

# ANNUAL REPORT

2016

International Falcon Movement -  
Socialist Educational International



IFM SEI



## Who we are

The International Falcon Movement-Socialist Educational International is an international educational movement working to empower children and young people to take an active role in society and fight for their rights. We are an umbrella organisation for child and youth-led movements all over the world, educating on the basis of our values of equality, democracy, peace, co-operation and friendship, and advocating for children's rights globally.

## What a year!

2016 was year of change in IFM-SEI with our Congress – which happens every three years – taking place in August. At the Congress, a new work plan for 2016-19 was adopted, as well as the new leadership being elected. Prior to August the strategic work plan 2013-16 was being wrapped up and the new work plan was launched in September with the start of the work led by the new Presidium. The year was bustling with activity and the summer saw 2500 children and young people come together in Germany for the IFM-SEI international camp.



We were very excited to launch our new global project, On The Move, on the topic of migration, refugees, visas and regional youth work this year. This is the first global project where we have had equal participation from all of the regions involved, with four partners each from Africa, Europe and Latin America. IFM-SEI launched On The Move with a series of workshops at the IFM-SEI camp and the partners came together in the autumn for a week-long seminar on refugees and migration. On The Move will be continuing over the next two years so keep your eyes peeled for new materials and initiatives for you to use in your organisations.

The Group Matters was a major project in 2016, exploring at how we can support our member organisations to establish or develop local group work. An array of online tools are now available for members, from the new group journey to group night materials. Hundreds of members got involved with the Group Helpers School at IFM-SEI camp, followed by support visits to member organisations or prospective new organisations across Europe.

The end of 2016 saw a focus on our work around inclusion of children and young people with disabilities. While IFM-SEI has done a lot of work over the years on inclusion, this specific focus on disability is new to us. It was an honour to start this work with the European Network on Independent Living (ENIL) Youth Network through our joint All In study session in Strasbourg. The seminar has provided inspiration for developing an accessibility strategy over the next year. You can also join our newly established accessibility network!

In 2016 we also saw three other new networks coming into fruition. The new feminist, anti-capitalist and migration networks will join our rainbow and accessibility networks. These networks will be key in steering our thematic work on these themes and we are excited to get the wider membership involved in the delivery of our strategic work plan.

2016 is a year that will stay in the minds of members for years to come, with many members engaging in their first international experience through the IFM-SEI camp - the experience of a lifetime. A huge thanks go out to all of the Presidium and Control Commission members that dedicated their time in the 2013-16 mandate to give children and young people the opportunity to experience internationalism and give them a flavour of the socialist world we are fighting for. We hope the newly elected members in our movement are looking forward to the challenge of reaching more members in the next years!

Friendship and solidarity,  
Carly Walker-Dawson - IFM-SEI Secretary General

## On The Move

On the Move is an exciting and ambitious new project for 2016–2018, which will cover everything from dealing with visa obstacles to raising awareness of the challenges facing young refugees and migrants and better including them in our organisations. The project will tackle many issues, all of which are relevant to young people living in a globalised world and who do not want to be stopped by borders! Over two years we will address the numerous challenges faced by our youth organisations with the increase in the number of refugees worldwide connected with a rise in right-wing extremism and look for better ways of supporting young refugees in our organisations and communities.



We also want to confront the fact that so often, active and enthusiastic young people from our member organisations hear from embassies that they cannot participate in mobility projects because of visa restrictions, despite being funded by government or EU grants. Severe visa restrictions were something that our members told IFM-SEI we should work on in the work plan 2013- 2016 as it affects the ability of all of our partners to organise regional and global youth work activities that are so vital to span the world with friendship! But in 2016-2019 we want to continue this work with more reflections on how to continue regional cooperation beyond Europe, where budget and visas restrict youth mobility for non-formal education.

On The Move was launched with workshops being delivered at the IFM-SEI Camp 2016, followed by a week-long seminar in November on refugees and migration. This first of three seminars for the On the Move project took place in Catalonia. It brought together one person per partner organisation to discuss the reasons for flight and migration in history and the situation refugees face today in Africa, Europe and Latin America. The group exchanged experiences of working with refugees or migrants in their organisations and drafted tips for youth workers and organisations before preparing an outline for an online course on the topic, which other youth workers of the partner organisations and the wider network of IFM-SEI can participate in.

## All In – creating inclusive and empowering spaces for all

In cooperation with the European Network for Independent Living (ENIL) Youth Network and the Council of Europe, IFM-SEI delivered a challenging and dynamic study session on the inclusion of children and young people with disabilities at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg.

25 participants came together in a mixed ability study session to discuss how we can make our organisations more inclusive and empowering for all. Young educators from Association for Social Democracy (Turkey), Esplais Catalans, Fénix (Slovakia), Georgian Falcons, Nuoret Kotkat (Finland), SJD-Die Falken (Germany) and Woodcraft Folk (UK) to discuss what inclusion means to us, power and privilege in relation to inclusion, the Council of Europe disability strategy and developing 'inclusion in action' projects.

The study session had many rich outcomes, including the establishment of an IFM-SEI accessibility network, a guide about how to make non-formal methods and activities inclusive, and an online campaign about anti-capitalism and inclusion. We're excited this is only the start of our on-going partnership between IFM-SEI and ENIL Youth!



## IFM-SEI Camp 2016: Welcome to Another World

The IFM Camp was the flagship event of the year, bringing together around 2500 children and young people from 30 organisations across the globe in Reinwarzhofen, Germany, for 12 days in July and August. The international festival gave children and young people the chance to experience intercultural learning, respect diversity of others and meet people from cultures all over the world. Our core values were acted out over the camp with a provoking, challenging and inspiring programme of non-formal activities as well as an intercultural social programme and plenty of opportunities to meet other informally.

We can't begin to explain all of the fun, games and parties that were had, the politics discussed, friendships formed, workshops enjoyed and the exciting ideas and opinions that were exchanged and debated. During the camp, IFM-SEI took its ideals, values and ideas of the 'other world' to the streets of Nuremberg. These political demands were developed by children and young in the dozens of workshops, games and discussions on the camp's core themes: children's rights, democracy and participation, women and trans\*, peace, equality and socialism, rainbow, anti-racism and anti-fascism, and co-operation. Our demands are:

- We demand a world where solidarity, and friendship and blue skies are held above profit and violence and where no one has to live in fear.
- We demand women's right to equal pay and an end to patriarchy.
- We demand governments to take action to prevent and combat violence against women.
- We demand that racism is no longer accepted in our society.
- We demand equal human rights for LGBTIQ people.
- We demand a world that recognizes and supports the participation of children, young people and minority groups in decision-making processes in families, schools, and communities and on all levels of society.
- We demand open borders without visa restrictions, so that children and young people can fully participate in international activities, sharing and learning with one another.
- We demand peaceful childhoods and a healthy environment for all children, no matter their origin or background.
- We demand that children and young people living in conflicts are not forgotten, no matter how far away the conflict seems from us.
- We demand that Sinti and Roma can live wherever they want without having to face discrimination, racism and poverty.
- We demand a stop of racist asylum policies and closed borders. All refugees are welcome and the human rights of all must be respected.
- We demand a world free from capitalism, with equality and social justice for everyone around the world.

## IFM-SEI Congress 2016



The IFM-SEI Congress 2016 brought a lot of change to our movement. As well as electing the new leadership, a strategic work plan 2016-19 was discussed, amended and agreed after a year-long consultation. The work plan clearly outlines all of the activities IFM-SEI aims to deliver in the next three years under eight thematic areas.

The Congress also agreed a Code of Conduct, which outlines our values and the lines that cannot be crossed and ensures that all of the work with children and young people is based on non-hierarchical relations between leaders and children. It explains how we, as an educational movement, can deal with situations when our safe space and basic values are violated.

We also agreed on a new membership fee system, which has six broad categories of membership fee, making the system both simpler and fairer to member organisations. The lowest amount is 240€ per year – 20€ per month – and it encourages instalment payments. There is also a solidarity component, a flexible amount that member organisations decide themselves.

## European Falcon Network Meeting 2016

During a long weekend 30 members from 12 European IFM-SEI organisations came together for the European Falcon Network meeting in Helsinki, Stockholm and on a ferry in between the two cities. The seminar focused on Erasmus+ funding, motivating and supporting more organisations in IFM-SEI to carry out Erasmus+ projects and to take stock of our involvement in the Erasmus+ programme in the past years.

Member organisations were able to share our experiences with international projects and learn from each other's challenges and good practices. Other topics were also discussed, including how to establish an IFM-SEI Pool of Trainers, what good practice we should consider when organising international camps and sharing international solidarity projects. Organising the seminar on the ferry between Finland and Sweden symbolises the connections between our organisations!

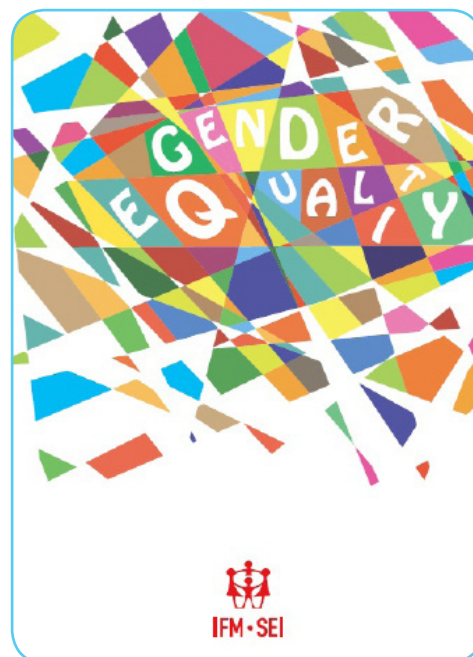


## Gender Equality Handbook

The gender equality working group published a digital manual with educational activities on gender equality to share the work done by member organisations around the world. The manual brings together activities for different age groups and on different sub-themes – all have been tried and tested by IFM-SEI members!

## I Act for the Prevention of Sexual Violence

We started a campaign on the prevention of sexual violence using the bystander model. You are an active bystander when you take responsibility and choose to act when you see something happening that could lead to an act of sexual violence. Each individual action might not seem like it will make a difference but if we all choose to act, it can create a much bigger change. The I Act campaign used videos and graphic storytelling to provoke young people to consider the topic through a social media campaign. The campaign is available in 10 languages and counting!



## Stop Violence Against Women!

On 25 November, for the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women, the Rainbow Network delivered a 16-day campaign called Stop Violence Against Women. Members shared photos of themselves holding signs with statements relating to violence towards women to raise awareness of the prevalence and impact of gender-based violence.

## Thematic Networks

Three new networks were created in 2016: feminist network, anti-capitalist network and accessibility network. The former was established on the IFM Camp and the latter two at the All In study session. The development work so far has been carried out online, so no face-to-face meetings have taken place since the establishment of the networks.



IFM-SEI

## Partnerships for Participation - Child Participation Handbook

The Partnerships for Participation project ran throughout 2015 and aimed to strengthen our work on empowering young people to participate in external decision-making. The handbook Partnerships for Participation was released in 2016, providing IFM-SEI member organisations and external educators with a tool with theory and methods about how to include child and youth participation in decision-making structures. The handbook will help to promote the active participation of children in decision-making and show that with safe and meaningful participation structures in place, teenagers can work effectively with decision-makers to have their strong opinions heard and raise awareness of the importance of child participation and to support educators to empower children and young people to participate in decision-making.

## Peace Education Handbook



The Peace Education handbook was published and printed in six languages in 2016 – English, Spanish, German, French, Arabic and Hebrew. The handbook is packed full of educational activities for you to use in your member organisations, all based around peace education. Sections include 'Understanding conflict', 'Transforming conflict' and 'Making Peace' with activities for all different ages, and that can be used on group nights, on camps or seminars, as an experienced group leader, peer educator, or someone who is running a workshop for the first time. We encourage you to have a look and get inspired to create a more peaceful world!

## Brand new website

IFM-SEI's website has been updated with a brand new look and lots of great features! You can get lots of useful information about our current projects – such as On The Move and the Group Matters campaign - and find out about all of the IFM-SEI activities that you can participate in, and read about our past activities and projects. All of IFM-SEI's publications are featured on the website so you can browse through them in each of the different published languages. You can also search for resources on any particular theme. You can read all of the latest news stories from IFM-SEI and our member organisations, see our past and current campaigns, and look at IFM-SEI's structure, values and history. You can also see how we are spanning the world with friendship by finding out about each of our member organisations in different regions across the world.

## New Aims and Principles

IFM-SEI saw a big change to its aims and principles in 2016, reflecting better what we stand for and what sort of world we want. We hope you like them as much as we do!

### 1. The International Falcon Movement-Socialist Educational International

The International Falcon Movement – Socialist Educational International (IFM-SEI) is an international educational movement working to empower children and young people to take an active role in society and fight for their rights. We are an umbrella organisation for child and youth-led movements all over the world, educating on the basis of our values of equality, democracy, peace, co-operation, solidarity and friendship. Through our member organisations and our international activities, we aim to ensure that children and young people are well informed about their rights and are empowered to ensure they are respected. To reach this goal, we organise a variety of activities including seminars, training courses, international camps and conferences.

### 2. A world organisation

IFM-SEI is a world movement of different types of organisations that work with children and young people and that share the aims and principles of IFM-SEI.

### 3. Children's rights

The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child is a key document in all our work. Through peer education, we aim to educate children and young people about their rights and support them to ensure they are respected.



### 4. Education

Education is the most powerful tool to achieve social change. Through non-formal education, we create a space for children and young people to develop critical awareness and empower them to challenge the inequalities in our world. We educate on the principles of respect, equality and friendship that are essential for the creation of a world where all may live in peace and solidarity. We call this socialist education.

### 5. International solidarity

Our motto is "Span the world with friendship". Only by coming together as a global movement will we be able to challenge and change the current world order. We actively encourage solidarity by providing opportunities for inter-cultural exchange and learning to take place. Our activities work towards this fundamental principle as we can best achieve our aims by learning from each other, working together and supporting each other's struggles in solidarity.

### 6. Equality

We educate and campaign for an inclusive and equal society. Therefore we combat any kind of discrimination such as fascism, racism, xenophobia, homophobia, trans\*phobia and misogyny within and outside of our organisations.

### 7. Gender equality

We are a feminist organisation. We fight against patriarchy and for equality of all genders. We reject the gender binary and recognise that there are more than two genders. We do not accept that women and non-binary gendered people still face discrimination on a day-to-day basis in all societies. We are a feminist organisation and we fight for equality between genders and against patriarchy. Therefore we educate for equal rights and awareness of gender stereotypes, discrimination and privileges and we use affirmative action and tools such as the gender quota in our organisations.



## 8. Environmental sustainability

IFM-SEI is concerned about the misuse of the world's diminishing resources and the connected dangerous change to the world's climate. Consumerism and the extreme exploitation of natural resources by the wealthy few in society have a severe natural and human impact, disproportionately affecting poor people. We encourage member organisations to protect their own environment and take actions that support sustainability in the ecological, social, and economic sense, so that today and in the future everyone has access to a healthy, stimulating and secure environment.

## 9. Peace

Peace is more than just the absence of war. We choose peace and are dedicated to a world where everyone can live in a non-violent environment free from abuse, war, bullying, discrimination, exclusion and fear, that is healthy and stimulating and where conflicts can be peacefully transformed. IFM-SEI undertakes peace education and promotes peace initiatives whenever and wherever possible. Peace education must always criticize reality and the normative way to understand it but it also has to give an alternative. Peace will only be really achieved when all forms of exploitation cease.

## 10. Democracy

We believe that people should be able to take part in decision-making at all levels in meaningful and inclusive ways. Democratic processes govern IFM-SEI and its member organisations. Children and young people are involved in all levels of decision-making in our movement, from their local groups to the world congress. It is our firm belief that children are able to make decisions and have valid opinions on a wide variety of issues from a local to a global level but they need to be heard in society. We provide the space for children to develop their knowledge, attitudes, values and skills to secure their equal participation in the democratic process and we make sure that adequate spaces for participation are provided.

## 11. Anti-capitalism

The capitalist system that our society is based on creates inequality. Those suffering the most from inequality are children living in poverty who lack opportunities to develop their potential. We recognise the power that neoliberal

## 12. Freedom

IFM-SEI is dedicated to a world where everyone can live in freedom without being bound by war, borders, undemocratic political systems or poverty. We believe that everyone has the right to freedom of choice and freedom of speech and the freedom to develop their own identity as long as it does not restrict other people's human rights.



## Welcoming new member organisations!

At Congress we welcomed the Armenian Youth Federation, Rote Falken Switzerland and Youth Advocates Ghana as full members of IFM-SEI. Patsimeredu, Zimbabwe, the Association of Social Democracy, Turkey, and the Slovenian Falcons became new candidate members of IFM-SEI. We'd like to share with you a bit about the organisations.

### Armenian Youth Federation

AYF has 10,000 members across the world. They encourage Armenian youth to engage with politics, fight for the Armenian cause, struggle against injustice and combat discrimination. AYF encourages participation in civil society, socialist and democratic values, and promotes human rights.



### Association for Social Democracy, Turkey

ASD Youth was founded in 2014 in Ankara. At first, only 7 eager young people were striving to defend core values of the ASD Youth. As of today, it has 50 young members and representatives from different regions of Turkey. ASD Youth defends democracy, equality and peace. In order to achieve that, ASD Youth empowers young people to be an active part of the society.

### Patsimeredu Trust, Zimbabwe

The Patsimeredu Trust uses performing arts as a development communication strategy. It advocates for young peoples rights and access to support and health services. Since 2002, it has contributed to widespread social development in different communities and provinces of Zimbabwe through edutainment films and participatory theatre for development.

### Rote Falken Switzerland

Games, fun and solidarity come first in regular group meetings of the Rote Falken in Switzerland but they also promote sustainable thinking, self-determination and creativity. The organisation aims to show children and young people that their opinion counts and to offer them alternatives to the adult, consumer society.

### Slovenian Falcons

The Slovenian Falcons Union is a newly-founded organisation based on the principles of solidarity and friendship, children's rights, internationalism and broader ideas of democratic socialism; gender equality, the establishment of sustainable peace, environmental protection, equality of nations on an international scale and the fight against racism and anti-Semitism.

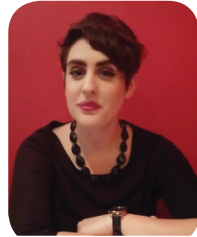


## IFM-SEI Presidium and Control Commission

The new Presidium was elected at the Congress and they meet approximately every two months to oversee the development of the international movement. The Presidium controls the finances, takes decisions on the implementation of the strategy and work plan and discusses political issues concerning IFM-SEI.



Sylvia Siqueira Campos  
(President)



Carly Walker-Dawson  
(Secretary General)



Nishaben Vasava



Tara Damanik



Mame Diarra Ndour



Heidi Niemi



Mamadou Mbow



Karlha Villacicencio  
Barrantes



Ola Qawasmi



Dani Efrati



Bine Troitzsch

### Control Commission



Isi Pérez Quíros  
(Chair)



Christina Schauer



Yaara Mizrahi

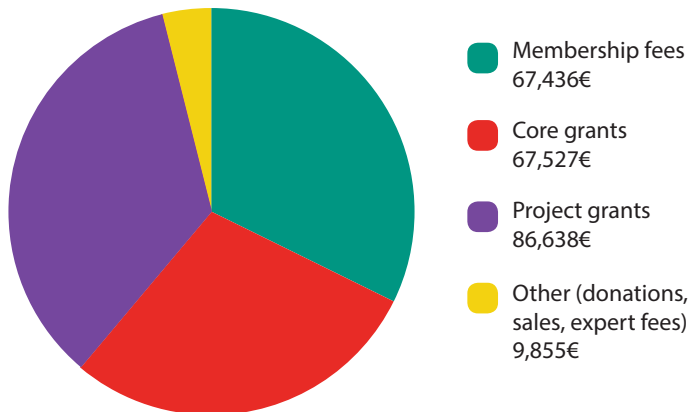
## Representation

IFM-SEI took its ideas, programmes and ideals to lots of different external platforms in 2016. IFM-SEI worked with the Council of Europe on the mid-term evaluation of the Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education and helped to plan the Human Rights Education and Education for Citizenship Education conference taking place in 2017. IFM-SEI continued to be active in the Children's Rights Action Group, campaigning for children's rights on a European level, as well as participating in activities of the European Youth Forum (YFJ) and Latin American and Caribbean Youth Forum (FLACJ). We are hugely pleased to be represented on the Task Force of the International Coordination Meeting of Youth Organizations (ICMYO) by our President, Sylvia.

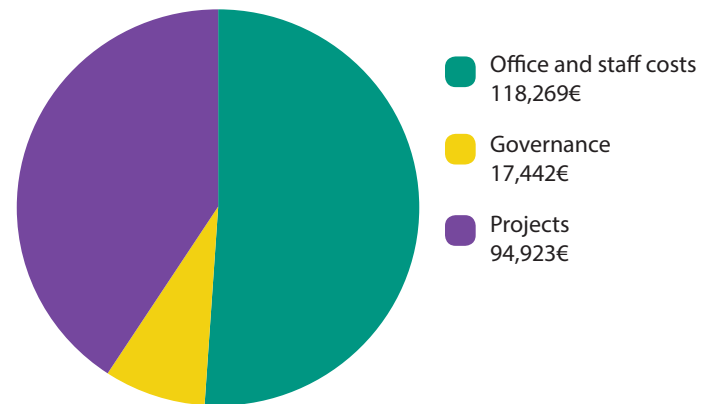
## IFM-SEI Finances

In 2016, IFM-SEI's finances remained stable gaining a small surplus. IFM-SEI's reserves remain at around 70,00€. Thanks to our operative grant from the European Commission, the annual administrative grant from the European Youth Foundation of the Council of Europe, project grants and membership fees, we are able to run an effective secretariat in Brussels and organise meetings and activities.

### Income 2016



### Expenditure 2016

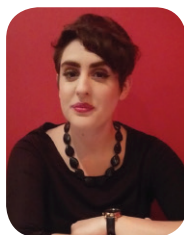


## IFM-SEI secretariat team

Our office team has changed significantly this year with Christine Sudbrock moving on as Secretary General and being replaced by Carly Walker-Dawson. We would like to thank Christine for all of her hard work over the seven years she committed to IFM-SEI. The Office Manager Ingrid de Kock continued to offer reliability and support to the Secretariat, with EVS volunteers assisting in the delivery of activities and communications. Until August 2016, Frankie Marsh supported the IFM-SEI Congress and Camp and the development of our publications released in 2016. Frankie then passed on the EVS position to Bet Bayó who is taking a lead on the communications and the digital elements of On The Move, development of the IFM-SEI website and the I Act online platform. From March to September our office team became bigger again when Sonia Kelly joined the Secretariat in Brussels to support the IFM-SEI Congress and Camp, as well as leading on the Group Matters project.



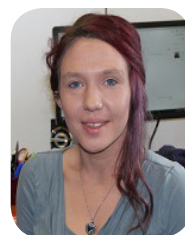
Christine Sudbrock  
(Secretary General)



Carly Walker-Dawson  
(Secretary General)



Ingrid de Kock  
Office Secretary



Sonia Kelly  
Project Officer



Frankie Marsh  
EVS volunteer



Bet Bayo  
EVS volunteer

IFM-SEI has also had a change of office, moving in with the Erasmus Student Network on Rue Joseph II. We're just a couple of minutes away from Maalbeek and the European Commission, in the heart of the European Quarter in Brussels.

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International Falcon Movement  
Socialist Educational International

[www.ifm-sei.org](http://www.ifm-sei.org)