

Regional Cooperation



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- **The idea of annual regional meetings was elaborated during Wikimania 2011 in Haifa and the first meeting took place in Belgrade, Serbia in 2012, followed by 2013 edition in Modra, Slovakia and 2014 edition in Kyiv, Ukraine**

We have a lot in common:

- **shared cultural heritage from past (and in many cases also from present co-operation)**
- **similar legal environment (many EU members or striving to be EU members)**
- **common copyright problems related to socialist/communist era (e. g. orphan images from dissolved organizations, no freedom of panorama)**
- **NGO sphere underdeveloped, little willingness for donations**
- **many languages used only in a single country**
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Also it:

- is easy & relatively cheap to travel between many of these countries
- is a great opportunity to exchange experiences, learn best practices, create a meta community that spans country borders but has tighter connections than the global Wikimedia community
- could be used for chapters to learn from each another & to coach new/planned chapters
- could be used to combine national narratives into NPOV on various historical and political topics

There are downsides as well:

- ***too many languages spoken in the region, thus the English language is to be the most common way of communication;***
- ***thus the information is incomplete. We have some great material in Polish, but unless it is translated into other languages the bigger CEE community won't get it***
- ***etc.***
- ***Can we name them?***

They say:

If there is a will, there is a way

To prepare for the CEEM in 2014 we asked to tell us:

- Your program's strengths or what you are doing well (current, ongoing, and planned projects, etc)**
- Your program's weaknesses or what you could use help with the projects you were going to do, or stopped doing, etc)**
- Anything your program needs, anything your program lacks.**
- Any questions you have that such a meeting might answer.**

We can actually

share

and

support

each other

Steps

- **Identify Needs of our Community**
- **Identify Resources of our Community**
- **Get our priorities straight and how to use the resources we have to the fullest**
 - **Get started**
 - **Evaluate and Reflect**

We are

**to have a place to
share**

Commitment

**to write about how the things
are and what you (as a chapter /
usergroup) are planning to do
next (doing now?)**

by the end of May 2015

That's all Folks!

Stay tuned ;)