



YEN Youth of European Nationalities
JEV Jugend Europäischer Volksgruppen
MHE Молодёжь народностей Европы
JCEE Jeunesse des Communautés Ethniques Européennes

Press release

Youth of European Nationalities

*Living diversity!
Vielfalt leben!
Разнообразие!
Vivre la diversité!*

Youth Leader Seminar successfully concluded YEN opens new homepage and starts image campaign

On the 7th of November the Youth Leader Seminar „Euroburja 2004“ of the Youth of European Nationalities was successfully concluded. It took place in Campo Sacro/ Božje Polje, close to Trieste / Trst.

60 young people from several minorities in Europe discussed the regions of Europe and the situation of minorities and minority youth within a new, enlarged Europe. The hosting organisation was this year the youth of the Slovenian minority in Italy – MOSP (Mladi v odkrivanju skupnih poti).

„On this seminar we wanted to concentrate on the importance of the region in an enlarged European union to benefit from the Change process of this development“, according to the president of the YEN speaking about the content of the seminar. The participants got from experts a historical overview of the region, of its regional development and a presentation of specific projects to improve the attractiveness of the region, so that negative demographic tendencies can be counteracted. Furthermore a scientific study of the Slovenian Research Institute about the youth of the Slovenian minority was presented and analysed. The impressions and opinions were discussed together in a final discussion.

„Because the bi- or multilingualism of the members of minorities, they are important bridge builders in the European integration process. They are also the motor for the economic development of the border-regions. With their minority competences, language skills and the commitment to their region, they contribute to border-crossing cooperation. This can help to overcome the economic and socio-political disadvantages of the border-regions“, Kleinschmidt is the opinion.

Punctually at the Youth Leader Seminar the new homepage and the virtual community of the YEN was presented. www.yeni.org is not only supposed to be the information platform about the YEN, but especially also the medium of communication for the minority youth in Europe.

„With enlargement and interactive functionality the participation of young members of minorities in Europe should be stimulated, also in a virtual YEN“, says Carinthian Slovene Hugo Kristof, one of the creators of the new YEN-page. Complementary the image campaign of the YEN with its motto: *Ethnic minorities make Europe richer* was presented with posters and postcards-stickers.

The Youth of European Nationalities (YEN) is with 27 member organisations the largest minority youth organisation in Europe. Joined in a network the youth wants to stress the interests of minorities and their problems in particular. The Youth Leader Seminar is apart from the traditional Easter Seminar the largest central event of the network YEN.

YEN wants to thank, in the name of all participants, the host Mladi v odkrivanju skupnih poti (MOSP) and their many diligent assistants as well as all sponsors and supporters.

**YOUTH OF EUROPEAN NATIONALITIES (YEN)
JUGEND EUROPÄISCHER VOLKSGRUPPEN (JEV)**

Living diversity / Vielfalt leben

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