

Fwd: Europe – the young generation

Citizenship education
and the development
of European democracy



September 30th to October 2nd, 2015

Französische Friedrichstadtkirche, Berlin-Mitte
and Ev. Bildungsstätte auf Schwanenwerder

www.eaberlin.de



The European Union is facing many challenges. During the past few years, the so-called “Euro-crisis” has highlighted the fact that deeper economic integration cannot be maintained without steps towards a closer political union. While fundamental political decisions are on the agenda, there is a lack of public debate around these critical aspects determining Europe’s future.

Today, particularly for young people, Europe seems to be at once a daily reality and yet very abstract. Many of them enjoy the European cultural diversity and the freedom of movement granted by Schengen. While enthusiasm for languages, culture and encounters with fellow Europeans is ever popular, this trend has not automatically generated identification with the political structure of the “EU”.

An alarming fact is that some founding elements of the European project, namely mutual cooperation and solidarity as the basis for peace, economic growth and social welfare in all member states, are increasingly doubtful for young people. They not only are under the impression that their voices aren’t heard, but the persuasive power of 60 years of continued economic growth has been eroded by the impact of recent policies to counter the financial crises. Many people perceive these attempts as one sided and as a direct cause of social hardship for an entire generation.

All three elements – an ever-accelerating dynamic in European integration, the lack of opportunities to participate and dwindling trust in the EU’s benefits – have driven many EU citizens into the arms of euro-sceptical parties. For those who feel overwhelmed or threatened by plurality and economic change, the promise of an allegedly secure national state yet again has become seductive.

During the past months and years, many promising initiatives have reinvigorated the debate about Europe’s future. To further support this trend, the conference “Fwd: Europe” invites committed Europeans to present their projects, exchange experiences and develop new ideas to strengthen European civil society. Which projects and narratives of Europe promise to be successful in the future? What are the expectations young citizens have towards the EU? How can citizenship education for European democracy be shaped in the future? We kindly invite you to join the debate!

On behalf of all cooperating institutions

Dr. Claudia Schäfer

Evangelische Akademie zu Berlin

Ole Jantschek

Evangelische Akademien in Deutschland e.V. / Evangelische Trägergruppe für gesellschaftspolitische Jugendbildung

Program

Wednesday, September 30th 2015

Public discussion

Französische Friedrichstadtkirche
Gendarmenmarkt Berlin

5 p.m. Arrival and registration

6 p.m. **Welcome**

Dr. Christian Staffa, Evangelische Akademie zu Berlin

6.15 p.m. **Fwd: Europe – The future of European democracy**

Keynote:

Dr. Ulrike Guérot, European Democracy Lab, Berlin (D)

Panel:

Blerina Karagjozi, one-europe.info, Tirana (ALB)

Dr. Mayte Schomburg, publixphere.net / Berkman Center for Internet & Society, Hamburg (D)/ Boston (US)

Jon Worth, blogger, jonworth.eu, Berlin (D) / (UK)

Benjamin Zeeb, Project for Democratic Union, Munich (D)

Facilitator:

Ole Jantschek, Evangelische Akademien in Deutschland e.V. / Evangelische Trägergruppe für gesellschafts-politische Jugendbildung, Berlin (D)

8.30 p.m. **End of the panel discussion**

Venue

Französische Friedrichstadtkirche (Französischer Dom), room Casalis (basement)

Gendarmenmarkt 5, 10117 Berlin (Mitte)

Arrival

S-Bahn / U-Bahn S-Bahn to Bahnhof Friedrichstraße, then change to U6 bound to Alt Mariendorf until Französische Straße.

Car – there are no parking spots free of charge in the vicinity.

From Airport Tegel Bus TXL bound to Mollstr./Prenzlauer Allee until bus stop Unter den Linden/Friedrichstraße, duration: approx. 40 minutes.

From airport Schönefeld S-Bahn S45 bound to S+U Gesundbrunnen until S+U-Bhf. Tempelhof, then U6 until Französische Straße, duration: approx. 60 minutes.



Program

Wednesday, September 30th 2015

- 9 p.m. Transfer of conference participants from Französische Friedrichstadtkirche to Schwanenwerder island
- 9.30 p.m. **Welcome, snack and getting to know at the villa**

Thursday, October 1st 2015

Conference

Evangelische Bildungsstätte
Schwanenwerder, Berlin

- from 7 a.m. Breakfast
- 8.30 a.m. Shuttle Service from S-Bahn Nikolassee
- from 8.30 a.m. registration
- 9.15 a.m. **Welcome & Hello!**
- 10 a.m. **Join the discussions online – spread inspiring ideas**
Eva Breitbach, *Community manager, publixphere.net, Berlin (D)*
- 10.15 a.m. **Our Europe – a journey through the life of young people in 24 countries**
Film screening & Skype-Interview
Peter Laugesen / Elena Askløf, *our-europe.com, Copenhagen (DK)*
- 10.45 a.m. Coffee Break
- 11 a.m. **Doing Europe – It's (not) about identity!?**
How can citizenship education and international projects for active citizenship contribute to the development of European democracy?
Eva Feldmann-Wojtachnia, *Research Group Youth and Europe, Center for Applied Policy Research, Munich (D)*
- 12.30 p.m. Lunch
- 2 p.m. **Doing Europe – Inspiring projects to promote active citizenship and participation of young people in Europe**
Track 1: topics, projects and methods
(75 min/incl. pecha kucha)
Track 2: topics, projects and methods
(75 min/incl. pecha kucha)
Track 3: open space (75 min)

Program

Citizenship education with young people in vocational training,
Christian Wolf, *Du bist Europa, Germany*

European youth take over day, Jamie Elkaleh, *United Kingdom*

Europe – a new version is available, Victoria Kupsch, *European Democracy Lab, Germany*

Europe is here, Claudia Nickel, *aej, Germany*

Lost after Login. How to make interactive online tools work,
Annegret Schneider/ Sandra Holtermann, *Planpolitik, Germany*

Once upon today... in Europe, Carolin Wenzel, *Kreisau-Initiative, Germany*; Tetyana Strashevskya, *Changelog, Ukraine*; Andrea Chiricescu, *National Association of Young Historians of Moldova*

One Europe, Cherian Grundman, *Germany*

S.A.M.E. world, Rita Trautmann, *Arche Nova, Germany*

Vote et vous / Démocratie ouverte, Benjamin Kurc / Alban Genty, *France*

6.30 p.m. Dinner

8 p.m. **V for Varoufakis**
Sharing of European comedy –
contributions welcome!
Room: Zehlendorf

Friday, October 2nd 2015

from 7 a.m. Breakfast

9.15 a.m. **Conclusions and impulses for discussion**
Gallery Walk – Sharing of insights and inspirations
from the previous day

10 a.m. **Strengthening European democracy – Insights**
for citizenship education and youth
participation

Jochen Butt-Posnik, *Service and Transfer Agency EU Youth Strategy, Germany*

Marc Cases, *International Falcon Movement, Spain*

Alexandre Egger, *Think Young, Belgium*

Tobias Köck, *German Federal Youth Council, Germany*

Victoria Kupsch, *European Democracy Lab, Germany*

Rüdiger Noll, *Ecumenical Association of Academies and Laity Centres OIKOS-Net Europe, Germany*

12 p.m. **Wrap-up and farewell**

12.30 p.m. Lunch

1.30 p.m. **Shuttle Service to S-Bahn Nikolassee**

Fees

Conference from Wednesday, September 30th 2015 until Friday, October 2nd 2015 at Evangelische Bildungsstätte Schwanenwerder:

30,- EUR (reduced 15,- EUR)

Single room additional fee 20,- EUR

Registration

Please register online until September 23rd at

www.eaberlin.de/seminars

Registration is valid after our written confirmation.

Venue

Evangelische Bildungsstätte auf Schwanenwerder

Inselstraße 27–28, 14129 Berlin (Nikolassee)

phone (030) 847 14 – 207

Arrival

There is a bus shuttle from Französische Friedrichstadtkirche to Schwanenwerder on Wednesday 30th after the discussion at 9 p.m. If you arrive at Schwanenwerder on Thursday, October 1st, please take the S7 (bound to Potsdam) or S1 (bound to Wannsee) to S-Bahn station Nikolassee. There will be a shuttle waiting for you at the exit Spanische Allee / Strandbad Wannsee at 8.30 a.m.

If you arrive at any other time during the conference, please get off at S-Bahn station Wannsee and take a taxi there. There are no taxis at Nikolassee.



Information for participants

“Fwd: Europe” means: Forwarding and promoting ideas that are inspiring and worth spreading. You want to get in touch with other people, present your work or learn from the experiences of others?

There are different ways to join the discussions:

“Doing Europe” – prepare a pecha kucha presentation or propose a session!

The basic idea of the conference is to allow for exchange and networking among participants. In tracks 1 and 2 of the session “Doing Europe”, you can introduce your work in a Pecha Kucha presentation. Pecha Kucha means 20 slides are shown for 20 seconds each, 6 minutes and 40 seconds in total. Afterwards, there will be time to split up in groups for workshops and discussions. In the third track, other questions or ideas for cooperation can be discussed in an open space format. Participants are free to move between discussion rounds.

“Experiencing Europe” – Bring your European partners! Bringing partners from different countries together, is always a challenge. We want to encourage you to invite your partner organisations from European countries. For those who want to present a project, support for travel costs is available.

“Debating Europe online” – Join the discussion on Publixphere!

Before, during and after the conference, the political discussion platform publixphere.net will make your voice heard. Check out www.publixphere.net and join the discussions. Your ideas, questions and opinions will be included in the conference.

“Fwd: Europe” – Help promoting good ideas on social media!

The conference’s hashtag is #fwdeurope.

Organisation

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Evangelische Akademie zu Berlin

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The activity takes place within the framework of the Protestant network for citizenship education of young people (Ev. Trägergruppe für gesellschaftspolitische Jugendbildung) and is supported by the Federal Ministry for Family Affairs, Senior Citizens, Women and Youth – BMFSFJ.