



EUROPA FORUM LIONS 2024



Lions Europa Forum - October 24-26, Bordeaux le Lac

Final Reports

Our theme this year was “ Mieux vivre ensemble” , (Living Better Together) very important in our society in Europe in our European Context today, and very important for our clubs if we want to retain our members , learn to work together and to respect all our members regardless of their difference, their way of thinking, of way of living.

We had a Europa Forum that answered the needs of our members post Covid, with a higher number of participants as initially expected. As the EF in Klagenfurt last year, people could register for 1 day, 2 days or 3 days.

There were several innovations, both in the opening and closing ceremonies, (with a focus on “ inclusion”) in the program, in the Agora from where it was easy to get to all the sessions and venues within the same building and with easy tram connection to the European Music Competition Thomas Kuti in the Bordeaux Music Academy, and downtown Bordeaux.

Let develop now these various points and the organization:

Members of the Host Committee:

PID Nicole Miquel Belaud	President
PDG Claude Mermet	Vice President
Alain de la Giroday	Secretary
Marie Helene Vidal	Treasurer
PDG Vanessa Horrod	Program Advisor
Michel Chartroule	Protocol
Sandrine Loisel	Communication- webmaster
Josiane Perez	Newsletter-Redaction-media
PCCG Dominique	LEMC music competition+ charity concert
Isabelle Roland Frances	YCE youth Camps and Exchange
Anne Laure Frances	YAA Young Ambassadors

Members of the Supervisory Committee

ID Marcel Daniel	Designated ID and chairperson
PID Nicole Miquel Belaud	Forum President

PID Teresa Dineen	Vice President
PDG Vanessa Horrod	Forum Program Director 2024
PDG Ann Hellis	Forum Program Director 2025
PID Miklos Horvath	Forum Archivist & Advisor
PID Daniel Isenrich	Forum Financial Controller
Permanent guests:	
PDG Claude Mermet	Forum “General Commissaire”
MH Vidal	Forum Treasurer
Alain de la Giroday	Forum Secretary

The supervisory Committee meetings started at the previous Europa Forum in Klagenfurt, and the last meeting was held the day before the start of the EF in Bordeaux

On top of the monthly online meetings, there was one site visit with both committees in March to visit all the facilities and the key hotels. During the supervisory Committee and the LRPCE meetings, there were always members of the host committee present, reporting on the progress in their areas of responsibility. In addition, during the supervisory committee, and the LRPCE meetings, there were always members of the host committee present, reporting on the progress in their areas of responsibility.

With the members of the host committee there were monthly meetings initially, and twice a month after, and we had a meeting 1 per month, after two par months and from September and October every week. At the same time there were also weekly thematic meetings .

1.Participants at the Europa Forum:

****Executive Officers and Board-Appointees**, We were very honored to have with us:

IP Fabricio Oliveira and spouse Amariles

PIP Dr Patti Hill and spouse Gregory

IVP AP Singh

3rd IVP Manoj Shah and spouse Jayna

PIP Gutrun Yngvadottir and spouse Jon Bjarni

PIP Brian E Sheehan, LCIF Vice Chair and spouse Lorry

PID Sangeeta Jatai, Board of Appointees

Sandro Castellana , LCIF Trustee

Robert Rettby, LCIF Europe

****the 6 European ID :**

ID Marcel Daniels and spouse	MD 112 Belgium (designated ID for the EF Bordeaux)
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ID Halldor Kristjansson and spouse	MD 109 Iceland
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ID Danyal Kubin and spouse	MD 118 Turkey
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ID Guy Bernard Brami and spouse	MD103 France
ID Dr Karl Brewi, and spouse	MD 114 Austria
ID Lorena Hus and spouse	D 129 Slovenia

**Participants by country, see in attachment

Opening and clothing ceremonies:

1. The theme of the forum (Living Better Together)was exemplified by the having as forum animators a Lion (male) and a Leo (Female)- a testimony to our diversity , it was a way to show that Leo and Lions are able to work altogether, young and less young also, and man and woman !

The opening ceremony begin with the flags and anthems of the Executive Officers (Brazil-Canada, India, USA, Kenya, France and Europe,) followed by the flags of the 42 countries that are members of the European Council.

PID Nicole Miquel Belaud, President of the EF Bordeaux, officially opened the Forum, thanking first all the dignitaries and guests for their presence, explaining the importance of the theme “Better Living Together “ in our modern society.

Due to the political situation in France at that time, (no government), there was no minister present- as initially planned. We therefore had a welcome speech by deputy mayor, representing the Mayor of Bordeaux. IP Fabricio Olivera presented the peace poster plaque to the local and regional civil and political authorities present, in addition to the deputy mayor, the Ambassador of the European Climate Pact, and the Paralympic athlete Gregory Mouyen Ambassador of inclusive society.

This was followed by IP Fabricio Oliveira explaining his theme “Make your Mark” to the participants,

Then came a brief photo presentation of the candidates for 3rd incoming ID’s and of the candidates for 3rd VP, for which members will be able to vote at the International Convention in Orlando.

Paralympic athlete Gregory Mouyen, high-level athlete, and ambassador of inclusive society, gave the motivational speech, which was followed by a dance and art performance, by professional valid and invalid (people with disabilities)professional dancers.

Motivation speech and art performance were very emotional.

Innovation: A nice surprise came during the opening ceremony was e.g. an inter-generational philosophical exchange between two “Lions” (a 12 year old boy belonging to a Cub Lions Club, and a 93 year old Past International Director) based on an excerpt of a book by the famous French author Antoine de St Exupery (le Petit Pince-The little prince) .

Then came a long time after, a performance of “Alphonse”, winner 2024b of the TV -shot “ The Voice” – a previous participant at the Lions Youth Camp and Exchange Program.

For the closing ceremony, an orchestra entertained the participants walking into the room to give the session a dynamic and much appreciated vibe.

2. The Closing ceremonies was started by Nicole Miquel Belaud, Président of the EF, who asked all the volunteers and all the members of the EF team to come to the podium to receive a very well deserved thanks for their hard work and dedication .

Ingo Brookmann European Coordinator, with D Mallet , R Eyremendi, A Pouliguen and A de la Giroday presented the 6 finalists and awarded the 3 winners of the Lions European Music Competition Thomas Kutti.

PDG Sally Marsh, accompanied with Anne Laure Frances, presented the 3 winners of the Bert Mason Young Ambassador Award.

Designated International Director Marcel Daniels gave his comments on the Europa Forum in Bordeaux, adding his thanks to all who made the Forum a success in sometimes challenging circumstances.

PIP Fabricio Oliveira concluded the speeches by highlighting the impact of such gathering on the challenges to world towards Mission 1.5 in Europe ;

Then came the time to pass the “forum “from France to Ireland, with an Irish movie, who gave a preview of the Dublin 2025 Forum ,with a video clip, Irish music, and a welcoming speech by the President of the Europa Forum in Dublin, Teresa Dinnen.

The ceremony ended as usual by handing over ceremony the official Lions Europa Forum Banner, with the Irish Delegation dancing a typical dance, inviting the Bordeaux Forum President and designated ID to join them in this performance .

Forum Agora:

The Agora-situated directly after the registration and information desks-was “the place to be” – the center of the village from where all meetings room, the auditorium, the speaker’s corner (which was very actively used), and the restaurant were easily accessible. There were no less than 37 mostly paying booths, covering several Lions projects and initiatives, including LCIF and Mission 1.5, future Forum venues (same price as in past EF : 2000e) and some local sponsors and suppliers .

There was a well-attended service activity (assembling bags with sanitary products for homeless shelters), a demonstration of Zumba for LCIF , and a very impressive special Olympics demonstration .

European Council:

All 3 sessions of the EC were held according to the Rules of Procedures.

- 5 Resolutions were made by the Long Range Planning Europe, with 2 very important, one on the creation of the Lions Academy Europe (LAE), and one a proposal of a Lion Europa Forum Logo.
- We had 2 resolutions, one to adopt a new revised Rules of Procedure of the Lions European Music Competition Thomas Kutti, and one revising the Rules of Procedure of the Bert Mason Yong Ambassador Award.
- Different MD ‘s proposed resolutions, MD 103 Italy (Life ability Project), undistricted Moldova (acceptance of membership) , MD 112 Belgium(accessibility of building at EF venues);
- We had also 2 emergency resolutions, one to support the candidacy of PID Tony Benbow, as 3rd International VP, and the other one on peace ,submitted by MD108 Italy..
- On these 15 resolutions proposed, the results of the voting were 9 unanimously, with 27 member delegates present in the voting session 1 and 2, and 28 for the voting session 3 and after 29 voting member delegates.

Innovation for the voting: we started with the “abstention” (white card), then “against” (red card) to finish with the “ yes”, (white card). This way, it’s easier to see who support/rejects a proposal..

3 soirées and lunches:

**** Pre-booked lunches** were served in a big room in the main building only 380 lunch register by day , and there were 2 separate catering stands – bars in the Agora, with beverage, coffee, salade, cookies, sandwiches

****Get together evening:** this free evening was also organized in the Agora, as there was enough room for everyone to move around, allowing participants to mingle freely with others , while enjoying some French culinary specialties (oysters) at various stand . This 2-hour evening was well appreciated by the participants .

Innovation: Very Important, we précised on the website , it will not be a dinner (application of the Rules of procedure), so participants do not wait for food and were very happy to discover offered oysters and some appetizers

**** Folklore evening:**

There was a dance group on stilts, -typical of the Basque and Landes country -in the Auditorium. It was very different from what we saw in previous Europa Forum, and incredible audacity, and risk taking, No for the faint of heart!

There was another performance by “Alphonse” the winner 2024 of New Voice in France, and another moving performance by a group of people with disabilities (sight, hearing, physical) who are members of an association whose objectives is to enhance their well-being by expressing themselves by dancing .

This was followed by a typical dinner and dance evening with people enjoying themselves.

Innovation: we offered the possibility for Forum participants to be at the table of one of the members of the Executive Committee or ID’s by participating in a raffle .

**** Soirée de gala, Gala evening** in a very well-known cabaret:

This took place in a very well-known Bordeaux Cabaret; the transfer was done, by bus, organization of tables by country, 6 officials tables (IP, PIP, First VIP, Third VIP, candidates for 3 VIP, PID MD 103 and others .)

Amazing show with the surprise participation of PIP Brian Sheehan(he didn’t know it), good food, wonderful ambiance ...

Bert Mason (Young Ambassador Award (AN Frances)

There were 8 candidates, each from a different country, for this Bert Mason 2024 competition in Bordeaux.

Throughout the day on Friday, the 8 candidates were interviewed by a panel of 3 members. Our leading judge, Johannes, appointed by the European Committee At the end of the day, the judges deliberated to establish the ranking .

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At the end of the day, the judges deliberated to establish the ranking.

Finally, on Saturday morning, once the presentation were made, the final ranking was announced:

1st: Niccolo Bartolacelli, Italian candidate, wins a prize of 3,500€.

2nd: Laurent Grötzmeier, Austrian candidate, wins a prize of 2,500€.

3rd: Keeva Delanay, Irish candidate, wins a prize of €1,500.

At the closing ceremony, our winner was able to present his project before receiving his award.

Innovation: it took place at the same location as all the other Forum activities (Palais de l'Atlantique)

2 YEC Days at the Europa Forum in Bordeaux (I Rolland-Frances)

Innovation: This year the YEC were at the same *place* than the Europa Forum, at the Atlantic Palace

The 2024 Europa Forum in Bordeaux brought together 98 YEC delegates from 32 countries, including nations outside Europe such as Australia, Brazil, India, Japan, Sri Lanka, and the United States.

Over two days, delegates participated in :

- two mornings of administrative meetings, working on the program's evolution, and sharing experiences,
- workshops on topics like digitalization, inclusion of young people with disabilities in camps, and the creation of the new YCE Europe Board.

A key moment, on Friday afternoon, was "The Bazar," where bilateral agreements between countries were signed, reinforcing the principle of reciprocity that is central to the program. PIP Patti Hill visited the traditional Bazar during the YEC awards ceremony

This year in Bordeaux, several innovations enhanced the visibility of the YEC program: participation in the flag ceremony, the Speakers' Corner, and our YEC stand in the Agora, which allowed many Lions and International Leaders to know more about the program. Thanks to the EF organization for this opportunity.

In conclusion, it is important to highlight the need for a stronger presence of international leaders to help us promote the goals of the YCE program and to discover its impact on the major initiatives of our movement and "Mission 1.5."

LEMC Thomas Kuti (MA Expert-Theas)

Like at previous EF, as every year, there is also a music competition , the Thomas Kutti Competition ,which was held at the Bordeaux Conservatory,

The instrument chosen was the clarinet, Mendelssohn, song without words Opus 109 , plus 2 pieces to choose from according to a proposed artwork site ;There is one obligation work and two pieces that candidates can choose themselves.

The 17 candidates, each presented by the Lions districts of a country, were selected at national level, and performed in front of a jury composed of M Dondeyre, President, L Brancati, L Lefebvre et N Bacri, famous contemporary composer, who wrote the work commissioned for the competition

At the end of the first round, 6 candidates remained: from Italy, Poland, Estonia, Austria, Portugal, France; The winner was the French candidate, Yann Maratka, following by Portugal

and Austria ;Then their e jury gave them their prizes ,under many applause, with another surprise, Nicolas Bacri took the floor to give a new prize , which would deserve to be taken back during the next EF;

For the closing, Ingo Brookman the President thanked all the volunteers, the members of the jury, the organizers, Dominique Mallet, Alain Pouliguen, Alain de la Giroday et Rita Eyremandi , and the director of the Conservatory for their involvement and professionalism;

An innovation:

On the day prior to the start of the EF, Ingo Brookman , the director of the Thomas Kuti competition, and the Maestro Wilhem Walz decide to create *the European Lions Chamber Orchestra*, with young artists from different European countries, previous winners/participants of the competition ; this new Lions Chamber Orchestra performed for the 1st time in Bordeaux, in the Church of Sainte Croix located next to the Conservatory .

The funds collected were for the benefit of the action “Vacances Plein Air (holidays in open air) which organizes one week summer camp for underprivileged children .

Judging by the success of this first concert, this will certainly be repeated at other Forums.

Forum Program:

It was an application to the recommendations from the Rules of Procedure.

There were a total of more than 80 sessions, workshops and presentation ; they covered all areas of Lionism , from international to regional to local , with participation of our executive leaders , regional leaders and others .Presentations were held in English, French, German and Italian- with translation provided during the plenary sessions .

Innovation: There was a conscious decision to reduce the amount of paper being used (objective 0 papers) so the program could easily be downloaded and followed. This fits well with our Sustainable Development Goals.

As per the current Rules of Procedure, the program starts on Thursday to finishes on Saturday. It has been customary to start on the day prior to the Forum, with several closed sessions such as a meeting of the Forum Supervisory Board, the Long Range Planning Committee Europe (LRPCE) ,Mission 1.5 Gat CA 4, the Lions Task Force Europe (LTE) . There may typically also be meetings of e.g the German MD and some Scandinavian meetings.

And in parallel, orientation and welcome sessions for youth Programs were held.

For the program, see the document in attachment

At the same time, we had some speakers at the speaker corner, not during the first day because the concert and the musical competition were livestreamed for those who could not be there in person. the retransmission of the concert and the musical competition

Overall Conclusion:

The Europa Forum 2024 was seen as very successful by the participants, certainly concerning the relevant of the topics covered and the quality of the presentations. As the forum moves from country to country in Europe, there will be changes from the way things are done in each country, but this is another testimony to the variety and diversity in our European continent. We are happy to say that this Europa Forum in Bordeaux was a big and successful Forum. the main difference are in all the innovations we have brought to the Europa Forum, while respecting the spirit of the Rules of Procedure.

There are always lessons to be drawn from organizing such an event with basically all volunteers , and despite some hiccups re-transport, sticking to agreed timeslots etc , we can say definitely it was a successful Europa Forum, with one other important key factor, to propose several innovative approaches and ideas that will certainly be of interest to the organizers of future Europa Forum.

PID Nicole Miquel Belaud President of the Europa Forum in Bordeaux

Reviewed by Designated ID Marcel Daniëls.