



# Workshops & Seminars

N° 8. June 1998

## Introduction

*The 4th European Radio Scouting Seminar was attended by 29 participants and 5 seminar organisers from 17 different European countries.*

*During the Seminar two main issues were discussed:*

- a European JOTA license
- JOTA and the Internet

*Another very important part of the programme was exchange of information, in both formal and informal manners.*



*This report mentions the activities on the programme. The report does not give details on national presentations and ideas. One of the suggestions was to collect all these ideas, documentation and produce a European Radio Scouting CD-ROM.*

*The most important information about organisations/countries is collected in a table, to be found on page 6.*

*The two main issues are discussed in separate articles.*

## Thanks

*We would like to thank the staff of the Jambville Scout Centre for their welcome, good accommodation and excellent catering.*

## 4th European Radio Scouting Seminar

A European Seminar held at Jambville Scout Centre, France, 9-11 May 1997

### Programme

The participants arrived in the afternoon and evening of Thursday, 8 May. After dinner Chairman Pieter Kramer opened the seminar. After this session there was time for informal talks and a video about (Radio Scouting at) the World Jamboree 1995 in the Netherlands.

In a separate room an exhibition was created by the participants showing brochures, leaflets and manuals about Radio Scouting and the Scout/Guide Organisations of the participating countries. Other participants could read this information during the seminar and take copies of some leaflets and brochures.

A radio shack was created for the station F5KSF. A special QSL-card was issued for this special seminar station.

### Friday 9 May

The first session started at 09h00 with 2 guests: the host of Scout Centre Jambville and the Commissioner of Communication, Jean Marie Montel. They welcomed the participants to Jambville and told a short story about the location that Scout de France bought in 1952. The interesting history of Jambville dated back to the 13th century and is described in a brochure that was available during the seminar.

The first session was presented by Richard Middelkoop of the



*From left to right: Front row: Ernst, Pieter, Maximo, Jan Kluiver, Celestino  
Second row: Richard, Jan Kullin, Marianne, Liz, Lynn, Jurgen, Lynne, Helen, Rolf, Peter, Clive  
Third row: Geoff, Yves, Anterio, Heikki, Jan E., Dag, Primoz, Guy, Gunter, Klaus, Maciej, Jan L., Vojjkan, Milos, Gerard, Carsten, Carlos, Valerio*





World JOTA Organisation. He placed the seminar in the context of WOSM and WAGGS. The slides are added as appendix 2.

The second session, after the coffee break, was a sub-group session. Five groups were made up of 5-6 participants. All groups were mixed in a way that every group had a participant from Northern, Southern and Eastern Europe. The discussions were held before and after lunch.

The 4 subjects, including questions for discussion, were:

- Organising JOTA on national level;
- Solving questions from participating groups;
- National evaluation of JOTA;
- JOTA and special activities during JOTA.

The aim was to talk about subjects in small groups and to exchange ideas in a more structural way. The results of the

discussions were interesting and probably brought new ideas and/or views to JOTA-organisers. The discussions will not be repeated in the report, as the discussion took place at a very detailed level. Some interesting comments will be found elsewhere in this report.

In the afternoon a session about JOTA and the Internet was held. The subject was introduced by Danny Schwendener and Mark Clayton. Almost everyone in the audience had experience with the Internet. The subject is discussed in a separate chapter.

After dinner there was time for informal discussions and the possibility to surf the Web, where several Scout home pages were visited.

#### **Saturday 10 May**

The Saturday morning (9h10-10h30) was used for discussions on the Eurolicenses. The subject

is discussed in a separate chapter.

After the coffee break, Denmark, Luxembourg, Czech Republic, Italy, Norway, Portugal, Germany and United Kingdom (Scouts and Guides) held (short) national presentations about the way they organise their JOTA (10h30-11h30).

After lunch (13h00) the group went to Paris by coach to visit Notre Dame and the Sacre Coeur or the Eiffel Tower.

After dinner in Jambville (20h00-21h30) a presentation was made by the Dutch JOTA team. Candidates for the organisation of the next seminar, Yugoslavia and Italy, made their presentations.

#### **Sunday 11 May**

After breakfast and a short Scouts Own the last session was held. It is proposed that the next seminar will be held in Italy in the year 2000.

## **JOTA and the Internet**

The Internet offers a way to communicate. Over the last few years the popularity of the Internet has rapidly grown. Access to the Internet is now available for the general public at reasonable costs. Therefore, the Internet offers new opportunities for communication among Scouts.

In November 1996 the World Scout Committee assigned the JOTA as the weekend for Internet communication. For several years Scouts had already been communicating with each other (Inter Relay Chat) during the JOTA-weekend.

The seminar was supposed to be a platform where JOTI could be discussed among the national JOTA organisers. During the discussions it was clear that the seminar participants were di-

vided into 2 camps: pro and contra the use of the Internet. Long discussions followed, without a clear ending.

The *Contra-Internet* arguments:

- JOTA is part of the Scouting tradition and is traditionally wireless;
- Internet communication could overshadow radio communication;
- Radio amateurs are less willing to co-operate in a mixed event;
- Non Scouts/Guides can also participate in the JOTA via the Internet

The *Pro-Internet* arguments:

- The use of the Internet is not going to stop, so why not join;
- Scouting should keep up with recent technology;
- Radio amateurs have to compete against the Internet,

therefore they will put more effort into presenting amateur radio to the Scouts/Guides;

- Internet can be treated as just another mode of communication, besides the UHF, VHF and HF bands;
- Internet will become a common form of communication; amateur radio will always be limited to a small group of people, and therefore keep its curiosity for Scouts/Guides.

A discussion followed about the possibilities of organising a separate weekend for JOTI. It was not considered as a possible option:

- It would not stop the use of the Internet during the JOTA;
- A weekend with only Internet does not offer enough activities (only a few work stations are available at a time) to keep Scouts interested.



As the World Scout Committee has already made a decision on this matter, the outcome of the discussion was less relevant. The introduction, demonstration and discussion on the subject was nevertheless very useful. It showed the possibilities to the organisers who had not been in touch with the Internet before. For other participants it probably broadened their view on this subject.



*In the group discussion: Maximo Borges, Vojkan Rados, Anterio Hagelberg, Lynne Harper, Carsten Husted, Gunter Erdmann*

## Eurolicense

At the moment all countries have their own national agreements with their government about participation of Scouts in the radio traffic.

Due to the many privatisations of national telephone companies a lot of changes are taking place in the way nations organise their regulations and legislation. Besides this the European Union becomes more important.

For these reasons it had been suggested during the previous seminar in Denmark, in 1992, that the realisation of a Eurolicense had to be discussed in the next seminar.

The seminar organisers prepared some documentation, which was sent to participants in advance (see page 5). The countries discussed these documents in their national organisations and approval was asked to support the Eurolicense.

A survey was made of the present licensing situation before the seminar. The participants were able to explain their agreements during the seminar.

### **Survey of agreements in the countries**

In short the licensing situation in the countries in words. A summary is given in the table on page 4.

**Czech Republic:** Since 1991 Scouts have been allowed to operate under the supervision of a licensed operator. The Central Scout Station OK5SCT has to pass a list of the participating stations to the Czech Communications Authority before the JOTA. The agreement is not officially written down. The regulation in the Czech Republic is changing.

**Denmark:** In Denmark (including Greenland and The Faroe Islands) all Danish Scouts are allowed to work as second operators on the JOTA stations under the responsibility of a licensed radio amateur.

**Finland:** The Telecommunications Administrator Centre in Finland issued new regulations concerning amateur radio traffic on 1st April 1997. The new regulations allow everyone, including Scouts, to work as a second operator on a amateur radio station in Finland.

**Germany:** At the moment it is only possible to give greetings.

New legislation is expected soon. The trainee stations in the proposals are an option for JOTA. The new legislation will be law.

**Italy:** Scouts are taking part in third party traffic. There is however no official or unofficial agreement. Radio Amateur Unions are willing to help.

**Luxembourg:** It's very easy to get a club license (in the educational domain). They just have to give details about QTH, call sign, responsible OM, and so on. The permission for club licenses is written down in a regulation from October 8th, 1994. The permission is valid according to the activity it is related to. So the permission for JOTA is only valid during JOTA, for camps only the time camps are running. On the other hand regular club stations (LX9 ... callsigns) are valid for a whole year.

**Netherlands:** There has been an (unwritten) agreement since 1975. Amateurs, asked by the Scout group, can apply for a special /J call sign. This licence allows Scouts to take part in the radio traffic. There are no limitations, as long as the radio amateur opens and closes the contact and all normal rules are obeyed.



europe

**Sweden:** Translation of the written agreement of 17 September 1997 by the National Post & Telecom Agency of Sweden:

“The third weekend in October every year, during the time Friday 1900SNT until Sunday 2400 SNT, persons without a amateur radio licence are allowed to receive and transmit complete QSO’s under direct supervision and responsibility of the radio stations owner (the responsible station manager in case of a club station). The responsible radio amateur shall always begin and end the transmission and during the transmission every 10 minutes present the station’s signal. The responsible radio amateur shall be present at the radio station as long as the traffic is ongoing.”

**Switzerland:** Scouts are not allowed to take part in the radio traffic. There are some changes in staff responsible in Swiss Telecom, which brings possibilities of change.

**United Kingdom:** There is a formal approval. It is not limited to Scouts, but applies to any

‘special event station’ or club station. Only greeting messages, limited number of countries, limited time per contact.

**Summary of situation**

In all countries either individual members or Scout organisations are a member of the Radio Amateur Society.

The discussion started with the fact that approximately half of the participants are satisfied with their national agreements, and the other half are - more or less - dissatisfied.

All countries support the idea of a Eurolicense, a few countries without the official national support. A few countries (e.g. Finland) will support the idea, but think a Eurolicense can not improve their present regulation (e.g. Finland), whereas Germany does not want to interfere in the present decision-making process for a new license in Germany.

**Remarks:**

- Regulation should not be limited to Scouting only. It will be difficult/impossible to get European regulations just

for Scouting.

- Regulations should not be limited to JOTA (follows also from previous point).
- Limits to what we want to achieve: Scouts are not operators.

An list was made of all other youth organisations that could be interested in a Eurolicense:

**Czech Republic:** Czech Radioclub

**France:** La Radio a l’ecole

**Luxembourg:** National Youth Organisation (Service National de la Jeunesse, SNJ)

**Netherlands:** Zeekadettenkorps

**Portugal:** Associacao das guas de Portugal

**United Kingdom:** Air Cadets, Sea Cadets, Army Cadets, British Red Cross, St John’s Ambulance Association, Boys Brigade, Girls Brigade, St Andrew’s Ambulance Association

Geoff Dellbridge, Lynne Harper, Guy Kruchten and Rolf von Allmen will continue the efforts to get a Eurolicense

Country	Contact Radio Amateur Ass.	Contact Government	Happy with own regulation	When valid	Limitations	Official
Austria	Yes	Yes	Yes?			
Belgium	Probably no	Probably no	Probably no			
Croatia	?	?	?			
Czech Republic	Yes	Yes	Yes	JOTA	None	No
Denmark	Yes	Yes	Yes	JOTA	No	?
Finland	Yes	Yes	Yes	whole year	No	Yes
France						
Germany	Yes	Yes	No		only greetings	
Italy	Yes	Yes				no
Luxembourg	Yes	Yes	Yes	whole year	no	yes
Netherlands	Yes	Yes	Yes	JOTA	no	no
Norway	Yes	No	No ?			
Poland	Yes	Yes	Yes			
Portugal	Yes	Yes				
Slovenia	Yes	Yes				
Spain	?	?	?			
Sweden	Yes	Yes	Yes	JOTA	No	Yes
Switzerland	Yes	Yes	No	-	-	-
United Kingdom	Yes	Yes	No	whole year	yes	yes
Yugoslavia	Yes	No	No	-	-	-





### Advance documentation: The Euro licence

In the past 4 decades, hundreds of thousands of Scouts have been introduced to a world of modern amateur-radio and have discovered its possibilities. By radio waves their messages of friendship, their greetings to other Scouts, wherever in the world, have contributed to the individual experience of being a member of a worldwide movement.

Considering the activity of the individual Scout participant, we have to realise that still in many European countries the individual Scouts have to take the fact that only the cooperating radio amateur can act as the voice of the JOTA station as national radio amateur regulations do not allow Scouts to participate in the traffic themselves.

Taken in consideration that only if Scouts themselves have the opportunity to participate in the JOTA-traffic the goals of the event can be fully reached, the planning team of the 4th Radio-Scouting Seminar initiates a plan to realise a European JOTA Licence.

Let's explain the different steps to undertake. It is obvious that the realisation is only possible if full cooperation of all European National JOTA Organisers (NJOs), their national Scouting association and the national associations of radio amateurs is achieved. Also, we have to realise that a positive result depends on a good relation between the partners of negotiations.

#### **Step 1. Information to National JOTA Organizers (NJOs)**

To coordinate the initiatives, the Planning Team sends to all NJOs in Europe the concept of the Euro JOTA Licence proposal. The text of the proposal has to be directed to a representative of the National Scout Organization; the International Commissioner, the director of the National Bureau or to any other person in the organization from whom any support might be expected.

NJOs are requested to discuss the text with their national Scouting organization in order to achieve official approval from the organization and support to continue the procedure.

#### **Step 2. Organizing the National Scout Association**

To motivate the radio amateur associations to support the proposal

for a European JOTA Licence, the Scout association has to consider that it has to implement a system of organization; the JOTA is in fact a Scouting event!! This organization comprises e.g.:

- a national organization for the registration (participation list);
- supporting the event by the realisation of publicity;
- distribution of hot-news items to participating JOTA stations;
- cooperation on national level with the radio amateur associations.

The national Scout association is requested to send its adopted proposal to the board of the national radio amateur association which is a member of the International Amateur Radio Union.

#### **Step 3. Information to the National Amateur Radio Association**

Although Scouting is an important part of the community, a Scout association itself is not an official partner in negotiations concerning matters of amateur radio regulations. Scouting has to obtain cooperation from amateur radio associations. These amateur radio association boards have to be convinced that the implementation of a Euro-JOTA licence brings advantages not only for Scouts but also for themselves.

In many countries the amateur radio associations deal with an increase in the average age of their members. The input of youngsters decreases because:

- the juvenile interest in modern electronics is directed towards computers, video and audio electronics;
- the amateur radio associations often do not have a youth department to motivate young people to become radio-amateurs;
- being a radio-amateur is a way of free-time occupation which often takes place in private houses and it is therefore not visible to the general public.

The attempts to bring amateur radio to the attention of the public by organising special 'open house' events, arranging meetings and contacting schools for higher technical education, organising club stations specially for youngsters who are studying for a licence and lowering of the age level down to 14 years for a novice licence. These are recent actions by amateur radio associations to counter the

problems of the 'growing grey' effects. (IARU Region 1 Conference, proposal C3.25 R5GB) In this concept, the Euro-JOTA licence can be considered as empowering the actions described here.

Benefits to the amateur radio associations:

- JOTA participation makes good PR if the press is approached in the right way;
- youngsters meet the advantages of modern radio amateurism in a practical way, organised on a world wide basis, which is offered to them by the Scout Movement;
- different aspects of modern electronics can be incorporated into the event.

The national Scout organization [name] requests the national Amateur Radio Association [name] to support the proposal for the foundation of a European JOTA Licence in their negotiations with the national authorities and at the meeting of IARU Region 1 delegates.

#### **Step 4. The final decision**

The progress to come to a united Europe is rather slow and it might take another forty years before all countries involved have found consensus on a European radio regulation. Although we can see that regulations on international amateur radio traffic in the last years have been implemented (CEPT TR 06), we have to consider that in the coming years each national administration will remain responsible for regulations for amateur radio traffic. Thus the final decision on a European JOTA Licence is the responsibility of the national authority that it is in charge of the regulations for amateur radio. In many countries this will be the Ministry of Radio Communication Traffic, PTT. If we compile an official request, it has to be addressed to the appropriate national authority.

The national authorities discuss common points of interest in the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), which is based in Geneva; the same city where the World Scout Bureau is located. The IARU speaks directly to the ITU. That is how the lobby circuit will work, if and only if enough support from individual member countries is expected. So, in fact, the final decision is up to the National JOTA Organizers; it's up to you!

*The Planning Team*

## National presentations

Most countries gave an overview of JOTA and the activities developed by the national JOTA organisation. An overview is given on page 6.

**Czech Republic:** The number of JOTA stations in the Czech Republic is approximately 26 since the beginning, 5 years ago. The number of participating Scouts and Guides is between 250 and 300, which is not many when we take into account the 55'000 members of the association. There are 6 permanent radio club stations where the Scout unit is the license holder. There are about 30 licenced radio Scouts. During the summer a number of Scout stations operate from summer camps. Radio amateurs also organise a special radio net to control camp activities. Preparations are made for a hobby badge that hopefully will be introduced by the end of this year.

**Denmark:** The Danish JOTA committee acts under the Danish Scout Council, which is a Federation comprising the Danish Scout Association and the YMCA-Scouts, with associate membership of the Danish Baptist Scouts, the Faroese Scouts and the Greenland Scouts.

The organisation provides many services and activities, such as:

- merit badges
- electronic kit building
- Radio Scouting handbook
- Danish Scout Award (approx. 70 Scouts and 29 club stations)

**Germany:** There is a German Radio Scout Award with 177 Radio Scouts, a German Scout net once per month, a new handbook for JOTA participants. Germany has a very good relationship with the German



*In the group discussion: Klaus Sperling, Jan Kullin, Geoff Delbridge, Helen Norret, Maciej Wojtasiewicz*

Radio Amateur Association (DARC) with 60'000 member. Scouts are important to DARC because of new members. There is a special Scouting page in the DARC magazine, the DARC has a helpline to support Scout groups, the DARC will pay the mailing of a Radio Scouting manual to all 4000 Scout groups.

**Italy - AGESCI:** This year they have modified the structure of the radio-Scouting organisation in order to adapt it to the tasks required by the regulation of the organisation, which was approved during the last General Council.

They worked specifically to achieve 2 goals:

1. The diffusion of amateur radio among Scouts by educational means;



2. Normalisation of the use of two way radio devices, within AGESCI, for logistic aims and to give support to the "Protezione Civile".

The first goal is realised or is in an advanced state of realisation:

- An organised network has been established of radio amateurs, Scouts and non-Scouts, who will help Scout groups in amateur radio activities;
- The determination of a list of radio amateurs who are leaders in AGESCI, in order to recruit Regional Commissioners and trainers in amateur radio;
- To found a good relationship with the Association of the Italian radio-amateurs to achieve logistic and technical support;
- Starting a task force of radio amateurs and equipment that can be used for movable stations during Scout activities and manifestations;
- The organisation of a amateur radio badge;
- The realisation of an easy electronic kit, to be recommended for Scouts.

With regards to the second goal they have obtained from the PT



Government some clarification about the possibility for Scouts to use, for logistic aims, the 43 MHz frequency. They will:

- Publish in our magazines the possibilities and limitations and risks of using this equipment;
- Prepare a technical manual for two way radio devices and the organisation of radio networks.

**Luxembourg:** The JOTA is organised by 2 members of both Scout organisations and 1 member of the radio amateur (RL, an amateur acts as Chairman). This team meets 8-10 times per year.

Activities JOTA-team

- Working on JOTA Handbook for leaders and amateurs;
- Organising an informal evening in July for new and already participating groups. Approximately 50 people attend this meeting;
- Organising national games like cross words;
- JOTA opening ceremony with International Commissioners and chairman RL;
- Collect reports from JOTA stations and send information to World Bureau;
- Future projects: merit badge.

**Netherlands:** The JOTA-team has 4 Scout members and 1 member of each of the Amateur Radio Societies (VERON and VRZA). The team organises the following activities:

- 2 bulletins to Scout groups before JOTA;
- 1 national JOTA report (40 pages) to all groups that sent in information;
- Visiting all (approximately 300) JOTA stations by car (organised by 14 Regional Radio Scouting Advisors, RRSA);
- Yearly meeting with the RRSA;

- Rent service for antennas, cables, fox hunting equipment, soldering equipment, aso;
- Each year a new designed electronic kit, that is made available for the groups via mail order at cost price (approximately 6 NLG, 6 DDM, 2 GBP, including P&P, excluding battery).

**Norway:** The organisation started to develop a new program for the Scouts 2-3 years ago. This also resulted in a review of Radio Scouting, which was not a large part of the old program.

**United Kingdom (Guides):** The JOTA in the UK is organised by The Scout Association and the Guide Association takes no active part in the management of the event. Members of the Guide Association have always been encouraged to take part in JOTA and many stations are run by Guide groups or are organised jointly with local Scouts.

The Guide Association has for some years held their own event in February on Founder's Day, known as Thinking Day on The Air. Over the last 15 years it has become an important event within the UK and countries such as Japan, Canada and others with former colonial ties. The countries taking part also seem to be those where the Guide or Girl Scout associations remain female only. In later years the running of the event has suffered from lack of specialised organisation but they are optimistic that this is shortly to be remedied. The Guide Association risks exclusion from discussions that affect the organisation of its own Amateur Radio activities because it is not involved in the administration of the JOTA. This situation is hard on those members who have gained licences, especially young Novice licence holders.

## Participants

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<i>(PR = Packet Radio)</i>		





## Refugees on the Internet

During the Radio Scouting Seminar the Yugoslavian delegation proposed to organise "Refugees On The Internet" (ROTI). The International Refugee Day will be held in the middle of June, on the 16th of June in 1997.

Aims of the ROTI are:

- Increase awareness about refugee problems and needs;
- Contact refugees with their homeland;
- Exchange ideas about ways to help refugees;
- Make new friendships between young Scouts;
- Establish first contacts between units from ex-Yugoslav countries;
- Promote the Internet as a means of communication.

The proposal was that on Sunday 15th of June, 9h00 to 11h00, CET participants should exchange some short information

about what they have done so far and ideas to help refugees using E-mail. In this part, Scouts should have some training for work on the Internet and using CHAT, IRC and MIRC programmes.

From 11h00 to 14h00 CET participants could freely discuss and share experiences and ideas on three channels. First should be used in Serb/Croatian (for Scouts from Bosnia, Croatia, The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Slovenia and Yugoslavia), so that youngsters from ex-Yugoslavia should easily understand each other. The second channel will be used for communication in English, the third in French.

The proposal was supported by the participants of the seminar. Due to organisation reasons the first ROTI only took place in the former Yugoslavian countries.

## Recommendations and action points

- *All participating countries support a Eurolicense. A committee will investigate the possibilities on how to achieve this.*
- *For good organisation of the JOTA event, the first requirement is full support from the national headquarters of the Scout associations.*
- *Consideration be given to the creation of a Radio Scouting CD-ROM, with pictures, games, kitbuilding circuits, etc. Contributions to and translation for this CD-ROM would be made by all participating members into their own language.*
- *That national JOTA coordinators submit an English summary with their national JOTA report.*
- *That the 5th European Radio Scouting Seminar be planned for the spring of 2000 in Italy.*

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*In view of the subject matter,  
this report is available only  
in English*

*Views and opinions expressed in this seminar report do not necessarily reflect the policies of the World Organization of the Scout Movement, its European Scout Region or the national Scout associations represented in the seminar.*