



4 Annual Report 2017 2017



Anna Zellweger
President of EYP Switzerland

Foreword

Dear members of EYP Switzerland,

It is with great pleasure that I address you, dear members of EYP Switzerland. With this report we look back at our accomplishments over the year of 2017. It was a year full of challenges and progress, on which we look back with great pride but from which we also take lessons into the future. In this report you will find a detailed summary of the different activities of EYP Switzerland throughout this passed year.

We kicked the year off with a round of four Regional Sessions, taking place in Bern, Basel, Aarau and Geneva. The two-day concept has now become an inherent part of our organisation's workings and we still see the successes of this. We welcomed a record number of delegates this year, including several new schools and areas that we were able to reach through new outreach strategies. I see great development potential for our National Committee in this area. Reaching out allows us to diversify our members base, leading to more innovative and creative ideas and solutions.

The National Selection Conference was held in Lausanne and exceeded expectations in many ways. We were greatly humbled by the amount of people who were willing to contribute to this project, which was mirrored in the high amount of applications received.

With a theme focused on innovation the organising team was able to put together an impressive program. They managed to gather support from highly respectable individuals and institutions as well as hosted various events in very impressive venues. As always, the National Selection Conference was also the ideal setting to touch base with some of our most important members, our teachers. We held an intensive workshop, gathering feedback and input on how to make our organisation more accustomed to the needs of schools and teachers.

Finally, the engine is running hot on the final preparations for the First International Forum of EYP Switzerland which will be held in Basel this Spring. From an innovative academic concept to outstanding organisational efforts, this session promises to be a full success across the board. We hope to see many of you present at the alumni event!

Besides our annual sessions, we organised several events throughout the year of both social and academic quality. We were especially pleased to welcome such a high number of our members, both old and new, at the alumni weekend.

The first year of our third decade of existence seemingly passed by in a flash. Besides running the events of our organisation we were able to make significant progress in the expansion of our network, gathering increased support from third parties, whose affirmation of our work we value very deeply. Whilst we spend our anniversary year looking back on our history, we spent 2017 looking forward. We identified new areas of development potential and revisited old strategies, adapting them to our current needs. I am confident that 2018 will bring many great things for EYP Switzerland. Fresh minds and innovations will come together to bring us one step further in our development. I am convinced that our organisation holds an endless potential embodied in its members. Time and time again I am deeply impressed by the dedication and motivation displayed in our members base and I look forward to following our success story far into the future.

On behalf of the Board of EYP Switzerland, Anna Zellweger



The picture was taken in February 2017

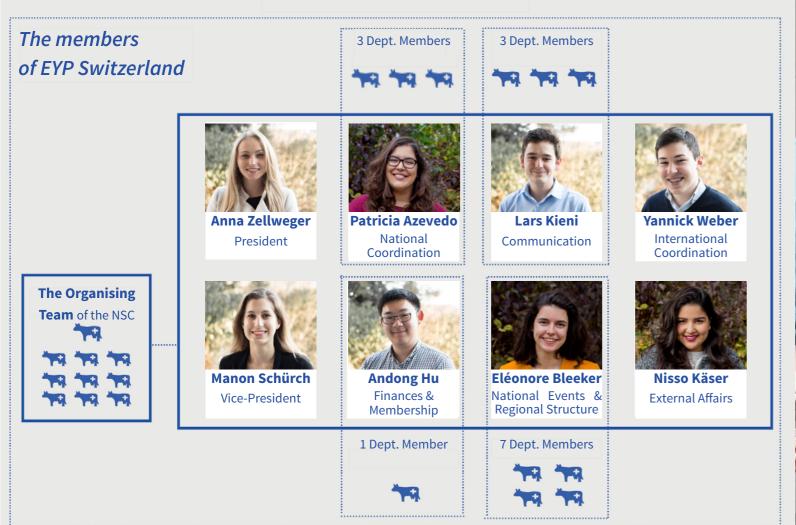
The Board of EYP Switzerland of 2017

Anna Zellweger President
Manon Schürch Vice-president & National Events and Regional
Structure until October 2017,
then Eléonore Bleeker took over the latter
Mario Anderhub National Coordination until October 2017, then Patricia Azevedo Moritz Bondeli External Affairs until October 2017, then Nisso Käser Lars Kieni Communication **Andong Hu** Finances & Membership **Yannick Weber** International Coordination

Lukas Bock Auditor Felix Kurer Auditor



THE STRUCTURE OF EYP SWITZERLAND





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REPORT ON THE DIFFERENT PORTFOLIOS



Yannick Weber
Board Member on
International Coordination

International Coordination

Part of a network spanning geographical Europe and beyond, EYP Switzerland is one of 40 National Committees (NCs) of the European Youth Parliament. The International Coordinator works to administer our ties to this diverse network in the realms of governance, policy, knowledge sharing, and exchange.

As one of the most active National Committees on an international level, EYP Switzerland continuously strives to contribute to shaping the future development of our organisation on the European level. At the Board of National Committees, the bi-annual assembly of representatives of all NCs in Berlin, EYP Switzerland was present and advocated its views on the future development of the network, especially on the international governance structure, policies adopted on the level of the network, and the future conception of International Sessions.

More and more of our Members avail themselves of the opportunity in EYP to go abroad: At our NSC Lausanne 2017, we could offer 70 delegate spots at foreign sessions and send many of our NSC delegates abroad to represent EYP Switzerland at events taking place all over Europe. Furthermore, throughout the whole year, 40 alumni went abroad to fill 115 officials positions at sessions in other NCs.



Patricia Azevedo
Board Member on National
Coordination since October 2017

National Coordination

Being in charge of the National Coordination means taking on various responsibilities going from delegates administration for our annual sessions to schools relations and even alumni involvement. In 2017, four alumni joined the department as members with two of them focusing on schools and teacher relations and the two other ones working on administrative tasks and communication with the delegates. This new roles assured a clear structure within the department and assured a more efficient work.

The NSC Lausanne 2017 received a record number of applications from 46 different delegations. The application process was very competitive and the selection panel was intrigued by the quality of the applications received. 39 delegations were selected to attend the NSC based on predefined criteria regarding quality of the application and regional diversity.

An interesting and diverse programme was organised by the organisers for the chaperones of the attending delegations, concluding in a teacher's workshop and feedback session. Lausanne 2017 and EYP Switzerland received positive feedback, but the present teachers also suggested improvements, such as the need for more time at sessions for cultural activities and designated teachers for each NSC to take over the teachers programme as opposed to organisers..

Schools are EYP Switzerland's most important stakeholder. This has been mirrored in the revised communication and outreach strategy of EYP Switzerland.

A newsletter aimed at our active network of teachers and schools has been established. The first edition was sent out back in November 2016 and featured experiences of an EYP teacher accompanying her delegation to an International Forum in Georgia, an update from the organising team of the NSC Lausanne 2017, and useful information on our upcoming Regionals 2017.

Outreach to new schools is still based on our last year implemented two-staged approach. First, over 200 high schools and vocational schools received a redesigned promotion letter that introduces EYP Switzerland and our Sessions. Secondly, the Head Organisers got in touch with selected schools and encouraged students to register for one of the four Regional Sessions. The success of this strategy is already visible now: We've received a record number of registrations for our Regionals 2018, including many delegations from schools that never attended an EYP event before. 2018 is shaping up to becoming a very promising year of the department of National Coordination and EYP Switzerland.

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Eléonore Bleeker Board Member on National Events & Regional Structure since October 2017

National Events & Regional Structure

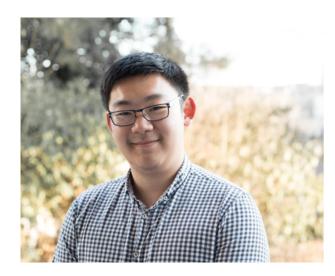
For the fourth time, EYP Switzerland was fortunate enough to hold its round of Regional Sessions, each lasting for two days for delegates. While Basel, Bern and Geneva have established themselves as regular host cities, the Eastern region was hosted by the city of Aarau. Led by seven experienced Head Organisers, all four sessions were visited by a combined total of 300 delegates which is a new record number. Under the professional guidance of the Head Organisers of the four sessions, its organisers held up the high standard EYP Switzerland expects from its organising committees from an organisational viewpoint. The sessions were presided by Liora Lemberg from Estonia, Nina Thomic from Austria, Despina Dimitrakopoulou from Greece and Tuusa Eriksson from Finland. The maximum number 320 of delegates the four Regional Sessions are able to hold, was not reached, nevertheless, a record number of delegates later signed up to the NSC held in Lausanne. With a record number of officials applications, every session was able to offer around 8 mostly first-time chairpersons and 2 vice-presidents a spot each. Out of the large pool of applicants, the selection panel was therefore able to select the most qualified candidates only which led to an increase in academic excellency during all sessions.

For the third time, EYP Switzerland held its annual chairs' training, this year in Bern which also marked our annual general meeting (AGM) where the board of EYP Switzerland for 2017 was elected. The chairs training was led by Isa Cantalapiedra from Spain and enabled a valuable first insight into chairing for many of our alumni. Our annual summer barbecue this year took place at the lakeside in Geneva for the first time with lovely weather.

For the fourth time, we held our annual Alumni Weekend - this time in Bern again - where lots of NSC Lausanne delegates got the chance to reunite. Several workshops were offered to our alumni, amongst them a chairs training and a strategy workshop where all participants got the chance to shape the future of EYP Switzerland by working on sustainable projects and had their own say on the shape and working methods of EYP Switzerland. While EYP introduction trainings were offered to our alumni, the annual HO summit was held at the same time where all Regional Session and National Selection Conference Head Organisers were trained by some of our most experienced alumni. We were especially fortunate to welcome Tom Wolfskämpf from Germany and Judit Llados from Spain as our international trainers. The last event of the year took place in Zurich where EYP Switzerland celebrated its annual Christmas party at a nice restaurant, followed by mulled wine at the christmas market. The Christmas party marks a successful end to a successful 21st year of EYP Switzerland.

Last but not least, the portfolio on National Events & Regional Structure in 2018 will undergo a massive change as the portfolio will be split between two board members as the workload has become too much to handle for one person seeing that our Regional Sessions get bigger and better every year. The close-knit relationship and collaboration between the Board and the Regional Session Head Organisers has grown stronger over the years and needs more oversight, the bigger the sessions get. Therefore, the responsibility of our National Events will as of 2018 be paired up with the competences of the Alumni Officer, in order to have one Board member who can fully commit to be available to our alumni and our training and social events.

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Andong Hu

Board Member on Finances &

Membership

Finances & Membership

Participation fees for both the regionals and the NSC this year has been for the first time ever, paid in majority by delegations instead of individual participants. This has helped us create a better overview and granted us more control over the flow of money. Goal for next year would be to encourage more teachers from the German speaking areas to do the same.

The NSC has been, for the first time ever, given a separate bank account at Postfinance, registered as a junior account to the EYP CH, giving the HOs of the NSC freedom over their own funding while the President of EYP CH as well as the Treasurer still retaining the overview. Taking feedbacks from the HOs, there should be more than one bank card for the NSC account next year as the HOs often need to buy multiple things during the session and having one bank cards limit their flexibility.

Finally, on the membership front, a new coordinated project was started together with National Coordination and Regional Structure to merge the many existing databases scattered all around Google Drive into one containing information such as Alumni names, email, birthdate and most importantly, this database will include informations on their swiss session history. This will help our registration in the long run and it is expected to be finished by the AGM.



Lars Kieni
Board Member on Communica-

Communication

2017 was a steady year in the communication of EYP Switzerland. The number of people we are reaching is constantly growing, which is visible on our social media accounts, our newsletter mailing list and also in the mails we receive.

Furthermore, we have a very good image in the EYP community abroad: This becomes apparent when talking to foreign EYPers, but is also reflected in the numbers of applications we received for all of our sessions and fora: The four Regional Sessions, as well as the National Session in Lausanne each received way above 100 applications. This number allows us to select only the best people for the respective roles and is certainly also partly thanks to our good promotion strategy.

Following our plans, we are working towards a new website for our organisation. This new website should present us in a new light and just reflect today's state of the art again. This project will be finished in the upcoming half year.

Last but not least, I would also like to thank my Department Members; Darius Schlaeppi for his reliable work on our newsletters; Aurel Gautschi for his efforts towards a new website for EYP Switzerland; and Jan Ruflin for his general support on administrative issues. It has been a great pleasure to work with them.



Nisso Käser Board Member on External Affairs since October 2017

External Affairs

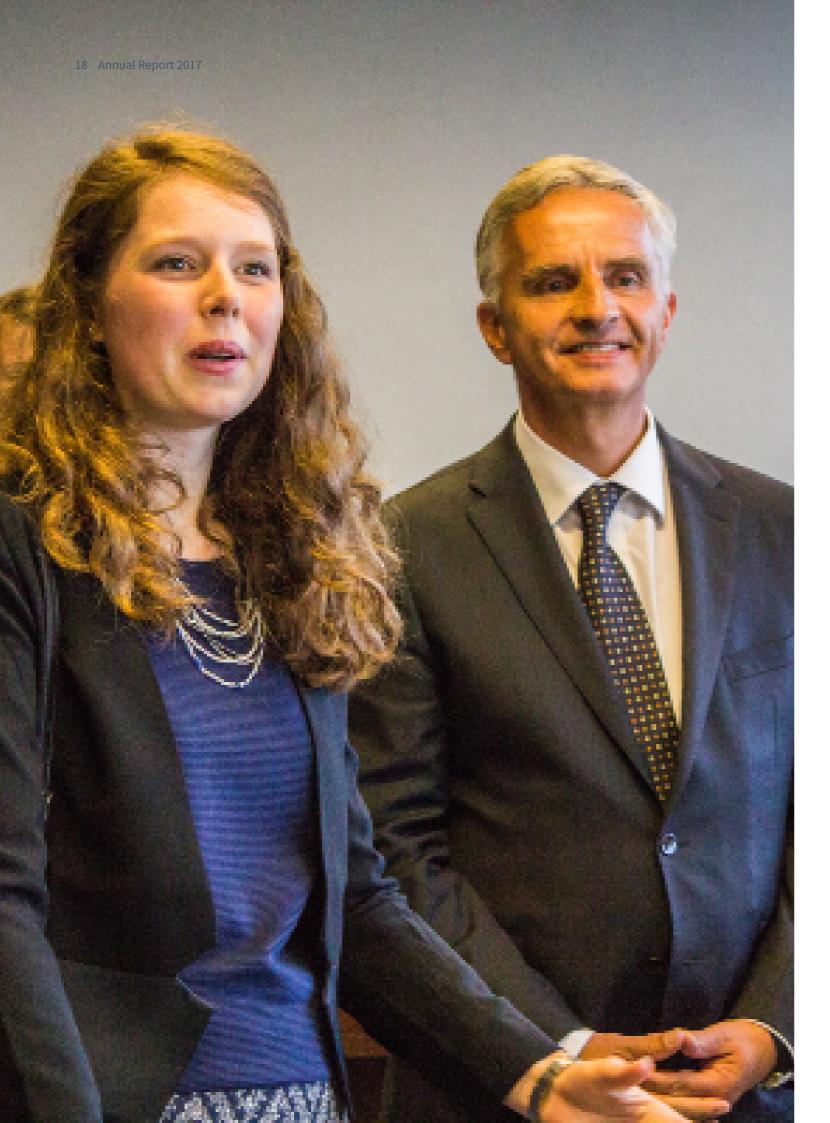
2017 has been another successful year with respect to our external affairs. This year, we were able to welcome some highly renowned guest speakers and patrons to our sessions and secure more funding than we would have hoped for. We are very grateful for the work and dedication of Moritz Bondeli who stepped down from his position in October during the Extraordinary General Meeting of EYP Switzerland.

At our 21st National Selection Conference in Lausanne, we had the honor to have worked under the patronage of Mr Alain Berset, President of the Confederation; Mr Thomas Back, President of the International Olympic Committee; Mr Patrick Aebischer, former President of the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology in Lausanne and Mr Raphaël Domjan, founder of the SolarStratos project. With his speech at the opening ceremony, Mr Domjan illustrated at best the general theme of the session, « Building tomorrow with today's innovation ». Our patrons are really important, not only because they allow us to be seen as a truly professional and qualified organisation but also because they encourage our alumni to stay engaged in the political process and to be a driving for social progress.

In 2017, we also began a new partnership with Foraus, the think thank of foreign policy: indeed, all our members can now benefit from 50% off their Foraus membership fee!

Moreover, thanks to the long standing partnership with Movetia and a number of new supporting institutions such as OFAS and Loterie Romande, our events are well funded. The travel reimbursements granted to all of our NSC officials permits us to welcome truly motivated and hard working participants, despite their economical background. These funds also leave space for organizing teams to develop creative ideas on how to improve the session experiences of delegates and officials alike.

Now that we enter 2018, it is time to really concentrate on the next milestones for our organisation. The next goals will be to work on the long term partnerships that will strengthen EYP Switzerland's financial position and facilitate the efforts of the National Committee. Being able to reach more media is also a major point: is it our aim to make EYP known by every citizen as a great non formal education platform which permits youngsters to really develop their critical mind.





EUROPEAN **YOUTH** PARLIAMENT **SCHWEIZ SUISSE SVIZZERA SVIZRA** SWITZERLAND

"Dear young people, I encourage you to participate in the European Youth Parliament. It will give you the opportunity to shape the world of tomorrow. You will debate, listen, work on compromises and create shared values: give life to democracy. I am glad that the EYP enables you to take your responsibility for the next generations."

Didier BurkhalterFederal Councillor, Head of the Federal
Department of Foreign Affairs FDFA



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- **{1}** The Organising Team of the NSC Lausanne 2017
- **{2}** Our famous EYP Switzerland cow
- **{3}** Members at the Chairs' Training 2017
- **{4}** Sophie Ratcliff and Aijan Muktar, the Head Organisers of the NSC Luzern 2018
- **{5}** Officials at the In-school session Basel 2017
- **{6}** Members at the Summer Barbecue 2017
- **{7}** The Head Organisers of the Regional Sessions 2018
- **{8}** Members at the Alumni Weekend 2017
- {9} Organisers of the IF Basel during one of their organising meetings















Reaching out to more alumni than ever before!



300 young people at 4 sessions in 4 cities: Aarau, Basel, Bern, Geneva



For the fourth time, EYP Switzerland was fortunate enough to hold its round of Regional Sessions, each lasting for two days for delegates. While Basel, Bern and Geneva have established themselves as regular host cities, the Eastern region was hosted by the city of Aarau. Led by seven experienced Head Organisers, all four sessions were visited by a combined total of 300 delegates precisely.

Under the professional guidance of the Head Organisers of the four sessions, its organisers held up the high standard EYP Switzerland expects from its organising committees from an organisational viewpoint. The sessions were led by Vivienne Heinzelmann & Marsel Szopinski in Bern, Miriam Aitken & Lucius Miller in Basel, Aurel Gautschi in Aarau and Mallorie Ashton-Lomax & Solène Hababou in Geneva. They have all managed to add a special something to each individual session which clearly showed their dedication and appreciation for EYP Switzerland. We would like to sincerely thank all of them and their organising committees for their outstanding and hard work.

The maximum number 320 of delegates the four Regional Sessions are able to hold, was not reached, nevertheless, a record number of delegates later signed up to the NSC held in Lausanne. With a record number of more than 100 officials applications, every session was able to offer 7-8 mostly first-time chairpersons and 2 vice-presidents a spot each, as every committee would be single chaired.

There were no officials journalists at any of the four sessions; however, this proved a fantastic opportunity for our newest and most promising alumni to take up an informal journalist role by assisting the editors with taking pictures and videos, as well as briefly involving them in other projects. This successful outcome led to the Alumni Officer Kate Gurevich this year for the second time implementing her officials' outreach project, all selected editors and Head Organisers which involves her inviting 1-2 promising EYP alumni per session who at one time have voiced their interest in taking up a role in an EYP media team. Since the idea of having a media team consisting not only of editors but also journalists was well-received by many of our alumni, the Board of EYP Switzerland decided to implement a full media team which involves an official call for journalists, starting in 2018.

For the second time, every committee at the Regional Sessions of EYP Switzerland were not co-chaired but chaired by one single chairperson. Out of the large pool of applicants, the selection panel was therefore able to select the most qualified candidates only which led to an increase in academic excellence during all sessions. Therefore, also continuing in 2018, the board decided on keeping the improved system thus securing our future first-time delegates with the best possible guidance.







NATIONAL SELECTION CONFERENCE

Lausanne 2017

21st NSC of EYP Switzerland 8 - 12 September 2017

135 delegates 60 officials

Our NSC in the Olympic capital of the world

After more than a year of hard work from the organising team, Lausanne 2017 officially closed last september. During 5 days, Lausanne 2017, gathered more than 200 participants and was hosted by prestigious institutions, namely the Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, Gymnase de La Cité and the SwissTech Convention Center. On a personal note, I would like to express my gratitude to everyone who made this flagship event a reality: Officials, Delegates, Patrons, Guests, Sponsors, Board of EYP Switzerland and mostly Organisers. Now, Lausanne 2017 not represented by its topics, committees and organisation but by the everlasting memories, the skills gained at the session and the new friendships.

Cheers, Matthias Masini Head-Organiser of Lausanne 2017











An update on the organising of Basel 2018



230 young people

Youth Shaping the Future:

Implementing Innovative Infrastructure of Today for an Economically Stable Europe of Tomorrow

Dear reader,

What is Basel 2018 - First International Forum of EYP Switzerland? Behind the long (and rather official) name, you will find tons of hard work by many creative individuals. Together with a team of 22 organisers, we are striving to create something completely new and innovative.

Since autumn 2017, we have also been joined by the other officials' teams, namely 16 professional and dedicated members of the Chair's Team lead by Hugo Dürr from Sweden and 16 creative members of the Media Team lead by Laure Steinville from France and David Corish from Ireland. Together with these talented young individuals, we are sure to be able to create the best possible experience for the roughly 150 delegates joining us.

Basel 2018 - First International Forum of EYP Switzerland will focus on innovation as a driver of a safe, healthy, sustainable and, most importantly, happy future. During the session, participants will address the three milestones of every innovative idea: Getting the right people into the appropriate setting to encourage innovative creations, ensuring the knowledge behind the idea is transmitted for further development and making sure that the resulting creation can be put to use where it is most needed.

Ideas for possible ways to improve our present and our future are everywhere and young people are most capable to see and use those ideas. With Switzerland considered to be the most innovative nation in the world and Basel being the hub for innovation within the country, we are sure to be able to create the perfect setting for new and creative approaches for ensuring a brighter future for everybody.

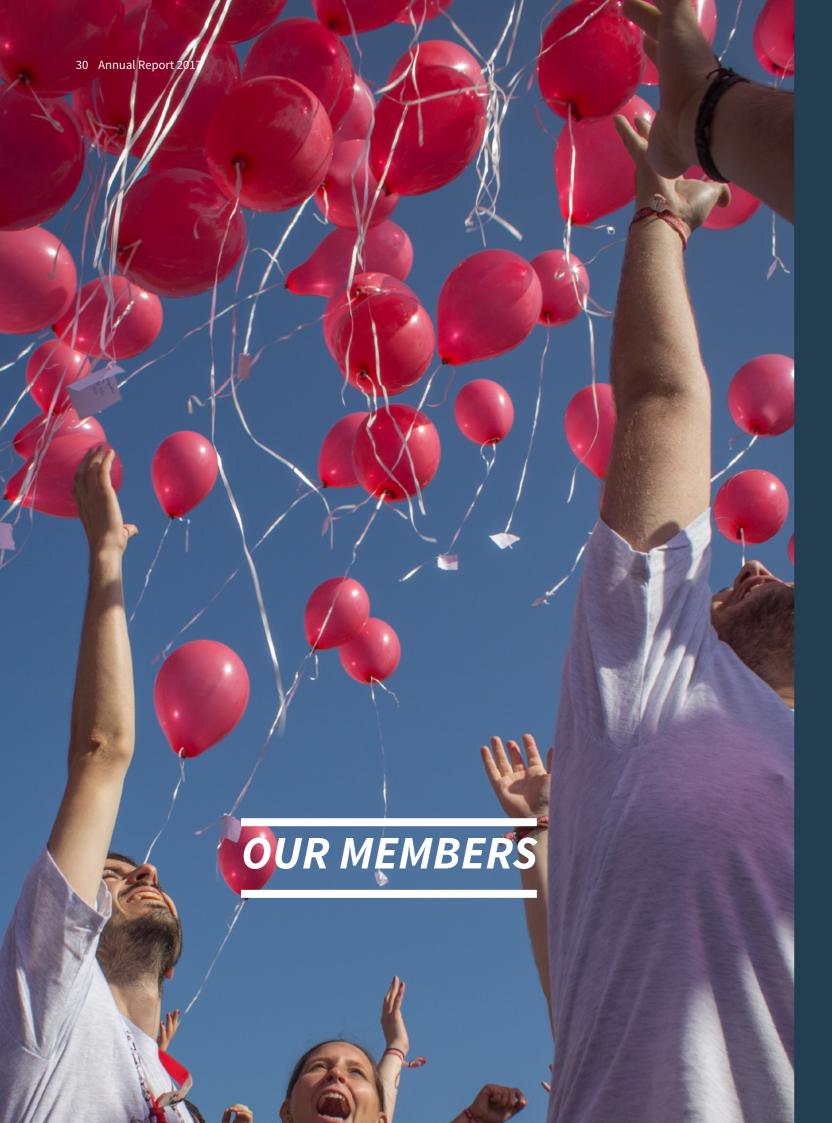
Some events of the Forum are open to members of EYP Switzerland. The Annual General Meeting (AGM) will take place on Saturday, 7 April in Basel during the Forum. Additionally, members are welcome to join the Farewell Party on Wednesday, 11th of April.

In the meantime, stay tuned by following our Instagram (ifbasel18), facebook page (Basel 2018 - First International Forum of EYP Switzerland) as well as our website (www.basel2018.ch).

Yours,

Allegra Margelisch and Kate Gurevich the Head organisers of the fourm





WHERE WOULD EYP BE WITHOUT ITS MEMBERS?

This question highlights how much EYP in general, but also EYP Switzerland depends on the people who run this organisation, by participating as a delegate at a session, by travelling accross the continent to contribute to a session or by organising a session at their own school - everything voluntarily without any monetary expectation.

EYP Switzerland can look back on a history of success and constant growth: Our sessions have a good image internationally, are reaching out to more students than ever through the Regional Sessions and we are setting new standards on an international level.

It is now that EYP Switzerland would like to express its gratitude to everybody who helps making this success story continue. It is evident that this would not be possible without teachers sending delegates, organisers, national and international officials, sponsors, patrons, and members actively working for EYP Switzerland.

Thank you!

2017 was a very active year for me in the EYP. For that I attended as an Editor in March.

Due to my upcoming matura exams I wasn't very active in winter and spring. Exceptions confirm the rule though. The weekend right before my oral exams I travelled to Graz to take part in the EYP Austria Alumni Weekend, where I conducted two days of media trainings. What an interesting way of preparation!

Right after my graduation I flew to the UK and video edited the Summer National Selection Conference in Liverpool. For British terms the weather was actually really nice – the Session as well though.

Having done preparation for this event for months, I was very happy to see Brno - the 85th International Session of the European Youth Parliament happening. Being an Editorial Assistant at this Session was a very challenging experience, but eventually I am very happy I did it. Especially at this Session I bonded with a many great individuals, grew personally and noticed once again how beneficial this organisation is for my personal development.

My last bigger EYP experience in the year 2017 me it started with the Regional Session in Geneva took place in the beginning of October. I was selected to be a trainer at the 1st BeNeLux training weekend in Rotterdam and conducted quite a few trainings about EYP Media. I certainly learned a lot there, especially as I have never conducted so many trainings on a weekend before. It was a very intense, but an incredibly satisfying and fun event as passing knowledge is always a great experience.

> "I met wonderful people, made friends all over Europe, improved my self-confidence and learned to speak in from of many people."

Having been active in this organisation for almost 4 years, the year 2017 also gave me the opportunity to look back a little bit. I realised quite often that this organisation has provided me with so many things. I met wonderful people, made friends all over Europe, improved my self-confidence, learned to speak in front of many people. And yes, this all sounds like a very great EYP PR-gag, but it's true. I am very much looking forward attend many other events and I am very committed to give back to the organisation what it gave to me.





MY YEAR IN EYP

EYP Switzerland's 21st National Selection Conference in Lausanne 2017 was an event that did not only shape my year in EYP, but also me as a person and the purpose I see in EYP. The outstanding organisational standards EYP Switzerland provided us with created a unique environment for every participant to reflect on who they are, who they want to be, what their role in society is, how they can engage with active citizenship and grow personally.

In the Swiss capital for innovation and technology, we were empowered to think about what impact innovative technologies can and should have on society, economy and other aspects of political life in the future.

"I can only encourage anyone to get involved with this outstanding National Committee, make use of the opportunities they offer and get involved in their work

What made Lausanne 2017 a specifically overwhelming experience and one that will forever impress me and shape my work in- and outside of EYP is the amount every single participant truly cared about the project. The Vice-Presidents became a family to me – a metaphor representing the amount of time we spent working on the event and

how much we cared about each other personally and about our personal growth through the event. Every chairperson engaged fully in the preparation process, invested months of work into providing the delegates with a valuable experience and taking as much from it personally as possible. The Media Team's brainstorming lists of projects they could take up to bring the theme closer to the participants exceeded my imagination capacity and the projects they did realize at the session represented a level of innovation we could have only dreamed of before. What Matthias and his organising team put into the session, their love for details, their joy of providing such organisational excellence to us participants and their tireless motivation are inspiring me until today as does the Jury's and EYP Switzerland's kindness and positivity.

Above all, I am incredibly thankful for how much the delegates engaged with our ideas, trusted us in our work, went with our ideas and let themselves be inspired by what we had prepared for them.

Having myself profited from EYP Switzerland's events also before Lausanne 2017, I can only encourage anyone to get involved with this outstanding National Committee, make use of the opportunities they offer and get involved in their work, helping them provide an environment for young people from all across the continent to engage with politics, society and become active citizens.

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EUROPEAN **YOUTH** PARLIAMENT **SCHWEIZ SUISSE SVIZZERA SVIZRA** SWITZERLAND



"When I attend an event of the European Youth Parliament Switzerland, I am always impressed and inspired of the motivation and knowledge of these young and skilled people.

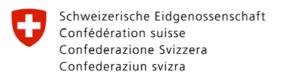
That's exactly what we need to build up a European integration from the bottom and across the countries.

Thanks to all engaged delegates of the EYP!"

Christa Markwalder

Member of the Swiss Parliament former President of the National Council

supported by





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European Youth Parliament Switzerland

EUROPEAN **YOUTH** PARLIAMENT **SCHWEIZ SUISSE SVIZZERA SVIZRA** SWITZERLAND

