

2019 ACTIVITY REPORT



eMAUS

EUROPE

ACTIVISTS FOR CHANGE

SUMMARY

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A YEAR OF TRANSITION

BY CARINA AALTONEN

We leave behind a year that was probably the last normal year before the Covid pandemic changed everything that we knew it. We don't know what "the new normal" will look like and at least for a while we will be living in uncertainty what tomorrow will bring.

2019 was a year full of celebrations, elections, memorable moments and finally in the autumn we gathered, almost 200 people from different Emmaus groups around the region, at the Regional Assembly in San Sebastian (Spain). We celebrated 70 years since the first community of Neuilly Plaisance in the eastern suburb of Paris (France) was created and 50 years ago since the first World Assembly in Bern (Switzerland). At this meeting, the universal manifesto became one of the fundamental pillars of our movement. It was also 15 years since Emmaus Europe was formed as a new region, bringing together Emmaus France, Europe-Centre-South (Italy, Spain, Portugal, Germany, Switzerland, Germany, Belgium, the Netherlands and UK), the Northern Europe region (Denmark, Finland, Norway and Sweden), and the Eastern Europe District.

Our fundamental values are the same today as they were 70 years ago, but I believe that the challenges we are facing now are both more difficult and complex.

The global climate change is just the tip of a melting iceberg. On the earth, we have gone from the Holocene to the Anthropocene epoch. It means that we have entered a whole new phase of planetary history where humans had become the driving force. Living in the Anthropocene requires a new global ethic. The right to development among the world's poorer citizens, will require increased utilization of the planet's natural capital. How should this global sustainability revolution be implemented? Obviously, it will be about a great diversity of creativity, governance, and leadership. I am hopeful for another and better system to be put in place with more respect for people and environment. We should welcome change and transition to be able to leave the old system behind us. Emmaus should, as always, be the forerunners and take the lead in this transition of a new way of working and living together in respect for each other and the world around us.

Solidarity is in our DNA and that is why we exist, already by the daily action of each group. It gives me hope for the future to see and feel the solidarity we carry out in various ways between Emmaus groups but also to organizations and people in need outside the movement. Thanks to the initiative of Emmaus Italy, we jointly collected funds for a search and rescue vessel on the Mediterranean Sea, and it is already rescuing refugees adrift aboard unseaworthy crafts. The solidarity sales and salons have been important events to bring groups together and gives us in the movement an opportunity to introduce and present our work and the struggles to the public. During the year we have welcomed 13 new trial member groups, including a group from a new country, Emmaus Geo in Georgia, and 19 new full members. This gives hope for the future and shows that the Emmaus Movement is still strong and relevant today.

Finally, I would like, on the behalf of the whole Regional Council and the Secretariat, to thank Willi Does for four years of extraordinary commitment as the President of Emmaus Europe during the period of 2015-2019. He has been leading the organisation with a warm heart, a great mind, always ready to listen, to act and to implement the decisions. I would also like to thank Willi's family and community in Cologne for the strong support during these four years of office. We are proud and happy for the work he did for the whole movement, and we are sure he will continue to contribute with his knowledge, experience and his determined fight for democracy, diversity, tolerance, and respect.

We would also like to give a warm welcome to Eve Poulteau as our new Chief Executive. We are incredibly grateful to have her with us on this journey in times of transition. The rest of the competent and engaged team at the Emmaus Europe Secretariat in Montreuil is always doing their best to fulfil the commitments and work. Thank you, Théo Robin, Marie Tixier and Véronica Acevedo. We could not do without you.



Carina Aaltonen, the newly elected President of Emmaus Europe, at the San Sebastian Regional Assembly, Spain, 2019.

THE HIGH POINTS OF 2019



«We are nothing without other people», as Abbé Pierre used to say. European Emmaus activists met to decide together on future policy directions at the San Sebastian Regional Assembly in Spain in 2019.

A REGIONAL ASSEMBLY YEAR

San Sebastian in Spain

Every four years, the regional assembly (the Europe region's general assembly) brings together all the European Emmaus groups to choose the region's shared policy areas and elect the region's representatives for the coming years.

At this the sixth regional assembly, close to 200 representatives of Emmaus from across Europe met on 28-31 October 2019 in San Sebastian in Spain.

A COLLECTIVE EFFORT TO DEVELOP POLICY AREAS

Some of the time from February to September 2019 was devoted to developing policy areas for the coming four years.

The policy areas drew on a review undertaken in autumn 2018 in the geographical collectives. The review suggested developing exchanges of practices between groups, support for new groups, and both internal and external communications. The regional executive and council then discussed the issues on which Emmaus Europe should advocate.

From April 2019, the suggested policy areas were disseminated so that interested groups could amend and add to them at regional meetings in France and in the geographical collectives. The regional executive approved the amended document in September and it was this policy report that was voted on at the European assembly.



THE MAJOR POLICY AREAS FOR 2020-2024

■ Cope with climate change and combat rejection of others in order to build lasting peace

- Showcase and bolster our resilience to climate change
- Combat rejection of others and develop shelter and support in order to build lasting peace
- Bolster our advocacy on these issues at European Union and continental level

■ Support the groups

- Promote exchanges of practices, peer learning, and increase support for new groups
- Bolster both practical and intangible solidarity
- Further raise the profile of our work and our ideas and bolster our internal communications

■ MEETINGS, IDEAS AND STATUTES

Meeting up, discussing and sharing are fundamentals for our movement! The assembly is a major event, not just for the democratic life of our movement, but also because it is an opportunity for all the European groups to meet up.

Best practice to be shared with the groups and recommendations for Emmaus Europe

25 workshops enabled the major thrusts of the policy report to be discussed in small groups:

- How can we build a welcoming and peaceful Europe in the face of rising nationalism and xenophobia? How can we fight discrimination in everyday life?

- How to bolster a social and solidarity economy that is resilient to climate change?
- What can we do together in Emmaus Europe to improve our collective work, disseminate our values, and forge links with the new generations?

Based on the issues tackled, the workshops put forward best practice to be shared with the groups and recommendations for Emmaus Europe, and sometimes even both! The workshop proposals are attached to the policy report.

An extraordinary assembly to put forward an amendment to the statutes and the creation of internal regulations

The regional council elected representatives had to face a number of situations not covered by the statutes during their time in office. Examples include the resignation of CEIs during their period of office and arrangements for electing national delegates and their remits and responsibilities. Therefore, there was a desire to give Emmaus Europe the means to operate transparently in an expanded and stronger region. This was approved by the assembly.

Outside speakers to fuel the debate

François Gemenne, a specialist in climate issues and international migration, spoke to us about the major challenges facing Europe over the coming years. Kossi Komla-Ebri, the author of numerous works on racism and literature on migration, and Carmen Georghie, a feminist activist from the Roma community, took part in a roundtable discussion on how to raise awareness in civil society about the dangers of xenophobia and the rise of nationalism.

Key facts and figures

- 18 countries represented
- 200 participants
- 25 workshops to discuss policy areas
- 12 new elected representatives
- 1 set of internal regulations and 1 amendment to the statutes

Assemblies are the opportunity to discuss the issues that concern us. A roundtable discussion on raising people's awareness about xenophobia and the rise of nationalism, at the San Sebastian Regional Assembly, Spain, 2019.



Visits

This assembly also offered us the chance to visit **the Emmaus groups in San Sebastian and Pamplona**. Their diversity and vibrancy were a source of inspiration.

At Fundación Social, an environmental education programme welcomed 3,778 pupils over seven months in 2019 to the foundation's premises, a former sports complex where the squash courts were redeveloped to teach children how to sort clothing, for example, and about the social and environmental impact of manufacturing and reusing clothing. The group also has an online store.

In 1981, Emmaus Navarra launched the first separate collection system in Spain in Pamplona and since 1984 has had contracts with local government in Navarra to provide collection services for loose waste, paper, clothing, WEEE, etc. The group also has other waste collection and processing contracts with entities that manage WEEE, batteries. All of this enabled the group to collect and process over 11,000 tonnes of waste in 2019 of which 82% was reused or recycled. The group has 253 members, each has an employment contract and works 32.5 hours a week, and everyone earns the same salary, regardless of their level of responsibility in the group.

Songs

Finally, the vocal and dancing skills of the participants in the happiest Eurovision competition ever held made it impossible for us to select a single winning Emmaus nation: we will have to try again in four years' time!

A FINNISH PRESIDENT

Our new President Carina Aaltonen has been involved in Emmaus Finland for 25 years and at the international level of Emmaus since 2007. A former minister of social affairs and the environment on the Åland Islands, which are located between Sweden and Finland, she is heavily engaged in initiatives focusing on the environment, human rights, and lifting people out of extreme poverty. Bolstered by her in-depth experience of the Emmaus Movement and local politics, Carina wants her presidency to be based on the values of simplicity and solidarity, in order to promote the alternative championed by Emmaus.



Moving towards a co-presidency?

During the assembly, the two candidates standing for election as president, Carina Aaltonen and Simon Grainge, put forward the idea of a co-presidency. This arrangement would enable the heavy workload to be better shared out, and would also make for a representative presidency. While this scenario is not enshrined in the statutes, the positive reactions are encouraging us to examine the idea more closely.

A NEW TEAM OF COMMITTED ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

The assembly elected 12 CEIs from six countries to represent the European groups at the regional and international levels. They are members of both the region's regional council (the Europe Region's board) and members of EI's board. Emmaus Europe will be able to draw on this highly motivated and largely revitalized team in order to successfully carry out its remit.



An executive of eight members

- Marie Balseca (ND)
- Rosa Gil Elorduy (CEI)
- Simon Grainge (CEI)
- Jean-Philippe Légaut (Treasurer, co-opted)
- Aurore Querel (Secretary, CEI)
- Eduardo Sanchez (CEI)
- Leïla Thouret (CEI)

The other CEIs

- Mikel Azkona
- Christian Calmejane
- Paul Darouche
- Martha Hannus
- Nathalie Martz
- Amanda Steckly
- Maria Luisa Testori



Emmaus Europe takes part in a number of campaigns to raise public awareness or lobby elected representatives. The Make Europe Poverty Free campaign launched by EAPN, of which Emmaus Europe is a member. The campaign was timed to coincide with the European Parliament elections in order to put forward our ideas to the future elected representatives.

A YEAR OF EUROPEAN ELECTIONS

■ A CAMPAIGN WITH OUR PARTNERS

With a view to the May 2019 European elections, Emmaus Europe joined forces with two networks of which we are a member to promote their ideas to prospective MEPs.

Working with RREUSE

we championed three assertions to the prospective MEPs to help us to support the development and implementation of legislation on eco-design, waste, procurement and taxation, which:

- Supports the role and development of social economy businesses in a circular economy.
- Encourages the reuse of end-of-life products and stops them from being sent for recycling, or, even worse, for landfill and incineration.
- Makes repair easier and less expensive.

With EAPN

we called on all the prospective MEPs to make a commitment, during the next parliamentary term, to taking the measures needed to eradicate poverty in the EU:

- Macroeconomic policies that promote human rights, combat poverty and inequality, and guarantee wellbeing.
- Benefit systems and a decent minimum income, guaranteeing a decent life for all who need support, for as long as they need it.
- Actual implementation of existing political commitments, including the Sustainable Development Goals and the European Pillar of Social Rights.
- Effective participatory processes which make use of the expertise and know-how of all the key stakeholders, people living in poverty, and the organisations that represent them.

Several hundred prospective MEPs signed up to these campaigns and those who were elected were then recontacted by the two networks so that the networks can work with them over the next five years.

■ THE FOUNDATIONS OF A NEW PERIOD IN OFFICE

Educate the new elected representatives about the scale of the Emmaus Movement in Europe

Our simple ambition at the start of this new term of office was to educate the new elected representatives about the Emmaus groups in Europe and the values that the groups champion, and start to forge links with them.

We took advantage of Emmaus' 70th anniversary and suggested extending to the other European countries the open days held in France on 16-17 November and in this way invite the new MEPs to visit the groups in their respective countries.

Set up a parliamentary intergroup on poverty

Emmaus Europe has taken part in the creation of the European Parliament's intergroup on poverty with our partners ATD Quart Monde, the instigators of the project, and EAPN, the European anti-poverty network, of which we are members. The aim is to enable MEPs from the different political groupings to work together on this issue by means of regular meetings with organisations involved in anti-poverty work.

In the first instance, we took part in a roundtable with the most engaged MEPs in order to launch this group on 16 October 2019 at the European Parliament in Brussels. Jean-Philippe Légaut, a member of the regional executive, represented Emmaus Europe at the "Beyond the numbers-the reality of poverty in Europe" roundtable discussion.

The new commissioner for social affairs, Nicolas Schmitt, attended the meeting, which gave us the chance to meet him.



Jean-Philippe Légaut participates in a round table at the European Parliament on behalf of Emmaus Europe.

A manifesto on migration policy was produced by several helping hands and adopted by the assembly. A symbolic event on the campus of the University of San Sebastian brought together all the assembly participants.



MIGRATION: ALERTING AND SHOWING SOLIDARITY

■ **Mare Ionio**, search and rescue vessel initiative run by the **Mediterranea** grouping
Championing human rights and particularly freedom of movement has continued to be an important focus area for Emmaus in Europe. We mobilised the European groups to support Emmaus Italy so that the national organisation could have a stake in the **Mare Jonio** search and rescue vessel initiative run by the **Mediterranea** grouping. The boat comes to the rescue of asylum seekers adrift aboard unseaworthy craft on the **Mediterranean**. With over €50K raised (mainly donations from the Emmaus groups, and also including e5K from the Emmaus Europe solidarity fund), Emmaus Italy is now the second biggest contributor to the initiative and we are continuing to support this initiative.

■ **Migreurop**
We have also maintained our links with the researchers and other organisations involved in **Migreurop**. Nathalie Martz, the regional council's migration representative,

took part in the **Migreurop** assembly in Madrid in June 2019, and in the conference on the situation in the migration hotspots and the policy of outsourcing management of Europe's borders that we are criticizing.

■ **Manifesto on the migration policy**
Finally, at the San Sebastian regional assembly, we adopted an Emmaus Europe manifesto on the migration policy that we wish to see, co-drafted by several European groups on the initiative of the presidents of Emmaus Europe and Emmaus Italy. This manifesto was read out at a symbolic event in support of freedom of movement attended by all the assembly participants and the member groups of the Article 13* collective at the university campus. The event was covered by the local media and on social media.

*In reference to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights article, stating that everyone has the right to leave their home country.

Summer camps are also the chance to lend a hand with the group's projects. For instance, in Bosnia-Herzegovina at the Emmaus-International Solidarity Forum (ISF).



A YEAR OF SOLIDARITY BETWEEN EUROPEAN GROUPS

THE EUROPEAN SOLIDARITY PROGRAMME - A COLLECTIVE STRENGTH

The European solidarity programme relies solely on donations made by the European Emmaus groups. In 2019, 31 responded to the appeal and funded all the chosen initiatives.

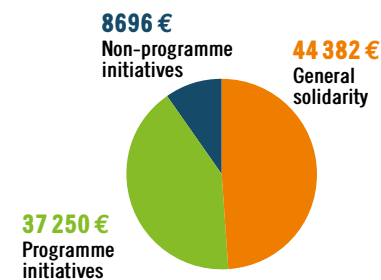
| Country Group | Initiative | Total cost | Funding* |
|---------------------|--|-----------------------|----------|
| CNZD (CROATIA) | "Work and future" purchase of a small truck | € 20K | € 10K |
| HUELVA (SPAIN) | "Zero waste" improve the waste management system | € 20K | € 15K |
| BUCHAREST (ROMANIA) | Feasibility study with a view to setting up a new group in the city | € 20K | € 5K |
| ALL THE GROUPS | Enable groups who request help to take part in the regional assembly | € 390 per participant | € 5530 |
| Total | | | € 35 530 |

*Funding approved by the 1/3/19 RCEE. Regional Council of Emmaus Europe, the organisation's board.

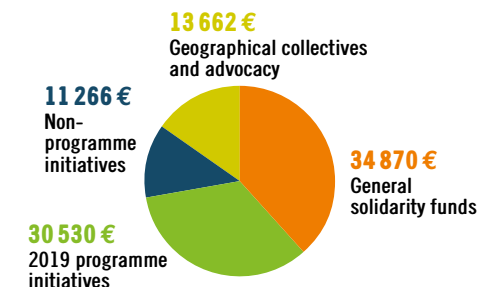
In addition to these groups' projects, there are also collective initiatives - the solidarity sales, which raised over €30K for European solidarity in 2019. Sales were held in Lille, Montauban (France, 2019) and Turin (Italy, late 2018), for example, and these events are a driving force for movement solidarity, and an opportunity to showcase the movement's initiatives and struggles to the general public. In total, over €90K was raised to support the work of the movement's groups.

In addition to the payments on the pie charts, payments were also made covering ongoing projects from previous years: this was the case for Emmaus Oselya's initiative, which received €64K in 2019, from the donations made in 2017 and 2018.

ALLOCATION OF GROUP DONATIONS



ALLOCATION OF GROUP DONATIONS



Les programmes financés en 2019

- **Thanks to everyone's support, 13 participants had their assembly attendance costs paid**, as their home groups could not afford this expense. This enabled as many members as possible to express their views at the assembly.
- **The creation of an Emmaus group in Bucharest (Romania):** The creation of an Emmaus group in Bucharest, for which €6K had been collected, did not come to fruition in 2019 due to a lack of development work on the ground. The Romanian groups are keeping an active watch in order to identify any other interested stakeholders.



■ A van for CNZD (Croatia)

€10 000 collected and transferred to the group.

Thanks to the European solidarity donations, the Centre for Missing and Exploited Children bought a van with a dual purpose. The van is used to stock the new shop, which opened in early 2019. The shop is the group's first income-generating activity and supports its social initiatives. At the same time, the van is also used to transport the group's mobile team to all the social activities that they run for children.



■ Work in the warehouse to bring it into line with all the health and safety and quality standards for Emmaus Huelva (Spain)

€15 000 collected and transferred to the group.

Emmaus Huelva has undertaken work in its warehouse to bring it into line with all the health and safety and quality standards in force. As a result, the group has been able to obtain official approval so that it can offer a waste management service to the public authorities. This is enabling the group to bolster its economic model by diversifying the services that it offers. Furthermore, this constitutes recognition by the local authorities of the role played by social stakeholders in the circular economy and of the values championed by Emmaus. The last phase of the process is underway so that the group obtains authorisation to prepare WEEE for reuse.

Progress report on the programmes launched in previous years

- **Un Coup de Main Foundation in Iasi, Romania:** Work on the Belvédère farm has progressed well and the metal structure for the future building has been fully erected. The first phase of this major project should be completed in summer 2020. – *This project was supported by the 2017 and 2018 European solidarity programmes and the 2017 annual international solidarity programme.*
- **Emmaus Oselya (Ukraine):** Considerable progress was made in 2019 on the new sorting and storage building. The purchase of the plot of land was completed, and work was done to develop the plot and build the foundations for the building. The structure of the new warehouse is now in place, and the group hopes to finish the work by the end of 2020. €64,000 was transferred to the group. – *The project was supported by the 2016, 2017 and 2018 European solidarity programmes, and the 2017 annual solidarity programme.*
- **International solidarity programmes:** A new heating system in Quarrata (Italy), a new shop in Lublin (Poland), a micro-credit fund and independent living housing for five young people in Satu Mare (Romania) were created thanks to support from the solidarity programmes run by Emmaus International and the Fondation Abbé Pierre (FAP). – *The first two projects were funded by the 2018 Fondation Abbé Pierre (FAP) programme, and the last project was funded by the 2018 annual solidarity programme.*

WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE ASP AND THE FAP?

■ **Annual Solidarity Programme (ASP):** The annual solidarity programme is run by Emmaus International and funded by the solidarity sales held every year by all the groups worldwide.

■ **The Fondation Abbé Pierre programme (FAP):** The FAP programme is run by Emmaus International in conjunction with the FAP, which funds it, and covers housing and accommodation projects.



Caption Solidarity is an intrinsic part of the Emmaus groups. They support each other in order to develop our global aims at the local level. Emmaus Huelva's warehouse in Spain. Building work was supported by the European groups in 2019.

■ THE EUROPEAN GEOGRAPHICAL COLLECTIVES INTANGIBLE SOLIDARITY

The three Emmaus Europe geographical collectives enable groups from across Europe to meet with groups from these three geographical sub-regions and discuss project progress with them, share experiences and concerns with them, and jointly organise solidarity between the countries of Europe.

They met once again in spring and summer 2019. The reports of these meetings were sent to all the groups and are available on Emmaus Europe's website. The end-of-year meetings did not take place because of the regional assembly.



The collectives are a chance to work together and meet. They are one of the cornerstones of Emmaus Europe, as they enable solidarity to be transparently organised. Participants at the last Romania Collective in Satu Mare, Romania, 2019.

| Collective | Dates and venue | Participants | Groups represented | Countries represented |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------------|--------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| SOUTH-EAST EUROPE | 7 July 2019 in Bosnia-Herzegovina | 33 | 15 | 6 |
| POLAND-UKRAINE | 26-27 March 2019 in Ukraine | 37 | 19 | 10 |
| ROMANIA | 14-15 May 2019, Romania | 38 | 13 | 6 |

South-East Europe

The South-East Europe Collective met in Srebrenica (Bosnia-Herzegovina) on 7 July.

The chosen date enabled members of the BBF partnership (Bosnia-Herzegovina/Burkina Faso/France) to take part and therefore enabled different levels to cross paths. Drivers from the Emmaus groups in Alençon and Grenoble, who had arrived the previous day with a lorry load of goods for ISF-Emmaus' social initiatives, also took part. Several collective participants also took part in the peace march that takes place every year from Tuzla to Srebrenica to commemorate the 1995 massacre. Several issues were addressed at the meeting, notably Emmaus Europe's policy areas for the following four years, communication between members via an online platform, and raising the awareness of EE and the groups.

Poland-Ukraine

The Poland-Ukraine Collective met in Lviv (Ukraine) on 26-7 March.

Just a few weeks before the local council elections in Ukraine, a meeting was arranged with the mayor of Lviv to stress the importance of Emmaus Oselya's work in the region. An exhibition of photos of members of the group was also officially opened at the town hall on the same day. The collective meeting focused on the issue of solidarity lorry loads and the problems that this programme sometimes encounters, as well as the EE regional assembly and the 2020-2024 policy areas.

Romania

The Romania Collective met in Satu Mare in Romania on 14-15 May 2019.

The meeting mainly focused on preparing for the regional assembly, with the groups making a contribution to the policy report. The meeting was also a chance to discuss the Romanian groups' news and talk about solidarity in the region, particularly the desire to set up a group in Bucharest. On the edge of the meeting, a meeting was held with representatives of Satu Mare council to discuss the vulnerable situation of the group's young people and the alternatives offered by the group.

SOLIDARITY LORRY LOADS

116 lorry loads of goods criss-crossed Europe in 2019, with 36 groups being involved in this practical form of solidarity which is very important for the movement.

These loads once again offered a very practical way of addressing the real economic inequality between different regions and the Emmaus groups in Europe. Apart from the actual solidarity, the lorry loads are a chance to share and redistribute wealth in the movement in order to work with the most excluded people, wherever they are.



Loading a lorry with donations for other groups is a chance to share an experience with others, in addition to donating goods: an opportunity for the groups and their members to meet and interact! A lorry being packed at Emmaus Cologne in Germany for the group in Lublin, Poland.

International container/transport meeting

An international containers/lorry loads meeting was held in Angoulême on 11-13 December 2019. Some 40 participants discussed the objectives, limitations and future of these two programmes (the international and European programmes). The idea was to discuss the coherence of the resources deployed and the end goals, and to suggest new ideas for improving the way we work, giving the programmes a fresh boost, and more effectively assessing and showcasing their impact. This major preparatory work will enable the movement's governing bodies to suggest developments over the coming years.

| Country | Group | Loads received | | Dispatching groups | |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|---------|--------------------|---------|
| | | Group | Country | Group | Country |
| BOSNIA HERZEGOVINA | ISF-Emmaus | 12 | 14 | 4 | 4 |
| | Nova Generacija | 2 | | 2 | |
| GEORGIA | Geo | 2 | 2 | 1 | 1 |
| LATVIA | Amis3 | 6 | 6 | 6 | 6 |
| LITHUANIA | MPFSC | 1 | 1 | 2 | 2 |
| POLAND | Brat Albert | 10 | 46 | 5 | 9 |
| | Lublin | 19 | | 7 | |
| | Rzeszów | 17 | | 6 | |
| ROMANIA | Iasi | 18 | 47 | 9 | 16 |
| | Satu Mare | 17 | | 8 | |
| | Targu Jiu | 12 | | 1 | |
| Total | | 116 | | 25 | |

■ YOUTH CAMPS

In 2019, 27 summer camps were held across Europe by the Emmaus groups. The camps had a variety of themes and projects: farming, health, support for elderly people, culture, migration, circular economy and reuse. In Belgium, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Spain, Finland, France, Italy and Romania, over 300 young and not-so-young people met and undertook Emmaus activities based on the movement's values. The summer camps are a high point in the host groups' year. The host groups say that camps are eagerly awaited by their members, and they are also an opportunity to share the values and alternatives championed every single day by Emmaus.



Travel, live together and share an experience - that's what the Emmaus summer camps are all about! Participants in one of the 2019 camps pictured with members of Péruwelz, Belgium.



The summer camps represent an opportunity for young people to learn more about the Emmaus movement. Here are the participants at one of our camp events held every year in Palermo, Italy.

2019 AT A GLANCE

■ OUR MOVEMENT GREW

We welcomed 13 new trial member groups and 19 new full members. Three groups closed down: Emmaus Haren in the Netherlands closed down, as did Emmaus Stuttgart in Germany, and Emmaus Quart Monde in Charleroi in Belgium.

■ Trial members:

- Label Emmaüs (France)
- Amis d'Emmaüs Ap (France)
- Emmaüs Lespinassière (France)
- Emmaüs Environnement 43 (France)
- Atelier Emmaüs (France)
- Emmaüs Roya (France)
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Pays de Vannes (France)
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Montauban (France)
- Emmaüs Geo (Georgia)
- Nasha Khata (Ukraine)
- Emmaüs Merseyside (UK)
- Emmaüs Palerme (Italy)
- TOMS (Croatia)

■ Full members:

UK:

- Emmaus Leicestershire & Rutland
- Emmaus Salford
- Emmaus Hull
- Emmaus South Wales
- Emmaus North East

France (simplified membership procedure):

- Val-de-Brie Emmaüs
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Étoile-sur-Rhône
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Alençon
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Thonon
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Chambéry
- Emmaüs Vêtements Chambéry
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Roumois
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Arles
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Cosnes-sur-Loire
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Longumeau
- Tri d'union Emmaüs
- EMRA (Emmaüs Mutualisation Rhône-Alpes)
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Saumur
- SOS Familles Emmaüs Bourg-en-Bresse

■ OUR GOVERNING BODIES MET

We held two Regional Council meetings, one immediately after the assembly, and we also arranged three Regional Executive meetings. The fourth executive meeting scheduled for 2019 had to be postponed to early January 2020 so that it fitted better with EI's schedule.

■ OUR HISTORY AND VALUES WERE CONVEYED

We held an Emmaus in all of its facets training course in Cologne with 16 participants from eight countries, including two trial members and one organisation wishing to join the movement.

■ A NEW CEO JOINED THE MOVEMENT

Eve Poulteau started work at the Emmaus Europe Secretariat in mid-January.

With 20 years of experience in international solidarity organisations and the French Parliament, including seven years as the CEO of a federation of organisations, Eve was enthusiastic about joining the Emmaus Movement.



Ève Poulteau, Déléguée générale d'Emmaüs Europe.



A NEW COUNTRY JOINS EMMAUS EUROPE: GEORGIA

■ Emmaus Geo works with families who are squatting in former soviet factories.

Giorgi Ghelagutashvili found out about Emmaus when he was working in France in the 2010s and he said to himself that this was exactly what was needed in the crisis situation in Georgia. The political crisis in the country has had a substantial human impact with a large number of displaced people from Abkhazia and South Ossetia taking refuge on the outskirts of the Georgian capital following the war with Russia in these borderlands in 2008. The crisis has also had a major economic impact which has led to many people losing their homes, as the son or father who was killed or injured in combat was no longer able to pay the full rent, with rents having become very high in Tbilisi.

Once back in Tbilisi, Giorgi started to make arrangements with a handful of friends to help these people who had fallen on hard times in the capital and the refugees, who had taken shelter in the abandoned Soviet-era industrial estates. He quickly got in touch with Emmaus Europe and started to collect clothing in order to set up an income-generating activity and make donations..

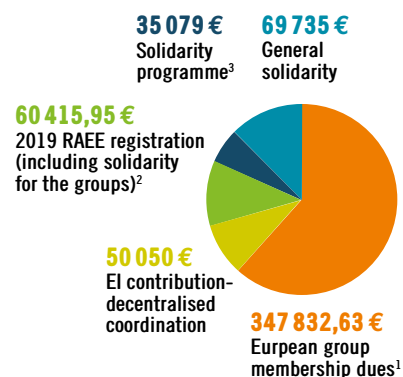
■ He received support from the French groups in Ornan and Annemasse (the mentor group for the trial membership period), which enabled his group to set up a small shop selling by the kilo and have a first community house for five women who had lost their homes.

■ Emmaus Geo became a trial member in March 2019 and now has 10 containers across the capital, which enables them to develop their income-generating activity, specifically with a sewing workshop which makes shopping bags from second-hand clothes. The workshop is staffed by women living in squats on the outskirts of the city.

FINANCIAL REPORT

In 2019, our total expenditure was €644,320 and our income was €667,487, making for a surplus of €23,167, which has been carried over. The full financial statement, as well as the Treasurer's and auditor's reports, are available on our website or upon request from the Emmaus Europe Secretariat.

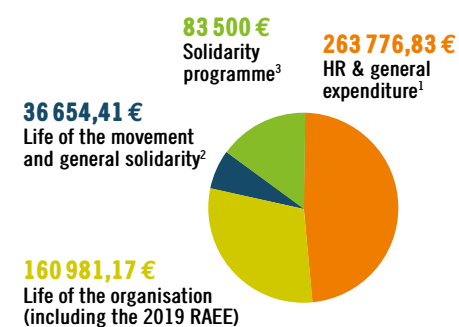
INCOME



EXPLANATION:

1. Includes the 2019 subscription fees and groups catching up on unpaid fees from previous years in order to participate in the Regional Assembly.
2. Participation fees paid by the groups and donations to enable other groups to participate in the Regional Assembly.
3. Donations received in addition to the solidarity programme

EXPENDITURE



EXPLANATION:

1. Costs of holding the Executive meetings, the Regional Council meetings and the Regional Assembly.
2. Meetings of the collectives + training sessions, events and monitoring of the groups.
3. Spending for 2019 including for projects started prior to 2019.



emmaus

EUROPE

ACTIVISTS FOR CHANGE

EMMAUS EUROPE
47, av. de la Résistance
93 100 Montreuil France
33 (0)1 41 58 25 70
emmaus-europe.org

Emmaus Europe is the decentralised organisation of Emmaus International in Europe