



ERA EWV FERP

**50th General Meeting
19 October 2019**

Meeting documents



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Agenda

ERA General Meeting, the 19 October 2019, at 9.00 a.m.

1	Opening and welcome
2	Approval of the Minutes of the General Meeting in Echternach 2018
3	President's annual report
4	Finances 2018
5	Auditor's annual report
6	Approval of the Presidium's activities
7	Election of the 1 st vice-president, the 3 rd vice-president, the 2 nd assessor
8a	Approval of new member organisations
8b	Exclusions of member organisations
9	Strategy and plans for coming years
10	Budget 2019 - 2020
11	ERA Foundation
12	EURORANDO 2021
13	Proposals
14	Information about the General Meeting 2020 in Girona, Catalonia, Spain
15	Location and dates of the General Meetings in 2021, 2022 and 2023
16	Any other business
17	Closing speech

2.

Minutes of the General Meeting 2018 in Echternach

www.era-ewv-ferp.com/era/era-conferences/

3.

President's (Presidium's) annual report

As I mentioned last year at the Conference in Echternach, this is more the Presidium's Report as it presents the collective work of the Presidium, adviser and ERA officer. As we decided at the first meeting of this composition that we shall have three meetings between two General Meetings, we had two meetings from our last Report: one in St. Johann (Tirol, Austria) and one in Bremen (Germany). The third one will be in Bad Urach just before the ERA Conference. What we have done in the meantime is presented in this Report.

1. PARTNERS

Number of the partners is growing slowly, but growing up. For the existing partners whose contracts are valid or expired, were continued in the meantime and some of their financial support was improved with better conditions for us. The list of our „old“ partners is:

- **Deutscher Wanderverband Service GmbH (DWS)** – with whom we have really very good cooperation and have had a support for a long period
- **Traildino**
- **Kompass-Karten GmbH** – with our contract expiring at the end of 2019, we made a new one for 2019 and 2020. They became our GENERAL PARTNER. Due to it, Kompass printed the commemorative book, and ERA's advertising logo and promoting text will be on printed issues of Kompass.
- **Tenerife Walking Festival (TWF)**
- **Gran Canaria Walking Festival (GCWF)**
- **EUFED – European Union Federation of Youth Hostel Associations**

Our new partner since the last Conference is:

- **Tirol Werbung GmbH** which will organize for 3 years (2020, 2021 & 2023) **European Winter Walking Days**

And in front of signing contracts we are with:

- **European network of Outdoor Sport (ENOS)**
- **Tourist Manifesto for Growth&Jobs** (stakeholders will call on European Parliament and EU Commission to move towards an integrated European tourism policy).
- **European Union of Mountaineering Associations (EUMA)**
- **World Trails Network (WTN)**

In near future, potential partner can be:

- **Walking Festival Val d'Aran**

2. PROJECTS

- A. Last year mentioned project **GINGER II** where we could be observers, this was not accepted.
- B. The results of the project **GOOD GOVERNANCE IN SPORT**, where we participated, will be published in 2020.

- C. EUMA applied with the project **IMPROVEMENT OF CONDITIONS FOR CLIMBING AND MOUNTAINEERING SPORTS** in the programmes for **ERASMUS+**. ERA will be the partner and responsible (will cover) Hiking trails. Project is focused on soft skills and not the structure. Results will be a common database of huts, trails and climbing areas (plus map), analysis of recommendations... Results of tender are expected to be announced in late 2019.
- D. The Presidium considered but still did not decide to apply for a project in the Programme **“EUROPE FOR CITIZENS”**, which is under the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA).

As you can see, we were and will be very active in this field. We are in front of contract with a lobby person in Brussels - Viktorija Molnár with whom we will try to approach and get some EU funds and grants from our field of activities. That means, we need ERA's experts and volunteers for these actions. If you have such people, please, show us and they will be welcome!

3. MEMBER ORGANISATIONS

In August 2018, we had 58 MOs from 33 countries and this year, 2019 there are 63 organisations in 34 countries. We have made a list of European states where we do not have any members and will try to find our possible members.

Presidium members worked actively to renew or make closer contacts with our MOs with which we have weak connections. With a proactive policy, the number of organisations which owe a membership fee is very much reduced.

4. WORKING GROUPS

A lot of our activities is done through the Working Groups (WG). Sometimes these WGs consist of only one or two persons, and sometimes they really are groups.

- **Leading Quality Trails - Best of Europe (LQT – BE):** The number of trails is slowly growing and from last year when it was 14, today we have 16. Very near to get this label in this year are 3 additional trails.
- **Leading Quality Day Walk – Best of Europe (LQDW – BE):** The group (which consists of ERA & DWS members) has got homework to produce a new ERA label, conditions and rules for getting it are in two years, that means to end this task in 2020.
- **Leading Quality Region – Best of Europe (LQR – BE):** This group (also consists of ERA & DWS members) has 3 years to try to produce the third ERA label in this series of European best leading quality trails. The term is to 2021.
- **Walk Leaders:** The response of our member organisations (MOs) is weak. Two new interests for this programme we have are from Bulgaria and Portugal.
- **E-paths coordinating group:** In March this year, the group started to work in Tariffa in Andalusia (Spain). The second meeting was in June in Munich. The main goal of this group is to dominate E-paths and manage them with actual data. The first meetings were designed to gather the knowledge of the actual ERA and situation about E-paths. The route to reach the goals was: establishing subgroups for each E-path, to improve data on ERA website, Wikipedia and Open Street Map and to coordinate with Traildino and other sources. The visibility of E-path can't be without good promotion. The first step is done by separate website for E-paths. Further plans are booklets for each E-paths with relevant country information as well as to produce in 2021 a book for 50th anniversary of E-paths.





- **ERA archive:** Rolf Ebert had done a huge job for ERA. He gathered all possible documentation for the ERA archive, as it was stored in several locations, and also in private archives. Beside it, he made a substrata history of activities about E-paths from the beginning up to now.
- **50th ERA Jubilee:** The special Commemorative book with 120 pages in three languages is produced. Its presentation will be during the Know-How session in front of this General Meeting. The new revised map of E-paths with locations of Youth hostels in the corridors of E-paths (for sport and economic accommodation) is a part of the Commemorative book and is also available separately. These two printed issues have been done due to great cooperation with Kompass-Karten. Special logo for the 50th anniversary has been produced. All our members can use it during this year. ERA owe a great deal of gratitude to Schwäbischer Albverein with its president Dr. Hans-Ulrich Rauchfuss and Reinhard Wolf, Annette Schramm and Heidi Müller for their huge efforts to organise the conference in Bad Urach and the celebration in Nägelehaus at Raichberg where the Plaque to the 50th anniversary will be unveiled.
- **New proposal: WG for competition activities:** After a new proposal from Armand Ducornet – Aqua Walking, the Presidium decided to present at GM the idea of a WG and ask if MOs organise some competitive sport, which can be offered to other MOs or what else might be interesting for ERA members to be accepted and promoted by ERA (for example: Alpine March or Team Orientation).

5. PR & MARKETING

As we said last year, ERA itself is not visible enough and known in the European culture, sport and everyday life and we decided to improve our website, newsletters and also to use more social media.

Website – Beside our existing webpage www.era-ewv-ferp.com, (which is primarily intended for ERA MOs use) we created a new ERA promotion site www.era-ewv-ferp.org (for public use). This second one is done to promote ERA's main products: E-paths and LQT – BE mainly for users, not for MOs. It should show: "E-paths connect Europe" and "LQT are the best walking trails in Europe". The second website template was sent to a professional company (Peytz company) to check it and to make a review with suggestions, with which we have improved it. This website starts to be recognised and linked from the outside outdoor websites.

Newsletters – with the end of 2018, we stopped to public them 4x/year. Using the Mailchimp tool we send our Newsletter on-line when ever we have enough news. In 2019, 4 numbers of the Newsletter were already issued. The newsletter is also shown on Facebook. Again, we invite all MOs to inform us about their important jubilees, events or other activities to be published. We recommend that national organisations distribute ERA's Newsletter to its individual members or post them on their websites.

Social media - ERA has Facebook (FB), Instagram and Twitter accounts.

ERA uses **Facebook page** to announce and promote ERA's products (as E-paths, LQT, Walk Leaders and different events). At last year's Conference we published that there were 309 followers and in July this year the number was 699 followers and reach 9,300 persons per month. Last year we formed **Facebook group** which supports communication among members and the number in the group is now 69.

Twitter – A Twitter account is important in professional life, using short information. It is not as popular as FB, but ERA has some followers too.

Instagram - At times, ERA posts photos on Instagram and now we have 90 followers.

We are not satisfied with the number of followers, but their number is growing slowly, but growing. These are important channels in the modern world and we have to care about them.

6. ERA STRATEGY- ERA MVVS (Mission, Vision, Values, Strategy)

After the last Conference, the Presidium took all the comments and suggestions and incorporated them in the strategy. Some of these discussions refers to the plans (strategy developments) and with Presidium's proposals. It will be present at the General Meeting this year and taken for an approval by the General Meeting.

Working on further development of the strategy, the Presidium has recognised that our existing Constitution (Statute) should be changed in some parts.

7. EURORANDO

At the last day foreseen for proposals for ER 2021, arrived a proposal from Siebenbürgischer Karpatenverein - SKV (Romania) applied by the host in Sibiu. After consideration of the proposal, the Presidium perceived some lacks. The correspondence between ERA and SKV was intensive, 2 visits were made on the spot, meetings with the town and regional bodies were done, but up to the moment of writing this Report we still have no written confirmation of the main obligations for the event organisation. Everybody (SKV, City of Sibiu, Region of Sibiu, Tourist office of Sibiu...) is willing to organise it, but there is no signatures and firm budget proposals. We hope that it will still be in time and that we shall have Eurorando in 2021. New visit is proposed to be done in August/September and a final decision will be announced in Bad Urach.

8. ERA OFFICE IN PRAGUE

Due to different occasions (primarily for more office space) the Presidium decided to move to another office. ERA has used for nearly 2 decades the room in KČT seat in Prague, which was regularly paid, used the staff (one person) of KČT, also regularly paid for our purposes, but our activities are evidently developed, the archive is gathered in Prague, and new documentation is growing. Intention of getting EU or any other projects will require an additional staff, stabilizing and slightly increasing revenue, Presidium wishing to go to meet potential problems decided to find a new location. Since the 1st September our new address is:

European Ramblers Association (ERA)
Prusíkova 2577
CZ - 155 00 Praha 5

With the new space (nearly double the existing space) we wish to induce new energy and more successful and efficient ERA work. With Jana Harnochová, we have a good base. From now, she will be working fully on ERA matters, without any connection to the KCT office.

Here is a moment for all of us to express great thanks to KČT for their support and hosting for so many years!



9. OTHER EVENTS

There were several events where ERA has been present and were not mentioned in this Report yet. Beside presence, now regularly, on European Week of Sport activities, EU Sport Forums, as well as on ITB in Berlin and Deutscher Wander Tag, we have been also at:

- Andros on Foot Festival
- Grand Canaria Walking Festival
- Tenerife Walking Festival
- Val d'Aran Walking Festival

and:

- Annual meeting of EUFED in Stockholm
- Tourist Showcase in Brussels'

It's worth promoting that ERA presented the resolution "Access to Nature" at the Conference on the European Landscape Convention in the Council of Europe in Strasbourg.

At last, I want to thank you all, members of Presidium, Jana, member organisations and to all of you who personally helped and supported us in any way.

Boris M. Mičić
ERA President
20 July 2019





4.

Financial Statement 2018

Receipts (€)	2017	Budget 2018	2018
Membership fee	30 580	30 000	33 580
ERA Foundation	1 100	950	1 180
Fahrbach Foundation	200	200	800
Income Partnership	8 500	8 500	6 000
Special donation from DWV, FIE	3 000	3 000	3 000
Marketing and projects	3 745	2 700	3 525
Total	47 125	45 350	48 085
Payments (€)	2017	Budget 2018	2018
Presidium and working groups	12 650	14 000	15 357
Travelling president	4 104	4 000	2 704
<i>Administration:</i>			
Staff cost	14 164	17 500	16 884
Travelling expences staff	1 359	1 400	1 553
Print, post, phone, homepage	1 836	1 800	1 262
Rent	2 921	3 300	3 038
Translation cost	1 788	1 700	2 542
Other cost	920	450	900
Marketing and projects	3 110	6 000	4 160
Exchange costs/Charge/Commision	224	250	324
Total	43 076	50 400	48 724
Status:	4 049	-5 050	-639
Total Funds Brought Forward	71 516	75 565	75 565
Net receipts (deficit) for the year	4 049	-5 050	-639
Total Funds Carried Forward	75 565	70 515	74 926



Development of the financial year 2018

Position at 1. 1. 2018	75 565
Receipts 2018	<u>48 085</u>
	123 650
Payments 2018	48 724
As at 31. 12. 2018	74 926
Creditor/debtor	10 018
	84 944

Cash & cash at bank at 31. 12. 2018

Cash - Office	837
Cash - President	0
Sparkonto Commerzbank Kassel	6 778
Commerzbank Kassel	77 329
	84 944

ERA - Financial Report for year ending 31st December 2018

The final status of 2018 ended with an official deficit of € -639, thanks to the payment discipline of the member organisations. Thanks also to our sponsors and the special donation of some members – namely Deutscher Wanderverband and Federazione Italiana Escursionismo. We are very grateful to you all. On the other hand, some payments couldn't be carried out in 2018, but have been paid in 2019. Therefore, we show the line of "Creditor/Debtor", together over € 10,000. The travel fees for the president are very exceptional (in total € 2,700) here, because it took 9 months to get the credit card from the Commerzbank in the new name of the ERA president and the ERA treasurer, who could use it for travel expenditures. First in January 2019 the money could be withdrawn and included in the bookkeeping.

The CZK (Czech crown) exchange rate hasn't change very much, so the expenditures on staff costs and rent are still stable and better then expected.

Translation costs are slowly rising, but we have managed to balance the total costs.

Other costs include a smart phone for the ERA office and the fees connected with the registration of the new presidium to the Amtsgericht Stuttgart, to the Commerzbank and to present the finances for VAT duties to the German Inland Revenue.

Thank you to Dr. Michael Ermrich, the ERA auditor, for controlling and approving our Finances 2018.

Joep Naber
 ERA Treasurer
 July 2019

5.

Auditor's annual report for the year ending 31st December 2018

The audit of the funds of the European Ramblers Association (ERA) took place on 6 July 2019 in the Hotel Oversum Ressornt Vital, Am Kurpark 6, 59955 Winterberg (D). The audit was attended by the ERA President Boris Mičić, the ERA 1st vice-president Aloys Steppuhn and the ERA employee, Jana Harnochová.

Accounting documents and financial records were randomly checked. They were prepared correctly and were transparent. The accounting procedures were clearly visible and were in exemplary order. The correctly assembled bank statements were fully available. In the financial report 2018 can be found the following positions:

- The total receipts in the reported year amounted to € 48,085.00 (2017: € 47,124.50, 2016: € 43,580.00)
- The total payments in the reported year amounted to € 48,723.74 (2017: € 43,075.76, 2016: € 44,635.00)

The receipts and payments led to a negative amounting to € -638.74 in the year 2018 (2017: € 4,048.74).

Due to this the total amount of cash and bank funds decreased from € 75,564.92 on 31 December 2017 to € 74,926.18 on 31 December 2018. The financial situation of the ERA continues to be classified as stable. The negative result of 2018 was significantly reduced compared to the budget estimate (€ -4,050.00) with € -638.74 due to revenue and shortfalls.

Overall it can be confirmed that the ERA's financial situation in the year 2018 is at a satisfactory level. I would like to thank the former President Mrs. Nielsen, the new President Boris Mičić, the Presidium and Mrs. Harnochová for the good work they do. As I cannot be present myself at the meeting, I ask the representative of the DWV to replace me to submit the approval of the Presidium's activities.

Winterberg, on 6 July 2019

Auditor Dr. Michael Ermrich,
Head Treasurer
Deutscher Wanderverband

7.

Election of the 1st vice-president, 3rd vice-president, 2nd assessor

§ 9 Voting and Elections

§ 9.2.

The Presidium's period of office is 4 years. However, it shall remain in office until the next election. Every two years, half of the Presidium shall resign; in the first period the 1st and 3rd Vice-president and half the Assessor retire if more than one Assessor is elected, in the second half of the election period the President, the 2nd Vice-president, Treasurer and the other applicable Assessors retire.

§ 12 Presidium

§ 12.1. *The Association's Presidium consists of the President, 3 Vice-presidents, (Nos 1, 2 and 3) the Treasurer and up to 4 Assessors (Nos 1, 2, 3 and 4).*

§ 12.2. *No country may be represented in the Presidium by more than one person.*

			Elected
President	Boris Mičić	Planinarski Savez Srbije (RS)	2017-21
1 st Vice-president	Aloys Steppuhn	Deutscher Wanderverband (D)	2015-19
2 nd Vice-president	Armand Ducornet	Fédération Française de la Randonnée Pédestre (F)	2017-21
3 rd Vice-president	Domenico Pandolfo	Federazione Italiana Escursionismo (I)	2015-19
Treasurer	Joep Naber	Wandelnet (NL)	2017-21
1 st Assessor	Steen Kobberø-Hansen	Dansk Vandrelaug (DK)	2017-21

Candidates:

1st vice-president: Gerhard Ermischer, Deutscher Wanderverband (D)

3rd vice-president: Domenico Pandolfo, Federazione Italiana Escursionismo (I)

2nd assessor: Sandra Bertholet,

Office régionale du Tourisme – Mullerthal – Petite Suisse Luxembourgeoise (L)



Deutscher Wanderverband · Kleine Rosenstraße 1-3 · 34117 Kassel

Europäische Wandervereinigung e.V.
Herrn Präsident Boris Micic
c/o Klub der tschechischen Touristen
P.O.Box 37
CZ-110 05 Praha 1

Tschechien

Deutscher Wanderverband

Der Präsident

Zeichen setzen



130 Jahre
engagiert
für Wanderwege

Deutscher Wanderverband

www.zeichen-setzen-pro-ehrenamt.de



**Antrag des Verbandes Deutscher Gebirgs- und Wandervereine e.V.
an die Mitgliederversammlung der Europäischen Wandervereinigung
zum 19. Oktober 2019 in Bad Urach / Deutschland**

Der Verband Deutscher Gebirgs- und Wandervereine e.V. (kurz: Deutscher Wanderverband) nominiert für die Wahl des 1. Vizepräsidenten in das Präsidium der Europäischen Wandervereinigung

Herrn Dr. Gerhard Ermischer.

Herr Dr. Gerhard Ermischer, geb. 28.03.1963 in Salzburg, ist seit 2008 Präsident des Wanderverbandes Bayern und wird bei erfolgreicher Wahl zum kooptierten Mitglied in den Vorstand des Deutschen Wanderverbandes hinzugewählt.

Dr. Gerhard Ermischer ist einerseits über den Landesverband Bayern, andererseits auch in seiner vorherigen Funktion als Kulturwart des Spessartbundes seit vielen Jahren regelmäßig und eng in die Arbeit des Deutschen Wanderverbandes eingebunden. Hauptamtlich ist der promovierte Archäologe und Historiker Leiter des Archäologischen Spessartprojekt (ASP) e.V. - Institut an der Universität Würzburg. Schwerpunkt seiner Arbeit sind die „Europäischen Kulturwege im Spessart“. In seiner Funktion als Vorsitzender des ASP, ist er seit 2017 beratendes Mitglied im Europarat in Straßburg.

Dr. Gerhard Ermischer war langjährig Vorsitzender des Spessartbundes, welcher Mitglied in der EWV ist. Er unterstützt und fördert die EWV-Angelegenheiten und wird sich für den weiterhin starken Dialog zwischen dem Deutschen Wanderverband und der Europäischen Wandervereinigung im Sinne der Europäischen Wandervereinigung einsetzen.

Der Deutsche Wanderverband nominiert mit Vorstandsbeschluss vom 4. Juli 2019 Herrn Dr. Gerhard Ermischer für die Wahl des 1. Vizepräsidenten der Europäischen Wandervereinigung in Bad Urach/Deutschland als offiziellen Kandidaten.

Für weitere Auskünfte stehen der Unterzeichner und der Bewerber zur Verfügung.
Mit freundlichen Grüßen



Dr. Hans-Ulrich Rauchfuß
Präsident

18. Juli 2019

Deutscher Wanderverband
Kleine Rosenstraße 1-3
34117 Kassel
Telefon 05 61/9 38 73-0
Telefax 05 61/9 38 73-10
info@wanderverband.de
www.wanderverband.de

Bankverbindung:
Volksbank Odenwald eG
Konto 1 805 681 (BLZ 508 635 13)

IBAN:
DE10 5086 3513 0001 8056 81
BIC:
GENODE33MIC



Verband Deutscher Gebirgs-
und Wandervereine e.V.
kurz: Deutscher Wanderverband



FEDERAZIONE ITALIANA ESCURSIONISMO

*Ente Morale fondato nel 1946 - Decreto del Presidente della Repubblica 29 novembre 1971 n. 1152
Associazione di Protezione Ambientale - Decreto Ministero dell'Ambiente del Territorio e della Tutela del Mare n.
224 del 23 maggio 2018*

CONSIGLIO FEDERALE

Genova, August 09, 2019

Dear President Boris Micic,

The Federazione Italiana Escursionismo (FIE) is honored to present one more time the candidacy of Domenico Pandolfo for the position of 3rd Vice President of the ERA Presidium.

This opportunity would be a significant recognition for the FIE and its representative for all that has done in recent years. It would represent a great incentive to contribute, in an evermore-convincing way, to growth of the ERA.

Yours sincerely,

FIE's Federal Secretary

Giovanni Duglio


Federazione Italiana Escursionismo

Via Imperiale 14 - 16143 Genova
Codice Fiscale: 80090620016 Partita IVA 03645560107
Tel. 010 3515736 - Fax: 010 9750620 - email: info@fieitalia.it posta certificata: fie@pec.fieitalia.it



REGION MULLERTHAL
Petite Suisse
Luxembourgeoise

ERA-EWV-FERP

Monsieur Boris Micic, Président
c/o Klub českých turistů
P.O. Box 37
110 05 Praha 1
Czech Republic

Objets : Candidature pour le poste d'assesseur au sein du comité de la Fédération Européenne de Randonnée Pédestre

Echternach, 9 mai 2019

Monsieur le Président,

En cette date mémorable de la journée de l'Europe, nous nous réjouissons de vous soumettre par la présente la candidature de Sandra Bertholet, Gestionnaire de l'Office régional du Tourisme Région Mullerthal – Petite Suisse Luxembourgeoise asbl pour le comité de la Fédération européenne de Randonnée Pédestre.

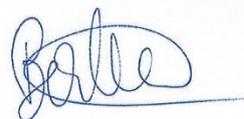
Depuis 2014, où notre chemin de randonnée phare « Mullerthal Trail » a été labellisé pour la première fois par la FERP avec le « Leading Quality Trails – Best of Europe » Award, nous collaborons étroitement avec FERP. L'organisation de la 49e conférence annuelle en 2018 à Echternach a intensifié notre motivation de renforcer notre engagement en faveur de la cause de la randonnée en Europe.

Nous vous joignons en annexe le Curriculum Vitae de Madame Bertholet.

En espérant pouvoir compter sur une réponse favorable à la candidature de Madame Sandra Bertholet, veuillez agréer, Monsieur le Président, l'expression de notre parfaite considération.



Marc Diederich
Président



Sandra Bertholet
Gestionnaire

Annexe : Curriculum Vitae

Office Régional du Tourisme Région Mullerthal - Petite Suisse Luxembourgeoise
B.P. 152 | L-6402 Echternach // T (+352) 72 04 57-1 | F (+352) 72 75 24 // info@mullerthal.lu
CCPLLULL: IBAN LU73 1111 2571 9649 0000 // R.C.S. Luxembourg F 7474

www.mullerthal.lu // www.mullerthal-trail.lu

8a.

Approval of new member organisations

Romanian Alpine Club, RO

* the organisation has applied, but no response until now after our information that they can be approved

E-mail: 23.11.2018, 13:13

contact@clubulalpinroman.net:

We are the Romanian Alpine Club.

Romanian Alpine Club is a non-profit organisation at national level in Romania having as main goal to encourage, develop and support mountaineering and climbing in this country. To fulfill our goals we organize training programs, seminars, workshops, festivals and meetings bringing together the mountaineering community and help the young generation to have a responsible approach towards the mountain environment. The Romanian Alpine Club is proud to be member of UIAA (Union International des Associations d'Alpinisme) and EUMA (European Union of Mountaineering Associations).

Name: The Romanian Alpine Club

Headquarters: Bucharest, Bd. Regina Elisabeta, no.35,ap.7, sect. 5

Postal Code: 032451

Official web url: www.clubulalpinroman.net

Official email address: contact@clubulalpinroman.net

board members:

president:

Alexandru Paun

vicepresidents:

Prundeanu Mihnea Radu

Sardan Daniel

general secretary:

Suman Mircea

board members:

Bazgan Monica

Lazar Claudiu

Manea Cezar

Miu Costin

Pintilie Tiberiu

We are looking forward to hearing from you and building up partnerships in order to encourage, develop and support the practice of any recreational forms of mountain activities.

Fond regards,

Tiberiu Pintilie-member of the CAR Board

International Aqua Walking – Longe Côte International, F



4 septembre 2019

Mister ERA president,
members of all ERA presidium

IAW (International Aqua Walking) as a French 1901 law association affiliated to the FFRANDONNEE (n°G09872) and created in 2015, amended its statutes in april 2019 to become **International Aqua Walking - Longe Côte International, and expresses the wish to become a member of ERA.**

With its experience at the highest level, and in agreement with three federations (FFRANDONNEE, FIE and FEEC), with the CNOSF (French Olympic Committee), the ICMG (International Committee for the Mediterranean Games), IAW can immediately become the expert body within ERA to develop a strategy in terms of training and development for **new audiences** such as health benefit, young people and athletes. IAW is in a technical and human capacity to mobilize resources to help ERA member federations and bodies which wish to develop Aqua Walking in their territories. **They will be no extra cost for ERA.** We suggest that IAW could sign a contract with the presidium for working like mentioned above. It could be a guarantee for ERA that there will be no financial risk for ERA's finances, but also that IAW is really working for ERA as a ERA member.

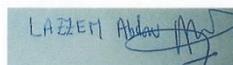
At the moment 3 ERA MO are involved in the Aqua walking Tour (France, Italy, Catalunya), the 4th will be FAM Andalusia, and then Spain federation. Some other Mos are interested: Greece, Montenegro and Portugal... **We believe that we should officially develop Aqua Walking inside the ERA and that IAW should be member of ERA.**

We hope that our application will be favourably received and we send you our most respectful greetings.

Best regards,



Abdou Lazzem, IAW President



9.

Strategy and plans for coming years

Why a Strategy?

A Strategy is important to ERA because it provides a sense of direction and outlines measurable goals.

A Strategy is a tool that is useful for guiding our priorities, decisions and for evaluating progress and changing approaches when moving forward.

A Strategy gets everyone on the same track as it communicates our priorities.

* ... = updated texts after the presentation of the document at the GM in September 2018, in Echternach (L)

ERA Strategy

Mission

ERA practices networking and cross-border cooperation among organizations by ensuring respectful treatment, expertise and values in all walking issues.

Vision

ERA is well known all over Europe as recognized expert in all walking issues being a relevant, proactive and credible partner.

Objects

ERA will be:

- a) Furthering walking and mountain-climbing activities, concern for and care of the countryside, protecting nature and the environment;
- b) Creating and marking European long-distance paths, protecting these and other international paths and safeguarding their continued existence;
- c) Protecting and further developing both rights and traditions with regard to crossing borders in European countries, and Europe's cultural heritage;
- d) Seeking to preserve the right of access to all land, and to create this right where it has hitherto not been guaranteed; this aim is secondary to the protection of natural environment;
- e) Strengthening mutual understanding between people;
- f) Representing the interests of member associations in international organisations such as the European Union and the Council of Europe;
- g) Strengthening the consciousness of people that physical activity is one of the prerequisites for a healthy life.

Strategy 2019 –

1. Provide benefits for our member organisations.
2. Prepare, organize, stimulate and support rambling events and activities.
3. Actively work with physical networks of E-paths and LQT-BE.
4. Establish and maintain cooperation with EU bodies and relevant international organisations and agencies working in fields such as youth and health.

5. Develop and implement a financial strategy.
6. Develop and implement a marketing and communication strategy to contribute to our business model.

Provide benefits for our member organisations.

- We will ensure cross border cooperation among our MO which enables different fields of work (exchange experiences and knowledge, common work in different activities, projects, mutual supports).
- We will ensure consolidation and expansion – where it is needed of E-paths net, which pass through all ERA's MO countries, like a basic factor in many aspects which allow our MO to be recognized expert on the European level and through this aspect to be recognized "at home" as a proven factor in all walking issues.
- We will create international walking events where many friendship, cooperation and new ideas come out.
- We will work for certification of education programs: Walk Leaders, LQT, and to find some new items.
- We will issue the accurate and credible trail maps and tracks (for what we need very good cooperation and feedback of our MO with actual reports and fresh info about E-paths and LQT).
- We will ensure to solve the problems which our MO have in their countries, by strong ERA position in EU and all over Europe, like the relevant and credible roof organization with strong authority (like: Access to Nature).
- We must be proactive with all our MOs, whenever see that the cooperation between each MO and ERA is weak or broken.
- We will establish a strong PR and marketing which our MO can use for their advertising and announcing their news.
- To provide younger individual members, we will look for new challenges which are for some people more attractive and provocative including competitions (like Water Walking, Regular Alpine Walking, Orientation competitions...) on European level.
/Nota bene: This item needs strong, deep and serious study before any decision/.

Prepare, organize, stimulate and support rambling events and activities.

We will prepare, organize, stimulate and support international walking events and activities by:

- Designing the event.
- Leveraging the social role of the organisations.
- Engaging in communication and coaching activities, with the transfer of experience and know-how (e.g. Walk Leader).
- Supporting the organization that intends to carry out an international walk in the various phases of the organization of the event.
- Advertising and actively supporting communication activities in order to guarantee a good participation of walkers to the events.
- Improving health protection of people by outside/outdoor activities.
- Stimulating young people to be active.

Actively work with physical networks of E-paths and LQT-BE

- We will promote E-paths and LQT-BE towards MOs, tourism organisations, specialized and national media and people in social media to support rambling.
- We will search funds for the singposting of E-paths among partners, foundations and public funds.



- We will establish a specific website for promoting rambling including big and detailed maps to prepare a walk.
- We will establish a databank contain relevant trail data.

Establish and maintain cooperation with EU bodies and relevant international organisations and agencies working in fields such as youth and health.

The importance of walking as a nature experience and contribution to the promotion of physical activity is highly recognized throughout Europe. Access to walking is low-threshold and equally popular with both young and old.

In this sense, ERA has and offers diverse possibilities, as:

- Building and maintain rambling infrastructure (e. g. through E-paths or LQT-BE) in Europe and stimulating walking as a sustainable mode of transportation
- Connects people (e. g. through international events like EURORANDO or Sicily Trek Festival, Catalonia Trek Festival...)
- Homogenize education for safe using of the ERA trails (e. g. through Walk leader)
- Offer recognition and valuation of nature beauties, culture and tourist improvement
- Provide economic improvement and stabilization of villages, specially in indeveloped settlements (as E-paths pass through all parts of Europe)
- Improving health protection of citizens by outdoor activities

Our strategic plans must envelop strong approach and force upon EU bodies, like:

- EU Commission for Education, Culture, Youth and Sport
- EU Commission for Environment, Maritime Affairs and Fisheries
- EU Commission for Agriculture and Rural development
- EU Commission for Health and Food Safety

or

- ERDF (European Regional Development Fund) through projects

and

- The same way should be used for other international organisations and agencies which deal with our scope of work.
- Resumption of ERA as an NGO in the Council of Europe is important.

Special actions should be in cooperation with similar organisations like:

- EUMA (European Union of Mountaineering Associations)
- Alpine Convention
- BMU (Balkan Mountaineering Union)

for common appearance at mentioned bodies and agencies.

So far, EU is very interested in youth and health and we have to find good examples of government in these fields and apply with such topics

Develop and implement a financial strategy.

In order to obtain these goals:

- Evaluation on current business model, e.g. member fees, certificates and partnerships
- Formulation a new ERA financial business case
- Communication with ERA members to support the new strategy

We will work for these results:

- New ERA business case
- Implement old and new business case
- Support of ERA members

Develop and implement a marketing and communication strategy to contribute to our business model.

In order to support our vision, ERA **has to** be visible, known and recognized.

We will therefore ensure that:

- ERA present website continues and a new promotion-website will be created, which contains relevant information in a modern view.
- ERA Facebook page will be used actively for promotion of ERA, MO's and activities.
- ERA Facebook group will be used for member-to-member communications.
- ERA Twitter will be used for communication to stakeholders.
- ERA Forum will be used for communications among members and stakeholders.
- ERA newsletters will be used for information from ERA to member organisations.

When it is possible, we will work for these goals:

- Evaluation of current marketing and communication strategy.
- Formulate a new ERA marketing and communication strategy.
- Communication ERA members to support the marketing and communication strategy.

To ensure these results:

- New ERA marketing and communication strategy.
- Implement old and new marketing and communication strategy.
- Support of ERA members.

ERA Presidium

January 2019



10.

Budget 2019 - 2020

Receipts (€)	Result 2018	Plan 2019	Rev 2019	Plan 2020
Membership fee	33 580	31 500	33 100	33 100
ERA Foundation	1 180	950	1 200	950
Fahrbach Foundation	800	200	300	200
Income Partnership	6 000	4 000	12 500	12 500
Special donation from DWV, FIE	3 000	3 000	3 000	3 000
Special donation for 50 th anniversary	-	-	2 300	-
Marketing and projects	3 525	1 350	1 350	2 000
Total Receipts	48 085	41 000	53 750	51 750
Payments (€)	Result 2018	Plan 2019	Rev 2019	Plan 2020
Presidium	15 357	14 000	13 000	13 000
Travelling president	2 704	4 000	4 000	4 000
Working groups			1 800	5 000
<i>Administration:</i>				
Staff cost	16 884	17 500	17 500	20 500
Travelling expences staff	1 553	1 400	1 600	1 400
Print, post, phone, homepage	1 262	1 800	1 800	1 800
Rent	3 038	3 500	5 000	7 000
Translation cost	2 542	1 700	2 500	1 700
Other cost	900	300	3 300	1 000
Marketing (and projects)	4 160	5 000		
Marketing			3 000	3 000
Projects			2 000	2 000
50 th anniversary			2 500	
EURORANDO 2021				1 000
Exchange costs, Charge / Commision	324	250	260	250
Total payments	48 724	49 450	58 260	61 650
Receipts (deficit) for the year	-639	-8 450	-4 510	-9 900
Total funds brought forward	75 565	70 515	74 926	70 416
Net receipts (deficit) for the year	-639	-8 450	-4 510	-9 900
Total funds carried forward	74 926	62 065	70 416	60 516

ERA Financial Plan (Budget) Report

The current ERA budget 2019 and 2020 is defined by three extra factors:

1. The new ERA strategy
2. New office and contract staff
3. The celebration of 50th ERA anniversary in 2019.

As our President has already explained we had to find a new office in Prague for our office manager and for future project leaders. This means additional costs for the ERA organisation.

1. Revision of 2019 figures

Receipts (Income): In reviewing our budget for 2019 we see increasing income from our Member Organisations and Special donations for 50th anniversary and some higher income from Partnerships than expected before 2019 thanks to our General Partner Kompass-Karten GmbH. Thank you very much!

Payments (Expenditure): We expect some extra payments total of € -4,510 because of the new office in Prague and some extra expenses for our office manager. We must pay this from our Total Funds. We also made a differentiation on our marketing and projects, one of them, the celebration of our 50th anniversary is estimated at € -2,500.

2. Budget for 2020

Dear members, according to our new strategy we made some extra specifications in our budget, e.g. for working groups, marketing and projects. We expect more credit in the years to come. We are investing in lobbying in Brussels and starting to cooperate on European projects but because of our current budget, our investments are still modest.

Concerning our Receipts, we expect some progress in partnerships, and under marketing and projects. Concerning our payments: in 2020, we expect increasing payments because of the new office in Prague and some extra expenses for our office manager to an additional € 3,000 next year. The same amount of € 3,000 for rent, services and extras like insurance, Wi-Fi etc. List of payments include travel expenses because of the EURORANDO 2021.

In 2020, the deficit will be estimated by € -9,900. The presidium approved such an investment into our base in Prague and into our working groups to start fulfilling our strategy plans and improve our income from marketing and projects.

Our strategy demands goals to aim for and of course, at the end, the results.

Concerning our goals: we have analysed our current business model: based on membership fees, certificates and partnerships. We think about new ways of enlarging our income, so a new ERA financial business model in the years to come with the focus on marketing and projects.

As we say in Dutch: “the costs are for the benefits”

In the long term we must increase our annual income substantially by marketing and projects. We have to focus on extra private and public funding to have a solid base for another 50 years to come.

Thank you!

Joep Naber
Treasurer, July 2019

11.

ERA Foundation

Foundation statement 31.12.2018

Assets and liabilities 31. 12. 2017	€
Securities – market value	98 416
Bank deposits Giro account	24 186
Deposit accounts	94
Closing balance 31.12.2017	122 696

Assets and liabilities 31.12.2018	€
Securities – market value	97 598
Bank deposits Giro account	24 984
VR-Savings Card	94
Closing balance 31.12.2018	122 676

Revenue in 2018

Donations	200
Interests	2 008
	2 208

Expenditure 2018

Custody fees	147
Postal charges	83
Contributions for ERA in 2018	1 180
	1 410

Prepared by Annette Schramm
Business director of the ERA Foundation
13 August 2019

12. EURORANDO 2021

MUTUAL AGREEMENT - EURORANDO 2021

During the visit that ERA representatives - Mr Boris Micic and Mr Steen Koberoe-Hansen had in Sibiu, we discussed and agreed on the following aspects:

- Eurorando Sibiu will take place at the end of September 2021: 24.09-01.10.2021 (Friday - Friday);
- The main event will happen in the middle of the participants' stay. Proposed date: 28.09.2021 (Tuesday);
- Sibiu, Cluj and Bucharest airports will be used for arrival/departure;
- Accommodation for the participants will be provided in the following way: ½ in Sibiu and ½ in the surrounding areas;
- Most of the rooms in the suggested accommodation will have either 1, or 2 beds. Most of the lodging facilities will have 3*, but some of them will be rated at 2* and 4*;
- Accommodation will be provided within 50km from Sibiu;
- The trails will be located at maximum 70km from Sibiu;
- There will be trails with different levels of difficulty and with various completion times;
- The thematic trails will be arranged considering the natural landscape and cultural heritage;
- Piata Mare in Sibiu will be the meeting point and information centre during Eurorando;
- From the moment participants sign up until Eurorando ends, they will receive information through a specialized event management tool. Group leaders and organisers will also use this app;
- Mountain Rescuers and Mountain Gendarmerie will have teams dedicated for Eurorando, which will monitor the event in collaboration with Emergency Services;
- Participants that will need urgent medical assistance, will be transported to the hospitals either with the ambulance, or with the helicopter (depending on the case);
- Radio stations will be provided for the trails where there is no phone signal;
- SKV will prepare at least 100 hiking guides until 2021, following the guidelines of ERA programme - Walk Leader;
- Flyers, promotional videos, the website and official invitation to Eurorando will be presented at ERA Conference in Bad Urach (October 2019);
- SKV will evaluate this year all the trails in the Eurorando area. Following this audit, the offer for trails will be presented in Spring 2020;
- Era Annual conference will take place during Eurorando. Proposed date: 26.09-29.09.2021 (Sunday-Wednesday);
- Sibiu Organising Committee has the following members:
 - o Simina Manea – AJTS 
 - o Carmen Chis – Sibiu City Hall 
 - o Marcel Sofariu – SKV 
 - o Ioan Bodnar – SKV 
 - o Ionuț Martin – Sibiu Reisen 

13.

Proposals

a) ERA presidium

Proposals of amendments to the Constitution

When the ERA Presidium started proposing the new Strategy and made plans for implementing topics with member types and rights deriving from them, we recognized that the existing Constitution (Statute) does not allow us to have such possibilities.

At first, in the Preamble there is written that “ERA is an alliance of **walking** organisations ...” which is not completely true in reality. We have as full members ministries, their derivatives and also public companies...

Secondly, we recognized that with existing full members we can only have a limited number of walking organisations. To implement the new needs which will arise from the new strategy we will need a better financial status. We do not want to increase membership fees endlessly and we wish to find new sources of income. In the existing Constitution there are only “**full members**” and “**affiliate members**” – if they are based outside Europe. From the other side, some LQT-BE stakeholders want also to be our members. Their number can grow and in time they could be more numerous than our current natural full members and in that case they could change ERA’s policy “turning the water on their water-mill”. Among these new candidates there are profit and non-profit organisations. All these various thoughts lead us to propose a complete new structure of membership.

Third, **voting procedure** should be more precise.

In the existing Constitution we say that the Presidium can appoint a “general secretary”, but in reality, we have no power. We have one employee and with a larger volume of work in ERA, there may be a requirement to employ a second one. How we can organise this section of work, we need to discuss and propose for this change.

During the work on these changes, maybe some other topics will come to the surface.

At the moment, we ask you (according to paragraph 6 and 20 of the Constitution) for permission to start work on the amendments to the Constitution and exact amendments will be offered for acceptance at the next General Meeting.

All comments and/or proposals are welcome!

b) Svenska Turistforeningen, S

Participatory status with the Council of Europe

Background

The Council of Europe July 6, 2018 informed ERA that the application for ERA participatory status with the council was not accepted. A yes requires “that an INGO have already established working relations with the Council of Europe”. ERA did not fulfill this requirement. ERA can submit a new application after a period of two years (that is, in July 2021). In the letter from CoE Mary Ann Hennesay wrote: “I would encourage you to use these two years to develop co-operation with Council of Europe”.

We welcome that the presidium is positive and is making efforts to fulfill this requirement “co-operation with the Council of Europe” when the president of ERA has sent the ERA “Access to nature resolution” to the executive secretary of the European Landscape Convention in the Council of Europe. With this motion we suggest some further steps in that direction for consideration by the presidium.

Further steps

The European Landscape convention is a proper area for further cooperation. (See for example “Explanatory report to the European Landscape Convention”, European treaty series No 176, Florence 20.X.2000). In connection with the 10th conference 6-7 May 2019 the report “Walking the landscape” was presented, showing the relevance of the convention to ERA aims and interests.

We would also like to see steps for cooperation with the CoE in another area close to ERA interests. That is: **Cultural Routes** (<https://www.coe.int/en/web/culture-and-heritage/cultural-routes>) which is an important project in the CoE and of course closely related to ERA interests in walking. The CoE Cultural routes programme includes many aspects of routes, not only walking, but also trails with different cultural connotations including for example pilgrim routes. This would also connect to an increased interest in our societies for what in research is called “landscape of mobility” or “movement heritage”.

Proposal

We propose that the General Meeting welcomes the Presidium to include the following tasks in its work 2019/2020:

1. Follow what goes on in the CoE Cultural Routes area in 2019 and 2020 and investigates what steps ERA could take to participate in some action or event in this area.
2. Organize a know-how session on CoE Cultural Routes at the ERA annual meeting 2020.
3. Prepare for an application for participatory status with the CoE to be sent in the autumn 2020.

Stockholm, 2019-09-02

Peter Nygård, president/chairman of STF Sweden

14.

General meeting in 2020

Girona, Catalonia, Spain: 1 – 4 October 2020

15.

General meetings in 2021, 2022 and 2023

General meeting in 2021: Sibiu, Romania

General meeting in 2022: Denmark

General meeting in 2023: ?



Enclosure:

Programme of Know-How sessions

Friday 18 October 2019, 8.30 – 13.30

Title	Speaker	Language
Questionnaire on the ERA conference in Echternach– results	Steen Kobberø-Hansen (ERA)	EN
After the 49 th conference in Echternach, ERA requested a delegate's feedback on the conference. The results of the feedback will be presented in Bad Urach at a Know How session.		
Questionnaire of the ERA MOs – results	Boris Mičić (ERA)	EN, DE, FR
After the 49 th confrence in Echternach, ERA requested all 63 MOs to get more detailed information about the mission, their background and get updated contacts of the responsible persons we would like to be in touch with concerning ERA matters. We have got 59 answers. Results will be presented at the session.		
Leading Quality Day Walks	Steen Kobberø-Hansen (ERA) Liane Jordan (DWS)	EN, DE
A request to enlarge the German „Leading Quality“ at the European level led to the new ERA working group. It should study the issue in all details. The pilot project will be in Luxembourg. We will provide an update on the work.		
Leading Quality Regions	Armand Ducornet (ERA) Liane Jordan (DWS)	EN, FR, DE
The Presidium was asked by our friends in Luxembourg whether the German label "Leading quality region" could be adopted and used by the ERA. In order to study the issue in all its details, the Presidium proposed that the Eislek region to be a pilot region and to explore the feasibility of the project. At the end of the work, the Presidium will make a decision. We will provide an update on the work.		
Working Group: Competition activities (Alpine March, Team Orientation)	Armand Ducornet (ERA) Mimmo Pandolfo (ERA)	EN, DE, FR
As part of its new strategy, the Presidium has agreed with the idea of offering our MOs innovative activities, including competitive activities in the mountains and water. M. Pandolfo and A. Ducornet will present this new concept to you, and how it could be implemented.		
E-paths working group	Steen Kobberø-Hansen (ERA)	EN
The E-path Working Group was established in spring 2019 and has had 3 meetings so far. The WG is now in the process of establishing subgroups (one per each E-path) to verify the data on websites and other sources. The WG will inform about the work at the Know How session.		

50-years anniversary commemorative book and further cooperation projects in 2020	Charly Lentz & Mirjam Salzburger (KOMPASS-Karten)	EN, DE
Short presentation of the 50-years anniversary commemorative book and a short overview to the upcoming cooperation projects in 2020 (for example a map containing all the E-paths and youth hostels along the paths).		
European Winter Walking Days in St. Johann in Tirol (A)	Michael Walzer (Tirol Werbung)	EN, DE
From 5 to 8 March 2020, European Winter Walking Days will be held in the Kitzbühel Alps. This event will provide an excellent opportunity to participate in guided winter hiking tours where you get to see special places and highlights of the region. The winter walking trails are very well organised and the guest card St. Johann Card permits free use of buses and trains in St. Johann in Tirol, Oberndorf, Kirchdorf, Erpfendorf, Waidring, St. Ulrich, St. Jakob, Fieberbrunn, Hochfilzen, Going, Ellmau and Kitzbühel.		
How to deal with maintenance and safety in challenging situations?	Linda Salentin & Sandra Betholet (Office Régional du Tourisme Région Mullerthal - Petite Suisse Luxembourgeoise)	EN, FR, DE
<p>The Mullerthal Region – Luxembourg’s Little Switzerland is a traditional tourism destination. The main hiking path and core touristic product of the region is the Mullerthal Trail, since 2014 is awarded as a LQT-BE.</p> <p>In early June 2018 the Mullerthal Region was hit by a severe thunderstorm followed with extreme rainfalls. Erosion processes in the small creeks, followed by landslides, destruction and loss of roads and touristic infrastructure like hiking paths and bridges were the consequence.</p> <p>June is traditionally the beginning of the main tourist season. Therefore a quick reaction to the incidents was necessary to assure the safety of the tourists who were already in the region and planned their hiking trip and to avoid cancellations of vacations. A lack of tourists during that time of year would mean a economic disaster for the tourism related companies....</p>		
The Schwäbische Albverein introduces itself	Dr. Sebastian Fischer (SAV)	EN, FR, DE
The Schwäbische (Swabian) Albverein is a non-governmental, non-commercial association of people with similar interests: nature, home, hiking. Founded in 1888, the club currently has nearly 100,000 members and is active within a radius of approximately 100 km around Stuttgart. The network of hiking trails includes 20,000 kms of marked hiking trails.		
Results of the Impulse Survey on Hiking in Europe (German National Tourist Board - GNTB) and the Nature Sport Study of the Deutscher Wanderverband	Erik Neumeyer (DWV)	EN, DE
<p>GNTB survey: At the end of 2018, an online survey was conducted in seven European countries (CH, AT, NL, BE, FR, PL, DK). Further insights were gained on European hikers and their holiday and walking behavior. The ERA member organisations and some LQTs supported this survey, so the results should benefit everyone.</p> <p>Nature Sport Study: As part of the project Natursport.Umwelt.Bewusst, the DWV surveyed 5,886 people who practice</p>		



<p>nature sports (hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, geocaching, etc.). Exciting information about communication behavior, environmental attitudes and potential conflicts came to light here. The focus was on the question of how non-classically organized nature sports enthusiasts can be reached.</p>		
<p>Catalonia Trek Festival</p>	<p>Jordi Merino i Urbano & Josep Casanovas i Redondo (FEEC)</p>	<p>EN, FR</p>
<p>Between the 3 and 10 of May of 2020 will be celebrated the second edition of Catalonia Trek Festival, an event where you will be able to know the best landscapes of the Costa Daurada and the Terres de l'Ebre, the two tourist brands of the regions of Tarragona. An area of extraordinary beauty, where the mountain practically flows into the Mediterranean and where the human and cultural footprint goes back to the time of the Roman Empire.</p>		