



Quaker
Council for
European
Affairs

Annual Report

2017

Introduction



QCEA brings a vision based on the Quaker commitment to peace, justice and equality to Europe and its institutions.

2017 was the year that QCEA's new approach began to bear fruit. We highlighted the plight of child migrants in detention. We challenged the EU's push towards militarisation. And we established the Quaker model of 'quiet diplomacy' in Brussels far more quickly than we had imagined.

The response to large-scale migration is the greatest human rights challenge in Europe today. As Quakers we continue to speak up for the humanity of all people and the importance of treating everyone with dignity and respect. Our staff and volunteers have focused on aspects of migration that others have ignored, producing the very first Europe-wide survey of child immigration detention. The picture is worrying, with major differences between countries in how many children they detain and the conditions in which they do so. Simply put, we are in a position to remind governments and institutions that people are not problems, that they and their rights must be respected despite the pressures. QCEA's work in this area came out at almost the same time as a report on the same issue from the EU's human rights agency, showing the timeliness of our work. It has been widely referenced at child rights and migration meetings since then.

We also identified work being done by Quakers across Europe on refugee and migration issues, identifying gaps and putting groups in touch with others doing similar work. One connection to come from this in 2017 is the development by Quaker psychotherapists across Europe of the 'Helping the Helpers' project to prevent burnout among volunteers who support refugees, to be rolled out in 2018.

Our peace programme identified the problem of increased European militarisation and developed the tools and the evidence base to allow us to knowledgeably speak out against it. We have put together a detailed toolkit showing how all sectors of society can contribute to nonviolent conflict resolution and peace. Furthermore, we developed new ways of getting our message out, hosting a sold-out film screening and talk about the arms trade and finding ways to reach people at the intellectual and emotional levels.

Quiet diplomacy, providing a safe environment where officials can meet people and say things they couldn't in more formal settings, has been practised by Quakers for decades, notably at the United Nations. The response to our quiet diplomacy work in Brussels confirms our belief that this is the right approach at the right time and that we are filling a gap in European policymaking. Attendance and feedback have both been very positive and we are exploring how to increase the use of this method in 2018.

QCEA still faces some major challenges. Global trends in peace and human rights give cause for concern. Our ability to continue this work will be constrained without extra funds (see *treasurer's report*). And we are a small voice in the clamour of European advocacy and lobbying. But we believe that our influence outweighs our size, and we work to ensure that people do hear what we have to say, and that we are speaking in ways that are practical, wise and humane.

**Quaker
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We have worked to bring a Quaker vision of peace, justice and equality to Europe and its institutions. In 2017 we delivered the radical message of our supporters to hard-to-reach policymakers in one of the most important cities on the planet.

- It has involved speaking to audiences in the European Parliament and at a film screening at a cinema we hired.
- Our guests in Quaker House included homeless migrants and the Chair of the European Parliament's Foreign Affairs Committee.
- Our quiet diplomacy has hosted conversations between relevant governments and European institutions on topics ranging from how surprising North-South Korea initiatives can provide the creativity needed to walk the path to peace, to the unintended consequences of building a fortress Europe.

This was achieved with support of our pan-European network of volunteers and a new staffing structure identified by the previous year's organisational review, reaching our full complement of staff in May 2017.

PHOTO: ANDREW LANE

Programme work

Peace programme

The QCEA peace programme encourages Europe and its institutions to engage with European and worldwide security challenges through nonviolent, civilian and peacebuilding approaches.

In 2017 this was achieved through three work streams:

- the Building Peace Together research project, which concluded with the publication of a landmark report at the beginning of 2018;
- continuous engagement at different levels with a variety of policymakers;
- the organisation of events to rethink the most pressing security challenges.

Increasing our visibility in Brussels

In parallel to the report, QCEA has developed a research database which compiles over 300 sources on peacebuilding, searchable by theme and geographic area. QCEA has also launched an innovative tool, *EU Watch* – a calendar of EU events on the QCEA website, available for all to view upcoming EU policy discussions and events on peace and security. Together these initiatives have raised awareness of QCEA as a source of quality information.

Part of what makes QCEA a relevant actor in the peace and security arena is keeping up to speed with EU policies and trends. Another is being visible. Given the importance QCEA gives to a holistic understanding of security, we need to be in many places and address many discussions. The QCEA blog also spread our peace message, on issues such as EU defence summits and the importance of people-to-people exchanges for building peace.

Developments at the EU

2017 has been a year of military developments at the EU, somewhat overshadowing the original purpose of the EU as a peace project. Several steps have been made to reinforce EU military institutions. The Military Planning and Conduct Capability (MPCC) was legally established in June, effectively forming a headquarters for joint military missions. The Permanent Structured Cooperation (PESCO) was also set up enabling member states to make more binding commitments on military operations.

Additionally, steps were taken at a financial level. In June, the European Defence Fund was officially launched, investing €5.5 billion per year to boost Europe's arms industries – at the cost of other sectors.

European governments prioritised militarism over development. The European Parliament approved the legal basis for Capacity Building and Security for Development (CBSD) for using funds initially dedicated to development to train and equip armies in third countries.



↑ A military presence in our streets has become normalised. QCEA aims to show civilian responses to security challenges can be viable alternatives.
PHOTO: ANDREW LANE



↑ Laetitia Sédou, Andrew Feinstein and QCEA's Olivia Caeymaex speak at our film screening in March.
PHOTO: KATE McNALLY

Bringing arms trade concerns into the mainstream

In March QCEA organised a film screening on the global arms trade and its impact on multiple levels of society which attracted over 200 people. Following the film screening, QCEA introduced Andrew Feinstein, author of the book *Shadow World*, and Laetitia Sédou, who coordinates the European Network Against Arms Trade (ENAAAT), who addressed the audience.

Two Members of the European Parliament, Arne Lietz from the Social Democrats and Bodil Valero from the Greens, shared their experiences of working at the political level. Anti-arms trade organisations then provided tips for action and engagement to the audience, as a way to finish the event on a constructive note.

QCEA holds regular meetings with ENAAAT, hosted in the QCEA office, which serve as essential exchanges of information. We met Members of the European Parliament and continued to participate in the European Forum on Armed Drones (EFAD), founded by QCEA in 2016.

Multilateralism: working for a world of cooperation

Our event, *International Responses to North Korea's Nuclear Threat: what alternatives to sanctions?*, bridged the EU, member states, civil society, and faith-based organisations. QCEA discussed alternatives to sanctions against North Korea in dialogue with the EU, governments, civil society and faith-based organisations. We highlighted opportunities for dialogue and peaceful ways of building confidence.

QCEA participated in discussions organised by the United Nations Liaison Office for Peace and Security (UNLOPS) on the main opportunities relating to the partnership between the United Nations and the European Union in peace and security, in light of the new international geopolitical context. EU-UN cooperation was also discussed at an event at leading thinktank, the Centre for European Policy Studies where QCEA made the case for long-term strategy and a vision in cooperation.

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Designing and revising curricula

Curricula can be manipulated to entrench ideas of superiority and inferiority or to consolidate distinct identities. Adapting curricula to be conflict-sensitive requires a conflict- and participatory approach that involves students, educators, publishers and key societal groups. The structure of an education publishing industry, the role of media in setting the curriculum, and the production of textbooks are important aspects as well as lesson content but also convey values and express official national narratives and identities.

Potential conflict-sensitive revisions include increasing the representation of minority groups or leaving gaps, or including the differing experiences of diverse societal groups. Such initiatives may aid efforts to reconcile conflicting memories and narratives.

Adapting the curriculum should not be about censorship or the enforcement of values, but instead should emphasise the creation of carefully-managed spaces which facilitate discussions and empower varying perspectives. It should also promote critical thinking and participatory learning – key elements of human development which promote reflection and empathy.

THEORY OF CHANGE

- If curricula and courses actively pursue a conflict-sensitive approach (especially when dealing with sensitive subjects, such as those related to ideas of national culture), students can be better equipped to reflect on violent legacies and appreciate different perspectives on events.
- If education systems integrate courses on peace or violence prevention skills (such as negotiation or mediation) into their curricula, students can develop a skill set that has a wider societal benefit when dealing with future conflicts or tensions.
- If students can be taught how to challenge dogma and the 'winner' narrative of history, through critical thinking as a fundamental component of the curriculum, there may be greater awareness about the use of stereotypes or other misconceptions which fuel tensions and violent conflicts.
- If curricula can offer a more representative and inclusive picture of society, they can help to challenge dominant narratives.

EXAMPLES

Rwanda has faced many challenges in its education context. Before the genocide, Rwanda's curriculum was based on ethnicity and class, and the Rwandan government stopped the curriculum from being taught in 2000. In 2004, the Rwandan government started to resume teaching the curriculum again, with books on peace education in Rwanda since 2004. The curriculum aims to teach critical thinking and empathy. The curriculum also covers the attitudes and behaviour of students towards each other.

In addition to dialogue sessions between the Mediterranean region, the European Union has a project called 'Legitimacy for inter-cultural citizenship in the European Union'. This project aims to improve the quality of history education as a foundation for Students' ability to engage in dialogues, debates and negotiations. It covers a wide range of points in history, such as the Lebanese civil war and the Greek civil war in 1923.

LIMITS AND CAVEATS

- Curriculum change may be political approaches may be needed to move from a participatory decision-making model to a top-down one. Publishers and policymakers can help to challenge social hierarchies in the curriculum, teaching methods can be used to challenge social hierarchies in the curriculum.
- Sufficient time and resources have to be allocated to research and a realistic timeline drawn up, excluding costs of travel, staff, equipment, building in the consultation, which is reform design and implementation.
- Language of instruction can be a highly affected contexts. A lack of services for minority languages can form part of larger identity-related issues, such as language rights, minorities, and the right to education, including career opportunities and the right to self-determination.

Building Peace Together: a practical resource

During 2017 the peace programme undertook a significant piece of research that will serve as a basis for our advocacy in the coming years. The report, entitled *Building Peace Together: A practical resource*, showcases a variety of civilian peacebuilding tools relevant to a wide audience, including practitioners and policymakers. The core of the report is structured by ten peacebuilding portfolios, including Education, Economics, Communications and Security.

To avoid silos in thinking and action, the report creates linkages to indicate where there is potential for cooperation. In addition to traditional peacebuilding tools such as dialogue and mediation, the report aims to show creative ways of addressing peace across and between sectors. This approach highlights the fact that while peace work is often conducted at high levels of government, there are in fact a multitude of ways that people at any level of society can work towards a sustainable peace.

Our innovative report also takes readers through a critical thinking process to consider where and how they might be best placed to enhance peaceful relationships.

Nonviolence in the 21st century: promoting civilian policy options

Reaching out across political divides has become part and parcel of our work style. In doing so, QCEA has participated in a variety of events organised by research institutions and, in some cases, hosted in military structures. Examples include events organised by the working groups IECEU and WOSCAP on the EU's mediation capacities and on effectiveness of EU peacebuilding and conflict prevention, and the Friends of Europe think tank on *Europe's tough neighbourhood: urgent challenges in a complex environment*.

This work has brought us into contact with the main advocates for militarism. For example, we were one of the respondents at an event in Paris discussing the EU Global Strategy with EU and French officials. QCEA also spent four days with NATO officials in a discussion of their 'comprehensive approach' – we were a persistent voice for the importance of civilian peacebuilding strategies in discussions that matter.

Multi-faith alliances for peace

QCEA lunches have brought together a wide range of faith-based organisations to discuss EU policies on peace and security. In February our Capacity Building for Security and Development (CBSD) event bridged faith-based, development, humanitarian, peacebuilding, and human rights organisations working in Brussels.

Meanwhile, QCEA has engaged with EU officials on dialogue with churches, religious associations or communities as well as philosophical and non-confessional organisations. QCEA also took part in events organised by faith-based organisations such as the Baha'i International Community's brainstorming sessions on the EU concept of resilience, the Commission of the Bishops' Conferences of the European Community (COMECE) breakfast and prayer on the Pope's message of peace, and a Pax Christi International event on the topic of *Non-Violence: A Style of Politics for Peace*.

Uniting and amplifying the voices of Europe's peacebuilders

QCEA has continued to be an active member of the European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO), regularly supporting their engagement with the EU, serving on their Steering Committee and Project Oversight Group, and participating in several working groups. Over the past year, we have joined with partners at roundtable meetings on the European neighbourhood policy and funding for peacebuilding. QCEA moderated an event on Kosovo, bridging civil society and EU officials on the renewal of the EU's mission mandate. We were also able to provide peacebuilding perspectives on conflict stabilisation to policymakers, and we were part of a discussion with EU officials on the concept of stabilisation – a unique opportunity to share peacebuilding perspectives before the EU finalised its official documents.

In December we organised an event, *Preventing deadlocked or violent elections: lessons from Kenya*. The event brought together EU policymakers and civil society to discuss new ways to prevent violence around elections. We took lessons from Kenya for the situation in Zimbabwe where elections were pending.

Gender on our agenda

Gender equality is central to peacebuilding, but still marginalised in discussions of peace and security in Brussels. We raise the different impacts of policies on women, men, girls and boys, especially where women's voices are under-represented amongst participants. For example, we were invited to participate in a panel discussion organised by the Centre for European Policy Studies (CEPS) on the implementation of the EU Global Strategy and stressed the importance of ensuring an understanding of gender shapes crisis management and conflict prevention. We also hosted and spoke at two Women in International Security (WIIS) events, supporting women to break male domination of this sector.

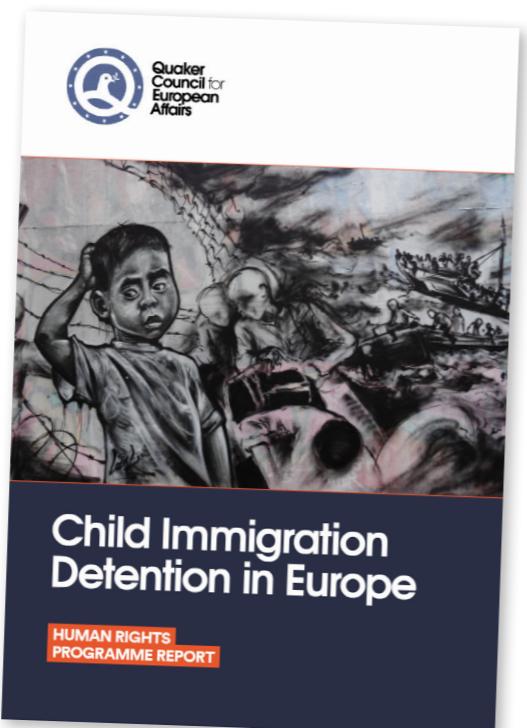
Human Rights programme

Child immigration detention: bringing data into the open

Since the 2015 political crisis around migration, children have been increasingly exposed to human rights violations, including incarceration. In 2017 QCEA contacted governments to request data on the number of children detained in all Council of Europe member countries. The responses were compiled with research into the laws on child detention in each country from the EU Fundamental Rights Agency and evidence of the effectiveness of alternatives to detention. All of this was published in our report *Child Immigration Detention in Europe*. This quickly became the most comprehensive source available on the topic. The report was referred to and commended in several forums, in particular for its section on the differing impact of detention on girls and boys.

The timing of the report allowed QCEA to feed in to the debate by participating in two important events: The Council of Europe's International Conference on the Immigration Detention of Children in Prague, and the 11th European Forum on the rights of the child: *Children deprived of their liberty and alternatives to detention*.

Our partnership relationships also developed during 2017, culminating in co-organising an event with UNICEF and the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. At our event key figures in EU institutions, member states and civil society organisations, with very different views, discussed alternatives to child immigration detention – ending with a Quaker call for us all to listen to each other better in 2018.



Developments at the EU

Europe has continued to elect populist leaders, some of whom have undermined the functioning of democratic pillars and limited the right to exercise core freedoms with the aim of suppressing critics. In all EU Member States, it has become harder for civil society organisations to support the protection, promotion and fulfilment of human rights due to legal and practical restrictions.

Migration policies have disproportionately focused on reducing irregular migration and increasing border management. All of this with very little attempt to increase options for safe and regular migration, and insufficient concern for the human rights and living conditions of asylum seekers.

In 2017 QCEA's human rights programme promoted the basic rights and values that ensure human dignity for all. We focused on the reduction of harm to migrants, particularly detention and other forms of violence, whilst also promoting and supporting existing human rights protection mechanisms, particularly the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR).



↑ David McAllister MEP (right), Chair of the European Parliament Foreign Affairs Committee, visiting Quaker House in April.
PHOTO: MARIO VRSELJA



↑ The Council of Europe's Andrew Cutting at our ECHR Training Day in December.
PHOTO: YOUSIF ABDELRAHMAN

Human rights impact of EU external policy: broadening options

QCEA had significant engagement with policymakers on the impact of EU policy on migrants travelling to Europe, building upon our work on the EU naval operation in the Mediterranean in 2016. A series of Quaker House lunches co-organised with the European Council on Refugees and Exiles was designed to broaden the range of policy options being considered and jointly develop realistic policy responses to forced migration that also protect human rights. Meetings in the informal atmosphere of Quaker House allowed colleagues from the EU, NATO, academia and civil society organisations to find new common ground.

A separate series of events brought human rights, humanitarian and development actors together with EU policymakers to discuss the resilience of communities suffering from conflict, climate and economic pressure. Jointly with the Baha'i International Community and the Conference of Catholic Bishops of the EU, we convened 18 faith-based organisations such as World Vision, EU Act Alliance, European Evangelical Alliance and Pax Christi International. Our second meeting brought together policymakers from the European Commission – including Justice, Development, External Action departments – to speak to each other. These meetings led to specific additions to the conclusions of the Council of the EU on its “integrated approach.”

Minority rights

In late April we supported a Conference of European Churches project, by running a series of workshops with young people from Serbia and Croatia. This involved providing a space for listening and discussing what it is like to be an ‘other’. Groups shared about the stereotypes that affect their daily lives. As well as having an impact upon the individuals, the group’s interaction with policy makers pointed to new possibilities. For example, at the end of the project we witnessed the meetings with their own governments where they asked questions on behalf of each others’ communities. We spoke about this project in the European Parliament, alongside a film about the project that will be shown on television in Serbia in 2018.

QCEA is committed to naming and working to address the structural inequality that sits beneath the policies that perpetuate fear, hate and division. In June we published a booklet on race and privilege designed to inspire deeper thinking within our own network and supporter base. In 2017 we also wrote individually, and later with other organisations, to the Commission about racial discrimination within its recruitment processes. We were particularly proud to have signed this letter alongside European networks that represent age, gender, disability and LBGT+ organisations and a wide range of faith groups. For change to happen we need to continue to build coalitions of unusual allies – a central concept of #SanctuaryEverywhere.

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#SanctuaryEverywhere

Our joint conference with Quaker Peace & Social Witness brought over one hundred participants together to explore ways in which we can create societies that are safe for everyone. Expert speakers spoke about how small groups had made Europe a place of sanctuary before, and what steps we need to take to overcome populist narratives. More than 25 individual projects were presented by staff and participants, from an LGBTI+ hotline in Russia to work with refugees in Huddersfield. This conference was particularly timely for UK participants to experience the diversity of political challenges on the European mainland, which will also – if left unchecked – impact on the UK, regardless of its future relationship with the EU.



PHOTOS: KATE McNALLY

Fear of ‘the other’ and hate in political discourse

A common barrier in our discussions with policy makers is the fear that policies which protect the human rights of refugees will not be popular with the public, and will leave moderate governments at risk from the electoral success of nationalists and populists. The fear is that this will in turn increase fragmentation and threaten the existence of the EU.

In 2017 we undertook research into dehumanising speech in the comment sections of online newspapers. This led to a report being published in early 2018 and used as a basis for engagement with policy makers. The report raises the issue of anti-migrant hate speech in the comment sections of online newspapers. Our study of six newspapers in Belgium, Czech Republic, France, Russia, Slovakia and the UK produced evidence of dehumanisation and incitement to violence on newspaper websites. This filled a gap in the research and analysis of online hate speech and anti-migrant hate.

Networking Quakers to work on safe and legal refugee pathways

In 2017 we supported Irish Quakers and the Irish Council of Churches as they considered how to develop a programme to provide safe and legal access to Europe and integration into local communities. This included regular advice and support to the Irish Quaker Welcoming Refugees group, including visiting them twice. In September, we hosted a representative of the group in Brussels at a conference on community sponsorship programmes. Acting as a hub for information and contacts, we also twinned a British Quaker project called Doncaster Conversation Club with a Quaker-supported refugee community centre in Dublin.

Helping the Helpers

QCEA convened a group of Quaker psychotherapists during 2017 to develop a programme to train volunteers who work with refugees to cope with vicarious and secondary trauma, and then to support others to cope with their own. An 18-month programme involving three residential training sessions and online supervision will begin in 2018.

Cultural events that bridge divides or inspire new thinking

Like similar peace programme events, the human rights team has been finding creative ways to bring people together. Our 2016 Annual Report told the story of Syrian refugee dinners in Quaker House that brought policymakers into contact with affected communities. In 2017 this group developed into its own legal entity, catering on its own premises.

As well as our staff visiting homeless asylum seekers in Brussels, we have also developed a relationship with a youth asylum centre and have hosted five film afternoons at Quaker House for groups of 10-15 young people. Similar events have included a New Year’s Eve party for homeless refugees.

Direct engagement with affected communities is important as part of QCEA’s understanding of, and accountability to, communities that we do not directly embody or represent. This is an increasingly recognised standard amongst organisations working on migrant policy. The 370 years of Quaker history does not allow us to ignore professional standards and expectations developed by others.

European Convention on Human Rights

The protection of the human rights provisions of the ECHR is closely intertwined with the specific issue of refugees’ and migrants’ rights violations which is being used to undermine the whole system. In July we published a guide to the ECHR and an assessment of how well each country is protecting ECHR rights. We have invested in a large print-run and distributed the booklet beyond our usual audience.

As part of the QCEA Study Tour, twenty Quakers met the UK representation in Strasbourg to discuss UK failure to implement a European Court judgement on prisoner voting. In December QCEA ran a European Court of Human Rights training day to give practical knowledge to QCEA supporters from several countries in Europe as well as to Syrian refugee advocates now working in Europe.

Recognising the shrinking civil space in Europe, QCEA has been actively supporting other human rights campaigns and organisations. We are a founding member of the Human Rights and Democracy Network and in 2017 took over responsibility for coordinating the network’s engagement with the European Parliament and for their social media. In 2017 QCEA was also an active member of the Platform for Undocumented Migrants and the Christian Group on Migration, contributing to common position papers and developing joint advocacy strategies.

2017 also saw QCEA become a member of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency Civil Society Platform, speaking at their human rights and religion conference in Vienna in September. This year we also underwent the routine review of our Council of Europe International NGO status and were renewed. We took part in the INGO conference where we engaged with other Council of Europe institutions and member states.

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Our organisation

PHOTO: MARTIN LENG

Treasurer's Report



After the period of stabilisation in 2016, I am pleased to report that 2017 has been a year of progress for QCEA. We have completed our strategic plan for the period 2017-2021. Meanwhile the new programmes of work are well established and we are fully and professionally staffed. In addition, we have embarked on a major fund-raising campaign.

I am grateful to the Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust (JRCT) for providing a further three years support of QCEA's work programmes. I also appreciate support for QCEA's work from other trusts, Yearly Meetings, support groups and individual donors, including Britain Yearly Meeting for Quaker House, Brussels. All contributions towards QCEA's work are valued.

The costs of running two work programmes at current staffing levels exceeds our current level of funding and our projections indicate, at those levels, we would exhaust reserves during the current five year strategic planning period. Therefore, we have decided to draw on our reserves over the next two years, during which we have started a focused fund-raising project to find additional and new sources of finance. During the second half of 2017, this has already started to provide tangible benefits and we are grateful to Vivien Flynn and two donors who wish to remain anonymous for their generous support which has reduced our projected deficit for 2017 significantly.

One aspect of this new support is the promise of a further €14,300 of "matched funding" during 2018 should QCEA raise the equivalent amount of "new donations". If you want to support this campaign, please flag you are making a "matched fund donation". You can donate by bank transfer or using links on our web site. Funding through "in lifetime" donations or, longer term, via bequests in wills, will provide an investment in QCEA's future.

For 2017 QCEA's income was €326,547 and expenditure €341,384, resulting in a deficit of €14,837 (against a 2017 budget deficit estimate of €41k). As well as finding new funding, we have been managing expenditure carefully to ensure the best use is made of our resources.

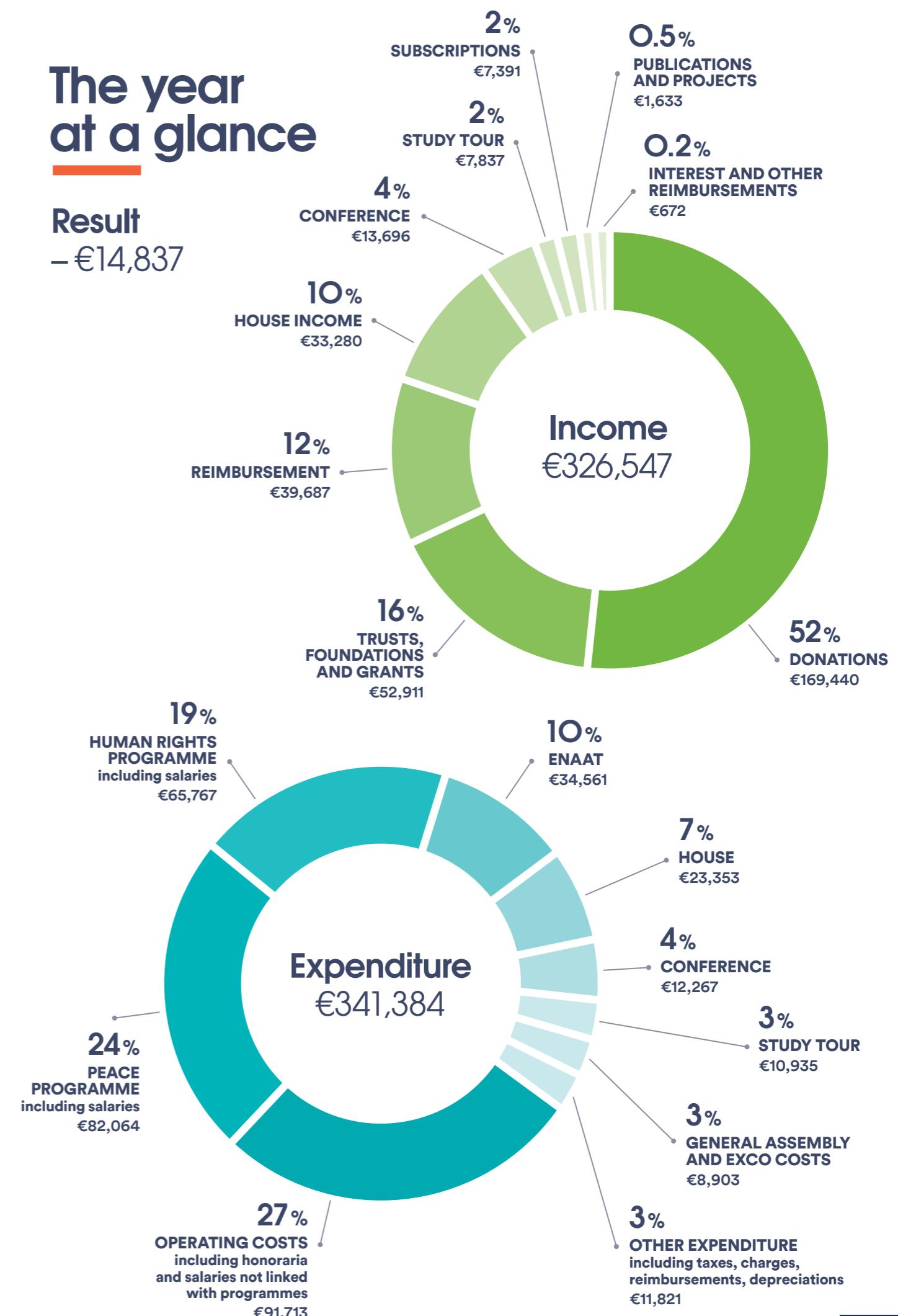
We have received funds designated for a number of specific purposes and are managing these through "designated reserve" accounts where the funding and expenditure fall in different years. We continue to maintain a cash flow reserve of €65k and have started using the Irene Jacoby bequest to fund the Human Rights Programme Assistant staff costs. As €18k of donations in 2017 are designated for specific expenditure in 2018 our "general reserves" have fallen from €209,840 at the start of 2017 to €189,385 at the end of the year.

I would like to thank the staff for their hard work to ensure QCEA continued to function effectively to the demands of the transition to our new structure and strategic direction.

Phillip Spencer
Treasurer

The year at a glance

Result
- €14,837



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Income

All amounts in EUR

	2017	2016
TURNOVER AND SALES		
Sales of publications	74	0
Study tours	7 837	0
Project-related income	1 559	360
Biennial conference	13 696	-225
Hirings (meeting rooms and short-term accommodation)	14 080	12 900
Lettings (income from staff accommodation)	19 200	18 450
Sub-total turnover and sales	56 446	31 485
SUBSCRIPTIONS, CONTRIBUTIONS, DONATIONS		
Around Europe subscriptions	926	1 254
Associate memberships	3 835	3 239
Supporting memberships	2 630	2 737
British Committee donations for Quaker House rent	6 019	4 369
Quaker donations —		
British	83 982	73 873
Dutch	32 995	43 787
German	1 322	7 495
Swiss	3 760	3 652
Belgian / Luxembourgish	2 500	2 500
French	3 550	2 384
Swedish	2 741	1 648
Irish	6 582	3 362
Danish	496	378
Norwegian	2 351	592
Other	8 000	0
Fundraising campaigns	12 741	0
Foundations and trusts	5 614	0
Joseph Rowntree Charitable Trust	42 242	50 000
Other donations	2 402	1 859
Support from non-British Quakers for Quaker House	0	0
Grants from Brussels Capital Region for Quaker House	5 055	7 557
Sub-total subscriptions, contributions, donations	229 742	210 686
OTHER INCOME		
Reimbursement from insurance claims	0	8
Reimbursement for office costs	260	1 667
Reimbursement for transportation costs	226	379
Reimbursement for Quaker House expenses	0	2 976
Reimbursement for CAAT (Laetitia Sédou)	39 687	34 457
Sub-total other income	40 173	29 487
FINANCIAL PRODUCTS		
Bank interest (net)	186	247
Sub-total financial products	186	247
Total income	326,547	281,905

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
Expenditure

All amounts in EUR

	2017	2016
PROJECT-RELATED EXPENDITURE*		
Sub-total project-related expenditure*	43 348	9 822
*excludes staff costs		
GOODS AND SERVICES		
Rent	5 969	4 369
Quaker House maintenance and cleaning	7 489	8 478
Quaker House installation and repairs	1 629	1 668
Tools, appliances, supplies	528	524
Renovation works	1 500	2 900
Rent costs	4 556	5 555
Water	863	1 082
Gas and electricity (Electrabel)	5 091	4 530
Laundry for guest rooms	283	325
Office stationery	2 522	1 216
Books and periodicals	545	823
Equipment for office and Quaker House	1 923	2 810
Copier, fax, printer	748	731
Printing of Around Europe	2 714	3 253
Postage —		
Around Europe	2 844	3 269
Other	569	219
Other publications	901	909
Honoraria (contractors' fees)	25 592	30 119
PA interviews	0	68
Insurance	4 894	4 292
Conferences and seminars	555	0
Staff training (including language)	1 768	422
Registration with Moniteur Belge	254	125
Staff travel	1 974	4 595
Catering for guests and BLYM	196	436
Catering for staff and meetings	716	381
Advertising	504	373
Promotion of Quakers	558	123
Membership fees	6 957	6 350
Reimbursement of volunteers' expenses	0	640
Telephone, internet, Webex (Numericable)	5 222	4 270
Travel and accommodation for Council, GA and Committee meetings	6 580	5 587
Meals for GA and Committee meetings	2 323	1 607
Recruitment of representatives —		
Advertising of posts	0	1 224
Representative's support group	0	806
Sub-total goods and services	98 767	100 281

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All amounts in EUR

	2017	2016
SALARIES AND ASSOCIATED COSTS		
Salaries	157 045	117 878
Holiday pay	6 557	11 376
Social security	15 729	29 818
Other staff-related costs	7 081	5 945
Allocation for future holiday pay	5 591	-15,214
Sub-total salaries and associated costs	192 003	149 804
DEPRECIATION		
Sub-total depreciation	1 797	946
OTHER EXPENSES		
Reimbursement BYM	5 055	-
Sub-total other expenses	5 055	-
FINANCIAL CHARGES		
Losses due to currency exchange	0	0
Bank charges, exchange fees	357	220
Sub-total financial charges	357	220
TAXES		
Sub-total taxes	56	-
Total expenditure	341,384	264,870
Annual result	-14,837	17,035

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Balance sheets

	2017	2016
Assets		
FIXED ASSETS		
Computers and office equipment	4 446	2 839
CURRENT ASSETS		
Claims against others	7 195	6 715
BALANCES IN BANK ACCOUNTS AND IN CASH		
BNP Paribas Fortis	80 352	85 399
Triodos savings account	241 292	241 292
Triodos current account	15 357	15 335
BNP Paribas Fortis SEK	0	0
PayPal	279	0
Petty cash	1 729	500
Sub-total balances	339 009	342 526
PREPAYMENTS AND ACCRUED INCOME		
Sub-total prepayments and accrued income	564	2 433
Total assets	351 214	354 513
Liabilities and reserves		
RESERVES		
Reserves at start of year	334 840	317 805
Result for the year	-14 837	17 035
Reserves at end of year	320 003	334 840
<i>Allocated to the following reserves —</i>		
General reserve	189 385	209 840
Designated reserves, of which	130 618	125 000
Irene Jacoby bequest	47 618	60 000
Peace Programme publication fund	8 000	—
Vivien Flynn fund	10 000	—
Cash flow reserve	65 000	65 000
Sub-total reserves at end of year	320 003	334 840
LIABILITIES		
Rental guarantee	1 500	1 500
Due to suppliers	770	3 942
Income tax due	4 237	1 990
ONSS (employer's social charges)	1 433	2 158
Remuneration	4 046	105
Due to reserve for holiday bonus	15 570	9 978
Other accounts outstanding	3 656	0
Sub-total liabilities	31 211	19 673
Total liabilities	351 214	354 513

NOTE Not included in the figures above are funds held by support groups. As at 31/12/2017, the QCEA British Committee held £2,609 (2016: £4,440) in their “unrestricted general fund.” VVQREA held €504,827 (2016: €511,754). Both these sums are for the benefit of QCEA but managed by independent charities in the UK and the Netherlands respectively. Funds held by QCEA on behalf of EMEYF as at 31/12/2017 were €18,204 (2016: €12,710).

Communications



The audience for our communications products has continued to grow, with three-fold increases in both the number of people subscribing to *Around Europe* by email and the number of subscribers to our YouTube channel. We are working to achieve similar increases in 2018. QCEA has been featured in European press, including a full-page article in *The New European* newspaper and on *Politico*. We have also been featured in a wider range of Quaker media including an article about the refugee situation in *Friends Journal*, a North American Quaker magazine, and a Q-Witness podcast on human rights.

The QCEA blog continues to attract readers interested in alternative analysis of European policy. Human Rights blogs in 2017 gave a QCEA voice on issues such as how to address police violence towards refugees through the European Court of Human Rights and how to improve the education provision for child migrants.

Two presentations at a multi-agency conference in February allowed us to share research about grassroots Quaker work with refugees across Europe and our analysis of human rights risks from EU external migration policy. Our staff team and active supporters have given similar presentations and led workshops at a range of other events, such as the annual conference of Church and Peace and at a conference of Christian organisations trying to counter fear-driven migration narratives.

↑ QCEA's Kate McNally and Dilia Zwart outside Quaker House.
PHOTO: ANDREW LANE

Our people



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Oliver Robertson	Clerk
Rorie Nazareth	Assistant Clerk
Phillip Spencer	Treasurer
Jeremy Lester	Shadow Treasurer
Elaine Green	
Peter van Leeuwen	
Jez Smith	

OTHER MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Phil Gaskell	Belgium & Luxembourg YM
Josh Habgood-Coote	Britain YM
Hans Aaen	Denmark YM
Gretchen Ellis	France YM
Ludger Mangels	Germany YM
Davorka Lovrekovic	Germany YM
Seán McCrum	Ireland YM
Martine Kuipers	Netherlands YM
Turi-Therese Seljen Schoder	Norway YM
Margareta McKenna	Sweden YM
Ron Ockwell	Switzerland YM
Marisa Johnson	Secretary, European and Middle East Section of the Friends World Committee for Consultation
Wanda Dahme	European and Middle East Young Friends
Corien van Dorp	VVQREA
Peter Reid	QCEA British Committee
Neville Keery	Founder
Martyn Bond	Founder
Mavis Airey	Founder
Brian Kendall	Founder

ALTERNATE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Paul Holdsworth	Belgium & Luxembourg YM
Richard Seebohm	QCEA British Committee
Kris Misselbrook	France YM
Loretta O'Brien	Ireland YM
Gerard van den Dool	Netherlands YM
Roger Cassidy	Norway YM

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Simon Bond	Treasurer, QCEA British Cttee.
Hennie Jansen	Treasurer, VVQREA
Margrit Grey	Jeremy Lester
Jez Smith	Phillip Spencer

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Kristin Skarsholt	Clerk
Davorka Lovrekovic	Felicity McCartney
Séan McCrum	Judith Rhodes

QCEA BRITISH COMMITTEE (QUAKERS FOR EUROPE)

Peter Reid	Clerk
Richard Seebohm	Assistant Clerk
Simon Bond	Treasurer
Nick Cox	Lina Jordan
Derek McLean	Angela Sansam
Richard Smith	Rebecca Gumbrell-McCormick

IRELAND QCEA SUPPORT COMMITTEE

Séan McCrum	Clerk
Loretta O'Brien	Rachel Cave
Margrit Grey	Martin Leavy

DUTCH FRIENDS OF QCEA (VVQREA)

Corien van Dorp	Clerk
Hennie Jansen	Treasurer
Martine Kuipers	Renke Meuwese
Peter van Leeuwen	Peter Spreij

STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS IN BRUSSELS

Olivia Caeymaex	Peace Programme Lead
Olivia Geiskes	Gender advisor for our Child Immigration Detention report
Andrew Lane	Director
Martin Leng	Communications Coordinator
Andreas Schultze	IT volunteer
Kate McNally	Forced Migration Project Coordinator
John Moore	Video production
Sylvain Mossou	Human Rights Programme Assistant
Dianne Murray	Information management and Council of Europe volunteer
Olga Oliynyk	Institute for International Conflict Resolution and Reconstruction, Dublin City University (placement)
Laetitia Sédou	European Network Against Arms Trade Programme Worker
Laura Straus	American University (placement)
Xavier Verhaeghe	Office Manager
Mark Woods	Friends School Lisburn (placement)
Dilia Zwart	Peace Programme Assistant and Europe and Middle East Young Friends Secretary

www.qcea.org

