growth can no longer be understood exclusively in terms of quantity. Any approach has to be mirrored by an increase of the quality of our actions and, consequently, our growth.

WAGGGS/WOSM JOINT WORK: It will be quite important to go on developing a close relationship with WAGGGS. We need to foster the exchange of experiences, finding joint spaces and improving the current communication in pursuit of incrementing the quality of our actions.

All these challenges are requiring our participation. And we need to listen to the different voices to understand where we all should go.

Scouting experience (positions held)

Member of the "Federación de Asociaciones de Scouts de España-ASDE" since 1979 to the present day, holding different volunteer and professional positions in Scouting:

- At local level (Scout Group "Calansancio 126"): Club Scouts and Troop Leader (1989-1999)

- At national level (ASDE and F.E.E):

- General Manager of ASDE Federal Office (1989-1999)

- ASDE International Commissioner (2003-2009) and F.E.E. International Commissioner (2007-2009)

He began his Scout training in 1989, following all levels of ASDE federal training framework, and achieving the level of Training Director (4 wood badge beads) in 2006.

International Scouting events attended

"Cimeiras Ibericas": Iberian Summits gathering top national Scout leaders of Spain and Portugal

Different meetings and activities of the "Lisbon Group" of Southern Scout Associations since it was established.

Different Seminars and International Activities organized by the European Scout Region.

Working meetings with the World Scout Bureau concerning the review of the By-laws of the Federation of Scouting in Spain (FEE)

Gathering of Scout Leaders belonging to Scouts de France in Annecy (France), November 2004

Regional Scout Symposiums in Riva del Garda (Italy), Cyprus (2005) and Budapest (2010)

"Eurojam" 2005 in Chelmsford (United Kingdom).

International Commissioners Forum in Copenhagen 2006.

European Scout Conferences: 17th in Prague (Czech Republic) 2001, 18th in Reykjavic (Iceland) --2004 and 19th in Portoroz (Slovenia).

25th Arabic Scout Conference in Cairo (Egypt), November 2007

22nd and 23rd Interamerican Scout Conferences in San Salvador (El Salvador) 2004, and Quito (Ecuador) 2007.

World Scout Conferences: 37th and 38th World Scout Conferences in Tunis (2005) and Korea (2008). During the 37th World Scout Conference he presented the paper "Methodological Renewal of the Programs Framework in ASDE-Scouts de España".

World Scout Jamborees: 18th World Scout Jamboree in Dronten (Holland), July 1995, 19th World Scout Jamboree in Picarquín (Chile), December 1998 and 21st World Scout Jamboree in Chelmsford (UK) in July/August 2007 (The Centennial Jamboree).

In the framework of the Federation of Scouting in Spain (F.E.E), he takes part in all its assemblies from 2004 to 2010. He was appointed International Commissioner of the FEE from 2007 to 2009, and during that period he represented FEE at international level.



Bianca Nesiu-Bedreag

Age:	28
Nationality:	Romanian
Education:	Trainer for trainers, master degree
Profession:	Elearning project manager. Domain training
Languages:	Romanian, French, English
Interests:	technology, community, hiking

Nominated by Organizatia Nationala Cercetasii Romaniei (ONCR) -the National Scout Organization of Romania

A word from the candidate

I am a young woman shaped by Scouting. Having been involved in the Movement since 1996, it has widely contributed to the development of my competencies in domains such as training, team building and time or project management.

After being an explorer scout within NORS, in 2001 I decided to switch from being a simple participant to being a leader within National Organisation of Romanian Scouts and getting more involved. It was this point that marked the start of my gradually rising involvement inside Scouting, first at national level, and then at international one.

From 2003 on I was involved at national level inside NORS, where I contributed to the development of NORS's strategy, and started together with the Programme team a new Renewed Approach to Programme process. Later on, I volunteered for the Youth Programme Core Group of the European Region (2004-2007). At the end of 2006, I was elected President of Romania Youth Council, representing ONCR, position which I still hold, for a second mandate. I currently am member of European Policies Support Group of the Region.

Having been brought up by Scouting, I frequently use skills and attitudes that were developed during scouting activities, in camps or seminars, in my professional activity. On the other side, I like bringing relevant things from my everyday work into Scouting, to increase professionalism and enlarge perspective.

Overall, I think that I would be a great asset for the team both because of my experience and also of my expertise. My enthusiasm, creativity, my passion to contribute on shaping the future of European Scouting are some of the reasons that recommend me for the position of member of European Scout Committee.

Scouting experience (positions held)

Cub Scout local leader, Green Bucharest local group, National Organisation of Romanian Scouts- ONCR, 2000-2005
Cub Scout commissioner, National Organisation of Romanian Scouts - ONCR, 2002-2003
Youth Programme commissioner, National Organisation of Romanian Scouts - ONCR, 2004-2007
President of Romania Youth Council, representing National Organisation of Romanian Scouts - ONCR, 2006-present
Member of Youth Programme Core Group -WOSM European Scout Region, 2004-2007
Member of External Policies Support Group – WOSM European Scout Region, 2007- 2010

International Scouting events attended

European Scout and Guide Conference, Slovenia 2007 - official delegate
5th Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources, Denmark 2007 – member of planning team
Programme Developers Summit, Denmark 2006 - participant
RoverWay, Italy 2006 – member of staff, Gifts for Peace projects
EuroJam, United Kingdom 2005 – member of staff, Gifts for Peace projects, contingent coordinator
4th Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources Luxembourg 2004 – member of planning team
RoverWay, Portugal 2003 – contingent leader



Henrik Söderman

Age:	34
Nationality:	Finnish
Education:	Master of Science (Economics)
Profession:	European civil servant
Languages:	English, French, Italian, Finnish, Swedish
Interests:	sailing, sauna, events, and countries of the world

Nominated by Suomen Partiolaiset-Finlands Scouter –
the National Scout Organization of Finland

A word from the candidate

Dear friends,

After three years in the European Scout Committee, I am running for a new mandate with great enthusiasm. In this triennium the Region has moved in the right direction, but we must be bold and innovative also in the future.

Looking at the past triennium, I feel happy of the work done, but I am not yet satisfied with the growth of Scouting in Europe: in many countries we are losing members, or reach only a small proportion of young people. Encouragingly, there are NSOs that are growing. It shows that our goal is reachable!

1. Inclusive Scouting in today's Europe

Every young woman and man in Europe, from all backgrounds, should have the possibility to join Scouting. We need to Reach Out, to keep the doors open to all, and to constantly adapt to the changing realities of our continent.

2. Partnerships

As the leading youth movement in Europe, there are no limits to the potential for external resources we can access through partnerships. The emphasis on external relations and funding has produced first positive results. But we can do even more to harvest opportunities for the benefit of the NSOs in Europe and beyond.

3. Ensuring Impact

Through well-managed and effective NSOs, Scouting can have a powerful impact. We must work close to the NSOs, always adapted to the different realities. Our resources can have a decisive impact when used smartly to support NSOs. There is no limit to the potential of Scouting. It is in our power to unleash it!

Scouting experience (positions held)

European Scouting

European Scout Committee 2007-2010. Candidate for 2010-2013.
External relations working group, Scouting's Profile network 1998 - 2007
President of the European Youth Forum (Platform of European youth organisations) 2001-2002

Finnish Scouting

International Commissioner 2007-2010
National coordinator for external relations 2004-2006
International relations committee 1997-2004
Development cooperation working group: 1995-1998

World Scouting

WOSM Support Team, World Scout Jamboree 2007 United Kingdom
Main programmes and events team, World Scout Moot 2004 Taiwan
International press center team, World Scout Jamboree 2003 Thailand
World Scout Bureau, Project officer, partnerships and events 2003

International Scouting events attended

World Scout Jamboree 2007 UK
RoverWay 2006 Italy
EuroJam 2005 UK
World Scout Moot 2004 Taiwan
World Scout Jamboree 2003 Thailand
World Scout Jamboree 1995 Netherlands

International Commissioner's Forum 2009 Malta
International Commissioners' Forum 2006 Denmark
European Scout Symposium 2010 Hungary
European Scout Symposium 2006 Cyprus
European Scout Conference 2007 Slovenia
European Scout Conference 2004 Iceland
European Scout Conference 2001 Czech Republic
European Scout Conference 1998 Luxembourg

World Scout Conference 2008 Korea
World Scout Conference 2005 Tunisia
World Scout Conference 2002 Greece
World Scout Conference 1999 South Africa
World Scout Youth Forum 1999 South Africa

Euro-Arab meeting 2009 Sweden
Euro-Arab meeting 2006 Tunisia
Asia-Pacific Scout Conference 2009 Malaysia
Africa Scout Conference 2009 Ghana
Africa Scout Conference 2007 Rwanda
Arab Scout Conference 2007 Egypt



Tomaž Strajnar

Age:	40
Nationality:	Slovenian
Education:	High school; Electrotechnics
Profession:	self employed; graphic design and screen printing
Languages:	English, basic German, languages of the Western Balkan countries
Interests:	photography, dancing, music, sport

Nominated by Zveska tabornikov Slovenije - the National Scout Organization of Slovenia

A word from the candidate

I wish to run for a spot in the European Scout Committee because I believe I can give a positive contribution to Scouting in Europe. Through my work at different levels in Scouting and as a vice-chairman of the Youth Council of Slovenia I have been in touch with the challenges faced by youth nowadays. Individualism, changes of the demographic situation in Europe, the value system, and youth in the labour market are a few of the challenges we need to address.

I feel the European Scout Region should facilitate growth of the NSOs/NSAs, respond to the changes and expectations in society, most importantly youth, as well as promote Scouting as the leading youth and education movement in Europe through the values and the mission.

I strongly believe that everyone involved in Scouting should do their best to fulfil our mission and contribute towards creating a better world. Not by solving the bigger issues, rather by addressing challenges in our society, changing our attitudes, behaviours. By putting their own small stones into the big mosaic of our mission and thus contributing to a greater impact of Scouting in Europe.

Scouting experience (positions held)

In Zveza tabornikov Slovenije, the national scout organization:

- unit leader
- regional commissioner
- programme commissioner
- chief commissioner

At the regional level:

- member of the Adult resources core group (ESR)
- co-president of organizing committee of the 12th European guide and scout conference

International Scouting events attended:

World Scout Jamboree: Chile, United Kingdom

- **Management seminar** in Kandersteg

Youth programme and Adult resources forum: Malta, Mollina, Lipica, Obidos

European Scout Symposium: Gozd Martuljek, Riva del Garda, Limassol, Budapest

European Guide and Scout Conference: Luxemburg, Prague, Reykjavik, Portoroz

World Scout Conference: Tunisia, Korea



Craig Turpie

Age:	35
Nationality:	British
Education:	Masters Degree in Design (with specialism in new media)
Profession:	Creative Director and cofounder of web development company
Languages:	English, some French
Interests:	Outdoor life, contemporary history, travel, design

Nominated by The Scout Association – the National Scout Organization in the United Kingdom

A word from the candidate

It has been a privilege to serve our Movement as Chairman of the European Scout Committee. I have been deeply humbled by the support received and greatly encouraged by those who have requested that I should stand again. Because of this support and encouragement I'm excited about the prospect of offering myself to the service of our Movement for a further period.

Priorities and Approaches

Although much has been achieved, scope exists for improvement in how the Region focuses on serving the needs of associations. Innovations including tailored support and the Academy concept have proved valuable, but these approaches need to be developed.

World, Regions and WAGGGS

The Region doesn't exist in isolation. Whilst our focus should be the support and development of associations in Europe, our work should be enhanced by collaboration with other parts of WOSM, including world level and other Regions. Our relationship with WAGGGS is important. Improvements in ways of working and action on common issues have been significant. Opportunities exist to develop this further, using the European Year of Volunteering as well as our focus on growth.

Working with associations

The Region should play a role in sharing information and connecting people. The Committee Contact System should be developed further.

Serving the Region has been a privilege. It is impressive to witness the incredible collective commitment to the development and growth of Scouting that exists in Europe and with your support, I look forward to playing my part in that continued effort.

Scouting experience (positions held)

1993-1994 Chairman, Scottish Venture Scout Council
 1993-1994 Member, Scottish Board, The Scottish Council of The Scout Association
 1995-2001 Assistant Venture Scout Leader
 1997-1998 National Communications Manager, Scout Network Field Trial
 2000-2004 Chairman, UK-Poland Network
 2001-2007 Member, International Team (The Scout Association)
 2001-2007 Area Scout Network Commissioner
 2003 Contingent Leader, Roverway 2003
 2004-2007 Member, Jamboree Organising Team, 21st World Scout Jamboree
 2004-2007 Member, European Scout Committee
 2004-2007 Youth Advisor, World Scout Committee
 2005-2007 Member, Educational Methods Committee (World)
 2005-2007 Member, Adult Volunteer Task Team (world)
 2008-2010 Member, World Scout Committee
 2007-2010 Chairman, European Scout Committee

International Scouting events attended

Extensive participation in and planning of seminars and events across Europe and beyond.

1991 17th World Scout Jamboree, Korea
 1992 Columbus Jamboree, Brazil
 1995 18th World Scout Jamboree, The Netherlands
 1998 19th World Scout Jamboree, Chile
 2003 Roverway 2003, Portugal
 2004 18th European Scout Conference, Iceland
 2005 4th Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources, Luxembourg
 2005 EuroJam, United Kingdom
 2005 9th World Scout Youth Forum, Tunisia
 2005 37th World Scout Conference, Tunisia
 2006 3rd European Scout Symposium, Cyprus
 2006 International Commissioners' Forum, Denmark
 2006 7th Euro-Arab Meeting, Tunisia
 2007 5th Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources, Denmark
 2007 19th European Scout Conference, Slovenia
 2008 37th World Scout Conference, Korea
 2009 2nd Africa Scout Summit, Kenya
 2009 1st Europe-Eurasia Meeting, Ukraine
 2009 8th Euro-Arab Meeting, Sweden
 2009 Roverway 2009, Iceland
 2009 International Commissioner's Forum, Malta
 2010 4th European Scout Symposium, Budapest



Petr "Permi" Vaněk

Age:	32
Nationality:	Czech
Education:	Social and Cultural Anthropology (BA.), International Relations (MA.)
Profession:	Project manager, youth worker and trainer
Languages:	English and German (fluent), Spanish and French (intermediate)
Interests:	Scouting, politics, hiking, human & animal rights, communication, sports, travelling, reading, movies, languages, Internet...

Nominated by Junák-svaz skautu a skautek – the National Scout Organization of the Czech Republic

A word from the candidate

I have enjoyed working together many people on projects within the mission of delivering good Scouting experience to young people. The work on local, national and international levels has taught me that a) working together means working your way forward and b) making a difference is a real option.

I see the Role of the Region in supporting the NSOs in areas where their own works runs against limits. For me, the most important role of the Region is to support multilateral exchange of ideas. This happens through personal contact and facilitation of the information flow. Drawing on the needs of NSO in various areas of work and offering tools of exchange (seminars, events, databases, mailing lists...) is for me essential, same as representing Scouting (and Guiding) towards institutional partners on the European level. My personal view is that the Region has been delivering a very good work in this.

A lot of what I learned in life I learned in Scouting. I have been honoured to have a chance to guide and support young people in Scouting. I deeply appreciate what Scouting has to offer to individuals, to communities and to society as whole. I believe that the same as any other level of Scouting activity, European Scout Region has a role in achieving our mission of making this world a better one. I would be honoured to contribute to this effort.

Scouting experience (positions held)

1990- Member
 1991-1996 Patrol leader
 1996-2003 Scout unit leader
 1997-1999 Rover clan leader
 1998-2004 Group Educational Adviser
 1998-2003 District Rover Coordinator
 1998-2004 National Charity Project Coordinator
 1999- Trainer
 2003-2006 National Rover Team Member
 2005 National Rover Leader Woodbadge Course Leader
 2005-2008 Rover Task Force Member (of the European Scout Region)
 2005-2008 National Board Member
 2007- District Commissioner
 2008- Executive Board Member
 2008- International Commissioner

International Scouting events attended

European Scout Jamboree (Netherlands 1994),
 Overture Networks Meeting (2000-2001)
 Subregional Event (Slovakia 2005)
 European meeting for Rovers and Rover Leader (France 2005)
 4th European Forum on Youth Programme and Adult Resources (Luxbg 05)
 Programme Developer's Summit (Denmark 2006)
 RoverNet (Portugal 2006)
 Roverway (Italy 2006)
 European Scout and Guide Conference (Slovenia 2007)
 RoverNet3.0 (Switzerland 2008)
 World Scout Conference (Korea 2008)
 International Commissioners Forum (Malta 2009)
 European Scout Symposium (Hungary 2010)



SCOUTS[®]
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