

NOTES

Finnish Anna Lindh Network Meeting 21 November 4:00-6:00PM

in Cafe Köket, Aleksanterinkatu 28, 00170 FI-Helsinki

Essi Ikonen (Agricola), Sini Piippo (CIMO), Hanna Ingman (Mythos), Ari Rusila, Saara Ruokonen (Friends of Morocco), Mikko Lehikoinen (LIO), Linda Jussila (WISE), Rauhaliitto (Laura Lodenius), Ilari Rantakari (FOKUS), Maarit Uber (Ulkomaantoimittajayhdistys), Anna-Maria Tukianen (Ulkomaantoimittajayhdistys), Timo Virtala (Loviisan rauhanfoorumi), Riitta Salin (Moniheli), Riitta Ketokoski-Rexen, Jennifer Dahlbäck, Sirkku Kivistö, Ceyda Berk-Söderblom (MiklagardArts), Martin Ubani (UEF), Juhani Välimäki (MFA), Risto Veltheim, Ritva Saarikettu (Villa Elba),

Before the meeting (4.00-4.15PM) there was an information package on Anna Lindh Foundation and the National Network. The actual meeting started 4.15.

1. The future of the coordination

FIME will continue to coordinate the national Network until the end of year 2017. There will be a tender process within the Foreign Ministry for the coordination from year 2018 onwards.

2. Updating the Network Rules

The Network Coordinators propose following changes to be made in the rules:

- 1) that for-profit organisations are to be approved as eligible member candidates.
 - 2) the establishment of a steering group to support the coordination
 - 3) reducing the amount of physical meetings from at least 2 to at least 1 per year but allowing additional online meetings (not mandatory)
- - steering group supported; minimum of 3 others, representatives, commitment, rotation, 2 yrs
 - Ohjausryhmään voi mielellään ehdottaa jäseniä (myös itseään) perusteluineen jo ennen kokousta

The participants supported the updates.

3. Project presentation of a member

- Linda Jussila from WISE presented their Kanavat auki project

4. News from the international Anna Lindh Foundation

The outcomes of the Anna Lindh Forum in Malta were shared and discussed. The main result seems to be the international recognition and endorsement of the Anna Lindh Foundation and intercultural dialogue by other actors and institutions in the region. In the outcomes, main actors and themes were identified and they can be read here: <http://www.annalindhfoundation.org/forum2016/outcomes>. However, the Finnish participants in the Forum criticized the methodologies of the Forum quite a lot, most of all the insufficient arenas for interaction it provided.

5. Activities in 2017

5.1. Launching the project Young Mediterranean Voices in Finland in 2017

5.2. Nordic-Baltic cooperation

- Training on tackling hate speech to be arranged in Stockholm – more information will follow
- Joint Nordic-Baltic Network meeting will probably be held in Helsinki – who wants to cooperate with this? What and how should we do it?

Comments and ideas from the members to the Action Plan 2017:

- debate club between youth orchestras of the Southern countries and Finland (music as common medium) (Ceyda Berk-Söderblom)
- EMMA is interested in the South and could be a good partner that should not be forgotten just because it is in Espoo
- Suomi100 events; many members are having them – collaboration? (Riitta Salin)
- arranging another Arabic course led by native speakers (on beginners' level) (Ira Apter)
- seminars on positive developments in some countries or thematic seminars/ positive news (Ilari)
- ALF has challenges with visibility & co-ownership (Arab countries & some northern members) & issue of Palestine -> high level visits from Anna Lindh Foundation (President Guigou, Executive Director Atallah) to Finland would hence be recommended (mentioned by several people)
- organizing something on media and visual culture, for instance creating a platform for people to publish pictures of what and how their own religion looks like to themselves? (Essi Ikonen)
- it would be good to be more aware of what other members are doing in Finland, preferably in advance
 - ➔ the coordinators reply: please publish in the ALF Finnish Network group <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1489716827959084/> and let the coordinators also know about your future activities

6. Other issues

- The member survey is coming up
- Reconfirmation of the membership is still ongoing. If you want to update your public member page in www.annalindhfoundation.org please approach Suvi Laakso (firstname.lastname@fime.fi)

The meeting was closed at 6.05.