



**E-MAIL: STFWSREG@GMAIL.COM
FACEBOOK: STF EUROPE
TEL (D) +49 1726 729 755**

STF VISION

To establish our identity as God's children and to take ownership of God's dream.

STF MISSION STATEMENT

STF Europe is a full-time, 1-year mission program. The program uses the education tools of fundraising, witnessing, as well as workshops and service projects to help members develop their faith.

STF is designed for +18 years old Family Federation members who desire to contribute to the Family Federation and to society, especially supporting True Parent's 2020 vision. Through the STF mission, the STF members will deepen their faith and solidify their commitment to live a public life, as an active part of the Family Federation.

We believe it is very important for young members of our movement to have a direct experience of activities like fundraising and witnessing in order to connect in a deeper way to their original selves, their parents, True Parents and Heavenly Parents.

During the year, the STF members will have the chance to do activities that will deepen the bond between each other so to experience a brother and sister relationship in its true sense and so to create a network of friendship that will last after the program ends and that it will benefit them in their future lives.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

- Develop personal relationships with God and True Parents
- Developing one's character in preparation for the Blessing
- Develop a deeper understanding of the Principle and its application to daily life
- Develop habits of Principled daily life



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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

WORKSHOPS

The STF program starts after STF Prep WS with a kick-off workshop, which aims to prepare participants for the fundraising experience through Divine Principle lectures, internal guidance, testimonies and sports. After the fundraising experience there will be a workshop focusing on Divine Principle education in preparation for witnessing. Halfway through the program STF participants and parents will have the opportunity to spend precious moments together during a Parents' Workshop. The purpose of this workshop is to give STF participants' parents an opportunity to connect more deeply and support their children's experience on the frontline. In addition, throughout the year, participants will meet regularly for smaller workshops to reflect, evaluate their investment, and re-determine for further projects. As conclusion to their STF year, there will be a graduation workshop for the participants (parents and relatives can also participate) that will involve a lot of reflection, planning for after STF and blessing education workshop.



FUNDRAISING

Fundraising gives the STF members fundamental experiential, spiritual training for strengthening mind-body unity, living a public life, gaining dominion over time, space, and all things, and solidifies their relationship with God by teaching ways to mobilize spirit world. This acts as a foundation of faith and helps them to deepen their conviction, commitment, and strengthen their conscience to repel all types of temptations in order to develop a proper sense of ownership. Fundraising also contributes to running the STF program throughout the year.





Emphasis on Teamwork

While living together as a team and striving to achieve a common goal, STF members learn how to unite and work harmoniously with others based on God-centered objectives. New teams will be put together throughout the year, so that various aspects of human character can be experienced.

Emphasis on Goals

Without setting up goals that challenge our limitations of faith, thought, and heart it is not possible to grow spiritually. Therefore, STF members are encouraged to set a clear internal plan (internal goals) and clear objectives (external goals) and strive to reach those goals every day. They are also guided to purify their motivation and focus on the process to achieve them. Through striving towards their greatest potential and experiencing the joy of challenging and overcoming their limitations, STF members will find their value in relationship to God, True Parents, and the True Family. It can also improve participant's relationships with their own parents and siblings.





WITNESSING

STF members learn to witness, give lectures, and take care of guests in teams. Through witnessing and establishing lasting friendships, they will discover and develop their parental heart and love for God, True Parents and others, and gain a deeper understanding of the Divine Principle. At the same time they learn to organize events, service activities, and workshops.

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS

The graduation of STF marks a significant achievement in one year of mission. Therefore, in order to graduate STF, the participant needs to fulfil the following criteria:

- Full participation in the whole year of STF
- During the year, the participant's contribution and investment will be evaluated by the STF staff and feedback on the participant's performance will be given in order to help the member evaluate his/her own performance.



PREPARATION FOR STF



APPLICATION PROCESS - STF REQUIREMENTS

We believe that all STF participants will benefit from the program if those applying are self-motivated in their desire to take ownership of their spiritual lives and furthering God's Providence.

The requirements to participate in STF Europe will be as follows:

1. Written application
2. STF Prep WS graduation
2. STF fee of EUR 500,-
4. Valid Passport for the entire duration of STF
5. Age 18+

Below is a brief explanation of this year's application procedure:

WRITTEN APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS

- An application form
- Essay questionnaire for the applicant
- Essay questionnaire for the parents
- A medical record
- Letter of Recommendation from your local church leader/youth leader.





STF PREP WORKSHOP

In our aim to help our applicants prepare for STF, we will ask all who consider joining STF Europe to prepare for and participate in the STF Prep Workshop. This Workshop emphasizes the importance of connecting more personally to God, True Parents and True Family. Through the process of attending the STF Prep WS we feel confident that we can allow all applicants to make a strong and clear personal commitment in front of God, True Parents, their family, and friends as to how they want to improve themselves during their STF mission. The STF Prep WS Workshop is now a requirement for all those who wish to join STF. The workshop's fee is 200 eur.

VALID PASSPORT FOR THE ENTIRE DURATION OF STF YEAR

STF members will travel between different countries throughout their time on the STF program, thus it is necessary that each participant have a valid passport that remains valid throughout their time on the STF program. Attention all international applicants: For any applicants that are not EU citizens, it is not possible to acquire a VISA to guarantee a year-long legal stay in Europe. If an international applicant still wishes to join the STF program, they must be aware of the possibility of problems arising during the year regarding their VISA-situation. STF will not be held responsible for anyone who encounters international VISA issues.

STF FEE EUR 500

The purpose of the fee is to demonstrate commitment to participation from the participants to the STF program. From an internal point of view, the participation fee for the STF program shows one's desire to improve their life of faith by participating in the STF program. However, the fee is not just symbolic; it is primarily used to start the program by covering the costs of preparations and the kick-off workshop. The fee is eur 500 and must be fully paid at the beginning of the participant's STF year. Those who are not able to pay the full fee by the kick-off workshop will not be able to join the STF program. If for any reason at all there are complications about this requirement please get in touch with us. We strongly recommend that applicants find a way to raise some part or the entire amount by themselves, rather than ask their parents for it. In this way we want to encourage a true personal contribution to the program that would help develop a sense of ownership for your life commitments.



INTERNAL PREPARATION

FINDING DESIRE AND COMMITMENT

The most important preparation before coming to STF can be done only by the participant: finding your own desire and reason to come to STF, and making a commitment for a time period. The decision to come to STF should not be somebody else's decision; you have to make your own decision. Only if the decision to come to STF is your own, can you persevere through challenging situations without giving up, simply because you have your own desire to be on STF. Furthermore, candidates should make clear personal goals for themselves prior to coming to the program. The more meaningful these goals are, the more drive they will find to maintain their determination throughout their time on STF. New members should arrive with the determination that they will keep their commitment throughout the entire year. With this kind of internal preparation, a new member can grow and develop very rapidly.

ALIGNING WITH STF VISION AND GOALS

The main vision of STF is to establish our identity as God's children and to take ownership of God's dream. It is important to understand that the mission is designed specifically for this purpose and through aligning to that purpose members will truly have a great growing experience. Before someone comes to STF he needs to take the time to connect to this vision. Future participant should make a clear plan of how to apply everything he will learn and gain on STF once he finishes the program. It is important to understand that STF is not the end of one's spiritual development

LIVING A HEALTHY SPIRITUAL LIFE

The daily STF schedule always consists of Pledge and Hoon Dok Hwe that nurture the spirit. We recommend that candidates evaluate their current daily life with the following checklist in mind. Maintaining or building these habits can prepare anyone considering joining STF to embrace our schedule of frontline standards:

- Pledge Service and Prayer
- Hoon Dok Hwe
- Studying Divine Principle
- Reporting
- Choosing good friends
- Serving family and community
- Attending Sunday service
- Being active in society
- Tithing

RECOMMENDED - LIST OF WHAT TO BRING

- STF Europe Participation Fee: eur 500 (in cash, no checks); can be paid in advance
 - STF Preparation workshop fee eur 200(in cash, no checks); can be paid in advance
- The Exposition of the Divine Principle (English version required; you can bring an extra copy in your own language if needed)
- PASSPORT (if you have more than one nationality please bring all passports); check the expiration date it should not expire before September 2017, ideally not before December 2017.
 - Journal/ Notebook, one for lectures and morning services, one as a diary
 - Toiletries for one month (toothbrush, toothpaste, soap, deodorant, razors, creams, lotions, shampoo, conditioner); basic toiletries will be provided throughout the rest of the year (toothpaste, soap, shampoo)
 - Clothes for 1 year both summer and winter:
(There is summer-winter clothes exchange possible 2 times in a year: during the break at home: end of December- beginning of January or during Parents' Workshop Easter time if your parents are coming)
 - Formal clothes and dress shoes for Holy Days and special events
 - 3-4 short-sleeve shirts, preferably with collars
 - 3-4 long-sleeve shirts or sweatshirts (jumpers)
 - 4-7 T-shirts
 - 3-4 trousers/pants (not sweatpants)
 - 2-3 pairs of shorts (below the knee)
 - 1-2 sports trousers/pants
 - 7-8 pairs of underwear
 - 7-8 pairs of socks
 - 1 winter jacket (should be durable and in a color that does not need to be washed that often, does not need to be expensive, but needs to be of good quality material, has to be water-proof and warm)
 - Winter gear: gloves, hat, scarf, wool socks, thermal underwear (especially in winter some
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- Wrist Watch
 - ISIC or IYIC Card, international student identity card or international youth identity card (check www.isic.org for the closest issuing office)
 - Insurance card or copy of medical cover/travel insurance (please, make sure your insurance is valid in all Europe (especially Germany, Switzerland, Albania, Kosovo and Romania)
 - Medicine if you need a particular kind
 - Small waist bag or purse to keep your ID in, can also be useful for fundraising
 - Small alarm clock (should be very effective); and should be an alarm separate from a person's personal phone as those will not be allowed
 - Some money or credit/debit card for extra clothes or emergency needs
 - 2 backpacks (1 for your belongings, 1 empty for fundraising)

LIST OF WHAT *NOT* TO BRING:

- More clothes than described above
- Any valuables that you do not want to lose, including too much cash
- **Mobile phones:** we have found that they have brought unnecessary distraction. All team leaders have mobile phone that can be used for emergency cases. All mobile phones found will be asked to be given in for the duration of the program.
- Anything you may use to make yourself unduly attractive such as make up, jewelry, or provocative clothes.
- **Unnecessary electronics** - any found will be asked to be given in for the duration of the program (PSPs, gameboys, DVD players, tablets, laptops, netbooks, I-touches, I-phones, etc...)
- Electronic devices which can connect to internet - any found will be asked to be given in for the duration of the program. If you have questions, please, do not hesitate to contact us.

CLOTHES

Laundry is done on an average of once per 2 weeks. Bringing an excess of clothes will only cause inconvenience to yourself and those around you. Label all clothes and belongings. Put your name on all luggage, clothes and socks, as laundry is always done publicly. It helps a lot in finding your clothes again after any workshop or activity. As there will be a lot of travelling throughout the year, often with all your belongings, it is for your own benefit not to bring more than what you can carry. Also consider that if you take an airplane during the year, only a limited amount of weight is allowed, the rest will have to be paid for by you personally. For the sake of your own personal expense and convenience as well, we list a recommended amount of clothing in the list below.

All your belongings should fit into these bags:

- 2 medium size duffle / sports bag (Size limit: 70cm x 40cm x 35cm per bag.) You will only be able to bring one bag with you on your fundraising and witnessing conditions; the other bag you will leave with STF. (Note: suitcases are not recommended)
- A sleeping bag
- Backpack



STF POLICIES

EXPENSES

STF will cover the expenses of food, lodging, transportation during the program, workshops, basic needs of medication, mail (only letters not packages), and basic toiletries. All other personal expenses are expected to be paid for by the participants. In case members need to replace something (e.g. worn out shoes or missing socks) STF will cover the expenses within a certain budget. When members would like something that is not considered a necessity or is beyond the given budget, participants are asked to cover that expense themselves. If clothes are not labeled and are lost during laundry, STF will not cover that expense. *Here is STF's current budget for replacement clothing:*

- Shoes: 40eur
- Socks: 2eur
- Underwear: 5eur
- Trousers: 30eur
- T-shirts: 15eur
- Sweater: 25eur
- Jacket: 30eur
- Watch: 10eur
- Backpack: 15eur

MATCHING AND BLESSING

STF participants are advised not to apply for the matching or attend the Blessing during the STF program (especially not in the first year). The purpose of the program is to prepare for the Blessing; providing character education and opportunities to develop a strong life of faith. We believe that the matching and Blessing should occur after a strong sense of identity is established, and therefore members should be given the opportunity to focus on that without the distraction of the matching process. Furthermore, a Blessing workshop will be held once during the year for the education of all STF members.

LEAVING STF FOR SPECIAL REASONS

STF members are expected to attend the entire schedule throughout the year. There should be no alternate schedules arranged by parents or members themselves during their STF time commitment. This includes special visits to relatives or days off on any Family Federation, Christian and secular holidays. Because the STF mission is very carefully structured and scheduled for the sake of the participants' spiritual growth, an unplanned break in focus and momentum can be very disruptive to the objectives of the mission for both the individual and other team members. If your child must go home for any personal or family reasons the participant and the parents are expected to first contact the STF staff. Upon evaluating each case a decision will be made. In general, if an STF member is absent for more than 30 days within the STF year for any reason, they will not be allowed to continue participating and graduate. In case of a family emergency, please contact the STF staff.

UNIVERSITY APPLICATIONS

If you are planning to study after STF, you will most likely need to apply for university while on STF. The process for applying for university differs from country to country. However, if possible, take care of as much of it as you can before coming to STF. Try to get as much of the paperwork done as possible and if certain forms can only be sent later on in the year, prepare them so that your parents or someone else can do the rest for you, as it is very distracting and complicated to try to organize this while attending the program. If it is absolutely necessary that you are in the country while applying because of interviews, etc., you need to inform us before starting STF, as leaving the program for any reason is usually not permitted. As a policy, with permission STF will allow members a maximum of one week to return home and work on university applications. Furthermore, if a member has to go home for any reason it is important to remember that they will be responsible for covering the travel cost.

THE MINIMUM STANDARD FOR STF MEMBERS

For the sake of creating a good environment for the spiritual growth and training of all participants there is no touch rule between brothers and sisters on STF. Only fist to fist greeting is allowed when meeting each other.

THE FOLLOWING BEHAVIOURS ARE STRICTLY PROHIBITED:

- Intentional and serious sexual violations: pornography, masturbation, language and appearance that are obviously and consciously attracting the opposite gender, romantic relationships between brothers and sisters, or attempting to arrange matchings between brothers and sisters
- Buying, selling, using and possessing alcohol, tobacco, and/or drugs
- Misusing public money
- Intentional and disobedient conduct towards STF staff and guidelines; foul language towards the staff and other members
- Breaking secular law
- Regular refusal to participate in the daily schedule
- Creating repeated relationship problems within the teams

When members are not able to respect STF rules, consequences such as temporary suspension and dismissal from the program will be enforced. These violations will lead to suspension or expulsion of participants from the program when no will for change is found present.

MUSIC

Music should be uplifting and is best enjoyed within a group. Furthermore, STF staff discourages individualistic attitudes in our teams/centres, and encourage STF members to build genuine family relationships with brothers and sisters. For this reason, STF only allows participants to listen to personal music on specific personal free time and long journeys. Please note that devices that have the function to connect to the internet (I-touch, I-phone etc.) are not permitted on STF. Any of these items found in the possession of participants will be confiscated for the duration of the program.

DRESS CODE

STF members are all representatives of God, True Parents, and our movement as a whole. Therefore, all members are asked to dress accordingly. Learning to present yourself with pride and dignity is an important part of expressing who you are as a son or daughter of God

- Top: polo shirts and collar shirts preferred over T-shirts; no tight clothes, no sleeveless shirts, and no low-cut shirts or shirts which show the stomach or back.
- Bottom: Jeans, trousers; no baggy pants; no tight pants.
- No clothes that are torn, stained, or tattered. We want a fresh, clean look. This includes hairstyles. Piercings and tattoos should be hidden from view as well.

COMMUNICATION BETWEEN PARENTS AND CHILDREN

STF staff encourages members to communicate with their parents through letters and phone calls. All participants will have the chance to call home once every 2 weeks for a period of 1 hour. We do ask however, to please understand that although we endeavor to have our participants call, due to the local circumstances there is always the possibility that a phone call cannot be made on the expected time. For this reason we need the parents' collaboration in waiting for their children to call them at the next possible opportunity. Letters can always be sent to the STF Europe Office and will then be forwarded to the team's newest location. If teams are stationed in one location for many months, we will inform you of the address. In the case of emergency, parents should call the STF Europe Office and the staff will get in touch with the participant in the fastest way possible. Participants will be uniquely challenged through their growing process in public missions and they will experience new and powerful situations every day. If a participant happens to give their parents some extreme explanation of their daily activity that causes the parents to worry, please communicate with your parent representative or the STF Europe staff for a complete explanation of the situation before drawing a full conclusion. Experience has shown that when parents hear a rounded explanation of the entire situation it greatly assists them in understanding not only the particular struggle of their child, but the context, reasoning, purpose and value of that experience. STF members always appreciate and feel deep love from their parents' encouragement. They also like to listen to their parents' stories of victories and struggles from their own life of faith. After experiencing frontline life children are able to understand their parents' past mission experiences more intimately. Through such conversations they gain great power and feel much closer to their parents.



All STF newcomers will face new challenges and see themselves from a different viewpoint than before. In calling home they may be looking for support in order to accept such challenges as a part of their growing process. So we suggest that when they call you at home that you may encourage them in such a way.

PARENTS' COMMITTEE

The Parent's Committee, simply put, is a system whereby every parent with a child on STF is connected to a parent representative who passes on news and information from STF in order to keep them informed about what their child is doing and what is happening on STF. The STF experience has an impact on the entire family. The parents are moved to see their child experience a spiritual awakening through fundraising and witnessing. The child begins understanding what his parents went through and a much deeper level of communication begins to open between parents and child. The role of the Parents' Committee is to help make the STF year a good experience for the whole family. Your parent representative is available to answer any questions you might have, to calm any fears you might have, and to tell you it is normal to be worried about your child, but you have to let them have their own experience through STF. Sometimes your parent representative might not have the answer to the questions you pose. In that case he refers your question to the STF staff and serves as the communication channel between you and the STF staff. Part of Parents' Committee role is also to help and support the STF staff. If STF office was being flooded with numerous emails from concerned parents all around the world they would have less time to focus on taking care of your children. And that should be their primary activity. The Parent's Committee also tries to support the members of STF by being present at the kick-off and the New Year Workshop. They seem to appreciate having some parents present for those workshops and they are glad to know that we are trying to keep you informed and share experience that children are having on STF.

INTERNAL CARE SUPPORT (ICS)

During the STF program participants are challenged in many ways and they can find themselves struggling for various reasons. The ICS staff visits STF teams on a regular basis; taking personal care of STF members and guiding them in their course of STF public mission. Additionally they provide supervision and support for STF members and evaluate their performance based on the STF vision and goals. The ICS staff communicates directly with the STF director and is responsible for good communication in regards to the team and personal situations. We ask that our ICS staff members have a good personal foundation from his/her own personal front line experience, with a high spiritual standard, knowledge of the Divine Principle, good communication skills, as well as suitable management abilities. These staff members are ideally people who are successfully blessed, University graduates that have some working experience taking care of youth.



HEALTH AND SAFETY

Providing a healthy and safe environment for the spiritual growth of the STF members is of primary importance to the staff.

MEALS

The STF staff makes an effort to provide healthy food, as well as encouraging members to practice eating well. We would also like parents to encourage their children to choose healthy food and improve their eating habits if necessary

MEDICAL / DENTAL CARE

The cost of any medical or dental visits, prescribed medicines, and any other uniquely personal medicines should be covered by the STF members or their parents. STF will provide only the following medicine: Commonly used over-the-counter medicines, such as ibuprofen, cough and cold remedies, digestive aids, etc. We would like to make you aware that STF is physically and mentally challenging and requires good health. At the same time, during the program it is extremely difficult and expensive to take care of medical problems. Therefore we request everybody to prepare through physical exercise, especially training your joints and back. If your health causes you to be unable to participate fully in the program for a longer period, you will be asked to return home at your own cost until you recover. In addition, every participant is required to have an overall health check (especially back, knees, feet and joints) at their doctor's and send a copy of the certificate with their application form. STF applicants who have physical problems or have had serious diseases must give a detailed explanation in the application form. Dental problems or orthodontic care should be taken care of before coming to STF Europe. Because STF members travel frequently, it is not easy to find dentists or go to orthodontists.

MEDICAL INSURANCE

You absolutely need to get some form of medical coverage/travel insurance for the year ahead of you, as a group insurance is not possible to organize. A good way to arrange this is for citizens of most European nations to get an E111 form (or its equivalent for countries such as Switzerland and Eastern Europe etc.) from your regular health insurance (in case of the UK at the post office). This will already cover most countries you will go to. In addition travel insurance is advisable; rates start as low as 80 eur a year. If you don't have medical insurance and need to see a doctor, it will be expected that you cover the costs by yourself. Additionally, the doctor's bill will be sent directly to those who receive medical attention.

SAFETY GUIDANCE FOR FUNDRAISING

- Fundraising after dark is done in pairs, especially for sisters.
- All team leaders carry mobile phones for emergency situations.
- Approaching: Members are taught to cut off conversation and walk away when a person makes strange comments or actions that imply a sexual motivation. Members are taught not to go into an enclosed room, house or office. Members are taught not to approach any person in the dark when there are no people around.
- Trust and follow your intuition: Members are taught to call their team leaders immediately when they do not feel comfortable with the area. They should not worry about person's "salvation", but should walk away from them if they feel uncomfortable.

SAFE DRIVING

STF Europe provides all teams with experienced, professional drivers. These drivers are all blessed family members that can provide the best internal and external environment for the teams' safety. Drivers, team leaders and members receive lectures on safe driving rules. Some of our driving rules are:

- Always wear seatbelts (including those in the backseat)
- Keep traffic rules
- No eating while driving
- Use a hands-free device while driving and talking on the cellular phone
- No looking at maps while driving
- Drivers must get a sufficient amount of rest, even missing some of the schedule if necessary.
- During long journeys, drivers will take regular breaks to rest and must always have at least one co-driver.

STF participants will not be asked to drive.





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