

EUROPE OFFICE WAGGGS  
BUREAU EUROPE AMGE  
Rue Belliard 40  
B-1000 Bruxelles, BELGIQUE  
+ 32 2 893 2420  
europe@waggs.org



WOSM - EUROPE SUPPORT CENTRE  
OMMS - CENTRE DE SOUTIEN POUR L'EUROPE  
Rue Henri Christiné 5, Case postale 327  
CH-1211 Genève, SUISSE  
+ 41 22 705 1100  
europe@scout.org

## Joint Communication 02 2024

Geneva & Brussels, 12 February 2024

# Call for Participants Overture Diversity Network Meeting 2024

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This year, the **Overture Diversity Network Meeting 2024** of the European regions of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS) will be hosted by The Scout Association, Scouting Ireland, and Catholic Guides of Ireland and Girlguiding UK.

The event will occur in Belfast, United Kingdom, from 7 to 9 June 2024.

### Description and objectives

Overture Diversity Network meetings aim to strengthen the understanding of diversity and inclusion within the European Scout Region and the Europe Region WAGGGS, focusing on key themes to support the delivery of an exciting and educational programme for participants to learn and enjoy. This is achieved through workshops, sharing knowledge and experiences, plenaries and information sessions, covering essential diversity and inclusion principles within a range of topics detailed in the programme section below.

The event aims to empower participants with a broader understanding of diversity and inclusion, connecting areas such as youth programmes, youth engagement, Adults in Scouting and Guiding, and growth, with attendees developing the ability to recognise and support actions that promote gender equality. Additionally, the event will provide insights into how our organisations can proactively engage with migrant, refugee, and asylum-seeker groups, fostering mutual benefits within communities and encouraging the promotion of initiatives that support individuals from perceived marginalised groups.

### Date and Venue

The meeting will be held at the beautifully situated [Crawfordsburn Scout Centre](#), roughly 17 km to the east of Northern Ireland's capital city, Belfast.

#### Crawfordsburn Scout Centre

20 Bridge Road South

Helen's Bay, Bangor

BT19 1JT

United Kingdom

Location: [Google Maps](#) | [what3words](#)

The meeting will start at 14:00 BST on Friday, 7 June 2024. Participants should aim to arrive before 13:00 BST. The event will close at noon BST on Sunday, 9 June 2024.

### Participants' Profile

The Overture Diversity Network Meeting is open to representatives of National Scout Organizations (NSOs) and National Scout Associations (NSAs) of the European Scout Region of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM), and representatives of Member Organisations (MOs) and Component Associations (CAs) of the Europe Region of the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS).

Participants should be familiar with diversity and inclusion and how it could be implemented within their association. They should also be eager to learn, share experiences and be open to different ways of Scouting and Guiding.

## Language

The working language of the Overture Diversity Network Meeting is English to facilitate all participant exchanges. Being able to communicate in that language is essential to participate.

## Participation Fee

Fee options for this event are as follows:

- Indoor accommodation. This option follows the [WOSM NSO event fee category by country](#).
  - Category A: GBP 50 (approx. EUR 60)  
[Cat A = Republic of Moldova]
  - Cat. B: GBP 60 (approx. EUR 70)  
[Cat B = Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Georgia, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Romania, Serbia, Türkiye, Ukraine]
  - Cat. C: GBP 75 (approx. EUR 85)  
[Cat C = Croatia, Czechia, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Slovakia]
  - Cat. D: GBP 90 (approx. EUR 100)  
[Cat D = All other countries not specified above in the WOSM European Region]
- GBP 55 (approx. EUR 65) for outdoor accommodation.

Both fees include accommodation (indoor or camping, as selected), food and activities only. Travel is not included. If you require an additional night's accommodation before or after the event, there will be an extra charge of GBP 20 for indoor accommodation and GBP 5 for outdoor accommodation, per night.

Payment details will be sent via email upon registration. Payment is required in full by 26 May 2024 at the latest.

## Registration

Applications are now open and will close at 23:59 BST on Sunday, 12 May 2024. Applications after this deadline may not be considered. <https://app.smartsheet.com/b/form/e814a2cbb6342ef8c08c9e9bcbff0f0>

### What documents do you need for your application?

Your application requires:

1. An endorsement letter from your organisation's International Commissioner
2. A certificate for completion from the '[SfH1: Safe from Harm Essential Learnings](#)' course.

## Travel and visa arrangements

Please check your visa requirements before booking your travel. If you're flying to Belfast, you will need a visa to enter the United Kingdom. If you're flying to Dublin, you will need a visa to enter the Republic of Ireland **and** the United Kingdom. We can assist you with the process if you require a visa for the Republic of Ireland and/or the United Kingdom.

We will provide additional information to help with travel once you have booked. **Travel arrangements should only be made once the Host Team has confirmed your participation.** Don't hesitate to contact us if you need any assistance.



## Insurance

The European Scout Region and the Europe Region WAGGGS cover the participants for insurance neither during the event nor during travel to and from the venue. Please note that it is the exclusive responsibility of the Associations to check and make sure that participants are covered by insurance (illness, accident, repatriation).

## Programme

The Overture Meeting 2024 programme will focus on eight areas over the weekend, delivered as a combination of plenary and workshop sessions, with the main topics being:

- Faith and beliefs
- Gender equality
- LGBTQ+
- Physical disabilities and neurodiversity
- Mental health
- Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers
- Race Equity
- Socio-economic inclusion

The plenary sessions will feature the expertise of staff and volunteers engaged in diversity and inclusion (from WAGGGS, WOSM, and other organisations), while the hosted workshop sessions will empower participants to craft their learning experiences.

We will host an international evening on Saturday and would like you to bring along a sample of things from your country and association, so please feel free to bring posters, flyers, badges, games, food, or drinks to show and share if you wish.

Should you have questions or require additional information, please get in touch with Tomás Arias ([tomas.arias@scouts.org.uk](mailto:tomas.arias@scouts.org.uk)), Host Team or Graham Coulson ([graham.coulson@scouts.org.uk](mailto:graham.coulson@scouts.org.uk)), Overture Diversity Network Ambassador.

