

NEED TO KNOW

Refugee Project Launched

On 14 June, Jean-Paul Gutiérrez attended the sociocultural event “SOS Refugiados” organised in Madrid, Spain, by former EI Executive Board member, José Campos Trujillo. With his Confederación Sindical de Comisiones Obreras’ team, Campos Trujillo has been able to gather national personalities from show business and from various political parties and NGOs. This event was organised in advance of a march on 20 June where people urged all governments, and specially European ones, to not give up on human rights and on refugees and migrants.



The education union Federación de Enseñanza: Comisiones Obreras is in the 1st phase of the Migrants/ Refugees project, which EI launched in cooperation with Open Society Foundations (OSF). The Spanish union is developing three local projects to be implemented at the most local level (schools, welcoming centers). At this stage, projects are still under development and have not been announced yet. Education International is planning a visit in September to the places where the projects will be implemented.

IT Summer Sessions

After the successful transition to Windows 10 and its cloud environment, some questions remained unanswered, for example: Where am I supposed to save my files? How do I manage my outlook contacts to keep them up to date? What are the new tools allowing me to work in a more collaborative manner? Does it also work with colleagues in the regions? Or with members and partner organisations?

Consequently, from mid-July until mid-September, head office staff members are invited to follow a series of information and training sessions to refresh their knowledge. In so far as possible, these sessions will also be made available to staff members in the different regions.

More detailed information will follow, but feel free to already contact [Ahmad](#) or [Wim](#) if you want to book your session, and don't hesitate to share with them any specific topic or problem that you would like to address during the session.

CRM Maintenance

Did you know that all the contact details of EI member organisations, staff members and partner organisations are preciously kept in a central database (also known as CRM) and updated on a regular basis? [Edwin](#) is in charge of guaranteeing the accuracy of the collected data. So, every time you hear about a newly elected General Secretary, a member organisation's new address, a new member in one of EI's networks, or you get an e-mail bouncing back, etc., please let Edwin know without delay.

CALENDAR EVENTS

27 June-7 July – NEA' s Annual Meeting and Representative Assembly

EI's DGS David Edwards, Mar Candela and Steve Snider are attending the NEA's annual meeting and representative assembly in Washington, DC. Among other topics, EI's Global response to the privatisation and commercialisation in and of education is front and centre.

13 July – Seminar on Education Changes for EI Staff

At this seminar to take place at the EI head office in Brussels, Dennis Shirley, Professor of Education at the Lynch School of Education at Boston College, will highlight the new imperatives of education changes and the way these will impact EI's work. Attendance is subject to prior reservation. For more information, please contact [Raphaël](#).

18-21 July – AFT's Convention

President Susan Hopgood is joining the UNESCO Director-General Irina Bokova as a key speaker at the 84th AFT Convention, in Minneapolis, Minnesota, celebrating the trade union's 100th anniversary. Claude Carroué and Helena Schultz are excited to promote EI at the EI info stand.

5-6 September – Speak Truth to Power Symposium

Building on the memorable Speak Truth to Power event held last year at the EI World Congress, this symposium hosted by EI in Brussels, Belgium, will help to develop and enhance human rights' curriculum.

[Full EI Calendar available here \(on Sharepoint - requires login\)](#)

STAFF IS FANTASTIC

El's Running Team

The El running team is coming together. We're working on the El-branded t-shirts for the team so there will be no mistaking us when we cross the finish line. With about 12 weeks to go until the race, now is the perfect time to begin training. Check out the [beginner running programme](#) to help you prepare for the big day. To officially join the team, please email [Andrew](#). Once we know how many we have, we are going to organise some weekly runs.

El Latin America

In June, the El Latin American office supported Argentinian affiliates' struggle to see the investment in education increased from 6% to 10% of the gross domestic product.



The Latin American staff also celebrated Jacqueline Calderón's birthday with a delicious traditional Caribbean dish made of rice, beans, coconut milk and Panamanian peppers, and chicken in Caribbean coconut sauce. A great meal and a great time!

ETUCE

The European office is bidding farewell to Alexandra Rüdig Ironside. For the past five years Alex has focused on issues related to social dialogue and working conditions, as well as human and trade union rights and solidarity. Alex is saying goodbye to the European capital to experience a Rocky Mountain high in Denver, USA, with her family. We wish you all the best for the future, Alex!

El Head Office

Mikhail Smirnov has joined El as a consultant from 1st July 2016, to work on El's November conference "Education of refugee children: fast track to Equal opportunities and integration," taking place in Stockholm. Mikhail is primarily

working on developing the conference background document, the conference website and its report. He will also provide Russian translation of selected news items for the website. Welcome Mikhail!

Euro 2016

As the nail biting stress of the European Football Championship hits fever pitch, Ahmad (France), Charlie (Germany), David (Wales), Dominique (Iceland), Martin (Portugal), Nikola (Italy) and Petra (Belgium) are still in the race (or rather their teams are!) to win El's Euro Soccer 2016 lotto!

Job Interviews

Selection interviews for the position of Coordinator-Development Cooperation will take place on 6 July, and those for the European Director's position will take place on 7 July.

Holidays

For colleagues ready for some rest and relaxation, summer vacations in the northern hemisphere are just around the corner. Enjoy your well-deserved time off!

SPOTLIGHT

Learn about one of your colleagues each month when they step under the spotlight! This is the occasion to get to know each other a bit better as well as to discover the different roles and functions held in El. This month:

Anand Singh of Education International's Asia-Pacific Office.

Hailing from India, Anand was born and raised in Banda, one of the more challenging districts in Uttar Pradesh.

Prior to joining El, he taught history for six years to undergraduate students at the Ramjas College, University of Delhi, in New Delhi. He also worked as teachers' coordinator within the Indian National Coalition for Education of the Global Campaign for Education, a civil society movement working to end the global education crisis by making sure that states ensure free, quality public education for all. This allowed Anand to work with El affiliates in India, get to know teacher unions closely, and learn the basics of trade unionism.



What are your main tasks within the El Asia-Pacific regional office?

I am responsible for implementing El programmes and activities focusing on the promotion of free quality public education in the Asia-Pacific region, particularly the Education 2030 Agenda and the Global Response to the privatisation and commercialisation in and of education.

I am also engaged in activities aiming to build member organisations' capacities and strengthen union leadership, through training

programmes such as the John M. Thompson Fellowship.

What about your work with El do you enjoy the most?

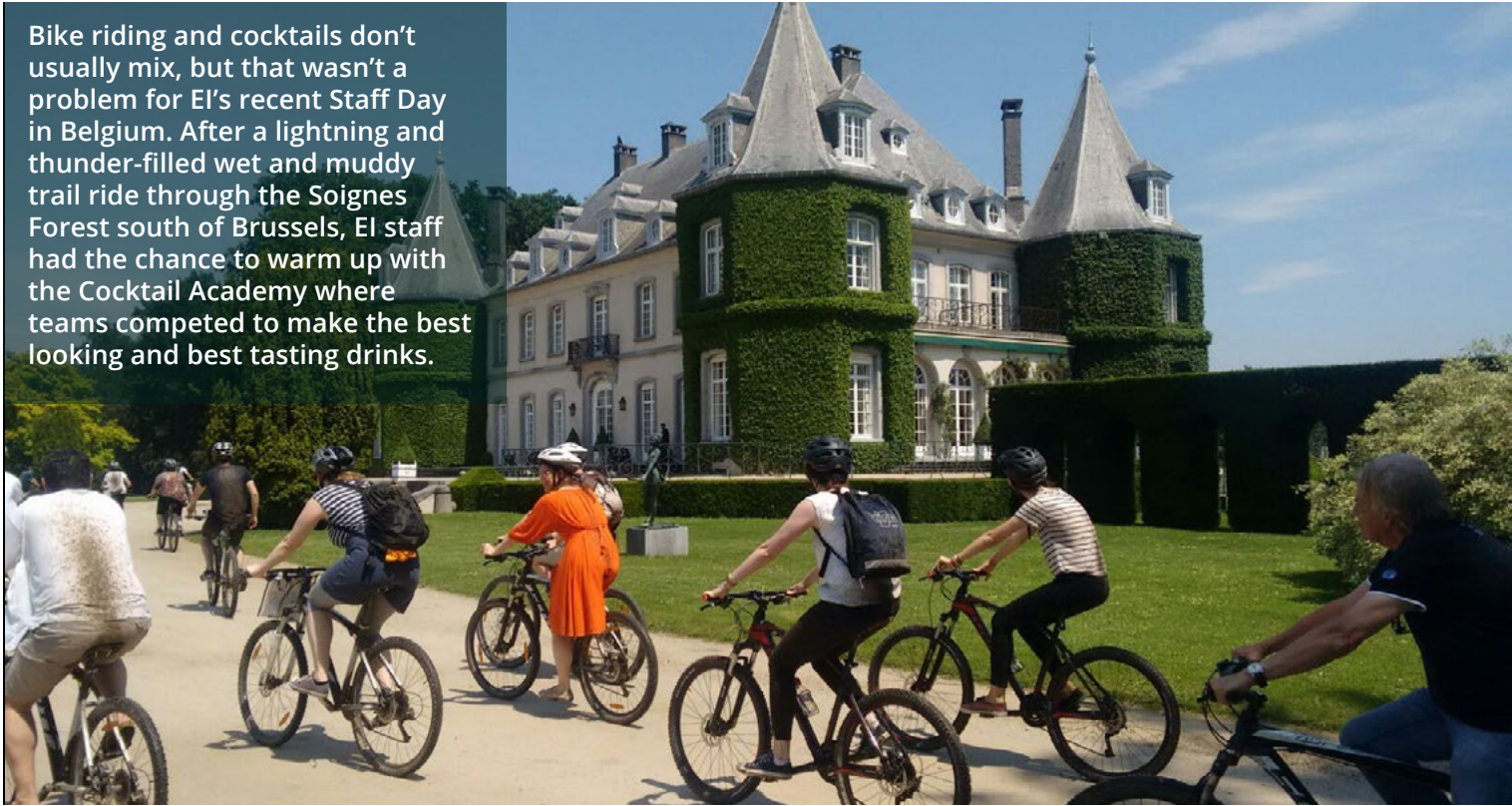
Working with El gives me the opportunity to meet teachers and education union leaders from different parts of the world, and learn from their experiences. Having been a teacher myself, I can strongly relate to the issues I work on at El; this brings me huge motivation.

What keeps you busy away from work?

Activities I enjoy the most are listening to old-style music, and cooking Indian food, to my friends' delight I shall add! I am also an avid reader and traveller.

STAFF DAY

Bike riding and cocktails don't usually mix, but that wasn't a problem for EI's recent Staff Day in Belgium. After a lightning and thunder-filled wet and muddy trail ride through the Soignes Forest south of Brussels, EI staff had the chance to warm up with the Cocktail Academy where teams competed to make the best looking and best tasting drinks.



BIRTHDAYS

July

- 4 John Bangs
- 8 Esenam Tekpor
- 10 Anand Singh
- 10 Dennis Sinyolo
- 11 Antonia Wulff
- 13 Samuel Grumiau
- 20 Frédérik Destrée
- 24 Stéphane Ponsard

August

- 7 Shashi Bala Singh
- 15 Undarmaa Batsukh
- 15 Edwin Pijman
- 20 Pathma Krishnan
- 22 Zoubida L'Oujdia



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We hope that you have enjoyed the second edition of UP NEXT.

Don't hesitate to contribute or offer feedback!