

## Malta UNESCO Youth Association

Annual General Meeting, Thursday, 19<sup>th</sup> August 2021 at 18:30

At Jacob's Brew, Marsascula

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### **Minutes of Malta UNESCO Youth Association (MUYA) AGM 2021**

#### ***Opening of Meeting***

Mr. Anson David, chairing the 14<sup>th</sup> MUYA's Annual General Meeting welcomed the attendees and introduced the agenda for the meeting, indicating that various points would be discussed until the election would be carried out.

#### ***Apologies for absences***

Mr. Christian Briffa is excused as he could not be present in person in this meeting and had no proxies to represent them.

#### ***Confirmation of Minutes of previous Annual General Meeting***

Minutes from 2020 AGM are available online and distributed amongst the members. Report was nominated by Mr. Reece Delia and seconded by Mr. Bernard Bonello.

#### ***Presentation of Annual Report***

Ms. Thelma Bonello presented the Annual Report for year 2021, not too long because of the big decrease in local and international projects due to COVID-19 pandemic.

#### ***National Projects and Local Activities:***

- AGM 2020:
  - o The first event kicking off the year 2021 was the AGM for 2020, held on the 2nd September in Grabiell Terrazza, Marsascula. The posts up for election were those of President, International Officer, PRO and Committee member. The two members who applied for the post of Committee Member were both elected, hence in 2020 the committee expanded to 8 members instead of 7 members. This is well documented in the minutes of 2020. Ms. Thelma Bonello commented that having a total of 8 committee members instead of 7 implies that majority is not easy to obtain.
- Ghana Meets Rap Grant Award ceremony:
  - o On the 14th September 2020 The Ministry for Justice, Equality and Governance organized an event to distribute its grants for the Achievers Scheme of 2019 for which Malta UNESCO Youth Association was awarded for its project "Ghana Meets Rap" (Maltese Folk Music). The event was organised at the Fortress Builders – Fortifications Interpretation Centre, St Mark's Street, Valletta. MUYA's Treasurer & project organizer Mr. Reece Delia attended the event on behalf of the rest of the Committee. For this project 3,000€ were awarded and it will culminate in event in Ghana fest in Żejtun. In preparation of this, six different workshops will be held together with the Żejtun Local Council.
- Kelmtejn bil-Popolin ceremony:
  - o On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March 2021 another fund of €3,000 was presented to MUYA through Small Initiatives Scheme for the project written by Mr. Reece Delia, "Kelmtejn bil-

Popolin". Ms. Thelma Bonello commented that the project has just been launched and that the first submissions of prose and poetry were already being received. Mr. Reece Delia commented that the deadline for participants to submit their entries was recently extended to 30<sup>th</sup> August.

#### ***Participation in International Projects Abroad:***

In the past year MUYA has participated in 1 project abroad managing to send a total of 5 participants to a project when the project realisation was scarce in all of Europe due to the COVID-19 global pandemic.

- The E+ Youth Exchange: "On the Way to EDINU 2.0 – Building a Community of Values" was held in Germany between the 11<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> September 2020 after it was postponed from the original planned date of May 2020. The project treated the subject of LARP – live action role play with special focus on the life of migrants. Participants were set to step in the shoes of migrants and feel what these people go through.

Ms. Thelma Bonello highlighted that this kind of international projects should be used as a tool for involving a younger crowd in the future of MUYA.

#### ***Other meetings and collaborations:***

- MUYA Premises – since late 2019 MUYA has been closely collaborating closely with the Local Council of Żejtun. Treasurer Mr. Reece Delia has closely worked with Mr. Sean Chircop in the systematic scripting of projects which were highly successful in obtaining funds. Most of the committee members have met with the committee of the Żejtun Local Council. Ms. Thelma Bonello commented that following this successful collaboration, the Żejtun Local Council agreed to lend us as a premises whereby MUYA would be appointed as a curator. The premises consists of 2 small well-lit rooms located in Luqa Briffa Gardens, Żejtun. In March 2020 the Memorandum of Understanding was finalised. The Secretary General commented that this is a very old building scheduled as Grade 1. MUYA is looking forward to cooperating in this this long-term relationship.

#### ***Future and Upcoming Projects:***

- *Participation in International projects abroad:*

A multitude of international projects were postponed from 2020 to 2021. Some of the projects happened over the last months.

- "Learn2Play" KA2 1st Mobility Organized by Malta UNESCO Youth Association, Estonia – May 2021 – Committee Members Ms. Anthea Xuereb and Mr. Bernard Bonello attended
- "Creativity" Hungary Organized by Open Space Association – July 2021 – managed to send 3 participants out of a required 6 participants
- "Game Zone" Organised by La Villa in France – August 2021 – Committee Member Mr. Karthick Ilango, one of the participants of this TC, explained that this project revolved on educational games for adults on social issues whereby participants will be required to create games for adults. The game that his team created was about migration whereby game players were required to travel from one island to another with the help of facilitators located on another island. Each participant had a mission of their own to complete.
- "Creativity" Organised by Kids in Action, Greece – September 2021 – By September 2021 MUYA received an influx of 10 applications for this project, whereby only 5 participants

will be needed. Ms. Thelma Bonello commented that currently it is being decided whom to select for this opportunity. Ms. Anthea Xuereb commented that opportunities to new people will be given.

- “Visually” Organised by Ticker2Europe in Galicia, Spain – Summer 2022

For the following 3 projects MUYA did not manage to source any interested participants:

- “Gota D’Agua” Organised by Buhino, Portugal – July 2021
- “Lingua Franca” with the APV already organized in November 2019 – July 2021
- “Youth Sensing” APV + YE Organised by Buhino, Portugal – July 2021

Ms. Thelma Bonello commented that it was very difficult to source participants since the projects were overlapping.

- *Pending Applications:*

- In April 2021 MUYA re-submitted the KA1 project “Get Across”. Project Coordinator, Mr. Bernard Bonello commented that EUPA is pushing more on partners. The EU priorities changed focussing more on green mobility, sustainability, work, entrepreneurship, and inclusion of people with fewer opportunities. Since the EU is focusing more on the idea of green travel more budget is being allocated towards travel. The tentative dates for this project if approved is in March 2022.

- *Approved Projects:*

Ms. Thelma Bonello commented that in the years 2019/2021 MUYA has also been greatly active in applying & achieving awards for both local funding schemes and EU-based funds.

***Projects from the 2019 / 2020 term:***

- Olive Twist, Local Council – Approved Project from Spazju Kreattiv funds – Ms Thelma Bonello gave a brief description on the project with is currently in work in progress with the Olive Tree monument almost ready to be installed in Żejtun.
- Ghana Meets Rap – Approved project from Achievers Scheme, which will consist of 6 workshops of Ghana and rap with a final presentation. This project will need to be concluded by December 2021.
- Erasmus+ Training Course – EDUBOARDZ: Approved project initially planned for June 2020 now officially postponed to 31<sup>st</sup> August – 8<sup>th</sup> September 2021. Mr. Bernard Bonello commented that this project is focussed on game-based learning and gamification methods for youth workers. The training course will be held in the University Residence in Lija. Mr. Bonello commented that 21 out of 29 participants have already been found and extra precautions will be taken to ascertain that COVID-19 restrictions are adhered to for the safety of participants.

***Projects from the 2020 / 2021 term:***

- Kelmtejn mill-Poplin – Approved Project from Small Initiatives Scheme
- Learn2Play – Approved Project from Erasmus+ under KA2. Mr. Bernard Bonello, Project Coordinator, proceeded to give a brief overview of the project which is the first of its kind for MUYA. The project started officially in April 2021 and it will end in 2023 (26 months in total) with the involvement of 3 organisations (MUYA, SHokkin Estonia, Fundacja ADJ). The aim of the project is to develop soft skills through board games. Market research will be conducted to obtain information from youth in terms of needs of soft skills that require major development. Following this 2 to 9 printable

boardgames will be developed - 3 per country. Three meetings between coordinators are to be held, one already in Estonia in May 2021, June 2022 and one in June 2023. Finally a training course will be held in Estonia in November 2022 followed by dissemination in all three countries. 4,000 euro only are allocated for printing games and distributing them to schools.

The Annual Report was proposed by Mr. Bernard Bonello and seconded by Ms. Rodianne Cassar.

#### ***Presentation of Treasurer's Report***

Mr. Reece Delia, MUYA's Treasurer, presented the financial report for MUYA. There was a total income of Eur 26,232, with 91% coming from training courses grants. There was a Eur 8527 of expenditure with the top expense being the reimbursements of participants participating in international projects abroad and SINFONIJA. Excess of Income over expenditure is Eur 17,705 with a healthy balance of approx. Eur 37,593 as at December 2020. The treasurer congratulated the committee for the financial health and proposed to follow suit in 2021.

The Treasurer's Report was proposed by Ms. Anthea Xuereb and seconded by Mr. John Paul Formosa.

#### ***Notice/s of Motion***

None.

#### ***Committee nominations***

Mr Anson Aquilina read out the position up for election in the AGM, together with the nominees. Secretary General Ms. Thelma Bonello, Treasurer Mr. Reece Delia and Committee Member Mr. Bernard Bonello have re-applied for the same roles which were not contested by any other applications. The Secretary General and President confirmed that there were no other submissions of interest.

Therefore, these nominations were accepted as elected with no votes cast. Mr. Anson Aquilina thanked these members for their continuous work and wished them a couple of years for more results.

#### ***Board of Vigilance***

The Board of Vigilance has been confirmed with Mr. Anson Aquilina and Ms. Christianne Caruana for the coming year.

#### ***Closure***

The President thanked all the attendees and wished the team best success for the next year with a space to carry out all postponed activities. Ms. Rodianne Cassar commented that work was done despite the present-day situation whereby the team was sometimes demotivated. She pointed out that MUYA kept on applying for new projects locally and internationally and MUYA should be looking forward to experiencing something new – the KA2 project. Ms. Cassar commented that the premises was a very big step for MUYAs continuous establishment. MUYA has now a meeting place and an official space for carrying out projects.

Chairperson Mr. Anson Aquilina commented that if COVID thought us something it's that physical presence is not always needed and that he is very glad to see commitment goes beyond physical presence. As one of the founding members he commented that personal experience contributes to organisational growth whereby the organisation becomes the people it represents, becoming ever so interesting and exciting.