

CAN-003 MOTION FOR SI GA 2015

Subject Working Group: Peace

Title of motion

Face-to-face mediation or translation for extreme conflicts

National secretary and national member group proposing motion
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Julie Dotsch, National Secretary, Servas Canada (recommended by Conflict Resolution Committee (CRC) Members Julie Dotsch (convener), Marneo Serenelli, Clare Mateke)

Summary of the motion

That a budget of 1,500 CHF be allocated over a three year period to cover costs for an extreme situation where a conflict can only be resolved through face-to-face mediation or when translation is needed.
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Background information and reasons for proposing the motion.

There are times when face-to-face mediation is either the only way to resolve it or it becomes much easier to resolve when the conflicting parties are in the same room with a mediator. At the last GA, two conflicts that seemed stalemated were able to be mostly resolved because one or more of the CRC members was able to arrange for mediation sessions. Careful use of these funds when needed would help resolve conflicts more quickly and more solidly. Having non-Servas persons to do translations, would allow for more privacy, confidentiality and impartiality.

Likely benefits for Servas International and national groups if the motion is passed.
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More effective SI CRC. Quicker conflict resolution. Communication is more easily understood for persons with limited English. Accuracy and confidentiality can more easily be secured.
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Resource implications if the motion is passed in terms of time, human resources and specialist expertise.
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To be determined, related to the situation.

What are the budget implications, if any, of the motion for Servas International and for national groups in the short and longer term?

1500 CHF over 3 years

Who should be responsible for the actions arising from the motion in terms of planning, development and management, for example which officer within SI Exco or SI Committee.
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SI Conflict Resolution Committee

Would there be implications for the Servas International statutes if the motion is passed?

No

What is the likely impact if the motion is not passed?

Unresolved conflicts can be very damaging. Communication is more difficult when done at long distance and when persons don't share a language. Misunderstandings can arise. Finding free non-Servas translators is difficult.