

**Board of Directors**

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## Activity Report 2007

### 1. General Meeting

On March 30, 2007, the annual general meeting was conducted on the premises of the Stuttgart-Botnang tennis school. Ten members were present. In regard to the details, a comprehensive record of the meeting is available.

### 2. Board of Directors

At the general meeting the board of directors, whose two-year period of office will not terminate until 2008, were discharged for the year 2006. The board convened multiple times over the course of the year for meetings, in which Ingrid Halbritter, the voluntary project leader on-site, also participated. The resolutions of the board of directors are documented in writing.

### 3. Revenue

Aside from membership fees (EUR 180.00), EUR 20,177.00 was raised from private donations for humanitarian projects. The revenue in the area of education amounted to EUR 12,192.00.

### 4. Expenditure

2,500.00 was disbursed for the support of EUR the indigent family M. in Sarajevo. The family receives monthly support to the amount of EUR 250.00.

EUR 14,453.26 was disbursed for various humanitarian projects in the remote area of Fakovici in Eastern Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Other small disbursements (postage, providers, insurance) together gave a sum of

EUR 366.39. All administrative activities were carried out voluntarily in the year 2007.

### 5. Media and Public Relations

The website of the association ([www.pharos-online.org](http://www.pharos-online.org)) was redesigned, and noticeably expanded. It is now available in both the German and English languages. Both areas of activity – humanitarian and educational work – are outlined, while the humanitarian work is described in detail with two Bosnian letters from Ingrid Halbritter. The Stuttgart weekly paper reported on the work of Pharos on 20/12/07.

On November 26, 2007 Pharos, in cooperation with the Leinfelden Echterdingen Adult Education Centre and with the support of the Evangelical Parish of Echterdingen, organised an education and information evening in the Evangelical Parish Hall in Echterdingen.

The title of the evening was: "A first-hand account: Bosnia between the effects of war and European integration." Pharos founding members Prof. Wolfgang Schumann, Ragnar Müller and Ingrid Halbritter held speeches on the topics: "South-Eastern Europe and EU Integration", "The Political Situation in Bosnia-Herzegovina" and "Social Circumstance and Humanitarian Projects."

The evening was well attended, with approx. 100 listeners. Ingrid Halbritter's speech is available on the website.

## 6. Education Projects

The Pharos team of experts is sporadically commissioned for services by other organisations on a contractual basis. For these, only the costs which arise are covered. Invoicing is carried out via Pharos, who in such cases acts as a cooperative partner.

**6.1.** The office of the Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association [IIZ-DVV] in Pristina, Kosovo, in June commissioned Ingrid Halbritter, who is a contract worker for Pharos, to conduct a two-day further education course for teachers and employees of educational organisations and authorities on the topic of "Introduction to Education in Democracy." The value of the contract was EUR 600.00. The report of the Institute for International Cooperation of the German Adult Education Association: [http://www.inebis.org/index.php?module==pagemaster&PAGE\\_user\\_op-viewpage&PAGE\\_id-243&MMN\\_position==236:225:235](http://www.inebis.org/index.php?module==pagemaster&PAGE_user_op-viewpage&PAGE_id-243&MMN_position==236:225:235).

**6.2.** The Forum Civil Peace Service [*Forum Ziviler Friedensdienst*] in Bonn led a 10-day study trip through Serbia, Kosovo and Macedonia in September, 2007, for which Ingrid Halbritter was engaged as an expert on a freelance basis. The value of the contract was EUR 810.00.

**6.3.** The Austrian Organisation *Kulturkontakt* commissioned Pharos to develop a worksheet on the topic of "Effect-Oriented Project Management," and to conduct a two-day further education course in October on the same topic. Participants in the further education course included Austrian educational delegates and teachers on leave who are active in the area of education in various Eastern and South-Eastern European countries.

The value of the contract was EUR 1,230.00. Kulturkontakt online: [www.kulturkontakt.or.at](http://www.kulturkontakt.or.at)

**6.4.** In November, the Forum Civil Peace Service engaged Ingrid Halbritter to conduct a two-day training course on the topic of "Teaching and Learning Peace". Participants included future qualified peacekeepers. Value of the contract: EUR 800.00. Advertisement: <http://www.forumzfd.de/gesamtfprogramm.html#1251>.

**6.5.** The Goethe Institute in Sarajevo engaged Ingrid Halbritter, who is a contract worker for Pharos, to develop and lead a further education course for German teachers as part of the complete Bosnia-Herzegovina teaching seminar in Bjelasnica, Sarajevo. The topic of the further education course was: "D for Deutsch – D for Democracy. Teaching Democracy in German Class." Value of the contract: EUR 500.00.

**6.6.** The EU-financed Civic Education Project in the Ukraine commissioned Ingrid Halbritter to conduct a workshop for teachers as part of a conference in Kiev at the beginning of December. The workshop considered the topic of participatory education. Value of the contract: EUR 1,750.00. Project website: <http://www.civiced.org.ua/eng/index.php>.

**6.7.** The Centre for Peace Studies and Peace Education of the University of Klagenfurth [*Zentrum für Friedensforschung und Friedenspädagogik der Universität Klagenfurth*] commissioned Pharos to research funding possibilities for the planned university study course of Peace Education. Value of the contract: EUR 400.00. Website of the peace centre: [www.uniklu.ac.at/frieden](http://www.uniklu.ac.at/frieden).

**6.8.** In June, 2007, Pharos applied for membership of the European network for democracy and human rights education, DARE, and was accepted by the members' assembly. Ingrid Halbritter made herself available for the election of the new board of directors, and was elected unanimously as the second deputy chairperson of the board. She will fulfil this role on an honorary basis. Pharos was commissioned for the redevelopment of the DARE website: [www.dare-network.org](http://www.dare-network.org).

## 7. Humanitarian Projects

**7.1. Family M:** The indigent family M. in Sarajevo has been supported with a monthly contribution of EUR 250.00 since October 2005. The family, however, still resides in so-called "secondary accommodation" of 25m<sup>2</sup> in size. In April, 2007, the responsible social welfare authority became involved, and threatened to house the children in a home because of the unacceptable living conditions.

The Pharos co-ordinator Ingrid Halbritter, on a voluntary basis, thereupon organised multiple interviews with the responsible authorities (social welfare office, local government, cantonal social ministry). The objective was to find out what the local authorities could do to improve the living situation. The result of these efforts was that the case of the family M. was placed on the agenda of a local committee, which makes accommodation owned by the local authorities available in social cases of homelessness or the threat of homelessness. As of December 21, 2007, the committee was yet to reach a decision.

**7.2. Support of a Romany mother without income:** The 40 year-old Zada B. has a four and a half year-old son.

She supports him, and herself, by begging. She receives no assistance from the state whatsoever, and does not have health insurance as she has no documents of any kind.

Pharos member Ingrid Halbritter assists her in her dealings with the local authorities which she, sick and illiterate, cannot conduct herself. In 2007 Pharos, working on a voluntary basis, arranged for the lady to receive personal identification documents, and preliminary administrative work was carried out so that she has now received the status of unemployed and incapacitated single mother – an administrative precondition for her and her child to receive health insurance, and to receive child benefits.

In addition, Mrs. B. received a wood stove and a solid cubic metre of firewood as material assistance, together amounting to a value of EUR 130.00.

**7.3. Agricultural Relief Project: Distribution of Chicks and Feed** – the project decided upon by the board in 2006 was conducted in two rounds in spring, 2007. Forty-eight indigent families in the area surrounding the Bosnian town of Fakovici received a total of 3000 chickens, and feed, as a donation.

Twenty-five mostly older individuals and couples without any income each received ten fully grown and slaughtered hens from these families as humanitarian relief. The forty-eight families raised the chickens, fed them and sold them at a profit at the local market.

One family, which received 100 chickens and sold 70 of them at the market, thereby achieved a profit of EUR 368.00 – from which new chickens and seeds could be purchased.

**7.4. Humane Accommodation for Refugee Couple:** Pharos, with a grant of EUR 1,750.00, made it possible for a refugee couple of over 70 years of age, who lived for years in a dilapidated, cramped former bakery, to purchase a wooden prefabricated house, which was erected on property provided without cost by the local authorities.

**7.5. Relief in Individual Cases:** A widower of over 70 years of age, who lives with his two mentally disabled children in a war-torn village, was given a chainsaw by Pharos, which he needs to cut wood.

**7.6. Individual Sponsorship:** A member of Pharos decided to take over the individual sponsorship of an eleven year-old girl from Fakovici and her family, who live

below the poverty line, supporting them with EUR 50.00 per month. There has already been contact between the sponsor and the girl. Pharos is still looking for an individual sponsor for a five year-old boy.

## Many thanks!

The generous support of our donors and the voluntary commitments of our many helpers have enabled us to alleviate hardship, to stimulate developments and, with education projects, make a contribution to a better world. For this, we thank you with all our heart!

Stuttgart, the 31st of December, 2007

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## Arrival of the chickens in Fakovici

