



5. July 2004

Organisations standing up for election and their candidates

Country	Organisation	Name
Estonia	Eesti Noorte Reumaliit	Ingrid Põldemaa
Germany	Deutsche Rheuma Liga Bundesverband e.V.	Astrid Küntzel
Norway	Barne- og ungdomsrevmatikergruppen, BURG	Linda Vøllestad Westbye
United Kingdom	Arthritis Care	Marianne Scobie

Before the election at the General Assembly, the candidates are given some time to present themselves. Till then you a read about the candidates here:

Ingrid Põldemaa, Estonian Rheumatism Association (EYRA), Estonia

The EYRA is a young organisation and I am honoured to be at the head of it.

I also represent our umbrella organisation as a board member of the Estonian Rheumatism Association.

I am the Estonian representative of PARE Manifesto.

I find myself energetic and initiative taking person and I like to organize. My personal goal is self-accomplishment through learning, experience and people.

To run for the IOYR board is a major challenge for me, and I am eager to give my contribution and above all, standing for the interests of the members of the organisation.

Astrid Küntzel, Deutsche Rheuma Liga Bundesverband e.V., Germany

My name is Astrid Küntzel from Germany. I am 27 years old and I am suffering from a RA since 13 years. When I am not working for the Deutsche Rheuma-Liga I am writing a PhD-thesis in history.

I would like to become a member of the board of IOYR because I think it is important to bring young people with rheumatic diseases together across Europe. In this way we can exchange ideas and find probably unconventional solutions for every-day-problems. This idea is worth to be pursued the next years. Together we can take action in an even more powerful way!

Linda Vøllestad Westbye, Barne- og ungdomsrevmatikergruppen, BURG, Norway

My name is Linda Vøllestad Westbye and I am soon 25 years old. I come from Norway and representing my organisation BURG, The Norwegian organisation for children and youth with rheumatism where I am vice chair. I have been in the IOYR board for nearly two years.

The reason why BURG has nominated me is that my organisation and myself what to continue the work IOYR is doing. We feel that the aims to IOYR are important to keep working for. And being a member in IOYR is the perfect place to meet other people with rheumatism and experience from each other.

Marianne Scobie, Arthritis Care, United Kingdom

I have had arthritis since I was 7. I am on the board of Arthritis Care and I was co-chair of their youth organisation, YAC. I work full time all over the UK, managing of a team of disabled people, who work as Mentors. This has given me much experience of travelling and working with lots of different types of people. I'm good at negotiating, making my points heard and standing up for disabled people's rights. I have been involved with the IOYR board over the past 11/2 years and I feel I have worked very hard in this role.