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Statement for the elections of the INGO Conference Standing Committee, April 2021

Brussels, 16 February 2021

The European Federation for Intercultural Learning has been working together with the Council of Europe since 1974 for the promotion of intercultural learning, in particular by nurturing an European network of volunteers running youth exchanges and long term pupil mobility programmes. We are since then partners of the European Youth Foundation, contributing to the development of European youth work. EFIL has actively taken part in the works of the INGO conference in the last five years, bringing youth representatives to discuss the crucial matters for civil society in Europe. Recently, we have just become observer members of the Steering Committee for Education Policy and Practice (CDPPE) of the Council of Europe. From an organisational perspective, we feel ready to contribute with a greater level of commitment in the construction of the post-Covid19 Europe, in light of the principles of 'Living together in diversity'.

I have personally a long history of cooperation with the Council of Europe, having been involved in youth work and policy for the last 15 years, first with the European Youth Information and Counselling Agency (ERYICA) and then as Policy and Research officer at the partnership between the Council of Europe and the European Union in the Youth field.

The organisational and personal motivation and experience are at the basis of my candidacy as Standing Committee member of the INGO Conference, where I wish to bring my knowledge of the youth and education sector in Europe, the familiarity with the Council of Europe's work and institutions, and a strong belief in the key role of civil society in promoting human rights, democracy and the rule of law.

The new Rules of Procedures provide a great frame to allow all INGOs to work collectively as recognised partner of the CoE.

Best greetings

Davide Capecchi

EFIL Secretary General

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