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Annex 1 to Joint Communication 08 2021

Call for participants - The Academy 2021 “Explore beyond the unknown”

Dear friends,

The European Regions of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) is pleased to launch the present Call for Participants for The Academy 2021, which is scheduled to be held online, from 27 October to 7 November 2021.

What is The Academy?

The Academy is a unique Scout and Guide event designed to provide participants with high quality training and networking opportunities around the core priorities of WAGGGS and WOSM European Regions.

Who should attend The Academy?

The event is open to everyone holding a position at National or Regional Level in any of our Associations, relevant topics Commissioners and members of their teams.

Flexibility, Learning & Networking

The event will utilise a blended learning approach, where participants will have a variety of opportunities to develop their own skills, share with peers and collaborate on action plans.

Based on feedback from previous online events, we are planning to improve participant experience by reducing screen time and event intensity, giving participants more flexibility and control over their own learning.

To facilitate this, we are extending the overall event, which will now run from 27 October to 7 November 2021, with weekend live events and week-day self-directed learning and peer group support. We are putting a stronger focus on self-directed learning, peer group support and networking and have reduced the overall number of live sessions to embed the learning of the event.

The Learning Paths

The Academy is designed to provide participants the opportunity to choose their learning path according to their personal and organisation's needs. To help you already start considering these needs, the main themes of this year's Academy can be seen below.

Your mission over the course of the event will be to explore and gain learning in one of the following areas:

- **The Gaia System** - focussing on sustainability, SDGs, community involvement *etc.*



- **The Expanding Galaxy** - focussing on retention and recruitment (growth), advocacy, governance *etc.*
- **The Umbrella Constellation** - focussing on diversity, inclusion, and youth participation

During the event, participants will be able to choose learning pathways compiled from a variety of live sessions and complemented with extra self-led learning sessions, peer groups and topic specific discussion space. A broad range of sessions dealing with different areas of work will be offered simultaneously, with enough on offer to make the event interesting for everyone.

A learning path description of the [programme](#) is here and a more detailed description will be published on the website of The Academy no later than the 1 October 2021.

Can you contribute to the topics at The Academy?

This year we will include short sessions, suggestions, or relevant initiatives to showcase from different Associations. We are encouraging you to [register here](#) any relevant ideas you want to share, these will be reviewed and you will be contacted for further information before approval.

You can suggest:

Self-directed learning sessions

- All self-directed sessions are to be recorded in advance of the event & will be available to all participants to complete on their own. The duration is up to 30 mins and can be presented through: pre-recorded videos, podcasts, online quizzes, interactive mini-games, blog articles and videos, social media challenges
- Each session should have a clear learning objective or takeaway, that supports the overall participant's learning journey during the Academy

Facilitated discussion workshops

- All discussion sessions will be scheduled for 1 to 2 hours and will take place during the weekends or on weekday evenings.
- The session should have a nominated person to lead the discussion and ensure its productivity.
- They should be an open space for participants to discuss topics covered in self-directed learning and share best practice.

How to register for The Academy?

The registration will be **open from 6 September 2021 and will remain open until 7 October 2021**. Once registrations open, you can register online by completing this form:

<https://forms.office.com/r/Yb1rDsTtfk>

Participants per Member Organisation may be limited depending on event registration limits and diverse representation. If you are considering sending more than 10 participants, please get in touch with the team via the email info@thesgacademy.eu. We are happy to explore participation possibilities when we have a clearer understanding of the registrations in late September.



A reminder will be shared nearer the time. Please note that you must have your International Commissioner's approval to register.

Participation Fee

The participation fee is EUR 50 and includes a welcome pack, the access to online platforms & tools used specifically for the event.

Language

The event will be held in English. All participants are requested to be able to effectively communicate in this language.

Additional information

All additional information can be found at the official Academy website: www.thesgacademy.eu

If you need any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Eirini Kappou from WAGGGS Brussels office or Raul Molina from the World Scout Bureau at: info@thesgacademy.eu.

Join us also on Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/ScoutGuideAcademy>) and Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/thesgacademy/>) to get the Academy vibes:

Cancellation

If participants wish to cancel within 20 days before the event, the WAGGGS Brussels office will invoice any non-refundable cancellation fees that may apply.

We are looking forward to making a dynamic event which looks outside the traditional model of the Academy and emphasizes the power of connectedness and shared learning.

The European Regions of WOSM and WAGGGS
6 September 2021

