WIKIMEDIA HUNGARY
ACTIVITY REPORT
2018
Meetups for the editors and for the chapter members, strategy discussions

Wikimedia Hungary organized several meetups for its members and the Wikimedia community in 2018. Apart from the possibility to network and chat in a relaxed atmosphere, participants had the opportunity to discuss the topics most relevant for the community and explore some of the problems, as well as to brainstorm about ideas and solutions that could be implemented in the medium or long term. These meetings also provide a good opportunity to announce the results of community contests, as well as to award prizes.

In relation to this, the Hungarian community has become involved, through the coordination of chapter members, in the global Wikimedia strategic consultation, which aims to define the goals and priorities for the Wikimedia movement for the next decade and beyond.

Wikicamp

After a several years hiatus, the chapter organized the highly appreciated Wikicamp again, which offers several days of common learning, networking, excursions and relaxation for the volunteers of the Wikipedia-project. In 2018, the Wikicamp was located in the city of Kőszeg, and between 5–8 July the participants could explore the city, its history and cultural life, its environs, and during a day-trip, even to get to know neighboring city Szombathely.
General assemblies

Wikimedia Hungary held its regular spring assembly on 19th May 2018. The agenda of the assembly covered, amongst other items, the discussion and adoption of the 2017 annual reports, and the 2018 financial and operational plans. During the assembly the members of the supervisory committee were re-elected for the following two-year period. The minutes of the general assembly are available (in Hungarian) on the website of the association.

An extraordinary general assembly had to be called for 1st July to comply with a court order that was issued in response to the request to update the bylaws of the association that was decided during the 2017 autumn general assembly.

The autumn general assembly was organized on 17th November 2018, during which the board of the association was elected for the next two-year period. The assembly also reviewed and discussed the 2019 operational and financial principles. The minutes of the autumn assembly is also available on the website of the association.

Editathons, education and trainings

In 2018 several editathons were organized to help those new to Wikipedia to acquire the most basic skills and knowledge needed to create and edit an article. One of these events was our recurring Shakespeare editathon that took place in November 2018. This two-day event was co-organized with the Hungarian Shakespeare Committee, the Petőfi Literature Museum and the Pázmány Péter Catholic University. Experienced Wikipedians and Shakespeare-researchers assisted anyone interested in starting to write or edit Wikipedia articles on the life of Shakespeare, his body of work, his age or his contemporaries, as well as presented the Wikipedia project in general. The end result of this exciting event was the addition of 10 new and high-quality articles to the Hungarian Wikipedia.
Maintenance competition

After 2010, 2012 and 2013, we have organized a maintenance competition again in 2018. The objective of the competition was to fix problematic articles – those with advertising or expressing a biased viewpoint, not complying with the style guide, without sources or citations, poorly translated or formatted etc. Two dozen editors have joined the fray and fixed nearly two thousand articles within a one-month period. The results were announced and prizes were awarded during the 19th May general assembly and wikimeetup.

Wikimedia Central and Eastern European Spring

2018 marked the 4th occasion of the Wikimedia CEE Spring: a two month long, international article writing competition focusing on Central and Eastern Europe and with the objective to share and spread information amongst the different linguistic and cultural groups of the region. Participants were to write articles in their mother tongue but focusing on a topic related to another country within the CEE region. This year more than 400 editors joined, representing 24 different languages and created 9000+ articles overall. For those representing Hungary, Wikimedia Hungary awarded prizes to six editors, acknowledging their outstanding contributions.

Wikimedia Conference 2018

Similarly to previous years, Berlin and the German Wikimedia chapter hosted the 2018 edition of the Wikimedia Conference. This conference provides the ideal venue for the meetings of the representatives of national affiliates, to share their experiences, to coordinate international projects, to organize official and informal meetings and to address various questions concerning the activities of the following year. The program included trainings for board and staff members of the affiliate organizations. All recognized Wikimedia affiliates had the right to send representatives, thus participants arrived from all over the world. Wikimedia Hungary sent one participant to represent the Hungarian-speaking Wikimedia community and one to participate in strategic discussions.
**Wikimania 2018**

*Wikimania*, the annual conference and meetup of the Wikimedia movement, took place in July 2018 in Cape Town, South Africa. This event is open to everyone and this year almost 700 participants, representing 80 countries from all over the world, came to share experiences and learn from each other. The first two days of the so-called pre-conference were dedicated to trainings on various topics, thematic conferences and discussions, as well as a hackathon — a special meeting for software developers. This was followed by the 3-day official programme of the Wikimania with parallel sessions dedicated to five different topics, from which there was always something interesting to choose. From Hungary, three Wikipedia editors participated and one of them *shared his experiences* on Wikipedia.

**Wikimedia CEE Meeting 2018**

In 2018 the Ukrainian town of Lviv was the host of the *7th annual meeting* of Wikimedians from Central and Eastern Europe. Amongst the participants were the representatives of almost all of the regional Wikimedia communities, as well as several leading members from the Wikimedia Foundation. The main goal of the meeting is to foster cross-border collaborations
between the regional Wikimedia chapters and, for participants with similar cultural, institutional, historical or economical background, to share their positive (and sometimes negative) experiences. This conference, due to its smaller size (compared to larger international events, like the Wikimania) and the similar interests or background of the participants, is perceived as more productive and provides more opportunities for direct interactions with executives and staff of the Wikimedia Foundation. Wikimedia Hungary was represented by two participants.

Volunteer Supporters Network

The Volunteer Supporters Network (VSN) is the group of Wikimedia staff members dedicated to supporting and assisting volunteer editors. The network members share ideas, experiences and resources; as well as organize their own annual meeting to discuss the most important events and lessons learned. This annual meeting of the VSN took place in Vienna, Austria in November 2018; where for two days, representatives of nine national chapters took part in discussions, exchanges and trainings. The Hungarian Wikimedia was represented by one participant, who presented the association’s plans for supporting volunteers (see below). All the feedback and information provided by the VNS was very useful in ensuring the successful implementation of our plans.

Editor retention program

One of the most important tasks for Wikimedia Hungary, in line with its 2015 strategy and the May 2018 decision of the general assembly, is to strengthen the Hungarian volunteer community and to support its self-organization. To reach this goal, a complex action plan was developed, which was submitted to the Wikimedia Foundation. According to this action plan, the 2019 goal is to increase the retention of (new and old) volunteer editors, while in the years after it focuses on reaching and involving new contributors, as well as building the structures and capacities that sustain these processes in the long term – both within the volunteer community and within the Hungarian chapter.
Shaping the legal environment

The association attaches great importance to help shape a legal environment that is supportive of free content. For this reason it provided advice and proposals to lawmakers and decision makers, and was assisting their work – both at home and abroad – by sharing relevant experiences. In 2018 the focus of this activity was the legislative process of the European Union on the freedom of panorama and the copyrights directive.

Relations with print and electronic media, public relations

The chapter received large number of requests during 2018 in relation to Wikipedia, the movement, one of its projects, events or press releases. We’ve always tried to provide a quick and factual reply to ensure that only reliable information is published on these topics.

The chapter also received many questions related to Wikimedia Foundation’s fundraising campaign in Hungary or the [Wikimedia Hungary’s campaign](https://wikimediafoundation.org/wiki/2018_Hungary) for the 1% of personal income tax contributions. Our volunteers sought to provide helpful and objective replies to every enquiry.

In addition to the above, the association tries to communicate proactively via Facebook posts or [blog entries](https://wikimediafoundation.org/wiki) on Wikimedia news or events.
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