



Annual Report

2018

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NOTE

A note from the president

Building on almost century long legacy, and facing challenges demanding our urgent solidarity, SCI Hellas made considerable steps in 2018 to strengthen its international presence and deliver notable results both at home and abroad; ahead of our movement's Centenary the "*Volunteering versus Violence*" project provides significant documentation on the historical trajectory of Volunteering for Peace in the 20th century and its relevance for present challenges. "*#together_stronger*" offered a novel volunteering approach to working with refugee communities, and hopefully will be repeated and broadened in scope next year. A great team dedicated to offering high quality volunteering opportunities guarantees that 2020, the year SCI celebrates its 100th birthday, will be a memorable year for our movement. We are anxiously looking forward to it.

Antonios Sifakis

President of the Board of SCI Hellas



WHO WE ARE

SCI HELLAS

Peace is neither a break between wars nor a wish-card. It's a vision built with practical international voluntary social work. "Deeds and not words!" This slogan first appeared about 100 years ago, in 1920, the contemporary movement of international volunteering with the organization of the first international workcamp in the village of Esnes near Verdun, France; a village flattened during the World War I, place of one of the most deadly battles in 1916.

Service Civil International (SCI) is an international peace movement that has existed since 1920 and promotes peace and international co-operation through international short-time voluntary work programs (work camps), medium and long-term programs, educational and informative seminars, campaigns, etc., working with organizations and groups that promote similar ideas.

Service Civil International has operated non-stop to date in 43 countries (Europe, Asia, America, Africa, Oceania) and Greece.

It has an advisory role in the Council of Europe and UNESCO, is one of the founders and a member of the Coordinating Committee for the International Volunteer Service of UNESCO (CCIVS) and was awarded by the United Nations in 1987 as the 'Messenger of Peace' for their work. The Greek branch of SCI is called "Kinissi Ethelonton SCI Hellas". From 1987 until today SCI Hellas promotes informal intercultural education and peace education, organises programmes of small international voluntary work (workcamps) or long-term (long term volunteering), and helps to send volunteers from Greece in similar projects around the world, making it one of the older, longer-lasting and most experienced organisations in the field.

WHAT OUR AIMS ARE

SCI's vision is a world of peace; social justice and sustainable development, where all people live together with mutual respect and without recourse to any form of violence to solve conflict. SCI's mission is to promote a culture of peace by organising international volunteering projects with local and global impact.

Values of SCI

Apart from mission and vision SCI is being guided in all its activities by some core values. Every voluntary project, meeting, exchange or training has to be in line with these values:

Volunteering - in the sense of acting out of self-initiative, without seeking material reward and for the benefit of civil society, as a method and a statement for social change, whilst never competing with paid labour nor seeking to contribute to strike-breaking.

Non-Violence - as a principle and a method.

Human Rights – respect for individuals as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Solidarity - international solidarity for a more just world and solidarity between human beings on all levels.

Respect for the Environment – and the ecosystem of which we are a part and on which we are dependent.

Inclusion - to be open and inclusive to all individuals who share the aims and objectives of the movement, without regard to gender, colour, religion, nationality, social status or political views and any other possible grounds for discrimination.

Empowerment - providing people with means (knowledge, tools) to understand and act in order to transform the social, cultural and economic structures that affect their lives at all levels.

Cooperation - with local communities as well as other local, national and international actors to strengthen the positive potential within civil society as a whole.

WHAT WE DID IN 2018

International Voluntary Projects

Long Term Projects

Every year we host volunteers from abroad for a period of 10-12 months each. They offer their services either to our association supporting the promotion and communication activities mainly as well as the implementation of local activities and short term international volunteer projects (workcamps) or/and to our local partners such as the Greek Forum of Refugees (GFR) with whom the volunteers organize activities as well as with the refugee communities. In 2018 we hosted nine (9) volunteers from Spain, Italy, Poland, the U.K., France and Indonesia.

Short Term Projects

#together_stronger

Together Stronger was a co-creative project coordinated by SCI Hellas with the cooperation of the Greek Forum of Refugees (GFR), the Community of Afghan Migrants and Refugees in Greece and Caritas.



This project took place during the summer 2018 when for two (2) months it brought together 10 volunteers from 10 different countries who organized plenty of workshops all around Athens, indoors and outdoors. Together Stronger was created to bring people together, promote the idea of volunteering, familiarize people with different cultures and social inclusion. Our volunteers prepared various artistic and sports activities for children (pottery, recycling, watching movies, football team, painting, drawing) and organized different workshops (e.g. about the Greek Mythology). For those two (2) summer months their aim was to “create bridges” and share with refugees interested and willing to get involved, gather together, teach and learn from each other.

Kataskinosi

This workcamp was organised in cooperation with Happy Children-Happy Youth Camps, a Non-profit Volunteer Organisation with 86 years of action. The volunteers helped the Camp staff in hosting 140 children from disadvantaged families with financial and social problems. This is the 17th year that the workcamp operates and more than 150 volunteers have participated in the past years preparing meals, cleaning, painting, gardening. They also organised and assisted in the activities with the children (e.g. sports activities, handicrafts, group activities, games, music). They got a closer look at how a system supported only by volunteers can be organised from the side of management (kitchen, storage, cooking, technical support). They got basic training in the beginning on how a kitchen that supports 200 people works. The volunteers got to know how we provide social and educational support to the children. They also learnt about Greek art (music, traditional shadow theatre, dances) and some basic Greek (alphabet, basic words and expressions).

Pateras mountain, Elefsina, Attiki, July 2018



Other Projects

Trainings

STEPS TO CHANGE PROJECT!

SCI Hellas took part in the STEPs project (Strategic Training for Empowerment Processes). Its aim was to strengthen IVS organisations globally with trainings and practice, according to each region's needs in the areas of organisational management and impact assessment and make the start for a global diagnosis on IVS organisations worldwide that serves as the basis for the Monitoring and Empowerment System of the CCIVS.

The first activity of the project was an international training on organizational management and impact measurement that followed the STEP methodology based on the principles of non-formal and peer education. The participants were able to integrate the learning in a way that could make them multipliers in their organisations and region. The International Training was on organisational development and impact measurement and included 3 conceptual blocks, namely organisational development, needs assessment, and Impact measurement.

For the organisational development block the methodology was based on the model of the Organisational Pentagon (OP) learnt from Fundacion SES and adapted to the IVS reality by the CCIVS, which allows to work and understand in a very intuitive way the main pillars of organisational health (structure, functioning, sustainability, communication, relations) adapting them to IVS and regional realities and make a deep needs assessment at the same time that knowledge is acquired. Such analysis gives the basis for a strategic planning for the organization which will be practiced for the most relevant topics in each region. The SCI Hellas participants based their local training of refugee communities on this particular project and methodology.

Kumanovo, FYROM, February 2018, This project was an Erasmus+ programme

Steady Steps are Steps Forward

SCI Hellas has produced the “Steady Steps are Steps Forward” toolkit as the outcome of a 3-month-long workshop process which took place in Athens, from September to November 2018 facilitated by SCI Hellas trainers for the Greek Forum of Refugees (GFR) and its communities-members, namely those from Afghanistan, Burundi, Cameroon, the Congo, Ivory Coast, Somalia, and Tanzania.

This is the training based on the “Pentagon” Strategical tool. SCI Hellas trainers were trained on this tool within the STEPS TO CHANGE Project of CCIVS (see above). This tool was originally developed for International Volunteering Organisations, however, in cooperation with the CCIVS trainers, SCI Hellas developed a version adapted to suit the needs and priorities of the refugee communities. By using it, a refugee community can increase its organisational capacity sufficiently in order to be independent, autonomous, recognisable, creative and equally participatory in civic life.

An initial assessment was planned as part of this project to allow for the most appropriate identification of the needs, strengths and weaknesses of each refugee community participating. This was identified as the most suitable way to proceed since the 7 communities-members of GFR are not similar in terms of development, capacity or actions.

The training comprised of a minimum 7-weekly sessions per community depending on the number of participants and their level of familiarity with the issues at hand. The method used for the toolkit was structured in modules, as is the training: Pentagon Strategical Tool, Structuring, Functioning, Communication, Financial Sustainability, Relations, Action Plan and Evaluation.

The training and this toolkit were financed by UUSC. The toolkit is readily available in Greek, English and French.



MURAL

SCI Hellas participated in the 1st Workshop that the Hellenic Platform for Development organized on November 2018, 22-26 on Mutual Understanding Respect and Learning for the tackling of Islamophobia and Antisemitism, in Athens, Greece. The workshop follows a training of trainers in Warsaw, Poland in the summer 2018 and is followed by a 2nd Workshop in early 2019 in Northern Greece. The participants undertake the task to realize social actions towards raising awareness and eliminating antisemitism and/or islamophobia within their own communities.

The reason for such a programme lies within the well documented findings of the increase of islamophobia and antisemitism in the EU, and much more so in Greece.

In the MURAL project more than 35 participants took place and numerous social actions on an individual or/and group level were thought through and are in the process of research, planning, and organising so as to be made possible the next few months and well into 2019.

The same number of participants and follow up social actions are expected for the 2nd Workshop.

ΑΘΗΝΑ 22-26.11.2018

1ο εργαστήριο για τον Αντισημισμό και την Ισλαμοφοβία (μαθαίνουμε, σεβόμαστε, κατανοούμε, κινητοποιούμαστε)

Δήλωσε συμμετοχή αν:

- έχεις υποστεί ρατσιστική βία λόγω της πίστης σου ή της εθνικής σου προέλευσης
- είσαι εθελοντής ή εργάζεσαι σε οργάνωση ή πρωτοβουλία της κοινωνίας των πολιτών
- είσαι ακτιβιστής ή ακτιβίστρια για τα ανθρώπινα δικαιώματα γενικά
- είσαι εργαζόμενος/η σε κυβερνητικό ή φορέα αυτοδιοίκησης
- είσαι εκπαιδευτικός
- είσαι δημοσιογράφος
- είσαι φοιτήτρια/ής

Ελληνική Πλατφόρμα για την Ανάπτυξη

Ευρωπαϊκή Ένωση
Ευρωπαϊκό Ταμείο Ανάπτυξης
Ευρωπαϊκό Ταμείο Κοινωνικών Ανάπτυξης

Seminars-Study Camps

Volunteering versus Violence

SCI Hellas, as coordinating organization, along with SCI Catalunya, SCI Italia, and OWA Poland, as partner organisations, implemented the three study camps on the impact international volunteering has had throughout the years.



The project “Volunteering vs Violence” aimed to give the participants all the tools necessary to understand the relevance of international volunteering, especially in times of conflict or volunteering, especially in times of conflict or change.

The 3 study camps that were organized in the 3 respective countries, had different activities, and focused on a different time frame: from 1920 from 1945 for Catalunya, 1945-1990 for Italy, and 1990-nowadays for Poland. The camps had as an objective the study of the development of the international voluntary service and volunteering; visits to voluntary-based facilities, active participation in the organisations’ events, making research on past volunteering experiences as well as interviews with past volunteers and discussions on these topics are examples of the kind of activities participants took part in.

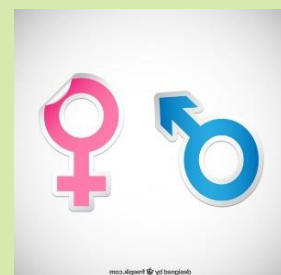


Free to be you and me

Courage and tools to create peace and safety for young people of all genders and sexualities. September 24-29, Athens.

Developing a pool of “SCI Gender Blender Ambassadors” to prepare and implement awareness-raising and educational workshops in the existing structured programme of international workcamps, youth meetings & seminars taking place annually in the SCI & partners' network we drew attention both within and outside our movement to the plight of large numbers of young people throughout the EU who, on a regular basis, are subject to victimization, stereotyping, discrimination, lack of human rights and violence; continued to expose & counteract these different forms of social exclusion, created more understanding & empathy for, and expressed our solidarity, with the victimized groups and individuals. We addressed issues and needs often ignored in public or political debate as well as in mainstream media: physical, oral & structural violence against women and those with different "sexual orientation different from heterosexual" sexual orientations.

In Greece we shared and evaluated the results and impact of the workshops, improving and adding to the Toolkit Guide and going one step further by planning several international youth exchanges focusing specifically on the topics above. All this after an initial planning and training seminar which gathered experienced volunteer activists from the Gender Blender international working group and voluntary service activists to increase their knowledge, skills and competences and together elaborate new workshops to promote awareness-raising and motivate more young people to become active in fighting violence, stereotyping, discrimination and exclusion towards these target groups. This was followed by a Toolkit Guide for coordinators with information on genders and sexualities and with workshops on the topic.



Seminar on Project Management (Kryoneri, Greece, March 10-17, 2018)

In the frame of the Peers to Peace project of SCI and co-funded by the Erasmus+ programme this seminar aimed at fostering Peer learning and Peer support for Capacity Building in international volunteer work and followed two main activities (2017) with and for the Peer University on volunteers management (27/5-2/6, Poland) and the Learning Seminar on knowledge management and fundraising (13-20/7, Malaysia).

This seminar built further on the peer-learning and peer-support experiences of the previous events. More specifically, we exchanged good practices and tools and developed skills in

- Engaging people/volunteers
- Risk assessment of project ideas/proposals
- Monitoring and evaluating progress, change potential, mid and long-term impact of our projects
- Human and financial resources
- Improving visibility of projects and dissemination of outcomes.

All this with people from Belgium, Germany, Bulgaria, Catalonia, Italy, Greece, Poland, Hungary, Slovenia, Sweden, Croatia, Great Britain, France, Malaysia, Indonesia, Honk Kong, India, Sri Lanka, and Bangladesh.



International Meetings

September 2018: SCI Hellas representatives participated in the General Assembly of the European Anti-Poverty Network, Vienna, Austria

October 2018: EPM the annual evaluation a platform meeting was held in Finland and two representatives of SCI Hellas participated. During this meeting representatives of SCI branches and its partners from all over the world met and discussed the past projects and the future cooperation.

September 5 – October 6, 2018: SCI Hellas communication officer took part in the new SCI-Peace Messengers online course with one representative.

December 2018: ICM (International Committee Meeting). The 78th ICM was held in India. SCI Hellas was represented by two participants.

Campaigns They Run for their lives I Run for their Rights

SCI Hellas staff and volunteers in the Authentic Athens Marathon on November 11, 2018. From Tromso, Finland (June 2018) to Athens, Greece (November 2018) the staff and volunteers of SCI Hellas continue the campaign to support refugees and asylum seekers. Our motto is “they run for their lives, we run for their rights”.



Local Activities

February 6: New Zealand's movie night: Whale Rider

March 21: Walk Against Discrimination 2018 on the World Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination.

July 27: Coco movie night, Welcommon Hostel

August 25: Human Library in Athens

August 30: Sport activities by Together Stronger

September 21: Living Library for World Peace Day

December 1-14: Volunteering for Human Rights events, a week covered a multi-culti of activities (screenings, games, talks) organised with the participation of volunteers and refugee and migrant communities of Athens in various exciting locations.

RANDOM CONVERSATIONS radio show on portokaliradio.gr

SCI Hellas continued its radio show on one of Greece's top webradio stations, www.portokaliradio.gr known for its content on solidarity and the visibility it offers to movements, programmes, organisations and projects related to the civil society.



Random Conversations started out late December 2017 with a broadcast on Afghanistan and Working as Cultural Mediator with Mohsen and continued well into 2018 with 6 more shows produced by Federico Spadoni.

Here are the issues covered in the broadcasts:

3. 1.2018	Indonesia with Ika and Filming a Documentary in Athens and St. Louis with Alex and Tony
31. 1.2018	Australia, Emu Wars, and Stolen Generation with Rita
7. 2.2018	Spain, and Catalunya's parties with Alvaro
14. 2.2018	Playing in kafeneia and Greek ancient theatre with No_Stage
7. 3.2018	Tunisian Recent Events and Youth Associations in Tunis with Maher
23. 3.2018	New Zealand and Live Ukulele with Telina

NEW PEOPLE AT SCI HELLAS team

Antonios Sifakis as president

[*info@sci.gr*](mailto:info@sci.gr)

Yota Arvaniti as development officer

[*yotaarv@sci.gr*](mailto:yotaarv@sci.gr)

Thanos Mandas as the new office coordinator

[*evs@sci.gr*](mailto:evs@sci.gr)

Andreas Zafeiropoulos as the financial manager

[*finances@sci.gr*](mailto:finances@sci.gr)

Ioan Roeland as volunteers' coordinator

[*promovolou@sci.gr*](mailto:promovolou@sci.gr)

Josephine Ngendakumana as cultural mediator

[*mentor@sci.gr*](mailto:mentor@sci.gr)

Mado Baboula as the communication officer

[*communication@sci.gr*](mailto:communication@sci.gr)

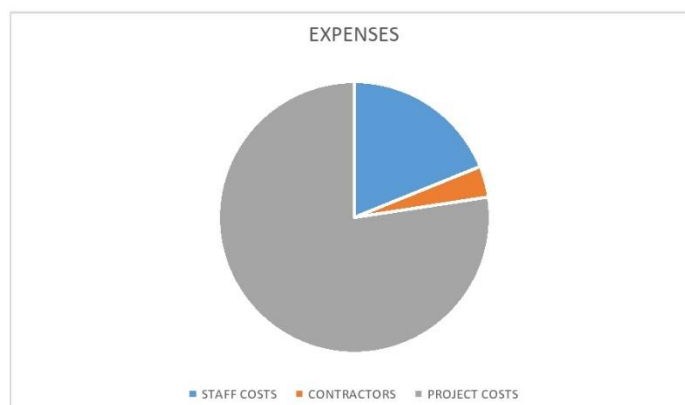
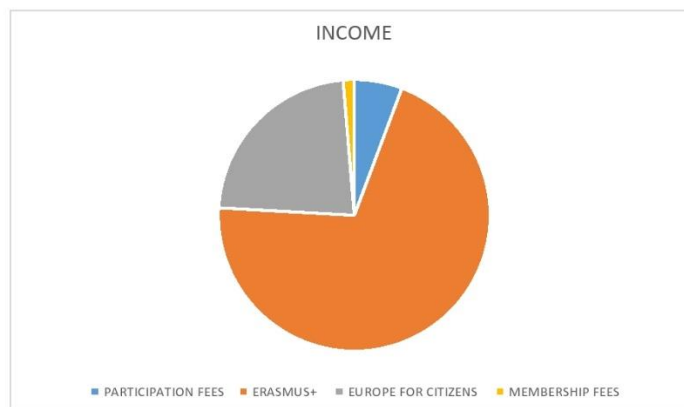


Together work has become more organised and fruitful.

Thumbs up for the new additions 👍

HOW WE MANAGED IN 2018

SCI Hellas resources are mainly EU funds either directly via the *Europe for Citizens Programme* or through the *Erasmus+ Programme*. The budget of SCI Hellas is of the volume of 112,000€. Of that amount roughly 75% is destined directly to projects' running costs and the 15% to staff costs. The tables below show the distribution of income and expenses for 2018.



WHAT WE ARE PLANNING FOR THE FUTURE

Coexistence is Possible

This is a group of young people living in Athens, who decided to come together and explore ways to identify paths of inclusion in the Greek society. Street theatre is their tool and SCI Hellas is fostering the idea wholeheartedly!

Peaceful Ladies

This group of African women residing in Athens for many years now who meet up to sing gospels and at the same time to find ways to tackle discrimination, sexual abuse and violence, especially domestic one. SCI Hellas will be supporting the Peaceful Ladies through their effort to set up their own association.

Step Up

Nine (9) young volunteers from Ireland are expected to come to SCI Hellas and work with our LTV young volunteers in creative cultural experiences.

Volunteering for Peace

This is a 2-month international voluntary project where 18 young volunteers from different countries of the EU develop creative activities and public events with and for refugee and migrant communities in Athens.

Wings to Fly

Five (5) girls from Afghanistan will be hosted in our office to work on their blogspot on life, expectations and dreams they have living in Athens awaiting for their family reunification. And that's not all!

They are producing their own radio show as a result of the media training they have received in the past that led them to work in initially with podcasts. We are glad we will be able to accommodate their creative and inspiring endeavours.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

2018 has been a year when we have partnered with remarkable people of the civil society:

- Community of Afghan Migrants and Refugees in Greece
- Greek Forum of Refugees
- Welcommon Hostel
- Romantso Cultural Centre
- We Need Books NGO
- CCIVS

CONTACT

 WE MOVED!

SCI Hellas is now based in the very center of Athens:

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Call us at 2114055585

Email us at info@sci.gr

Facebook us at SCI Hellas

Tweet us at [@SCIHellas](https://twitter.com/SCIHellas)

Instagram [sci_hellas](https://www.instagram.com/sci_hellas)

Read about us in www.sci.gr