Youth Exchange „Europe for Everyone“
in Nuremberg / Burg Hoheneck, Germany,
August 12th - 23rd 2013

Tri-regional Partnership
Pomerania (Poland), Limousin (France) and Middle Franconia (Germany)
Greeting from Richard Bartsch
President of the
district Middle Franconia

Tri-national Youth Exchange
Limousin – Middle Franconia – Pomerania
In the year 2001, the tri-national regional partnership has been signed between the district Middle Franconia, the region Limousin in France and the Voivodeship Pomerania in Poland. This partnership opens up the opportunity for young people to meet to exchange and to develop common projects.

Since 2012, the youth democracy project “Europe for everyone” has been initiated and realised by the Bezirksjugendring Mittelfranken in cooperation with the association of partner communities in the region Limousin and the Polish partners from the Pomeranian Voivodeship – the association EDUQ and OPP Starogard Gdanski. This project makes an important contribution to critical discussions about the past and the present, from the reduction of prejudices to the creation of Europe.

These youth meetings undoubtedly help to consider and analyse opinions, ideas and images from three different points of view at the same time creative and innovative ideas arise. The young people are prepared for a future without hatred and violence. It is desirable that young Europeans continue both engaging in politics and playing a part in the creation of Europe.

The tri-national youth exchange plays a major role in this effort. It deserves our support and encouragement.

Greeting from Bertram Höfer
Chairman of the
Bezirksjugendring Mittelfranken

The German district Middle Franconia (Mittelfranken) has been cultivating several partnerships in its neighbouring countries France (Region Limousin) and Poland (Voivodeship Pomerania) for many years.

Youth work, which moves the consciousness beyond the borders of one’s own country, enables young people to develop an understanding of foreign ways of life and to experience themselves as part of a big community.

In the second part of the project “Europe for everyone”, contacts between adolescents and countries have been fortified, friendships for life have been formed and an idea of Europe has arisen.

“This project is the best you can imagine! While we’re at it, we all develop abilities which will be useful everywhere. How to present oneself, how to get along with others, how to understand each other. In a few weeks, we learn so much, we cannot learn at school at all. (Natalia, 19 years, Pomerania) ”My view of Europe has totally changed. In the past year, in Limoges, Europe was nothing but a description for different countries to me. But if you concern yourself with it, you recognize that really it is about the human community, about different cultures and languages.” (Florian, 16 years, Limousin)

In 2012, the project started in Limousin, this year we were pleased to be the hosts, before it will proceed to Pomerania in 2014, and maybe Brussels in 2015.

We owe thanks to our Polish and French partners, who contributed to the success of this tri-national youth democracy project with their commitment and imagination. Furthermore, our gratitude applies to our partners of the district Mittelfranken and the youth educational establishment Burg Hohenheck, who supported us very much. A very special thanks is directed to our honorary team leader Lisa Fischer, who always mastered demanding situations with a smile.

We hope all readers will enjoy reading this brochure – we hope you will pass it on!
**Europe for everyone – Take the opportunity and get involved**

**Part 2**

Through the tri-regional partnership of Pomerania, Limousin and Middle Franconia, in 2011, the wish to create stable and enduring structures between young people in the different regions came into being. Although the partnership existed already since 2001, this could not be reached until now, due to insufficient resources.

In 2011, there was a first meeting between the partners during which the respective experiences and resources were checked and formulated. There it became clear that all participating organisations had the vision to not only create a network of young people in the region but also in the long-term to focus on the participation in the development of society and youth politics.

In 2012, the first tri-regional project took place in Limousin, in 2013 in Middle Franconia, and in August 2014, it will continue in Poland. Perhaps we will travel to Brussels in 2016.

**The most important aims of this tri-national measure**

The aim is to reinforce the awareness of a European citizenship with the young people throughout all the classes of the population and to enable them to take advantage of their rights and chances in the European living space and the economic area. Children and young people which get involved in intercultural learning processes profit from the experience even in their everyday life. Through this measure which is oriented on the needs of the participants, it aims to give young people from all kinds of social background and living spaces the opportunity to widen their perspectives and to develop their awareness of European citizenship.

The aims are:

- support of the participation of young people in society and political development
- enable improvement of the participation of young people by getting to know the institutional structures
- development of key skills of the participants
- getting to know the different European cultures
- further development of the European thought in the minds of the participants
- creation of a network between the 3 nations for establishing lasting contacts

Through the future workshop the young people could develop their vision of Europe and their idea of how young people can participate and be supported.

The developed ideas have been presented with the help of youth culture media and were presented in public. There were meetings together with local politicians. By living and working together the participants could experience their cultural similarities and differences.

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**The financial partners**

The European Union supports the project through the program “Youth in Action” and its measure “1.3 Youth for Democracy”.

www.jugend-in-aktion.de

The Youth in Action priorities are:

- support of the active citizenship of young people in general and their European citizenship in particular
- development of solidarity and promotion of the tolerance between young people, especially the reinforcement of the social cohesion in the European Union
- support of the mutual understanding between young people in different countries
- contribution to the development of the quality of support systems for youth activities and the competence of organisations of the civil society concerning the youth
- support of the European collaboration concerning the youth

OFAJ/DFJW is the German-French organisation for the youth. It gives financial support to the project (www.dwjw.org).

The “Région Limousin” is a constant partner of the “Association des Communes jumelées du Limousin” (ACJL). It gives special support for this project. The NGO “Maison de l’Europe en Limousin – Europe Direct” is a close partner of the ACJL. Here it has offered precious working time and administrative advice.

**Bezirksjugendring Mittelfranken**

The Bezirksjugendring Mittelfranken is a specialist unit for youth work in the region of Middle Franconia. Furthermore, it is currently the network and the working-group of 32 youth associations and 12 Stadtjugendringe and Kreisjugendringe (networks of youth organisations and associations on the level of municipalities or cities) at the regional level. Thus we are well networked and have diverse contacts with other political youth organisations.

The leader of the project has diverse experience regarding international youth work. We are a member of “Kommune goes International” (the municipality goes international). In the middle-term we are planning on expanding to become a specialist unit for international youth work in the region of Middle Franconia. This aim was also described in the current updating of the middle-franconian kids and youth program.
Preparatory meeting in Nuremberg (Group Leaders) · May 31st – June 02nd 2013

May 31st
- First discussions regarding the program in the office of the Bezirksjugendring Mittelfranken
- Planning of the two days to come
- First modifications: we included language workshops, a city game and group games
- Accommodation of our guests next to the street of Human Rights
- First impression of the city centre of Nuremberg

June 01st
- Visit of the accommodations for summer
- In the morning Burg Hoheneck, in the afternoon the youth hostel of Nuremberg
- We had a look at the dormitories and all the other rooms we would use
- On the way from Ipsheim to Nuremberg we stopped at the Nazi Party Rally Grounds, which were planned to be part of the program
- Day ended with discussions and the exchange of further ideas

June 2nd
- Discussion if the result of the modified program was satisfactory
- Talk about financial matters
- Stipulation of the rules
- Great opportunity to getting to know the other group leaders before working together

Preparatory meeting in Limoges (Participants) · June 15th 2013

Topics of the meeting:
- Presentation of the project to the participants and parents
  - General goals
  - General rules
  - Logistical and administrative aspects
- Details of activities with the participants
  - Presentation of the program,
  - Preparation of the French activities:
    - Games: photo rallye in the city with tasks including local people, organised by Thibault and other participants including German ones
    - Intercultural dinner: pork specialties, regional cocktail, potatoes and cheese specialty, smushed apples and hazelnut cake, organised by all

Preparatory meetings in Starograd Gdanski (Participants) · June 2013

First meeting June 18th
- Topics of the meeting:
  - Presenting the programme of the youth exchange
  - Presenting the results and decisions taken during the APV in Nuremberg and watching the photos from the visit
  - Discussion on stuff needed to be decided by Blish group – initial ideas for the meeting with Eduq Association

Second meeting June 24th
- Topics of the meeting:
  - Presenting the programme of the youth exchange
  - Presenting the results and decisions taken during the APV in Nuremberg
  - Discussion on European Running Dinner and making a decisions on Polish group set of food to prepare for it and what kind of foodstuff to buy
  - Selecting exercises for language workshops
  - Discussion on Polish group game – decision to be made later (it was finally taken a few days later during the phone call of Krzysztof Strzelinski and Agnieszka Warlikowska after the discussion on ideas in Starogard Gdanski)

Preparatory meeting in Nuremberg (Participants) · July 6th 2013

Topics of the meeting:
- How did you pass the last year? Are there still some of you in contact with the French and the Polish participants?
- What was the reason to participate again?
- Wishes and ideas for the exchange in Middle Franconia.
- What do you need, what should be left at home (what can we bring with us that could be of use during the stay)?
- Research of information about the two accommodations in small groups to tell our guests a little bit about their history
- Is there anything you want absolutely to tell our guests?
- What do we want to prepare for the European Running Dinner?
- Who is responsible for the language workshops? What will be done?
- Who is going to think about the group game and who takes over the responsibility?
Program Youth Exchange
August 12th –August 23rd

Monday, August 12th
Arrival of the polish and french group, Bus transfer from Nuremberg to Burg Hoheneck

Tuesday, August 13th
09:15 Low ropes course and GPS orienteering in two groups:
• short presentation of the castle
• ice breaking game
• splitting in two groups
• building of an reporting team
14:00 introduction on the subject of Europe
15:00 - 16:30 introduction to the “future workshop”
16:30 start of the future workshop
• filming group (Klas)
• photo group (Oliver and Mariciana)
• welding group (Johannes)
18:00 preparation of the European dinner
20:00 European Dinner

Wednesday, August 14th
09:30 – 12:00 future workshop
• filming group
• photo group
• welding
14:00 future workshop
• filming group
• photo group
• welding
18:00 after dinner: collecting wood for the campfire
20:30 group evaluation; meeting point in the “Rittersaal”
21:30 campfire

Thursday, August 15th
09:30 – 12:00 future workshop
• filming group
• photo group
• welding
14:00 future workshop
• filming group
• photo group
• welding
18:00 group evaluation; meeting point in the “Rittersaal”
20:30 European Dinner

Friday, August 16th
08:50 departure from Burg Hoheneck (ipsheim) to Bad Windsheim
10:30 - 11:30 Europäisches Schullandheim Bad Windsheim
13:30 guided tour and workshop
16:30 Bus to Nuremberg
20:30 Language Workshop: German

Saturday, August 17th
10:15 Meeting Point outside
10:30 – 12:00 city game
17:00 dancing workshop
20:30 group evaluation

Sunday, August 18th
10:00 – 11:00 Church service in St.Stephan
11:00 – 15:00 Zoo Nuremberg
16:30 – 18:00 Polish language workshop
21:00 Biergarten Marientorzwinger

Monday, August 19th
10:00 -12:00 Documentation Centre
• Nazi Party Rally Grounds, Nuremberg
14:00 – 17:00 several groups
• discovering area around the center
• dancing workshop
• selecting photos, writing the blog

Tuesday, August 20th
09:30 presentation of the day
10:00 swimming pool/ shopping mall
13:45 meeting point Whörder Wiese/ lunch break
14:00 – 17:00 Erfahrungsfeld der Sinne
22:15 meeting point and presentation of the next day
23:00 cinema

Wednesday, August 21st
10:00 – 13:00 simulation of the European institutions
15:00 – 17:00 group games,
Relaxed evening with disco lights and music

Thursday, August 22nd
10:00 – 11:00 language workshop french
11:00 interview with a regional journalist
11:30 french workshop part 2
15:00 – 16:30 group photo than group evaluation
• national group
• international group
17:00 – 18:00 perspectives and wishes for 2014
19:15 dinner
20:20 meeting point to go to the tower “Falkenturm” for the final party

Friday, August 23rd
09:00 departure
Daily Team-Reflections

Monday, August 12th
The arrival and the transport to the castle were good. All participants were really happy to see each other again. It was a great feeling to see how friendships had lasted till the last year. Even the few new participants were directly integrated.

Apart from dinner there was no program. They were all tired and took the rest of the evening to discover the castle, to arrange their rooms and to talk.

Tuesday, August 13th
The day started gently which was favourable to the group feeling. During the GPS orienteering they saw the surroundings of the castle and worked together in small groups. Apart from technical problems it was a good first activity together with the low ropes course which forced them to work as a group.

The beginning of the future workshop was quite challenging. The task was finding ideas of Europe in the future.

- Filming group:
  - The national leaders had to assist
  - The French leader had to translate because of linguistic problems

- Photo group:
  - The group was very satisfied
  - They had a good introduction and learned to work with the devices

- Welding group:
  - The introduction was great and very philosophical
  - It was the smallest group which made the working atmosphere very constructive

To make the structure of the day clearer we decided to announce from now on the whole day’s itinerary in the morning.

At the European dinner it was great to taste traditional food from different countries. The participants were proud to present their food.

The atmosphere was great with the national groups preparing their things next to each other. Even the cleaning was quickly done together.

Wednesday, August 14th
Everybody was working hard in the workshops.

Our first group evaluation was a bit too long as we wanted to profit still from the campfire.

We gave too many questions to make them think about their first days and impressions. In general the groups were satisfied but there were some smaller things they didn’t like, that will change anyhow in Nuremberg.

Thursday, August 15th
It was quite a challenging task but all groups finished their workshop projects.

All our teenagers were really curious to see the political guests and to present their results. They did a great job managing themselves in their groups and impressed all our guests.

Everybody was very satisfied and found new energy after working hard.

We also welcomed during the afternoon a TV group which talked with our participants. The adolescents said that they felt like they were at home and that the exchange was a possibility to express their selves. What more do we expect?

Now its also already time to think about the end of the stay and if we want to create a logo as we did last year and give them something as souvenir at the end of the stay.

Friday, August 16th
Our departure was delayed due to the participants not arriving on time. Therefore, it was a bit stressful and as it was really hot at the same time they were quickly fed up with the open air museum and the Schullandheim which they would have liked under other circumstances.

Then we went to Fränkisches Freilandmuseum, where those who participated in trying to build a house like in the Middle Ages had a lot of fun and the others took a rest in the shade.

As we arrived in Nuremberg they regained their energy and were keen on discovering the city during the next few days.

In the evening, we did activities to improve the group mood and for intercultural communication with our first language workshop. They really liked it and the next time we will even have more games to repeat what was learnt.
Saturday, August 17th

On this day our participants showed again their ability to manage groups during the city game.
They managed to form several groups with a balanced number of participants from each country.
Also our dancing group showed their ability to explain dancing moves to others. Those who didn’t dance took the time to observe the others or to write our blog.
They had developed a real group dynamic during the first week and it was visible that the friendships were getting closer.
The evening was used to do the second group evaluation with different items that were supposed to give them spontaneous ideas. After having chosen an item they had to tell us why it represented their feelings or what they associated with it. In general they really liked the method and we got lots of positive reactions which showed us that they were satisfied.
To conclude the day as a group we played some games which were quite funny, for example we let them put themselves in alphabetical order while they were all standing on a row of chairs.

Monday, August 19th

The Documentation Centre is always an interesting sight to visit with international groups. It was a good experience for the participants.
The afternoon was again used for working in small groups. They decided where they wanted to participate and worked independently.
We had the dancing workshop some continued to write the blog and a third group created an account on the internet platform “flickR” to share the photos of the stay with all the participants.
Those who were responsible for the city game presented the results to the group, which was well done and the others listened really attentively. We laughed a lot about the photos.
Also, we got an impression of the work of our journalists who wrote the blog and presented it in this evening.
After that we took the time to talk and to relax.

Tuesday, August 20th

We used this morning to fulfill the wishes of our participants. They really loved the swimming pool and the other group was also satisfied with the shopping mall.
After lunch they had the possibility to move around freely in the “Erfahrungsfeld der Sinne” which is an area to discover your own senses and offers a lot of different possibilities to do experiments or to try out the abilities of your own body.
In the evening, we went to the cinema with the whole group after a democratic decision about the film we were going to see.

Wednesday, August 21st

In the morning, we acted out being part of the European institution. The teenagers were split up in smaller groups after an introduction about the European Union and the explanation of the game.
They created their own law that had to be passed by all the institutions. They got a result, but we could still improve the way of getting there.
The afternoon was reserved for the group games that the national groups had prepared. We had a lot of fun and there were really different types of games i.e. a quiz, a coordinative game, creative things and a communication game.

Thursday, August 22nd

The last day was used for the last language workshop that was interrupted by an interview with a journalist. They even sang traditional French songs.
After the lunch break we had the last group evaluation and also the final evaluation of the stay. These were concluded with the collection of ideas for the next year.
The rest of the afternoon was to be used for packing and preparing the outfits for the final party in the evening.
We had our party in a tower of the city wall, which the participants liked a lot. We had a really great time and a lot of fun.

Friday, August 23rd

The departure day showed how much our adolescents liked each other. They really had become a group of friends. We had to see a lot of tears and sad faces, but there were also many promises to see each other in 2014.
We are curious to see what happens.
Jugendliche aus drei Regionen basteln an Europas Zukunft

Bezirksjugendring organisierte auf Burg Hoheneck ein Projekt der EU: „Leben, träumen, andere respektieren“


„In Europa können wir uns alle zu Hause fühlen“

Wir Jugendliche aus drei Regionen längst zuhause gefunden – Gruppe zitiert sich in drei Jahren für jeweils zwei Wochen

Bezirksjugendring setzt auf Partnerschaften

Vorstandsvertreter Bertin Hilger sieht mehr Projekte zu der drei Regionen.

EUROPE FOR EVERYONE · Trinational Youth Democracy Project

Publicity

Fränkische Landeszeitung 17.08.2013

Fränkische Landeszeitung 24.08.2013
Publicity

These press extracts show only the reporting in Middle Franconia again—the tri-national youth exchange was also reported about in the Limousin region and in the Pomeranian Voivodeship.

The Internet blog “Europe for Everyone” (right side) has been created by the participating young people themselves and is fleshed out and developed since the first exchange in 2012:

www.europeforeveryone.overblog.com
Teamwork results

left side, above: “future workshop”, photo group
left side below: “future workshop”, welding group
right side, above: “future workshop”, photo group
right side centre: “future workshop”, filming group
right side, below: “future workshop”, photo group
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