



Generalitat de Catalunya
Departament d'Acció Social i Ciutadania
Secretaria de Joventut



Obra Social
Fundació "la Caixa"



Index

4 WHAT IS PROEUROPE1?

5 PARTICIPATION AND FORMATION IN EUROPE

- Participate in the Hemispheres project



7 WORK AND COOPERATE IN EUROPE

- Working in the European Parliament



12 DISCOVERINGS

- Seinajoki's Finnish city
- Schwedt, Germany city



18 CULTURAL EUROPE

- The house of word



21 EUROCALENDAR

- Look for all the funny, exotic and special festivals, traditions and festivities all over Europe



33 WE BUILD EUROPE

- The clash of "civilizations" or the intercultural dialogue?



37 YOU TALK

- European Youth Parliament of Macedonia and



training of Hemispheres project

40 A LOOK AT THE WORLD

- The artistic and cultural Morelia



What is Proeurope1

We build Europe

In the new magazine's issue Proeurope1 we have a **new section** for you. The section, we build Europe, conducted by Martina Braggion, informs to youths about decrees, treaties, agreements, finally, about policies being carried out at European level. As a European citizens, that all of us, we must know events are held. Despite the doubts that we have about the usefulness of the EU and we are missing of European identity, all affects us, the Bolonya Process, the crisis, etc.

Europe is the future. Is important young people can build it, but just we can do it, if we know well their social, cultural and political issues, if we want to be active youths and we participate in the spaces that we have, one of them is the European Parliament elections, next June; Europe is the culmination of the diversity and progress.

And also you'll find, in this issue, what is Hemisphères project and one experience of participation, working in the European Parliament, an experience of participation in the European Youth Parliament, because, as a youths, we can get involved in different participation and dialogue's spaces and impact on the improvement of planning strategies and new projects.

...Proeurope1, your European magazine!

Participation and formation in Europe

Hemispheres 2009-2011

Groups to change the relationship north-south

Several associations from the South and the North. Among them, COCAT in Catalonia and Frères des Hommes in France, develop this project to enlarge the knowledge about what causes unfair and inequality between north and south. The aim is to increase and internationalise the promotion of alternatives that can lead to social changes with young people as change instigators.

What is it?

Hemispheres is an action-training thought out for young Europeans.

It is education training so that a group of 20 young Europeans, during three weeks will be able to:

- Clarify and have a better understanding of some mechanisms that generate poverty, exclusion, discrimination and not comply with human rights, both in the North and in the South.
- Discover movements and positive energies from people and communities that make things change.
- To learn abilities and technical and artistic knowledge (organize actions for international awareness and solidarity). For example: How to lead a public debate, collect opinions from the people, organize an exhibition, write an article, create a web page etc.
- Create, within a multicultural group, one or several educational tools to make as many citizens as possible aware of it. These creations will be the support for the activities that they will implement when they return back home.

It is an action also because when they return back home (in their city, within their association) they will implement in a real situation an event for international sensibilisation and international solidarity. The educational tools, the knowledge and the acquired methods during the course will help.

Who is it for?

For young people between the ages of 18 and 30 who live in Europe, with interest in international solidarity and who speak English.

Why?

Because margination, poverty, discrimination and submission experienced by the majority of the people in the South are not disconnected to the experiences undergone by many Europeans. Moreover local initiatives can be shared at an international level by joining our hemispheres.

Where?

The training lasts three weeks and it takes place in Paris. Young people will be hosted near the centre of the city. The weekends and the evenings are free and will allow participants to thoroughly enjoy their stay in Paris.

When the young people go back to their home city, they will find support by the association to develop a sensibilisation activity and will have the support of other volunteers who will have worked on this project.

When?

Throughout the three years there are three annual training weeks, three week long each. The topics of Hemispheres and the dates for the training in 2009 are:

- **From 5 to 25 April:** What makes a car move? When corn feeds the car and not the people. Agriculture, food and famine: (from production to distribution) Around the world we have lately heard on the news about food riots. Everybody wonders: "How it is possible that starvation exists in a world in which the techniques and agriculture production has improved so much?" This training session has given answers to this question... while making others: "What happens to the access to the land, global warming, differences between the country and the city? To sum up: what do we produce, why and thanks to whom? Key questions for the human race future.
- **From the 2nd to the 22nd of August: Earning a living...What do we obtain by working?**
The mechanisms of our consumer society lead progressively to the exploitation of workers every time more frequent and more violent. This means that their rights to a decent salary, good work conditions, welfare and social protection get trod on. For the ones who have no work, poverty involves other aspects of segregation. Since most of the people have to work to face basic needs such as (food, housing, education, health etc.) but also work can generate a collective use as well as individual recognition. This training week will point out at issues such as right for work, workers rights and also the fundamental challenges to fight poverty, oppression and segregation.
- **From the 4th to the 24th of November: Information: A way of combating poverty?**
Around the world, poverty and exclusion mean not having the right to participate in building joint solutions. The fight against all types of violence is indivisible from the acknowledgement of the majority of the basic rights. Information allows having a better knowledge and understanding of the topics that both North as well as South face every day. What's more, to build a discourse, to act in favour of participation of the people in the creation of public politics which are fundamental challenges in the fight that has to be carried out to build a fairer world.

How much?

The project is sponsored by the European Union, this covers the training activities, the accommodation, the food and the transport (always second class/tourist).

Don't wait and look for your association

In this way, to get involved with the project **Hemispheres** implies to participate in a three week training course and then the carrying out of sensibilization for the international solidarity accompanied by the association that has sent you. Become a member of a volunteers group that during the next three years will attend training courses for action and development. Coming back participants will take action for a fairer relationship between North and South, for the international solidarity and social justice at a local level in the respective participant countries.

From the topics dealt, people not only acquire specific knowledge but also aspects related to communication skills that can be applied in any other field.

For information about the project Hemispheres you can contact:

- **Catalonia: COCAT** voluntariat.internacional@cocat.org
+34 934254064
www.cocat.org
- **Estonia: Estyes:** estyes@estyes.ee
www.estyes.ee
- **France: Frères des Hommes:** a.polleau@fdh.org
+33(0) 155426262
www.fdh.org
- **Concordia:** international@concordia.fr
www.concordia-association.org
- **Ireland: Fatima Group United(FGU):** niallobaoill@irelnad.com
Telf.: 0 1 4534722
Telf. Internacional: +35 314534722
www.fatimagroupsunited.com
- **Italy: Lunaria:** volo@lunaria.org
+39 68841880
www.lunaria.org
- **Lithuania: Kaunas Artists Support Fund:** kaunasbiennial@yahoo.com
+37061256171
www.bienale.lt



Work and cooperate in Europe

WORKING IN THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT

The European Parliament is working as an employee, agent, internships and study visits. The institution is working a total of approximately 5,000 agents and officers from the twenty-seven Member States of the European Union.

How you can do it?

The European institutions, practicing a policy of equal opportunity, contract through five different types of examinations. These cover different levels and allow the application to a wide range of possibilities (administrators, interpreters, translators, assistants, secretaries, qualified agents, etc.). The announcements on these competitions are published in the Official Journal of the European Union. For more information, check the Web The European Personnel Selection (EPSO), on europa.eu/epsa.

Moreover, most of the European institutions and organisms call regularly traineeships. There are generic and specific ones (such as journalists or translators). In the case of the European Parliament, there are practices and paid and unpaid generic and specific practices (for translators or journalists). You can find out more about the stages in the "Period of Practice on the Web.

Types of employment

Permanent officials

The permanent officials form the EU Civil Service and are divided in two categories – administrators and assistants.

- **Administrators**

Tasks:

- engaged in drafting policies and implementing EU law elaboració de polítiques i aplicació de la legislació de la UE
- analysing and advising
- for example, an administrator may developing or managing a specific scientific research programme or representing the Institutions in international forums, and more.

How: European Court of Justice or the European Ombudsman. We offer a very wide range of career opportunities for university graduates including administration, law, finance, economics, communication and science to name but a few.

- **Assistants**

Tasks:

- Employed in a supporting role (secretarial, administrative, financial, communication, policy development and implementation etc).

Contract agent

- **Tasks:** Contract Agent positions are available for a wide range of jobs, requiring different levels of qualifications:

- Manual and administrative support-service tasks
- Clerical or secretarial tasks, office management and other equivalent tasks
- Executive tasks, drafting, accountancy and other equivalent technical tasks
- Administrative, advisory, linguistic and equivalent technical tasks.

- **Duration:** They are employed for a fixed maximum period, often with a shorter initial contract of 6-12 months, depending on the type of the job.

Temporary Agents

- **Tasks:**

- To perform a wide variety of highly specialised or temporary tasks.

- **Duration:** Maximum period six years.

- **Com fer-ho:** You can also apply to be a temporary agent by introducing your details into the EU CV online.

- **Note:** Selection competitions for Temporary Agents are generally run by the Institutions and Agencies themselves, rather than by EPSO. Candidates are therefore advised to regularly visit the websites of the Institutions and the EU Agencies if they are interested in such opportunities.

Interim Staff

Some Institutions also employ local staff on a very short term and temporary basis.

Persons interested in such short-term employment opportunities should contact these temping agencies directly.

- **Duration:** Short time, up to 6 months.

Trainees

Each year more than 1,200 young people have the chance to increase their professional skills, develop their personal qualities, and enhance their EU knowledge through the EU trainee programmes. Trainees will all have completed their first university degree, and so receive tasks similar to those of the lower AD grade officials.

- **Duration:** The institutions organise traineeships for young university graduates, each lasting 3-5 months.
- **How:** The trainee programmes are managed by the Institutions themselves and further details regarding the programmes and application procedures can be found on their websites.

Seconded National Experts (SNE)

SNEs are national or international civil servants or persons employed in the public sector who are working temporarily for an EU Institution. They bring to the Institution their experience of issues with which they are used to dealing, and take back to their home administration a knowledge of EU policies and procedures which they will have acquired during their period of secondment.

SNEs work alongside EU officials, helping to achieve the strategic objectives defined by a Directorate-General or Service. They work under the instructions of an EU official, according to a detailed job description and governed by rules that help avoid any risk of a conflict of interests. SNE are selected through a specific procedure, which does not involve EPSO.

Requirements

Every candidate must:

- Be a citizen of a Member State of the European Union
- Be entitled to full rights as such a citizen
- Have fulfilled any obligations imposed by the laws on military service
- Have a thorough knowledge of one of the official languages of the European Union and a satisfactory knowledge of a second.
- Motivate to produce results and capacity to efficient working in a multicultural environment.

In addition, candidates must meet the specific requirements relating to qualifications and professional experience (where applicable), as set out in the Notice of Competition.

What they offer you?

- Meaningful work
- Challenging, interesting and diverse objectives
- Dynamic career (opportunities to change direction/field throughout your career)
- International and multicultural work environment
- Access to excellent training
- Outstanding work-life balance (e.g. flexitime, teleworking)
- A competitive and progressive benefits package (medical cover, allowances, free of charge European schools for children, pension scheme).

Selection procedures

All Notices of Competition are published in the 'C' series of the Official Journal of the European Union.

Candidates wishing to take part in a selection procedure need to complete an on-line application form, and to submit this to EPSO prior to a specific deadline for registrations. Such applications are not to be taken lightly – even completion of the application form itself requires a substantial time commitment.

Competitions usually comprise the phases outlined below. However, it should be noted, that certain competitions may differ – in particular those for linguists (interpreters, translators, lawyer-linguists).

Admission tests (pre-selection)

Admission tests usually consist of two sets of multiple choice questions which are taken in a candidate's second language (English, French, or German). The first test assesses their knowledge of the European Union – its history, institutions, and policies. The second test assesses the candidates' verbal and numerical reasoning skills.

Admission tests are usually computer-based, and take place in test centres around the European Union.

Written tests

Candidates with the highest scores in the admission tests are invited to submit documents proving their qualifications and work experience (where applicable). Upon positive decision on their eligibility to participate in the competition, candidates are usually invited to sit three written tests as follows:

- A series of multiple-choice questions that assess the candidates specialised knowledge in the field of the competition. The test is conducted in the candidate's second language (English, French, or German).
- Again on a subject in the field of the competition and taken in the second language of the candidate, (English, French, or German). (This is designed to test his/her: knowledge, ability to understand, analyse and summarise, drafting skills).
- A short memo to be drafted in the main language of the candidate, setting out the arguments and conclusions from written test 2. (This test is designed to assess the candidate's command of his/her main language, as regards both the quality of writing style and presentation).

Oral test

The candidates having the highest marks for all the written tests combined (and achieving the pass-mark in each) are admitted to the oral test.

The interview with the Selection Board members is held mainly in the second language of the candidate (English, French or German). It assesses:

- suitability to carry out the duties described at the Notice of Competition,
- specialist knowledge in the field concerned,
- knowledge of the European Union, its institutions and its policies,
- ability to adjust to working as a European civil servant in a multicultural environment.

Who is involved in recruiting staff?

EPSO

The European Personnel Selection Office (EPSO) organises open competitions and selection procedures including: publication and advertising of the Notice of Competition, organisation of various tests, provision of administrative, logistic and data-processing support to the Selection Boards, and the management of the reserve lists. EPSO also ensures that the Selection Boards strictly adhere to the procedures.

Selection Board

The Selection Board is made up of representatives of the European Institutions and the staff. It is responsible for drafting the questions for the written and oral tests, for evaluating the application files submitted by the candidates and for conducting the oral test. The Selection Board acts independently and impartially.

European Institutions

The HR services of the Institutions are responsible for the recruitment of successful candidates, i.e. filling specific job vacancies by hiring new employees from the lists of candidates maintained by EPSO. The Institutions interview potential employees before offering them a position.

More information:

europa.eu/epso

Discoverings



Report realized by

Riika Kupsala

Seinajoki, combination of urban and rural city

When you are planning a trip to Finland, I advise you to visit not only in Helsinki, the Archipelago Sea, the Finnish lake district and the Lapland but also in the Southern Ostrobothnia province. It is a region with the view of plane, fields, large traditional farmhouses, lakes and rivers. Seinajoki is the capital of the Southern Ostrobothnia. It is a city with a mixture of urban and rural atmosphere.

Seinajoki is known for the architecture of Alvar Aalto, the Tango Festival, the Provinssirock Festival and a wide variety of sports activities. The city is one of the Finland's fastest growing urban areas, thanks partly to its favorable attitude towards entrepreneurship. It offers top quality education from the elementary to university levels and also high level research and development activities. The city boasts a wide variety of art and cultural activities. The Alvar Aalto Centre, art galleries, the Seinajoki City Theatre, summer theatres and many other venues and events offers fantastic cultural experiences throughout the year.



For further information check out this web page www.seinajoki.fi/english

How to get there:

Seinajoki is located at the crossing of five railway lines, and a junction of major roads. It is easily accessible by plane.

Train: Seinajoki can easily be reached by train from Helsinki (about 3 hours), from Oulu (about 3 hours) and from Tampere (about one and a half hours). To check out timetable and special offers, visit: www.vr.fi/heo/eng/index.html.

Car: If you like traveling by car, click on www.tiehallinto.fi. There you can find useful information about driving in Finland. When traveling by car from Helsinki to Seinajoki (about 5 hours) you need to follow the main road E12 until you reach the road 19. Follow the road 19 until you arrive to Seinajoki. Check detailed route from the map.

Airplane: It is possible to travel by plane from Helsinki to Seinajoki (about an hour). Flights are arranged by Finncom Airlines. To check out timetable, visit: www.seinajoenlentoasema.fi.

Transportation:

There is good public transport system with taxis and buses. Pedestrians and cyclists have also been taken into account in the city planning. Because of the short distances it is easy and pleasant way to get familiar with Seinajoki by foot. In addition, there is a city train available during the summertime. In fact, the train is a tractor with some trailers. It is popular among visitors.

Accommodation:

There is good variety of accommodation. Hotels are situated close to services. Farm houses offer reasonable priced accommodation in the countryside. High-standard cottages are the right choice both for a peaceful holiday or for the active adventure. If you need more information you can visit the web page www.epmatkailu.fi/18.html.

Restaurants:

You can find many options to eat well in Seinäjoki. It is possible to taste for example Chinese, French, Mexican and Thai cuisine. I recommend to have a lunch in a diners like a restaurant Marttilan Talli. There you can taste delicious Finnish food.



Events and festivals:

The Provinssirock Festival is definitely worth to visit. It is a one of the biggest rock festival in Finland. It presents both international and domestic artists. The three day festival has been held every June since 1979. To know more about this festival, click on: www.provinssi.fi/etusivu_en.

The Seinäjoki Tango Festival is the world's oldest tango festival. As well as competitions to find the Finland's best tango singers, composers and dancers, the festival features public dancing to live music provided by popular Finnish entertainers. Music for public dancing is not restricted to tango. The festival is held in the beginning of the July. Read more about this festival at the web page: www.tangomarkkinat.fi/english/etusivu.htm.

The Rock and Race Festival is held in the end of the July. It's not only music festival but also a car race event.

Shopping:

There are three shopping malls with restaurants and boutiques of clothing, jewelry, decoration, etc. In addition, you can spend your time in several supermarkets.

10 things to know (advices, recommendations, place to visit...)

1.- The administrative and cultural centre of Seinäjoki is one of the most important creations of Alvar Aalto, a Finnish architect and professor. **The Aalto Centre**, composed of six buildings, was mainly completed between 1960 and 1968. Aalto is one of the notable innovators of architecture and interior decoration. His design is characterized by individuality combined with the perception of current trends. Buildings of the Aalto Centre are: Lakeuden Risti church, City Hall, City Library, Parish Centre, State Office Building and City Theatre.



2.- As you noticed, **Lakeuden Risti church** is one of the six buildings of the Aalto Centre. The church and bell-tower gave an initial boost to the building of the unique Aalto Centre. I advise you to visit especially there. The church is something else than many other traditional Finnish churches. You whether like it or not. Just find out what do you think!

3.- If you are interested in of seeing traditional kind of church, you should visit at **Tornava church**. It is a beautiful building made of wood with nice looking surrounding. I bet it's worth to visit there!

4.- At the top of the **Hill Jouppilanvuori** you can see the view of Seinajoki. The hill is located next to the downtown. When standing on the top you can realize how close forests and fields really are to the city.



5.- If you are visiting in Seinajoki during the winter time, you must try cross country and down hill **skiing at the Joupiska downhill** skiing centre. Just rent the sport equipments and have fun with the snow! If you get tired because of the active exercise, take a break with a cup of coffee or a pint of beer at the restaurant Joupiska.

6.- If you would have a boat trip along the **River Seinajoki**. Trips are arranged by Kaanaa lines. Visit: www.kaanaalines.fi/en/index.htm.



7.- If you like wild life, have an adventurous hike at the **Lake Kyrkosjarvi**. There is a hiking route around the lake. During the hiking you can get familiar with plants and trees. Probably you'll see some birds, mammals and insects. If you are lucky you can meet a mouse in the middle of the forest!

8.- You might have a chance to get familiar with fast-moving ball sport which is referred to as **Finnish baseball**. It is a similar game like the baseball in the United States. Every summer season teams play matches against others. Seinajoki has got a team Maila-Jussit and it is possible to see their game at the baseball stadium.



9.- Did you know that the **Dudesons** are from Seinajoki? It is a group of four guys who does extreme stunts with the crazy attitude. They have published a television series and the Dudesons Movie about their silly acts. These guys are very popular in Finland.

10.- Why don't you just enjoy of lovely **walking on the park** road along the river? On the way you'll pass the park surrounding the Tornava manor and the Campus Area. Remember to take a camera with you!

Report realized by

Claudia Bernsee

Have you ever heard of "The green city"?

Porque los habitantes de Schwedt llaman así a su ciudad.

Cause so the inhabitants of Schwedt are calling their city like that. Schwedt is situated 80 km in north-east of Berlin, directly on the border to Poland and is a part of the rural district "Uckermark". The city is the gate to a special wonder of nature. The River "Oder" and the artificial channel are passing by and touching some parts of the city. Next to Schwedt, directly between Germany and Poland there is situated the big wildlife reserve called "Unteres Odertal". The Uckermark offers several different nature resorts with big water protection areas and Germany's biggest connected forest area called "Choriner Forst".

There with Schwedt offers an excellence possibility for relaxing and having a good time...but pay attention, you can also experience a lot in the city and outside with outdoor activities.

With 36.000 inhabitants is it not the "big apple" but you can enjoy a varied program for all class of ages. With a cinema, a big theatre, nearly all kinds of sport clubs and several youth clubs you can chose how to spend your afternoons.



You will see, it pays off to discover this region of Germany.

How to get there?

By train: Direct train connection between Berlin and Schwedt (frequency once an our) the travel time amounts 60-90 minutes from Berlin main station: www.deutschebahn.de.

Airplane: when you arrive one of the two airports in Berlin (Schoenefeld or Tegel) you can go by metro to the main station Berlin, there take the train or the bus.

Transportations:

You can arrive nearly all our destinations by bus. The buses drive frequently. (you only have to check the timetables and lines)

Accommodation:

Unfortunately there aren't youth hostels in environment but some cosy and for local specialise accommodations. The price varied between 15-40€ (inclusive tasty and typical breakfast of this region).

- **"Wildnisschule Teerofenbruecke"**. That's fantastic for groups and all other people! You live in timber houses a few steps to the wildlife reserve "Unteres Odertal" and you could hire a guide for excursion across this area: www.wildnisschule-teerofenbruecke.de).
- **Pensión "Salvey Muehlen"** www.salveymuehle.de
An idyllic situated county house in the rural environment of Schwedt. The pension was used in the past as a mill and promises a cosy atmosphere. Each year on White Monday there takes place the "Muehlenfest" ("Mill Festival")

For all sportsman and sportswoman you can arrive all this accommodations by bike. The region and the nature resort is equipped with extensive cycle tracks (also very usual for skaters) and several hire stations.

Restaurants:

All the Germans love a long, long and of course, a sweet breakfast! It's typical to enjoy a cup of coffee when you eat a boiled egg, a roll or black bread with homemade marmalade *hmm*, tasty cheese and fresh yoghurt. If you like the traditional way and ecologic valuable products have a look at: www.um-hemme-milch.de.

If you have a look at a bakery asks for **"Berliner"**. ...and you will see what it is!

A famous food is also the **curry sausage**. You can get it in nearly all take-a-ways snack bar (taste in combination with typical potato salad). Of course never forget to drink a beer to this meal. "Guten Appetit!"

In general Germans love meat and potatoes in every way of preparation, but they do also love to try new tastes, that are more international restaurants than German ones.

Good locations:

- **"Martin's Café und Restaurant"** www.martins-schwedt.de
Here you can enjoy a romantic candle light dinner
- **"Zur Kartoffelmaus"**
In this place you will find varied German potato dishes.
- **"Balkanstube"** www.balkanstube.de
A location for Bulgarian cuisines, you can taste the palatable, aromatic and diversified sensations.

Festivals:

Midsummer: every year at 19th June Schwedt celebrates the midsummer-turn, that's the day with most daylight within the year. Visitors can enjoy the whole day until the night with live music, fire shows, artistic, readings and a great midsummer fire.

Each year the last weekend of august will be celebrated the **tobacco floescence festival**. This event starts with a great pageant and people dressed up in traditional costumes.

Our "Tobacco queen" discloses the attraction and everybody can visit the tobacco museum. Afterwards you are welcome to dance, laugh, drink and have a good party until you tip over.

Shopping:

There are many alternatives for shopping. One is called **"Oder Center Schwedt"**, that's the main point for shopping and surely to meet others. You can find a wide selection of clothes shops, shoe shops, snack bars, bookshops and all your heart desires.

Another one is in the old part of the town and centre of the city, called **Vierradener Street**. You should not expect a big Shopping Centre. Today it is reserved for pedestrian zone to invite you on a stroll between its several shops, cafes and historic houses with a typical German construction.

10 Things to know (advices, recommendations, place to visit...)

1.- Caprio Church Did you ever saw a church without a roof? Visit the **"Kreuzkirche zu Vierraden"**! The church was built in 1788 and was destructed in the end of Second World War. You can attend an especially open-air- worship. And at night you will see "ein blaues Wunder" (a blue wonder).



2.- PCK This region isn't only the grain chamber of Germany. The refinery **"PCK Raffinerie"** plays an important role in Schwedt's economy. The factory safeguards many jobs for the inhabitants of the environment. With its potential processing capacity of almost 11 million tonnes of petroleum a year, the firm is one of the largest refineries in Germany. The factory covers an area of 1000 hectares and is as big as Schwedt.

3.- Famosa The freestyle swimmer **Britta Steffen**, native born in Schwedt, started to swim in a local sports club and went to Berlin increase her sportive career. She won many international competitions, but probably the most important success were the 2 gold medals (with new Olympic record of 24.06 seconds) during the 2008 Summer Olympic Games in Beijing, China.

4.- Excursión de natura Criewen and Blumenbergermühle, wildlife reserve, trips with a steamship. If you haven't seen an otter or an eagle you have the possibility to have a look at our native animals in on of the information centres, accompanied by bird voices an bubbling fishes (but pay attention: fishing forbidden!)



www.nationalpark-unteres-odertal.eu
www.wildnisschule-teerofenbruecke.de
www.nationalpark-unteres-odertal.de

5.- Viaje a Berlín Each year Berlin is going to proudly present the "**Carnival of Cultures**". That's a four-day street festival with an amazing parade (31.05.09) and various parties throughout the whole city. But it's more than a big party- the Carnival of Cultures is a reflection of Berlin's cultural diversity. ...you have only to get the train to Berlin.

6.- The "Berlischky Pavillon" is a building of baroque period. Today the Schwedter inhabitants used this properly French reformed church for concerts and cultures performance. Named for their constructor Berlischky.

7.- Theatre, theatre, theatre... The **Schwedt Uckermark** Stages are very popular the whole region and beyond. The wide range of performances-concerts, dramas, musicals, ballets, films and big shows- attracts a lot of people every year. Are you interested in theatre? At Schwedter art school called "Stolperdraht" ("Trip Write") you can find out if you were a young artist talent, maybe?!

8.- To keep in mind the taste of an original cigar you should get tobacco from **Vierraden** one of the districts of Schwedt. The annual tobacco florescence festival takes place there.

9.- Bilateral cooperation Eastwards of the town, parallel to the "Oder" branches, widely visible, steep slopes rise at the Polish side, with a village called "Chojna". Furthermore these two cities are united by a specific bilateral relationship. Border controls at the **German-Polish border** ceased on 21st December 2007 and bringing the "Schengen-agreement" into effect. Partnerships between the neighbours have existed for many years. There are many projects to get more closed to each other, for example bilingual schools and ecological cooperation to protect the nature reserve.

10.- Engagement. The blood donation centre Schwedt arrange every year some crazy events inside of the big theatre. Last year there was "**The night of Vampires**". You could give your blood or just have a good party. This year the starter is a flower power party "Blood than flowers" ("Blut statt Blumen"). It developed to a great success for the region: people care for people.



Eva Schloer

Student of English and German literature and International Communication at LMU in Munich.

The House of the Word

In the beginning was the word. Or, to be more specific: the information. This is especially true for an institution like a library. And yet – against common belief – the library didn't start out in monasteries as a place to store works about the Christian God. Libraries came into existence much earlier and for much more profane purposes: as a record of commercial transactions and inventory. One of the first of these libraries, from around 3000 BC, is traced back to the city state of Sumer, Mesopotamia, located in the region that is today known as Iraq.

Ever since the beginning of the written word, people have sought out ways to keep it, store it, save it and archive it.

The Egyptians used their first libraries to hold government and temple records, the Persians used it predominantly for religious and scientific writings. And the concept progressed from there. People seemed to recognize very early that knowledge is power and that information key to survival. The library became the storage place for these things.

So here I am in the 'Information Age', asking myself which purpose libraries can/will/must serve in our times.

I think back to my own childhood, in the days when the internet didn't exist. Our little public library represented all the information in the world to me. I still remember the very distinct smell of the building, the sounds of pages shuffling in the background, the feeling of being surrounded by numberless books and all the stories and ideas contained within them.

The function as an archive has mostly become superfluous, now that a computer can store about as much information as a traditional small town library and the internet makes information accessible from anywhere in the world. Full-text search, take that Alexandrians!

In these days, for me, there are two reasons to visit a library. The first is the traditional: to check-out or return books that I previously ordered online. And the second reason is because the library is a place where I can work, study or read outside of my home. While living in New York City for a while, I made it a habit to pack my laptop and visit a public library (either the wonderful big one on 5th Avenue or a smaller one in SoHo). Over time, visiting these locations, I realized that I had a lot of 'colleagues' there. We all sat and typed away on our laptops, sometimes exchanging a few words but mostly laboring away privately on our own projects. Most of us were freelancers or students. A freelance graphic designer told me that since he couldn't afford an office, he just went back and forth between the public library and a café, both of which offer free WiFi. The price of 40 coffees per months is still a bargain compared to the rent for a Manhattan office.



The library has undergone a major change from an archive to a platform in the past years. It still centers around words and information. It still offers a place to sit down and read. But it has become democratized. Although there were some rare cases of public libraries in the Hellenic and Roman empire, it took until the 19th century that the library really went public. The movement towards modern, free, open access libraries started in the U.K. in 1847. A Parliamentary committee recommended the establishment of free public libraries all over the country, which led to the Public Libraries Act in 1850. This piece of legislation allowed all cities with populations exceeding 10,000 to raise taxes for the support of public libraries. Also the increasing literacy that followed the Public School Law from 1870, further fuelled the demand for libraries. The development in England led many other countries to follow their example. As a result, more and more public libraries were established, while formerly private ones now opened their doors to the public. Nowadays, a library is a place where everyone can go, irrespective of his/her income, educational level or technological literacy.



In recent years, libraries have gone through another transformation. They've expanded the media that carries the information. Today we no longer have the choice between papyrus and silk (which was used in the old Chinese libraries) but instead between hardcover and paperback books, on-site computers, the Internet, CDs and CD-ROMs, DVDs and even some leftover microfiches and cassette tapes.

But the library does not only offer impersonal media. Many have also pick up the spirit of the time and established themselves as community education centers, offering seminars, training courses, support for formal education, a place for book groups to meet, homework tutoring, and more.

It's a place where you can come to.

This is the big advantage of the library over a virtual place like the internet. There's a reason, why we're not spending all our time on Second life. There's something to be said for physicality, for tangible walls and real people. And if I'd read exclusively online or bought all my books when I was a child, I would never have had the time to encounter the smell that resembles that little public library in the town where I grew up.



Three of my favorite libraries:

The British Library

96 Euston Road
NW1 2DB
London

A wonderful national library with a tradition that extends far beyond the building. Access to all reading rooms is free of charge. Holds many fascinating old documents, like the notebooks of Leonardo da Vinci, William Blake and Mozart. Interesting modern architecture and fascinating exhibitions.



Biblioteca de Lletres – Universitat de Barcelona

Gran Via de les Corts Catalanes, 585.
08007 Barcelona

Very nice library from the 1820s. Charming and grandiose. Reading rooms that breathe history. Also: don't miss the fabulous courtyard!



The Seattle Public Library

1000 Fourth Ave.
Seattle, WA 98104-1109

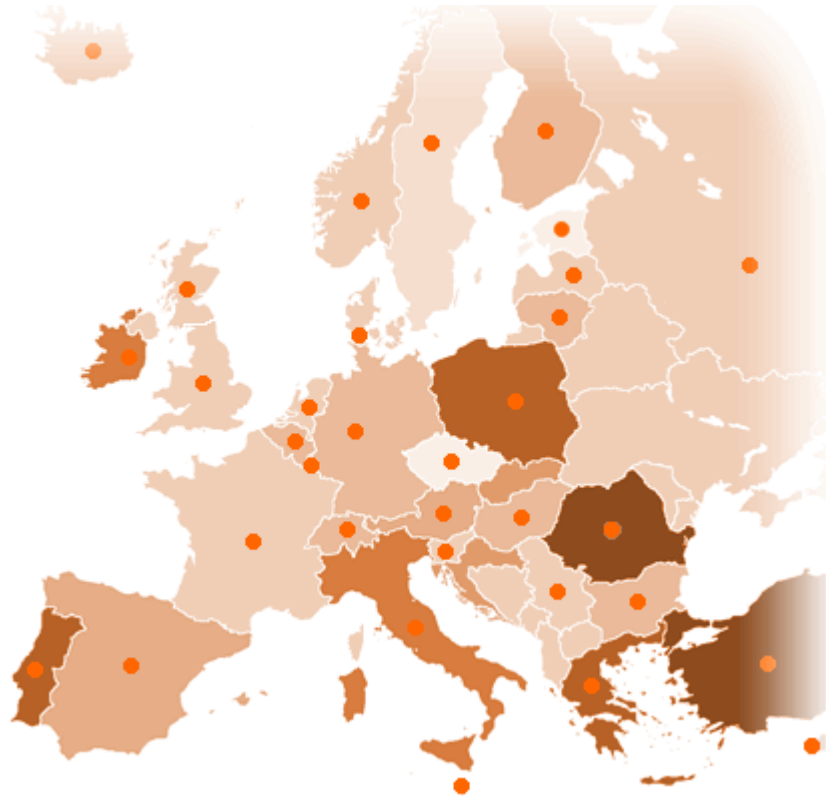
I know it's a little farther away, but this library is a great example of what the library of the future could look like. It was designed by the Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas and is framed by huge glass walls that allow natural light to illuminate its interiors. It holds a café, over 2 million pieces of media, many computers, rooms that can be rented for study or to write a book, and a 275-seat auditorium. A library card is completely free.



Eva Bacon – Please feel free to email me with your comments or a note about your favorite library at eva.bacon@yahoo.com

Eurocalendar

[Austria](#)
[Belgium](#)
[Bulgaria](#)
[Czech Republic](#)
[Cyprus](#)
[Denmark](#)
[England](#)
[Estonia](#)
[Finland](#)
[France](#)
[Germany](#)
[Greece](#)
[Hungary](#)
[Iceland](#)
[Ireland](#)
[Italy](#)
[Latvia](#)
[Lithuania](#)
[Luxembourg](#)
[Malta](#)
[Netherlands](#)
[Norway](#)
[Poland](#)
[Portugal](#)
[Romania](#)
[Russia](#)
[Scotland](#)
[Serbia](#)
[Slovenia](#)
[Spain](#)
[Sweden](#)
[Switzerland](#)
[Turkey](#)



Austria

Locha

Freakwave August 2009

Freestyle Festival which offers sports, action and young cultures meet amazing grassland at the Lochauer Bodenseeufer. Also present: wakeboard/skate/surf, BMX, live music acts (electro, hip hop, groove and funk), streetart/graffiti, trial, beach cinema, streetperformance, capoeira, workshops and many more.

For more information visit: <http://www.freakwave.at>

Oberpullendorf

Shout out festival 12th September 2009

"Shout out Festival" is an event against right-wing extremism and for promote tolerance. 8 bands will perform for various lines of style...rock, reggae, heavy, ska and punk.

For more information visit: <http://www.shout-out.at>

Donauinsel, Wien

Afrika Tage

24th July to 2nd August 2009

10 days July you can feel the sunny rhythm of the different African drums during the "African-Festival" in Wien. The African market- with first-rate handcrafts, musical instruments, dresses and drapery, attire, colourful masks, for the continent typical food accompanied by traditional and modern music-constitutes the core of this.

For more information visit: www.afrika-festival.net

Belgium

Groot Strand

Lotto Kites International

9th to 10th May 2009

Come fly a kite at Ostend's annual Lotto Kites International event at Groot Strand. Teams from all over Europe show off their skills and colours during demos and competitions. There's even a nightflying session on the Saturday, complete with flashing lights and reflectors - an event which the organizers promise will be mystical!

Kiewit

Pukkelpop

20th to 22nd August 2009

The festival features hundreds of artists, with performances spread across a variety of different stages. Pukkelpop, at Kiewit, is one of the best music festivals in Belgium, attracting more than 100.000 music fans each year.

Camping is possible, but space is limited.

For more information visit: <http://www.pukkelpop.be>

Bulgaria

Primorsko

International Youth Folklore Festival

16th to 23rd June 2009

Get acquainted with Bulgarian folklore at the International Youth Folklore Festival. Participating countries like Russia, Kazakhstan and Serbia bring colour and atmosphere to the streets of the Black Sea resort.

Groups from different countries showcase their culture through parades, concerts, sporting activities and masterclasses.

For more information visit: <http://www.medinex-bg.com>

Cyprus

Limasol

Wine Festival

28th August to 6th September 2009

Cyprus' wine-growing capital, celebrates the country's rich viticulture with the annual grape harvest festival. The veritable feast of buffets and wine tasting attracts over 100.000 visitors every year. All against with backdrop of music and dancing at the Gardens' open-air theatre.

For more information visit: <http://www.limassolmunicipal.com.cy>

Czech Republic

Hradec Kralove

Rock for People 4th to 6th July 2009

What is the atmosphere like Rock for People?

Want to see what's the atmosphere like at "Rock for People"? Check this out biggest and most popular outdoor music festivals in the Czech Republic. Artists from all around the world meet on three or four stages in three days of great fun and festival atmosphere. (Confirmed artists are for example: Placebo, Ska-P, Bloc Party...)

For more information visit: <http://www.rockforpeople.cz>

Prague

Mystic Skate Cup 19th to 21st June 2009

A BIG freestyle event and the organizers of the Mystic Skate Cup realize that a good party is as much part of the fun as the skating itself. There are plenty of DJs and live bands for entertainment, and the end of the weekend is marked by the Mystic Party.

For more information visit: <http://www.mysticsk8cup.com>

Denmark

Roskilde

Roskiled Festival 2nd June to 5th July 2009 (warm up from 28th June)

Roskilde Festival is the largest North European culture and music festival.

Roskilde Festival is an annual week-long international cultural event offering quality experiences based on modern music and creative kinship.

PFfor more information visit: <http://www.roskilde-festival.de>

Skive

Skive Beach Party 3rd to 6th July 2009

Revelers take over the beach at Skive for three days every summer; with an impressive menu of events and live music.

For more information visit: <http://www.beachparty.dk>

England

Pilton

Glastonbury Festival 24th to 28th June 2009

A unique feast of music set on a huge site offering a grand scale of entertainment. There are performing arts with cabaret, theatre, circus, children's entertainment, poetry, healing, green crafts and information and much more. Vibrant, spontaneous, colourful, hugely entertaining, music and much more... so make sure you check it all out!

For more information visit: <http://www.glastonburyfestivals.co.uk>

London

Fertilzer Festival 13th to 17th May 2009

Fertilzer uncovers nurtures and promotes the freshest musical talent from around the world and connects them to new audiences. The three-day Fertilzer Festival diverse a range of cutting-edge world music that pays homage to a different country's up-and-coming music scene each year. For more information visit: <http://www.fertilzerfestival.com>

Estonia

Pärnu

Town Hall Promenade 28th June to 16th August 2009

On summer Sunday evenings, the annual summer concert series again invites the citizens of Pärnu and visitors to the City Council Yard to enjoy the wonderful sound art performed by Estonia's best musicians.

For more information visit: <http://www.parnukontsert.ee>

Riga

International Salsa Festival 12th to 14th June 2009

Dust off your high heels and get ready to party Latino style, as the International Salsa Festival swings into Riga. The festival includes workshops of LA and Cuban Salsa, music from international DJs and a number of post-workshop fiestas, where DJs spin the latest in Latin beats.

For more information visit: <http://www.rigasalsafestival.com>

Jaervakandi

Rabrock 12th to 13th June 2009

In previous years the festival has been purely a rock festival, but this year sees it cater for more varied tastes. The line-up still features plenty for hard rock fans like Scandinavian acts Truckfighters, Los Bastardos Finlandeses and Kotiteollisuus. Are you ready for more spacey sounds?

For more information visit: <http://www.rabarock.ee>

Finland

Seinäjoki

Provinssirock 12th to 14th June 2009

Provinssirock - The party of people - opens the festival summer again. For three days, Seinäjoki city visits with a huge amount of people who enjoy music, art, Finnish summer and above all: the company of others during the largest international rock festival in Finland. The driving force behind Provinssirock's continuous success is the attraction of top artists from Finland and abroad.

For more information visit: <http://www.provinssirock.fi>

Helsinki

Helsinki Festival 13th- 30th August 2009

Finland's largest and most versatile arts festival will take over the performance venues and streets of the nation's capital with a fine programme of musical experiences ranging from baroque to rock

and jazz, interesting new trends in international theatre and dance, and contemporary phenomena in visual art and cinema.

For more information visit: <http://www.helsinki festival.fi>

France

Tourcoing Plage

Tourcoing Beach Festival **12th to 27th July 2009**

An explosion of free fun for all the family, the Tourcoing Beach Festival grows in stature and popularity every summer.

Last year's festival included acrobatics and performing art, every kind of musical concert, art exhibitions, fireworks, sporting activities such as canoeing and even evening balls, all jostling for space during a fortnight of colour and culture.

For more information visit: <http://www.tourcoing.fr>

Fort de Saint-Pere

La Route de Rock **14th to 16th August 2009**

A highlight of the French festival scene, and blessed with a great venue within the crumbling ramparts of an old castle in Saint-Malo, La Route du Rock Festival has blossomed into a major musical event.

The festival attracts a diverse array of quality performers, and the idyllic location is ideal for those who enjoy catching a few rays while checking out the music.

For more information visit: <http://www.laroutedurock.com>

Germany

Scheessl

Hurricane Festival **19th to 21st June 2009**

A Festival like a Hurricane...wild, turbulent, blustery and to lift of.

The Hurricane Festival means three days of music on two separate stages. Bungee jump, Bazaar, international food, games and a party tent on the camping ground.

For more information visit: <http://www.hurricane.de>

Kiel

Kiel Week **20th to 28th June 2009**

"Kieler Woche" is a unique event on dry land: every year, in the last week of June, more than three million people from different countries visit the biggest summer festival in northern Europe. Over ten days, Kiel puts its best foot forward with a unique mix of cultural, musical, political and social highlights. With lots of music of different styles and also the event involves competitions and encounters in more than 30 sports.

For more information visit: <http://www.kieler-woche.de>

Lerz

Fusion Festival **25th to 28th June 2009**

End of June - every year the same procedure... On a former Russian military airfield in the middle of nowhere in the fields of northern Germany FUSION arises, the biggest holiday and party camp all over the place. 4 days of holiday communism is the motto and as such the programme covers it

all. Music of all kinds, theatre, performance and cinema and last but not least the whole spectrum of installations, interaction, arts and communication.
For more information visit: <http://www.fusion-festival.de>

Greece

Athens

Synch

12th to 14th June 2009

Greek electronic festival Synch mixes live music, interactive media and art installations at the Benaki Museum. The music focus on the contemporary electronic scene, there is no limit to musical expression and musicians come from different backgrounds to share ideas and create evolving musical hybrids.

For more information visit: <http://www.synch.gr>

Hungary

Budapest

Szigest Festival

12th to 18th August 2009

Welcome at "Szigest Festival"... the biggest one of the largest music and cultural festivals in Europe, and more recently, in the world. The festival is held annually in August in Budapest, Hungary and takes place on Óbudai-sziget. Currently it boasts more than 1000 performances each year. With over 250 Bands of 12 stages. During five exciting days enjoy colourful music party, fun and lots of highlights.

(The wish list 2009 has started! Who do you think should play this year's Sziget Festival?)

For more information visit: <http://www.szigestfestival.com>

Ireland

Dublin

Street Performance World Championship

20th to 21st June 2009

The Street Performance World Championship returns to Dublin's Merrion Square.

Over three days 120 free shows will be staged in Merrion Square Park, featuring performers from Japan, USA, Spain, Australia, Belgium, Ireland, UK, Zimbabwe and Russia!

Bring a blanket and prepare yourselves for a very entertaining 3 days!

For more information visit: <http://www.spwc.ie>

Iceland

Reykjavik

Reykjavik Arts Festival

15th to 31st May 2009

The Reykjavík Arts Festival celebrates the arts with a vibrant mix of national and international performances throughout the island. Music, visual arts and theatre are all represented.

For more information visit: <http://www.listahid.is>

Italy

Bozen

Steiegg Live Festival 16th to 24th October 2009

In October it is again: Steiegg is back and ready for the next Steiegg Live Festival - the popular music and culture festival. 2009 is the 13th edition. The program consists of course lots of genres of music, but also cabaret, theatre and cinema, and offers something for every visitor.

For more information visit: <http://www.steinegglive.com>

Palermo

World Festival on the Beach 16th to 24th May 2009

Hot of waves, sunshine and surf feeling?

Palermo's World Festival on the Beach combines windsurfing, beach volleyball, sky diving, paragliding, kite surfing, sailing, golf, jazz, a photography contest and a lot more in the unique setting of Mondello Beach.

For more information visit: <http://www.wwfestival.com>

Latvia

Lithuania

Vilnius

European Youth Festival 26th- 31st July 2009

Young Europe, Young Lithuanian!

European Youth Festival is an area of shared experience. The purpose of the festival is to gather more than fifteen hundred Europeans from all countries of Europe for artistic/cultural and social cognition and search for the European identity through the eyes of youth. The festival programme will take place not only in the centre of Vilnius; activities offered by the European youth will also reach sleeping districts.

For more information visit: <http://www.lijot.lt>

Neris

"Regatta of Thousand Ships" 16th May 2009

"Are you ready?...Attention!...Go!"

The "Regatta of Thousand Ships": yachts, canoes, oar-boats, skiffs, water-bicycles, troughs, rafts, self-made scull boats – everything what floats on the water and is driven by force of human muscles (1,000 of ships will sail 7 kilometres along the Neris from Valakupiai to the White Bridge) Music groups sailing on the rafts and boats will inflame the atmosphere of Regatta and create good mood.

For more information visit: <http://www.culturelive.lt>

Luxembourg

Place D'Armes

New Orleans Meets Luxembourg

29th May to 1st June 2009

Luxembourg and America's Deep South collide for the annual New Orleans meets Luxembourg festival (established 2006 after the devastation caused by hurricane Kathrina). Hot Louisiana-style food, colorful parades and evening jam sessions are the highlights, along with the foot-tappingly brilliant tunes of visiting New Orleans musicians and gospel church choirs.

For more information visit: <http://www.station.lu>

Malta

Brigton

"Beachdownfestival"

28th to 31st August 2009

Beachdown is proud to bring you an electric line-up of music, film and comedy entertainment which captures in one weekend the full range of global and local influences. So if you want unrivalled quality in music, food, drink, location and Festival experience there is nothing like Beachdown.

For more information visit: <http://www.beachdownfestival.com>

Norway

Oslo

Norwegian Wood Festival

11th to 14th June (annual)

This festival is one of the largest events on the country's musical calendar and promise world-class performers.

If the weather is good (of course it will be good), this is a great chance to sit around in the park and listen to really good music, in the relaxed atmosphere of one of Europe's greenest and most environmentally-friendly capitals.

For more information visit: <http://www.norwegianwood.no>

Bergen

Night-Jazz

20th to 30th May 2009

The Night-Jazz Festival hosts about 10 days more than 60 concerts. The nights invite you for dancing and dreaming.

For more information visit: <http://www.nattjazz.no>

Poland

Gdynia

Open'er Festival

2nd to 5th July 2009

The 2009 line-up is headlined by Kings of Leon and cheeky Sheffield lads the Arctic Monkeys. Mix

in The Ting Tings' straight talking, Duffy's soulful sounds and American punk trio Gossip, and you've got yet another eclectic Open'er Festival line-up. Polish city Gdynia hosts the annual Heineken Open'er Festival, where crowds are treated to seven stages of live music from top international artists.

For more information visit: <http://www.opener.pl>

Warsaw

International Street Arts Festival 26th to 30th June 2009

Warsaw's Street Art Festiva promise installations, happenings and performances play with elements of the city's architecture and infrastructure, using tunnels, bus and tram stops, subway stations and trade passages, becoming a constant element of the landscape and encouraging passers-by to take an active part in different forms of art.

For more information visit: <http://www.sztukanlicy.pl>

Portugal

Lisbon/Porto

Super Bock Super Rock 11th to 18th July 2009

Welcome to the massive rock festival Super Bock Super Rock (Named after a Portuguese beer). The event moves on to Lisbon after Porto, but each city has different acts.

This year, rock fans can look forward to watching the likes of ZZ Top, Duffy, Jamiroquai and much more.

For more information visit: <http://www.superbock.pt>

Lisbon

Lisbon's Festivities 12th to 13th June 2009

During Festas de Lisboa (festivities celebrating various saints' days), Lisbon is draped in colorful paper streamers. Grand parades, stylish vintage cars, people in good party mood, samba bands and much more will arrange for amazing summer feeling.

For more information visit: <http://www.egeac.pt>

Romania

Vama Veche

Stufstock Festival 14th to 16th August 2009

Help save Vama Veche village from industrial tourism while enjoying the sounds of various music bands for the three-day Stufstock Festival in Marina Park. Over 18 acts take to the main stage and nine Romanian bands perform on the beach.

For more information visit: <http://www.stufstock.com>

Rusia

Moscow

Usadba Jazz Festival 6th to 7th June 2009

This international event is one of the biggest open-air jazz festivals in Russia. The different stages are separated into styles and genres: spontaneous and multi-style stage, slightly, sophisticated and exquisite stage, provides the listener with classics, jazz standards and contemporary jazz, stage for those with dancing shoes who want to cut-a-rug to some swing, boogy-woogy and traditional rock-n-roll, a stage for musicians get to fully involve themselves in a huge jam-session and many more.

For more information visit: <http://www.usadba-jazz.ru>

Scotland

South of Scotland (behind 11 countries in Scotland)

Return to the Ridings From June to August

Pulsating competitions, colourful horses and clack hoofs. The "Return to the Ridings" is a celebration of the riding of the boundaries that has taken place for centuries, in total 11 towns in the Scottish Borders use horses for the traditional ride out and the festivals that surround these ride outs are also steeped in tradition and a celebration of borders history.

For more information visit: <http://www.returntotheridings.co.uk>

Serbia

Guca

Guca Festival 5th-9th August 2009

"The wildest music festival on earth" is a cacophonous and crazy brass band festival that takes place every summer in the tiny Serbian town of Guca. For an entire week the sound of thousands of blaring trumpets rends the air, playing everything from traditional Serbian folk and gypsy music. Get there – and don't forget your ear plugs!

For more information visit: <http://www.guca.rs>

Novi Sad

Exit 9th to 12th July 2009

This event is a place of wild fun and you can enjoy the cool atmosphere of the fortress and the positive energy of the city.

Public from all over the world voted 2007 for about a month, and among 10 festivals, EXIT won Festival UK Award that is being awarded for the first time in the category of the Best European Festival.

Confirmed acts include American DJ Moby, British group Arctic Monkeys and German electronic bands Kraftwerk and many more surprises.

For more information visit: <http://www.exitfest.org>

Slovenia

Koper

Temma -x 24th July to 1st August 2009

The biggest international culture festival on the Slovenia coast with fun music programs for all generations.

For more information visit: <http://www.temma-x.si>

Ljublanjana

Ljublanjana Jazz Festival 29th June to 4th July 2009 (annual)

"Within a few summer nights jazz will inevitably yield all of the above, put forth alternative views..."

Performances by prominent European, African and American musicians keep audience's toes tapping, and extra events, like photography exhibitions, add variety to the programme.

For more information visit: <http://www.ljubljanajazz.si>

Spain

Benicassim

Benicassim Festival 16th to 19th July 2009

Spain's biggest festival plays each summer to more than 100 artists who come to perform across its 4 stages. Oasis, The Killers, Franz Ferdinand, Kings of Lion and many more will expect you! Benicàssim, a small town on the Costa de Azahar situated between Valencia and Barcelona, turns into the European capital of music for over a week. Just a few steps from the beach, the 4 nights of concerts (from 17h to 8h) and 9 days of camping included in the pass as well as the programme of art, theatre, cinema and dance in the festival venue and on the streets and beaches of Benicàssim, offer the chance to experience an unforgettable holiday on the shores of the Mediterranean.

Barcelona

Bikeshow BCN 13th to 14th June 2009

For all The Bike Show BCN is a haven for cycle fanatics. Competitions, exhibitions, cycle circuits and bike enthusiasts take over the Parc del Fòrum in Barcelona for some interactive sporting fun. The Barcelona Bike Show encompasses all kinds of pedal power from dirt track racing and BMX Freestyling, to less conventional models like one-wheeled monocycles and four-wheeled cyclekarts. The action-packed program includes exhibitions and a wide range of interactive events ages.

For more information visit: <http://www.bikeshowbcn.com>

Sweden

Hultsfred (Smaland)

Hultsfred's Rock Festival 8th to 11th July 2009

...Sweden's largest with attractions for young and old alike. Sidshows with fakirs, acrobats, comedians, tightrope walkers, jugglers, impressionists, musicands and dancers.

For more information visit: <http://www.rockparty.se>

Vaettern

Vaetternrundan 12th to 13th June 2009

For Sportsman's: The world's largest bicycle race (186 miles) for some 16.000 cyclists around the amazing Lake Vaettern.

For more information visit: <http://www.cyklavaettern.com>

Switzerland

Unteriberg

Hoch-Ybrig

2nd to 14th June 2009 (annual)

Pack your tent and head for a weekend of outdoor Alpine partying and check out the latest Swiss indie, pop and rock music at the Open Air Hoch-Ybrig festival. Two stages are set up in a lush green valley near Unteriberg.

For more information visit: <http://www.openair-hochybrig.ch>

Lausanne

Sattelite FIVB Beach Volley Lausanne

2nd to 5th June 2009

Lausanne (Olympic Capital) welcomes you and invites you to the biggest beach volley event in the French speaking part of Switzerland. The organizer promises you a week-end of passion and emotion with games on Friday and Saturday. Sportsman's and DJ's provides an unforgettable summer experience with live entertainment.

You have no reason to miss this unique event (the entrance is free).

For more information visit: <http://www.clauwau.com>

Bern

International Jazz Festival

14th March - 24th May, 2009 (annual)

There are Jazz artists from all over the world live in concert. A Must-Go for all Jazz fans!

For more information visit: <http://www.beachvolleylausanne.ch>

The Netherlands

Landgraf

Pink Pop Festival

31st May to 1st June 2009

The netherland most famous-open-air festival and Europ's longstrunning uninterrupted outdoor pop festival PINKPOP will take place for the 40th time in the city Landgraf, at the beautiful festival site MEGALAND. This years program will be just as sensational as the previous years. PINKPOP present 40 bands -Bruce Springsteen, Depeche Mode, The Killers, Snow Patrol, Maria Mena...-on three stages.

For more information visit: <http://www.pinkpop.nl>

Turkey

Hezarfen (50 km outside Istanbul)

Rock'n Coke

September (annual)

Rock'n Coke guarantees three days of non-stop party action. This is Turkey's biggest open-air music festival with local and international music stars.

Away from the main, extra-curricular activities include a fairground, skateboarding, basketball, zeppelin, super jump, tai-chi and yoga.

For more information visit: <http://www.rockncoke.com>

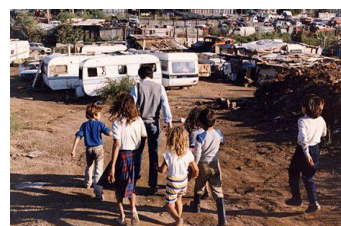
We build Europe

Martina Braggion

Degree in International and Diplomatic Science
Specialization in International Relations.

"The Clash of "Civilizations" or the intercultural dialogue?"

During the European Youth Week 2008 whose central event took place in Brussels from November 2 to 6, European young people organized in working groups discussed intensively about discrimination. Sharing their experiences participants observed that, even if they are all living in the EU, situations could be so different from a country to another. For example, some laws against discrimination exist in a country but not in another. So, two questions arise in my mind: "How is it possible?" And "Is the European policy really common?"



Discrimination is a very wide issue because it could have different origins. It could be based on ethnic origin, religion, disabilities, gender, sexual orientation, nationality, economical situation and age. A young Belgian participant to the workshop on anti-discrimination said the issue of discrimination is very present in her country between the three different languages communities. She experiences it every day in her university because she's from the German-speaking community of Belgium but she studies in the French-speaking part of her country.



Reading opinions and experiences of European young people, I think about the situation in my country where, especially in these days, it speaks a lot about xenophobia and intolerance. Indeed, on 20 February, our government rushed through a decree to crack down on sexual violence and illegal immigration after a spate of rapes blamed on foreigners. The decree speeds up trials for sex offenders caught in the act, takes away the possibility of house arrest and gives free legal assistance to victims. It also sets rules for citizen street patrols to be conducted by unarmed and unpaid volunteers. They will have mobile phones and radios for reporting things to security forces and it will be the local mayors who will decide how, where and when to use these volunteers. Critics say the measures could effectively legitimise vigilantism and xenophobia and the Vatican warned against anything that turns innocent foreigners into convenient scapegoats.

Many recent rapes have been blamed on foreigners, especially Romanians, and violent attacks on immigrants have since been reported. For example, on 15 February, during a demonstration of Forza Nuova, a radical right-wing group, a mob of 20 masked men beat up four Romanians outside a kebab restaurant in Rome. It doesn't know so much about these four Romanians, not even their names; the only thing that the security forces said is that they are working, they have a regular domicile, they have no criminal record and they have no part in these recent rapes.

The government has pointed to official statistics saying immigrants committed as many as 35% of crimes in Italy in 2007, but analysts and opposition parties say many of these are related to breaches in immigration rules, and that foreigners have often been unfairly a target for xenophobic attacks from right-wing politicians and the media. The Roma (Gypsy) community, many of whom are long-standing Italian residents, have often been victims of these attacks and, especially after recent rapes, authorities in the capital began dismantling unauthorised camps

housing Roma groups. But why? Official statistics put Italy's Romanian community at more than 600,000, making it the largest immigrant group in the country.

Some Roma are Romanian, but many are from other Balkan countries and some hold Italian citizenship, they vote, they take their children to school and they work. However, while they were residents earlier, nowadays they are compelled to become nomads, thrown from a street to another, with strong attacks of citizens and radical right-wing part, without electricity and with only a pipe that takes water up to the camps, as we use to do with animals in the stable. Is it so that we are working on integration? Nowadays, especially in the capital, no Roma, Sinti or Gypsy are living in the town. Desired or not, the result is a real ethnic cleansing!

If we move further north, always staying in Italy, we discover that Massimo Cacciari, who is Venice's mayor, is letting build 15 little cement houses on a city council's property plot of ground in Mestre, where 160 Italian Roma will go to live. It's a reason for futures saving because these cement houses are made as if to stay, they aren't provisional. Moreover, they represent a bet on integration because Roma groups will behave in a better way with better conditions. Indeed, there will be a contract; Roma will pay use (water, electricity) and rent. Different citizens committees disagree with the building of the Roma camp and they are helped by centre right parties. Indeed, this kind of battle, that says "no to Roma camps", allows to gain a lot of consent and, like every time in Italy, an important issue as integration, decreases to a mere political thing.

Roma in Italy are 150,000, 0,25% of Italian population, and more than an half are Italian citizens. So, how is it possible that 0,25% of Italian population became a national emergency? In Spain, Roma are 700,000, five times more than in Italy, but the word "Roma emergency" doesn't exist inside the Spanish political debate, there are no perfects for Roma emergency, as in our country. In La Mina, that is a Barcelona's district, are living 5000 gypsies and a good part of them has a job, a house and a school. Though the situation for gypsies who weren't born there is a little bit more complicated, there aren't Roma camps, in Barcelona. Nomads who decide to stay, look for a house and find it, they receive care without prejudices.

Moreover, in the Barcelona's suburbs, it exists the Badalona's Police of Community Unit (Unidad de Policia de Convivencia de Badalona) with the aim to reducing conflicts, to avoiding the creation of a ghetto and the concentration of everybody in a district. It's true that, at the beginning, Roma went there to rent flats but Pakistanis, who are owners of a lot of houses in the district, asked them too much money; so, Roma slipped into a house even in thirty! The Police went to speak with the owners, who decided to lower prices; moreover, the number of Roma goes down, inside the houses and preventing the speculation of owners, the Badalona's Police avoid the creation of encampments, too. In this way, the Roma community has quickly adapted itself; it is clear for Roma that the Badalona's Police of Community is a policemen unit but, in the same way, they understand that the Police have a mediation role in the conflict resolution among different communities.

The Gypsy Secretariat Foundation (Fundacion Secretariado Gitano) is present in the whole Spain, it is a non-governmental organization that is very strong because it is patronized by the Church and it only works on nomads, on every Roma. "Acceder" is a work integration programme started in 2000 with the European Union funds, with the grant of state, independent communities and municipalities. It shows that Spanish Gypsies are represented by a number of associations and Union Romani is an example. The Catalan Parliament recognizes the Gypsy language and culture as a Spanish culture. Moreover, the President of Union Romani was the first Roma deputy of the Spanish Parliament, and then he was elected to the European Parliament, too. But it takes time and it is what we need in Italy. It took ten years of work to integrate the Roma in Spain, 34 million of their money and 62 million euro from Europe, special funds that we can obtain for integration policies. In Italy, we only asked for 1,2 million euro for short-term projects. I don't want to prove that the Italian situation is the worst by comparison with the rest of Europe or that we don't contribute to realize a real intercultural society. In Italy, we have a number of associations that work for the Gypsy community every day; however, there is a general fear of what is different, explained by many immigrants who enter our country illegally, sometimes making the life of Italians less safe, and by politicians (especially members of the Northern League - Lega Nord - a radical right-wing party) who exploit the Roma and Sinti issue and incite to racial violence and discrimination. Personally, I think deviance that certainly exists in some immigrant groups isn't genetic; it isn't linked to non-EU citizens, to Roma, Sinti, or Muslims communities but

it is linked to life conditions, to social blight in which they live. Moreover, we make safety worse with an apartheid policy or creating real ghettos.

The European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), too, express its deep concern about recent events affecting Roma and many immigrants in Italy. ECRI was established by the Council of Europe and it is an independent human rights monitoring body specialised in questions relating to racism and intolerance. Indeed, ECRI's action covers all the measures needed to combat violence, discrimination and prejudice against persons or groups of persons on grounds of race, colour, language, religion, nationality or national or ethnic origin. Its programme of activities comprises three aspects: country-by-country monitoring; work on general themes; activities in relation with civil society. In its statement adopted on 20 June 2008, ECRI particularly regrets the widespread use of racist and xenophobic discourse made by some Italian politicians, even at the highest levels, and in the media. It is also concerned that, in this critical situation, the Italian authorities are taking measures whose conformity with national and international human rights standards is questionable. ECRI notes that these events have affected persons of Roma origin from Romania and other countries, but also Italian citizens of Roma origin, Romanian citizens generally, and immigrants, whether with or without legal status in Italy. In keeping with the recommendations contained in its third report on Italy published on 16 May 2006, ECRI emphasises the urgent need for the Italian authorities to take a firm stand against all forms of racism and xenophobia, including hate speech, so as to monitor and prevent the development of these phenomena in Italian society.

The Italian authorities must ensure that law enforcement personnel protect every individual, including Roma and immigrants. ECRI calls on the Italian authorities to ensure that in respect of Roma and immigrants the rule of law is maintained and the principle of non-discrimination as embodied in Council of Europe standards is strictly observed. Indeed, we need a common basis and human rights, as fundamental freedoms, are the basis for dialogue.

The political scientist Samuel P. Huntington, in a 1996 book "The Clash of Civilizations and the Remaking of World Order" proposed the Clash of Civilizations theory. According to this thesis, people's cultural and religious identities will be the primary source of conflict in the post-Cold War world. If we think about the present situation and what I said as far as here, it's really difficult to not agree with Huntington. However, the choice of 2008 as the Year of Intercultural Dialogue has to remind us that the European Union, as many others, is still trying to stimulate contacts between culture groups and to create shared spaces where they can interact. I always think we can't recognize a good person by language, religion or colour of skin and we have tools to follow this way, towards a natural curiosity for the "Other" and towards the idea that diversity is a resource.

Six months in brief...

November 2008: on **13 November, Eurofound**, the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions, launched a new resource pack that examines **migration patterns and looks at the opportunities and challenges that migrants face abroad**. The pack was launched at a briefing of think tanks in Brussels, where cities, local authorities and civil society organizations could benefit from sharing the experience of Member States and cities that are already further down the road of integration. On 18 November, for example, the city of Frankfurt organized a one-day seminar on diversity policy for representatives of local authorities from a number of German-speaking cities.

December 2008: on **12 December, Switzerland joined the Schengen area**, becoming the 25th member of the border-free area and facilitating the development of border regions and the expansion of tourism and infrastructures. Moreover, before its membership could be agreed by European Commission, Switzerland linked with the Schengen Information System with a view to sharing information on wanted and missing people. The Commission hopes that Liechtenstein, too, will join the Schengen area by the end of 2009. **Switzerland acceded also to the Dublin system**, to consolidate protection for asylum seekers and to create, in this way, a common European asylum system.

January 2009: on **1 January**, euro area had two reasons to celebrate. Why? Because the number of European Union countries that share the same currency grew to 16 with Slovakia and because it was the **10th anniversary of the euro**. The **changeover to the euro in Slovakia** was very smooth and successful. Even if a large proportion of the Slovak citizens already had euro three days before the changeover, most of them respected the prohibition to use it before Euro-day. The dual circulation period, by payments in two currencies - the Slovak koruna and the euro - ended on 16 January. Regarding the celebration of the euro anniversary, euro area countries issued commemorative coins and a lively television documentary, on the origins, history and benefits of the euro was broadcasted on European TV channels.

February 2009: on **19 February**, the **European Parliament** adopted **new measures to discourage clandestine working procedures, while protecting illegal immigrants**, who are often subjected to terrible exploitation or treated as slaves. However, especially trade unions had strong concerns because these measures put a heavy administrative burden on companies and include too severe penalties. Moreover, illegal workers are mostly employed by agencies, intermediaries, subcontractors and not by big employers themselves; companies are in practice not in the position to control the compliance of their subcontractors. The UK government, too, had a number of concerns and it decided to not opt-in to this directive. The legislation still has to be formally approved by EU ministers and should become law in 2011.

March 2009: on **2 March**, , the Czech Presidency in co-operation with the European Commission organized **a conference to celebrate the 5th anniversary of the biggest EU enlargement**, the 2004/07 enlargement. Indeed, on 1 May 2004, the European Union accepted new members for the fifth time: Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, and Slovenia. With those 10 more countries, the EU achieved 25 Member States. Then, on 1 January 2007, Bulgaria and Romania, too, decided to join it, putting an end to this latest round of enlargement. The conference "EU Enlargement – 5 Years After" took place in Prague and its aim was to review the effects of enlargement in the three main areas: macro financial-stability, the EU Internal market and labour market mobility within the EU.

April 2009: on **2 April**, , took place the **G20 Summit**. World leaders of 20 countries (19 of the 25 largest economies in the world plus the European Union) met in London with a view to discuss progress on pledges made at the G20 Summit in Washington D.C. in November 2008. The Summit wanted reaching international agreement on different issues, as stimulation of growth and employment through coordinated actions, reformation and improvement of financial systems and, finally, reformation of international financial institutions, as the International Monetary Fund, Financial Stability Forum and World Bank.

You Talk



Report realized by
Marina Nogué i Pich

PARTICIPATION IN HEMISPHERES, THE EUROPEAN PROJECT THAT HAPPENS TO THE ACTION.

I was born in a city. My contact with rural world is little. Some trips with the school, some person who lives there and news on television. So when I knew that this was the theme of the first training project Hemispheres had doubts about if I was the best person to participate it. Once there, I understood yes. Because me, like you, I eat every day, and food that I consume comes from somewhere, right?



On 5th April, began the first training of the project. The issue chosen to start was agricultural production globally, with the slogan "What makes a car move? When the corn doesn't feed people but the cars". With the challenge to discuss about the factors that play an important role in this situation, twenty young people from different European countries, we saw the faces for the first time at the reception centre of the youth shelter FIAP Jean Monet, the 14th district of Paris. Forward we had three intense weeks of learning and conviviality.

The first week, two exceptional teachers

The Hemispheres project wants to break the traditional system to work. Far from the very frequent, paternalistic attitude of the first world countries, which often carry out actions and programs that do not respond to the real needs of their recipients, in Hemispheres changes the method. If we want to understand how our dynamic and habits affect the Third World, the best way is to listen the inhabitants that live in first person that. For this purpose, Fall Ndiakhate (d'UGPM, Union des paysans Groupements of Méckhé) and Dianto Bachriadi (KPA, Konsorsium Pumbaruan Agraria) took two planes, one from Senegal and the other one from Indonesia, to explain us the situation to their countries in terms of agriculture, food industry and the country movement. Fall is originally from Senegal, where he currently lives. HE spends half a day to work for the country movement in his country, and half life to work the land, with his family. And he still has some free hours to come to Europe and work in our training. Dianto is from Indonesia; although he is coming from city he joined the country movement when he was studying in University. He still claims the rights of the farmers in his country with the same energy as the first day.

We learned a lot from them. We understood the reason because most of the products from the supermarket had inaccessible prices for the working class in Senegal, we saw how the bloody history of Indonesia has set up the current situation, we talked about bioconbustibles and its impact on the environment in the long term, we saw that in many countries there is deception about politics, we realized the complexity of the global economic and productive systems, and how this complexity favours economic powers against the citizens. But, more important, we had the privilege to know and share a few days with two people that fight, without ceasing, with a sense of humour for his ideals, despite the many adverse situations that they lived and they living.

To complete our training, other organizations such as La Via Campesina, viacampesina.org/main_en, UNEP (United Nations Environment Program), www.unep.org,

United Nations Program for Environment, or MINGA (Association for the promotion of fair trade), www.minga.net, presented their activities, advised us and gave us information for our projects.

Second and third week: a multitude of tools and projects

Fall and Danto gone, but before they remind us that was our responsibility to transmit all that they explain us. Danto from the first day talked us about he doesn't like training he prefer the action. For that he second week was focus on more practical aspects of the project: to communicate in effective and attractive way the information we got the first week. To achieve this, we have the collaboration of Frères des Hommes, the promoter of the project Hemispheres, and Matieres Prises, an organization that works in public space as a space for debate and reflection. Through them we learned to work by networking, we created documents to publish our activities, etc. Gradually, the initial ideas started to become in projects. Actions in the international work camps, family activities, photographs and audiovisual exhibitions, film forums, performances, workshops for children.... The training received was producing results. Hemispheres was working.



The three weeks came to the end. Twenty young people unknown in the beginning became a cohesive group. Mutual helping was the key to the creation of projects, but specially to keep the energy during intense three weeks in every way. As usual in these cases, we filled our bags with notes and papers about agriculture and sustainability, we exchanged telephones and addresses, and we took so many pictures. We are working in our projects to fulfil our word. Maybe one day, you see close your house some participant of Hemispheres realizing an act that was started during these three weeks in Paris. No matter if you live in a village or, like me, in a city. Don't doubt to participate it! Always you can learn something new.

For more information...

Hemisphères project fdh.org/Hemispheres-an-european-youth.html

Bloc d'Hémisphères blog.fdh.org/hemispheres

Matières Prises (Bloc d'Hémisphères) matieresprises.blogspot.com



Report realized by
Ursina Schaede

PARTICIPATION IN EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT IN SKOPJE

When the Czech Army guys who were in the plane together with us- 3 girls from Germany, flying from Prague to Skopje, Macedonia- began to cheer loudly and open yet more Budvar beer bottles after a rather mysterious announcement by the captain, we realised that something was going terribly wrong.

Only as some German speaking officer bothered to reveal to us the content of the captain's message, we learned that we'd be going to Belgrade instead since the sky over Macedonia's capital was too foggy for the plane to go down. After an eight hour bus journey, including a three hour stop at the Serbian-Macedonian frontier, where not only our passports but also all our luggage were searched through and looked at meticulously, we finally arrived in Skopje at 4 o'clock in the morning.

Fortunately, the rest of our adventurous little trip was absolutely worth the exhausting journey. Together with 80 other youths from all over the Balkan countries, we had been invited to the "SEE the future 2006" event, organized by the European Youth Parliament of Macedonia, the three of us representing the German delegation. The European Youth Parliament (EYP), originally founded in the late 80ies by French students, is a rather big institution, consisting of 32 national organisations. Its aim is to raise awareness about EU issues among young Europeans and foster mutual understanding as well as cultural exchange in order to promote the idea of an active European citizenship. During our week in Ohrid, a small antique town situated on the famous Lake Ohrid, throughout the warmer seasons being a popular seaside resort for the whole of Macedonia and its neighbouring countries, but during wintertime being rather peaceful and quiet, we got to know a lot of interesting people from the different countries' delegations, made many friends and had our share of fun as well.

Each EYP Session usually is divided into three different parts: Team-Building, writing of resolutions and General Assembly. Some weeks in advance, each participant can already choose his or her committee, specialised on various European policy issues, such as, for example, Legal Affairs, Energy Policies, Foreign Affairs, Committee on Youth, Culture and Sports, etc. For committee work and resolution writing, the delegations should prepare some information and material about their topic and get familiar with their subject.

The first two Teambuilding days were great, needless to say how much fun people had playing even the most silly games and doing trust-building exercises. In my Committee on Foreign Affairs, we soon had a good basis to start off with and so, during the next three days, we were able to have energetic, sometimes hot and loud, sometimes also- after a long night's tasting of the different regional distillates- rather circling discussions on the question of how to improve representation and perception of the South-East-European (SEE)-countries in the EU member states. As being from Germany and thus the only member with a European citizenship in my committee, it was quite interesting and often touching to see how much the European Union means and stands for in the eyes of people outside its borders and how big an incentive for reforms and improvement a partnership agreement can imply. Experiencing myself the insufficient heating system during cold December days, the arbitrariness and fuss at border controls, the tedious changing of money for small purchases, the stories about bribery and insecurity, I began to deeply appreciate all the privileges we- as EU citizens- are benefiting from in everyday life without even giving a thought about it.

At the end of the week, each committee published its resolution pointing out the current situation and problems and giving concrete measures and recommendations for improvements respecting their particular policy field. These resolutions were debated, defended and voted on in the General Assembly with all participants assisting, criticising and making additional suggestions. Our committee was lucky and our resolution was passed, like most of the other ones, with a great majority of votes. Later, all these resolutions were sent to the national governments of the participants' countries.

Altogether, this week was an incomparable experience and adventure including a lot of work but also a lot of fun, resulting in fruitful discussions and still existing friendships and exchanges. The journey back, by the way, was as unspectacular and smooth as a return trip can possibly be.

A look at the world



Report realized by:
Alessa Arizmendi

The artistic and cultural Morelia

Morelia is the capital city of the Mexican state of Michoacan de Ocampo, Mexico. This city has historically been the most populated of Michoacán. And this city was declared by UNESCO Cultural Heritage of Humanity on 13th December 1991, through its historic center and its great beauty and architecture.

The city has great tourist attractions because of its significant architecture, culture and history, and it is located near towns with traditions and close to natural surroundings, such as Los Azufres and The Lakes of Pátzcuaro and of Cointzio, among other places, reason because is the destination, without beach, most visited in Mexico (about 500 thousand tourists on holidays time), with a rate of 85% of national tourists and 15% of foreign tourists, among them Americans, Spanish, Canadians and Italian (2006). Therefore, the city has good tourist infrastructure, which point out the hotels of all categories, restaurants, travel agencies, sports clubs, spas, convention center, planetarium, zoo, etc.

How to get there:

- **By plane:** 30 minutes from Morelia International Airport is Francisco J. Mujica, who arrive daily flights from major cities in Mexico and also the United States. In the airport you can rent a car or take a taxi to get to city center.
- **By car:** Morelia has a modern network of state and federal highways that connect with the rest of the country, including Mexico City, located 303 kilometres.
- **By bus:** The buses depart from Mexico City to Morelia every 30 minutes from the Bus Terminal Center.

Transportation:

The fastest way and used public transport is the well known "combi". It also circulates in the historic city center.

Accommodation:

There are many options, you can choose between spending more money or cheaper locations.

Hotels

- **HOTEL CASA SAN DIEGO.** Emerge from the roots that have turned in Morelia Cultural Heritage of Humanity. It is located between two major milestones in our city with a deep tradition. On one side is La Calzada Fray Antonio de San Miguel which was built in 1732 by Bishop Juan José Calatayud Escalona and later be restored by Fray Antonio de San Miguel, who takes his name and on the other hand Acueducto which was built in 1785.
- **VIRREY DE MENDOZA.** Located in the heart of Morelia, in front of the Plaza de Armas and one side of the Cathedral, where you'll find the main tourist attractions, tourist

centers of entertainment, shopping and business. The rooms are fully renovated and equipped with all commodities.

- **VILLA SAN JOSE.** With the most spectacular view of Morelia, Villa San Jose Hotel & Suites stands in the Loma de Santa María to 10 minutes from the historical center and 5 minutes from the Convention Center. It is rustic style, good location and beautiful gardens.

Hostels

- **HOSTAL DON EMILIANO.** Hostel with rooms of rustic style (**(443) 262-28-10**).
- **HOSTAL SAN FRANCISKUNI.** An old house located in the heart of Morelia is situated 5 minutes walk from the cathedral and you can see its beauty (**(443) 313-07-03**).

Restaurants:

- **EMILIANO'S**
Artilleros del 47 N° 1643
Col. Chapultepec Ote.
Tel. 315-1035
- **FONDA LAS MERCEDES**
León Guzmán N° 47, Historical Center
Tel. 312-6113
- **LOS MIRASOLES**
Av. Madero Poniente N° 549
Esq. León Guzmán, Historical Center
Tel. 313- 2587/ 317-5777
- **SANTITOS TEQUILERÍA**
Paseo de la República N° 639
Col. Félix Ireta
Tel. 340-0944
- **CENADURÍA LUPITA**
Sánchez de Tagle N° 1004
Col. Ventura Puente
Tel. 312-1340
- **LA CASONA**
Belisario Domínguez N° 30-A
Historical Center
Tel. 317-1512/ 317 - 8788
- **LA CASA DEL PORTAL**
Guillermo Prieto N° 30, Int 3, First Floor
Historical Center
Tel. 317- 4217/ 313-4899
- **LOS COMENSALES**
Ignacio Zaragoza N° 148
Historical Center
Tel. 312-9361

Nightlife:

You can enjoy time or have fun in a bar or pub music.

- **VELVET funview**
Bld. Jefferson s/n (a 100 mts. Monumental de la Bandera)
St. Mary Nextel. 165-74-71 ID: 15*86303
- **VELVET Center**
Santiago Tapia No. 210 Historical Center (above Cinepolis Center)
Tel. 1654865 • 2090623
- **SANYAGO**
Ignacio Zaragoza N° 37, Historical Center
Tel. 317-9082
- **LA BARRA DE SAN MARCOS (Batanero)**
Av. Enrique Ramírez No.465 Col. Las Américas Tel. 3330100 • 3246990
- **EGO Near the Sky**
Bld. Jefferson s/n
St. Mary
Tel. 333-48-32

10 things to know:

1. Juaninos Morelos' Old Hospital

Building which combines baroque and neoclassical styles. It was built in 1685 on the orders by Bishop Juan Ortega y Montañez. Here was the old Episcopal Palace, but people lobbied the government and were assigned to the order of Juaninos in 1770, where they installed the Royal Hospital of St John of God, which operated until the time of the Reformation. The year 1886 was remodelled by the Engineer Guillermo Woodon Sorin and became a magnificent hotel. It is currently home to one of the most exclusive hotels in Morelia. Still retains its architectural beauty and the unique view of the Cathedral and its surroundings.

2. Calzada Fray Antonio de San Miguel.

One of the most beautiful corners of Morelia is a stone pedestrian promenade that runs the Shrine of Guadalupe (or San Diego) to the fountain of the Tarascan. Built in 1732 by Bishop Don José Manuel Calatayud Escalona and was restored by his successor, Fray Antonio de San Miguel, who took his name. The large mansions that can be seen along the road home to fantastic stories, legends and real. Many were built as resting places for the wealthy families of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries.



3. The Aqueduct.

Quarry of pink, this beautiful aqueduct measured 1810 meters and consists of 253 arches and two boxes of water. The construction carries us to the golden age of ancient Valladolid. In 1785 the Bishop Fray Antonio de San Miguel ordered to do an aqueduct with two purposes: to bring drinking water to the city that was hit by a terrible drought for two years and to give work to the natives of the region.

4. Fountain of Tarasca Acueducto and Calle Real.

At the meeting of the Aqueduct and Calle Real is one of the most characteristic of Morelia: a large round fountain. Purepecha Tarascans or three women with torso bare, bear a large tray full of fruit typical of Michoacán. This fountain was changed for a few years, in fact disappeared and was replaced by another one that was a flip-flops (guarache). The morelianos didn't forget the Tarascan, so the government replace the more than a decade later.



5. Arms or the Martyrs Square.

(Plaza de las Armas o de los Mártires). The ancient square was part of the original planning of the Spanish city of Valladolid, between the years 1541 and 1546. It was created with seats and gardens and both them have the perfect dose of sun and shade, that before the Cathedral was gated.

Its present form dates from the mid-nineteenth century, although we can see now that was renewed in 2004. Its stand was built in 1887. The name "Plaza of the Martyrs" is because several priests and politicians were cruelly sacrificed in 1830.

6. Square and fountain's Villalongín.

Right at the beginning of Avenida Madero Oriente and in front of the Tarascan's fountain extends this beautiful garden in the center of which stands a fountain regia. During the Cologne this corner was known as the Animas Plazuela, because was close a chapel, when it was closed it was used for women's prison. After its name changed to honour the rebel don Manuel Villalongín which rescued his wife who was a prisoner there.

7. The Cathedral.

Morelia's Cathedral is a religious headquarters of the Archdiocese of Morelia in the Catholic Church in Mexico. It is located as the name itself says so in the city of Morelia, state capital of Michoacan, Mexico. The cathedral is located on the first frame of the city, forming the outline of the Historic Center of Morelia. The building was built in the eighteenth century in the Spanish colonial age, it is baroque style and it's made in this quarry pink that gives its a peculiar and characteristic colour.

8. Art Colonial Museum.

Small in size but by the extraordinary value of the documents, old books, religious ornaments and maps of the colonial age, which are displayed in their rooms. Free admission.

9. José María Morelos y Pavón Museum.

Its rooms are displayed in historical collections of the colonial period and independence, as well as personal items of the priest José María Morelos, who in 1802 bought the house at a cost of 1.839 pesos. Don José María Morelos y Pavón, the hero of the Mexican independence, was born on 30th September 1765 in a beautiful house. In 1888 the house was destroyed, to build in the same place a museum in 1964, on the occasion of the bicentenary of the birth of Morelos. Free admission.

10.- Pesos.

When you travel to Morelia remember to change the coin!

More information:

www.travelbymexico.com
