

# EuriArtes 44

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EURIADE-Zeitschrift - Einladung zum Dialog

EURIADE-Magazine - Invitation to Dialogue

EURIADE-Tijdschrift - Uitnodiging tot een dialoog



**JUGEND IM DIALOG  
YOUTH IN DIALOGUE  
JEUGD IN DIALOOG**

Rückblick und Ausblick  
Looking back and forward  
Terugblik en vooruitblik

# BEGEGNUNGEN

„Es sind die **Begegnungen** mit Menschen, die das Leben lebenswert machen.“

Hinter diesen Worten des Schriftstellers 'Guy de Maupassant' steckt einiges an Wahrheit.

Von Geburt an streben wir Menschen danach, unserer naturgegebenen Isoliertheit voneinander zu entfliehen.

Wie das Kasper-Hauser-Experiment zeigt, sind auch wir Menschen angewiesen auf Begegnungen, auf das **Lernen** voneinander, auf den **Austausch**, auf die **Liebe**.

Worauf gründen sich Begegnungen mehr als auf der **Nächstenliebe**? Die **Liebe** ist die einzige Möglichkeit sich mit Menschen zu verknüpfen, von ihnen zu lernen und dank ihnen zu wachsen. Sie mündet in **Begegnungen**, in **Dialoge** und in das Schaffen der **Kunst**.

Die **Liebe** fällt einem nicht in den Schoß, wie in einem schlechten Film. Sie passiert nicht, sondern sie ist eine **Aktivität**. Liebe ist genauso wie sie ein Geben ist, auch ein Nehmen.

Wir entwickeln ein Bedürfnis, Menschen etwas mitzuteilen, um ihnen zur Blüte zu verhelfen, und im Gegenzug befruchten wir damit unser eigenes Dasein, indem wir uns daran erfreuen, etwas geschaffen zu haben, so ist es, ob im direkten **Dialog** mit Freunden, Familie, oder einem Fremden, oder aber auch im Ausüben einer **Kunst**, wie Schauspiel, Musik, Malerei oder Tanz.



Die Begegnung ist der erste Schritt hin zu einem erfüllten Dasein. Eines, das erfüllt ist mit Erfahrungen, Erkenntnissen, Einsichten und Überzeugungen.

Auch ist sie der erste Schritt weg von Vorurteilen.

Die Euríade als eine Veranstaltung ganz im Sinne dieser Art der Zusammenkunft, war für mich persönlich ein Event, welches mir eben diese Tatsachen noch mal vor Augen geführt hat. Menschen aus aller Welt vereinen sich und schaffen durch ihren Austausch etwas, was unbezahlbar ist. Ein ehrliches Beisammensein.

## Mehdi S. Benjdila

Mehdi ist Studierender an der Theaterschule Aachen.

Er und einige Mitstudierende hatten im Anschluss an ihren „akrobatischen Theaterakt“ ein Gespräch mit den Jugendlichen, eine BEGEGNUNG!

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## VORWORT

# „DEM ANDEREN ... UNSERE HAND!“

### EURIADE 2016

Die EURIADE-Veranstaltungen im Jahre 2016 verbinden sich mit dem Thema bzw. dem Titel „Dem Anderen ... unsere Hand!“.

Es ist die Überschrift eines Gedichtes von Heinz Hof (siehe Seite 5), in dem er anklingen lässt, wie es wirkt, dem ANDEREN einfach UNSERE HAND zu „reichen“: Über die Hand verbinden sich Herz, Seele, Gemüt, Geist... Und in dieser innig „handlichen“ Verbundenheit geht es BEIDEN besser, gut, sind sie „reich“ geworden.

Für das heutige Heft, das den Titel „Rückblick und Ausblick“ trägt, haben jene Jugendlichen, die sich – wie jedes Jahr – während des EURIADE-Projektes „Jugend im Dialog“ im November 2015 getroffen haben, Berichte geschrieben, die zeigen, dass sie die „Hände des Anderen“ gesehen und nach ihnen „gegriffen“ haben. Dank und mit den Händen des ANDEREN fuhren sie als ANDERE Menschen „BEREICHERT“ nach Hause... Ihre hier vorliegenden Texte belegen das!

Weiter haben einige Freunde der EURIADE, die sich irgendwie am Projekt beteiligt haben, reagiert. Auch der Martin Buber-Plakette-Träger des vergangenen Jahres Thomas Quasthoff hat sich zu seiner Begegnung mit den jungen Menschen geäußert.

In diesem EURIADE-Jahr wollen wir, Verantwortliche der Stichting und des Vereins EURIADE, uns erneut darum kümmern, Menschen zusammenzubringen, einander die „Hand“ zu reichen.

So treffen sich vom 11. bis 19. November 2016 erneut junge Menschen aus den unterschiedlichsten Regionen, Systemen, Kulturen, Religionen ... bei „Jugend im Dialog“, um dem ANDEREN... die Hand zu „reichen“ ...

Unter diesen „Anderen“ erleben sie am 18. November den Staatspräsidenten von Rumänien Klaus Johannis, der am gleichen Tag als Martin Buber-Plakette-Träger geehrt werden wird.

Mit herzlichem Gruß und großem Dank an alle, die sich als Freunde, Paten oder Partner der EURIADE um unser Bestreben bemühen, Menschen zusammen zu bringen...

#### **Werner Janssen**

Vorsitzender Stichting EURIADE e. V.

PS Ich möchte auf eine besondere Publikation unseres Erebodos-Verlags hinweisen. Am 21. April werden während einer Pressekonferenz und am 3. Mai bei einer Lesung Texte, Geschichten von jungen Menschen der Europaschule Herzogenrath, die in Auschwitz waren, vorgestellt. Die Schrift hat den bezeichnenden Titel „*Dem Anderen ... unsere Hand, Auschwitz und kein Ende?*“. Das Gemälde auf dem Umschlag sowie auf der Rückseite ist von Rafael Ramírez-Máro. „Seine“ Hände, die sich uns aus der Not, aus den Baracken, aus dem Mittelmeer, an den Grenzen Europas entgegenstrecken, sprechen für sich... In der Publikation finden sich auch Worte des betreuenden Pädagogen Thomas Wenge sowie Gedichte und Erzählungen von Heinz Hof / Werner Janssen.

# *Dem Anderen... unsere Hand!*

## Auschwitz und kein Ende?



Aus der Versenkung  
von Krankheit, Behinderung,  
Verlassenheit, Einsamkeit...  
rufen, bitten, flehen  
ANDERE,  
schreiende, weinende, verzweifelte  
Hände,  
um deine, um meine  
Hand...

Wir brauchen sie ihm,  
dem Kranken, dem Behinderten,  
dem Verlassenen, dem Einsamen,  
nur zu reichen...

Er wird sie greifen!

Hand in Hand  
gehen wir,  
gesundet und unbehindert,  
den Weg  
in ein verANDERtes Leben...

im Lichte der Verbundenheit!

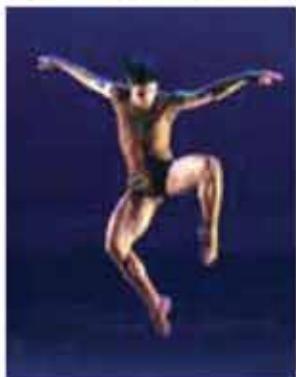
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## PREFACE

# „THE OTHER ONE ... OUR HAND“

EURIADE 2016

The EURIADE-events in 2016 will be linked to the theme respectively the title „The other one ... our hand!“.

It is the headline of a poem from Heinz Hof (see page 5 in German language), in which he mentions how we can just reach OUR HAND to the OTHER PERSON. By our hands the heart, soul, mind, spirit are interconnected... And in this intimate „handy“ connectedness BOTH feel better, good...

The actual magazine that is titled „Review and outlook“ is full of articles written by those youngsters that were attending the latest EURIADE project in November 2015 called „Youth in Dialogue“ that is organized every year. These stories show that they saw the „Hands of others“ and „reached“ for them. Thanks to and because of the hands of the OTHER human being they went home as DIFERENT, „ENRICHED“ people...The articles in this magazine will prove it!

Furthermore you can read reactions of some of the friends of the EURIADE that were participating in the project in some way. Also the latest Martin Buber-Plaque-Laureate Thomas Quasthoff replied about his experience when he met the youngsters.

In this EURIADE year we, meaning the persons in charge of the Euriade association and club, again will arrange this event and bring people together, so they can reach for one another's hand.

And that is why I am glad to tell you that this year again youngsters from a wide variety of regions, systems, cultures, religions will meet from 11 November until 19 November will meet for „Youth in Dialogue“, to „reach for“ ... the hand of...the OTHER.

Amongst those „Other“ people to meet on November 18 will be the president of Romania,

Mr. Klaus Johannis who will be honoured with the Martin Buber-Plaque on the same day. With heartfelt greetings and a big thank you to all those people that passionately strive, as friend, patron or partner of the EURIADE to bring people together...

### **Werner Janssen**

Chairman of the EURIADE association

P.S I really would like to tell you about a special publication of our Erebodos publishing company. During a Press conference on April 21 and a happening on May 3 youngsters from the Europa School that visited Auschwitz, will read texts and stories.. This work typically carries the title „*The other... our hand, Auschwitz without ending?*“ The paintings on the cover as well as the backside are made by Rafael Ramírez-Máro „His“ hands that are stretching out of necessity, the barracks, the Mediterranean Sea and the borders of Europe do speak for itself... In this publication you will also read a contribution of the supervising pedagogue Thomas Wenge and poems and stories by Heinz Hof/Werner Janssen.

(translation Leo Hermans)

# JUGEND UND DIALOG

von Jos Som - BÜRGERMEISTER KERKRADE



Dialog, Kommunikation, gegenseitiges Verständnis und Respekt. Dies sind die Schlüsselbegriffe im gegenseitigen Umgang aller Menschen auf der ganzen Welt. Die Euriade liefert hierzu mit ihren 'Jugend im Dialog'-Aktivitäten sicherlich einen wertvollen Beitrag. Vor allen Dingen für Kinder und Jugendliche ist Kommunikation, gegenseitiges Verstehen und Respekt von großer Wichtigkeit. Gespräche, Dialog, keine Voreingenommenheit. Das kommt ihnen ein Leben lang zugute. Und der Jugend gehört schließlich die Zukunft!

Die Jugendlichen sind die Pfeiler der Gesellschaft von morgen. Wir können der Jugend von heute nur große Wertschätzung entgegenbringen. Die Welt verändert sich so schnell, es geschieht viel und die Jugendlichen werden mit zahllosen Herausforderungen konfrontiert. Darum bin ich der Auffassung, dass wir die Jugend behüten und wertschätzen müssen. Sie sind schließlich die Weltführer der Zukunft.

Wir alle streben danach, die Welt besser zurückzulassen als wir sie selber angetroffen haben. Für mich selbst bedeutet dies, dass ich mein Bestes gebe, um Kerkrade schöner zurückzulassen. Für die Jugend und für die

Zukunft.

Es ist uns eine Ehre, Jugendliche von überall her hier in Kerkrade und Herzogenrath (Eurode) begrüßen zu dürfen. Die Jugendlichen können sich hier nicht nur gegenseitig, sondern auch der ortsansässigen Bevölkerung begegnen. Vollzieht sich doch offener Dialog quer durch alle eventuellen Alters-, Sprach- und Landesgrenzen! Grenzen verschwinden.... zwischen Nationalitäten, Ländern und Menschen im Allgemeinen. Ich freue mich selber auch darauf, vielen internationalen Jugendlichen zu begegnen und in einen

Dialog mit ihnen zu treten!

In Kerkrade haben wir ein großes Herz für Jugendliche. Dies zeige ich, und mit mir alle Kerkrader Bürger, gerne.

Gerne würde ich aus Kerkrade ein Begegnungszentrum für die Jugend aus der ganzen Welt machen. Wir haben hier viel zu bieten und arbeiten hart daran, Kerkrade bekannt zu machen. Das haben wir in der Vergangenheit getan, das tun wir heute und selbstverständlich auch in der Zukunft. Mit Attraktionen wie dem GaiaZOO Kerkrade, der Abtei Rolduc, Roda JC Kerkrade, dem Leisure Dome und dem Museumsplatz Kerkrade mit Cube, Continium & Columbus sind wir eine besondere und attraktive Stadt, die es sich lohnt, zu besuchen.

Auch finden verschiedene attraktive Veranstaltungen in Kerkrade statt, wie das alljährliche Tanz-Event 'White Thursday', das viele Jugendliche anspricht.

Wir hoffen, vielen Nationalitäten hier in Kerkrade begegnen zu dürfen.

**Jos Som**

Bürgermeister von Kerkrade

# “... JUGEND BRAUCHT VORBILDER ...”

von CHRISTOPH VON DEN DRIESCH - BÜRGERMEISTER HERZOGENRATH

Verehrte Leserinnen und Leser,  
liebe Teilnehmerinnen und Teilnehmer  
am EURIADE-Projekt „Jugend im Dia-  
log“!

Seit 14 Jahren in Folge wird alljährlich durch die Stichting Euríade – in Zusammenarbeit mit den Eurode-Städten Herzogenrath und Kerkrade – im Monat November die Martin Buber-Plakette verliehen.

Seit 36 Jahren treffen sich zur gleichen Zeit – etwa 10 Tage lang – junge Menschen aus allen möglichen Regionen, Religionen, Kulturen, politischen Systemen in Eurode zu ihrem Projekt „Jugend im Dialog“. Zu dieser Begegnung gehört unter Anderem das Gespräch dieser jungen Menschen mit dem Martin Buber-Plakette-Träger auf unserer Burg Rode in Herzogenrath.

Das 10-tägige Treffen der jungen Menschen ist ein wichtiger Baustein in dem Bestreben, geografische und geistige Barrieren auch für die künftigen Generationen abzubauen bzw. gar nicht erst entstehen zu lassen. „Dialog“ bedeutet Kommunikation statt Konfrontation. Miteinander offen reden, schafft das notwendige Vertrauen, um auf Augenhöhe ins Gespräch zu kommen. Mit dieser besonderen Initiative leistet die Euríade einen Beitrag zur Völkerverständigung und zum Frieden in unserer Welt.

Längst beeinflussen die Auswirkungen der Globalisierung die Lebenswirklichkeit von Jugendlichen. Die Bedingungen und Umstände ihres Auf- und Heranwachsens sind heute viel stärker von internationalen und europäischen Entwicklungen betroffen.

Die Jugend braucht Vorbilder. Die Preisträger der Martin Buber-Plakette sind dies in ganz



besonderer Art und Weise.

Gemeinsam mit Ihnen freue ich mich auch in diesem Jahr auf den Besuch von Klaus Johannis, dem rumänischen Staatspräsidenten. Er wird die Liste der Preisträger, die sich um das dialogische Prinzip Martin Bubers und damit um die Belange ihrer Mitmenschen besonders kümmern, würdevoll fortsetzen.

Ihr

**Christoph von den Driesch**  
Bürgermeister

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 2016 - **DAY OF ARRIVAL**

SATURDAY MORNING:

## FROM THE VERY BEGINNING...

Immediately after lunch we went outdoors and the trip began without waiting. During the walking we were talking both on interesting and not very interesting topics. That day a group from Hungary arrived and it was in the center of attention. The weather was sunny but still cold for our south friends, who seemed to be amazed with local nature. The first thing from museum I saw was a railway, which ended under the building's door. It became nearly obvious that we are going to see some kind of mine exhibition.

The museum was located in quite close and dark brick house, which conveyed the atmosphere of gone century. I don't know if people in the center of the crowd were able to see something, but I have seen a lot of entertaining exhibits. Some old miners' oil lamps, huge steam machines, equipment, special suits and a lot of other stuff were shown to us. In another room there was a model lift (actually a metal cage), and huge amount of pipes and wires.

**In result, the museum made a lot of emotions. I fancy with atmosphere of mines and machines, I keen on these engines without a hint on electronic. Maybe, it is more suitable century for me. Clearly, I liked this museum. Some people agreed with me, other not. It's true that exhibition is designed not for all people.**

**The second thing of that Saturday was a walk to the castle. We crossed the stream, and only after a trip I realized that it was a border between Germany and the Netherlands. It seemed strange because Ukrainian borders are very different from that one. There are two posts and two gates with a plowed ground between them. People need to wait for hours in Ukraine, but there we had real freedom of moving and crossing borders. That was unusual, and I felt even a little confused.**

Through picturesque fields and ground roads we got in the castle. I managed to take a photo of local landscape, which now is used like a screensaver on my device. Then we had a photo session near ruins, played a little basketball and sailed a paper ship. All these easygoing activities were great final

of a long walk. A lunch was provided with the owners of the castle, and we even were able to taste some home-made juice and traditional soup. But it wasn't the end of Saturday great trip. Then all Euriade members pointed to another museum, a Cube. It was a colourful contemporary art museum, where we took a lot of different photos. If you think that my story isn't very emotional, you should remember I'm a physicist, and for me it is easier to express myself in some inventions or calculations. Believe me, I tried my best! I was and I am very glad and happy that I had a chance to meet all these great people and visit those fascinating places.

**KYRYLO SOVAILO, TECHNICAL LYCEUM NTUU KPI, KYIV, UKRAINE, 2015**

The second day of the euriade was full with joy. At ten o'clock we went for a walk. At the first time, I couldn't even imagine, how will it look like, but at the end of the journey, I was happy. I was happy, because I had the chance to see a beautiful landscape, like that.

We went through a forest, which was very nice. Incredible, that in the nature -almost in the wild- what kind of peace is. You know, that the animals are there, but they aren't loud, the voices are tender. People hurt (or kill) each other, many times without any reason. But the creatures over there? Never without a reason. As long as we were walking, I was wondering about this.

Next to the path were horses, and lots. In the forest was a nice, little headspring as well.

Finally we arrived at Haus Heyden. It was built in the fourteenth century. There was a lake as well, nice flowers and huge trees were everywhere. It was beautiful. The group had lunch there (which was delicious). Later we walked back to Kerkrade, and after that, we visited a museum, "Continium" and Cube. It was a design museum for human needs. There was a BMW i3 as well! Than we visited Mirjam Vleugels's exhibition in the Town Hall



of Kerkrade. We all found her a very talented artist. The day ended with a Rock'n'Roll concert by Shuman and Angel Eye. It was fantastic!

**FLORA HORVATH, GYMNASIUM PAPA (HUNGARY)**

**When I hear the word Euriade feelings and expressions like unity, freedom, dialogue, conversations, trust and many more are deeply felt by my heart. What a week it has been – meeting new people, visiting the most beautiful places and most important of all- learning and observing our world and the people all over the world. No money can buy this knowledge...**

Throughout the week I had made notes about quite interesting memories and moments that touched my heart. I personally think, no matter how big or small- each one of the participants brought something back home (obviously literally). But what I mean with this, is that each I am sure each and everyone's heart have been touch somewhere along the line. I, for example, experienced a very emotional morning visiting the Lebenshilfe in Aachen. When I close my eyes I can still see the happiness the work the people are doing, is bringing them... and some of us, who is healthy and blessed with wealth, is constantly negative. How wrong is that?

Each one of those residents really made an impact on my life and made me realize what is important in life.

The day at Miriam Vleugels's art studio was also a great highlight. As a left-brain, I always find it hard to find and express my arty side and I'm certainly not good at looking for deeper meanings or get-

ting a message for abstract or figurative symbols... But spending the day at the studio, Miriam and Werner both emphasized the fact that it's okay to find your own story or create your own picture while looking at the paintings. What I see, you might not see, and visa versa. It's each individual's own responsibility to get his or her own message or to interpret it differently, whether it is art, music or life.

It is up to you.

The last memory I would like to share is the very special night when we got the chance to meet refugees! It would be completely contrary to be a democratic society and reject people who fled their homes because of the dangerous circumstances in their country. The saying goes- seeing is believing. And it's definitely true as I have now seen with my own eyes how people with a rough circumstances look. The things they have been through is scary, and we as people all over the world don't pay attention to the matter until we SEE and HEAR this sad stories. I realized conversations is about connecting an atmosphere that gives us the idea of the hope, friendship, love and pain or longing of the other human being.

I will be forever thankful for this Euriade opportunity which have been given to me! This essay only contains highlights as there was many, many more special events and moments which I didn't give credit. The whole experience was something I will never forget. The interactions among people all over the world is so wonderful and powerful and I hope it's something I will be able to do more of in the future.

Once again- what an amazing week!

**MIEKE KLEYNHANS, BEN VILJOEN HÖERSKOOL (SOUTH AFRICA)**

Eigentlich weiß man nur,  
wenn man wenig weiß;  
mit dem Wissen wächst der Zweifel.

Johann Wolfgang von Goethe



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HEIZEN UND KÜHLEN VON GEBÄUDEN MIT  
UMWELTENERGIEN  
SONNENENERGIE UND ERDWÄRME WIRTSCHAFTLICH  
NUTZEN

# RENÉ SHUMAN & ANGEL-EYE CONCERT

Before I came to the Euriade, I had heard that there were going to be various concerts for us. I was really looking forward to them! So as soon as we got our schedule for the week, the first thing I

are all the same. We all laugh about the same things and have the same worries. And what is genuinely wonderful is that I saw those similarities that evening.



took a look at were, of course, the concerts. Rock'n Roll concert "Shuman and Angel Eye" was what I read somewhere beneath Arrival Day of "Foreigners". The first association I had was obviously Elvis Presley but I really did not know what to expect from this event. I was excited, because of the concert itself and because I was going to spend the evening with new people - people I had never met before but really wanted to get to know. As the concert started and both singers entered the room, I knew that my first thoughts had been correct. The lead singer had all the characteristic features of Elvis. Accompanied by a drummer, a keyboard player and a guitarist, René Shuman playing the guitar and his wife Angel-Eye playing the piano performed mostly songs of the King of Rock. Due to the energetic music the audience started singing and dancing along. I have to admit that I even caught myself doing that too. The grown-ups especially seemed to enjoy the concert a lot. The atmosphere got more relaxed with every song and finally everyone started having fun.

**It felt that the music and the energy coming from the artists filled the room with a cheerfulness that no one could explain. At that point I noticed that the power of music can bring together all kinds of human beings, whether they are from South Africa, South America or Europe. We all have different cultural backgrounds, views of the world and experience but still in some way we**

**Music is a kind of communication, a sort of dialogue.**

**MICHELLE BARAEV, GRG1 STUBENBASTEI, VIENNA (AUSTRIA)**

In today's digital world, geographic borders no longer exist. You can tweet to Brasil, write what's app message to Zimbabwe and phone Italy without any problems. In work, schools and between people the skills have developed by interacting with other cultures and its becoming increasingly valuable. I got an opportunity to make my first step of becoming a global citizen because of my students educational travel.

On 20 November I began my adventure in Euriade program which took place in Kerkrade in south Netherlands - where plenty of students from around the world consider an educational, self-discovery process of expanding our horizons, branding us out and learning more about different cultures. One of the most important benefit which we got, was that we had to communicate in English even, though we weren't confident enough. It was so different for me to hear different languages but it also gave me the courage for future. Almost all of this trips were based on meeting politicians and people, who were taking part in social life. In general the program of Euriade was planned from early morning till late evening so we didn't have

much time for integration with other students, but for me it wasn't a problem, because I was able to make some new friends which will stay in my mind forever.

I established contacts with many people, and I am still in constant contact with some of them via social network. For example, I wouldn't forget about Kirjul, who is from Russia. One of the first topics that we talked about was politics and it was impossible to conceal that his views were largely different from mine but it didn't change the fact that he was a good guy and we built a nice friendship. Another example was that this travel gave me the opportunity to meet people like Bella. She said she is American. And as I remember I was so surprised about the fact that I met someone from America. We were talking about how different types of candies you can find in Poland or America in general. I had in my mind one American cookie which is im-

possible to find in Polish markets-called "Reese's, and she was in shock that I knew that they existed. To my surprise, the next day, after our free time in the city when we were about to come back, she came to me and she gave me the cookies I was talking about - it was the sweetest thing which I experienced. I can't forget to mention my roommate - Bruce from Germany. He was funny guy, full of energy and was able to speak correct English. He loved to dance, especially when we were about to sleep.

I am so grateful to my tutor for the opportunity of a memorable trip. I hope that this experience will help in my future and that I will have much more opportunities of those educational, international trips in my still long, collage way.

**PAWEŁ GDAK, ZESPÓŁ SZKÓŁ ŻEGLIGI ŚRÓDLĄDOWEJ (POLAND)**

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2016 - **DAY OF THE DIALOGUE**

## THE FIRST DAY OF THE EURIADE 2015

The people from far away like South Africa, Hungary or Russia already arrived in Rolduc on Saturday and had some events.

Because I am one of the students who lives in Germany I arrived on Sunday morning. At first I got to know my roommate. We introduced ourselves and then we went off to the first event. The first act was to get to know the one who is responsible for the Euriae: Werner Janssen. In the beginning of the whole festival I stood close to the people I know.

After the greetings of the organizers, we had a tour of Rolduc Abbey. There were three groups of tours, two in English and one in German. We saw and heard a lot of the abbey, since the tour guide told us a lot about its history. Especially one of the libraries in Rolduc was amazing, because the tour guide also told us about the books in the abbey. There are very old books in there. In the end we saw the chapel and the crypt of Rolduc. There we could also see the relicts and bones of a bishop.

After that we had a little free time, where me and my friends inspected the abbey. We looked into each others' rooms and realized the rooms in the different houses are different as well. We looked



for the different places where we are going to be at the different events, and therefore we saw that Rolduc Abbey is very big and it's pretty easy to lose yourself in it.

Later we had our first lunch. There I had the first conversations with the other people. As the meal was a buffet, where you have to take your food by yourself, you stand in a row with all these random people and you have to talk to them.

The person responsible for the evening event was Valerie Geels, who made some special exercises with us. She tried to make us acquainted with each other. Therefore she formed some groups consisting of different cultures. Now every group had to perform a famous fairy tale, but in stills. The "actors" were not allowed to move while showing

one scene. Some groups had a real fantastic facial expression and gesturing and you could immediately see which fairy tale it was. This exercise was pretty funny and very helpful in getting to know the other people.

After that we had dinner, and then we sung. We started to learn the song "Reich mir die Hand, mein Leben" by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart, so we could sing it on Friday for the Martin-Buber-Plaque Ceremony 2015, where Thomas Quasthoff was honored.

After a long first day my roommate and I talked a little bit in our room, and then went sleeping.

**BIANCA BAJRAMI, GUSTAV-HEINEMANN-GESAMTSCHULE ALSDORF (D)**

## THE FIRST GATHERING AND THE LAST

We arrived on Sunday morning 10 AM. As we were walking inside I noticed a lot of people already waiting in the hall. Our teacher had told us that we were the last ones to arrive, as people who had to travel a long time had arrived the day before already. I got assigned to my room and headed up with my suitcase. Having entered the room, I noticed it was empty.

I put down my stuff and headed to the Aula Minor where we were told to gather later. I found the people of my school and took a seat. As I was sitting there in the middle of a huge circle of chairs I looked around me and saw over a hundred unfamiliar faces. I remember being a bit blown away by the fact that you could have convinced me they were all Dutch. After a while a woman called Valerie entered the room, walked up to the stage and introduced herself. She told us she was an actress, and was there to do some exercises with us that were supposed to 'losen us up' a little. She started by asking us to massage the person to our right, that was when I got to know the first new person from the Euriade. It was a girl named Sabine, and I later found out she was from Austria. The next exercise was standing up and repeating all sorts of weird sounds and postures that Valerie showed us. At some point we also had to walk through the entire Aula and had to shake as many hands as possible. I felt quite embarrassed, as I was supposed to, but tried to keep up appearances by acting like I didn't care as much. When Valerie asked us to come on stage to do some other exer-

cises I must admit my shyness. That evening I laid in bed walking through the day again in my head. I tried to convince myself that being shy didn't really matter that much. But I was not really convincing, so eventually I made a deal with myself that I would stop being shy and try to make as many new friends as I possibly could.

I was in my room on the last night of the Euriade on Friday, preparing for the final ceremony. As I was looking in the mirror to brush my teeth and wash my face I thought back to the deal I made with myself on the first night, I wondered if I could have done more. Eventually the time to go to the Aula Major came and I headed downstairs, and walked to the building on my own. Once seated I looked around me again and saw over a hundred familiar faces, many of whom I still hadn't had the chance to spend as much time with as I had wanted to. As Mr. Werner was giving all his speeches my thoughts went back to the previous days. About walking through the rain with Michael (my Austrian roommate and friend) and his friends, about playing a game called 'I' with over 40 people in the little free time we had, and many many more things. Suddenly my phone buzzed and I had a message from Shaffy (a guy from Maastricht who I also liked) asking me if I was also staying another day. Because he and some other people who had to leave that night already came up with a plan to stay one night longer so they could leave at the same time as the others the next day. I told him I needed to go home because I had a soccer

game the next day. A couple of hours later as I was walking to the parking lot with my suitcase in my hand, just having said my final goodbyes to all the people there, I thought again about that offer of Shaffy.

**Looking back now, not taking him up on that offer and leaving early is probably the thing i regret most. And having said that, I wish I could do it all over again. Unfortunately that will very likely not happen. The lesson it taught me though, was that I should not waste time on being afraid of the unknown. The World is as small as it is big, and in the end we are all surprisingly similar.**

SVERRE CROMBAG, SINTERMEERTEN COLLEGE, HEERLEN (NL)

## THEATRE AND ART

At the first day we arrived at Rolduc Abbey, we had a lot of fun with a great actress, and it was an awesome experience. We made a lot of funny and enjoyable acting exercises, and it also helped us to get to know the group. The actress was so friendly and it felt like she had already known us for years, which made me trust her immediately. At the start I was a bit shy, like everyone else, but after some

exercises we all opened up very fast and it was a lot of fun. The acting tasks will help us in our future life. Confidence is something that you are not born with, you have to gain it, and those tasks will help to work on your self confidence in every way. Since the meeting of the young people from all over the world is also called "Youth in Dialogue", the acting exercises were a good start for the dialogues we had with all the politicians. The actress called Valerie started with some basic tasks for the whole group, and it was a lot of fun! Afterwards we got some more difficult exercises which we should work on in groups. It helped us to get to know the others and to make some friends. Valerie was very kind and friendly, and working with the Euriade group made the whole theatre experience an unforgettable time. It also made us feel comfortable to know that Valerie is a professional actress and that she liked to work with us. While doing the acting tasks, I kind of felt that the week with the Euriade group is going to be an awesome experience, because every single person was so nice and ready to get to know other people, which made me even more comfortable. I'm so grateful that I was able to participate at this amazing project, and I especially want to thank Werner and Thomas who actually made it possible for us to take part, because otherwise we would never have experienced something like this.

BERKAY AYDIN, GUSTAV-HEINEMANN-GESAMTSCHULE ALSDORF (D)



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2016 - KERKRADE/HERZOGENRATH

WORKING IN GROUPS AND

## TALKING WITH DISABLED PEOPLE

We all got a number and all people with the same number were in one group. In your own group it was intended that you introduced yourself briefly. Then everyone could ask their own questions so we got to know each other better. This command was fun and useful at the same time, because you learned the people in your group better. Not only were the superficial information such as name, age and hobbies discussed. It was very interesting for me to learn more about others lifestyles and cultures. Also it was funny to see that others could learn from you and could discover new things. Some of us never had sprinkles for breakfast. Also the school system was arranged very differently in comparing to other countries.

After we knew each other better, mentally disabled people came to visit. In their group there were people of different ages, this differed from people of our age to what older people. It was very nice to see that despite their handicap they try to make their life as fun as possible and they have very nice hobbies. You learned from them that they are actually 'normal' people like we are. They also look TV, listen music and like to do something fun. You noticed that some people were more talkative than the other. But you got that in everyday life as well.

**You also saw the difference between people in our own group. Some of us found this very interesting and asked many questions while others point and listened some more. But talking and listening are both necessary to have a good dialogue. Therefore this command applied also good at the subject of the Euriade week.**

JILL DREESSEN, SINTERMEERTCOLLEGE HEERLEN (NL)

On Monday we worked at groups and we have to introduce ourselves. Firstly, all of us were a little bit shy, but then, little by little, we became to know each other properly and by the end of our conversations everybody felt themselves absolutely



comfortable. We knew some basic things about each other, such as our names, families, interests and so on. I was pleasantly surprised that every person was so open-hearted and friendly. I didn't feel myself like a fish out of water and it's the most important thing in conversations.

We didn't talk just about our usual life, we also had to prepare some questions for the mayors and members of the parliament. It was fascinating to do that task because everybody was interested in really different areas. Some people care about politics, others about society, thirds about their own life. And thanks talking on that topic I could realize who is who, with whom I can talk about some special themes.

**Moreover, I was able to speak with disabled people. We talked with Tosh, he told us about his life. Tosh is the great artist. He found energy and force in himself to live and now he draws really beautiful paintings, he teaches young people to draw, finally, he just lives! He inspires people not to give up, to find yourself and live not only for yourself, but for the other, too.**

I really liked the week I was in Germany. I liked the Euriade, I wish I could come back there to meet all those people again. I can just chat with all these people and save my memories. Thank you, Euriade, for that experience and people I've met. I'll never forget them.

SVETLANA MUSIKHINA, DIAGHILEV SCHOOL, PERM (RUSSIA)

## A THOUGHT-PROVOKING VISIT

First of all, the group was separated in pairs and I and a Ukrainian boy were in a group of many people with special needs. There I had a talk with those people caretakers in German language because my partner was able to talk only in English, but I translated to him from German to English to understand what we were talking. The caretakers told me that all of people from that group were not able to talk, to read or to write but an eighteen year old girl was able to read and to write but she couldn't talk. Furthermore the caretakers told me that those people with special needs came here every day to work because they needed to pay their rent and didn't come there only to stay. I and my partner participated at their work, for example, to make special matches which I found very easy. Moreover the caretakers took us to their sports



room and told us that those people with special needs needed to keep themselves in good shape, of course with the caretakers' help

After this, some of us met and went to the technical group. There was also a factory in which these people with special needs were working. There, a guide took us around the factory and showed us what they produced there, for instance parts for cars, doors, fences etc. The thing that I found surprising was the fact that a man with special needs, unable to talk, managed to work with those big machines.

**To sum up I found the visit there interesting and I enjoyed the time there and I think that everyone enjoyed the time there and left me grateful for what I have, what I am and what I can do independently.**

**FLORIN CIOANCA, COLEGIUL NATIONAL LIVIU REBREANU BISTRITA (RO)**



## DER DIALOG MIT PERSONEN MIT HANDICAP

Am Montag, dem 23. November 2015 haben wir uns im Zeichen des Dialogs, des Verständnisses und der Toleranz in der Aula Minor eingefunden. Wir haben uns in kleine Gruppen aufgeteilt und hatten so die Möglichkeit mit unseren Gästen der Lebenshilfe Aachen, aber auch untereinander, zu reden und uns kennenzulernen. Die Lebenshilfe Aachen hilft körperlich benachteiligten Personen und bietet ihnen die Möglichkeit in den Arbeitsalltag einzusteigen. Durch verschiedene Abteilungen wird sichergestellt, dass für jeden etwas dabei ist und man seiner Kreativität freien Lauf lassen kann, man hat zum Beispiel die Möglichkeit zu zeichnen, Holz und Metall zu bearbeiten oder Verpackung herzustellen.

Ziel war es, mit Hilfe unserer Besucher einen Ein-

blick in das Leben von Personen mit Handicap zu erhalten, wie sie den Alltag bestreiten und womit sie ihre Freizeit verbringen.

Sie erzählten uns von sich, der Großteil schaute gerne fern, genau wie wir, fuhr mit seinen Eltern in den Urlaub, genau wie wir, und hörte dieselbe Musik wie wir. Ein paar spielten sogar ein Instrument. Sie zeigten uns, was sie angefertigt haben, ihre Zeichnungen, ihre Skulpturen...

Ein Problem war jedoch, dass die meisten unserer Gäste nur Deutsch verstehen konnten. Dadurch konnte der Dialog nur von den deutschsprachigen Personen unserer Gruppe geführt werden, die das Ganze für den Rest der Gruppe wiederum ins Englische und die Fragen der anderen an den Gast ins Deutsche übersetzen mussten, was ein wenig an-

strengend war.

Als dieses Programm zu Ende war, hatte ich viele neue Ansichten vom Leben gewonnen und es war meiner Meinung nach einer der besten Programmpunkte, die wir während dieser Woche hatten.

**PHILIP SGARZ**, GRG 1 STUBENBASTEI, WIEN (ÖSTERREICH)



## ERSTER DIALOG MIT POLITIKERN

Als wir den Raum betraten, in dem der Dialog stattfinden sollte, bekamen wir als Erstes einen Anstecker und einen Block für Notizen in die Hand gedrückt. Stifte hatten wir selbst dabei. Die Politiker saßen bereits hinter ihren Tischen. In Rolduc hatten wir schon Fragen vorbereitet, die wir stellen wollten, wie beispielsweise zum Thema Flüchtlinge und Integration. Die Antwort auf die erste Frage dauerte 25 Minuten. Den Inhalt konnte ich mir leider nicht genau behalten, da die nachfolgenden Antworten nicht minder ausführlich ausfielen. Ich weiß noch, dass es etwas mit Flüchtlingen und dem Anschlag in Paris zu tun hatte, der zu dem Zeitpunkt höchst aktuell war. Während des Gesprächs wurde festgemacht, dass auf keinen Fall die Flüchtlinge wegen des Anschlages verantwortlich gemacht werden dürfen, da diese selbst vor Terror geflohen sind und mögliche Terroristen niemals die schwere und gefährliche Reise auf sich nehmen würden, um nach Europa zu kommen. Vielmehr müssen wir zeigen, dass wir uns von dieser Bedrohung nicht einschüchtern lassen und den Hilfe-Suchenden Schutz gewähren können. Es ist keine Lösung, sich nicht mehr auf die Straße oder in die Öffentlichkeit zu trauen und wie ein verängstigter Hund den Schwanz einzuziehen. Stattdessen sollten wir versuchen, die Flüchtlinge zu integrieren und eine starke Gemeinschaft zu bilden.

**Wurde den Deutschen im Dritten Reich nicht auch in den Nachbarstaaten Zuflucht gewährt? Viele Menschen haben dies nicht vergessen, und diese sind es auch, die ehrenamtliche Hilfe anbieten und die Flüchtenden mit offenen Armen empfangen. Wir haben in diesem Projekt erfahren und erlebt, dass alle Menschen, egal aus welchem Land, gleich sind und auch gerne mit Menschen anderer Nationalität Kontakt aufneh-**

men und Freundschaften schließen wollen. Meine Zimmernachbarin aus Russland hat mir einmal gesagt: „Ich habe kein Problem mit Ukrainern, Putin hat ein Problem mit ihnen!“

Ich glaube, genau das wollten die Politiker uns klar machen, während sie ihre langen Reden hielten, die teilweise erst aus dem Deutschen ins Englische übersetzt werden mussten. Leider muss ich sagen, dass diese wichtige Botschaft nur langsam und zäh bei uns angekommen ist, da wenig Information auf den Punkt gebracht zur Sprache gebracht wurde. Anstatt sich brav Notizen zu machen, entstanden die kreativsten Kunstwerke auf den vorher verteilten Blöcken, die allerdings wenig mit dem angesprochenen Thema zu tun hat. Bei mir bestanden die Notizen zum Beispiel darin, dass ich mich gefragt habe, ob die angesprochene Leitkultur denn jetzt mit d oder mit t in der Mitte geschrieben wird... Dennoch glaube ich, dass das wichtigste bei allen von uns angekommen ist, nämlich, dass wir eine offene Gesellschaft sein müssen, die sich auch für benachteiligte oder unterdrückte Völker stark macht. Denn nur so ist es möglich, friedlich und in Freundschaft miteinander zu leben.

**IRMELA WIEGANDT**, EUROPASCHULE HERZOGENRATH (DEUTSCHLAND)

## DIALOGUE WITH REFUGEES

We live in 'the perfect' world, where we don't have time for ourselves and our needs, not to mention for other people.

Most of people will never get a chance to get to know (the downside of life) the other side of coin, to communicate with people who don't have such a bright future. When we entered the school in Herzogenrath, we'd never have guessed what was the situation that we were going to deal with.

**At one moment, we were feeling perfectly relaxed, almost carefree and looked through the world with sparkly eyes, without a single black stain. At very next moment, we experienced something completely new for all of us. The group of refugees from all over the world sat in front of us and started staring at us, cleverly. We were carefully absorbing every movement...**

Children were confused by the situation, maybe even a bit scared with their life situation and uncertain future.

**For me, in that very moment, they were different dimension, a world so far from mine. I looked at them as I was looking through the glass, and behind that glass there was a life which I had a chance to see just on TV.**

Silence. We were all waiting for the first question for these brave people. In my opinion, the situation was a little bit uncomfortable. We started asking questions. The refugees had rarely calm and completed answers. I was astonished by their equanimity and positive attitude about their new life and future, even though they left the old one far behind them. Lots of questions were swarming around my head. I was so curious, but at the same time scared of making a mistake and hurting their feelings by some personal questions.

"What did you carry with you when you left your home?"

"Nothing, just one bag and some biscuits for kids." The moment I heard this answer, I thought, it made me grow up in a second.

Personally, this meeting with refugees is maybe the most important and amazing memory I will take with me from Euriade. I'm infinitely thankful for having experienced this and for making the most of it.

**ANJA BJELOGLAV, GYMNASIUM ZRENJANIN (SERBIA)**

## TANGOX

Nach einem langen Tag war der Besuch der Gruppe „tangoX“ in der Europaschule Herzogenrath ein tolles Erlebnis. Vielleicht war es gerade deshalb so interessant, weil der Tango, welcher ursprünglich aus Argentinien kommt, sich sehr von Musikrichtungen unterscheidet, die wir normalerweise hören. Ich empfand diese ruhige und lebendige Musik zugleich als sehr harmonisch und rhythmisch.

Der Tango entstand erst Ende des 19. Jahrhunderts in Argentinien, ursprünglich von der unteren Bevölkerungsschicht ins Leben gerufen, und erfreut sich mittlerweile auch in Europa großer Beliebtheit. Tango erzählt auch eine Geschichte – diese wurde uns immer vor dem jeweiligen Stück erklärt. Man konnte somit darauf achten und die Handlung mitverfolgen.

Man merkte, dass die Musiker mit Leidenschaft spielten, die Instrumente waren aufeinander abgestimmt und obwohl nur „musiziert“ und nicht gesungen wurde, wurden Emotionen auf die Zuhörer vermittelt. Die Violine ließ die Musik sehr wohlklingend wirken, das Schlagzeug sorgte für die notwendige Rhythmisik, das Klavier empfand ich als sehr passend und natürlich der Bass, der in keiner Band fehlt.

Ich persönlich muss sagen, dass mir dieses Konzert sehr gut gefallen hat. Sehr geschätzt habe ich auch, dass die Gruppe nicht nur bereits existierende Werke vorführt, sondern vor allem auch selbst komponiert und Stücke schreibt.

Denn auch an der Reaktion des Publikums konnte man sehen, dass der Tango nicht zu Unrecht aufgeführt wird.

„Zugabe, Zugabe!“ konnte man im Saal hören. Auch dieser Wunsch wurde uns erfüllt und ich kann definitiv sagen, dass dieses Konzert ein einzigartiger Moment war und ich auch in Zukunft nach dieser Musikrichtung Ausschau halten werde.

**FABIAN HAIDEGGER, PIARISTENGYMNASIUM, WIEN (ÖSTERREICH)**

Ich fand das Tango-Konzert gut. Auch wenn ich normalerweise andere Musik höre, konnte man sich gut darauf einlassen und dabei entspannen. Es war sehr interessant, da die Musiker auch ihre eigenen Lieder komponiert haben. Außerdem war die Kombination der verschiedenen Instrumente gut aufeinander abgestimmt und synchronisiert.

Das Schlagzeug war sehr kraftvoll und die Violine dagegen hatte einen beruhigenden und entspannenden Effekt auf mich. Es wirkte so, als würden die Lieder eine Geschichte erzählen. Ich fand allerdings, dass das Konzert etwas zu lang war, da ich am Ende etwas gelangweilt war. Alles in allem fand ich das Tango-Konzert jedoch sehr interessant und abwechslungsreich.

**CLARA POHLMANN, RHEIN - MAAS GYMNASIUM, AACHEN**

**"Der Tango ist die Leidenschaft des Herzens, die im Lied oder der Straßenmusik geäußert ist, er erzählt über die Einsamkeit und die Leiden des Menschen, der ihn vor sich hin pfeift."** (Nikolas Kokaro)

Am Montag haben wir ein Konzert besucht. Das Konzert fand in Europaschule statt. Den ganzen Abend herrschte eine angenehme Atmosphäre der Musik und der Passion. Wir haben Tango gehört, der von «Tango x» gespielt wurde. Von Anfang an war ich von der Tangomusik begeistert, von dieser leidenschaftlichen und bitteresten Musik. Auf der Bühne waren vier Musiker, die sich aus verschiedenen Richtungen dem argentinischen Tango näherten und von ihm eigene Wege gingen.



Mit ihrer Musik haben sie verschiedene lebenswichtige Themen behandelt. Die Rhythmen des Tangos drangen in unsere Herzen durch. Die Musik lebt in unseren Herzen. Sie ist mit uns überall.

Mir hat am besten Melodie «La Cumparsita» gefallen. Dieses Konzert hat einen lebendigen Eindruck auf mich und natürlich auf alle Jugendlichen gemacht. Die Tangomusik hat mein Herz, meine Seele, Emotionen und Gefühle wiederbelebt. Das waren großartige Momente in meinem Leben, die mir viel Spaß und mich glücklich gemacht haben.

**KSENIIA KOROLEVA, SCHULE 2012, MOSKAU (RUSSLAND)**

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 2016 - AACHEN

## LEBENSHILFE

When my English teacher asked me if I want to go to the special meeting in Netherlands I wasn't really sure if I want to do this, but she convinced me and we took a flight there. It was whole new experience meeting all those people and students there and I liked it a lot!

And there was one special place we went to. It's Lebenshilfe – an organization which helps disabled people, gives them work and treatment. Needless to say, it impressed us a lot. As soon as I was told we were going to some kind of hospital I realized that might be something new in my life. When we arrived and guides started talking about people working here and what exactly are they doing we saw lady who was passing by and

got really scared by amount of students in room, so she started screaming really loud. That was unexpected and unrealistic at first few moments, but then I understood that those guys, these organization doing everything they can to help this kind of people. However, it was scary first time. After that we went to rooms with disabled people to help them out and talk to them. I have never ever experienced something like that before so I was stunned a bit, but guys who worked there interacted with disabled people just if like they would be normal ones, I felt really respectful for them. Me and my German friend helped them out and talked to workers what they think of their job. It was actually really surprising to me that one of

**Werk jij voor de aantrekkelijkste  
werkgever van Limburg? Stem op  
[www.aantrekkelijkstewerkgever.nl/wiertz](http://www.aantrekkelijkstewerkgever.nl/wiertz)**

De verkiezing van de Aantrekkelijkste Werkgever van Limburg is gestart! Wiertz Personeelsdiensten is niet alleen "de grootste familie" van Limburg maar óók Limburgse werkgever. Ben jij tevreden over Wiertz Personeelsdiensten en werk je graag voor ons? Stem!

them, really young one was think of doing this job for the rest of his life! To be honest I would never do this, but he did and felt relieved of his job.

I am sure that Lebenshilfe doing great work in Germany and I think that is refreshing kind of experience for all the youngsters who attended Euriade to go there and meet those disabled people. To add something, I would like Ukraine to learn about this organization and treat mental disabled people just like they do.

**VIKTOR KUDYMENTKO, TECHNICAL LYCEUM NTUU KPI, KYIV (UKRAINE)**

The week of 'Youth in dialog' was indeed exciting for me. I've got a variety of unusual impressions there, and I'm glad to share them in my essay. Different interesting activities we had on the Euriade have influenced me and have made me think about myself and outward things.

One of the brightest events was visiting the center where the disabled people work. I imply, that the day was quite useful for all the participants of the Euriade.

I'd like to start the description of this event by saying that it was really cozy inside the center. The interior was nice and original as in the majority of European buildings. I think, furniture and decorations are important for making the right atmosphere. They influence emotional condition of a person a lot. People who work in that center must feel homeish.

It is also great that the occupants of the center spend their time in such good conditions. They have computers and other modern gadgets. For instance, the guy whose name is Daniel can't speak at all, so he has a special device to text the words he wants to say, then to press the button so the electronic voice say them.

But the thing I liked most of all is that the disabled people are busy with different types of art. Some of them draws pictures, the others play musical instruments or create sculptures from the metal etc. I guess, it is a kind of therapy for invalid people. It is important for them to express themselves somehow, and the stuff of this wonderful center help them with it.

Before we had gone to the center for the disabled people we had divided into groups to be busy with different activities with the occupants of Lebenshilfe. I decided to join the art group, which was going to draw together with them. I thought it would be something new and unusual for me.

**Moreover, my suggestion was that drawing**

would unify us and help us to come to an understanding. And I was definitely right! I felt truly comfortable and self-confidently whilst drawing in the group with guys from different countries and with disabled people. We all understood each other perfectly although some of us didn't speak German or English. We helped each other with the translation and didn't have any discomfort. The organizers, who were by the way really careful and helpful, gave us a special task: each of us had a sheet of paper on which we should draw something connected with friendship and then give it other person so it continues the picture. In the end we've got many bright colorful pictures, and each of them was unique and different from the others. We were allowed to take one of the pictures with us so it would remind us about one day of that great week.

I was really glad to communicate with disabled people, furthermore, this unusual way. I felt equality between us, and I hope, they felt it too. I'm glad we had such a successful dialogue, which was our main goal. It was just unforgettable experience for me, and I'm thankful to organizers of the Euriade for this unique opportunity.

**ARINA VORONTSOVA, SCHOOL 2121, MOSCOW (RUSSIA)**

One day we were at the "Lebenshilfe" in Aachen. It's an organisation where disabled people can work to ear money. It's also a place where they can meet each other, and they also get their food there. We arrived at the Lebenshilfe in the morning and we worked for about two or three hours. I worked in the department for packaging. They work in different steps from preparing the box to filling in the chocolate and so on until the box is closed. First I had to weigh the boxes because they have to look if everything is filled in and if they filled in the right amount of stuff. I worked there with three other students from Germany. For about one hour I had to weigh the boxes, and after that I changed place with one of the employees. Then I had to prepare the boxes, and there was a big difference between the two sides. The tables stood like a "U", and at the left side the employees were quiet and didn't talk very much with each other, but on the right side they were really talkative. I asked them some questions and I learned that maybe they are disabled, but they like the same things we do, like soccer, music or comics. It was really nice to work with them and it felt like you have already worked

there for a long, long time because they included us really well and they also spoke with us in a really open way. It was a great experience and I've got so much respect for the persons who work there. I want to say thank you for this opportunity, I would always go there again.

**PASCAL STEMPIN**, GUSTAV-HEINEMANN-GESAMTSCHULE ALSDORF (D)

The trip to the Lebenshilfe in Aachen was one of the most interesting trips that we took part in. Before going inside I started thinking about how the disabled people would react to us walking around, watching them work and talking to them. Would they even be talking to us?

When we entered we were welcomed by the manager of the Lebenshilfe, who split the group into four smaller groups. I was in the Construction Area together with a boy from Austria, named Fabian.

When we walked through the door into the working area, everybody was already working and they seemed to be really into their work.

**Their advisor came to us and started to introduce us to the people there and I was really surprised by how excited they were to see us and enthusiastic to show us their work. We were just standing there, chatting and admiring how accurate they did their jobs. Everyone had a different job, depending on how mentally disabled they were. They all knew exactly what they had to do and they seemed so happy to actually do something productive and they were really proud to show us the final product.**

Once we talked to everyone, the bell rang, which meant that it was dinner time. During dinner we sat together with the others from the Construction Area and just ate together, had a chat and laughed. It was great to see how they all got along perfectly, mocking each other and making jokes. We felt like we had known these people for a long time, because it was so easy to talk to them.

After dinner we went to the Construction Area again and while walking there I noticed that all these people just seemed so happy, they always smiled at me and when I smiled back they came up to me and we started to chat. They weren't afraid of talking to strangers, they were just really interested in us and the program Euriade.

**The last hour we spent at the Lebenshilfe was a lot of fun, because we started to get long better with every minute passing by. When our time had come and we had to leave, I almost felt sad leav-**

**ving the place. It was just a great experience to see how people who are disabled are still able to create amazing things and how positive they are.**

**JULE NEISS**, KREISGYMNASIUM HEINSBERG (DEUTSCHLAND)

Am Dienstag besuchten wir Lebenshilfe in Aachen. Es hat auf mich einen riesigen Eindruck gemacht. Ich war in der Kunstgruppe, und wir malten und zeichneten mit den behinderten Menschen ZUSAMMEN verschiedene abstrakte Bilder zum Thema „Freundschaft“. Dann konnte man ein Bild mitnehmen. Wir hatten einen kleinen Rundgang im Kunstbereich. Man zeigte uns sehr schöne Bilder von behinderten Menschen, die dort tätig sind, und die kleinen Arbeiten, die die Emotionen und Gefühle der Künstler widerspiegeln. Ich fand diese Gemälde eindrucksvoll und einzigartig. Im Studio herrschte Ruhe, wir brauchten keine Worte und Sprache für Kommunikation, unsere Sprache war die Kunst, die uns vereinigte. Alle waren auf der Arbeit konzentriert. Ich habe zum ersten Mal versucht, die abstrakten Bilder zu zeichnen. Es war merkwürdig, weil man nur die Emotionen zeichnen sollte. Es war sehr interessant, später andere Bilder, Gefühle anderer Menschen anzuschauen. Es waren keine gleichen Bilder, obwohl es um einfache Sache ging, hatte jeder seine eigene Vorstellung, was die Freundschaft ist. Wer sich mit der Kunst beschäftigt, versteht, dass man alles in der ganzen Welt vergisst, wenn man etwas schafft. Es gibt nur DU und das weiße BLATT, auf dem du alles zeichnest, was dich bewegt. Nachdem alle beendet hatten zu zeichnen, hatten wir ein wenig Zeit. Jemand hat vorgeschlagen, Klavier zu spielen, wir haben zusammen musiziert.

**Ich war früher niemals in einer solchen Einrichtung, deshalb wusste ich nicht, was mich dort erwarten konnte. Dank dem Besuch der Lebenshilfe Aachen habe ich verstanden, dass die Kunst Wunder vollbringen kann. Sie hilft uns den Weg zum Anderen zu finden und mit den Lebenschwierigkeiten zurechtzukommen.**

**YANA GUDKOVA**, SCHULE 2012, MOSKAU (RUSSLAND)

When I read the programme of the Euriade for the first time I was pleasantly surprised to see the visit to the Lebenshilfe in Aachen on there. My sister had participated in the Euriade two years before

*Continued on page 25 ...*

# MIT DEM „ANDEREN“ IN KONTAKT ...

LEBENSHELFE, 2015

*Im Rahmen des Projekts „Jugend im Dialog“ besuchten junge Menschen aus aller Welt nun bereits zum neunten Mal die Werkstätten der Lebenshilfe Aachen. Viele der 15- bis 18-Jährigen kommen dabei zum ersten Mal mit Menschen mit Behinderung unmittelbar in Kontakt.*

Auch beim jüngsten Besuch im November 2015 arbeiteten die Jugendlichen einen Vormittag lang mit den Beschäftigten der Werkstatt zusammen. Im gemeinsamen Tun kamen sie, manchmal auch ohne Worte, ins Gespräch und gewannen neue Einblicke in eine bisher oft fremde Welt. In der Kunstwerkstatt ging es dabei wie immer besonders kreativ zu. Zehn der Schüler wirkten hier an einem Gemeinschaftswerk zum Thema Freundschaft mit. Philipp Sgarz, 17-jähriger Schüler aus Wien, zeichnete einen Baum als Symbol der Freundschaft und des Vertrauens. Der 16-jährige Sven Aretz hatte jede Menge Smileys gemalt, brachte damit seine Gedanken zum gelungenen Miteinander zum Ausdruck. „Ich habe heute zum Beispiel einen autistischen Jungen kennengelernt, der zwar etwas eingeschränkt ist und nicht spricht, aber dafür ganz wunderbar Keyboard spielt. Er hat eben andere Fähigkeiten als ich“, er-

klärte Sven. Der Austausch untereinander, auch zu ganz normalen Alltagsthemen oder zur aktuellen Flüchtlingsproblematik, gefiel allen gut.

Werner Janssen, Vorstandsvorsitzender der Stichting Euriade, war begeistert: „Idee und Ziel der Euriade ist es, die jungen Leute mit dem „Anderen“ in Kontakt zu bringen. Das gelingt hier seit zehn Jahren vortrefflich.“ Konkret gehe es darum, dass die Teilnehmer die Bedeutung von Verständnis, Toleranz, Respekt und vor allem Verantwortung erleben sollen.

Die 16-jährige Tamara aus Maastricht und der 18-jährige Bogan aus Serbien halfen im Verpackungsbereich der Werkstatt beim Etikettieren von Süßigkeiten, gemeinsam mit zehn anderen jungen Leuten. „Einmal mit Menschen zu kommunizieren, die sonst nicht wie wir kommunizieren, war ein neues Erlebnis. Ich bin zum ersten Mal auf Menschen mit einem Handicap wie Autisten getroffen“, erzählt Tamara. Es sei wichtig, alle gleich und vor allem normal zu behandeln, betont Bogan. „Es ist sehr interessant und spannend, etwas Zeit miteinander zu verbringen. Sie sind nicht wirklich anders als wir, bloß weil sie eine Be-



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hinderung haben. Wir können viel von ihnen lernen", stellte Bogan beeindruckt fest.

Für die Menschen mit Behinderung war der Besuch der Euriade auch dieses Mal eine große Bereicherung. „Ich freue mich jedes Jahr auf den Tag. Vor allem die Zeichnungen zum Thema Freundschaft haben mir gut gefallen“, betonte der 34-jährige Künstler Guido Käller.

Aus Sicht von Norbert Zimmermann, Geschäftsführer der Lebenshilfe-Werkstatt, soll die Zusammenarbeit mit „Jugend im Dialog“ auch in Zukunft ein fester Bestandteil im Jahreskalender sein. „Es ist einfach wunderbar, junge Menschen aus den verschiedensten Kulturen und Ländern zu Gast haben und sie im echten Dialog mit Menschen mit Behinderung zu erleben.“ Am Anfang noch ungewöhnlich und mit reichlich Aufregung verbunden, sei der Besuch mittlerweile für alle Beteiligten im Haus beinahe Routine. „Einen schöneren Beleg für Inklusion und gelebte Normalität kann man sich kaum wünschen“, so Norbert Zimmermann.



me and she had told me about it, about this trip in particular. She had told me that it was something you don't normally get to experience, so naturally I was very interested to see this for myself.

The day before our visit to the Lebenshilfe, some people of the Lebenshilfe visited us, among them were quite some artists. That same day we already looked up some of the works on the site from the Lebenshilfe, to see what the people we had talked to worked on. This only made me want to see the artworks in real life even more, so when the next day we had the chance to do an art workshop I took my chance.

Together with my group I went into the art room, on every wall there were paintings or drawings and it was amazing to see. We got to look at all the artworks with their artists right by them. You could see they were very proud and they should be, there were pieces more beautiful than anything I could have made. I think I took more pictures there than on any of the other excursions.

**After taking everything in we took our places at one of the tables and it was our turn to create something. At each table students from the Euriade and disabled people worked together on drawings, which we got to take home at the end of the day. With the signature from everyone that had worked on it of course!**

During the workshop we were all very focused, meaning that we didn't communicate with one another much. That changed during lunch, we had the time and freedom to get to know each other and discover the many different people there. It was a very special day and it was great to see how universal art is, everyone can make and enjoy it.

**LOES VAN DER VEEKE, SINTERMEERTENCOLLEGE HEERLEN (NL)**

In den Werkstätten der Lebenshilfe bekommen erwachsene Behinderte jeglicher Art die Gelegenheit, einer geregelten Arbeit nachzugehen, die ihren Fähigkeiten und Bedürfnissen angepasst ist. Die meisten von uns haben aber von diesen Dingen wenig Ahnung und nur sehr selten persönliche Erfahrungen.

Unser Tag in der Werkstatt der Lebenshilfe Aachen begann mit einer kleinen Verspätung. Unsere komplette Gruppe von etwa 40 Teilnehmern wurde in mehrere Kleingruppen aufgeteilt. Jede einzelne Gruppe wurde dann verschiedenen Aufgabenbereichen zugeteilt. Die Teilnehmer meiner Gruppe sollten zum Beispiel beim Verpacken ver-

schiedener Schokoladen der Firma Lindt mithelfen. Nur Verpacken, nicht Vorkosten war angesagt. Zu Beginn war ich sehr skeptisch, ob und wie das mit den vielen Behinderten zusammen funktionieren würde, doch das stellte sich doch sehr schnell als relativ unproblematisch heraus.

**Vor Arbeitsbeginn wurden uns noch alle erforderlichen Sicherheitsvorkehrungen und Hygienevorschriften erklärt. Natürlich wurden wir währenddessen sehr genau beäugt. Der Erstkontakt mit den Beschäftigten, die alle in irgendeiner Weise körperlich und/oder geistig behindert und nur einfach im Lernen sehr zurückgeblieben waren, fiel total unterschiedlich aus. Manche waren geradezu euphorisch und überglücklich über unseren Besuch, manche hingegen aber auch sehr skeptisch oder sogar grimmig oder verärgert. Doch sie waren alle ausnahmslos sehr aufgeregt. Die Überglücklichen kamen meistens sofort zu uns, stellten sich vor und uns Fragen oder begrüßten uns ganz einfach. Und die Zurückhaltenden tauten im Laufe des Vormittags dann auch auf.**

Die Arbeiten, die wir dann alle zusammen machen mussten, waren nicht wirklich körperlich schwierig oder anspruchsvoll, sondern einfach nur monoton. Ich war mit der „schwierigen“ Aufgabe betraut worden, farbige Sticker auf die Rückseite einer Schachtel zu pressen. Diese Arbeit verrichtete ich dann also für die nächsten drei Stunden.

Nun mag man den Eindruck bekommen, dass es sich nach drei langweiligen und anstrengenden Stunden anhört, aber das war ganz und gar nicht der Fall. Ich hatte nämlich den Thomas direkt neben. Thomas ist wie alle anderen in der Lebenshilfe zwar auch behindert, aber er ist ausgesprochen kommunikativ. Die Gespräche mit ihm haben mir viel Freude bereitet und ich hatte auch das Gefühl, dass Thomas ebenfalls viel Spaß an unserer Konversation hatte. Am Ende unseres kurzen Arbeitstages gab es nämlich noch eine kurze Besprechung und da verriet mir einer der Betreuer, dass er Thomas und die anderen schon lange nicht mehr so glücklich gesehen habe, was mich natürlich umso mehr freute.

Gelegenheiten, unsere Erlebnisse zu besprechen und Revue passieren zu lassen, gab es trotz des vollgepackten Programms noch reichlich. Als unser geplanter Aufenthalt sich dann dem Ende neigte und der Abschied von den anderen letztendlich anstand, wurden wir von allen eingeladen, einfach irgendwann „mal vorbeizukommen“, worüber man sich dort sehr freuen würde.

**Und so habe ich mir auch fest vorgenommen, so bald wie möglich dieser Einladung nachzu-**

kommen und „dort vorbei zu kommen“. Es ist ein schönes Gefühl, anderen eine Freude zu bereiten alleine durch die simple Anwesenheit.

**BRUCE BIEN, GYMNASIUM HERZOGENRATH (DEUTSCHLAND)**

An einem Tag der Euriade sind wir alle gemeinsam – auf zwei Standorte aufgeteilt – zur Lebenshilfe gefahren, um dort mit behinderten Menschen zusammenzuarbeiten und mit ihnen in einen Dialog zu treten. Es hat sehr großen Spaß gemacht, die Arbeit mit Behinderten kennenzulernen. Die Betreuer dort sowie die Menschen mit einer Behinderung selber haben uns sehr freundlich empfangen. Wir wurden nach der Begrüßung in Kleingruppen aufgeteilt und gingen dann gemeinsam zu ihren Arbeitsbereichen. Dort haben sie uns freudig ihre Arbeit präsentiert. Der Gruppenleiter hat uns dann die Arbeit genau erklärt, und wir durften ihnen helfen. Mittags haben wir dort sogar gegessen und saßen gemeinsam an einer großen Tafel; dabei sind viele sehr interessante Gespräche entstanden. Sie hatten sehr viel zu erzählen. Es war rührend zu sehen, wie sehr sich diese Menschen auf den Dialog mit uns gefreut haben und wie stolz sie darüber waren, uns ihre Arbeit zu demonstrieren.

**Ich würde sagen, dass uns dieser Ausflug als Euriade-Gruppe viel enger zusammen geschweißt hat.**

Alles im allem war es ein gelungenes Erlebnis, welches mich sehr bereichert hat. Mir ist bewusst geworden, wie wichtig ist es ist, dass diese Menschen eine Arbeit und damit einen strukturierten Tagesablauf haben. Die Gelegenheit, mit diesen Menschen in Kontakt zu treten, war ein für mich persönlich sehr bewegend.

Auf dem Weg nach Hause haben wir uns ausgiebig noch einmal darüber ausgetauscht und waren uns über unsere Eindrücke sehr einig. Insofern hat uns das Treffen mit den Menschen der Lebenshilfe also nicht nur zu einem Dialog mit ihnen, sondern auch zu reflektierenden Gesprächen untereinander veranlasst.

**MAIKE BOCK, GUSTAV-HEINEMANN-GESELLSCHAFTSCHULE ALSDORF (D)**

## THE DIALOGUE OF DANCE

On the evening of November 11, we were asked to come to the Aula Minor by Professor Werner. We had only heard that we would be dancing and about 99% of the teenagers were not looking forward to it. That afternoon we went to Aachen to speak with and help the physically challenged and afterwards we went to the commercial center. When it was time to go back to Rolduc, the buses hadn't arrived yet so we were forced to wait outside in the snow for 15 minutes. By the time we got back at Rolduc, everyone was so exhausted and the thought of having to dance still was not helping the mood.

When we got inside, we enjoyed a performance by the Theaterschule Aachen and then it was time for us to dance. The chairs were shoved to the sides to make room and a beautiful young woman went up on the stage. She introduced herself. Her name was Thanique Moonen and was nineteen years old. Her partner was supposed to be there with her, but due to problems he couldn't be present to help her. She and her partner had been dancing Latin-American styles (such as Salsa, Samba, Rumba etc.) for two years and they even managed to become World Champions. After introducing herself she showed us a clip of their World Championship performance. During this clip it was evident that they were extremely talented.

She started explaining Salsa first and we did a basic front and back step. When everyone could do that, she showed us how to add a turn and how to go the sides. Convinced that we could all do it, she told us to partner up. Partnering up with a person from another country who you didn't even know all that well was intimidating and at the same time was very exhilarating. It was just another way to get to know the other person better. After we did the Salsa, Thanique taught us how to do the Cha Cha. It was really quite impressive how well she could explain things to us even though she didn't have a partner. After every step she taught us, she made sure we understood her and if we had questions she was more than glad to listen to us and answer or guide us through the steps.

After we could do the Cha Cha, we had to partner up again. At this point everyone was having a ton of fun. The exhaustion from earlier was completely forgotten. Everyone started dancing with



MONDAY NOVEMBER 23.: DIALOGUE WITH  
MAYORESS HILDE SCHEIDT IN AACHEN

one another; almost no one stuck to the same partner. By the time it was 10 pm we changed the music from Latin to more electronic tracks. We weren't just dancing Latin anymore, but were dancing and communicating through our bodies instead of words. Even Thanique stayed to dance and have fun with us, which we really appreciated, because no other instructor would have done that. Turns out Latin wasn't the only type of dance Thanique was good at.

When we talked about our lessons in Salsa and Cha Cha the next day, everyone spoke very positively about it. It was a lot of fun to see who was secretly really good at dancing and who really wasn't. We got to know new sides of each other, ones we normally would never have seen.

All in all it was a wonderful experience. No one expected it to be so much fun and so educational at the same time. I certainly wouldn't mind doing it again. The instructor was so nice and it was great that she actually listened to us. She even complimented some of us on our dancing. And hey, it certainly doesn't hurt to know how to salsa.

KRISTIE JOYTJOKRO, HENRY N. HASSANKHAN SCHOLENG, (SURINAME)

noch ein weiterer Punkt auf der Tagesordnung. Geschafft von dem langen Tag voller Diskussionen und Erlebnissen hofften wir alle nur noch auf die warmen Betten und etwas Schlaf. Aber da war ja noch dieser Tanzkurs, Tanzen - was für ein Altertümliches Ding und der Titel „Dialogue of Dance“. Dementsprechend standen wir nun alle im Raum und fühlten uns irgendwie ein bisschen fehl am Platz. Doch dann kam Thanique Moonen in den Raum, unsere Tanzlehrerin, gegen unsere Erwartungen keine Strenge alte Dame, sondern eine lockere junge Frau. Die ersten Schritte waren zwar noch nicht ganz so elegant wie erhofft, aber nach ein paar Minuten wurden die Bewegungen flüssiger. Doch nun kam das, was wir bis dahin verdrängt hatten: Die Partnerwahl! Bis dahin tänzelten wir alle jeder für sich durch den großen Saal, doch Tanzen ist nunmal nur als Paar wirklich elegant. Also standen wir jetzt da; jeder wusste eigentlich schon genau mit wem er tanzen wollte, aber fragen ist da schon eine andere Sache. Nachdem diese Hürde mit viel Mut überwunden worden war, verstanden wir langsam den zu anfangs so belächelten Titel „Dialogue of Dance“. Endlich hatten wir etwas, das jeder gleich gut konnte. Eine Österreicherin lachte zusammen mit dem polnischen Tanzpartner auf Englisch über den Hüftschwung des Anderen. Auch wenn es komisch klingt: Tanzen verbindet. Spätestens jetzt war jeder begeistert, egal wie groß das Talent ist. Hauptachse man hat zusammen Spaß. Und schon wieder bemerkten wir, dass Dialog so viel mehr ist als nur reden.

MORITZ BREUER, RHEIN-MAAS-GYMNASIUM AACHEN (DEUTSCHLAND)

## TANZUNTERRICHT

Am zweiten Abend stand nach einem langen Tag voller verschiedener Aktivitäten und eindrücken

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2016 - EIFEL

## VOGELSANG - A RIVETING MEETING

I think that everyone had different expectations regarding the Euriade festival, but I did not expect the week at Rolduc to be one of the best of my life. Guess what, it was one of the best weeks of my life, not because of the travelling to a country I've never been to before, or getting away from school for a week, but because of the great and amazing people I met and the friendships I've formed.

During the week we spent at Rolduc, we visited some amazing places like the Burg Rode, Vogelsang, Monschau and many others. Vogelsang was a very interesting and intriguing place, I had no information on. During the guided visit, I found out that Vogelsang was one of the three "Order Castels" built by the Nazi Party before the Second World War. There the future Nazi leaders would be trained.

What amazed me was the architecture of the compound which reminded me of a prison with its enormous tower watching over the prisoners, the accurate geometrical disposition of the facilities and the techniques the Nazis used to employ in order to train and educate the future officers.

When we visited Vogelsang we didn't have much time to explore the place, but I think that no matter the time spent there, the overall feeling of the place remains the same: a grim and yet grandiose space, a reminder of one of the darkest hours of humanity.

OCTAVIAN MARINESCU,

COLEGIUL NATIONAL LIVIU REBREANU BISTRITA (ROMANIA)

place has been frozen up in the 17th century. The half-timbered houses, the ornaments of the fronts, the precise panelling on the house doors and the windows in several sizes and colours... all this makes that place so particular. Only the home for senior citizens stands out in that idyllic picture: it has been built recently and it is modern.

We were divided into four groups - two of them were with German-speaking guides and two with English-speaking - which made the visit of Monschau easier. It was very pleasant to stroll through the narrow streets with young people from all around the world we had already made friends with. Our guide was friendly and woke up our interest in that place. She taught us a lot about Monschau and knew a few stories. Unfortunately, it was raining and hailing most of the time (an absolutely new event for the South-Africans), but we carried the visit out normally. We went into a church called St. Mariä Geburt, it was very beautiful and impressive. The red house (das Rote Haus) is the symbol of Monschau. Also, the weaver's fountain (der Weberbrunnen) on the market square is remarkable. After all, Monschau became enriched with the textile industry... The guide explained to us that the houses are built on a slate ground, so they don't have basements. Monschau is built on a mountain, that's why the streets snake their way over the steep slope. The houses are quite small and tall, and the stairs are narrow. Besides the number of the windows was a sign of prosperity: the more windows one had, the more rich he was. I wish we had seen the buildings also from the inside.

After the guiding tour we walked around with friends through the city. First of all we went into a beautiful classic café where we drank very tasty hot chocolate to warm ourselves. After that we went into several small shops. The most colourful sweetshop of the town enchanted us, and of course we couldn't resist the gummy bears and the jelly snakes. Also, there was a store in which every mustard sorts under the sun were being sold. After all, mustard is a speciality of Monschau. Monschau is definitely a remarkable town and

## THE CITY OF MONSCHAU

We visited the beautiful city of Monschau on Wednesday afternoon. We finally arrived after a long bus trip through the Eifel. It looks like this



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25. - VOGELSANG



WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 25. - MONSCHAU

attracts a lot of tourists every year. It is a symbol of the Eifel and I think everyone enjoyed it. The guiding tour was interesting and more enriching than I thought. We had not particularly much free time, but it was way enough to make our own impression of the city and to see the best cafés and shops. In the evening we went back to Rolduc.

**SOPHIE GROTE**, COLLEGE NOTRE-DOME, GEMMENICH (BELGIUM)

Der Ausflug in die schöne Stadt Monschau war für mich ein Ereignis, bei dem wir näher zusammen gerückt sind. Allein bei der Busfahrt hatten wir so Spaß, dass die zweistündige Fahrt schnell vorüber war. Es wurde viel miteinander geredet und gelacht. An der Stadtführung fand ich etwas schade, dass unsere Gruppe getrennt wurde. So wurde uns etwas die Gelegenheit genommen, mit allen zu reden. Das aber nötig wegen der Sprache. So haben sich immer kleinere Gruppchen gebildet, die die ganz Zeit zusammen waren.

Nach der Führung hatten wir Zeit, um Monschau zu erkunden. Ich hätte es schön gefunden, wenn die große Gruppe irgendetwas zusammen gemacht hätte, aber es haben sich direkt kleine Gruppen gebildet und man hat sich automatisch nicht so richtig dazu gehörig gefühlt.

**Es ist nicht so, dass wir überhaupt nicht mit den anderen in Kontakt gekommen sind – im Gegenteil. Es wurde sehr viel geredet und man hat sich vielen Menschen von überall auf der Welt ausgetauscht.**

Aber bei diesen Ausflügen ist das alles ein wenig verloren gegangen – also habe ich mit einer kleinen Gruppe in einem kleinen Café die Zeit totgeschlagen.

Alles in allem empfand ich Monschau als eine gemütliche kleine Stadt, in der sich die Möglichkeiten, was das Erkunden angeht, aber in Grenzen halten...

Ich persönlich hätte es schöner gefunden, wenn man sich in einer größeren Gruppe in ein kleines Café gequetscht hätte, anstatt durch den Regen zu laufen, aber es war trotzdem interessant und auf jeden Fall eine coole Erfahrung.

**MILENA OSTERMANN**, EUROPASCHULE HERZGENRATH (DEUTSCHLAND)

## DAY IN MONSCHAU

**Our visit to Monschau was for me the most inspiring and enjoyable visit during my stay in the Netherlands.**

The tour was great just like our guide - we were shown all important streets and places and were told about funny and unusual facts about the town. The shape of the city hasn't been hardly changed in the last three centuries and its uniqueness was preserved - you will pass many romantic spots. Halfway the trail you can enjoy a nice terrace with a babbling river as background.

In brief, this is the town with a rich past and lively present. At the time we started the tour, it started snowing. Just looking at a wild waterfall and snow at the same time told us enough about the interesting flora of this region. We left with an impression of serenity and tranquility this small town gave us.

**INES ŠOMORAI**, ZRENJANINSKA GIMNAZIJA (SERBIA)

# GUITAR CONCERT

To begin with, I really enjoy listening to music. I prefer different kinds of music especially I like guitar sound. Before visiting this concert I thought that classical music is boring. When I was going to Burg Rode I couldn't imagine how wrong I had been. This concert changed my opinion cardinally.

Classical music has always concerned me. As for me, national music is always interesting. Each country has got its own unique songs. I am convinced that national music gives impression and helps to make opinion of the whole country with long history and ancient traditions.

Frankly speaking, German classical music really surprised me. It is an unusual melody with the sheer tune. It was stunner!

When we came to the concert hall we saw the place with the prepared musical instruments. The audience took their seats and we all were in anticipation of something magical. I felt very friendly and solemn atmosphere at the same time. When Rasmus Vamos Fecher started playing I couldn't believe it. One man was playing like a whole orchestra! It was difficult to understand what those sounds really were.

I will never forget Jacob Wagner's voice. It really amazed me. His voice is strong, excellent and clear. His emotions astonished me.

**These people changed my imagination and opinion about opera and classical music.**

Now I know that listening to it can be pleasant, interesting and exciting. The guitar concert was the best way to finish the day.

I want to say "Thank you" to Euriade organizers for this unforgettable mood!

**EKATERINA PAKHOMOVA, SCHOOL 2121, MOSCOW (RUSSIA)**

On Wednesday, November 25th we visited the Burg Rode castle. We had a guitar concert there. The guitarist's name is Rasmus Vamos. In the beginning, he was playing alone. His performance was great. I personally got much pleasure because he was playing very great music. He performed such music compassions of Franz Schubert, Giulio Regondi. After, a singer, Jacob Wagner, joined to him. I was really enjoyed Jacob's solo and Rasmus' guitar playing. When I found out that they were from different countries I was confused because they looked like old friends. The atmosphere of the evening was gorgeous: we were enjoying melody of the guitar and opera singing in the old castle in that evening. They showed a great duet of an instrument and a voice: they were complementing each other very tactfully and dynamically. The concert touched us upon the issue of the Dialogue of Music. So, I was really thankful to Rasmus and Jacob for their Musical Dialogue. I will never forget that day.

**KIRILL EFIMOV, DIAGHILEV SCHOOL, PERM (RUSSIA)**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 2016 - MAASTRICHT**

# MARGRATEN

From the moment our bus slowly drove into the American war graveyard, you could feel a sort of tension starting to form inside the bus. Everyone was suddenly eerily quiet and maybe even a bit nervous to get off the bus.

**For me, the feeling of stepping off the bus was pretty intense, it was almost as if entering the graveyard came with an instant feeling of grief, compassion and maybe even guilt.**

The sight of all the crosses and David-stars representing the fallen soldiers left a heavy impression

on me. While walking through the fields I realized for the first time ever and could see for myself, the price that came with the freedom of Europe and its inhabitants after the war.

What I also found quite impressing, or even surreal, was to see that people still came to put flowers at the graves of the soldiers in commemoration of their relatives. Even after we left the graveyard, and were already on our way to Maastricht, you could still sense that some people were having a hard time to take in the whole experience of the



graveyard which lay already far behind them.

TAMARA GOLDENBERG, SINT-MAARTENS-COLLEGE MAASTRICHT (NL)

There was a cheerful atmosphere on the way to Margraten, most of us were chatting and laughing as we often did throughout this week. Nobody knew how long the drive would last when suddenly the voice of Werner Janssen, the organizer of the Euriade, sounded through the bus. We knew that we were coming closer to the cemetery and it was this particular moment that changed our behaviour. The conversations became more silent and more serious and when we were driving through the park, a well kept spacious lawn that leads to the cemetery, the atmosphere changed again; it was silent and prayerful and everyone was deep in thought.

We all were concerned that we would spend only a few minutes here, but we did not expect them to be so intensive.

All of us were staring through the windows of our bus when we came closer in order to get the best view on what was coming. It took more time than I expected until we finally arrived at the monument and for the first time the giant size of it presented itself. I remember that I was overwhelmed by the impressive appearance which is not comparable to the smaller military cemeteries I have seen already.

#### We dismounted the bus. It was silent.

We entered a huge almost empty space, the Court of Honor. Both the floor and the wall at the left and the right side are made of sandstones. In

the middle of this space there is a huge pool filled with water that seems almost black because it reflects the chapel tower and forms a contrast to the bright colours of the stones that dominate the ambience.

Also the large chapel tower behind the pool is made of the stones with a black statue of a woman and tree birds in front of it. A writing on the chapel tower says "Each for his own memorial earned praise that will never die and with it the grandest of all sepulchres not that in which his mortal bones are laid but a home in the minds of men."

From this perspective we were not able to see the tombs yet and I spent some time walking next to the walls and reading some of the countless names of 1.722 American missing who gave their lives in the service of their country and now rest in unknown graves. Because time was short I did not spend time walking to the opposite wall but followed the others who were on the way to the graves. I passed a few steps and entered another spacious lawn.

This area was not empty. I had to stop for a moment since I was shocked by the amount of crosses which stood orderly in rows of hundreds of metres next to and behind each other. By having a closer look I also spotted some graves that were not formed like a cross but were decorated with the Star of David.

We split up in smaller groups and walked between the graves. I did not want to touch the lawn on which the tombs were placed so I did not leave the paths. I read some of the names, military ranks, corps, states and dates of death. It is not easy to describe how I felt. Sad, confused, prayerful?

I did not count the graves but I know that there are 8,301 in total, 1,722 listed as buried in unknown graves' and hundreds who died when World War II was almost over.

**It came to my mind that these are not the only victims of the war. How many would there be if they also included soldiers from other countries, soldiers who did not die right here in this area? How many if there were also the millions of civilians, women, children and older people?**

I realized that all these people had to die in order to enable us to live in freedom. The wind became a bit stronger and I saw the American flag waving on another tower. I turned around because we had to meet at the bus again.

These minutes were not Youth in Dialogue but Youth in Silence. But at the same time it did not matter from which country we were we all had the same thought: Nothing in the world is worth it to cost so many lives!

This experience bound us all together and I was not longer one girl from Germany, I was member of a big group.

THE EURIADE FAMILY

REBECCA STOLLENWERK, KREISGYMNASIUM HEINSBERG (GERMANY)



## VISITING THE „NETHERLANDS AMERICAN CEMETERY AND MEMORIAL”

Before going to Maastricht, we visited an American military cemetery near Margraten in the south of the province of Limburg. Almost all of us were really looking forward to getting to know Maas-

tricht, but before that, our buses stopped for a short break. At first this did not appear to be a particularly interesting place to visit; only a graveyard, after all.

But the moment I got off the bus, my opinion changed drastically. Just ahead of us was a huge area surrounded by marble walls and filled with thousands and thousands of names of soldiers who died in the invasion of the Limburg area and north-western Europe. At the far end of the court a stunning tower raised up to the sky with a small chapel inside.

**Walking slowly towards the tower and looking at all the names of all those young men who were sent to war by their country and have never returned, I was deeply moved. Who were they? Many of them must have been the same age as I am now. What about their families? In the chapel, a group of soldiers was honoring the dead and a couple of tourists were walking around the area, but I could see in their faces the reverence that the place injected into their minds. The actual cemetery was located behind the square. With over 8000 gravestones all looking alike, for me personally, this was the most touching and emotional place we've been to during the Euriade.**

Even though we only spent 15 minutes at that stunning place, I am sure this experience will remain in remembrance for many years to come, not only for me but also for my fellow students who became my friends during the Euriade.

MICHAEL POLEDNICZEK, PIARISTENGYMNASIUM, VIENNA (AUSTRIA)

## MAASTRICHT

Ich weiß nicht, ob man noch eine solche Stadt finden kann. Das ist ein einzigartiger Ort mit ihrer angenehmen Atmosphäre, wo alte Häuser neben modernen Geschäften sind. Und noch eine Besonderheit ist, dass die Stadt in Nähe von Belgien, nur 3 Kilometer entfernt, liegt. Wichtig zu sagen, Maastricht ist die Hauptstadt der niederländischen Provinz Limburg und eine der ältesten Städte der Niederlande.

Maastricht nimmt mit 1660 unter staatlichem Denkmalschutz stehenden Gebäuden nach Amsterdam einen zweiten Platz in den Niederlanden ein. Unter anderen zählt die Stadt zwei romanische Kirchen, sieben gotische Kirchen und Kapellen, mehrere barocke und klassizistische Kirchen, so

wie auch ein paar interessante moderne Kirchen. Zum Beispiel, wir haben ein Kathedrale gesehen, der in Stadtmitte sich befindet, funktioniert heute aber nicht. Innerhalb herrschen Ruhe und Stille. Noch eine von vielen Sehenswürdigkeiten heißt Sint Servaasbrug. Das ist eine Brücke zwischen alten und neuen Stadtteilen. Dort konnten wir wunderbare Fotos machen.

Nach unserem Aufenthalt in der Stadt besuchten wir Regierungsgebäude Maastricht. Dort gab es eine Möglichkeit Herr Bovens, den königlichen Botschafter kennen zu lernen. Er hielt eine Ansprache und beantwortete einige Fragen von uns.

Zum Schluss möchte ich noch sagen, dass ich in Maastricht zurückkommen will und jetzt nicht für paar Stunde, aber den ganzen Tag durch die Stadt bummeln und manchmal verschiedene Geschäfte besuchen.

Ich bin sehr dankbar, an der Euriade teilgenommen haben zu dürfen. Wir haben viele Erfahrungen gesammelt, neue Freundschaften geschlossen und hatten eine unvergessliche Woche, an die ich mich mein ganzes Leben erinnern werde.

**SOFIA KVASOVA, SCHULE 2012, MOSKAU, RUSSLAND**



## DIALOG MIT THEO BOVENS IN MAASTRICHT

Theo Bovens ist seit 2011 Kommissar des Königs (Gouverneur) von Limburg, der südlichsten der 12 niederländischen Provinzen.

Er stellte sich uns zuerst vor und betonte, sich darüber zu freuen, dass Jugendliche aus der ganzen Welt nach Maastricht gekommen waren - er habe schon länger kein so internationales Publikum gehabt.

Anschließend erzählte er uns von der Geschichte der Region und ging dabei besonders auf die Beziehungen zwischen Deutschland, Belgien und den Niederlanden ein.

Die Einführung des Euro sei ein besonderer Vorteil für die Region gewesen, erklärte er beispielsweise, da die neue, einheitliche Währung das Alltagsleben sehr vereinfacht habe. Davor sei jeder, der in der Grenzregion lebte, mit Franken, Mark und Gulden herumgelaufen. Seit es den Euro gäbe, kämen auch mehr Besucher aus Belgien und Deutschland zum Einkaufen nach Maastricht, was für die Stadt von wirtschaftlicher Bedeutung sei.

Danach hatten wir die Möglichkeit, dem Gouverneur Fragen zu stellen.

An diesem Dialog beteiligten sich besonders die Schülerinnen und Schüler, die selbst in Maastricht leben. Für sie war es natürlich besonders interessant, Kontakt zu einem Politiker ihrer Region herzustellen.

Ein Thema war zum Beispiel die Schulpolitik in Maastricht, welche für die, die dort wohnen, wohl wichtig ist, für uns andere aber kaum eine Rolle spielt.

Ein anderes Thema war Cannabis, der damit verbundene Tourismus und die (neueren) Gesetze, die diesen einschränken. Herr Bovens äußerte hierzu, dass es zwar richtig sei, dass weniger Touristen wegen Cannabis über die Grenze kämen, dass dies für Maastricht aber kein Verlust sei, sondern die Stadt an vielen anderen Stellen aufblühe, und insgesamt für die „richtigen“ Touristen attraktiver geworden sei.

Weitere Fragen, die von Jugendlichen aus der Euregio Maas-Rhein gestellt wurden, betrafen



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zum Beispiel das Freizeitangebot für Jugendliche in Maastricht und Umgebung oder die Frage, ob es mehrere solcher Veranstaltungen wie das Youth in Dialogue Projekt der Euriade geben sollte, bei denen Jugendliche über Grenzen hinweg zusammenkommen und die Möglichkeit haben, sich auszutauschen, Freundschaften zu schließen und über aktuelle Themen zu diskutieren. Theo Bovens sagte an dieser Stelle, dass er den Austausch zwischen Jugendlichen sehr wichtig fände, erwähnte aber kein konkretes Projekt.

Dann war auch schon keine Zeit mehr, obwohl einige Leute noch Fragen stellen wollten – vielleicht hätte Herr Bovens Rede am Anfang etwas kürzer und der eigentliche Dialog länger sein sollen.

Was uns vielleicht auch zu anderen Themen geführt hätte, die auch für die russischen, südafrikanischen oder amerikanischen Teilnehmer interessanter gewesen wären.

Insgesamt fand ich nämlich, dass der Dialog mit Theo Bovens zwar für die Teilnehmer aus der Region Sinn gemacht hat, denke aber, dass er die anderen aufgrund des Hauptthemas Euregio Maas-Rhein wohl weniger interessiert hat.

**FINJA VICKUS, GYMNASIUM HERZOGENRATH (DEUTSCHLAND)**

## MONASTERY ST. BENEDICTUSBERG

# MAMELIS, VAALS

I think, that this project was one of the most useful and interesting way to learn about dialogue skills. During the week we have had a lot of different activities, but the most unusual and amazing was a visit to the Monastery of St. Benedictusberg Mamelis, Vaals.

First of all, I need to explain why this trip was special and unusual for me. We arrived from the capital of Ukraine. Our city is a cradle of Eastern Orthodox Church. There are a lot of magnificent churches and cathedrals in Kyiv. All of them are decorated with gold, mural paintings and ancient icons. However, this place really differed from our religious buildings. It was an enormous construction made of grey concrete and wood, with great amount of windows. In spite of grey colour, it was full of bright noontime light.

**The start of this event was so strange, because about 15 minutes we were sitting in the main part of the church and waiting for something. But**

then something weird and even magical happened. Some monks wearing dark frocks came to the centre of the room. They started singing and reading their prayers. All of them had their own huge Bibles. Their singing wasn't clear, but it sounded amazing. It looked like an ancient secret ritual of an arcane community.

The next interesting and the most exciting thing was the dialogue with one of the priests. He told us about his life and answered our questions. Also he told us about Our Lord, and explained why he became a priest.

Constantly, I'd like to emphasize that this journey has given each person something new and memorable. I'm very grateful for this priceless experience.

**OLEKSII PEREGUDA, TECHNICAL LYCEUM NTUU KPI, KYIV, UKRAINE, 2015**

10 days I spent in Kerkrade, Netherlands for Euriade youth meeting, which was really an eye-opening experience. Being able to talk to other young people from all over the world, meetings with arts and music together, exploring new ideas about ourselves and the world around us was incredible. I think this experience changed me a lot, I'm not sure in what way yet, but I have a feeling it will turn out the best.

The first couple of days were a bit tough – we were face to face with people that seemed so different, not of our kind. But after a few shared meals, a long, difficult walk through mud and puddles, I could call at least five people my new friends. It was especially surprising to me, coming from Poland, how well I got along with people from Suriname in South Africa, geographically and culturally the furthest of countries whose people gathered in Kerkrade. At the end of the week, we got a feeling of a big family – everybody could talk to everybody, we had common things to laugh at, to be amazed and angry with.

As for activities planned by Prof. Janssen the first thing that comes to my mind is: there were lots of them. Our days were filled with a lot of trips, concerts and conversation. It was a bit tiring, but in the retrospective, I think it gave us a lot to discuss and brought us closer together.

There was one trip I personally enjoyed very much. It was a visit to Benedictine Monastery. When we arrived, we got to witness monks' daily prayers, which were sung in a really beautiful way, and then, we had the chance to get into a dialogue, ask some questions. At first, I was a bit worried, that the

monk we were talking to would be a bit detached, introverted person, but it quickly turned out that he was a very clever, talkative, quite open-minded and not without a sense of humor. He answered our questions thoroughly and without a hesitation, making listening to his opinions a pleasure, and somehow you could hear and feel the wisdom in his words, coming from the quiet thoughtfulness. **However the monks were great as people, what struck me the most were this quietness and calmness of monastery. There was a sense of stability in the air, some eerie feeling that made me feel safe, welcome and calm. It's not something I can put into words easily, but the atmosphere of those walls will stay in my memories for a long time, and I would gladly come back to it someday.**

Before and after this trip, there happened a lot of things, lots of good memories were created. We got to dance, sing, act... and it all made a band of brothers and sisters, without prejudices, without isolation, without fear of the unknown. It's not surprising, that when our stay came to an end, there were tears, warm words and kind gestures. And a promise. That someday we will meet again, to have fun and to show ourselves and the world one more time that borders, both geographical and cultural, are easily crossed with a bit of trust and dialogue. In union of minds, we are free.

BŁAŻEJ WRÓBLEWSKI, ZESPÓŁ SZKÓŁ ŻEGLUGI ŚRÓDŁĄDOWEJ (POLAND)

Danach staunten wir alle, als wir erfuhren, dass das Kloster einen Computer und er sogar einen Facebook-Account hat. Im Laufe des Gesprächs erfuhren wir zudem noch, dass es seiner Familie erlaubt ist, ihn zu besuchen und er auch Freizeit hat. Als die Frage kam, ob er auch andere Religionen akzeptiere, musste er lächeln und sagte mit Überzeugen, dass jeder frei sein sollte, sich seinen Glauben selber aussuchen zu können und er auch andere Religionen akzeptiert.

Schon bei der Andacht vor dem Gespräch mit dem Geistlichen bewunderten wir die riesigen Messbücher, welche die wichtigsten und bedeutendsten liturgischen Bücher der römisch-katholischen Kirche sind. Diese beinhalten Gebete für verschiedene Anlässe, wie wir im weiteren Gespräch erfuhren.

Er war sehr an uns interessiert und neugierig viele weitere Fragen zu hören und natürlich auch zu beantworten. Überraschend war, dass der Abt auf alle Fragen einging, die wir ihm stellten und er auch alle wirklich beantwortete – anders als die Politiker, die wir bisher getroffen hatten. Wir hatten ein so intensives und anregendes Gespräch mit dem Abt, dass wir es zeitlich nicht schafften alle unsere Fragen zu stellen.

**Der Dialog war sehr spannend und aufschlussreich. Es war interessant zu erfahren, wie ein Mönch lebt und was ihn bewegt. Ich denke, dass alle mit vielen neuen Erfahrungen aus dem Kloster gekommen sind und jeder dankbar war, dass er dem Abt viele Fragen stellen durfte. Es war für mich eine sehr beeindruckende Begegnung, die ich nie vergessen und auch noch meinen Kindern davon erzählen werde.**

PAULA BREMERICH, KREISGYMNASIUM HEINSBERG (DEUTSCHLAND)

## DIALOG MIT DEM ABT

Auf dem Weg dorthin waren wir alle sehr gespannt, was uns dort erwarten würde.

Zu Beginn des Dialogs war die Atmosphäre etwas angespannt, da von uns vorher noch nie jemand einen Abt getroffen hatte und auch niemand wusste, was man einem Abt für Fragen stellen sollte. Aber schon nachdem er sich vorgestellt hatte, war klar, dass man ihn sämtliche Dinge fragen konnte, die einen interessierten. Er machte einen sympathischen und netten Eindruck, da er sehr glücklich und freundlich wirkte und immer lächelte. Zudem war er offen zu jedem und hatte eine positive Ausstrahlung, sodass sich die etwas angespannte Stimmung allmählich lockerte.

Am Anfang erzählte er uns, wie er eigentlich Mönch geworden ist und was ihn dazu bewegt hatte.

At first I thought it was a bit strange to go talk with an abbot with such a multicultural group of people, Muslims, Christians, Jews and atheists all together. But the abbot, as well as we were, was open for different things. What surprised me was that the abbot accepted other religions and that he had social media, because the stereotype monastery is old and doesn't want anything to do with the current society.

**The first thing that stood out was the different atmosphere. The politicians were more formal and strict, while the abbot had a very relaxing aura; he was always happy and smiling to everyone. I had the idea the abbot was also interested in us and didn't just answer our questions, what the**

# YOUTH IN DIALOGUE

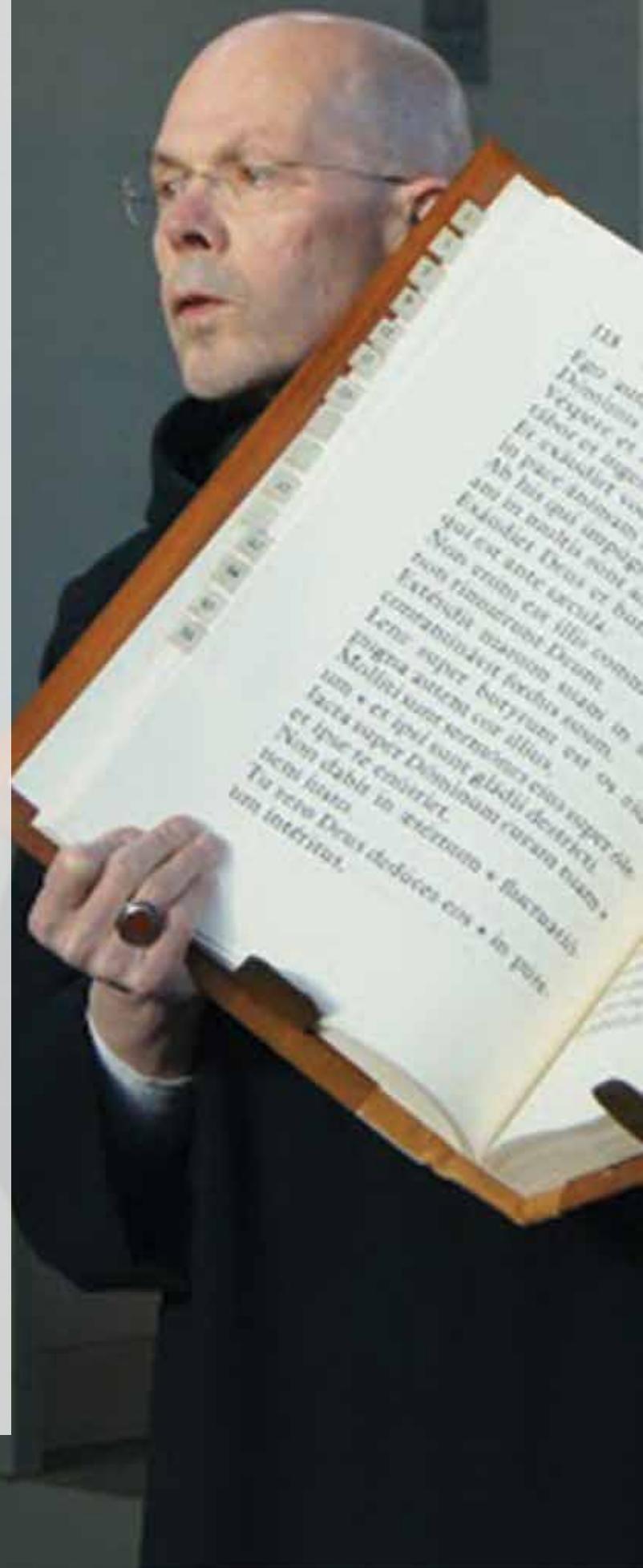
ABBOT ADRIAN LENGET, OSB

Meeting a group of young people, coming from various backgrounds, and: meeting in a monastery!, is an exciting challenge. At least two profoundly different worlds are meeting. In advance many questions were arising in my heart. Will I be able to understand the questions of these young men and women? How could I speak their language? What may be their feelings entering a so unusually shaped hall as our church? How do they feel meeting a man who lives in an ambiance, practically unknown to most of them? What is the common ground between us?

After the short liturgical service, as we are standing or sitting face-to-face, there is no longer time to reflect on these questions: the young men and women are there before me, some with an eagerly curious glance in their eyes, some uncomfortably looking around, some still wondering about the somewhat mysterious experience of the choir of monks, singing songs in Latin. Then, without any delay, the first question. A big and heavy book containing the Psalms of the Holy Bible is shown. So we are starting on an easy, visible and tangible level, but the more essential questions come soon enough: Why do you live this monastic life? How did you decide to become a monk? What is the sense of religion/religions? What do we mean when we say "God"?

Time is running out. We could continue our talk for hours. But another item on the program is waiting and we must put an end to our exchange. And again I hear questions in my heart: Did the short time of our meeting give these splendid young people the opportunity to ask the questions they really bear in their heart? Did they get answers that push them forward to new questions? Was I able to awaken their curiosity to what really matters in this world: to communion, to respect, to responsibility? In a word: to true dialogue with you? With YOU?

Thanks for your coming, dear friends!





politicians most of the time didn't do. He was very convinced of his choice and he was a confident and grateful man. I felt safe with him, while with some politicians I had the feeling I couldn't really get along with them. I was also surprised to hear that family was allowed to visit, because I thought when someone entered a monastery they needed to break the tie with the family, because their only family would be the other monks and God.

I could feel everyone, even the Muslims, Jews and atheists, had great respect for him and his choice to submit his life to God. And even after we left the monastery you could feel the impression he had left in us, the respect we felt for him. And I saw him a bit as an example for my religion, because no man or woman submits his life more to God than a monk and that has something beautiful, because they believe in something so much.

And even the days after the dialogue with the monk I thought about it, how to use his wisdom in my life, to tolerate even the people that I don't like, because in the end we are all children of God, it doesn't matter in which God you believe, we should tolerate each other and help each other in need. And I saw that what the people of IS do, isn't really religion, because if you really believe in something you shouldn't kill people for that, you should live in peace next to each other.

I am very grateful I had the opportunity to talk with the abbot, to ask him a few questions and to listen to his answers.

CÉLINE MICHON, SINT-MAARTENSCOLLEGE (THE NETHERLANDS)

When we arrived at the Monastery, everyone was silent and impressed. It was a very huge building without a roof and if someone said something, it echoed through the whole building. After the monks had sung a song, we went with the half of our group into another room to have a dialogue with one of the monks.

Our first question was what the song was about. He told us that every song in their song book is in Latin. They are all prayers and they just put them in a song, so they can remember the prayer more easily, because it has become a melody. They know nearly all prayers in their book by heart. That is just one thing they do in their daily „routine“. They live in the monastery and have to get up very early. The first and last thing to do every day is to pray. Moreover they help another disabled monk to get dressed and eat and one of them has to respond to e-mails and letters. During the day they pray a lot. But they don't get money for just being monks, so they have to work like every other person.

One thing that was kind of funny for me was that the monk told us he couldn't speak Latin, before he became a monk, so he had to learn all the prayers and songs in Latin, although he didn't know the language, but he said that it wasn't so difficult. All in all we can say that it was a very exciting trip, because they answered all our questions and were so friendly.

JACQUELINE RUDOLF, GYMNASIUM HERZOGENRATH (GERMANY)

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2016 - MARTIN BUBER-PLAQUE

THE DIALOGUE WITH

## THOMAS QUASTHOFF

This year on Euriade we've had a great opportunity to meet Thomas Quasthoff, German bass baritone, theater-player, TV journalist, professor and speaker. Launched 1988, when he won the ARD International Music Competition in Munich his career from then to now fascinating people all around the world. It is a great confirmation of his efforts in works with young people that on the festival Euriade 2015. He was nominated for the Martin-Buber-Plaque. It was a real privilege for me to be there for this occasion and to meet this extraordinary artist.

Before the conversation with Thomas we already knew that he is born with serious defects: shortening of the long bones in his legs and he has phocomelia of the upper extremities with very short or absent long bones. So we just knew about his appearance and powerful voice, but we were pleasantly surprised when the conversation with him opened a completely new light on his cha-

risma. He spoke with us about his childhood and about different ups and downs in his life. We have learned a lot from this wise man and, I must admit, that he has influence the building of my life mottoes. There were so many things to learn from him. Even in the first few minutes when he appeared, there was a silence all over the room and everybody was listening very carefully. I believe that his minds are so powerful that you can learn so much, with every sentence he draws deeper into his life. Body and mind, soul and heart shape a natural, self-evident unity that will be "enjoyed" by anyone who "interacts" with him. Speaking for myself Thomas Quasthoff is the man different from others: soul, mind and voice are elements of his distinctiveness. So I will continue to listen to his music and I will never forget the day of conversation with Thomas.

ISIDORA BASIC, ZRENJANIN GRAMMAR SCHOOL (SERBIA)



# MARTIN BUBER-PLAKETTE / PLAQUE 2015

# THOMAS QUASTHOFF



Lieber Werner,

die Begegnung mit den jungen Menschen im letzten Herbst war sehr bewegend für mich. Die Qualität des Interviews, die Fragen, die die jungen Leute gestellt haben, besaßen ein sehr hohes Niveau und zeigten von echtem Interesse. Mich hat sehr bewegt, als bei der Preisverleihung die Jugendlichen für mich gesungen haben. Üblicherweise bin ich der, der für andere performt. Dafür ein ganz großes Dankeschön. In Zeiten konservativer politischer Ausrichtung vieler EU-Länder ist ein offener Dialog wie er in Kerkrade stattfindet, wichtiger denn je. Europa muss erhalten bleiben und je eher man mit einem offenen Dialog unter Jugendlichen beginnt, umso besser ist es für unser aller Zukunft. Ich wünsche der Euriade in Kerkrade alles Gute und verbleibe mit herzlichen Grüßen aus Berlin.

DEIN / EUER THOMAS QUASTHOFF

Dear Werner,

The meeting with the youngsters last autumn was very moving for me. I was impressed by the quality of the interviews and the high level of the questions and the real interest the youngsters showed. Especially moving was the moment when the youngsters started singing for me at the ceremony. Usually I am the one who is performing. A very big thank you for that! In times of a conservative political orientation in so many EC-countries, an open dialogue, like the one you organized in Kerkrade, is more important than ever. Europe should be preserved and the sooner an open dialogue between youngsters is established the better for everyone's future. I wish the Euriade in Kerkrade all the best and remain with kind regards from Berlin.

YOUR THOMAS QUASTHOFF

Thomas Quasthoff is a German bass-baritone. He was born in 1959 in Hildesheim, a city in Lower Saxony. His mother took during her pregnancy the drug thalidomide as an antiemetic to combat morning sickness. Due to shortening of the long bones in his legs, he is only 1,34 m tall.

On the Euriade, we had a dialogue with Thomas Quasthoff. He answered all our questions. He told us that he was denied for the music conservatory in Hanover, because when you are a singer at least you have to play one instrument. He could not, due to his disability. He told us that he studied law for three years, but wanted a music career.

Thomas Quasthoff also told how his music career was launched. In 1995 he made his debut at the Oregon Bach Festival, at the invitation of Helmuth Rilling. He made his operatic debut in 2003 as Don Fernando in Fidelio.

**In my opinion, Thomas Quasthoff is an inspiring person. He told us that he did not blame his mother for his disabilities. He said that she did not know the danger of the drug thalidomide. If she knew the danger, she would never take the drug. Thomas Quasthoff is also inspiring, while he worked very hard to live as a normal person. He does not want us to see him as a disabled person, but as a person who is just a little bit shorter than the average person in the world.**

ZOË ROBEERS, SINTERMEERTEN COLLEGE, HEERLEN (THE NETHERLANDS)

## THE MARTIN BUBER-PLAQUE CEREMONY

The Euriade is a superb, colossal project and its final part is Martin-Buber-Plaque ceremony. The worthiest people who contributed greatly to the support and development of the philosophy of dialogue take the spotlight and have the honor of this award every year. This year Thomas Quasthoff was chosen as the worthiest representative.

Being a Euriade participant I was lucky to get the chance to talk to the musician in flesh, learn his life views not only by listening to his music but communicating with him in person. Looking into Thomas' eyes, listening to him I can't help smiling. There is so much kindness and positive attitude in this wonderful musician despite all obstacles

and barriers that he had to face and overcome. He proved by his personal example that each of us can reach great results. The most important thing is to believe in yourself and do your best to achieve your goal. I am sure this person has inspired lots of my new friends and of course he has inspired me. Martin-Buber-Plaque shows that people appreciate and are grateful to the award winners for their achievements.

The ceremony itself is a magnificent performance. There were lots of absolutely different people in one place – people of art, town authorities, younger generation and many others. I could feel that the atmosphere was very warm and friendly. Though Aula Major is a rather spacious place, I had a feeling that it was a meeting of close friends. I was really proud to be a part of this great event. I had learned a lot about Thomas Quasthoff's life and art before arriving to Euriade. Then we had a conference with him and at the ceremony I was so happy to see the person I know getting Martin Buber Plaque. It was like sharing joy with a friend. Moreover, I should add that very nice pieces of music accompanied the ceremony and it made a wonderful impression. This combination created the atmosphere of both peace and excitement. And this atmosphere surrounded us all the evening.

During Thomas Quashoff's speech the audience was sitting breathlessly with absorbed attention. I was really excited because in our everyday life we get the chance to visit such events not that often and I am really happy to be a part of such an event. I am sure that Thomas Quasthoff got the Plaque more than worthily because he is a great example for all of us, especially for young people. We must try to make our world view at least a bit similar to his one. If each of us thinks for a minute who he or she is, what we can reach and how we can help another person, we can become much better and the whole world will become much better.

VIKTORIIA MAMONOVA, SCHOOL 2121, MOSCOW (RUSSIA)

Everybody heard about the Martin-Buber-Plaque but what is it actually and who was Martin Buber? Martin Buber was a austrian-jewish Philosopher of religion. He was born in 1878 in Wien and died in 1965 in Jerusalem. Martin Buber lived in 1881 after the divorce of his parents in the Ukraine and studied National economics, Philosophy, German, Art history, Asylum and Psychology. He got married and got various prizes.

The ceremony was held in abbey Rolduc in Kerkrade, Netherlands where we all spend a whole week with people from various countries.

**At first I thought it was going to be boring with too long speeches no one will listen to and music we won't really enjoy. But to be honest it was actually quite interesting.**

All the people from the Euriade were allowed to sit on the balcony which was quite cool because you could see everyone and everything from above. The speeches that were given by important men were really heart-warming and interesting to listen to but at one point it was really too long that it got boring and the concentration was drifting away. It was awesome to see someone optimistic as Thomas Quasthoff. Even though he is disabled he keeps on doing what he loves, and that's singing! I thought that he wouldn't say much at the ceremony but I was proven wrong.

**The things he said were really touching and a thing everyone should keep in mind. Because of him I understand now that no matter how hard life is, you should always be optimistic and fight for the things you love most.**

The other speeches were in my opinion a little bit too long, monotonous and it was in German which was unfortunately not understandable for non-german speaking people. They always asked me what they were saying so it would have been better if it was in English.

**Thomas was saying some words that were really mindkeeping. He gave all of us some important things to keep with us like we should appreciate the globalisation because without it, we would not be able to meet all these awesome people we met at that time. The harpist and cellist played beautiful songs which were beautifully to listen to. I felt so many emotions while listening to their music. I think all the people could make their own story in their while listening to them. Some songs they played were even composed by themselves which is quite impressive. It was really exciting when Mr. Janssen gave Thomas Quasthoff the Martin-Buber-Plaque because you could see all the happiness written over Mr. Quasthoff's face. He was very touched and held afterwards a speech and said he's honoured to get such a prize. At that time I had mixed feelings. On one side I was relieved that the ceremony will be over soon but on the other hand I was really sad because I knew I have to say goodbye to all of these people from the Euriade.**

Everyone was overwhelmed with the whole ceremony and clapped as much as they could, which was quite a long time in my opinion. The best act



was the last one that we nearly forgot to let participate. After I heard that there was still another act I was a little bit annoyed because I wanted to spend time with the rest of the people. The last act played Rock'n'Roll like music and everyone was dancing and singing to it.

I enjoyed them most because rhythm got into me and everyone started singing and dancing to it. Who would not to be honest? The only sad part was that the polish people had to go in the middle of the ceremony so we couldn't say goodbye. Maybe we could have made a little break to say good bye.

All in all it was a really great goodbye evening filled with much memories

**NATALIJA NIKOLIC, EUROPASCHULE HERZOGENRATH (GERMANY)**

German-Jewish philosopher Martin Buber, whose name is a commemorative medal, was born in Vienna and later became the first president of the Academy of Sciences of Israel. In his works, he explored the "dialogue principle". Therefore commemorative medal Buber awarded to people who can see and hear the Other, to act in accordance with their problems and concerns.

We are honored to be at the presentation of the Martin-Buber-plaque. This award was given to a unique person, opera and jazz singer and professor of the Berlin Conservatory Hanns Eisler, Thomas Quasthoff for his active patronage of Lower Saxony foundation "Children of Chernobyl". Thomas is an amazing person. He has the sense of humor, self-irony and musical talent. I sincerely admire this STRONG man. At the day of the award ceremony we were lucky enough to hear his live

singing. A lot of influential people were at the ceremony when, and we, the participants Euriade were among them. That evening I'll remember very well as the official day of the festival with the unofficial humorous person.

DARIA SOKOLOVA, DIAGHILEV SCHOOL, PERM (RUSSIA)

## TURNING A DISADVANTAGE INTO AN ADVANTAGE

This year I took part in this wonderful project, named Euriade. This project involves youth in dialogue from many countries. At the base of this project is the Martin-Buber-Plaque that is awarded to a personality every year. This year the personality was Thomas Quasthoff. Not many people, outside Germany, know who Thomas Quasthoff is and what is his occupation. He is a German-bass-baritone. Quasthoff has a range of musical interest from the Baroque cantatas of Bach, to Romantic lieder, and solo jazzimprovisations. Born with

severe birth defects, Quasthoff is 1.34 m tall (4' 4¾"), and has phocomelia.

On the last day was the ceremony for the Martin-Buber-Plaque. At noon we had a conference with Thomas Quasthoff, in which we could ask him a few questions. He answered to all of our questions in a very complex manner and also really straightforward. He was quite impressed by our project and the fact that he could have a dialogue with young people from so various countries. For me it was very touching when I saw such positivity in this man despite his handicap. A lot of people think that Thomas Quasthoff could not have a normal life, but he has. Mr. Quasthoff is married to a lady who supports him every second and every way. He also tries to do a lot of charity actions to help other people with disabilities.

In the evening we took part in the Martin-Buber-Plaque ceremony in the Aula Major. It was really exciting when Mr. Jansen gave Thomas Quasthoff the Martin-Buber-Plaque because you could see the happiness written over Mr. Quasthoff's face. He was very touched and held afterwards a speech and said he was honoured to get such an important prize.

**What really amazed me and my friends from Euriade, was the way Thomas Quasthoff chose to live his life, in many aspects more normal than normal people, deeply aware of his abilities and limits but honest to himself and everybody else around him. Listening to his optimistic words and vision, wise words and actions and nonetheless his hope for the future made us forget that he might struggle to take a seat or be visible when standing up. Thomas Quasthoff is and has a big heart in the body of an innocent.**



MAXIMILIAN HOROBET,  
COLEGIUL NATIONAL LIVIU REBREANU  
BISTRITA (ROMANIA)

# DIE ERSTE BEGEGNUNG

## MIT MEINEM ZIMMERGENOSSEN

Als ich (16) mein Zimmer betrat, war es leer. Das einzige, was zu sehen war, war das Gepäck von meinem nicht anwesenden Zimmergenossen. Ich malte mir anhand seiner Sachen schon ein Bild von ihm. Den ganzen Tag über fürchtete ich das schlimmste. Ein unfreundlicher, aufgeblasener Kerl, der denkt, er sei der beste. Doch als ich abends dann gegen 23:00 Uhr mein Zimmer betrat, sah ich meinen Zimmergenossen (einen Polen), der am gleichen Tag ein Gedicht vorgetragen hatte. Er begrüßte mich freundlich mit den Worten „Hello I'm Michael. I try to make no trouble“ und behandelte mich von der ersten Sekunde an so, als würden wir uns schon seit Jahren kennen. Sein Englisch war weitaus besser als meins, womit er wiederum kein Problem hatte, denn wir hatten beide kein Problem, den anderen zu verstehen. So begannen wir nun zu reden. Unser erstes Thema war der Krieg im Nahen Osten, das Attentat in Paris und die Flüchtlinge, die in unsere Länder strömten. Beiläufig erzählte er mir, dass Flüchtlinge in Polen nicht sehr freundlich von der Bevölkerung aufgenommen werden.

Am letzten Abend waren Michael und ich ziemlich niedergeschlagen, da es unser letzter Tag war. Da die polnischen Teilnehmer etwas früher am Abend gehen mussten, hatten wir leider nicht mehr die Möglichkeit, uns von einander zu verabschieden. Deshalb habe ich ihm einige Zeilen geschrieben, um mich wenigstens schriftlich zu verabschieden. Am nächsten Morgen habe ich dann seine Antwort erhalten. Wir haben seitdem leider nur noch unregelmäßig Kontakt. Es ist zwar sehr traurig gewesen, diesen Ort zu verlassen und natürlich wurde auch die ein oder andere Träne vergossen, aber dennoch bin ich sehr froh diese Erfahrung gemacht zu haben.

**Ich hätte es nie für möglich gehalten, dass Menschen, die sich nicht kennen, nicht dieselbe Sprache sprechen und nicht aus demselben Land kommen, solch gute Freunde werden können. Aber ich habe im Laufe der Woche gemerkt, dass wir alle nur Menschen sind. Menschen mit denselben Problemen, Sorgen, aber auch Interessen und Hobbys sind.**

# MEINE ZIMMERNACHBARIN

## UND VIELE JUGENDLICHE AUS DER GANZEN WELT

In der Euriade Woche kamen viele Jugendliche aus der ganzen Welt zusammen, sodass die unterschiedlichsten Nationalitäten, Sprachen und Kulturen aufeinander trafen.

Um sich noch besser kennenzulernen, musste jeder ein Zimmer mit einer Person aus einem anderen Land teilen, wobei die Zuteilung ausgelost wurde. Obwohl ich eigentlich offen für neue Menschen bin, habe ich mir dennoch viele Gedanken darüber gemacht, wie es wohl sein wird, mit jemanden ein Zimmer zu teilen, der aus einem anderen Land kommt und dessen Sprache ich wahrscheinlich nicht einmal verstehen werde?

Doch die Sorgen habe ich mir ganz umsonst gemacht, denn mit meiner Zimmernachbarin Ines aus Serbien habe ich Erfahrungen gemacht, die ich nicht so schnell vergessen werde und das meine ich im positiven Sinne.

Gleich als wir uns das erste Mal begegnet sind, hatte ich das Gefühl, als würde ich sie schon ewig kennen. Doch nicht nur bei Ines sondern auch bei allen anderen Jugendlichen der Euriade verspürte ich von Anfang an das Gefühl von Vertrauen.

**Schon am ersten Tag waren wir alle eine Art Familie geworden und tauschten uns über die verschiedenen Kulturen, den Alltag, unsere Schulen u.v.m. aus. Selbst an den Tagen, an denen wir erschöpft und müde von unserem Tagesprogramm nach Hause kamen, zogen wir uns nicht alle sofort in unsere Zimmer zurück, sondern wir saßen noch lange in einer großen Runde und spielten, sangen, tanzten oder lachten.**

Ich bin sehr froh, dass ich an der Euriade teilnehmen durfte, da ich in dieser Woche so viele verschiedene nette Menschen kennengelernt habe und hoffe, dass wir auch in Zukunft weiter in Kon-

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Zusätzlich gibt es eine Schaubrennerei, in der hervorragende Edelbrände, Liköre und Whisky in bester Qualität erzeugt werden. Hier werden auch Führungen angeboten, welche von den beiden Töchtern Theresa und Katharina angeboten werden. Aber nicht nur Schnaps wird destilliert, sondern auch das kostbare ätherische Latschenkieferöl wird hier hergestellt.

Die Familie Warter erntet die Latschenkiefer ausschließlich am Obertauern, dies ist eine vom Menschen unberührte Natur, dadurch kann die gesamte Kraft der Mutter Erde in die Latschenkiefer eindringen.

Das Latschenkieferöl ist eine Kostbarkeit aus der Alpenregion und seit je her ein traditionelles Heilmittel bei Erkrankungen der Atemwege. Des Weiteren werden noch viele andere Naturkosmetiker hergestellt wie zB die Single Malt Pflegelinie.

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takt bleiben werden. Außerdem habe ich sehr viel über andere Menschen gelernt und bin dankbar ein Teil dieser Woche gewesen zu sein.

ZITA WIRTZ, KREISGYMNASIUM HEINSBERG (DEUTSCHLAND)

**The only word that comes to mind when I think about the Euriade is AMAZING. We experienced so many wonderful things and got to see beautiful places. One of the most fun experiences was to share a room with someone from a different country.**

I believe that sharing a room with someone I didn't know made the Euriade even more fun because it gave me a chance to see the differences and the similarities between us. We were all teenagers at the Euriade and that means that emotions were high and usually fights will break out if you share a room with a total stranger for five nights. But at the Euriade nothing like that happened. My roommate (a girl from Germany) became one of my close friends. We spoke until late at night about all kinds of things. We spoke about our countries, our future plans and about our crushes at the Euriade. While we were talking I couldn't help thinking this is the way I'll speak to any one of my South-African friends. It really was special to get to know her and to become such great friends.

We had a lot of similarities but also differences. I think the differences made it the most fun. In our room there were two extremes. I didn't wear any make up except for lipstick every now and then and I slept till 7:15 (breakfast was at 7:30-9:00) but my roommate woke up at 6:15 to put on her make up, every day. It was such a joy to see that even though we were so different we were still such great friends.

**We got along so well and sharing a room with her really made the experience more real for me. I believe that making us share a room with a stranger is a great idea and it helps us build friendships that will last for ever.**

The fact that we became so close made me think about how cultures are different and how wars brakes lose because about those differences. And it made me wonder why we could all get along but wars still brake lose between cultures. Why is it so easy to get along with other people when you're young? It made me think about a quote a read it said "Make your friends when you're young, when you're older you don't have time". I think that's the problem. That's why wars break out: Because people only have

time for themselves. But at the Euriade I realized that if we just give each other some time we can get along. The Euriade teached me a lot. It was an adventure. I believe that the organization will grow and touch many many more children.

ANNEMARIE OOSTHUIZEN, BEN VILJOEN HOERSKOOL (SOUTH AFRICA)

## MEETING NEW PEOPLE

Throughout the week at the Euriade we had all kinds of fun and educational activities such as several conversations with politicians and a meeting with refugees, but we also did a lot of sightseeing and went to some wonderful concerts. But, for me, the most fun experience of the week was getting to know so many new people.

Meeting new people is always exciting, but this time it was extra special, because I was going to meet teenagers from all kinds of countries and I was looking forward to learning all about their different cultures and different views on life.

Before the project, I was a little nervous, because I didn't know what to expect from the people that were going to be there. Maybe they would be very closed and stick to their own groups or maybe I just wouldn't be able to fit in with the others, but I was confident that everyone would be very friendly. And that pretty much seemed to be the case right from the start! It took me a little while to really start talking to other people who I didn't already know, but people quickly came up to me and started a conversation themselves. Also the acting class we had on the first day helped a lot to loosen up and to get to know the others.

The second day we had to work together in groups, which was a lot of fun, because I got to know more about other people's culture and habits. Our group consisted of a diverse range of nationalities. For instance we had people from Poland, the US, Ukraine, Austria, South-Africa, Germany and the Netherlands. We talked about our country's politics, school systems, and weird traditions and even taught each other some swear words. These conversations were very interesting and surprising, as they would show us how different other people can live and think.

We all had some great experiences at the Euriade;



one of my favourites was the dance class we had Tuesday night, because it was so funny to see everyone dance and have a great time. I remember laughing really hard, because my dancing skills were pretty terrible, but it was such a fun night. Afterwards we also had a spontaneous party, which made it was just a really great night overall. Furthermore I really enjoyed our small trip to the town of Monschau on Wednesday. Even though it was really cold and snowy all day, the good mood of the group, the fun tour guide and the cosy houses and cafés of Monschau made the day very enjoyable. During the week I got to know a lot of great people and as the days passed we all became very close. At the beginning of the week everyone was a little bit shy, but at the end I was really sad to say goodbye to everyone.

Although we don't see each other anymore, we're still staying in touch a lot. We are even planning on having a small reunion with some students from Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands in January and hopefully a bigger one with everyone in a few years!

All in all, I had an amazing week with each and every one of you at the Euriade and made tons of fun experiences that I will surely keep with me for the rest of my life.

It's funny to see how you can become such good friends with someone in such little time. I miss you all very much and I hope I will see you all again sometime!

**LAURENS DRIESSEN**, SINT-MAARTENS-COLLEGE, MAASTRICHT (NL)

EURIADE 2015 -

# SOMETHING MORE THAN JUST A MEETING

I have to admit - I would've never guessed that it will have such a deep meaning for me, but it was an amazing experience. When we arrived to Rolduc I knew, that it's going to be something special.

Abdij Rolduc was a beautiful place. The small complex of historical buildings looked like a place from dreams, reminded me some kind of the palace. I've been truly delighted about all these paintings in the hallway and interior of this hotel and this feeling stays up to today.

We visited a lot of places - there's no way to count and describe them all, but the greatest one which I'll remember to the rest of my life was the Lebenshilfe in Aachen. These disabled people we had to deal and work with for about three hours, were such an amazing example of how to live happily, against all odds. When we had to leave, I've had the mixed feelings about it - there was a mess in my mind. It made me think about my life and re-

creating my worldview. People say, these people are lost from the beginning, but I think that they're the true winners.

However, the most amazing thing beyond all of that was the atmosphere and people from all around the globe. We've learnt how to talk to each other, how to make new friends and how to be opened to the world. We've learnt and made the dialogue, also became friends. It's really amazing and unique feeling when you know that everyone is different, but you can talk in the same language, get to know their culture and habits.

I miss you and want you all back there. Also, I really hope we'll meet again in the same, exceptional atmosphere. I want to say thanks to you and Mr. Janssen for all of this - it will be the unforgettable reminiscence.

**MICHAEL MICHALSKI, ZESPÓŁ SZKÓŁ ŻEGLUGI ŚRÓDŁĄDOWEJ (POLAND)**



EURIADE -

## EXPECTATIONS AND REALITY

For me, the Euriade, was an event that marked not only one month but a whole year. Characterized by places I would never go to and visit in my free time, friends I met and real friendships I've made in and outside the castle.

**Coming to Rolduc, I faced different cultures, ideas and priorities of life which I think was a real goal of the project. Excluding its shortcomings I was very pleased to see how young people easily opened up to each other and became a sort of puzzle in just a week.**

We were all in a new system we never experienced before and the only way to learn something and have fun at the same time was to hold together.

I left bad things, doubts and fears at home and from the moment we entered the plane I was open for all the good things that were to come. And they came, by having workshops, dialogues with politicians, artists, disabled people and visits to some ancient places and modern towns of Germany and the Netherlands.

It all made an impression that we could still, as a young and smart generation, change disadvantages of the modern world.

I wasn't expecting much and maybe that is the only and the best way to start any trip!

INES ŠOMORAI, ZRENJANINSKA GIMNAZIJA, (SERBIA)

YOUTH IN DIALOGUE - MY EXPECTATIONS AND

## EXPERIENCES AT THE EURIADE

When I was told by my school that I had been chosen to go the Euriade, my thoughts were overtaken by excitement and anticipation. Immediately, I looked up the institution on the internet and was overwhelmed by Euriade's degree of popularity and the good reputation.

My enthusiasm increased when we entered the territory of the monastery of Kerkade which was very dignified. After I had met the people who were going to be my colleagues for the next seven days I knew that, come what may, I would profit from this week.

Fortunately, my estimation was confirmed: I had the pleasure of becoming acquainted with several adolescents who shared their valuable opinions on politics with me, whom I had long conversations with, who made me laugh, and who proved to me that not judging a person by their country of origin is one of the most essential component of being in a dialogue and of being able to understand each other.

LENA LINDQVIST, GRG1 STUBENBASTEI, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

THE WORLD IN A DIALOGUE -

## JUST A UTOPIA?

Dialogue – what a powerful word! Evidently, talking to one another and finding common ground is not always simple. The perfect examples of failed conversations are the on-going wars in our world. Instead of listening to each other and finding a mutual solution to the major crises of humankind, nations let their guns speak. But this type of exchange of words can only be one-

sided and merely has one message: aggression, death and ignorance. If the leaders of our countries united and engaged in a dialogue like we did during this week, this world could be a better place.

LENA LINDQVIST, GRG1 STUBENBASTEI, VIENNA, AUSTRIA

# MY EXPECTATIONS CONCERNING THE EURIADE

## AND IF THEY TURNED OUT TO BE TRUE

When I set off on the plane to the Netherlands to the Euriade I didn't really know what to expect. I heard from students who were at the 'Youth in Dialogue' last year that they had had an amazing week and they assured me that I will have one as well. However, I didn't really know what the Euriade consisted of. My perception of it was, that the main idea is about getting to know many new people from different countries and cultures.

When I received the program in advance I was surprised about the diversity of things we were going to do. So many different places we would visit and so many different types of music we would hear at concerts. In fact, every day was full with things to do, I barely had 10 minutes to sit down and let all the new experiences sink in. Therefore when I came home my mind was still buzzing with images of places we visited and conversations I had. **But what the program did not tell me about was the wonderful friendships I would make. As I said, I WAS expecting to meet new people from everywhere around the world and I WAS expecting**

that we'd share our thoughts on diverse topics. I was looking forward to getting to know different ways of living by actually talking to people from other places and not only through books and movies. But I didn't think that it would be possible to get such good friends with others in such a short time. What I was also expecting is that we all would be so different from each other but it turned out to be wrong in a way. I mean of course each individual is unique and special but I was surprised by how similarly we youths all think of some political topics, by how similar our sense of humor and our view on life is.

There are lots of things I learned during the week in the Netherlands. I learned about other school systems and about different types of food. But most importantly, I learned that if you are open to new things and are not afraid to be the person you truly are people will make a place for you in their hearts faster than you can say 'Euriade'.

ZSÓFIA SZALAVÁRI, PIARISTENGYMNASIUM, VIENNA (AUSTRIA)



## ERWARTUNGEN AN DIE EURIADE UND ERFAHRUNGEN

Bevor ich mit drei anderen Schülern meiner Schule zur Euriade nach Kerkrade gefahren bin, hatte ich verschiedene Erwartungen. Zunächst hatte ich ein bisschen Angst, ich würde mich nicht mit meiner Zimmernachbarin und den anderen Leuten verstehen. Diese Ängste wurden aber schnell von Freude und Aufregung neue Leute aus anderen Ländern kennenzulernen und über ihre Kultur zu erfahren übertönt. Meine tatsächlichen Erfahrun-

gen der Euriade übertrafen meine Erwartungen um Längen. Meine Zimmergenossin war besser als ich es mir hätte vorstellen können und die anderen Leute waren auch sehr nett. Ich hatte viel Spaß mit ihnen Sachen zu unternehmen, z.B. nach Maastricht zu fahren oder einfach abends zusammenzusitzen und zu reden. Ich muss aber sagen, dass wir insgesamt wenig Freizeit hatten um die Jugendlichen noch besser kennenzulernen. Bis



heute haben wir immer noch Kontakt zu den Menschen aus Belgien, den Niederlanden und Deutschland und haben uns auch schon mit ihnen getroffen. Ich habe alle sehr lieb gewonnen und hätte nie gedacht, dass ich in ihnen Freunde für's Leben finden könnte. Insgesamt war die Euriade eine der besten Entscheidungen, die ich jemals getroffen habe und bin unendlich dankbar dafür, dass ich diese Erfahrungen machen durfte.

**CHIARA MUSSO, RHEIN-MAAS-GYMNASIUM AACHEN (DEUTSCHLAND)**

**front of the crowd of 80 young people, teachers, politicians, artists.**

It was different, different opinions, different ideas, different cultures, but same atmosphere, same feeling of belonging to this group, this very small community that had been formed within few hours. Maybe it's the age's fault/fortune for being so open and natural to each other since first moments, maybe it's just us being naive or better said innocent. I think it's something hard to keep in time. I can see that in myself becoming more conscious and cautious just by looking back at the last year's Euriade edition and comparing it to this one. But because of the double experience I've also learned to be less judgemental, more tolerant and to ignore stereotypes and prejudices.

**„I am ok, you are ok!“**

It was the last sentence of Valerie's games. It was also the one that I remembered best and which was the easiest for me to truly understand it and act like. It was the best attitude introduction to what was yet to come: the real dialogue between us. I got to meet most of the people through those games in just a few hours, something that I had to figure out along the whole week last year and that wasn't even enough.

I cannot compare these two experiences just by saying that one was better than the other one because there is no such level of comparison. I can say that they were very different, although (amazingly) I felt the same. Euriade 2014 taught me how to find the way to the other person but Euriade 2015 made me trust the other person and made me let myself open to it. Euriade made me grow in a certain way, step by step, never letting me forget that I was ok, but also you, who I was going to meet were ok, too!

**ELIZA MIC, COLEGIUL NATIONAL LIVIU REBREANU BISTRITA (ROMANIA)**

## I AM OK, YOU ARE OK!

Haven't thought I could be so lucky for two times. Same country, same city, same Rolduc, same rooms, same atmosphere... but new faces. It felt kind of familiar, didn't have to search through all Rolduc for the Aula Major, new all the possible dinner and lunch rooms, introduced the "traditional games" from the start and most important I've found the way to the others very quickly. I knew what to expect but never hoped to be that fortunate two times in a row.

First day, same history, same story, we met a boy and a girl from Surinam, we shook hands and introduced ourselves, we talked a bit, we played mafia... same day, same history, same thoughts: hmm, seemed like I was gonna enjoy this week!... And I was right!

**It wasn't only the program which made this experience unforgettable. It was the dialogue, verbal and non-verbal, direct and indirect, with the person in front of you whom you just met and in**

# A PLACE, WHERE YOU CAN TOUCH THE HISTORY

## AND BECOME A PART OF IT

Rolduc is the name of a medieval abbey in Kerkrade, the Netherlands. This is a Roman Catholic seminary and important conferencing center. This is very interesting building.

It was my first experience of living in such an ancient and beautiful place like Rolduc. I looked around the area, I was hypnotized by the beauty of nature, magnificent views and landscapes. Of course, such an ancient building as the Rolduc creates special, magical atmosphere. You can go to the church, to the library, to the chapel or to the other interesting places where you can see things that are making real history. You can freely walk around and explore this place.

**Rolduc is not a usual historical building. In Ukraine, we have many old constructions, but most of them have already become museums, where you can't touch something because it's forbidden. So I was really surprised, when I saw some old wooden tables and children were playing cards on them. So in Rolduc everyone can easily see and even touch history. For me this is very important.**

It is also a big hotel, so this is why we were living there. In spite of fact, that we arrived at the deep night, we were warmly welcomed. There were a lot of people, but because of huge building everyone had enough space. It was my first visit to Germany, so I was really interested in exploration of the way that people of this country are living, so I think that was great to see actions of other people that surround you.

**To sum up, I should say that someday I'll return in the Rolduc, because week is not enough to enjoy all territory of the abbey. This is great historical place and I think everyone should visit it.**

MYKHAIL ZASHCHYK, TECHNICAL LYCEUM NTUU KPI, KYIV, UKRAINE, 2015

Wenn man mich früher gefragt hätte, was Rolduc ist, hätte ich beantwortet: «Wie bitte? Wo ist das?» Jetzt, wenn ich dieses Wort höre, erinnere ich mich sofort an die Woche, die ich dort verbracht habe. Niemand von uns wird diesen Ort irgendwann vergessen.

Erstens ist das der Ort mit der reichen und interessanten Geschichte. Das Kloster Rolduc wurde

1104 vom Chorherren Ailbert von Antoing gegründet. Der Abtei wurde von den Besitzern und den Weltereignissen beeinflusst, deshalb hat er jedes Jahr verändert. Das Koster wurde gebaut, zerstört, rekonstruiert. Heutzutage nutzt man das Koster als Hotel und Kongresszentrum aus.

**Zweitens denke ich an Rolduc als an das Haus. Meine Mitschüler, die auch früher an Euriade teilgenommen haben, haben mir über diesen Ort erzählt. Aber ich konnte damals die Atmosphäre der Ruhe und Freundlichkeit nicht fühlen. Und ich habe mir nicht vorgestellt, dass Rolduc so viele Eindrücke macht. Während dieser Woche war Rolduc unser Haus, wo wir Unterstützung finden können. Das größte Gebäude mit den hohen Wänden beeindruckte mich mit seiner Sicherheit. In Russland gibt es der Ausspruch: «sich wie zu Hause fühlen». Das gehört auch zu diesem Ort.**

Außerdem können wir Rolduc unseren Treffpunkt nennen. Wir machten uns hier mit vielen Leuten bekannt, die aus verschiedenen Ländern kommen. Wir sind verschieden, aber wir sind alle zusammen. Ich bin überzeugt, dass diese Leute mein Leben geändert und darauf gewirkt haben. Wir haben in der Zeit des Projektes auf die politische Situation in der Welt nicht geachtet, es war nicht so wichtig für uns. An Euriade haben die Jugendlichen teilgenommen, die in der Welt die Veränderungen bringen können. Vor uns steht eine große Aufgabe, zum Dialog zu kommen. Davon ist unsere Zukunft abhängig.

**Mit Rolduc sind viele warme Erinnerungen verbunden, die ich ganzes Leben im Gedächtnis behalten werde. Rolduc ist für mich nicht nur ein Kloster, sondern auch ein Haus, wohin ich zurückkommen kann, und ein Ort, an dem ich mich mit meiner neuen Familie getroffen habe.**

VALERIIA KALININA, SCHULE 2012, MOSKAU, RUSSLAND

## WHO IS WERNER JANSSEN?

He was born on August 7th 1944 in Mönchengladbach (G). He grew up there, in Kerkrade (NL) and Heerlen (NL).



He studied German language and literature, philosophy, sociology, pedagogy, ethnology, political science, psychology and dialect knowledge at the Universities of Nijmegen, Heidelberg, Amsterdam and Aachen. He has several doctorates. He taught/teaches/gives guest lectures at Universities in Germany, the Netherlands, Belgium, Russia and Austria. He is chairman of the Curatorium of the Martin Buber-plaque. He writes poetry under the pseudonym Heinz Hof. He is director of the international chamber music festival AmadèO. He is headmaster of the Martin Buber University (MBU). He is founder and director of the EURIADE.

This is what you find when you google Werner Janssen.

**But we, the students from all over the world, who got to participate in EURIADE, don't know this sophisticated university professor who has dedicated his life to learning. Over the course of the**

**7 days we got to spend with this extraordinary man, we got to know him as someone for whom communication is the most important thing in the world, someone who is not afraid of putting a lot of effort behind making it possible, someone, who, accordingly, likes to talk a lot.**

**But most of all, we are all eternally grateful to him for giving us this amazing opportunity. He made it possible for us to meet, talk, exchange opinions and beliefs and, most important, make new friends.**

**So this is me, saying: thank you. The week I got to spend in Rolduc was one of the best in my life. And to all of you, who will participate next year: bring warm clothing, take as many pictures as you can, make lots of new friends and, most important: enjoy.**

**SABINE KOCK, PIARISTENGYMNASIUM, VIENNA (AUSTRIA)**

## A VERY IMPORTANT MEETING IN MY LIFE THAT GAVE ME NEW EXPERIENCE

During the event I met so interesting and special people. We created together good connection. We spent a lot of time with each other and we exchanged our opinions about everything.

Ms. Valerine made very positive impression on me, because she explained us how important are our gestures in our conversations with people.

In this meeting an important role played the arrival to Aachen in Germany. There were disabled people who worked there. My devoirs, because those people have more desire to do work with smiling than ordinary, healthy people.

**The meeting with refugees gave me a lot of emotions. They were telling the story of their difficult life in their country and the problem concerning**

**the starting their new life.**

**The greatest person in this event I think was professor Werner. He is the organizer of this wonderful event and at the same time he is the person who made very good lectures for us. All the time I was surprised, because he has a great influence on us. He told us a lot of significant things about the relation with other people.**

In the evenings we were on the concerts and we were listening great music. That was a nice experience, because we could spend nice time together. It was best time of my life. I met a lot of interesting people who are my friends now.

**MICHAL KOREK, ZESPÓŁ SZKÓŁ ŻEGLUGI ŚRÓDLĄDOWEJ (POLAND)**

# JUGEND IM DIALOG / YOUTH IN DIALOGUE 2016

Folgende Personen und Institutionen haben  
**Jugendliche "adoptiert"**

- Dr. Bühlbecker, Lambertz, Aachener Printen- und Schokoladenfabrik
- Dr. Susanne Fischer, Aachen,  
Rechtsanwältin  
"Anwälte am Markt"
- Walther Janssen, Geschäftsführer i.R.  
Janssen Cosmetics, Aachen
- Förderkreis Deutsch-Niederländisches  
Jugendwerk e.V., Aachen
- Dipl.- Ing., Phys. Edmond D. Krecké,  
Entrepreneur, Wiesbaden
- Dr. Bernd Lorscheider, Lustmühle (CH)
- Dipl.- Ing. Klaus Rabba, Entrepeneur,  
Nice (F)
- Rotary Club Aachen - Land
- Dr. Phil. Jörg Schmitz-Gielsdorf,  
Aachen/Limbourg
- Sabine Verheyen, Member of the  
European Parliament, Aachen
- Ralf Wagemann, Vorstand Sparkasse  
Aachen
- Harm Wiertz, Entrepreneur, Kerkrade

## PATRON, PATRONESS / YOUTH IN DIALOGUE



**Sabine Verheyen**

Member of the European  
Parliament (Brussel/  
Aachen - DE)



**Oliver Paasch**

Minister-President of the  
German-speaking Commu-  
nity of Belgium (Eupen-BE)



**Harm Wiertz**

Entrepreneur  
(Kerkrade - NL)



**Edmond D. Krecké**

Entrepreneur  
(Wiesbaden - DE)

# “... WO JUGEND IST, LEBT ZUKUNFT ...”

von Harm Wiertz - Beschermheer 'Jeugd in Dialoog' /  
Schirmherr „Jugend im Dialog“

De jeugd heeft de toekomst!

De winter komt langzaam maar zeker ten einde. Na maanden van kou stijgen de temperaturen. De lente is in aantocht. Misschien wel het mooiste jaargetijde: de lente. Immers de natuur leeft op. Bomen komen in bloei, vogels broeden nestjes en lammetjes worden geboren. De lente is bij uitstek het jaargetijde van de hoop, als je het mij vraagt. Het jaargetijde dat bewijst dat er steeds weer nieuw leven is en zal zijn. Dat vernieuwing zich steeds weer aandient. Zo is het ook met onze jeugd. Met de jonge generaties die telkens weer geboren worden, op weg gaan naar volwassenheid. Telkens weer stemt de komst van die nieuwe generatie hoopvol: nieuwe wereldleiders dienen zich aan, nieuwe medici, ontwerpers, timmerlieden. Ja waarachtig, waar de jeugd is leeft de toekomst. In die zin ben ik als beschermheer van Jeugd in Dialoog trots op het nieuwe seizoen dat komen gaat. Met een warm welkom ontvangen we jongeren afkomstig van alle werelddelen dit jaar weer in Kerkrade. Fijn dat jullie komen, we verheugen ons op de dialoog.

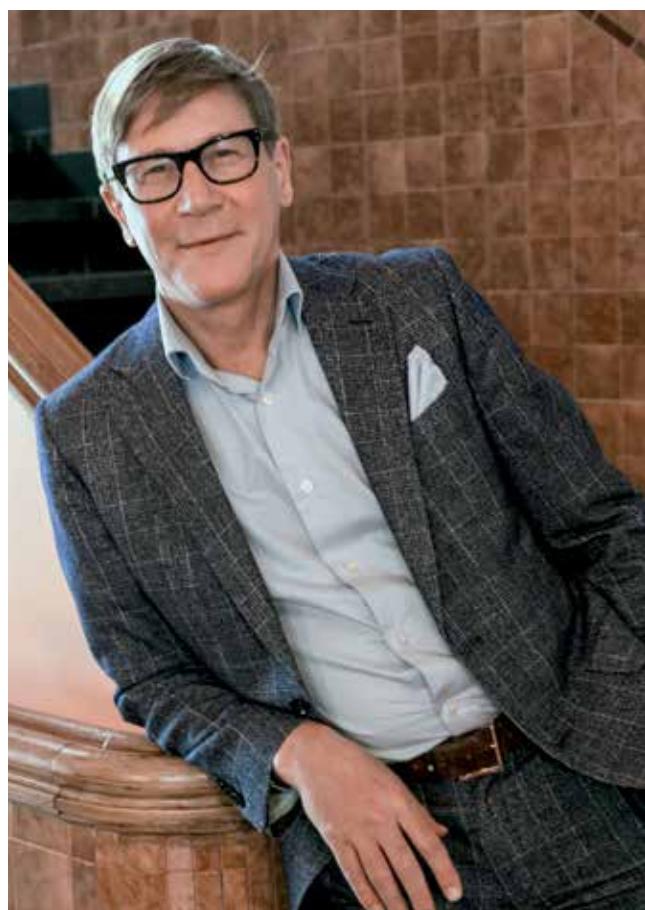
Die Jugend ist die Zukunft

Der Winter nähert sich seinem Ende. Nach Monaten der Kälte steigen die Temperaturen. Der Frühling kommt. Der Frühling ist vielleicht die schönste Jahreszeit. Die Natur erwacht. In den Bäumen entwickeln sich die Blüten. Vögel schlüpfen aus dem Ei, Lämmer werden geboren. Der Frühling ist meiner Meinung nach zweifelsohne die Jahreszeit der Hoffnung. Diese Jahreszeit ist der Beweis dafür, dass es immer neues Leben geben wird, dass Erneuerung immer wieder entsteht, wie bei

unserer Jugend. Die jungen Generationen sind auf dem Weg, erwachsen zu werden und das gibt Anlass zur Hoffnung: Sie sind die neuen weltpolitischen Führer, neuen Mediziner, Designer, Tischler. Es stimmt, wo Jugend ist, lebt Zukunft.

In diesem Sinne bin ich als Schirmherr von „Jugend im Dialog“ stolz auf die bevorstehende neue EURIADE-Saison. Mit einem herzlichen Willkommen empfangen wir auch dieses Jahr wieder die Jugendlichen aus aller Welt in Kerkrade. Schön, dass ihr kommt, wir freuen uns auf den Dialog.

(Übersetzung Martin Bloemers)



# “...EUROPA DURCH ALLTÄGLICHSTE DINGE IM KLEINEN LEBEN ...”

von OLIVER PAASCH - SCHIRMHERR „JUGEND IM DIALOG“

Liebe Leserinnen und Leser,

Als Ministerpräsident der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft Belgiens ehrt es mich, Schirmherr des diesjährigen Projektes „Jugend im Dialog“ sein zu dürfen.

Die große Bedeutung von Dialog in einer freien, demokratischen Gesellschaft könnte dieser Tage kaum besser verdeutlicht werden, als durch die andauernde Flüchtlingsthematik in Europa. Tatsächlich muss es jeden verantwortungsvollen Bürger Europas betroffen machen, wenn Menschen, die vor Krieg, Elend und Tod flüchten, in der Hoffnung auf ein besseres Leben in Europa, letztendlich in unserer vermeintlich hochentwickelten Welt oftmals auf Zurückweisung, Vorurteile, Ängste oder gar Gewalt stoßen. Meiner festen Überzeugung nach sollte es in diesem Zusammenhang die Aufgabe eines jeden Europäers sein, auf den „Fremden“ zuzugehen und sein Gegenüber durch einen ehrlichen, ernstgemeinten Dialog besser verstehen zu lernen.

Allein durch das Erwägen verschiedener Blickwinkel und die offene, kontroverse und fundierte Diskussion ist vielfach verbreiteten, gefährlichen Halbwahrheiten zu begegnen, die unseren Blick trüben, Ängste schüren und ein harmonisches Zusammenleben oftmals gar unmöglich machen. Allzu präsent sind zurzeit populistische Hassparolen, die in beunruhigender Weise an dunkelste Kapitel der europäischen Vergangenheit erinnern. Um es mit den Worten des US-amerikanischen Philosophs George Santayana auszudrücken: „Wer sich nicht an die Vergangenheit erinnern kann, ist dazu verdammt, sie zu wiederholen.“

Aus Sicht eines innerbelgischen Regierungschefs ist der systematisch betriebene, permanente Dialog mit verschiedenen Partnern schon angesichts des komplexen belgischen Staatsgefüges mit insgesamt sechs Regierungen unabdingbar. Nicht unbedeutend ist in diesem Zusammenhang auch die Rolle der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft als kleine Grenzregion im Herzen Europas: Tag für Tag wird Europa hier durch

alltäglichste Dinge „im Kleinen“ erlebt. Auch machen wir uns immer wieder zur Aufgabe, Menschen unterschiedlichster Hintergründe und Kulturen zu verbinden und auf diese Weise zur Errichtung sprichwörtlicher Brücken der Kulturen beizutragen.

Dass die „Euriade“ Jahr für Jahr Jugendliche aus aller Welt in der Euregio Maas-Rhein zum Dialog versammelt, ist bemerkenswert. Über politische Dimensionen hinweg verdeutlicht das Projekt, wie einfach und selbstverständlich Dialog funktionieren kann, wenn besonders mentale Grenzen - Stereotypen und Vorbehalte, die gerade uns „Erwachsene“ oftmals in unseren Wahrnehmungen einschränken - erstmal überwunden wurden. Es stimmt mich für die Zukunft zuversichtlich, dass junge Menschen, die Verantwortungsträger der Welt von morgen, diesen Schritt wagen und durch ihre Offenheit einen wichtigen Beitrag zu einem friedvollen Miteinander leisten. Ich hoffe, dass „Jugend im Dialog“ auch zukünftig noch viele weitere Menschen inspirieren und mitreißen wird.

## Ihr Oliver Paasch

Ministerpräsident  
der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft Belgiens



Regierung der Deutschsprachigen Gemeinschaft Belgiens  
Oliver Paasch - Ministerpräsident



# “... BLICK ÜBER DIE EIGENEN GRENZEN ...”

29.01.2016

von Sabine Verheyen - Mitglied des Europäischen Parlamentes und Schirmherrin „Jugend im Dialog“

Liebe Leserinnen und Leser,

wenn wir in Brüssel und Straßburg über die Zukunft der Europäischen Union diskutieren, dann wird auch oft die Frage nach der europäischen Identität aufgeworfen. Die Frage, ob sich die Menschen in Europa, ob jung oder alt, mit dem einzigartigen „Projekt Europa“ identifizieren. Ob sie sich nicht nur als Deutsche, Niederländer oder Belgier fühlen, sondern auch oder sogar vor allem als Europäer.

Mein Austausch mit jungen Menschen zeigt mir immer wieder, wie selbstverständlich und alltäglich für sie das Leben in unserem Europa ist – und zwar mit all seinen Vorzügen und Errungenschaften. Ich bin sicher, dass sie das, was wir in Europa in den letzten Jahrzehnten erreicht haben, nicht mehr missen möchten. Und wenn ich sehe, mit welcher Offenheit sie auf andere junge Menschen aus Europa zugehen, dann habe ich doch auch das Gefühl, dass in diesen jungen Menschen wahrhafte Europäer stecken.

Ich bin unheimlich froh, dass das Programm „Jugend im Dialog“ den Austausch zwischen Jugendlichen in Europa fördert und so auch einen wichtigen Beitrag zur Bildung einer europäischen Identität leistet. Es war mir auch dieses Mal eine besonders große Freude, im vergangenen November an einem unheimlich spannenden Austausch zwischen Jugendlichen aus aller Welt teilzunehmen. Die Offenheit, Direktheit und Tiefe, mit der sich die Jugendlichen der unterschiedlichen politischen Themen angenommen haben, hat mich sehr berührt. Ich halte es für unglaublich wichtig, dass wir den Austausch zwischen Jugendlichen in Europa und weltweit fördern und weiter ausbauen. So können diese jungen Menschen die unterschiedlichen Lebensweisen, Kulturen und Mentalitäten kennen und schätzen lernen. Dieser Blick über die eigenen Grenzen hinweg

ist in meinen Augen für ein friedvolles Miteinander von großer Bedeutung. Auch habe ich mich sehr gefreut zu erfahren, dass

bei den Jugendlichen ein enormes Interesse an der Lösung europäischer Grundsatzfragen besteht. Fragen zur aktuellen politischen Lage sowie Probleme, die sich aktuell in Europa durch den großen Flüchtlingszufluss ergeben, waren zentrale Bestandteile unserer angeregten Diskussion auf der Burg Rode. Das Programm „Jugend im Dialog“ schafft es, auf unterschiedlichen Ebenen den Austausch zwischen Jugendlichen und Politik zu fördern. Als Europaabgeordnete ist es mir ein besonderes Anliegen, auch weiterhin junge Menschen zu ermutigen, aktiv an der politischen Diskussion teilzunehmen. Aber nicht nur der politische Diskurs, sondern der Dialog grundsätzlich ist von großer Bedeutung für Frieden, Verständnis und Toleranz.

Dem Projekt „Jugend im Dialog“ wünsche ich auch in Zukunft einen solch großen Zuspruch. Ich freue mich bereits auf viele weitere interessante Begegnungen und Diskussionen.

Ihre

Mitglied des Europäischen Parlamentes, Sprecherin im Ausschuss für Kultur und Bildung



# “... EUREGIO ... STÄTTE DES VERTRAUENS ...”

von EDMOND D. KRECKÉ SCHIRMHERR „JUGEND IM DIALOG“

Werner Janssen, Gründer und Intendant der EURIADE, erklärt uns im Vorwort der EuriArtes 2015 die etymologische Bedeutung von "vertrauen" als "sich verbinden mit dem, was (uns) trägt". Dabei geht er aus von der indogermanischen Wurzel "t(e)r, "terra", welche "Träger, das Tragende, auch Erde..." bedeutet. Auf dieser Erde - unserem Planeten - haben wie die Verantwortung, dass alle Menschen, jeglicher Herkunft, glauben, sprechen, altern, sich verbinden, einander vertrauen können. In Frieden und Freiheit - ohne Hass, Neid oder Krieg!

Unsere hehre Aufgabe muss demnach lauten: Die Erde, hier unsere "kleine" Euregio, als eine Stätte des Vertrauens zum ANDEREN, zusammen mit Menschen, die unserer Hilfe bedürfen, die wir vereint gemeinsam und selbstlos unterstützen, zu gestalten.

Alle Gäste der EURIADE - insbesondere die Jugend aus aller Welt, die sich, kommend aus den verschiedensten Kulturen, Ländern, Religionen, Überzeugungen und Systemen während des EURIADE-Projektes „Jugend im Dialog“ treffen – werden die jährlichen Besuche in dieser Euregio immer als ein Fanal des Miteinander, als „Leuchtturm einer heilen Welt“ in warmer und unvergesslicher Erinnerung behalten!

Die Jugendlichen begegnen sich, erfahren und erleben sich als wertvolle Menschen! Geprägt von Einsicht, Respekt und Freundschaft vor und für einander gehen sie als ANDERE Menschen nach Hause, um dort ihre Erfahrungen weiter in die Welt zu tragen. Hier sind sie „wir geworden“!

Die Euriade ist ein Festival der Freundschaft, ein großes Erleben von Freundschaft zu Menschen, die sich nicht mehr vergessen werden!

Während des „Internationales Festival des Dialogs Euriade 2015“ erlebte ich am 27. November in der Aula Minor der Abdij Rolduc/Kerkrade als eingeladener Schirmherr das Gespräch der Ju-

gendlichen mit dem Träger der Martin Buber-Plakette Thomas Quasthof und dessen Laudator Pieter Alferink. Es war ein unvergessliches, bewegendes Erlebnis, zu sehen, wie man sich aus der Anonymität heraus über das Gespräch immer näher und näher kam....

Mit großem Applaus wurde diese hoch motivierende Dialog-Runde beendet. Eine große Begeisterung der Freude und der wertvollen Begegnungen war klar erkennbar und zu spüren.

Während „Jugend im Dialog“ stehen die konkreten Lebenssituationen der jungen Menschen im Mittelpunkt. Sie suchen und finden in ihrem Umgang miteinander und dem Anderen – Mönchen, Unternehmern, Behinderten, Künstlern, auch mit Geschichte und Umwelt – Worte, eine Sprache, das Gespräch, worin sich ein jeder, auch wenn er gegensätzlicher Meinung oder Auffassung ist, wohl fühlt... Mehrere anschließende Gespräche mit diversen Gruppen dieser hochmotivierten, sensibilisierten Jugendlichen bestätigten auch mir, dass dieser Gedankenaustausch, diese Dialoge, wie ein Samenkorn in fruchtbarer Erde, beste Wachstumschancen, weltweite Akzeptanz und Bereicherungen erfahren haben...

Ich wünsche allen Teilnehmern an der EURIADE 2016, vor allem den jungen Leuten aus aller Welt eine besondere Zeit der Verinnerlichung ihrer Begegnungen. Dabei soll Vertrauen die Kraft sein, sich miteinander zu verbinden.....

Dem Intendanten und Gründer der Euriade Werner Janssen sowie allen Mitverantwortlichen gebührt mein großer Dank für diese positiven, weltumspannenden Gedanken!

Mit herzlichem Gruß

**Dipl.- Ing., Phys. Edmond D. KRECKÉ**  
Schirmherr „Jugend im Dialog“

# CURATORIUM MARTIN BUBER-PLAQUE

The Curatorium consists of carefully selected men and women representing different groups of society. The members gather once a year to discuss the list of potential candidates and to make a well-pondered proposal to the executive board of EURIADE Foundation. The EURIADE chairman also chairs the Curatorium of the Martin Buber-Plaque. The members (in alphabetical order:



**Christoph von den Driesch**  
Mayor of Herzogenrath



**Hilde Scheidt**  
Mayoress of Aachen



**Helmut Etschenberg**  
Städteregionsrat der  
StädteRegion Aachen



**Petra Schumann**  
Housewife



**Werner Janssen**  
Chairman of EURIADE



**Jos Som**  
Mayor of Kerkrade/NL



**Oliver Paasch**  
Prime Minister of the German-speaking Community  
of Belgium (Eupen-BE)



**Paul Thönissen**  
Rector  
Sintermeerten College,  
Heerlen/NL



**Martin Paul**  
President Maastricht  
University



**Ralf Wagemann**  
Member of the  
Executive Board Sparkasse  
Aachen



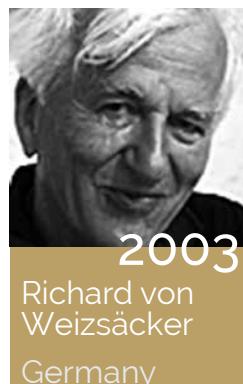
**Huub Paulissen**  
Projectmanager Portfolio  
Concentra NV

# TRÄGER DER MARTIN BUBER-PLAKETTE HOLDERS MARTIN BUBER-PLAQUE



2002

Helmut  
Schmidt  
Germany



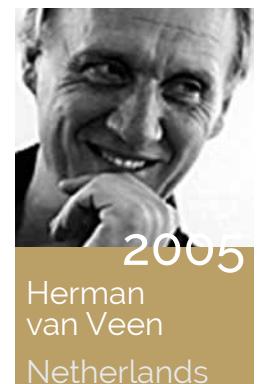
2003

Richard von  
Weizsäcker  
Germany



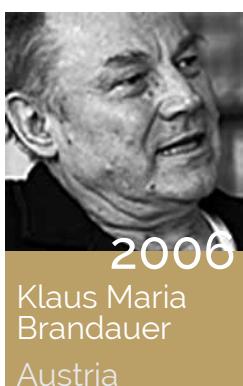
2004

Karl Heinz  
Böhm (†2014)  
Austria



2005

Herman  
van Veen  
Netherlands



2006

Klaus Maria  
Brandauer  
Austria



2007

Waris  
Dirie  
Somalia/ AT



2008

Michail  
Gorbatschow  
Russia



2008

Irina  
Virganskaya  
Russia



2009

Hugo  
Tempelman  
South Africa/ NL



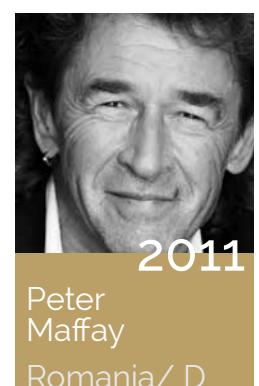
2009

Liesje  
Tempelman  
South Africa/ NL



2010

H.R.H. Prinses  
Irene of the  
Netherlands



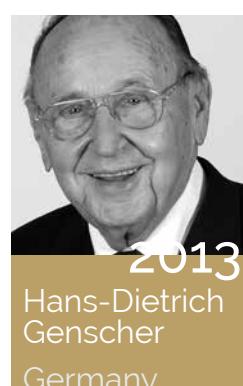
2011

Peter  
Maffay  
Romania/ D



2012

Garry  
Kasparov  
Russia



2013

Hans-Dietrich  
Genscher  
Germany



2014

H.M. Queen  
Silvia  
Sweden



2015

Thomas  
Quasthoff  
Germany

## MARTIN BUBER-PLAKETTE/PLAQUE 2016

# KLAUS JOHANNIS,

DEN RUMÄNISCHEN STAATSPRÄSIDENTEN/  
THE PRESIDENT OF RUMANIA

Klaus Johannis war lange Zeit Pädagoge. Einer, bei dem – wie Tradition in Siebenbürgen – das Humane immer im Vordergrund stand und steht... Anschließend war er viele Jahre Oberbürgermeister von Hermannstadt, der einzigen Stadt in Rumänien, die den Titel Kulturhauptstadt Europas getragen hat. Dank einer intensiven Bürgerbeteiligung, die selbst die optimistischsten Erwartungen übertroffen hat, wurde er 2014 zum Staatspräsidenten Rumäniens gewählt. Seine Politik zeichnet sich aus durch Vision, Transparenz und vor allem durch Verantwortungsbewusstsein, um den unterschiedlichen Interessen, Erwartungen und Forderungen der Bürger gerecht zu werden. Es ist sein „Anliegen, Rumänien zu einem starken, wohlhabenden, modernen und gänzlich europäisierten Staat werden zu lassen.“

Das Kuratorium Martin Buber-Plakette und der Vorstand der Euriade bestimmten ihn zum diesjährigen Laureaten wegen seiner humanen Einstellung bzw. eines Auftretens, welches von Respekt vor dem ANDEREN geprägt ist. Entsprechend übernimmt er in Rumänien und in Europa politische und gesellschaftliche Verantwortung.

Klaus Iohannis was many years a pedagogue with a humane vision. Humanpedagogue is an old tradition in Siebenbürgen! After that he became the mayor of Hermannstadt, the only Romanian city to have held the title of European Capital of Culture. He became President with a massive popular vote that surpassed even the most optimistic expectations. As President of Romania, Klaus Iohannis pursues a visionary, active and transparent policy, taking responsibility for the reconciliation of different interests and needs of his citizens. "His ultimate goal is that Romania becomes a powerful, prosperous and modern state, fully integrated into present Europe."

The "curatorium" Martin Buber-Plaque and the board of the Euriade designate him to the laureate this year in relation to his humanity and his humane activities which show respect for the OTHER. In that way he takes his political and social responsibility in Rumania and in Europe ...

*„Wir sehen die Verwaltung tatsächlich als Dienst (...) an der Gemeinschaft, ohne dass wir damit ein Lob erwarten!“* (aus einem Interview in der Masterthesis von Waltraud Hermann)



FESTAKT/CEREMONY: 18. NOVEMBER 2016

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BIC: AACSDDE33

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- Ratskeller & Postwagen - Markt 40, Aachen, +49 (0)241 407341/ 9291557
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- Art Hotel Aachen - Adenauerallee 209, Aachen, +49 (0)241 608360
- Art Superior Hotel Aachen - Am Branderhof 101, Aachen, +49 (0)241 60970

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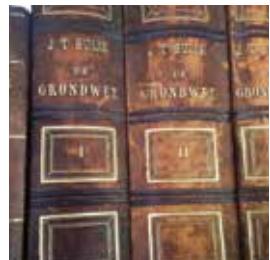
## DE KRACHT VAN HET ARGUMENT

### LOCATIE KERKRADE

Schaesbergerstraat 16  
6467 EC Kerkrade  
Tel: 045 5639303  
Fax: 045 5639304  
E-mail: mail@pennino.nl  
Web: www.pennino.nl

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Rechtstraat 34  
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Tel: 043 3250109  
Fax: 045 5639304  
E-mail: mail@pennino.nl  
Web: www.pennino.nl



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das inhabergeführte  
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