



**CIPRA**  
**LIVING IN**  
**THE ALPS**

Schaan, 20 January 2022

Press release for the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Via Alpina

## **A voyage of discovery along the Via Alpina**

**On with your hiking boots, get set, go! To mark the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Via Alpina, the long-distance hiking trail across the Alps, CIPRA International is awarding eight hiking scholarships with the support of the VAUDE Sport Albrecht von Dewitz Foundation. Applications will be accepted up until 6 February.**

Hiking through the Alps and reporting on experiences, regional specialities and the magic of the long-distance trail: to mark its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary, CIPRA International is looking for eight people (aged 18+) from all Alpine countries who would like to embark on a voyage of discovery along the Via Alpina long-distance hiking trail. The scholarship holders will hike a section of the revised red route of the Via Alpina between May and October 2022. The VAUDE Sport Albrecht von Dewitz Foundation is supporting each person with the sum 1,500 euros. Using social media, blogs or film, they will tell stories about Alpine biodiversity, environmentally friendly travel and the challenges faced on the mountain. More information and application forms can be found at [www.cipra.org/via-alpina-explorer-2022](http://www.cipra.org/via-alpina-explorer-2022).

The Via Alpina – an implementation project of the Alpine Convention for two decades now – runs like a common thread through all eight Alpine countries, from Trieste/I to Monaco. A hike along the Via Alpina makes Alpine-wide challenges such as climate change and pressure of use tangible: but it also shows solutions such as sustainable building culture, slow tourism and innovative projects. And it is always accompanied by the incredible beauty and diversity of nature, culture and languages in the Alps. “In the future we will focus on the red trail that crosses all eight Alpine countries”, explains project manager Jakob Dietachmair. In order to implement both further development and modernisation, CIPRA International is launching a crowdfunding campaign at the beginning of February to ensure that the Via Alpina will remain safe and accessible in the decades to come.

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This release and print-ready photographs are available for downloading from <http://www.cipra.org/en/press/press-releases>

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### **CIPRA, a diverse and multifaceted organisation**

CIPRA, the International Commission for the Protection of the Alps, is a non-governmental umbrella organisation with national representatives and one regional representative in the seven Alpine countries. It represents more than 100 associations and organisations. CIPRA works towards achieving sustainable development in the Alps; it also strives to preserve the natural and cultural heritage, maintain regional diversity, and bring about solutions to cross-border problems in the Alpine region. [www.cipra.org](http://www.cipra.org)