Welcome to the third Virtual Café in OMEP Europe

The invitations are spread to the National Presidents in OMEP Europe, and they are in charge of spreading the invitation to interested OMEP members in their country. This Virtual Café is also announced here in the European Newsletter.

Around half of the National Committees have been present during the first two Virtual Cafés. One goal with the Cafés is to develop new forms for meetings within OMEP. This third Café will be focused on preparations for the Regional and World Assemblies 2020.

Thus, this time I would like to meet 1-2 representatives from all 28 countries. We will use the café to go through the procedure and the contents of our European Regional Assembly (September 30) and for the World Assembly later in the Autumn.

Read more about the Regional assembly further down.

See you on September 7!

Ingrid Engdahl

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Invitation to the European Regional Assembly 2020

According to the OMEP Statutes, we shall meet for a Regional Assembly every year. This year, the Assembly will be organised as a virtual event through ZOOM.

Date: Wednesday, September 30
Time: London 4-7 pm, Stockholm 5-8 pm, Athens 6-9 pm.

Agenda: Please see separate document, next page.

Registration: Each national Committee are responsible to register one delegate for the Assembly. This could be the National President, or someone appointed by the National President. Registrations are to be sent to Ingrid Engdahl at vpeurope@worldomep.org before September 15.

One additional delegate may be registered to be present during the meeting, without the right to speak or vote.

Due to the special circumstances caused by the pandemic, the Assembly will be held in English, and there will be no interpretations.

Ingrid Engdahl
Preliminary Agenda for the European Regional Assembly 2020

Wednesday September 30, on-line through ZOOM, 4-7pm London time. The schedule in this Agenda is put in London time. Please make sure what time this corresponds to in your country.

3.30-4.00 Roll Call. Delegates are able to log in to the meeting in Zoom, to get help with practical matters and issues with connecting.

4.00
1. Opening
2. Roll Call
3. Appointing chair(s), secretary, and 2 scrutineers
4. Adoption of the Agenda.
5. Minutes from European Meeting in Panama July 2019

4.30
6. World OMEP Strategic Plan 2020-2022
7. OMEP Communications
8. Annual fee and budgeting within OMEP

5.30
9. Strategy for OMEP Europe
   - the Corona pandemic
   - budget matters – finding sponsors and donors
   - Flagship projects
   - Webinars, Cafés, Facebook and more
   - International Special days
   - Other
10. World Assembly 2020

6.30
11. World Assembly and Conference in Athens 2021
12. Input from National Committees
13. Next Regional meeting

7.00
14. Closure

Registration
Each national Committee are responsible to register one delegate for the Assembly. This could be the National President, or someone appointed by the National President. Registrations are to be sent to Ingrid Engdahl with specific information to vpeurope@worldomep.org before September 15. One additional delegate may be registered to be present during the meeting, without the right to speak or vote.

Content of the registration
Name of Country
Name of National President
E-mail address to National President
Name of Delegate to the Regional Assembly
E-mail address to Delegate
Name of one Observer (with no right to speak or vote)
E-mail address to Observer
This information shall be confirmed by the SIGNATURE of the National President
Assembly Documents will be sent to the registered delegate and observer for each national committee.
Questions or proposals for the Agenda are welcome and shall be sent to Ingrid Engdahl ASAP.
You can find the Strategic Plan in Eng/Fr/Spa on www.omepworld.org or the English version by clicking on the image.

This Strategic Plan will be presented at the Regional Assembly (Sep 30) and World Assembly in November 2020.

The World President has written a Strategic Plan for OMEP 2020-2022. The Plan has been discussed and endorsed by the Executive Committee of OMEP. It includes one slogan and a vision:

**Rights from the start:**
**early childhood education and care for all**

A world in which all young children are respected as citizens from birth, who effectively enjoy all the human rights enshrined in the CRC, developing integrally as healthy and happy people. We understand that education is a right and a tool for the realization of all other rights, and that is why we work and contribute to ensure that States and societies fulfil their commitment to provide equitable, inclusive and quality education to all children in early childhood, from birth to 8 years old. A united OMEP capable of developing an integrated, professional, and democratic work, based on our knowledge and experience as teachers, researchers and activists for children.

The Strategic Plan rests on three pillars:

- CRC – The UN Convention on the rights of the child
- The Constitution of OMEP
- The UN Sustainable Development Goals and the Education 2030 Agenda

The Strategic Plan points out four strategic areas for OMEP:

- Education
- Advocacy
- Knowledge
- Organization

Within these areas, a number of Flagship projects are specified, as shown in the image.

The Strategic Plan leans on a number of Communication tool for internal and external communications, some are still to be developed.

OMEP is never stronger than its members. We may all become more active in different modes of communication, especially by sharing all the good things we do by external communication: promoting OMEP in social media, writing a Blog statement or making a videorecording.
World OMEP is communicative

On the same topic, we note that OMEP World Presidency is a very active communicator. The World OMEP website is full of News, and these News are to be read and shared. Why not make a habit of entering www.worldomep.org every week or month? Our WP Mercedes Mayol Lassalle is also sending out World Communications, arranging Webinars and posting messages on Facebook and Instagram on a regular basis. PLEASE, endorse these messages, showing that we are many active members in OMEP!

World OMEP is looking for translators

With all the activities going on, there is an urgent need for more voluntary translators between the three languages of OMEP: English, French and Spanish. Do you want to help us? Please present yourself and your possibilities in an e-mail and send it to the WP at worldpreidency@worldomep.org

News from Europe

Invitation to OMEP European Virtual café comes from OMEP World President Mercedes Mayol Lassalle and VP for Europe. The members in Europe are all most welcome to join and to contribute and share your experiences of what children do and what ECE teachers do, especially during these times dominated by the corona pandemic. What role may OMEP and ECE play in these times? Dorit Aram from Israel and Sereap Erdogan from Turkey presented some ideas of surveys and projects on the effects of quaranteens on children, e.g. time in front of a screen, and on how teachers cope with the situation. We agreed that it is important to share good initiatives, and you are welcome to make contributions to the OMEP Europe Facebook site, or on the OMEP World Social media initiatives.

OMEP Europe Facebook Group

The aim of the Facebook Group OMEP Europe is to contribute as a platform where members can share and discuss conditions for children, aged 0-8 years, in preschool, school and in their daily lives focusing on matters concerning children’s well-being. We also focus on questions about sustainability in the surrounding society of children. The idea is that we can share and discuss these topics with Facebook members from countries all over Europe. There is an advantage if you publish in English because that will make what you write accessible for most of, hopefully all, the OMEP Europe members. We recommend you keeping your publications as short as possible. The administrators of the Group can remove publications with messages contrary to or beyond the aims of OMEP and this Facebook Group. We are looking forward to seeing this Facebook Group developing with vivid discussions and exchanges of ideas concerning issues of early childhood education and care between different parts of Europe. Let’s meet on FB.

Bibi Karlsson and Ulla Jivegård, administrators
OMEP Germany is part of the larger organisation AGJ. OMEP is invited to their 17th German Child and Youth Welfare Congress.

Time: 18 – 20 May 2021
Place: On-site event in Essen, Germany, and with extension by digital elements

Below you find parts of the invitation:

Dear Sir or Madam, we are very pleased to inform you today that, in its meeting on July 2nd and 3rd 2020, the AGJ executive board has decided to continue with the implementation of the 17th DJHT as an onsite event. Especially in these turbulent times, it is now more important than ever that the German Child and Youth Welfare Congress is taking place. The structures of the child and youth welfare system need the professional exchange and the encounter – therefore the 17th DJHT in Essen, Germany will remain as an on-site event and will also go online!

Thus, it does justice to its motto "We create future - now!" even methodically. The addition of digital elements to the on-site event represents a valuable enrichment and innovative development of the German Child and Youth Welfare Congress. One advantage of several is that the contents can be accessed by a broad public, even if only a limited number of visitors can participate in the DJHT on-site. Regarding the European dimension of the Congress, a digitally enhanced congress offers the opportunity to bring professionals of all Europe together more easily. We therefore understand the new possibilities as a chance to further improve the European character of the German Child and Youth Welfare Congress.

For you as a potential host of events at the congress, there is a wide range of possibilities when choosing your event formats and also when designing the event(s) themselves. We would like to present the following options to you:

A) Analogue event • Your event will take place, as previously planned, on-site at the premises of Messe Essen.

B) Analogue event and recording • Your event will take place on-site at the premises of Messe Essen. The event will also be recorded and can subsequently be accessed online by interested parties.

C) Mixed form: hybrid event with live-streaming and (online) audience participation • Your event will take place on-site at the premises of Messe Essen and online at the same time. There will be a live-streaming of the event. Speakers can hold the event both on-site and online. Likewise, visitors can take part in the event both on-site and online. The event will also be recorded and can subsequently be accessed online by interested parties.

D) Digital event • Your event will take place online. Both speakers and participants are connected via video conference. The event will also be recorded and can subsequently be accessed online by interested parties. In order to enable a particularly wide coverage of your event, we would like to draw your attention to the hybrid events (Option C).

The AGJ warmly invites you to hold your own events with a European focus at the congress. Please submit an informal expression of interest via e-mail (djht@agj.de) by 15 October 2020.

The World President and I have responded with our informal expression of interest for participating in points A-D. To make this possible, we would like to realise the event together with European OMEP members. This is a good opportunity to strengthen our presence in Germany and for Young OMEP members/students to participate in advocacy for OMEP and for Early Childhood Education.

I would like to have the support of 3-5 National Committees in Europe to organise the OMEP participation. Please send me your interest before September 20 at vpeurope@worldompe.org

Ingrid Engdahl
**New issue of the Journal of Childhood, Education & Society**

I have the pleasure to share with you the **Vol 1 No 2 (2020): Journal of Childhood, Education & Society**. The Editor in Chief is our OMEP colleague Mehmet Toran, from Istanbul Kultur University, Turkey

You will find the journal at [https://doi.org/10.37291/2717638X.202012](https://doi.org/10.37291/2717638X.202012)

**New volume from OMEP Ireland**

I also have the pleasure to share with you the OMEP Ireland’s latest publication: An Leanbh Og (The Young Child), the Irish Journal of Early Childhood Studies. VOL 13, 2020


In addition, the OMEP Ireland President, Judith Butler invites you to submit an article for peer review for vol 14 by contacting Judith.Butler@cit.ie

**OMEP WORLD ASSEMBLY 2020**

The ExCom are planning to hold a virtual World Assembly, in November 2020October. Following the Constitution, the Call and Agenda will be sent out to the National Presidents by the WP.

As you all know, the OMEP Executive Committee (EXCO) decided in March to **postpone the 72th World Assembly and Conference** to be held in Athens **12 to 16 July, 2021**. The programme and the venues will remain the same.

Accepted **submitted abstracts can be kept** until next year, but, if someone does not wish to present it at OMEP2021, s/he will have the possibility to withdraw it, sending an email to info@omep2021.org. Don’t forget to state the abstract number.

For **new submissions** OMEP Greece and AFEA (responsible for the organization and logistics) will **open the abstract submission portal again for two months** in the autumn, probably in October.
Dear colleagues,

UNESCO, UNICEF and a huge group of Organizations are developing the campaign #SaveOurFuture, that aims to raise the voices of CSO’s, and especially, to amplify the voices of the young members within the organizations, prioritizing the advocacy for education, within August 4th to September 30th.

For OMEP it is very important to hear and share the voice of our younger members, we wish to empower their ideas and thoughts, and strengthen bonds within our youth around the globe. That is why I am inviting you to join the Campaign #Save Our Future.

To accomplish OMEP participation, our colleagues under 35 years old can participate by:

1. Filling the survey launched from the Campaign:  https://bit.ly/SOFyouth
2. Record a 30 seconds video, sharing thoughts about: How can education help #SaveOurFuture?

Please send us the videos, till September 20th to worldassistant@worldomep.org
For more information: https://saveourfuture.world/
NOTE: If you need some support, please let us know.

We count on your participation!

Warm regards

Mercedes and Manuela worldassistant@worldomep.org

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**Important dates during 2020**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May 31</td>
<td>was the last date to send in reports on</td>
<td>ESD Rating Scale project to me at <a href="mailto:vpeurope@worldomep.org">vpeurope@worldomep.org</a>. However,</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>the OMEP World project</td>
<td>due to the pandemic, we accept short reports about the status of the</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>project until September 20.</td>
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<td>September 7</td>
<td>European Virtual Café</td>
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<td>September 21</td>
<td>International Peace Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>September 30</td>
<td>European Regional Assembly (virtual)</td>
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<td>October 5</td>
<td>World Teacher Day</td>
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<td>October 15</td>
<td>World Handwashing Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>In November</td>
<td>World Assembly (virtual)</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 20</td>
<td>International Children’s Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 18</td>
<td>Deadline of the project Colour Your Rights</td>
<td>The selected artworks shall be sent to the World Project by the</td>
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<td></td>
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<td>latest December 18th 2020, via email to <a href="mailto:vassiliadoum@omep.com.cy">vassiliadoum@omep.com.cy</a> For</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>further information, please, contact Maria at <a href="mailto:pre.vm@frederick.ac.cy">pre.vm@frederick.ac.cy</a></td>
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