

**S E R V I C E   C I V I L   I N T E R N A T I O N A L**  
**European Secretariat**

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EUROPE : East-West problems

30th ICM Working Paper nr. 10 b

Introduction : Scope and limits of this Paper. A report on East-West negotiations (ES / 553) was  
 ----- circularised in September. This paper therefore, while  
 mentioning again some important points of that report, will mainly deal with East-West activities in  
 1962 and new developments of the negotiations in the German Democratic Republic.

1. East-West Activities in 1962.

- a) East-West Workcamps. Four E/W work camps were organised during the summer, in France, Sweden (under responsibility of IAL)\*, USSR and Poland. According to previous arrangements, the offers of service from SCI volunteers (and volunteers from kindred organisations) for Soviet and Polish camps were centralised by the ES. The final selection as well as the appointment of leaders and the practical preparation of the camps were under the responsibility of the French branch.

USSR : Money and time were wasted by the French branch for obtaining visas. This is probably due more to inadequate organisation on the Soviet side than to unwillingness to collaborate. The camp itself can be considered as a success : better collaboration was achieved. The project itself (fruit picking and building) was more practical and the discussions were certainly more numerous and serious than in previous years - however, a number of criticism have been made and should be taken into account next year : insufficient preparation of SCI volunteers, camp too large (75 volunteers in all), too many discussions, not enough work done, etc., - nevertheless, the fact that all volunteers seem to think that this type of exchange should continue in the future, can be considered as a sign of success.

Poland : Many individual criticisms have been made of this camp but so far no official report has reached the ES and this is highly regrettable. It appears that the Vienna agreements regarding the number of volunteers were not respected; about 20 Yugoslav volunteers were accepted at the last minute, destroying the delicate balance between Western and Eastern volunteers.

France : From the purely E/W point of view, this camp was a failure - only a few volunteers from the East came to France. No Soviet volunteer was present. It may be that the detailed information for this camp was sent too late to the BITEJ and affiliated organisations. But on the whole, it is more likely that Socialist countries are still reluctant to send volunteers to the West.

In order to improve E/W camps in Europe next year it is suggested that the following steps be taken :

- ( i ) BITEJ should be informed that unless more volunteers are sent to SCI camps in Western Europe, the whole question of E/W exchange would have to be re-considered.
- ( ii ) Camps in Eastern Europe should be kept smaller and the Vienna agreements should be respected.
- ( iii ) Careful consideration should be given to the selection of SCI volunteers to E/W services. A short training period should precede the camps (this was tried this year on a limited scale).

- b) Seminar on Work Camps in Helsinki, July - August 1962. The complete report on this seminar, established by the Co-ordination Committee, was circularised in September together with my report (ES / 553). I shall only re-affirm here that such seminars which facilitate East-West exchange in general, should be organised again by the Co-ordination Committee.

2. East - West programme for next year

The following programme was agreed upon in Warsaw (please, see ES / 553 and Minutes of the Warsaw Meeting, CoCo No. 119) :

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\* This paper does not cover the I.A.L. East-West camp.

- a) In Europe : E/W camps in the USSR, Poland, France or Austria, Sweden (IAL). It was pointed out that the volunteers of the Freie Deutsche Jugend (FDJ) in the German Democratic Republic (G.D.R.) could take part in a camp in Austria. I have consequently asked the French branch if they would be willing to help the Austrian group to organise such a service in Austria. The Austrian group has just been consulted on this point.
- b) In Asia : An E/W camp will be organised in India under the joint responsibility of the AS / SCI - CYO - BITEJ. It is also hoped that the Japanese group will invite a few Soviet volunteers to one of their camps. It was agreed that the AS would take full responsibility for the preparation of these projects in Asia, while the ES would be kept informed in order to maintain unity of action in East-West relations.
- c) Project in the German Democratic Republic : In accordance with the decision (VI, a, iii) taken by the IC at its 29th meeting, the situation in the G.D.R. was carefully explored during the summer.
- ( i ) August 10th - 12th : Hamburg - talks with members of the German Committee.
  - ( ii ) August 15th : talks with Mr. Rumpel of the F.D.J., who welcomed collaboration with SCI and invited me to discuss a detailed project in Berlin.
  - ( iii ) August 17th : East Berlin : talks with various religious personalities on the opportunity of collaboration with the F.D.J. for an E/W camp in the G.D.R.
  - ( iv ) September 25th - 27th : Berlin - talks with the same personalities and negotiations with Mr. Rumpel of the F.D.J.

The various discussions with the members of the German Committee and with the religious organisations in East Berlin led me to think that SCI could collaborate with the F.D.J. in the organisation of a work camp in the G.D.R. providing that a suitable project could be found and that a non-committed organisation in the G.D.R. could participate in the organisation and the running of the project. It was equally clear that the religious organisations would welcome an SCI - FDJ project even if they were not able or allowed to collaborate in its participation. On this basis, my discussions with Mr. Rumpel were only half successful. The FDJ are prepared to accept all the usual conditions laid down by SCI for the E/W services, regarding the selection of the project, the proportion of volunteers and the co-leadership of the camp. On the other hand they are not willing to accept the collaboration of any other organisation of the G.D.R. On this point the answer is clear : in their eyes such organisations simply do not exist and I could not give names and details without risking to make the position of these organisations more difficult than it is. Notwithstanding this important reservation, the enclosed text was prepared by Mr. Rumpel and myself. It is clearly stated in this text that no action would be taken unless the IC approved the proposition.

In closing this chapter I should like to point out that, with its limitations, the proposed E/W in G.D.R. will be the first on this kind and that the FDJ has accepted far more liberal conditions from SCI than any other organisation in the past. It seems in the line of SCI to keep trying where others have failed providing that we demand from our partners strict observance of the rules agreed to by both parties. If the IC gives its approval to the project in the G.D.R. it will also have to decide which branch shall take the operational responsibility.

### 3. Financial implications of East-West Programme for 1963

It is doubtful whether the SFr. 3.000 allocated to East-West activities by the Development Fund Committee will be sufficient to cover the costs of the increased programme in 1963. Out of this sum, SFr. 700 have already been earmarked for the development of the work in Yugoslavia\*\*. It was recently suggested by Chris Hollaender that a special East-West Fund be established to cover the cost of such activities. This may well be the answer. But it would take some time to build up such Fund. In the meantime, the branches in charge of the execution of the programme might be asked to support part or the whole of the administrative costs.

5th October 1962

Roger Briottet

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\*\* For prospects of developments in Yugoslavia, see special report presented by Norway under "Matters of Special Significance to <European Branches".

Les 26 et 27 septembre 1962 a eu lieu à Berlin un entretien entre M. R. Briottet, Secrétaire Européen du Service Civil International et M. W. Rumpel, Chef du Département pour les Relations Internationales de la Freie Deutsche Jugend. Ils ont procédé à un échange de vues utile sur les buts de leurs deux organisations et sur la possibilité d'une collaboration concrète. Cet entretien s'est déroulé dans une atmosphère cordiale. En conclusion, les deux parties sont tombées d'accord pour organiser en 1963 conjointement un chantier Est-Ouest international en République Démocratique Allemande.

Pour la réalisation de ce chantier, les principes suivants ont été acceptés :

1. Le chantier sera organisé conjointement par la F.D.J. et le S.C.I. A cet effet, le S.C.I. désignera ultérieurement un représentant dont le rôle sera de collaborer à la préparation technique du chantier en R.D.A.
2. Le chantier devra réunir 45 volontaire dont 1/3 des pays de l'Est, 1/3 des pays de l'Ouest et 1/3 du pays hôte, c'est-à-dire la R.D.A. Le S.C.I. est chargé de recrutement des volontaires des pays de l'Ouest, le BITJ, en collaboration avec la F.D.J., du recrutement des Volontaires des pays de l'Est. Les volontaires de la R.D.A. seront recrutés par la F.D.J.
3. Le chantier sera dirigé conjointement par un responsable désigné par la F.D.J. et un responsable désigné par le S.C.I.

La F.D.J. fera son possible pour choisir un projet susceptible de permettre aux volontaires de réaliser un travail effectif de caractère social. Les représentants des deux organisations sont convaincus que ce chantier, en favorisant la compréhension mutuelle entre volontaires, contribuera à la paix.

Ces proposition seront présentées pour examen et ratification aux organes directeurs des deux organisations.

Sur la base de ce communiqué, il sera procédé à des échanges ultérieures pour définir les conditions pratiques de réalisation du projet mentionné.

Berlin, le 27 septembre 1962

signé W. Rumpel signé R. Briottet

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### K o m m u n i q u e

Am 26. und 27. September 1962 fand in Berlin eine gemeinsame Beratung zwischen Herrn M. R. Briottet, Sekretär des Internationalen Zivildienstes, und Herrn Werner Rumpel, Leiter der Abteilung Internationale Verbindungen im Zentralrat der Freien Deutschen Jugend, statt. Es wurde ein nützlicher Meinungsaustausch über die Ziele beider Organisationen und die Möglichkeiten einer konkreten Zusammenarbeit durchgeführt. Diese Aussprache verlief in einer herzlichen Atmosphäre. Beide Seiten kamen überein, im Jahr 1963 ein gemeinsames internationales "Ost-West"-Arbeitslager in der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik durchzuführen.

Für die Durchführung dieses Lagers wurden folgende Prinzipien vereinbart :

1. Das Arbeitslager wird gemeinsam von der Freien Deutschen Jugend und dem Service Civil International organisiert. Zu diesem Zweck benennt der SCI zu einem späteren Zeitpunkt einen Vertreter, dessen Aufgabe darin besteht, in der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik an der technischen Vorbereitung des Lagers mitzuarbeiten.
2. Das Arbeitslager soll 45 Freiwillige umfassen. Davon ein Drittel aus den Ländern des Ostens, ein Drittel aus den Ländern des Westens und ein Drittel aus dem Gastland, der Deutschen Demokratischen Republik. Der SCI übernimmt die Gewinnung der Freiwilligen in den westlichen Ländern und das BITEJ (Internationales Büro für Touristik und Jugendaustausch) in Zusammenarbeit mit der FDJ die Gewinnung von Freiwilligen aus den östlichen Ländern. Die Freiwilligen aus der DDR werden von der FDJ gewonnen.
3. Das Arbeitslager wird gemeinsam von je einem noch zu benennenden Vertreter der Freien Deutschen Jugend und des Internationalen Zivildienstes geleitet.

Die FDJ bemüht sich, ein solches Projekt auszuwählen, das eine wirksame soziale Arbeit gesellschaftlichen Charakters für die Freiwilligen ermöglicht. Die Vertreter beider Organisationen sind davon überzeugt, daß dieses Arbeitslager durch die Förderung der Verständigung unter den Freiwilligen zum Frieden beitragen wird.

Diese Vorschläge werden den leitenden Organen beider Organisationen zur Prüfung und Bestätigung vorgelegt.

Auf der Grundlage dieses Kommuniqués werden weitere Beratungen zur Festlegung der praktischen Bedingungen für die Verwirklichung des Projektes stattfinden.

Berlin, 27. September 1962

gez. M. R. Briottet  
Europa-Sekretär des  
Internationalen Zivildienstes

gez. Werner Rümpel  
Leiter der Abteilung  
Internationale Verbindungen  
im Zentralrat der FDJ

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