



## **Resolution on SCI International Archives**

This resolution has been adopted at 62<sup>nd</sup> ICM in Kiljava, Finland (5.-8.December 2002)

SCI looks back on a long history. This is not so much known neither by SCI activists nor by historians but at least the opportunity exists to find out more about it through the existence of the SCI International Archives. Documents of all parts of the movement are made accessible there through the continuous collecting and filing done according to the proper art of archiving. The IA thus provides an easy and controlled access to documents of larger interest (in contrast to an office) and functions at the same time as a documentation centre for research.

Branches and activists are not always fully aware of the importance of properly filing documents, publications, photos and any other media that conserve our history. Due to the chronic lack of resources, both human and financially, archives are often kept in improper conditions (i.e. humid basements, unsorted piles of paper, insufficient labelled files, etc.). The access of activists and historians to these documents is, in such conditions, very minimal. This impedes that SCI reveals itself as an innovative organisation (e.g. when presenting ourselves to possible funders and to peace activists). It may also hide interesting aspects of our history that could contribute to the strategic issues as outlined by the recent ICMs.

Currently, the International Archives of SCI are hosted, free of charge, in the town library of La Chaux-de-Fonds (Switzerland) and conserve 60 meters of files, photos and other media of our 80 years of history. They have been built-up by the former SCI International Secretary Ralph Hegnauer starting with mid-seventies. Currently Philipp Rodriguez (SCI-CH) is co-ordinating the archives

It is a privilege for SCI, compared to other organisations, to have such an extended documentation of its origins, past projects and developments. In addition, the town library of La Chaux-de-Fonds, offers good conditions for storage and easy access for those interested.

Thanks to the legacy of Ralph Hegnauer the maintaining and enlargement of the International Archives are covered for several years (accounts are available at the International Secretariat in Antwerpen).

Since 2001 the International Archives are also present on the Internet, thanks to the web site developed by Philipp Rodriguez ([www.sciint.org/archives](http://www.sciint.org/archives)).

In acknowledgement of the importance of preserving and documenting the history of our movement the International Executive Committee therefore proposes the following resolution to the ICM 2002:

### **Resolution**

- that SCI International Archives (SCI IA) are recognised as the official archives of the international co-ordination of SCI
- that SCI branches and groups are encouraged to properly archive their files of their administration & activities
- that SCI branches and groups are encouraged to give access to their files which are older than 10 years for historical, sociological, pedagogical research
- that SCI branches and groups are recommended to co-operate with library or archives on archiving matters
- that SCI branches and groups should send regularly newsletters, printed matters and other relevant documents to the International Secretariat in Antwerpen or to SCI International Archives