

To: Lions International Executive Officers and Members of the Board of Directors

From: Barbara Grewe, International Director (2022-2024); Designated International Directors for the 68. Europa Forum Klagenfurt 2023

Reference: Final Report on the 2023 Europa Forum

Dates: Thursday, 25. October to Saturday, 28. October 2023 (closed meetings on Wednesday, 24. October)

Venue: Seepark Hotel, Hotel Sandwirt (closed meetings), Klagenfurt Exhibition Center, State Archive Carinthia and Gustav Mahler Private University of Musik – Klagenfurt, Austria.

Attendance: 918 Lions and Leos, 195 accompanying persons

Participants from 52 Countries

37 European (Armenia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Moldavia, Moldova, Montenegro, Netherlands, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom) and

15 non-European (Bangladesh, Brazil, Canada, Chad, Congo, Egypt, Guadeloupe, India, Japan, Kenya, Lebanon, Nepal, Pakistan, Sri Lanka, United States of America) countries.

The five MDs with the most participants: MD 114, MD 108, MD 111, MD112, MD 105

International Officers:

IP Dr. Patti Hill; IPIP, Chairperson of LCIF Brian E. Sheehan; 1. IVP Fabricio Olivera;
2. IVP A.P. Singh

Following the Rules of Procedure of the Europa Forum, the Europa Forum was organized by a Host Committee with Lions from Austria, Forum President was PID Dr. Walter Zemrosser.

The Host Committee is supported by the Supervisory Committee, which is chaired by me, the designated International Director. The Supervisory Committee met a total of 12 times, including one meeting in person in Klagenfurt in March.

On the day before the official Opening Ceremony and start of the European Forum, various internal meetings took place, including a meeting of the Long Range Planning Committee Europe (LRPCE) and the Lions Task Force Europe (LTE). Both are official groups defined in the rules that discuss Lions issues for and in Europe and develop strategic proposals.

The program of the Europa Forum includes an Opening and Closing Session, as well as a Get-Together, an evening organized by the host country and a Gala Evening.

During the three days of the Europe Forum, a total of over 120 meetings, seminars and workshops were organized. They covered all Global Causes. In summary:

8 sessions on the Global Action Team - including Mission 1.5

10 sessions about environment and sustainability

12 sessions on international cooperation - including refugees and water projects

The other sessions covered all various topics, including the Leo movement and all Global Causes.

The highlights were the large, translated six seminars led by the executive officers.

(Program schedule attached to this report)

In addition, there were several presentations in the so-called Speakers Corner.

The Agora was very well attended with 14 stands covering a wide range of topics. It was an absolute meeting point for the participants to talk and exchange ideas.

The Gustav Mahler Privat University of Music hosted the youth competitions (Thomas Kuti Lions European Music and Burt Mason Young Ambassador competition), as well as the meeting of the youth exchange representatives of the European MDs and SDs.

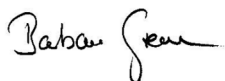
A central event of every Europa Forum is the so-called European Council. It consists of three sessions, in the first the submitted resolutions are presented, in the second they are discussed and in the third they are voted on.

This year, 13 resolutions have been on the agenda, all of which were adopted, 10 of them unanimously.

The most important decisions were the adoption of the so-called **Europa Forum Manual** (*attached to this report*), which replaces the old Rules of Procedure. Two decisions concerned the rules of the Burt Mason Young-Ambassador competition. The report (also financial) of the last two European Forums 2021 in Thessaloniki and 2022 in Zagreb were adopted. The hosts for the 2027 (Venice) and 2028 (Budapest) European Forums were determined. In addition, the European Council expressed its confidence in the Board of Directors with regard to the decision of the Endorsement for PID Dr. Manoj Shah to run for the 3rd IVP at the International Convention in Melbourne 2024.

The thanks of all participants go to the outstanding work of the Host Committee. Special mention must be made of the Forum Secretary General PDG Karl Brewi and the Forum Treasurer PCC Hubert Gärtner, whose commitment went far beyond the norm. I also thank the Forum Advisor & Archivist PID Miklos Horvath and Forum Accountant PID Daniel Isenrich. Without their advice, support, experience and innovative thinking the preparation would not have been possible.

Respectfully submitted,



Barbara Grewe

International Director (2022-2024)