

No literature. No recovery.

One of the most important chapters in the history of the ACA fellowship is when they published their fellowship text in 2006. Known then as the ACA Handbook, today it is called the “Big Red Book” or BRB.

The ACA BRB is an important milestone because it literally saved the fellowship from closing its office. This is because it brought real recovery, to adult children who were willing to do the work, in a way that many other books at the time could not.

That’s because the BRB still is a handbook or workbook that can be used for meetings, topic discussions, step studies, workshops, or to guides sponsors and sponsees.

If your inner child speaks English then getting ACA literature is only a matter of cost since it is available. But if your inner child does not speak English, then you and others like you, have to go through the long and painful birthing process of translating literature.

As the US fellowship found out more than a decade ago, our literature is the key to real recovery. That is why one of the EC’s core areas of service to fellowships in Europe is to help them obtain or produce our literature in their own language at an affordable price.

If you can help translate or produce ACA literature in other languages then please get in contact with a member of the EC.

Contacts and Resources

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EC and ACA WSO official web sites

www.acawsoec.com
<https://adultchildren.org/>

EC repository on the ACA WSO web site

<https://acawso.org/category/european-connection/>

Free downloadable literature

<http://acawsoec.com/literature/>
<https://adultchildren.org/literature/free-literature-english-translated/>

ACA WSO storefront on Amazon.co.uk

<http://acawsoec.com/amazon-uk-store-front-for-aca-literature/>

The European Committee

The European Committee (EC) was formed in 2013 as the official presence and human face in Europe of the World Service Organization (WSO) for the Fellowship of Adult Children of Alcoholics / Dysfunctional Families (ACA). Its remit includes more than 700 million people in 50 countries and 23 official languages.

From a place of unconditional love, we proactively carry the message of the 12 Steps, by supporting the growth of the European Fellowship – **where actual meetings have more than doubled in the past four years** – by helping build local service structures, facilitating translating, local printing and distributing ACA literature in local languages, understanding our concepts of service, traditions, and the structure of the WSO.

We are not organized for the private gain of any person, and function as an autonomous body for Europe, as part of the WSO.



No service.

No program.

Virtually everyone today in the ACA program owes gratitude for their emotional sobriety to other members who came before them and did service for the fellowship.

This basic fact cannot be ignored: There would be no ACA program, literature or meetings to attend, unless someone “did the service” first, to make them happen.

The purpose of service in ACA is to support one another in becoming responsible for our own well-being. We lose our sense of personal responsibility when we are forced to separate from our feelings (BRB page 354).

There are many ways and levels to offer service in ACA. Most begin at a local meeting or group level. Some are at an Intergroup or national level. And some are on a global level (by serving on the Board of Trustees) or on an international level, for example, by serving on the European Committee (EC).

Serving on the EC is a unique calling as it requires not only certain skills (like most service positions) but also languages and life experiences like living or working in other countries. These language and life skills give us the empathy to think beyond our own borders to help fellowships in other countries.

If you are interested in doing service on the European Committee or becoming an EC Country Representative please get in contact with a member of the EC.

What do we do?

Internationalize the WSO – The EC provides a more international view of our global fellowship by having Committee and Board members, and Country Representatives, living in Europe who communicate in other languages. This helps the “World Service Organization” formulate more “worldly” views on policies and procedures that affect the fellowship outside North America.

Make literature more accessible – The EC helps make ACA literature more accessible to adult children outside the US by:

- Making trifold freely downloadable in pdf and finding cheaper shipping methods.
- Doing the leg work to get approval to start selling ACA literature on Amazon in Europe.
- Setting up a European-based system to design, publish, print and deliver literature to European fellowships in their own language.
- Working with translation committees to help structure and organize their efforts to legally produce ACA literature in their own language.

Help local service structures – The EC has a wealth of experience at Board, Committee, Intergroup and Group levels that they share regularly with fellowships across Europe.

Personal contact is the key to sharing and imparting this experience. That’s why the EC often travels to European fellowships, and participates in their national events and business meetings, to build relationships and trust with local service representatives.

EC Annual Reports

For more information on the EC’s activities download our recent annual reports:

<http://acawsoec.com/2017-european-committee-annual-report/>

<http://acawsoec.com/2016-european-committee-annual-report/>

EC Annual Meetings

Since 2014 the EC has held an Annual Meeting in Europe. This originally grew out of the 2013 WSO Annual Business Conference (ABC) in Denmark. This was the first WSO ABC to be held outside of North America.

The EC Annual Meeting is not a European version of the WSO’s Annual Business Conference. Instead, it is a national event with a program of recovery and service, which is hosted by an Intergroup in the country where it takes place. Previous EC Annual Meetings were held in Latvia (2014), Finland (2015), Russia (2016), and Spain (2017).

The 2018 EC Annual Meeting was to be held on 28 & 29 September at the St Columba’s Church of Scotland, Pont Street, London. But the EC had to cancel citing a lack of shared vision and commitment from the local host. For more information visit the EC website link: <http://acawsoec.com/cancellation-notice/>

The WSO ABC will return to Europe in 2019 in Sweden, and for the first time, alongside the Annual World Convention (AWC). More details will be announced on this website: www.acaworldconvention.org