



International Association
for
Christian Education

Annual Plan 2021

Development of the association

The **board** of IV further consists of five members: *Piet Jansen (Netherlands), Michael Jacobs (Germany), Bertrand Knobel (Switzerland), Judit Hallgatóné (Hungary), Márian Damankos (Slovakia).*

The **office** is continuously managed by *Kerstin Wiechmann* at the office of the Protestant Church of Germany (EKD). According to the chair of the Department of Education in the EKD, *Dr. Sendler-Koschel*, it is not in acute danger despite the savings of the EKD.

Communication between IV board and members outside of the annual general meetings should become more intensive through the adopted mentoring system which can help to keep in touch and to inform each other about current activities.

Our **website** will be updated in terms of information about the member associations. It could also be used much more by our members to publish their own activities. The new design of the jointly **newsletter** together with ICCS is being revised to make sure that IV and ICCS are equally visible.

We also continue focusing on attracting **new member associations**. This may be helped by ecumenical openness. Cooperation with the Anglican school system is desirable to go on.

Key activities

Close and active collaboration with the **Comenius-Institute** is given on the one hand by the fact that secretary *Michael Jacobs* is also member of the board of the Comenius-Institute. And on the other hand *Bianca Kappelhoff*, staff member of the Comenius-Institute and responsible for "Protestant education in Europe", will continue as a permanent guest in the IV board meetings.

The postponed **Klingenthal Colloquy** will take place **from 18th-22nd October 2021** in the castle of the Johann Wolfgang von Goethe-Foundation in Klingenthal near Strasbourg. Under the title "Let's tell our stories – the positive impact of religion in public education" participants should be enabled to develop lines of arguments regarding the positive significance of religion in public education by modern means of storytelling. About the online start up event with 18 participants from 10 countries on 08th October you can find a short report on the CoGREE website (<https://cogree.org/2020/10/12/to-be-continued-the-successful-story-of-zoomthal/>).

The postponed **study trip for head-teachers and educational experts to the Netherlands** will hopefully take place in spring or autumn 2021. Visits of Christian schools in foreign European countries and the direct exchange on site are very valuable for head-teachers.

Further activities:

Participating in the **European Christian Convention (ECC)** in order to arrange a large-scale ecumenical gathering of Christians in Europe 2024/25.

Moderating the **Coordinating Group for Religion in Education in Europe (CoGREE)** on 11th/12th June 2021 in Alphen aan den Rijn (Netherlands) and 18th/19th November 2021 in London.

Participating in the **future lab of ICCS** on 15th-17th June 2021 in Vienna.

Continuing the involvement of IV in the **Global Pedagogical Network – Joining in Reformation (GPEN)** as the representative of the European region; some member schools participate in the ErasmusPlus-project *Schools joining up for Communities of Peace (SchoolCoPe)* 2019-22.

Participating, where desirable and useful, in the **key activities of members**, to exchange information, to contribute speeches and presentations.

Preparing the next **General Assembly 2021**, hopefully in **Riga** and maybe combined with a conference on the topic “Digitalisation – challenges for religion and education in Christian schools”.

Other forms of cooperation

Continuing collaboration with the **Conference of European Churches (CEC)**, *Bianca Kappelhoff* is member of the thematic reference group “Education, democracy and diversity”.

Continuing cooperation with the **Community of Protestant Churches in Europe (CPCE)**.

Strengthening ecumenical cooperation with, for example, the **European Committee for Catholic Education (CEEC)** and **EuFRES (European Forum of Religious Education in Schools)**.

October 2020

Michael Jacobs
(Secretary)

 www.int-v.org