

Support for Swiss and Italian Student professional development - Stage 1 Report



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REPORT SUMMARY

This document outlines the first detailed report on the progress of the Italian and Swiss Student professional development project run by European Students For Liberty (ESFL) under financial support from the Fidinam Foundation grant. This report outlines the project's highlights and status from April to June 2023.

PROJECT BACKGROUND

The project was designed to boost the Students For Liberty's activities and presence in the Italy & Switzerland region by providing the Local Coordinator program students with more extensive access to training and empowerment activities within ESFL during the Fiscal Year 23/24 timeframe. The Fidinam Foundation grant provides the financial backing needed to accomplish this and outlines expected outcomes due to the training and empowerment opportunities offered.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM REPORTING PERIOD

- LibertyCon Europe 2023 was successfully completed in Lisbon, Portugal, with the help of eight of our Local Coordinators from Italy & Switzerland. Making them the second largest represented regional group after the Portuguese Local Coordinators.
 - Italian & Swiss Local Coordinators that participated as volunteers for LibertyCon 2023 completed the online pre-training sessions for Event planning and management, Speaker management, and SFL Programs promotion training.
 - Emanuele Martinelli, Senior Coordinator from Switzerland, led the LibertyCon registration team. The rest of the aforementioned Local Coordinators executed their responsibilities as part of various volunteer teams that managed the conference.
- Swiss Local Coordinator, Ahmet Ercan Batirel, completed the Advanced Media Content Training in May 2023 during the “Studio Liberty” Training Seminar. An overhauled social media plan for the region is currently being created.
- The regional strategic plan for the rest of 2023/24 is now under planning and will be completed at the Top Leadership Retreat in late August 2023.

PROGRESS ON PROJECT OUTCOMES

- Activity in FY23 vs FY24 as of now below.
 - The stated outcome is a 50% increase in the activity of student coordinators in Italy and Switzerland during the 2023/24 time frame.

Fiscal Year	Number of Events	Number of Attendees	Total Event Reach (Headcount)
FY23 Total	11	289	417
FY24 / Q1	5	74	102

- We will be able to track Social Media engagements and reach starting in September.
- 9 Local Coordinators from Italy and Switzerland completed professional development activities within the SFL Trainings in 2023 so far, out of the goal of 15.
- Eight out of the planned 10 Local Coordinators from Italy and Switzerland participated in LibertyCon planning and execution.
- First out of five planned new projects executed in the region. This was the John Galt School Switzerland hosted by Senior Coordinator Emanuele Martinelli. An online educational program focused on objectivist philosophy hosted over eight weeks with 26 pre-selected attendees.

CHALLENGES AND LESSONS LEARNED

The main challenge presented thus far has been bringing in the number of local coordinators expected in the planning process for these training opportunities. Personal obligations of the students, exams periods and work obligations must be considered when planning to bring a majority of a specific team to an activity that requires travel days.

While for LibertyCon, we managed to have 8 of the planned 10 Local Coordinators from the region present for the Advanced Media Content Training as part of the Studio Liberty seminar, only one out of the scheduled 5 Local Coordinators could attend.

This is being addressed with more long-term planning for future training activities, and we are now planning to conduct Advanced Media Content Training specifically for the Italian and Swiss teams either online or as part of a regional retreat that will take place this year. Once that training occurs, we can fulfil the planned outcomes outlined in the grant proposal.

FUTURE PLAN

As the grant proposal outlines, we are preparing for the Top Leadership Retreat 2023. The retreat is scheduled to take place at the Theodor-Heuss-Akademie in Gummersbach, Germany, from August 27th to 31st.

Our goal is to bring up to 10 Local Coordinators from the region and formalise their strategic plan and project/activities to take place for the rest of Fiscal Year 2024, ending on May 1st 2024.

Starting in September, we will start with activities in the region with the current plan of hosting a conference in Naples or Rome, a seminar in Lugano, and further projects in Milan and Switzerland that will be decided upon in the strategic plan to be outlined in August.

The seminar planned to take place in Lugano will host a tailored Advanced Media Content Training for the Italian and Swiss Local Coordinators to fulfil the outcomes of the grant proposal.

FINANCIAL REPORT

As of June 21, 2023, \$4,290 out of the \$15,000 from the grant has been spent. This amount covered the expenses to bring 8 Local Coordinators to LibertyCon Europe 2023.