



**AZERBAIJAN 2017**

**13<sup>TH</sup> WORLD SCOUT  
YOUTH FORUM**



**Press kit**



**SCOUTS**  
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## Welcome message

On behalf of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) and the host team, The Association of Scouts of Azerbaijan (ASA), we are honoured to have you at our 13<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum here in Gabala, Azerbaijan.

Themed 'Dream... Believe... Act...', this exciting Forum that will be held from 7-10 August 2017, brings together youth representatives from our 167 National Scout Organizations.

While the highlight of the Forum is the election of the Youth Advisors to the 2017-2020 World Scout Committee, of equal importance are the sessions focused on Active citizenship, Sustainability, Leadership and reporting as well as the presentations. The Forum also provides a learning opportunity for young people to practice WOSM's decision-making process.

In the next few pages, you will find

- the general information on WOSM
- the general information on the ASA
- the bio of the World Scout Committee Chairperson
- the bio of the Secretary General of WOSM
- the bio of the 13<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum Chairperson
- a list of Frequently Asked Questions

Should you need more information, please contact

- Local Media – Nigar Babayeva, Host Committee Media Team Manager, [press@wsc2017.az](mailto:press@wsc2017.az), +994 55 210 05 67
- International Media - Dong-Wook Lee, WOSM Global Director of Communications and External Relations, [dw.lee@scout.org](mailto:dw.lee@scout.org), +60-12-636-3056



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## **The World Organization of the Scout Movement**

The World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM) is a worldwide, non-profit and non-partisan organisation with over 40 million Scouts, male and female. It operates through a network of national Scout groups in at least 224 countries and territories.

Since its establishment in 1907, the Scout Movement has contributed to the building a better world through the personal commitment of hundreds of millions of women and men living up to the values of Scouting and working towards achieving its Mission.

Scouting's mission is to contribute to the education of young people through a value system based on the Scout Promise and Law, and to help build a better world where people are self-fulfilled as individuals and play a constructive role in society.

This is achieved by involving them throughout their formative years in a non-formal educational process, using a specific method that empowers young people to be the principal agent of his or her development as a self-reliant, supportive, responsible and committed person; and assisting them to establish a value system based upon spiritual, social and personal principles as expressed in the Promise and Law.

Recognising today's challenges, World Scouting is prepared for future challenges. Building on its experience, it looks toward the future with renewed enthusiasm as new generations of girls and boys join in to 'play the game' that will make them the future leaders of social change, breaking barriers and building peace.



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## **The Association of Scouts of Azerbaijan**

The Association of Scouts of Azerbaijan (ASA) was established when, Namik Jafarov, the founder and first President of the ASA gathered the pioneering members of the organisation and pitched the first Scout tent on 11 October 1997 in Nabran, northern Azerbaijan.

Headquartered in the heart of Baku, the National Scout Association has, for the past 20 years, developed and improved its organisational structure, enhanced its management system, launched and implemented many major projects, as well as organised annual international camps.

On 20 August 2000, the ASA joined the World Organization of the Scout Movement and has since been an active member of the Eurasia Scout Region. In addition to that, it is a member of the National Assembly of Youth Organizations of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

The ASA plays a significant role in educating the new generation of young people in Azerbaijan. Today, there are more than 1,750 members from 16 regions in the country. Its active promotion and development of Scouting in Azerbaijan, has led to the significant growth of Scouting in Baku and its neighbouring regions, resulting not only in more members but also new partners.

Between 2014-2017, the Association delivered over 210 local Scout projects and events. Additionally, it organises yearly programmes and annual summer camps for its members, and regularly represents Azerbaijani Scouting at Regional and World level events. The current president of the ASA is Ilyas Ismayilli.

## Biography - World Scout Committee Chairperson



Dr. João Armando Gonçalves is the Chairperson of the World Scout Committee, the executive body of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM).

Driven by his passion to serve others, especially young people, Dr. Gonçalves contributed to his local group through various roles for 13 years since 1976 before becoming a member of the National Board in 2000. Throughout his tenure, he held responsibilities which covered the areas of Educational Methods, Roving, Sea Scouting and Strategic Planning.

In 2004, Dr. Gonçalves was elected to serve in the European Scout Committee of WOSM and was subsequently re-elected in 2007. As a Committee member, he focused on Educational Methods, Youth Involvement and Youth Events for the European Scout Region. He was elected as a World Scout Committee member in 2011 at the 39<sup>th</sup> World Scout Conference (Brazil) and re-elected at the 40<sup>th</sup> World Scout Conference (Slovenia) followed by an appointment as Chairperson.

Born in 1963, Dr. Gonçalves holds a Ph.D. in Spatial Planning and Environment, an MSc in Urban Engineering and a degree in Civil Engineering. He is an Assistant Professor at the Polytechnic Institute of Coimbra, Portugal where he currently resides with his family.

## Biography – Secretary General of WOSM



Ahmad Alhendawi is the 10<sup>th</sup> Secretary General of the World Organization of the Scout Movement (WOSM), becoming the youngest to helm one of the world's leading educational youth movements. Prior to his appointment in WOSM, Mr. Alhendawi served as the first-ever United Nations Secretary General's Envoy on Youth and the youngest senior official in the history of the UN.

Since the beginning of his career history, Mr. Alhendawi has been a practitioner and strong advocate of youth development and empowerment. Once a Scout himself, he believes that Scouting holds a major solution for youth development in the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

Before his career at the UN, he served as Youth Policy Advisor for the League of Arab States, a Team Leader for the National Youth Policy Project in Iraq, Youth Programme Associate at the Iraq office of the UN Population Fund, Emergency Programme Officer at Save the Children and as a Regional Consultant supporting the Danish Youth Council's projects in the Middle East and North Africa.

Mr. Alhendawi was named for two consecutive years as one of the 100 most influential Arabs under 40 and in the Diplomatic Courier's list of the 99 most influential policy professionals under 33. In 2008, he was selected by the International Youth Foundation as a recipient of the 2008 YouthActionNet Fellowship.

Ahmad Alhendawi holds a Master's degree in Advanced European and International Relations from the Institut Européen (Nice, France) and a Bachelor's degree in computer information systems from the Al-Balqa Applied University in Jordan.

A Jordanian by birth, he has studied and worked in Jordan, Iraq, Egypt, Turkey, France, Germany and the United States.

## Biography – 13<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum Chairperson



Jeremy Apert is the Chairperson of the 13<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum (WSYF), the main event of WOSM's youth involvement mechanism.

Involved in Scouting since he was ten, Jeremy went through the Scouting educational programme before becoming a Scout Leader for the 6-8 and 11-14 age groups.

While his studies took him to the United Kingdom, he joined the European Scout Region as an external representative and started representing the Movement. His work focused on advocating for better rights for European young people towards the European Institutions. This particular work was done in cooperation with other youth organisations in the European Youth Forum. He is also involved at the national level with the Scouts et Guides de France

where he held several positions within the international team.

In 2014, Jeremy was elected as a Youth Advisor to the World Scout Committee and subsequently elected Chairperson of the 13<sup>th</sup> WSYF. Besides working on the planning of the WSYF, he was involved in the WOSM's External Relations Unit, and promoting sustainability and increased youth participation in all aspects of the work of WOSM.

Born in Paris, he studied Politics and International Relations in France and the United Kingdom. He is currently working as a project coordinator for the Erasmus Student Network, the association of Erasmus students.

## Frequently Asked Questions

1. What is the Wi-Fi password?  
No password is required.
2. How do I obtain press releases and photographs of the Forum?  
Recent and past WOSM press releases may be viewed and downloaded at [www.scout.org/press](http://www.scout.org/press). You may download photos of the Forum from the World Scouting [Flickr page](#) or [media gallery](#).

Press releases for local media in Azerbaijani language may be viewed and download at [www.wsc2017.az](http://www.wsc2017.az). You may also request for it by emailing [press@wsc2017.az](mailto:press@wsc2017.az).

3. Where can I view the Forum programme?  
You may view it at the [Forum programme page](#).
4. How do I arrange to interview someone at the Forum?  
You may contact the following persons:

Local Media - Local Media – Nigar Babayeva, Host Committee Media Team Manager, [press@wsc2017.az](mailto:press@wsc2017.az), +994 55 210 05 67

International Media - Dong-Wook, Lee, World Scout Bureau Global Director of Communications and External Relations, [dw.lee@scout.org](mailto:dw.lee@scout.org), +60-12-636-3056

5. How do I get the latest news and updates about the Forum?  
The latest news and updates about the Forum are available at the [13<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum website](#) and [41<sup>st</sup> World Scout Conference and 13<sup>th</sup> World Scout Youth Forum Facebook page](#).
6. Who do I contact if I have questions?  
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For more information about World Scouting, visit [www.scout.org](http://www.scout.org).