



# 2016 ACTIVITY REPORT

MIJARC



2016

*Be rural, believe in You(th), create the  
Europe of tomorrow!*

# 2016 Activity report

## BE RURAL, BELIEVE IN YOU(TH), CREATE THE EUROPE OF TOMORROW!

*“2016 has been a year full of challenges for MIJARC Europe. Nevertheless, the richness of activities, countries, organisations and people, together with the meaningful results we have achieved speak for themselves and prove that these twelve months were really intense but in a good way.*

*The main topic we focused on this year was climate change and sustainable development, a decision our member movements made following the results of COP21 and the United Nations Sustainable Development Summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda. Climate change is a real and urgent challenge that is already affecting people and the environment worldwide. The negative impact of climate changes in rural areas will be seen in the water availability and supply, food security and agricultural incomes. These in turn will generate massive displacements of population as people will not be able to ensure their subsistence and will move to cities and to other countries in search for sources of income and decent living conditions. Climate-related hazards also exacerbate other negative factors such as poverty and political instability, affecting already overburdened populations and areas.*

*We started to work on this topic early in the year, designing an online training course on climate change that was launched in May. The training course **"In the mood for climate change"** spanned on two months and it aimed at equipping young people with the basic knowledge needed to understand the phenomenon of climate change and to prepare them for the next activity: an international seminar: **"Youth energy powering the future"**. At the seminar, the participants got the chance to go more in-depth on the topic, interact with experts and prepare a common position. The position paper together with the other tools they created were all combined in a European campaign, planned during a summer camp **"Rising temperatures, rising voices"**, under the slogan "Do you want another?". Besides these activities, we continued our cooperation with external partners such as Rural Youth Europe, Via Campesina and the European Youth Forum. We also gathered all our members for our statutory meetings, the European Coordination and the General Assembly to assess our progress and to plan the next year.”*

*MIJARC Europe Team*

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## About MIJARC Europe

### **MIJARC Europe** **the International Movement of Catholic Agricultural and Rural Youth** **is:**

- a democratic movement of self-organised young people;
- an European network of national and regional movements;
- an educational movement, aware of the problems of the rural youth in Europe;
- an action movement working for and with young people to create social change (through lobbying, advocacy...);
- a movement based on Christian values;
- a movement which gathers young people who want to commit themselves to improve the life of their villages and to build a better world.

### **Mission Statement**

MIJARC Europe is a non-governmental organisation for rural youth, by rural youth. We promote sustainable agricultural, rural and international development, European citizenship, youth policies, gender equality, environmental protection, inter-culturality and human rights. Considering the Christian values, we strive to implement and raise awareness about these issues and goals by facilitating inter-cultural exchanges, summer camps, seminars and non-formal learning opportunities in a sustainable and culturally sensitive manner. Employing our methodology of 'see-judge-act', we encourage the participation of young people to build the Europe of tomorrow.

## About MIJARC Europe

### Executive board of MIJARC Europe (European Team)

Until May 2016, the European Team was composed by: **Veronika Nordhus**, **Thibault Duisit**, **Jeroen Decorte**, **Anastasia Cârjan** and **Alexandru Hanni Alshehari**, but Anastasia and Alexandru Hanni decided to resign in May 2016.



Veronika Nordhus  
Germany



Thibault Duisit  
France



Jeroen Decorte  
Belgium



Anastasia Cârjan  
Romania



Alexandru Alshehari  
Romania

After the General Assembly in July, two members of JARC Portugal showed their interest in becoming members of the European Team and joined as observer members: **Cristiana Palma** and **Jessica Cruz**.

## About MIJARC Europe

### MIJARC Europe Secretariat

The Secretariat of MIJARC Europe in 2016 was composed by:

Alexandra Solomon, the European Secretary, working in the office in Brussels since July 2015.

Florina Diana Potirniche, the Assistant Secretary, working from Romania since March 2015.



## MIJARC Europe- Activities

### MIJARC Europe Online Training Course

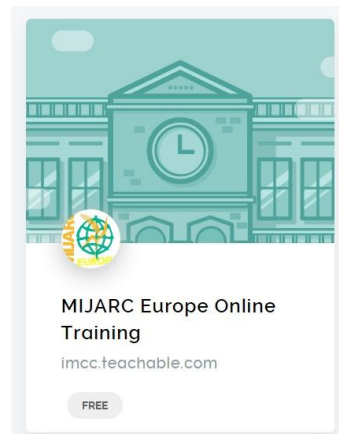


### In the mood for climate change

**When ?** 2<sup>nd</sup> May - 30<sup>th</sup> June 2016

**Where** imcc.teachable.com

**Who ?** 24 participants from 11 MIJARC Europe members: MRJC-France, KLJB-Germany, KLJ-Belgium, APSD-Agenda 21- Romania, GUG- Malta, YMDRAB-Bulgaria, S&G Turkey, MJRC-Spain, Landjugend - Austria, FYCA-Armenia, BUJRUM-FYRO Macedonia



**Why ?** The idea of having an online training course emerged as a response to the difficulties we had in our previous activities in achieving a common understanding of the topic, especially when we had participants from countries with very different national backgrounds and contexts. This is the reason why we decided that a thorough preparation on the topic before having a residential seminar, will give us more time to explore the topic and bring the participants to the same level of knowledge, at the same time giving us more time to focus during the seminar on the exchange about the realities of each country and on looking at solutions together.

The content of the online training course was focused on climate change as a scientific phenomenon, analysing first the causes of these changes in the climate conditions, identifying the human actions that add to the natural causes, understanding what are the signs that predict catastrophic scenarios and especially what are the already visible effects of climate change and what other scenarios are more and less plausible.

**How?** The online training course was prepared by a team of two trainers who were supported by the staff and European Team of MIJARC Europe. The training course took place on the teachable.com platform and had a total of eight units, each spanning on one week with an active involvement of 3 hours, which meant that each week participants had to spend about three hours online to go through the lecture, fulfil the weekly tasks and take the unit quiz. Our participants were free to organize their time



## MIJARC Europe- Activities

and decide for themselves when they wanted to work on the quiz. Each unit was published on the first day of the week and it remained available for the entire duration of the course. The first unit was an introduction unit in which we described how the course works, what are its objectives, how it is structured, what is the curriculum and answered participants' questions. We also included in this unit a pre-course self-assessment questionnaire, with 19 questions, asking participants to evaluate their level for each of the competences the course was targeting. This gave us a reference point for evaluating the learning impact after the end of the course. In the second unit we wanted participants to get to know each other so we adapted the famous "Human Bingo" game to our online environment. We asked everybody to go on the website [www.ifitweremyhome.com](http://www.ifitweremyhome.com) and compare their country to at least five other countries. Then they had to shoot a 1-minute video presenting themselves and three insights they got from the website. In the end, we made a quiz with questions about who said what in their video. It was a really fun unit and the engagement of the participants was great. It made the course feel more alive and it improved the dynamics of the group. The next unit offered an introduction into climate change and why it is happening. It help participants understand how the Earth functions and why it is warming up. In unit 4, the knowledge acquired was consolidated with information on why human being should care about climate change looking at how it will affect us and they way we live. The next unit took participants on a journey around the world, exploring sea, land and air and the most vulnerable regions of the world in order to understand the effects of climate change and understand that just because we are not feeling it ourselves it does not mean that it is not happening. The next unit shifted the focus on the individual, exploring what role each of us plays in climate change and what we can change in our lifestyle and the way we do things in order to reduce our carbon and climate footprint. Unit 7 shed some light on how climate decision are taken at world level and how they influence national measures and policy. The participants got the chance to explore the SDGs, the results of the COP21, how human rights are related to climate change and what the Council of Europe is doing on the topic. Finally, the last unit included a final quiz, an interactive board for feedback and the after course self-assessment quiz.

At the end the online course, **a training manual** was published and disseminated to all our movements.





## MIJARC Europe- Activities

### MIJARC Europe International Seminar



### Youth energy powering the future



**When ?** 25<sup>th</sup> -30<sup>th</sup> July 2016

**Where ?** Kumanovo, FYRO Macedonia

**Who ?** 30 participants from MIJARC Europe members: MRJC-France, JARC-Portugal, KLJB-Germany, KLJ-Belgium, APSD-Agenda 21-Romania, BUJRUM-Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, MJRC-Spain, YMDRAB-Bulgaria, Landjugend-Austria, System & Generation-Turkey.



**Why?** Climate change was one of the main topics of 2016 but it is also the most alarming phenomenon that doesn't know barriers or borders, which affects all the species. The most influential political actors have taken position on this matter with the adoption of the SDGs in the post 2015 Agenda and the

## MIJARC Europe- Activities

COP21 in Paris. MIJARC Europe felt the need to commit to this action, to protect the environment for the present and future generations. The seminar made participants reflect on their personal, organisational and national realities about climate change, focusing on the effects that they can see in their countries, the measures that are taken in each country and what can be done at personal level.

**How?** The activities of the seminar were built on the knowledge acquired throughout the online learning course as the participants had to go through the course or the training manual before coming to the seminar. Therefore, they already had the basic knowledge need to start a real conversation on climate change. This is why at the seminar we could focus more specifically on what is happening on each county, what are the local realities, rather than on general information or key concepts of climate change. The seminar followed the traditional MIJARC Europe of SEE-JUDGE-ACT and on the final day the participants spent all day creating tools and putting their ideas into practice. They created a position paper, a video message, a clues game and a flash mob idea.





## MIJARC Europe- Activities

### MIJARC Europe International Summer Camp



#### Rising temperatures, rising voices



**When?** 18th - 24th August 2016

**Where?** Gozo, Malta

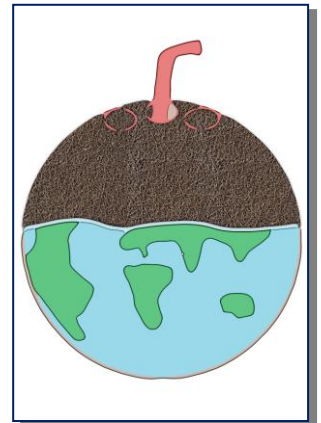
**Who?** 35 participants from MIJARC Europe member movements: Landjugend-Austria, FYCA-Armenia, MRJC-France, JARC-Portugal, KLJB-Germany, KLJ-Belgium, APSD-Agenda 21-Romania, BUJRUM-Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, GYC-Malta, YMDRAB-Bulgaria, System & Generation-Turkey.



## MIJARC Europe- Activities

**Why ?** As the title says “Rising temperatures – rising voices”, the international summer camp tried to teach young people how to make their voices heard against global warming and climate changes, in a fun and creative way. The event aimed at encouraging young people to develop creative tools to raise awareness on climate change as grass root through a campaign. The idea was to have people from different European countries work on a common campaign that each delegation would afterwards implement at local level.

**How?** Through the method "See, Judge and Act" the participants engaged in activities based on non-formal and informal learning such as working groups, field visits, pedagogical games, icebreakers and energizers, clues game, debate/discussions on the topics of the activity, quiz, thematic evenings, presentations by each country, plenary sessions, interaction with the host community and preparation of dissemination and exploitation of results material. The participants created the concept of the campaign and chose a slogan and a logo: “Do you want another?” with the earth in a cocktail shape with a straw.



Other tools the participants created during the summer camp included a flash mob, a video experiment on the streets of Gozo, a song, a poster and a flyer. They also created a website on which they uploaded articles and continue to write after the Summer Camp was over:

<https://risingtemperaturesrisingvoices.net/>



## MIJARC Europe- Activities

### MIJARC Europe Series of Local Campaigns



### Do you want another?

**When?** 1<sup>st</sup> September -12<sup>th</sup> December 2016

**Where?** 11 European countries: Armenia, Austria, Bulgaria, Belgium, France, Germany, Malta, FYRO Macedonia, Romania, Portugal, Turkey

**Who?** The 35 participants from the Summer Camp who engaged other people in their local movements



**Why?** We wanted young people to take the messages and the tools they had created during our international events back at local level and involved more people in the promotion of their work. The aim of the local campaigns was to enable young people to act as advocates and use their knowledge and the tools created to mobilise their communities and make them aware of the impact of climate change, of the habits and practices that contribute to it and of each country's commitments towards reducing its negative impact.

**How?** The participants used different tools to promote the message of the campaign "Do you want another" but they all showed creativity. Therefore the local campaigns took many different shapes: a flash-mob in Belgium, a guide for a sustainable lifestyle in Romania, planting trees in Armenia, an eco-march in Bulgaria or introducing climate change as a topic in an English Conversation Club in Turkey.



## MIJARC Europe - statutory activities

### European Coordination Meeting



The **European Coordination is an observing body** composed by one delegate (European Coordinator) per member movement and the European Team (Executive Board of MIJARC Europe). According to registered articles the European Coordination must meet once a year.

In **2016** the meeting took part in **Dilbeek (Belgium)** from **15<sup>th</sup> till 17<sup>th</sup> April**. It gathered 17 participants and it was an important meeting since it helped us plan the activities throughout the entire year, get a feel of the situation in each of our member movements and decide where to go from that point forward together with our members.

The **agenda** included:

- Follow up of the Action Plan and setting the timeline for the future activities;
- Electing European Coordinators and the members of the Committee of External Representation;
  - Presenting the financial situation of MIJARC Europe;
  - Discussing and voting on the Position Paper on youth unemployment;
- Gathering the information on the situation of the member organisations;
  - Preparing the agenda of the General Assembly in July;
  - MIJARC World and their upcoming World Assembly in Indian;
  - The "C" in MIJARC - values and the future of our organisation;
- Task sharing among the coordinators and European Team members.

## *MIJARC Europe - statutory activities*

### General Assembly



The **General Assembly** is the **supreme decision-making body** of MIJARC Europe. It meets every year under the chairmanship of the European Team (Executive Board).

In 2016 it was organized in Kumanovo, FYRO Macedonia, from 24<sup>th</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup> July. It gathered 24 people and took important decisions.

The delegates approved the Moral Report 2015-2016 and the Financial Report 2015. They discussed and approved the for Budget 2017 and the Action Plan for 2017. They discussed the MIJARC Europe enlargement strategy, ways to promote MIJARC Europe's activities in their national movements and the values of MIJARC Europe.

During the GA Daniela Ordowski from KLJB-Germany was elected as candidate for the World Coordinator and Francois Bausson was elected as candidate for the World Team. Their candidatures were approved during the MIJARC World GA in India.

GYC replaced GUG Malta and become observer member for one year while taking the decision on the candidature for becoming observer member of "Act for Society" from Albania was postponed till after another Skype meeting with the movement. Eventually their candidature was rejected.

No new member of the European Team was elected but Cristiana Palma and Jessica Cruz from JARC Portugal announced their intention to apply as candidates the future year and became observers in the team in order to understand what it means to be a member of the European Team of MIJARC Europe.



## MIJARC Europe - statutory activities

### 20 years of MIJARC Europe

The GA was also the event we chose to celebrate 20 years of MIJARC Europe through '90s style party, reminiscing about all the events we organized throughout the years, receiving wonderful messages from people whose lives were in a certain way touched by MIJARC and sharing a beautiful birthday cake.



*What does MIJARC mean to me? A lot! It's more or less the reason why I'm so active today in KLJB Germany. As I was searching for an internship in 2013, I just decided to write to MIJARC Europe and to ask for it. And what a surprise: I could do one! So, living for 5 months in Brussels and supporting MIJARC Europe was one of the best youth work experiences I could ever have had. I got to know so much people from all over Europe, with which, in some cases, I'm still close till today. And I got shown what it really means to be active in a youth organization like KLJB: meeting a lot of same minded people, having a lot of fun, creating friendships and the best: creating the Europe of tomorrow by not forgetting to stand in for our positions.*

**Tanja Köglmeier**

*MIJARC Europe was a life experience that shaped my personality and somehow my life. My experience with MIJARC Europe started in 1996 when my local leader and chaplain, Joaquin, invited me to participate in an International Summer Work Camp in Arcusa (Huesca). This experience awaked in me an interest in getting to know the European and World institutions much deeper, therefore I started to get more and more involved in the MJRC regional and national structures. After several MIJARC activities I was part of, in 2002 I was elected as member of the European Team. After the election, we had a moment of celebration and getting to know my new colleagues with whom I am still in contact today, Christian (KLJB) and Guillaume, then substituted by Agnes and Gaetan (all from MRJC). From my time in the European team (2002-2008) I keep stunning memories. It was a continuous learning process: rural development, youth issues, agriculture and global and international relations; the team meetings, the coordination meeting.*

**Berta Vizcarra Mir**

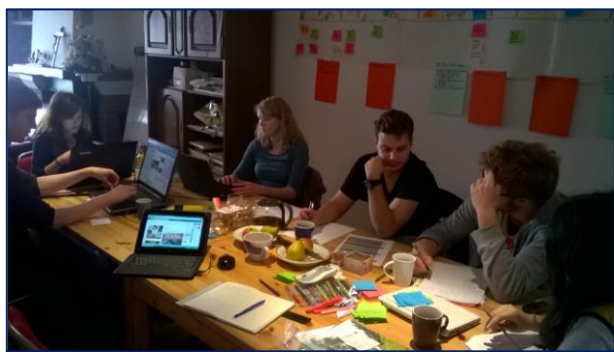


## MIJARC Europe - statutory activities

### Extraordinary General Assembly

The extraordinary General Assembly took place on 21<sup>st</sup> of November. The meeting was on-line. The delegates discussed the enlargement strategy and the candidature of Act for Society - Albania.

### European Team meetings



The **European Team** (Executive Board) of MIJARC Europe and the **European Secretariat** have regular physical meeting throughout the year with a duration of 1 or 2 days, approximately every 2 months. In between, online meetings take place to follow-up the work of the European Team and the staff or to take decision on issues that are under the competence of the Team.

In 2016, the European Team had **6 physical meetings** and **7 online meetings** via Skype. In addition to these meetings, the Team and the Secretariat had monthly follow-up online meetings or urgent meetings on Skype.



The **agenda** of the physical meetings often includes as main topics:

- following-up of member and partner organisations relationships;
- reporting and evaluating last activities;
- preparing and follow-up next activities;
- following-up the financial situation of MIJARC Europe;
- following-up the secretariat's work;
- preparing the European Coordination / General Assembly (before those meetings);
- implementing internal decisions;
- evaluate the motivation of the team and staff members.

**After each physical meeting the secretariat sends the summary of the main resolutions taken by the team to every member movement.**

## Overview of Income and Expenses 2016

### Donors

MIJARC Europe activities are financed by grants coming from several donors. In 2016, our projects were funded by the European Commission Erasmus + programme, the Council of Europe's European Youth Foundation, Renovabis, and Fondation Hippocrene.

MIJARC Europe received funding for its operational costs from the European Commission- Erasmus+ programme and the Council of Europe- European Youth Foundation.

We are thankful to our donors for the support they have given us in our work in the field of rural youth in 2016 and we look forward to collaborating on future projects.



## Overview of Income and Expenses 2016

### Incomes

	2015	2016
Grants	47 942.57 €	62 444.21 €
Other	17 650 €	14 950 €
Total	65 592.57 €	77 394.21 €

### Expenses

Direct Project Costs	32 284.66 €	38 464.22 €
Operational Costs	58 475.97 €	41 499.30 €
Total	90 760.63 €	79 963.52 €



## MIJARC Europe - Communication Activities

### Info Europe Magazine

Beginning with 2014, MIJARC Europe has published yearly its magazine entitled “Info-Europe” in two editions. With the support of the European Youth Foundation by the means of the Work Plan and the Structural Grant, MIJARC Europe publishes the magazine both in an online and offline format, available in three languages: English, Spanish and French. Since 2015 the content of the magazine focuses on the annual topic of MIJARC Europe which in 2016 was climate change and sustainable development. The Info Europe is a great tool for MIJARC Europe to reach a larger audience- member movements, partners and donors, spreading not only the information about our activities, but also important news regarding rural youth at European Level.



### Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/MIJARCEurope>

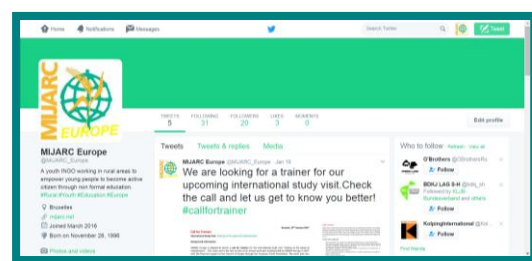
MIJARC Europe uses this social network as a tool to keep all the members of our network updated in real time on the activities and news relevant to our organisations. In 2016, 50 posts informed our followers on what we were up to.



### Twitter Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/MIJARCEurope>

MIJARC Europe uses this social network to post quick messages about our activities, to spread announcements and to stay up to date with the news released by our donors, our partners and important international institutions.

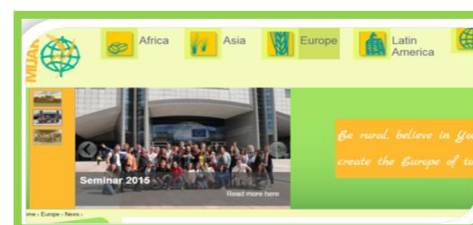


### Website

On the website there is information about MIJARC Europe – about the organisation and our work. A section containing our publications and position papers can also be found.

### E-newsletter

We use the newsletter to contact our member movements and inform them about previous and upcoming activities. In the Newsletter they can find news from MIJARC Europe, MIJARC World and from the member movements. The Newsletter is sent every two months to European Coordinators and general contacts in English.



## Members' activities

### YMDRAB – Bulgaria

Co-funded by the  
Erasmus+ Programme  
of the European Union



#### “We can too”



In 2016, YMDRAB in partnership with 4 organisations from different European countries prepared a project called "We can too" which was approved for funding by the “Erasmus+” Programme.

The project's main aim was to improve the quality of work of youth workers who are engaged in non-formal education of young people with social communication impairments in the rural areas of Eastern Europe, through their training and the development of their cooperation for innovation and exchange of experience, skills and best practices.

The main project activity was an international training course. It was held from 29th July to 07th August in the coastal village of Kranevo, at the Bulgarian Black Sea. The training brought together 42 youth workers from Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Romania and Bulgaria. The participants were speech therapists, youth advisors, social workers, psychologists, project managers and volunteers who supported the socio-educational and personal development of rural youngsters with communication impairments.

The training was conducted by an international team of trainers. The activities were entirely based on the methods of non-formal education, including: presentations, mixed working groups, workshops, role plays, group discussions, field visits and others. During the first training part the participants learnt about the essence and applicability of the latest methods and systems for work with young people with social communication impairments, used in different countries. During the second part, participants and experts created new tools/tests for early detection of social communication impairments in preschool and school-aged children.

They are suitable for use by a wide range of stakeholders (parents, teachers, youth workers and others) and responsible institutions (kindergartens, schools, social and labor offices, career consulting desks, refugee centers, etc.). The tests created will be very useful in youth work at different levels, because early detection of communication impairments is essential to prevent their intensification leading to antisocial behavior and marginalization of young people (including refugees and migrants).

Here you can find links to these tests:

[Test for assesment of social communication skills in preschool children](#)

[Test for assesment of social communication skills in school-age children](#)

## Members' activities

### JARC Portugal



#### 2016 for JARC Portugal



In 2016, JARC continued to work on the topic “Re-meet, Re-learn and Re-build”. The point of this topic was to find their history, who they are, learn from the past and afterwards rebuild a new JARC. JARC needs more motivation, strenght and young people that share the same values and beliefs. Therefore, their efforts in 2016 were focused on offering opportunities for their members to learn about themselves and about

JARC and what this movement represents in their community.

Throughout the year, they had national activities, a summer camp, trainings of animators, prayes in community rural faira and weekend camp on Christmas.

At the summer camp they worked on the topic of refugees. With this activity they reached the objectives of social integration, learning about refugees, connecting the history of past migration situations and focus on how could their movement help in this situation.

This activities reunited all the members of JARC and created bonds between all generations. They learned from their mistakes and tried to do some change in their community.

Their local groups also worked on the topic and achieved many beautiful results as they worked on social inequalities and created a video to share their opinions with their community.

Overall, it was a difficult year for JARC because they had to do changes on their board. They tried to get some new local groups but unfortanely their initiative did not succeed. However, for next year they are working on a new action plan and they have specific objectives for all the local groups.



## Members' activities

### Landjugend Austria



### Tat.ORT Youth

In 2016, Landjugend Austria had about 220 projects which were done in villages with around 4000 members getting actively involved in their home-villages. One of their most rewarding projects was Tat.ORT Jugend.



Within the framework of the Tat.ORT Youth, local and district groups implemented voluntary projects on a local level throughout Austria, pointing out their voluntary activities. Several thousand rural members were involved in non-profit and sustainable projects for their communities and regions. Tat.ORT Youth showed Austria what young people in rural areas can do through their commitment throughout the year.

The members wanted to contribute to the society and show how important the commitment of each and every one is for the good of the community. The young people shaped the individual living space and took the future into their own hands.



## Members' activities

### APSD-Agenda 21 - Romania



### Projects, events, achievements and challenges - all key words for 2016

APSD-Agenda 21 has had a great year with many achievements and great perspectives for the years to come, most of them based on the voluntary efforts of its members, their involvement and dedication to strive for better even when the available funds were not generous.

We continued our work on development education through the follow-up activities of two projects we ended in 2015: "[Parlez-vous global](#)" and "Facilitating global learning" and the continuation of the "[EAThink 2015](#)" project in which we work with schools from rural and urban areas implementing school gardens and learning about sustainable food systems and organic agriculture. In March, we released a [manual](#) for



trainers/facilitators on "global learning" which presents an essential and comprehensive tool for all those interested in passing on the practice of Global Learning. In spring we organized field visits for school at organic farms and WWOOFing days during which teachers and students could volunteers at several farms around the country and learn more about manure management, making compost, growing organic fruit and vegetables and creating gardens and small greenhouses inside their schools.



We also finished one project on the reform of public administration in Romania, called "Inclusive governance" where we worked with small rural municipalities towards building more inclusive communities for Roma people, people with disabilities and people who are just seen as being different.

In December, we were extremely honored to receive the award for best NGO involved in education and public awareness at the International Solidarity Gala, which brought national recognition for our work in the field of education and the impact we had through our network of contacts in the life of young people from Romania. At the same event, our board member, Ms. Paula Mihai was awarded the prize "teacher of the year". We are happy to have her in the board and we are thankful for the wonderful people who make up our team.





## Other activities/meetings

### Agroecology and Climate Sustainability workshop

**When?** 19th - 21st September 2016

**Where?** Brussels, Belgium

**Who?** MIJARC Europe was represented by Veronika Nordhus.



The workshop was organized by CIDSE.

The objective of the workshop was to build a common understanding of sustainable food systems and to identify how this transition can be achieved. Therefore, the workshop provided space to examine strategies and lessons learnt from emblematic case studies that were pursued/or failed to be applied at global level, but yet covering the different key dimensions of the food system (natural resources, production, connecting smallholder farms to markets, sustainable consumption and citizen driven food governance). In order to sharpen the focus of the workshop, the entry points of MIJARC Europe were climate adaptation, resilience and agro-ecology.

### General Assembly MIJARC World

**When?** 14th - 17th October 2016

**Where?** Hyderabad-Telangana, India,

**Who?** MIJARC Europe was represented by Daniela Ordowski (candidate for the World Coordination) and Francois Bausson (candidate for the World Team).

Organized by MIJARC World.

Dani presents shortly the GA

MIJARC World organizes a General Assembly every four years during which it defined its main goals for the future period and sets up an Action Plan. In 2016, the World GA that took place in India saw many changes in the structure and plans of MIJARC World. First, the Rules of Procedure were changed in order to allow a more transparent process and a more functional work frame. Secondly, MIJARC World excluded Cataluña as a member movement but affiliated three new members from Bolivia, Pakistan and Burundi. The MIJARC World Action Plan was adopted but there is only one action plan for 2 years. The topics per each year were set: 2017 will be about climate change



## Other activities/meetings

and agriculture, 2018 will focus on gender and inequality, 2019 on youth participation and 2020 on prioritizing rural areas. For 2017 the World Coordination meeting was set in Brussels, Belgium. Daniela Ordowski, MIJARC Europe's candidate was elected as World coordinator, together with two new coordinators for Latin America, 2 people for Africa and 2 people for Asia. Also, one of the biggest achievements for MIJARC Europe was that its candidate for the World Team, **Francois Bausson, was elected and named President of MIJARCWorld** which will be a huge responsibility for Francois but also a unique chance to make a difference.

### Project „PRORURAL EUROPE“ Strengthening Civil society in rural areas in Europe

#### Kick-Off-Meeting

**When?** 11th November 2016

**Where?** Königswinter, Germany

**Who?** MIJARC Europe was represented by Veronika Nordhus (President of MIJARC Europe) and Stephanie Rothermel (European Coordinator of KLJB-Germany).



Organized by International Rural Development Service, Catholic Land People Movement (KLB) and FIMARC.

In the future, the International Rural Development Service (ILD) wants to network more closely with other rural development associations in Europe. As announced by the organization, a two-year project called "Pro Rural Europe" was launched in the middle of November, bringing together rural education institutions and movements from nine European countries. Their common goal is to strengthen civil society in rural Europe, according to the ILD. The "Pro Rural Europe" network is planning specific concrete projects in the respective countries of Europe, rotating transnational meetings of project participants and a final conference in Brussels.

### European Youth Forum (YFJ) General Assembly

**When?** 23rd – 26th November 2016

**Where?** Varna, Bulgaria

**Who?** MIJARC Europe was represented by Cristiana Palma.



Organized by the European Youth Forum.

## *Other activities/meetings*

The European Youth Forum's General Assembly, which brings together all the 103 Youth Forum members, every two years, is the highest decision making body of the platform. During the meeting the members elect the board members for the next two years, as well as FCC and CBMA members and decide upon the work plan of the Youth Forum for the next 3 years and shape youth policies in Europe. In 2016, the host of the meeting was the "youth capital Varna" which organized a spectacular opening, ending in the announcement of the jury decision for the European youth capital 2019: Novi Sad! The most important points on the agenda saw the adoption of the Forum's Progress Report for 2015 and the presentation and adoption of several other reports: the report of Chair of the CoE Advisory Council on Youth, the report from the Consultative Body on Membership Applications and the report from the Financial Control Commission. Two of the biggest points on the agenda were the adoption of the Work Plan 2017-2019 and of the Resolution on EU Youth Strategy. A summary of the daily news and the most important decision taken at the Forum's GA can be accessed here: <http://www.youthforum.org/latest-news/live-from-varna-at-the-youth-forum-general-assembly/>.

This publication was prepared by MIJARC Europe Secretariat



**MIJARC Europe Secretariat**

53, Rue J. Coosemans  
B-1030 Brussels, Belgium  
Phone: +32 (0)2 485 36 84 74

For more information please, visit our website:

**[www.mijarc.net/europe](http://www.mijarc.net/europe)**