

Charlemagne Youth Prize 2016



Project Summaries

Project Summaries

| | | |
|-----|--|----|
| 1. | AUSTRIA – THEATRE.CAMP..... | 1 |
| 2. | BELGIUM – TREMÄÄ: MAKING EUROPE CLEARER | 2 |
| 3. | BULGARIA - NIGHT OF THE SEVEN ANTENNAE..... | 3 |
| 4. | CROATIA - INTERNATIONAL YOUTH WEEK..... | 4 |
| 5. | CYPRUS - GROWING TOGETHER IN A CHANGING CLIMATE | 5 |
| 6. | CZECH REPUBLIC - CLS SUMMER SCHOOL 2015: FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS IN EUROPE, VIEW FROM A MOUNTAIN | 6 |
| 7. | DENMARK - MODEL EUROPEAN UNION STRASBOURG..... | 7 |
| 8. | ESTONIA - SKYPE BOOK CLUB..... | 8 |
| 9. | FINLAND - EGEA NORTH & BALTIC REGIONAL CONGRESS 2015..... | 9 |
| 10. | FRANCE - EUROPE NEXT DOOR: A TRAVEL BLOG ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE IN EUROPE... | 10 |
| 11. | GERMANY - EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL WORKCAMP, BAD SALZUNGEN..... | 11 |
| 12. | GREECE - SEARCHING FOR CHARLEMAGNE | 12 |
| 13. | HUNGARY - “BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN CSERDI, DUISBURG, AND GELSENKIRCHEN” | 13 |
| 14. | IRELAND - A POLITICS MODULE FOR EUROPEAN YOUTH | 14 |
| 15. | ITALY - InteGREAT..... | 15 |
| 16. | LATVIA - E-POSS | 16 |
| 17. | LITHUANIA - UNITING YOUTH FOR BETTER GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH | 17 |
| 18. | LUXEMBOURG - VENI VIDI COMEDI..... | 18 |
| 19. | MALTA - MaltMUN | 19 |
| 20. | POLAND - MODEL EUROPEAN UNION WARSAW 2015..... | 20 |
| 21. | PORTUGAL - EBEC FINAL 2015 | 21 |
| 22. | ROMANIA - OSONÓ THEATRE | 22 |
| 23. | SLOVAKIA - VISEGRAD FILM FORUM..... | 23 |
| 24. | SLOVENIA - MUNSC SALIENT 2015..... | 24 |
| 25. | SPAIN - CIUDADANIA EUROPEA / EUROPEAN CITIZENS: FEEL EUROPE, MAKE EUROPE, BE EUROPE | 25 |
| 26. | SWEDEN - HUMAN RIGHTS GENERATION - FREEDOM OF THE 21ST CENTURY | 26 |
| 27. | THE NETHERLANDS - COMMON CARNAVAL | 27 |
| 28. | UNITED KINGDOM - YOUNG EUROPEAN COUNCIL (YEC) | 28 |



European
Charlemagne
Youth Prize

1. AUSTRIA – THEATRE.CAMP

The BiondekBühne, Austria's largest youth theatre, joined forces with partner organisations from six other EU Member States to hold a camp for young Europeans, *Theater.camp*, from Monday, 27 July to Sunday, 9 August 2015, in Wassergspreng in Lower Austria (near Vienna). It was a combination of art and adventure. Seventy young Europeans from Estonia, Greece, Ireland, Poland, Romania, the Czech Republic and Austria spent 14 days in Wassergspreng scout hostel, located in the midst of the Wienerwald (Vienna Woods), jointly working on a street theatre performance.

They focused on the following topical issues: youth unemployment, the economic crisis and migration and the fear and uncertainty it generates. Since these issues exist in all countries in different ways, there were intensive discussions based on the interesting personal experiences of participants. This produced a number of different ideas for theatrical representation, reflecting in particular various different perspectives about refugees' dangerous journey to Europe. Marginalisation based on religion, origin and culture was also addressed, as in many countries young people are routinely confronted with such situations. Furthermore, today's young people have to live with the pressure of unrealistic social expectations and therefore often lack the opportunity to pursue self-realisation.

Cultural, language and social differences between these young people were impossible to overlook, but they did not perceive them as something negative. Instead, they jumped at the chance to learn something new and recognised this diversity as special and unique. Their sense of community and belonging grew by the day and they soon recognised that, while as individuals they were different, they shared an overriding objective: a common and united Europe!

<http://www.biondekbuehne.at>

<http://www.facebook.com/BiondekBühne>

<https://twitter.com/biondekbuehne>



2. BELGIUM – TREMÄÄ: MAKING EUROPE CLEARER

Tremää: Making Europe Clearer (tremaa.be) is an online media initiative which aims to encourage the public to take greater interest in European affairs and the resulting policies – policies that have an impact on national policies.

It has a new editorial format that is accessible to anyone who has an internet connection (computers, smart-phones, etc.) and is designed to gain a wider audience for news on Europe by using multimedia content.

Many members of the public have limited awareness of how the EU and its institutions work. There are many people who do not know where to find information, even if they want to properly inform themselves, without stumbling across daunting official documents or articles from the specialist press.

Of course, the traditional media disseminate information during major EU summits or when major decisions are taken. However, what is often remembered is the number of demonstrators and the inconveniences caused to traffic. There are few people who manage to grasp the impact of European decisions on their day-to-day lives. There are precious few media outlets that have succeeded in carrying out European editorial initiatives that are tailored to the public.

The Tremää initiative aims to better integrate information on Europe in order to encourage and stimulate a sense of European citizenship. This is done by diffusing information on various European topics categorised under various thematic areas (trade, immigration, agriculture, environment, culture, etc.) and in different formats: video clips, documentaries, interviews with MEPs, audio recordings, written articles, graphics and cartoons. This content will help users to decipher European news.

The media outlet will be provided with a citizenship dimension by video portraits of citizens affected by the thematic area in question and the opinions of citizens on various subjects. Although a digital press has emerged, the ways in which information has been diffused and gathered on the web – particularly information regarding Europe – end up looking the same.

The possibilities that the internet has to offer in terms of information diffusion are far from being fully explored. The objective is to develop the tools to understand European news and to make them more widespread, and to look at their practices from a journalistic, citizenship and educational perspective using digital channels.

<http://www.tremaa.be>

<http://www.facebook.com/tremaa>



3. BULGARIA - NIGHT OF THE SEVEN ANTENNAE

The “Night of the Seven Antennae” project was a livestreamed conference on the 18th of April 2015 that connected seven simultaneous events happening in seven different parts within and outside the European Union, providing the participants of the event with a 5-hour-long live streaming, where they could discuss and share relevant findings of their respective three-day conferences focusing on the topic: Europe in me - me in Europe.

The project was also a recreation of a legendary conference, the “Night of Europe” . The original conference in 1986 was a televised broadcast between the six founding cities of AEGEE with a central event in Brussels, inviting high-profile speakers for interviews and debates, with the programme being enriched by cultural performances during the broadcast.

‘Europe needs youth!’ ‘Old Europe, new Europe’, ‘The state of (our?) democracy’ and ‘Mobility’ and borderless Europe were the general themes and the participants of the events could gain an in-depth insight into the topics during the daily activity sessions and workshops - so later they could share and contrast their perspectives and findings during the five-hour-long livestream with the six other events. The broadcast has brought a lot of revelations, surprising reactions and opened up new horizons towards an aware and informed intercultural understanding. The European community has been bridging country borders both physically and virtually.

One fundamental aspect, that needs stronger emphasis in everyday dialogue is the fact that a united Europe is not about similarity, it is about diversity. Understanding this diversity is a key element for our future. In times when the reality of a united Europe is being in doubt for many people, young Europeans’ aspirations for tomorrow are still strong advocates for a shared identity - and even stronger advocate for understanding Europe’ s diversity, cultural sensitivity, and learning from our past.

During the Night of the Seven Antennae, modern technological tools and revisiting old times for a historical angle has proven to be a life-changing experience both for hundreds of people participating in the events and for other thousands of online followers of the live-stream online. Bridging the European continent and thus offering a direct insight into the everyday realities of young people. The project inspired dozens of similar events to take place in the upcoming months, with livestreaming becoming a permanent element.

<http://aegee-sofia.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/AEGEESofia/?fref=ts>



4. CROATIA - INTERNATIONAL YOUTH WEEK

International youth week took place in 2015, and the project is entirely based on a voluntary basis, designed by youth through evaluations, proposals, meetings, interviews, reflections of more than 300 young people from 8 different countries EU and Canada.

From 1st to 13th of August there were number of activities led by youth from different nations in which they had opportunity to participate regardless of religion, nationality, gender, financial opportunities, place of residence, social status, health status, disability and in the project we encourage equality, unity, importance and benefits of diversity and tolerance.

The project was completely free (food, camp) for all participants, and was attended by 50 constant participants in camp, and 120 occasional participants on activities that were open for all citizens, all that from different cities and 6 different countries. There have been different activities prepared in advance or organized by participants under the mentorship such as: Human Rights, Discrimination, cooperation to success, intercultural workshops, prejudices, civic action, leadership skills, intercultural kitchen, conflict resolution, and in different workshops participants prepared a joint performance of all citizens so we can say that in a small city we indeed start the operating slogan of the EU "United in diversity".

Although designed for the youth, fully initiated, managed and evaluated by youth, in the project all participants had opportunity to find new knowledge and learn from different mentors, from parents, teachers, children, decision makers, visitors and peers.

This project is fully based on volunteers and voluntary work, young volunteers had been involved in all aspects of project, from brainstorming, planning, fundraising to leading activities supervised by mentors. During the projects many ideas were born so our participants are now writing projects with 16 countries members of EU, and one local project have already been achieved, international student day where we gathered 250 high school students.

Some participants in this project became project managers, and others advocate fighting for their rights, tolerance, and the most important thing this project is the first of its kind in this region, particularly on a voluntary basis, where young people feel excluded and the project gave the whole region hope of better tomorrow, equality, unity and awareness of being a part of EU, and benefits offered by different nations.

<http://www.udruga-impress.hr>
<https://www.facebook.com/Udruga.Impress>



5. CYPRUS - GROWING TOGETHER IN A CHANGING CLIMATE

Agros Environmental group host in Cyprus between 6 and 13 June 2015 a multilateral youth exchange titled “Growing together in a Changing Climate” . In the project participated 50 young people and leaders from 10 countries, 5 EU member countries (Cyprus, Greece, Romania, Italy, and Poland) and 5 neighbour countries (Georgia, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Jordan, Albania). Aim of our project was to establish links between participants and locals, which may become aware of how it is possible to preserve the natural environment and reduce harmful practices. The youth exchange was an educational initiative with clear goal to raise awareness among children and young people of the issues of climate change, with the purpose of encouraging them to take action against a changing climate in the world.

The project aimed to develop among 50 young participants from 10 different countries (5 for each country) the importance of being in direct contact of nature to: - Develop healthy lifestyle for themselves thanks to open-air activities - Develop an eco-way of thinking and eco-habits, useful to create a better daily life and to start to think their own green-entrepreneurship future thanks to meeting with experts, role games, workshops, discussions, debates about topics as ecology, generation awake, recycling, environment, sustainable development and giving a big importance to topics as green economy and eco-citizenship and taking part in volunteering actions. Our project focuses on environmental and economy-resilient practices and services that encourage ecological and social change.

The main focus of the Youth exchange was the environmental protection and raising awareness about sustainable development through voluntary action. The aim was to raise awareness about environmental issues and explore the possibilities to act toward sustainable living culture. By exchanging their own experiences on this youth exchange, participants got first-hand practice in intercultural learning. We believe that this project was an effective way to achieve understanding for the cultural diversity in Europe.

<http://www.agros.org.cy>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1431659413805934>



European
Charlemagne
Youth Prize

6. CZECH REPUBLIC - CLS SUMMER SCHOOL 2015: FUNDAMENTAL RIGHTS IN EUROPE, VIEW FROM A MOUNTAIN

International summer school organised by students for students

In July 2015, a small group of Czech and Slovak law students from the Common Law Society, a student organisation based at the Law Faculty of the Charles University in Prague, organised another edition of its summer school View from a Mountain, this time on Fundamental Rights in Europe. Judge of the European Court of Justice Sacha Prechal, Judge and Vice-president of the European Court of Human Rights András Sajó as well as leading European academics came to the heart of the highest Czech Mountains to give lectures and discuss the topic with 26 students from the European Union, but also from other countries all over the World.

Take 26 motivated students with very different background – law students from Europe, a medical student with a degree from Oxford or a public law lecturer from Ireland. Add a dozen of lecturers from the World’s best universities as well as from EU institutions. Squeeze a healthy mix of legal, political and economic aspects of the protection of fundamental rights in Europe. Add passion for information and interest in heated discussion. Season it with thirst for knowledge and enthusiasm for controversy and spice it up with cultural diversity, spirit of openness and a magical setting of the highest Czech mountains. The meal is served: CLS Summer School 2015: Fundamental Rights in Europe, View from a Mountain – a unique educational project organised by students in the Czech Republic.

CLS Summer Schools: View from a Mountain is a place where participants from numerous European and non-European countries come together to think, to discuss and to enjoy. They exchange opinions and ideas and they share their understanding of various topical issues. Instead of a group of many individuals, they naturally build a single community of colleagues and friends from which they may benefit further in their - possibly EU - careers. We believe to have created a project where people from all around Europe can discover what they have in common, how they are “united in diversity” and to which extent they share their European identity.

<http://summer.society.cz/en>

<https://www.facebook.com/cls.summer.schools>

https://twitter.com/CLS_summer



European
Charlemagne
Youth Prize

7. DENMARK - MODEL EUROPEAN UNION STRASBOURG

Model European Union Strasbourg (MEUS) brings together 200 university students and young professionals from all over Europe and beyond to debate two issues at the forefront of EU focus in the belief that this will foster a shared sense of responsibility for and involvement in democracy at both national and European level.

MEUS 2016 is the 10th edition of the original and most realistic dedicated simulation of EU politics in the world. Every year more than 180 participants from different European and neighbouring countries between the ages of 18 and 26 take part in the event. After undergoing rigorous preparation for their individual roles, as well as for the complicated legislative procedures of the EU, the participants assume the roles of MEPs, Members of the Council, Lobbyists, Journalists and Interpreters in order to debate two current European Commission proposals. The detailed preparation provided by the MEUS organising team, along with the setting at the seat of the European Parliament in Strasbourg, contribute to the authenticity of the event and facilitate a deeper understanding of the functioning of the EU. The conference itself takes place over one week in April and a rich social program encourages the forming of long-lasting friendships, future professional contacts and a shared sense of European identity.

A testament to the success of the event is the continuity between participants and organisers. The organising team consists of former participants who work on a voluntary basis in order to deliver the best experience for future ones. The work is done primarily online, but organisers meet four times a year to discuss their current tasks and coordinate the efforts of the different working groups. This year the team has so far met in Brussels, Budapest and Frankfurt.

-The project gives young Europeans the opportunity to make their voices heard, enrich their perspective and return to their own countries as more active citizens. They are provided with the chance to meet with stakeholders and possible future employers and raise awareness about topics of key importance for the future of the European project. The realistic approach of the conference allows the participants to practice skills crucial for their prospective careers like public speaking, critical thinking and research, but also to gain soft skills such as intercultural understanding and tolerance.

<http://www.meu-strasbourg.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/meustrasbourg/?fref=ts>

<https://twitter.com/modeleu>



European
Charlemagne
Youth Prize

8. ESTONIA - SKYPE BOOK CLUB

The project 'Skype book club' uses two things to bring together youths of different nations: the conference call feature of the Skype program and carefully chosen examples of literary fiction. The purpose of the project is to create a dialogue between two groups of youths with different backgrounds (nationality, culture, religion, language etc.) and have them become more acquainted with one another - with something that they have so far perhaps considered to be 'the other', 'the different' or even, in some cases, 'the dangerous'. Dialogue leads towards a better understanding of one another and lowers the amount of prejudice and fear that one might have. This newfound understanding can then, after being absorbed into their consciousness, be spread among their friends and family.

This purpose was achieved by asking the youths to analyse a short literary fiction text while keeping the following questions in mind: Would the meanings I attach to this text change if I read it in a different language? Would it change if I was of a different nationality, socio-cultural background, religious background etc.? Is the way we read and interpret meanings always possible in a single, correct way?

After the preliminary group analysis both groups gathered at their local library and we had a Skype conference call. During the call they read the text in their native tongues, presented their group analysis and proceeded to discuss and contemplate on the issues that had arisen on both sides. Most meetings took place in English or Russian and the students' native tongues were only used during the reading of the text. Spontaneous singing, dancing and other methods of expressing oneself were welcomed and often seen. Each meeting was presided over by a moderator who made sure that the schedule was being followed, that we went through our key points and that both sides had a chance to speak their mind. All „Skype book club “ meetings ended on a high note and lead to future cooperation activities between either the libraries, the schools or individual participants. Most ended with warm invitations to visit each other' s countries.

<http://keskraamatukogu.ee>

<https://www.facebook.com/keskraamatukogunoortekas/?fref=ts>



9. FINLAND - EGEA NORTH & BALTIC REGIONAL CONGRESS 2015

EGEA North & Baltic Regional Congress 2015 was a youth event for geography students all over Europe. The congress, which took place in Tuusula, Finland, had approximately 50 participants from 18 European countries. The topic of the congress was “Forests as a lifeline in Northern Europe - challenges and perspectives.

The event was organized by geography students from University of Eastern Finland and University of Helsinki. The core team consisted of eleven people, who worked together for one year to make this congress happen. The organizers worked completely on voluntary basis and did not receive any payment for their work.

During the congress the participants worked in five scientific workshops. The workshops, all related to the field of geography, were led by more advanced students or young professional geographers. Workshops were a good example of “learning by doing” . In order to spread the acquired knowledge, the outcomes were presented to other participants. The multinational workshop teams helped participants to understand working in a multicultural environment. Facilitating interdisciplinary, one of the workshop leaders was a student of history.

One day of the congress was mostly dedicated to excursions. The participants could choose one out of two excursions, Nuuksio National Park and City of Hämeenlinna reflecting the physical and human side of geography. One lecture, open for all the participants, was held by a landscape architect working with urban forests. In addition, there were many cultural sessions within congress where the participants could either get familiar with Finnish culture or present their own ones during the traditional Cultural Fair.

The event was organized within EGEA, a Europe-wide network of geography students and young geographers, which consists of more than 90 member universities around Europe. The organizing entities in EGEA North & Baltic Regional Congress 2015 were EGEA Helsinki and EGEA Joensuu. The congress was open to all members of EGEA entities around Europe.

EGEA North & Baltic Regional Congress 2015 worked as platform for European geography students to learn more from their field of study, and to expose them to international and pan-European atmosphere. As it was jointly organized by geography students from Joensuu and Helsinki, it also helped to create deeper understanding of two very different regions and cities within Finland.

<http://www.egea.eu/activities/north-and-baltic-regional-congress-2015>
<https://www.facebook.com/nbrc2015>



European
Charlemagne
Youth Prize

10. FRANCE - EUROPE NEXT DOOR: A TRAVEL BLOG ABOUT YOUNG PEOPLE IN EUROPE

In 2015, 27 year-old French journalist Suzanne Alibert embarked on an eight-month trip around Europe as part of a self-devised project entitled Europe Next Door. During her trip she met young Europeans to ask them about their lives, their views on politics and Europe and the causes they are passionate about. These interviews, which she incorporated into a blog written over the course of her trip, will be used as material for a book, photo exhibitions and a series of talks in 2016.

One continent, twenty-one countries, eight months

Europe Next Door is the product of eight months on the road in Europe. Starting in La Rochelle, Suzanne's European tour took her to 18 EU Member States and to Switzerland, Turkey and Iceland. In an effort to interview a wide range of young people, she visited not only the capitals, but also smaller cities and rural areas in each country.

A travel blog

Throughout her trip, Suzanne shared her experiences in the form of interviews, reports and profiles on [europenextdoor.com](http://www.europenextdoor.com). She interviewed between 10 and 15 young people in each country. With a view to gathering information which was as comprehensive and insightful as possible, Suzanne chose her interviewees on the basis of their active role in society, whether in the context of politics, European integration or grassroots projects. 2015 was a year of great upheaval for the European Union, as exemplified by the situation in Greece, the migration crisis and the terrorist attacks in France. Suzanne also took the opportunity to ask the young people she met about their opinions on these events. By the end of December, the travelogue comprised 226 posts in French and English and a collection of photographs from each country.

2016, the project continues

In 2016, the project will enter its second phase with the publication of a book, a touring photo exhibition featuring portraits of young people and a series of talks in which Suzanne will share her experiences.

<http://www.europenextdoor.com>

<http://www.facebook.com/europenextdoor>



11. GERMANY - EIGHTH INTERNATIONAL WORKCAMP, BAD SALZUNGEN

Exclusion, discrimination and xenophobia are serious consequences of a society shaped by prejudices. In order to counteract the creation of racist stereotypes, EU countries need to cooperate with one another.

European cohesion is being put to the test, particularly at this time with the Ukraine conflict, the refugee crisis and the rise of extreme right-wing movements. Under these circumstances, political, economic and social relations need to be fostered in order to maintain stability and peace in Europe.

At the Eighth International Work camp, held in Bad Salzungen under the motto “Beyond national borders and religious differences: democracy, tolerance and openness” , 170 young people from seven countries came together between 22 and 29 June 2014. During an eventful week, the participants from the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland, Russia, Lithuania, Indonesia and Germany were able to interact on joint projects and in sporting activities, make new friends and form new bonds. The Work camp project was led and organised by teachers Burghard Durner and Sabine Lange, together with pupils from the Dr. Sulzberger Gymnasium, while several members of the First TSV Bad Salzungen sports club were also involved in this youth project. The varied programme for the participants from across the globe was developed jointly, and included visits to the region ’ s memorials and tourist attractions. In the evenings each of the delegations presented a cultural programme which included a talk on the religion of their country.

Through living together for a week, the young people discovered all kinds of similarities, despite strong cultural differences. They learned how to approach others with respect and tolerance. As a consequence, the project was able to weaken prejudices and promote interaction between different cultures.

This year the Work camp will be taking place for the ninth time, not least because of the very positive response received.

In the detailed description attached you will find an excerpt from a school research project by Alena Fischbuch, Josephin Fuchs, Franziska Rudolph and Ninh Nguyen, entitled “Together we are strong - projects to promote youth interaction in Europe” , which examines the Work camp in detail.



12. GREECE - SEARCHING FOR CHARLEMAGNE

We, the students of Lyceum in Pirgetos, Larissa, Greece, tried to make a game which is referred to Carolus Magnus (742-814 A.D.), the creator of Francish Empire. In his time he was called 'Father of Europe', but, nowadays, many history teachers doubt about this nickname. This controversy was a challenge for us, so we decided to find the 'real' Carolus Magnus. During our research we investigated a lot of sources which prove that Carolus tried to make a union, but not a multicultural union as European Union is in our days. Trying to give this fact to our friends with a new manner, more funnily, we decided to make a game.

It is consisted of a map of Europe, where are depicted the frontiers of Francish Empire in 9th century, 13 cards and 2 dice. This game requires the use of an internet connected tablet. Every player tries to get the knowledge about both Western Medieval History and Modern Europe using the cards and the tablet.

Finally, the winner is the player that will answer correctly all the twenty (20) questions of a questionnaire, composed with a tool called 'hotpotatoes'.

Our purpose is to make the knowledge game funny and to make ourselves conscious European citizens during playing it. Also, we want to focus on multiculturalism in European Union and on agricultural politics. As we come from a regional district of Thessaly, Greece, with agricultural, stockbreeding and fishing activities, we wanted to watch this medieval period from this gaze in order to juxtapose all the facts with our times. Finally, we take part in this competition with all youth of Europe with the hope to gain the best results.



13. HUNGARY - “BUILDING BRIDGES BETWEEN CSERDI, DUISBURG, AND GELSENKIRCHEN”

Cserdi is a small village in south-western Hungary. More than 70% of its 400 inhabitants are gypsies. The village was riddled with petty crime and had exceptionally high unemployment rates until the current mayor took office and decided to transform Cserdi completely. In recent years several revitalisation projects were initiated aiming at debunking negative stereotypes gypsies usually face. Today crime is virtually unknown, while anyone who wants to work can.

Mr Laszlo Bogdan, the hugely popular mayor is a regular speaker in Hungary and abroad, promoting the assimilation of gypsies into society. After one of his presentations in Germany, he was asked whether 18 disadvantaged young people could visit Cserdi for two weeks in the framework of an exchange programme.

When the youngsters arrived to Cserdi, there was a palpable sense of mutual suspicion between local gypsies and our western guests. However, everyone learnt how to put stereotypes aside quickly, and by the end of the second week we have forged a very precious friendship based on mutual understanding and respect.

Our goal was to finish 5 small-scale projects within two weeks, including the local Holocaust memorial, the football pitch, and building a new bridge over the little canal in the village. Although we did not have a common language, every second of working together brought us closer, bridging the cultural differences. Refurbishing the Holocaust memorial proved to be highly emotional, with truly moving moments as two different worlds united in peace to cherish the memory of those who were killed indiscriminately 70 years ago.

By the end of the exchange programme negative preconceptions were turned around on both sides. There are no secret methods, there are no miracles. Acceptance, humbleness and mutual respect paved the way towards a lasting friendship that is now an unalienable bond between Cserdi and the distant Duisburg and Gelsenkirchen.

We strongly believe that it is only through initiatives that promote cross-cultural experience that a common European identity can be established. When fear, and hatred are cast aside, unity and successful integration prevail. The foundations of the project are in place, now we only need the resources to continue it.

<https://www.facebook.com/cserdi.kozseg/?fref=ts>



14. IRELAND - A POLITICS MODULE FOR EUROPEAN YOUTH

Our project is entitled ‘A Politics Module for European Youth’. This initiative seeks to introduce and implement a short course in Politics for young people across Europe. We have designed a website to raise awareness of Politics among teenagers and to promote the concept of active citizenship. Our website was launched in January 2016 in order to document and record our work and our ideas to date. The template and outline of our module is published on our website, which can be accessed at tinyurl.com/typolitics.

As we undertake this project and design our website, it is hoped that similar modules and programmes will be introduced in other local, national and international educational settings.

As part of the Transition Year programme at Christian Brothers College this year, students are studying a module on Politics. This is the first time that such a module has been taught as part of the programme and a short course was designed to give students a background in political education. This module sets to build on the student’s prior knowledge of Civic, Social and Political Education which they have studied at Junior Certificate level.

The aims of this module are to increase the student’s interest in Politics and facilitate a greater awareness of the workings of the political structures and systems around them. This includes a study of local, national and international politics. Mr. David O’Connell, a teacher in the College, was chosen to be the module coordinator and teaches the class every Wednesday for six weeks to each class group. The classes are facilitated by Mr. O’Connell and the students are encouraged to follow the latest updates in the news and media pertaining to political events and stories.

Resources and teaching materials were developed and these were kept up to date to reflect the ever-changing political landscapes. Guest speakers were invited to speak to each class group. This included a current serving Member of the European Parliament as well as the current Lord Mayor of Cork. A visit to the European Parliament in Brussels was organised and a delegation of students and teachers will represent the College in the Belgian capital in 2016.

Students are encouraged to upload their work to their section on the website. The maintenance of the website and the organisation of the school tours are carried out on a voluntary basis by Mr O’Connell. The module encourages dialogue on EU development, integration and European identity issues.

<http://tinyurl.com/typolitics>



15. ITALY - InteGREAT

InteGREAT is a project created and promoted by AIESEC that aims to connect young people from all over Europe to act upon the current refugee crisis, by fostering their integration in our local communities and by providing them with all the tools to take an active role in the European society.

InteGREAT was ideated during the YouthSpeak Forum organized during the AIESEC international Congress that took place in 2015 in Delhi, India.

An International Congress takes form every year as an occasion for young AIESEC leaders from across the globe; there, the organizational state of affairs is reviewed, new goals are set, and views and experiences are shared.

The project involves international volunteers, local NGOs and local communities: by organizing workshops, leisure activities, seminar and events, European volunteers would directly support the integration of the refugees and raise awareness among European citizens. By living this experience in one exchange country, volunteers will also understand how the integration of refugees is differently managed in the European Union.

The core characteristics of InteGREAT are:

- The participation of young international volunteers that support local organizations and NGOs in welcoming and integrating refugees
- Duration is of 6 weeks.
- Building opportunities of involving also of schools and local communities

The core aims of the project are:

- Raising awareness on the main causes of this phenomenon and on the benefits that come from an adequate welcoming and integration.
- Activating European youth, so that through the collaboration within different countries we can tackle this common issue together.

<http://aiesec.it>

<https://www.facebook.com/AIESECItaly/?fref=ts>

<https://twitter.com/AIESECItaly>



16. LATVIA - E-POSS

Youth exchange project E-POSS was held in Liepaja during 15.03.2015.- 21.03.2015.

The project's main aim is to promote young people's active participation, through non-formal education methods, learning from each other, get to know diversity of European cultures, to develop the ability to see the unifying elements of cultural diversity. Project involved such countries as Portugal, Romania, Italy and Latvia. Target group was young people aged from 18 to 25 years, 8 persons from country and 2 group leaders. Activities took place in Liepaja's Children and youth centre department "Youth house" .

Participants prepared stories from each country and presented to others. Afterwards we looked for common things in different cultures. To create unique unified message in intercultural dimension was implemented three workshops as animation, music and puppet workshop. As the result was created 5 audio-visual animations in stop motion technique in proposed movie genres - comedy, horror, drama and thriller, combined with soundtrack from music workshop and with characters from puppet workshop. Puppets were presented in exhibition.

Each workshop included such work methods as energizers, ice-breaking, team building, discussion, brainstorming, cooperative learning, case studies, role play, simulation games, team work and learning by doing.

Participants gained practical skills in work with photo technology and appropriate computer programs, practiced skills using different music instruments and technologies, got experience in recording studio. Working with a variety of materials and techniques participants was trained in puppet making and introduced in basics of puppet movement. Also participants were introduced with possibilities of stage design.

Project videos available:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mRRUJmvkiy4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1EBHFKam584>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NgYIjzjz2u4>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jRHwSpxXOVI>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u1mcUwIVoB4>

<http://www.liepajasbjc.lv>

<http://www.jauniesumaja.lv>

<https://www.facebook.com/JauniesuMaja>



17. LITHUANIA - UNITING YOUTH FOR BETTER GLOBAL PUBLIC HEALTH

The IFMSA European Regional Meeting: Uniting Youth for Better Global Public Health is a project organized annually by the International Federation of Medical Students' Associations (IFMSA) in collaboration with a national member organization (NMO) from the European Region.

IFMSA is an international network of youth, and the project is solely run and organized voluntarily by young people and future health professionals. The project gathers between 300 and 350 young medical students from over 40 European countries for four days of trainings, conferences and capacity-building opportunities.

The project aims to empower youth and to create inspired leaders, social catalysts and effective managers of its participants in their own communities in order to develop programs to address global problems manifest at a grassroots level; and to allow exchange of knowledge and culture across geographical barriers.

It features several parallel sessions on relevant health issues, such as medical education, sexual and reproductive health, public health, human rights and peace and exchanges. It is preceded by several 3-day workshops on more specific topics, such as comprehensive sexual education, global health diplomacy and governance, human rights and disasters in Europe, etc.

It allows European medical students to acquire organization and leadership skills, and it creates a space for sharing experiences and to learn from each other, while nourishing a sense of unity in the Region, given that the methodologies are based on non-formal education and the participants are put in comfortable and inclusive environments. Transnational activities and sub-regional initiatives are developed from and strengthened by the IFMSA European Regional Meeting.

Furthermore, the project contributes to building a culture of learning and knowledge sharing within the medical students communities of the European Region, and facilitates interaction and constructive engagement of European youth in governance and health policies. Moreover, this event promotes the European democratic process in the participants, as they find themselves part of the decision-making processes that take place in Europe in what comes to Global and European Health issues.

At the same time, externals coming from many European entities will be present, to share their experience and knowledge in specific areas of health in Europe. Last year it was held the 12th edition of the project, in Aalborg, Denmark, from April 24th-28th 2015.

<http://www.ifmsa.org>

<http://www.facebook.com/ifmsa>



18. LUXEMBOURG - VENI VIDI COMEDI

Although the food is central to daily life, tradition, culture and civilization, thousands of young people in Europe have to solve their daily issue of alimentation while lacking time, money, knowledge and cooking experience.

Erasmus students, young people in the beginning of their career, free movers, daily workers or unemployed people cannot afford to eat in restaurants every day. Lots of them end up buying fast food or cheap food of poor quality.

However, food is also about life skills and citizenship, not only in the context of a national framework, but also at European level. It is concerned with nutrition, food hygiene and health promotion as much as it is with the pleasure of eating well: it is an integral part of our psychical health. Thus, Veni Vidi Comedi aims at creating a community discussing about how to prepare your own food and educate young people to become creators of their food in daily life, instead of being consumers only.

The project outcomes promote a healthy and sustainable food culture across Europe, via an easy to use, interactive and collaborative multi-platform tool (website, application, community forum, eBook) proposing adapted, healthy and sustainable recipes and food-related information.

Before we started to look for recipes, we gathered and brainstormed to find out the need of our target public. We decided to design a simple tool set and we agreed on collecting recipes that can be prepared in maximum 40 minutes, without having to use any electronic devices such as oven, microwave or other electronic device.

Last but not least, we wanted the target public to learn something and improve their culinary practices, while discovering different cultures through dishes from all over Europe.

The main priorities of the project are the promotion of inter-regional and cross-border partnerships through the creation of an easy to use, interactive and collaborative educational resource tool and a transnational community on European everyday food practices, recipes and health, and the promotion of the idea of cooking one's own healthy and nutritious meals by creating a collection of easy but quality recipes and pushing people to create their own meals instead of going to fast food chains or buying semi-finished products.

The project promotes a healthy and sustainable food cultures and aims to contribute to the cultural integration among the youth in Europe through the circulation of various international culinary practices.

<http://www.venidicomedi.eu>



19. MALTA - MaltMUN

MaltMUN 2015 was the inaugural MUN for the Society and also the first international MUN to be held in Malta. The theme chosen ‘Lives Adrift: Fighting the Exploitation of Irregular Immigrants’ was selected specifically with the ongoing plight of migrants in mind. It proved to be an appropriate choice for the conference, the ensuing debates were intense and the delegates certainly enjoyed the challenge of discussing such a sensitive issue. Delegates were each assigned a specific country and had to argue from that particular country’s perspective, making their task all the more difficult, yet simultaneously emphatic and satisfyingly rewarding. They were also placed in one of two simulated committees of the UN: the UNHCR committee and the Legal committee.

While the participating youths were undoubtedly already quite well aware of the strife and hardship that is unfolding in the Mediterranean every day, a conference such as MaltMUN 2015, focuses their thoughts and efforts. Though the conference itself lasts but a single weekend, there is ample preparation to be made beforehand. During this time, the delegates would have conducted thorough research and armed themselves with the relevant facts so that they could then work together to create a feasible strategic policy. This goal was ultimately achieved and the result can be seen crystallised in the set of four resolutions which are being attached hereunder.

The resolutions contain a number of proposals which were voted on at the end of the committee sessions, some clauses more hotly contested than others. These resolutions were then subsequently presented to various dignitaries which had a hand in the organisation of the conference. This is a process which is still ongoing. At the time of submitting this application, representatives of the Society have met with members of the United States Embassy as well as the Speaker of the House. A meeting with the Office of the President of the Republic and with the UNHCR Representative in Malta, among others, are also hopeful.

The preparatory work required to organise and host such a conference was enormous. It took incredible amounts of coordination, perseverance and forethought. The MaltMUN team, which I now proudly lead, worked extremely hard to bring this dream to fruition. Even now, we are already in the preliminary planning stages of MaltMUN 2016. We hope that it will be just as, if not more, successful than MaltMUN 2015.

<http://www.maltmun.org.mt/>
<https://www.facebook.com/MaltMUN>
<https://twitter.com/maltmun>



20. POLAND - MODEL EUROPEAN UNION WARSAW 2015

MEU Warsaw 2015, organized by BETA Poland, was the second edition of the Warsaw simulation. With almost 60 participants we could observe a sustainable growth of the conference, compared to MEU Warsaw 2014. The conference took place in July 2015 in the Old Library of the University of Warsaw. Before the 3-day-long simulation of the EU policy making, including not only the Parliament and the Council of the EU, but also Commissioners, a full day of workshops took place when participants received training on public speaking, negotiations and original legislative procedures that were used during the simulations.

The conference was organized by 15 BETA Poland's members who worked on that as volunteers for 6 months. It both gave them organizing experience, incl. PR, FR, budgeting and developing projects with a European scope and encouraged to participate in other MEU simulations.

Next to the usual roles that participant take at each MEU - Members of the Parliament and Ministers of the Council - and English being the working language of the project we also hosted interpreters into Polish and into German. Those participants were recruited from students of interpreting and prepared trained Polish interpreters.

Although every participant has to demonstrate a good command of the English language while applying to MEU Warsaw, interpreters were a great success. Other participants could experience more authenticity in the debate when it was run in three different languages and interpreted simultaneously. They also could speak more freely while holding speeches in their own languages. For participants in the roles of MEPs and Ministers it was also a good training on how to work with interpreters on conferences. Participants in the role of interpreters were granted certificates confirming their involvement in a project on European issues which can be a significant reference in their future professional lives as interpreters.

MEU Warsaw not only promotes integration of young Europeans, but it is also a part of the European MEU community, based on solidarity: whereas Polish participants can enjoy participation in other simulations, we also offer hosting them for MEU Warsaw. MEU Warsaw is a project that BETA Poland implements each year. Being granted a financial award will let us lower participation fee and add other languages to the interpreting section during MEU Warsaw 2016 which will make the debates even more authentic.

<http://www.meu-warsaw.pl>
<http://www.facebook.com/meuwarsaw>
https://twitter.com/MEU_Warsaw



21. PORTUGAL - EBEC FINAL 2015

EBEC Project is a product of a non-governmental and non-profit student organisation. EBEC Final is the top of this project and gathers the 120 best students, among more than 6500 all over Europe, in a neutral and friendly environment to compete only in the intellectual field. We focus on what makes all people equal: our capacity to think and solve problems. A proof of our sense of equality is the fact that the event host, BEST Porto in 2015, is always responsible for paying 50% up to 100€ for each participant's travel tickets. We believe that no participant should be excluded due to financial matters of any kind

As a result of EBEC Final, we foster the cooperation through teamwork and mutual respect. We aim to help on the development of internationally-minded young professionals and European citizens. We believe that these bright students will, eventually, grow up to be policy makers, influencers or top professionals in the near future. People that will shape the next years, hopefully, with consciousness and responsibility towards the European identity and integration of people. We provided the chance to connect technology students, universities and companies representatives to find creative solutions for a better and sustainable world and to create new networking and professional possibilities.

Last but not least, even during our social activities we try to pursue the respect and appreciation between all cultures and people. There was one night fully dedicated to the Portuguese culture: traditional food, drinks, music, costumes and dances were presented to all participants. During another night, all teams had the chance to briefly present a bit about their home countries and cultures in what we call the International Evening. Participants dressed up traditional costumes and proudly put their flags on the top of their tables to sing, to dance, to present their food and drinks to everybody in a circle of diversity and friendship between nations.

This event has a budget that goes around 60 000€, this number is difficult to reach for a non-profit student organization like BEST Porto, also since everything of the event is free for the participants, then this event is only possible through partnerships with companies and institutions. For that reason, this kind of recognition and prizes are very important for BEST, since this is the only way for us to keep doing such activities and events, working for a better Europe and a more cooperative world.

<http://www.bestporto.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/bestporto>

<http://www.twitter.com/bestporto>



European
Charlemagne
Youth Prize

22. ROMANIA - OSONÓ THEATRE

The Osonó Theatre is a group of young people, whose three major plays in 2015 successively created an artistic space for highlighting mutual priorities of youngsters in Europe. We believe through theatre we address the “eternal human”, which promotes alliance, common ground and increased sensitivity towards the actual issues, which mark our recent times. The legal representative of our theatre is the Bolyongó Theatre Association.

In 2015 an inside project of the Osonó Theatre was to present its theatrical performances: *As Water Reflects the Face*, *Mask@Face.Now* and *Unknown friend's circle* or *Picnic on a Japanese rug* - across Europe and above. The shows - followed up by audience discussions - approach conflicting topics as alienation, vulnerability, defenselessness, exploitation, ethnic prejudice. Tense scenes are intensified by the fact that all texts, stage properties and improvised acts were developed from real individual stories of youngsters; putting the spectator on a route to emotional engagement.

In total, during 2015, 133 shows were performed across Europe and the total number of audience reaches almost 6400. In 2015 we performed in the following countries: Romania, Hungary, Austria, Germany, Denmark, France, Spain, United Kingdom, Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Ukraine, and Morocco. The European and national tours are organized by the permanent members of the group by reaching back to well-maintained partnerships and by continually focusing on forming new collaborations. The setting is carried by the troupe, in our minivan and it is built at the hosting place of the partners, by the actors and technicians. The audience is invited by the hosting partner, assuring that all segment of the local population is present. No entrance fee is asked, only donations are accepted.

The Osonó Theatre members are young volunteers, young adult actors, high school students, international volunteers. Due to the fact that in Romania the Osonó Theatre is considered a unique independent theatrical approach; it does not receive enough recognition, like the state-aided repertory theatrical institutions. Our association confronts with a demanding task to ensure its operational costs through donations by partners or small local funds. Next to the development of artistic shows we organize camps and festivals for other youngsters and young teachers with the goal to enable each participant's personal resources by approaching their inner stories through drama methods.

<http://www.osono.ro>

https://www.facebook.com/osonothatre/?ref=page_internal



23. SLOVAKIA - VISEGRAD FILM FORUM

Visegrad Film Forum (VFF) is an international educational and networking event facilitating contact between talented young film professionals from the neighbouring European countries and internationally recognised and appreciated film creators. It is organised by Boiler, an NGO pursuing various audio-visual education activities that enable students from all age groups to learn more about film, develop an interest in culture and, last but not least, potentially put their knowledge and experience to a good use as future European filmmakers.

The students have an opportunity to share their experience, make international contacts and meet renowned film professionals during VFF. Apart from schools from the Visegrad countries that form an integral part of our selection, we invite other schools from other parts of Europe (starting 2016, we are going to extend and regularly change our selection of partner schools). VFF provides possibilities for a greater interaction and cooperation among European countries, as well as a more comprehensive overview of education possibilities.

Moreover, young filmmakers get an opportunity to present themselves in an international environment, which can lead to an increase in international cooperation at university level and beyond. This can have a positive impact on the level of education, as well as filmmaking, and contribute to a general cultural development in the European region.

The programme of the VFF is divided into several sections and is prepared so that the event can be of benefit for people from all the main film professions - practical workshop, master classes, case studies, discussions and screenings of films from partner schools.

VFF has already been organised for four times (two times as a separate event) with a great success and positive feedback from guests and other participants. There will be its 5th edition in April 5-9, 2016. Its continuity for the future is guaranteed by a continuous and increasing cooperation with partner schools from other countries, as well as by the participation of very interesting international guests (Oscar-awarded Allan Starski and Christopher Newman; Oscar-nominated Christian Frei, Christian Berger; award winners from Cannes like Fabio Grassadonia, Krzysztof Zanussi; or from Berlinale like Benedek Fliegauf; and many others).

<http://www.visegradfilmforum.com>
<http://www.facebook.com/VisegradFilmForum>



24. SLOVENIA - MUNSC SALIENT 2015

MUNSC Salient 2015 – Youth Conference on Global Matters is a project for youth by youth, created with a simple aim to contribute to the endeavours of the youth as future decision-makers and stakeholders.

MUNSC Salient 2015 was held on July 13-17, 2015 in Ljubljana, Slovenia on the overarching theme of “Global Refugee Crisis”. The conference was comprised out of three parts: simulations, round tables and workshops, all within the mentioned overarching theme in order to present views from different perspectives and so provide a unique platform to help spur the exchange that took place on several ideational levels, between various fields and across different cultural dimensions. At such platform students from around the world cooperatively engaged with leading political figures, policy makers, NGOs, entrepreneurs, members of epistemic communities, academia, and the media and so developed knowledge and skills required to make sense of the world in the 21st century.

70 participants from Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Croatia, Czech Republic, Germany, Italy, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia have actively participated, contributed, debated issues within all three aspects of MUNSC Salient 2015:

(1) Simulations: UN Security Council (“Refugee Crisis and Sectarian Violence in Lebanon”), UN GA Third Committee (“Reversing the Current Trend of Refugee and IDP Protection in Syria”) and the European Council (“Revitalizing European Solidarity in Light of the Increased Influx of Refugees into the EU”);

(2) Round tables: “Round Table with Ambassadors: The post-2015 Agenda and the Migration Crisis”, “Fortress Europe: An EU approach to the complex global refugee crisis?” and “Challenges of Assuring Rights of Refugees”;

(3) Workshops: “Workshop #1: Refugee 101” and “Workshop #2: the International Community”.

Participants have so gained indispensable skills in diplomacy, public speaking, debating and leadership, which help them in reaching an impact in their own respective communities. We believe engaging youth into politics builds bridges between decision-makers and young people with fresh and innovative solutions; it makes youth more accountable, it engages them into furthering the democracy in their own countries and holds them aware of the everyday happenings around them. A lot of know-how is so transferred to the youth while they enrich that knowledge with their own respective inputs and so become active and engaged citizens of their countries.

<http://salient.munsc.si/>

<https://www.facebook.com/MUNSC-Salient-Youth-Conference-on-Global-Matters-1532270263724635>

<https://twitter.com/munscsalient>



25. SPAIN - CIUDADANIA EUROPEA / EUROPEAN CITIZENS: FEEL EUROPE, MAKE EUROPE, BE EUROPE

The legal concept of citizenship of the (European) Union was formally introduced into the EC Treaty in 1993 by the Treaty of Maastricht. It is now addressed in Part II of the Treaty on the Functioning of the European Union (Articles 20-24). Citizenship is also given a formal constitutional status in the EU legal order, through its inclusion in Article 9 of the Treaty of European Union which provides that "Every national of a Member State shall be a citizen of the Union. Citizenship of the Union shall be additional to and not replace national citizenship.

How is it possible to make citizens aware of their being not only citizens of the National states, but also European citizens? The answer is simple: educate them. For this objective, the organization Inter Europe created the module 'European Citizenship'.

Inter-Europa offers activities to young with mild intellectual disability and / or learning difficulties, with the aim of making them independent in their daily lives. Also it supports them in finding a job through the support employment methodology. Our guys didn't have the opportunity to travel in Europe really (although some of them have participated in different youth exchanges promoted by the organization in different European countries, like Italy, Belgium, Germany) . But despite this, they have been able to know the meaning of European integration standing firm in the city where they live and work. How? Thanks to the different activities proposed:

They had the opportunity to have closer a French volunteer (through the EVS- European Voluntary Service program); they could have Skype meetings with German, Polish and Portuguese people (and other meetings are planned), thanks to the international contact of the organization. Also, they have an Italian educator that organized these activities. She has a social work, but also she has a Master Degree in European Politics and Culture. The aim of the activities proposed were: break down the stereotypes and prejudices that surround the different countries; promote an active and responsible exercise of citizenship, letting know rights and duties as European citizenship; transmitting the idea of European citizenship based on common values of interdependence, democracy, equality of opportunity and mutual respect for different ethnic and cultural identities; integration of persons with disabilities: offering a window on European world and trying to remove them, the fear of getting out of their comfort zone.

<http://centrochat.es>

<https://www.facebook.com/centrochat/?fref=ts>

<https://twitter.com/intereuroparioj>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QEBQHPE7uCQ>



26. SWEDEN - HUMAN RIGHTS GENERATION - FREEDOM OF THE 21ST CENTURY

The project started in March 2015 with the first (out of the three) project activities - a youth exchange in Berlin. This exchange aimed to give the participating young people from 14 European countries the context of the project and the rationale behind the idea. The participants got an extensive education in human rights, and were able to map different human rights and different human rights realities across Europe. At this phase the young people also got the skills on how to approach and process the stories.

The gathering of the stories took place in the period between March and July 2015. An impressive number of 150 stories were gathered from all sides of Europe, showcasing fairness, happiness, injustice, love, care, exclusion.

The work of the second phase culminated with the Human Rights Festival that took place in July 2015 in Romania. Here, the participants were able to reflect on the gathered stories, convert them into postcards and send them to politicians with the attempt to bring the stories closer to the institutions. The participants also got additional education on the topics of solidarity, understanding and social responsibility.

This phase resulted in filming a documentary, selecting a group of 50 stories to include in the projects' publication European Diary of Human Rights and creating a document with recommendations related to Human Rights in Europe, from the perspective of young people, used in the last activity in Brussels.

The final activity of the project was the Human Rights Generation conference, held in Brussels in November 2015. We organized an official promotion of the documentary, the European Diary, a panel discussion with representatives from the European institutions, youth organizations and civil society, as well as advocacy meetings with the fore mentioned stakeholders.

<http://www.activeeurope.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/Activeeurope.org>

<https://www.facebook.com/Human-Rights-Generation-HRG-182853768451684/?fref=ts>

<https://twitter.com/ActiveeuropeOrg>



European
Charlemagne
Youth Prize

27. THE NETHERLANDS - COMMON CARNAVAL

Common Carnaval is a temporary carnivals association that brings together international students, youths from the refugee centre, and locals to work collectively on the carnival, sewing costumes and building a wagon that joined the carnival parade in Maastricht on February 7th. More than this, the project is about integration and collaboration. Using the form of carnival as a catalyst with which to create a sustainable relationship between these different groups of new and old European residents. In the weeks running up to the carnival, we have created a council of eleven and announced our own prince carnival, and now, the connections build over the past few weeks open up new possibilities for future projects, eg. an exhibition, a documentary and regular meetups.

Celebrating 'carnival' is a way to question society, social roles and the identity each individual emanates in a humorous, respectful and inquisitive manner. The Maastrichtian motto used during the 'Vasteloavend' (which is the Limburgian name for carnival) is "to connect through 'Plezeer & Sjariteit', through fun and charity".

The name Common Carnaval is based on the act of communing, which means to work together for the greater good of everyone. The act of commoning is represented in the open structure of Common Carnaval. Every day we welcome the people to join us and work on the costumes, building the wagon, to make music or just a nice chat.

Common Carnaval is a project that explores our culture, it brings us in contact with one another and tries to find new ways to encourage participation, working with each other while broadening the understanding of our common culture.

The concept of Common Carnaval was thought of by a group of international students from the iArts faculty of Zuyd Hogeschool. iArts is an interdisciplinary arts educational programme which facilitates its students in becoming socially engaged thinkers - entrepreneurial, inquiring creators, who are capable of translating current day issues into their artistic and interdisciplinary practice.

The group: Tess(Dutch), Jasper(German), Gerold (Dutch), Rahel (Romanian) came up with the idea in an attempt to find new ways for integration, sharing and building new bonds and rituals. The carnival is a deep rooted social ritual throughout a big part of Europe. This project explores the European identity and the values the carnival as a ritual that binds us. and how, from here, we can build on a shared sense of community and identity.

<http://www.commoncarnaval.nl>

<http://www.facebook.de/commoncarnaval>



28. UNITED KINGDOM - YOUNG EUROPEAN COUNCIL (YEC)

The Young European Council (YEC) is an international conference which brings together young people passionate about the future of the European Union and determined to make their voices heard. The aim of the YEC is to provide actionable and innovative input to European policy making. The conference goes far beyond simulation games and puts the ideas of the young leaders into the centre.

For the YEC, each year delegates from the entire Union representing their respective countries, as well as potential future member states come to Brussels. Over several days they discuss the most pressing issues of today to provide actionable input to EU policymaking. Their consensus on how to tackle these problems is presented and discussed with top policy makers. Past welcomed speakers were Commissioner Hedegaard, H.E. Ambassador Thompson, and H.E. Ambassador Frøysnes, among many others.

The YEC 2015 took place from November 15-19 in Brussels, and included three panels: Migration and Home Affairs, Energy Union and Climate Action, and Education to Employment. The conference welcomed 69 permanent delegates from the European Union Member States as well as current accession candidate countries.

It included Eat & Meet, bringing together at the same table young people and senior experts and allow them to exchange opinions, ideas and experiences. Each senior leader shares her or his table with six to eight aspiring leaders interested in her/his field of expertise, share her/his life experience as well as in depth background about their job. In turn, the dinner is a chance for the senior decision makers to connect with young leaders, understand their concerns, and exchange fresh ideas. The events proved highly successful and YEL is looking forward to further editions!

<http://www.younglead.eu>

<https://www.facebook.com/YoungEuropeanLeadership>

<https://twitter.com/YELTweets>