

## EURYPAA – FACTS, AIMS AND PURPOSES 2017-12-17

Young People's groups in Alcoholics Anonymous began appearing around 1945 in Los Angeles, CA, Cleveland, OH and Philadelphia, PA. Today, they can be found all across the world in countries like Sweden, England, Denmark, Germany, Iceland, Malta, Ukraine, Czech Republic, Lithuania and many more. These groups are in no way different from AA as a whole. They carry AA's vital, life-giving message and follow the well-known responsibility pledge of AA, "I am responsible. When anyone, anywhere, reaches out for help, I want the hand of AA always to be there. And for that, I am responsible."

EURYPAA was founded in 2010 as an annual celebration of sobriety in Alcoholics Anonymous with an emphasis on showing how young people can get and stay sober and be a vital part of AA as a whole. EURYPAA's primary purpose is to provide a setting where members of Alcoholics Anonymous can come together, attend workshops and panels and hear speakers who carry the vital message of the Big Book of Alcoholics Anonymous, The Twelve Traditions, the Twelve Concepts and, above all, AA's singleness of purpose. The EURYPAA program for the weekend of the convention should and will always reflect this.

EURYPAA is an open AA event, run by AA members for AA members and has no other affiliation. However, in the spirit of helpfulness, we do cooperate with the Alanon and Alateen family groups.

The number of young people suffering from alcoholism who turn to AA for help is growing. EURYPAA is and will remain committed to carrying AA's message of recovery to alcoholics of all ages. The 12 Traditions, 12 Concepts, Responsibility Pledge and The Three Legacies of AA -- Recovery, Unity & Service -- are the guiding foundations of EURYPAA, as an AA event, just as they are throughout all of AA.

AA members from across Europe and abroad regularly attend EURYPAA. In keeping with a desire to best serve the European region, the convention may be held in the following countries: Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Belarus, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Russia, San Marino, Scotland, Serbia, Slovakia Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Turkey and the United Kingdom.

We also want to add that the EURYPAA convention is open to ALL who suffer from alcoholism; we seek no separation from any part of AA. In the spirit of cooperation with all of AA, EURYPAA provides visible evidence that large numbers of young people are achieving a lasting and comfortable sobriety in Alcoholics Anonymous. EURYPAA will strive to cooperate with any AA area where the annual convention is held. We will also regularly contribute to the AA General Service Office, as well as to the area service structure in the local areas where the convention is held.

EURYPAA convention attendees are most often participants of the local service areas where the convention is held or has been held. They can often be found serving at general service offices or area service structures in the EURYPAA region. Newcomers and all members of AA are shown by people their own age that using AA principles in their daily lives and getting involved in AA service can have a significant and long-lasting impact on their sobriety. AA members who attend a EURYPAA convention

often return home better prepared to give & participate in all levels of AA service, including as young person's liaison officers at the intergroup, region and GSB level.

As further testament to the fact that Young People's events like EURYPAA are a part of AA as a whole, at the 1960 World AA Convention, Bill W. noted that the age of new members was much lower than when he and Dr Bob founded AA 25 years earlier. In a letter to the International Conference of Young People in AA, dated June 15, 1969, Bill wrote "... in recent years I have found nothing for greater inspiration than the knowledge that AA of tomorrow will be safe, and certainly magnificent, in the keeping of you who are the younger generation of AA today." Bill W's statement together with a 50+ year history of Young People in AA events across the world will comfort all that EURYPAA is and will continue to carry the life-giving message of Alcoholics Anonymous.