



ERA European Ramblers' Association

EWV Europäische Wandervereinigung

FERP Fédération Européenne de la Randonnée Pédestre

Newsletter 1/2018

February 2018

Headlines from the presidium

The ERA presidium meeting was held in Prague from 26-29 January 2018. The presidium:

- approved the financial statement for 2017 and discussed the budgets for 2018 and 2019.
- agreed to have a ten-year strategic plan for finances to clearly see, what ERA needs in the near future. The presidium will continue this discussion at its next meeting.
- discussed the partnership arrangements.
- confirmed cooperation with the Parco del Beigua (I) on the project GINGER II, as an observer.
- started to build the relevant strategy for ERA future work.
- started to work on the document "E-path Assessment and Strategy".
- approved the application of 3 new organisations for final decision by the General Meeting on 29 Sept. 2018 in Echternach, LUX. The organisations are:
Bernar Wanderwege, CH
Lauku Ceļotājs, LV
Nizhniy Novgorod Trekking Club, RUS
- accepted the letter from Suomen Latu ry to end the ERA membership.
- discussed the improved look of LQT logo.
- approved changes in the renewal of MO involvement in LQT.
- approved the rules for the re-certification of registered organisation in the Walk Leader created new working groups:
WG Strategy
WG E-paths
WG ERA archive
WGs, which continue their activity:
WG Leading Quality Trails, WG Walk Leader, WG 50th ERA anniversary
- approved the preparation of an commemorative book to the 50th ERA anniversary (in 2019).
- adopted the programme for the whole conference to be held in Sept. 2018.
- recommended not to elect a new assessor in Sept. 2018 because of financial constraints.
- agreed documents concerning topics Water Walking and Regular Alpine Walking, prepared by the FFRandonnée and Federazione Italiana Escursionismo.



E1 Sicily Trek Fest

The 1st international walking meeting on the E1 will be held from 27 May to 3 June 2018. A catalogue of walking destinations was offered to participants to book the best programme for each of them. The official opening day, where a memorial table will be unveiled, is on Wednesday, 30 May 2018. The deadline for all registrations is 31 March 2018. More at: www.e1sicilytrekfest.it



Leading Quality Trails – Best of Europe

The ERA presidium discussed the changes for the renewal of MO involvement. The actual topic „re-certifications“ was implemented. The document will be prepared for final approval at the General Meeting in Echternach, LUX.

LQT-Light is still offered as a possibility for member organisation to promote LQT in their country. Interested organisations must contact the ERA office.

Leading quality trails is possible to follow now at: <https://www.facebook.com/leadingqualitytrails/>

European Week of Sport

The event is getting more and more popular among the sport organisations and active people as well. The year 2017 proved this: 32 European countries with over 34.000 events and 12 million people participating in various events.

The European Week of Sport in 2018 will continue. Save some of your regular walking events to register for this Week, registration will be possible through the national coordinators from May 2018. The European Commission has launched an [Open Public Consultation](#) on the European Week of Sport. This consultation will inform an external evaluation of the implementation of the European Week of Sport. The questionnaire is available in all EU languages and will remain open until 18 May 2018.



GINGER II. project

ERA became an observer of this project, the main applicant is Parco del Beigua UNESCO Global Geopark (Liguria region, I) – a pilot area. The main objective is to define guidelines for policy makers to make people aware of behaviours to prevent risk and to inform tourists how to avoid geo-hazard following events during a natural occurrences. The guidelines should improve the role of the conservation of natural ecosystems, to preserve ecosystem services and to enhance the conservation of bio- and geodiversity. ERA can help the consortium to understand the need of tourists that visit the Alps. Those tourists can help the Consortium to disseminate the results.

Partnerships continue

The Tenerife Walking Festival and the Gran Canaria Walking Festival were promoted for the last 2 years by our association. We are happy, that the organisations behind these walking festivals decided to extend their partnership with ERA. The TWF will be held from 22-26 May 2018. The registration is open at: www.tenerifewalkingfestival.com The GCWF will welcome its participants from 24-28 October 2018.



Regular Alpine Walk

FIE, in cooperation with FFRandonnée, will lead a discussion to introduce a mountain activity competition for ERA member organisations. This is inspired by the regular alpine march, which is very successful in Italy. After trial, this concept of a sports walking activity could be introduced to other associations. By 2020-2021, an international event is planned, followed by the creation of a European championship if this activity is of interest. At the ERA conference to be held in Luxembourg, in September, the FFRandonnée and the FIE will organize a workshop to present this new activity, its characteristics and its successes.



Social media

Find ERA on Facebook and Twitter:

Facebook – a new ERA Facebook page for promotion and information has been created in order to improve the knowledge of ERA and our products and activities. News will be published every week, including information about Leading Quality Trails, E-paths and ERA member organisations. You are welcome to share information about your events or important walking jubilees (of E-paths, E-paths crossings, important year of the walking event, etc.).

Follow us at: www.facebook.com/era.ewv.ferp/

Twitter – give us a like at: https://twitter.com/ERA_EWV_FERP

ERA newsletters will be published, usually 4 times per year. To get this newsletter regularly, please subscribe on the ERA [website](#) or write directly to the ERA office.

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