

22nd Jubilee Congress of the Soroptimist International of Europe Association in Krakow

2019-11-21

On July 2-4, 2021, the 22nd Congress of the Soroptimists Association will be held at the ICE Kraków Congress Center.

The Soroptimist International Association was founded in 1921 in Oakland, California. Today, Soroptimist clubs are scattered around 122 countries. In 2021, the association will celebrate its 100th anniversary.

The Soroptimist International Association of the Americas is organizing the 100th anniversary celebration for members of all federations on October 1-3, 2021 in San Francisco, while the Soroptimist International Association of Europe, individual associations, individual clubs and management will celebrate this event in Krakow.

The Soroptimist International Association includes about 90,000 members in 125 countries, as a non-governmental organization (NGO), it has the status of a consultant at the United Nations and therefore access to UN centers in: New York, Geneva, Vienna, Rome, Nairobi and Paris as well as the right to speak. The Association was founded in California in 1921 and its name derives from the Latin words "soror" and "optima", which is interpreted as "what is best for women" (literally - "the best sister").

The SI European Federation includes 35,000 members in 60 countries associated in 1,230 clubs. There are currently 10 clubs in Poland with approximately 250 members. The clubs are, in turn, concentrated in the Union of Polish Clubs, which was founded in 1995, as the first in our part of Europe.

The SI European Federation has the status of participant in the Council of Europe based in Strasbourg, is a member of the European Women's Lobby based in Brussels and is represented in the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe based in Vienna.

Ms. Anna Wszelaczyńska from Poland was the Vice President of the SI European Federation in 2017-2019 and then the President-elect in 2018-2019 for the 2019-2021 term.

On October 1, 2019, Anna Wszelaczyńska solemnly assumed the office of the President of the SI European Federation in the 2019-2021 term. Anna Wszelaczyńska is a member of the First Krakow Soroptimist International Club.

The Soroptimist International Association is an international organization working for women. It is a non-political, apolitical and non-denominational organization (NGO). It brings together women who face the challenges of today's world in a group, a group of like-minded people, creating a professional and social network of women. They eagerly help others and themselves - on a micro and macro scale.

Soroptimists inspire actions and create conditions for improving the lives of women and girls through our global network of members, their social and partner connections. SIE activities improve the quality of life and living standards for women and girls through access to



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education, raising their status and providing development opportunities. The association is a global voice of women and girls, a spokesperson for their right to education and taking managerial positions.