

3 Allée des Erables, Antony, (Seine)
23. 1. 1963

Hans Ulrich Smoltczyk,
IZD, Hamburg

Dear Hans Ulrich,

Your letter of the 5th has reached me as well as copies of the replies of Ralph and Chris. I am happy to have this opportunity to write to you, remembering your kind hospitality in Berlin some years ago, and being anxious not to lose ties with German friends of the old days when I used to go to Germany much more frequently than I can now.

Needles to say, I do not agree with all you write. Indeed there would be no point in replying if I did. I shall not be too lengthy, however, for I agree in almost all points fully with Ralph's reply, and Chris'. I entirely support Ralph in his comments on the proposed fine contribution from Berlin of DM 4.000 for India. I likewise agree with his remarks on the U. S. Peace Corps and C.Y.O. I would only like to add regarding the latter that I do think the I.C. has to face continuously a very difficult problem in all countries where youth activities are state-controlled, whether UdSSR, Tunisia, Egypt, etc., not only when negotiating for entry to such countries, but also when entry has been won. I do believe the I.C. is vigilant in this matter and remains faithful to its Constitution. I am convinced that our work in these countries is important since they are often key places to work for peace. I believe our work for reconciliation should take us to the DDR too, while I do not have my eyes shut to the agonising heart-searching this question provokes for West German friends.

I must say I was extremely surprised to read your assertion that the majority of I.C. members (for all but one are from West Europe) are "sehr active Sozialisten"! First of all, whatever they are in their private lives, I can't think of any instance where an I.C. member has put personal socialistic convictions before SCI interests. If they did so I do not think they would be re-elected. Secondly, I do in fact wonder whether any, perhaps one, member could be so described. (And if one, then your own Klaus certainly provides the counter-balance there!) It is quite a different matter if the majority of members believe that to be faithful to the basic aim of SCI — its work for reconciliation and peace — they must promote opportunities for better understanding between the Occidental and Communist worlds. Are you not yourself in sympathy with this outlook, as I always thought? I think it is also true to say that all I.C. members, some actively, others implicitly support and encourage our American group (at times hesitant about its own usefulness) to persevere and grow in strength, as a vital link in this chain of SCI work for peace.

Like Chris, I would tremendously welcome an opportunity to discuss face to face with you and other active German friends. At least I am sure that Alfred's work will bring him some day to Paris and on that occasion I shall count on seeing him. I.C. meetings, alas, are so loaded, that there is no time for personal discussions.

May I and by sending to you and your family best wishes for 1963. Likewise all good wishes for IZD for a successful AGM.

Yours sincerely,

Dorothy Guiborat

Cc. IC bur. / IS / IZD

I would much appreciate having a copy of Gertraud Hertling's duplicated report from - from Alfred? Or will Ralph have a batch?