

Secretariat European, 72, Oakley Square, Londres, N.W.1

ES / 420. Gb.

28th June 1962

Carlotta von Pavel,  
c/o German Branch / Hamburg

Dear Carlotta,

As I announced at the Annual General Meeting of the German branch, and after formal approval by the International Committee, I am proposing to discuss plans for future East-West relations and exchanges during my round trip to Helsinki, Moscow, Warsaw and Berlin this summer.

While SCI policy in dealing with organisations of Eastern Europe in general has now developed along fairly well defined lines, and has been, on the whole, fully understood by these organisations despite unavoidable difficulties, work in the D.D.R. still encounters obstacles which are mainly caused by the well known political situation.

Before embarking into discussions with Mr. W. Rumpel of the F.D.J., I should very much like to have the views of the German branch on a few ideas, which I intend to use a framework for future possible collaboration with this or other organisations of the D.D.R.

The first objective would be to obtain that a few East-German volunteers took part in SCI services held in countries whose governments would accept to grant visas. The second and more ambitious aim would be the organisation of an East-West service in the D.D.R. through the channel of the FDJ but in direct relation with a rural or urban community which could present a convincingly useful project. This has been realised in Poland with moderate success in the past and could probably be done in the D.D.R., provided that the FDJ and the local authorities understand from the beginning that SCI will not accept to participate in what could be rightly or wrongly be interpreted as a political venture.

I should be very grateful if these ideas could be discussed by your committee whose constructive views would greatly help me in a rather difficult task. May I add that I shall be leaving London on July 26th, hoping that this comparatively short delay will leave you enough time to examine these matters. I plan to pass through Hamburg on my return from Berlin and I am looking forward to meeting you again then.

Yours sincerely,

Roger Briottet