

NOVEMBER 2022 | EDITION 1

# F OCUS

**MEET THE NEW  
ACI PRESIDENT!**

## **MIHAELA CRACANA**

Read her report on  
the ACI Conference

## **FOCUS ON AC UK AC MALTA**

Report by travel fund beneficiary  
from AC Madagascar

*UPDATED  
WEBSITE!*

## **CALENDAR**

*and much more..!*

**info on the ACI Forum !**



# Welcome!

to your new monthly  
Agora Club International magazine!



In this brandnew ACI Magazine, each month the

## FOCUS

will be on you

stories & reports **6-9**



let's all join the



**ACI**  
FORUM

Meet Mihaela  
& Board **3**

WHAT A WONDERFUL  
ACI CONFERENCE  
IT WAS!



*Thank you AC France!*

what about that  
**5** fabulous ACI  
Conference?

ACI Calendar  
**15**

FOCUS 2

# MEET PRESIDENT MIHAELA



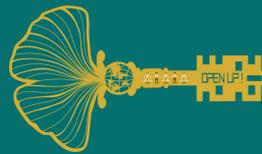
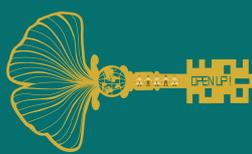
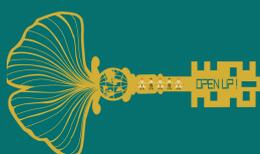
7 years since I am an Agora Club member and I love it. I know my English is not yet exactly the best but I am talkative, sincere and friendly, the incurable optimist that think any kick in the ass is a leap forward and which you throw out the door and enter through the window to finalize the plan. I grow up in a culture where family is very important. If somebody in our family have a happy celebration everybody is invited to share the joy, if there is a trouble, a need, everybody cares and give a helping hand. I carried my Romanian traditions and hospitality into Agora Club and I am happy my family suddenly extended all over the world.

For this particular year I proposed to **OPEN UP**. What exactly means? Is about a time that comes after a lock down that changed drastically our life, priorities, behavior and drove us apart. My key message is to accept the challenge not to find the way back but to open up to the new opportunities, to reinvent ourselves, to open our senses and hearts to identify what make us happy than help the people around us to do the same. Our life is like a race but important is not to arrive on the first place and stay alone there, on highest step wearing a laurel wreath, but to help the last one to cross the finish line and celebrate together.

My experience in Puy du Fou started earlier, In March, when I visited the venue together with our Agora Club France organizing committee for AGM 2022. I trusted from the very beginning how well organized the event will be, Nadine and her team were the hardworking goblins who added that touch of magic on our weekend between friends. We all experienced the pleasure of living like royal guests in the fancy hotels, delicious French food and amazing entertainment, professional organized meetings. I am grateful how lucky we were to be part of the story!

For this year I just hope that the efforts we are doing in Agora Club International will bring you the satisfaction you expect, trust the "keyboard" will do its best and will be a good, joyful and pleasant experience that started in the glamour and elegance of Puy du Fou, will continue in the medieval City of the crown, Brasov, and follow excitingly cool in Hanover and happy ever after...

Mihaela Cracana



FOCUS 3

# MEET THE "ACI KEY BOARD" & ASSISTANTS

Those who follow ACI on facebook and instagram already saw these presentations :) For those who are not on social media : Here's your board !

**TODAY IN ACI**



**PRESENTATION ACI BOARD**  
**Mihaela Cracana**  
**YOUR ACI PRESIDENT**

- Member of AC Romania
- Loves embroidery
- Talkative, friendly
- Loves singing and dancing
- Likes cats and the colour green
- Doesn't tolerate injustice and always keeps her promises
- Doesn't want you to tell her secrets because she can't keep them 😊



**TODAY IN ACI**



**PRESENTATION ACI BOARD**  
**Gabriella Lerch "Gabi"**  
**YOUR ACI VICE PRESIDENT**

- Member of ACT Germany
- Agora Club Tangent has been her major interest these last years
- Loves to travel, especially towards the South
- Loves the sun, good food and reading
- Enjoys dancing and attending social functions
- Honest, helpful and tolerant



**TODAY IN ACI**



**PRESENTATION ACI BOARD**  
**Chitulya Mwanakate "Chili"**  
**YOUR ACI IMMEDIATE PAST PRESIDENT**

- Member of AC Zambia
- Loves baking cakes and hopes to have more time for it next year!
- Joined LC in 1990 and never looked back
- Joined AC Zambia in 2009...the rest is history!
- Loves charity work
- Loves interacting and networking with ladies all over the world



**TODAY IN ACI**



**PRESENTATION ACI BOARD**  
**Sumaya Khan**  
**YOUR ACI SECRETARY**

- Member of AC Botswana
- Wanderlust
- Has an adventurous and authentic spirit
- Creative and innovative
- Believes in endless possibilities
- Braveheart



**TODAY IN ACI**



**PRESENTATION ACI BOARD**  
**Marian Florissen**  
**YOUR ACI TREASURER**

- Member of AC The Netherlands
- Loves to sing, sings in a choir for over 15 years!
- Enjoy the moment
- Deadline-junky
- Go for it!
- Color the world orange



**TODAY IN ACI**



**PRESENTATION OF THE BOARD ASSISTANTS**  
**Rosa Gudmundsdóttir**  
**YOUR ACI WEBMASTER**

- Member of AC Iceland
- Honest
- Conscientious
- Positive and driven
- Proactive and versatile
- Driven



**TODAY IN ACI**



**PRESENTATION OF THE BOARD ASSISTANTS**  
**Veerte De Jonge - "Vee"**  
**YOUR ACI SOCIAL MEDIA LADY**

- Member of AC Belgium
- Past ACI President and past LCI & ACI Secretary and forever thankful for what LCI and AC gave her
- Loves learning & new challenges
- Creative and positive
- Loyal friend
- Aka "Mama Chocolate" 😊



**TODAY IN ACI**



**PRESENTATION OF THE BOARD ASSISTANTS**  
**Nina Köhler**  
**YOUR ACW OFFICER**

- Member of ACT Germany
- Ladies' Circle member 2005-2015
- Happily married, 2 children
- Loves gardenwork
- Loves sailing on the Baltic Sea
- next to ACW officer also ACT Germany webmaster



**TODAY IN ACI**



**PRESENTATION OF THE BOARD ASSISTANTS**  
**Martine Manzo**  
**YOUR ACW OFFICER (french)**

- Member of AC France
- loves hiking
- Likes playing golf in her free time
- Loves Agora!



follow us on



and on

[www.agoraclubinternational.com](http://www.agoraclubinternational.com)

also check [Agoraclub.world](http://Agoraclub.world)

Stay updated!

# FOCUS ON...

Some items from the ACI Conference

## Awards :

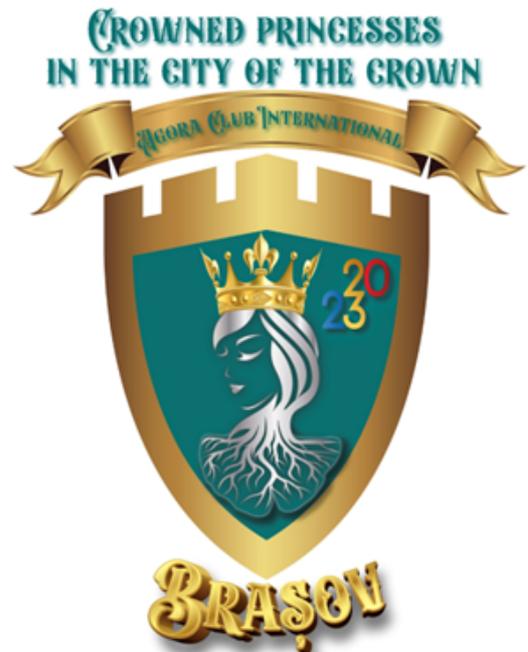
- AC Botswana - Danielle Gardin Trophy - a growth of 37.5%
- AC France - Golden Ginkgo +39 members.
- AC Cyprus - Stronger through diversity growth of 66.7%



**AC Norway : Full member!**



**Presentation ACI Conference 2023 : 28/9/23-01/10/23 Brasov - Romania**



**The ACI Conference 2024 Will be in Hannover - Germany!**



**For many many pictures and info : take a look on ACW, facebook, instagram and our ACI website!**

# FOCUS ON...

## AC United Kingdom



AGORA CLUB UK  
NEWSLETTER  
OCT 2022

It's been an exciting Summer for Agora Club UK; we have all enjoyed socialising again and even managed a joint Garden Party to bring the club members together...

We were pleased that a few of our members were able to join the ACI Conference in Puy du Fou and we also celebrated the Charter of Club 6, welcome!

We are all looking forward to our Autumn events and the lead up to the festive season.

Summer  
Garden  
Party



ACI  
AGM



**Club 3**

IPP Hosted Lunch  
- Fun in the UK  
Sun had by all



**Club 1 - 80's Themed dinner**



**Club 4**

Garden Party with  
Kelly Geisler from  
Agora Club USA.  
Southend Seafrost  
Mystery Walk and a  
trip to Tiffany  
exhibition in London



**Club 6 - Charter**

Visit our FB Page:



# FOCUS ON...

## AC Malta



Malta – Located in the middle of the Mediterranean, the Maltese Islands are some of the richest in the region – promising diverse culture, a dynamic history, welcoming people and eclectic attractions. With an area of just 316 sqm km, the Maltese Archipelago is one of **the smallest in the world**. Only the three largest islands – Malta, Gozo and Comino – are inhabited. Malta is the largest of the three Islands and remains the cultural, commercial and administrative centre. Gozo is the second largest Island and more rural, it is known for its more abundant countryside and open spaces. Comino while largely uninhabited, is a popular destination for day-trippers and hikers.



**Malta in October 2022** – and what a month it was. With its clear blue skies and average temperature of 25 degrees, solid packed with activities for us Maltese Agora ladies. In the first week twelve Maltese AGORA ladies travelled to France to join the International AGM in Puy Du Fou. Immediate Past ACI President Anna Tabone flew in from Oslo to meet us in Bordeaux. Five hour coach trip from Bordeaux to Puy Du Fou (something we ladies are just not used to) we arrived in the park. Rooms not ready, no one around - off we trekked to find the organisers, the other ladies. Party in the evening. Another trek to find out where the starting point and end point of our parade was. Another experience we Maltese ladies are not used to – walking in the rain, mud and GRAVEL. Some of us were just totally surprised to get to know we were sleeping in tents for the next two nights. Quite an experience. Some of us got lost on way back in pitch darkness. !! Sunday morning off we went to St Emilion another two nights of fun, wine and laughs. 5th October at the crack of dawn flew back Bordeaux Malta.

## FUND RAISING PARTY

### In aid of Paralympic Sailing!



Two days later – 7th October – AGORA Malta organised an end of summer fundraising party – all proceeds towards President Nicola Griscti project – a Hansa 303 with special bucket seat for Special Needs Paralympic 2028. And what a fun night that was. Donations poured in by those who could not be present on that night and until going to print we are just €2,500 away from funding the full amount. We are proud to say that the Hansa will have AGORA MALTA labelled on it.



One week later the Royal Malta Yacht Club held the Rolex Middle Sea Race. The Grand Harbour was alive – colourful – an amazing spectacle of over one hundred international sailing boats slowly moving out of the Harbour. **Again a bunch of AGORA Ladies were present on the Lower Barrakka, Valletta** enjoying the glorious hot weather .

Following week - a **Council meeting** was held – The Agenda was packed. New ideas, new charities, fund raising events – next fundraising is an afternoon card tea party on Monday 21st November - meeting was followed by a dinner at Vecchia Napoli for those who could make it.

During the last week of October – an invitation was received to join in Tangent Malta Charter, to be held in Valletta on Saturday 5th November. A few of us will once again join this special occasion.

***And the month just flew – on to the next one.***

Nikki Griscti

# FOCUS ON...

## Travel grant AC Madagascar



### *Travel grant, my experience of the AGM Puy du Fou*

I am the President of the Club Agora Sariaka Madagascar for the year 2021-2022 and as such I applied for a travel grant to attend the AGM of Puy du Fou which was held from September 29 to October 2, 2022.

The reason for me to have requested this participation is that to travel from Madagascar to France, the plane ticket is expensive while I wanted Madagascar to be present for the Councillors Meeting and the AGM of this year.

I arrived at the end of the afternoon, Thursday, September 29 at Puy du Fou and I left on Sunday morning.

I attended all the activities prepared by the Agora club except dinner on Thursday evening. I keep from this participation in this great meeting, the pleasure of having been able to meet the international board and show that Madagascar wants to be visible among all the clubs

I had the pleasure of seeing Agora members I met when they came to Madagascar a few years ago and to meet other members, particularly from African countries.

I appreciated the friendly welcome of the organizers including Nadine and found that Agora France worked well for a wonderful organization of this great meeting.

The AGM site at Puy du Fou was really superb, the meeting rooms and restaurants were beautiful.

The meetings, councillors meeting and AGM were instructive for me because it allows me to clarify the philosophy and spirit of the Agora club and transmit it to our members, including the rapprochement with the clubs of QUATALAGOR.

During the evening of the Wellcome party, I found very warm the parade to reach the restaurant. The show played by the waiters at this dinner was original.

During the gala dinner on Saturday evening, I also enjoyed the animation with the talented violinist.

I didn't have much time to visit the park, I was just able to attend two shows on Friday afternoon. The sets were grandiose.

I thank the International board for granting me this travel grant which will remain in my memory as a very beautiful experience.

I wish the new office a happy year of leadership.

With friendship

Marianne PAVOT

President Club Agora Sariaka Madagascar

# FOCUS ON...

# Social Media

## WERE WE BUSY ON SOCIAL MEDIA??

Yes we were!

**THIS MONTH IN ACI**

UPCOMING CHARTERS IN OCTOBER

Welcome :

15/10/2022 :  
Agora Club 6 Dar Bouazza - MOROCCO

21/10/2022  
Agora Club Northwich - UNITED KINGDOM

22/10/2022 :  
Agora Club 15 Zeeuws-Vlaanderen - THE NETHERLANDS

**TODAY IN ACI**

OUR NEW ACI BOARD'S Boardmeeting 1

COMBINED WITH AC MOROCCO'S CHARTER OF AC 6 DAR BOUAZZA

Have a great Meeting!

**THIS MONTH IN ACI**

OCTOBER: MONTH OF BREASTCANCER AWARENESS

Open up and talk about it with the women you love!

**TODAY IN ACI**

10/10/2022

WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY

It's Okay If you

- Have a bad day
- Make mistakes
- Are less than perfect
- Put yourself first
- Take a break from everything

**TODAY IN ACI**

11/10/2022

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE Girl child

women empower

Open up and make a difference!

Think about how your club/country can contribute to our lifechanging ACI service project "keep a girl child in school"

info for your donations on [www.agoraclubinternational.com](http://www.agoraclubinternational.com)

**TODAY IN ACI**

A VERY WARM WELCOME

Agora Club India in formation

HOW WONDERFUL TO HAVE YOU WITH US SOON!

**TODAY IN ACI**

To our dear friends of AC Nepal and AC India i.f.

**Happy diwali**

**TODAY IN ACI**

21/10/22

Wear pink today & show that you care!

Supporting the fighters  
Admiring the survivors  
Honoring the taken  
Never give up hope!

**TODAY IN ACI**

CHARTER COMPLETED!

Welcome AC 6 Dar Bouazza

TO OUR WORLD WIDE WEB OF FRIENDS

Check out "agora club international" on instagram and on our facebook page and group

It's fun!

# FOCUS ON...

## The ACI Website

The ACI website is updated,  
with all the new national boards and lots of info

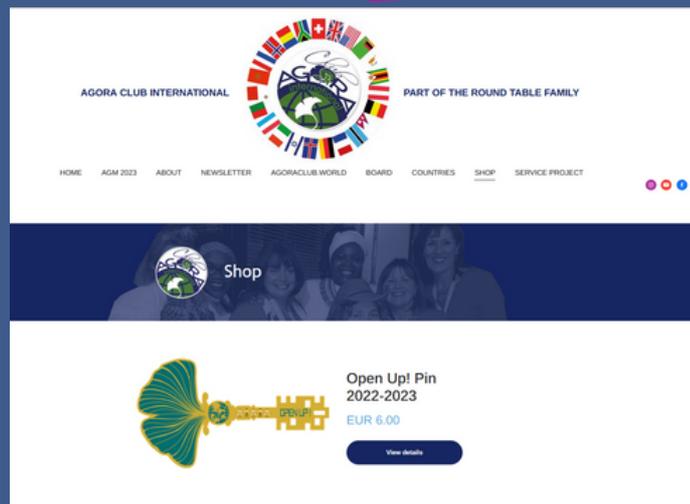
... and....

## The ACI Shop!

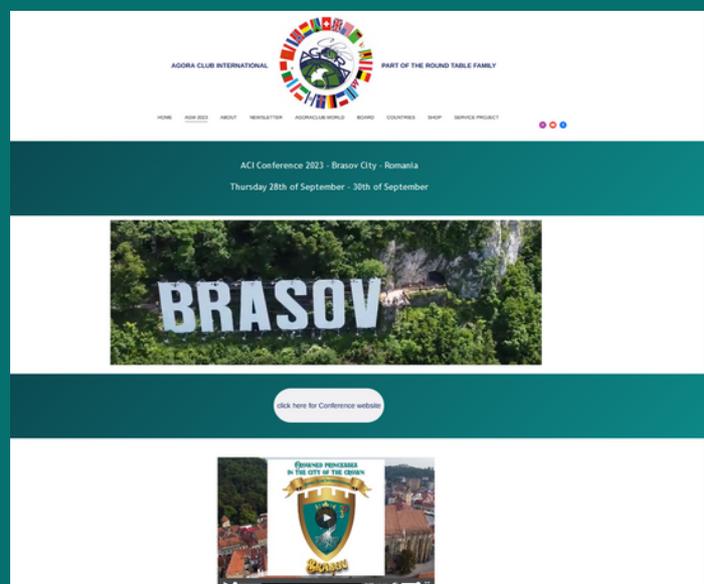
NEW

NEW

Just 1 item  
now...but soon  
more to follow!



Also soon online : the  
website ACI conference  
2023  
in Brasov - Romania





**Save the date!**  
11/05/2023 - 14/05/2023  
Stratford upon Avon UK

Join us!

Share your suggestions & ideas

Hi!

Meet friends



**ACI**  
**FORUM**

More info in our next **FOCUS** and on our social media canals soon!

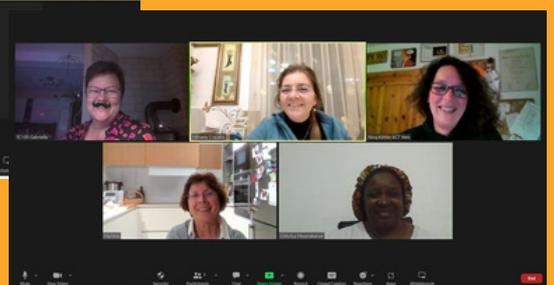
# FOCUS ON...

## Our busy Boardmembers

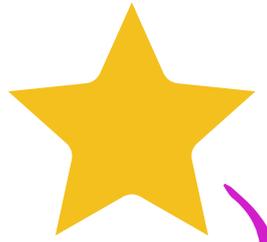


- Marian at the Charter of AC 15 Zeeuw-Vlaanderen (NL)
- Gaby at the 41 Club Switzerland AGM
- Chilufya at the charter of AC 6 Northwich (UK)
- Mihaela, Gaby and Marian at the Charter of AC 6 Dar Bouazza (MOR) + Boardmeeting 1

Boardmeetings 1, 2 & 3 : Check ! 



Councilors 2022-2023 :  
Don't forget!



**15/11/2022 : Q&A Meeting**

**30/11/2022 : EGM**





# FOCUS ON...

## The Round Table Family

### THIS MONTH IN ACI

**MOVEMBER**  
*it's Stach month!*

November was founded in 2004 to raise awareness of men's health issues, such as prostate cancer, testicular cancer, as well as mental health and suicide prevention. Every November, men across the world grow their best moustache in support of this life-saving foundation.

Agora Club International stands by our Gentlemen!



LCI & TCI, 41 Club France and LC France present at the ACI AGM

with (video) messages from TCI, RTI and 41 CI

#### ACI GREETINGS

RTI CEETM Meeting

We take this opportunity to send you our best wishes and we wish you a very fruitful meeting.

Much love from Mihaela, Chilufya, Gabriella, Marian and Sumaya

#### ACI GREETINGS

RTI NEA Meeting

We take this opportunity to send you our best wishes and we wish you a very fruitful meeting.

Much love from Mihaela, Chilufya, Gabriella, Marian and Sumaya

Gabriella at the AGM 41 Club Switzerland



### LAST WEEKEND IN ACI

## & AGORA CLUB INTERNATIONAL LADIES CIRCLE INTERNATIONAL

### Side by Side

MIHAELA opened up HER HOUSE TO THE LCI BOARD



41 Club & LC present at the Charter AC 6 Dar Bouazza in Morocco



The LCI Board at Mihaela's house



RTI content Manager George Marin was also present

# ACI & Round table Family Calendar

October 2022		OCTOBER ROSE
	13-16	CHARTER MOROCCO & CASABLANCA
	21-23	RTI CEETM – NOTTINGHAM UK CHARTER AC UK & NORTHWICH CHARTER AC 16 THE NETHERLANDS - ZEEUWS-VLAANDEREN
	27-30	RTI – REGIONAL MEETING NEA – NORWAY
November 2022		MOVEMBER
	5	HYM AC FRANCE – VITRE & 10 YEAR ANNIVERSARY AC VITRE
	7-11	CHARTER CLUB 41 MADAGASCAR
	14	ACI DAY
	15	Q&A COUNCILORS ZOOM MEETING
	19	ANNIVERSARY AC HIRSON, FRANCE 30 YEARS
	30	ACI EGM COUNCILORS ZOOM MEETING
January 2023	27-29	LCI MTM NORDIC REGION – PARNU, ESTONIA - MARIAN LCI MTM SOUTHERN EUROPEAN REGION – PAPHOS, CYPRUS
February 2023	3-5	LCI MTM MIDDLE EUROPEAN REGION – LIEGE, BELGIUM
	11	CHARTER CLUB 24 ANTWERP, BELGIUM LADIES CIRCLE INTERNATIONAL DAY
	17-19	LCI MTM AFRICAN REGION – STELLENBOSCH, SOUTH AFRICA
	24-26	LCI MTM APAC REGION – SRI LANKA
March 2023	1-5	HYM RTI – TALLIN, ESTONIA
	25	ANNIVERSARY AC AMIENS, FRANCE 10 YEARS
	31-2/4	CHARTER CEREMONY AC CYPRUS-PAPFOS
April 2023	1	CHARTER AC 72 BOURGES, FRANCE
	14	CHARTER AC 73 CARCASSONE, FRANCE
	28-30	RTI ASPA REGIONAL MEETING – INDIA RTI SEM REGIONAL MEETING - TUNISIA
May 2023	11-14	AGM 41INTERNATIONAL & TCI
	13	ACI FORUM – STRATFORD UPON AVON, UK
	12	AGM AC MADAGASCAR – ILE SAINTE MARIE
	13	AGM ACT GERMANY – MANNHEIM
	20	AGM AC ICELAND – REYKAVIK
	27	AGM AC SOUTH AFRICA - MULDRSDRIFT AGM AC ZIMBABWE - HARARE
	TBA	AGM AC LUXEMBOURG
	TBA	AGM AC NEPAL – KATHAMANDU
	TBA	CHARTER AC LA ROCHELLE-ROCHEFORT – FRANCE
June 2023	3	AGM AC BOTSWANA – GABORONE AGM AC THE NETHERLANDS – VOORNE AAN ZEE
	3	CHARTER AC 25 MEETJESLAND, BELGIUM
	10	AGM AC NORWAY AGM – HAUGESUND AGM AC UK – SOUTHEND ON SEA AGM AC FRANCE AGM - ROUEN
	11	ANNIVERSARY AC ICELAND 10 YEARS
	16-18	AGM AC ROMANIA AGM – BRASOV
	23	AGM AC MALTA AGM – VALETTA
	24	AGM AC BELGIUM AGM – MECHELEN
	TBA	AGM AC ITALY AGM
	TBA	AGM AC ZAMBIA – LUSAKA
July 2023	21-23	RTI AMI REGIONAL MEETING – EASTERN AFRICA
August 2023	18-20	CHARTER AC INDIA, DELHI
	24-27	LCI AGM – JAIPUR, INDIA
September 2023	TBA	AGM AC CYPRUS – PAPHOS
	TBA	AGM AC ISRAEL
	7-10	RTI WORLD MEETING – STELLENBOSCH, SOUTH AFRICA
	28- 01/10	ACI AGM BRASOV ROMANIA
October 2023	12-15	HYM 41 INTERNATIONAL & TCI – PAPHOS, CYPRUS



**DON'T  
FORGET**

**14th of november is**

**ACI DAY!**

**#OPEN UP**

**and make it special!**



Send your contributions to (y)our FOCUS magazine to  
ACI Secretary Sumaya Khan

Editing & lay-out : ACI Media Manager Veerle De Jonge