



ERA European Ramblers' Association

EWV Europäische Wandervereinigung

FERP Fédération Européenne de la Randonnée Pédestre

Newsletter 4/2017

December 2017

ERA conference 2017 in Brasov

From 28 Sept. – 1 Oct. 2017 the 48th ERA conference was held in Brasov, the city in the heart of the Carpathian mountains. The whole conference and additional days for trips were organised by Siebenbürgischer Karpatenverein - Asociația Carpatina Ardeleana a Turistilor.

The 93 participants representing 41 member organisations welcomed two new members: Comité régional de Bourgogne-Franche-Comté from France and Erdélyi Kárpát-Egyesület (EKE) - Societatea Carpatina Ardeleana from Romania. The new members of presidium and the former president Lis Nielsen - as a honorary president were elected. The Minute of the General Meeting, held on Saturday 30/9 2017 is published on the ERA website.

ERA Presidium 2017-2019.

On Saturday 30 Sept., a new ERA presidium was elected for the period 2017 -2019, led by Boris Mičić for coming years. It consists of:

President	Boris Mičić	Planinarski savez Srbije, RS
1. Vice-president	Aloys Steppuhn	Deutscher Wanderverband, D
2. Vice-president	Armand Ducornet	Fédération Française de la Randonnée Pédestre, F
3. Vice-president	Mimmo Pandolfo	Federazione Italiana Escursionismo, I
Treasurer	Joep Naber	Wandelnet, NL
Assessor	Steen Kobberø-Hansen	Dansk Vandrelaug, DK

In the picture from the left: Steen Kobberø-Hansen, Armand Ducornet, Aloys Steppuhn, Boris Mičić, Joep Naber and Mimmo Pandolfo.



Know-How sessions in Brasov

7 Know-how sessions were held during the ERA conference in Brasov.

Lis Nielsen and Armand Ducornet presented the new plan to involve more member organisations in Leading Quality Trails – Best of Europe: ERA will offer special Workshops for representatives from member organisations to train more LQT

specialists. LQT-Light was introduced as a possibility for member organisation to promote LQT in their country, if Interested contact must be made with the ERA office.

A new Walk rating system, developed by FFRandonnée, was presented by Jean-François Solas. It is based on three criteria: Difficulty, Technicality and Risk. A 5 level colour system describes the criteria. A new brochure which helps ERA member organisations get involved in the European Week of Sport event was circulated. This brochure, the results from 2016 and a video about walking, made in cooperation with Dansk Vandrelaug were presented by Lis Nielsen.

Water-Walking is a new venture for hikers and walkers, promoted by FFRandonnée. The presentation was led by Jean-François Solas.

Snowline - snow spikes for more safety and grip all year round were presented by Werner Koch.

Liane Jordan published the survey of Deutscher Wanderverband, which focused on financing and coordination of walking trails as well as the infrastructure in European countries.

Marcel Sofariu from Siebenbürgischer Karpatenverein presented the 3-year project co-financed by a Swiss contribution to the enlarged European Union. It helped connect E3 and E8 with the existing European paths and organise an expedition for documentation along the entire Carpathian mountain chain.



ERA conference 2018 in Luxembourg

Both a programme and a location for the 49th ERA conference, to be held in Echternach (LUX) from 27 to 30 Sept. 2018, were presented. The Office Régional du Tourisme, Région Mullerthal – Petite Suisse Luxembourgaise will be responsible for the organisation. The delegates received a brochure with all the information, it is also available on the ERA website. Online registration will open from March 2018. Questions can be sent to: era2018@mullerthal.lu

European Week of Sport

A know-how session concerning on this topic was also held in Brasov. Some ERA organisations participated in the final week held from 23 to 30 September across Europe. The European

Commission for Sport has been to Denmark and make a video about walking in cooperation with Dansk Vandrelaug. It was presented at the official opening in Tartu, Estonia. All ERA members are permitted to use it freely in their promotion of walking:

(https://ec.europa.eu/sport/week/stories/copenhagen-ramblers-beactive-pays-off_en)

If the member organisation has participated, it must also report the activity to the ERA office.

The Gala event of European Week of Sport was held in Marseille (F) to award the #beActive Education, the #beActive Workplace and the #beActive Local Hero awards for the year 2017. The debriefing seminar ended this year's European Week of Sport.

The logo for #BEACTIVE, featuring the text "#BEACTIVE" in a bold, sans-serif font. The "#BE" is in white, and "ACTIVE" is in yellow, all set against a black background with a slight shadow effect.

European Week of Sport

E1 Sicily Trek Fest

Federazione Italiana Escursionismo is organising from 27 May to 3 June 2018 the E1 Sicily Trek Fest. The 1st International hiking meeting on the European long distance path E1, section in Sicily, invites all to the most southern part of Europe, from Capo Peloro to Capo Passero. For all information and to request the detailed programme see:

www.e1sicilytrekfest.it

Booking and details for groups can be requested at: info@etnarifugi.it

Reservations for groups is required by 31 December 2017, the deadline for all registrations is 31 March 2018.



45th jubilee of E5 in Italy

On 26 November 2017, Federazione Italiana Escursionismo celebrated the 45th jubilee of the E5 in the Northern part of Italy. For this special event a memorial plaque was unveiled in the presence of the local authorities and FIE representatives in the small village, Giazza. The 50th anniversary celebration in 2022 was also discussed. A series of events along the E5 from Passo del Rombo to Verona will also be arranged.



Leading quality trails – Best of Europe

The 3rd LQT network meeting was held from 6-7 November 2017 in Dimitsana, GR, organised by the Municipality of Gortynia - who are involved with the LQT Menalon Trail. The involvement of ERA member organisations in the LQT process and future marketing tools were on the agenda. A new LQT booklet 2018, instagram account and trail websites will provide interested walkers with useful information in the coming year.

New brochure of E3 and E8 in Romania

At the ERA conference in Brasov a new brochure about E3 and E8 was presented by Siebenbürgischer Karpatenverein (SKV) - Asociatia Carpatina Ardeleana a Turistilor. The brochure describes the complete itineraries across Romania on small maps, with an elevation and waymarking description. From January 2018, it will be available also in a PDF version on the link: www.skv.ro/skv/e3e8

Project E3 and E8 Romania is co-financed by a Swiss contribution to the enlarged European Union.



Silver Medal for Jan Havelka

Our ERA honorary president Jan Havelka (also honorary president of Klub českých turistů, CZ) received a national award of the Czech Republic last month. He was awarded the Silver medal of the Senate of the Czech Republic for his lifelong effort in the development of organised walking. The ceremony was held in the main auditorium of the Czech Senate in Prague.



New map of E-paths

Siebenbürgischer Karpatenverein (SKV) - Asociația Carpatina Ardeleană a Turistilor published a new E-paths map. The data collection and drawing of the final E-paths were done by Lis Nielsen and the ERA office. SKV produced 3,000 maps available free to member organisations. Ask for more maps directly from the ERA office.

Water Walking

FFRandonnée received in January 2017 the agreement of the French State for “water-walking” as a new sport practice. It is a recreational activity as well as a competitive discipline.

The meetings last approximately 2 hours and attract a variety of the public (sport people, seniors, health-related sport, fitness, etc...). FFRandonnée has proposed that the ERA start exploring this new activity with its member organisations. FFRandonnée can train instructors, trainers and leaders in Europe, on the basis of agreements with member organisations.

Last of all

The president and the whole presidium of the European Ramblers Association wish to all ERA newsletter leaders many warm Season’s greetings and a very Happy New Year 2018.



Boris Mičić
ERA President

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Partners:

Kompass, Taildino
Deutscher Wanderverband Service
Tenerife Walking Festival
Gran Canaria Walking Festival