

Youth 2002 - a preliminary project description

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Brief description of the project

(Youth 2002)

Youth 2002 is a European event for young people established to create an objective debate concerning a possible European Constitution. It will be held in connection with Denmark taking over the EU presidency in July 2002. A thousand young people from all over Europe will gather at 13 Danish folk high schools to discuss a possible future **European Constitution** in the context of the challenges and possibilities of the EU and the globalisation.

The purpose of Youth 2002 is to:

- Start a long, broad and thorough debate concerning the future EU especially with regard to the IGC 2004 and thus contribute to the strengthening of a common European public sphere.
- Show the perspectives in modern information technology in relation to *life long* and *life wide learning, eLearning, eContent*.
- Celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the European Parliament by creating a *Virtual European Parliament* on the Internet within the framework of the Internet portal *Globalisation & Democracy*.
- Bring the significance of the European Youth Programmes as a lever for political debate based on knowledge and objectivity, which is the foundation for a true democracy, into focus.
- Underline the vital importance of people meeting and living together across linguistic, cultural, national, social and religious differences in order to establish a common European public sphere.
- Employ the concept of “unity in diversity” as the folk high schools’ special choreography and educational theory and practice are used within a European framework.

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The association Youth 2002

The Youth 2002 Association was established at the statutory general meeting on May 22nd, 2001. Its only objective is to organise the event Youth 2002 in connection with Denmark taking over the EU presidency in July 2002. Youth 2002 consists of the following associations and folk high schools:

Associations:

- FFD – Association of Folk High Schools in Denmark
- ACC – Association for Community Colleges
- IUC-Europe – International Education Center
- New Europe

Folk high schools:

- Ask Højskole
- Askov Højskole
- Brandbjerg Højskole
- The International People's College
- Egmont Højskolen
- Esbjerg Højskole
- Højskolen Østersøen
- IT-folkehøjskolen Snoghøj
- Kerteminde Højskole
- Oure Idrætshøjskole
- Ry Højskole
- Rønshoved Højskole
- Skælskør Folkehøjskole

The board:

Asbjørn LYBY (*chairman*)
Nina NØRGAARD (*vice-chairman*)
Knud-Erik THERKELSEN
Kim MORTENSEN
Mads FUGLEDE
Elly ANDERSEN
Kim HJERRILD
Jakob ERLE
Ebbe KLØVEDAL REICH

The secretariat:

John PETERSEN
Søren WINTHER LUNDBY

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Budget

Youth 2002 BUDGET		Youth 2002 <u>FUNDING</u>				Balance sheet
		The Danish Ministry of Education	The EU*	Youth 2002/ Funds generated from operations	Public and private sponsors	
Spec. No.	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	EUR	
1.	The association/the board	9,584	-1,530	-6,711	-1,342	0
2.	The secretariat	169,664	-118,523		-51,141	0
3.	The 14 folk high schools	1,636,738	-822,856	-406,898	-537	0
4.	Speakers/lectures	67,114	-67,114			0
5.	ICT	268,456	-134,228		-134,228	0
6.	Globalisation portal	217,450	-213,423		-4,027	0
7.	Travelling expenses	295,302	-134,228	-100,671	-60,403	0
8.	Insurance	20,134	-20,134			0
Total	2,674,859	-822,856	-1,094,549	-507,118	-251,678	0
		* = The European Parliament and the European Commission				

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Comments elaborating on parts of the project:

1) The association/the board

Funds have been allocated to hold board meetings. These will be held approximately every fourth week during Youth 2002. Expenses for auditing of Youth 2002 have also been placed under this budgetary item as well as reimbursement of board members' travel expenses.

2) The secretariat

During the next couple of months, two employees will be hired full-time. Following this period, one of the two employees will continue full-time and the other part-time. A trainee worker will be employed to do some minor work. We also plan to make use of a professional translator. Furthermore, expenses for telephone, newspapers, books and other revenue expenditures as well as an item covering distribution of material concerning Youth 2002 have been included under this budgetary item.

3) (Expenses specifically related to) the 14 folk high schools

A larger part of the expenditures concerning the 14 folk high schools covers salaries for lecturers at the folk high schools. There will be one lecturer for each ten to twelve students. Furthermore, this item includes board and lodging for the thousand students. Expenses hereto are *below* the level of expenditures usually allocated to the so-called "short courses" at the folk high schools. This is due to the fact that because of the size of this project and the collaboration between the folk high schools and the Youth 2002 Association, we are able to cut down/rationalise on some of the expenses.

Naturally, it would have been cheaper if these thousand young people only stayed together for a few days at the same place, but the effect would be far from the same. What separates this event from more traditional political education, conferences and meetings is the participation of the 14 folk high schools in Youth 2002. By living together for three weeks, these young people will come to know each other very well. A number of new and long-lasting friendships and networks will be established, and usually people who have been to a folk high school form friendships that last for decades after.

Staying at a folk high school also means that the various discussions concerning global and European issues will take place *locally*. Thus, the 'great debate concerning the future of Europe' will actually take place among the citizens of Europe and not once again be a debate taking place merely among a small group of experts and politicians living in the capitals of Europe.

4) Speakers/lectures

The three weeks stay at the folk high schools will be characterised by a very high level of professionalism with regard to teaching and education. As mentioned above there will be one lecturer for each ten to twelve students. Furthermore, we intend to involve a number of speakers and advisers from outside. Several prominent speakers, who usually give lectures in the big cities only, will stay in local surroundings at the folk high schools.

Furthermore, we will take both the time and effort afterwards to edit the lectures and incorporate them into the educational IT material, which is to characterise the globalisation portal mentioned elsewhere in this paper. The individual events will 'continue to live' on the Internet and will thus constitute yet another example of the great opportunities that this medium poses. The effect of the dissemination of the individual lectures will be considerably larger than is usually the case with regard to political events.

5) ICT

Youth 2002 will contribute to the illustration of the future possibilities with respect to employing modern information technology for the benefit of the democratic process. The interaction, which we intend to establish between the 14 schools through the Internet, corresponds to the interaction, which it would be suitable to establish between for instance a large number of schools throughout Europe or a large number of countries. What we are dealing with here is using the Internet to transgress the well-known geographical limitations with regard to political debate and commitment.

Our only problem is that employing the means of the future presupposes IT material that cannot yet be found to a sufficient degree at the individual schools and educational establishments. Thus, it will be necessary to set aside a larger amount of money to *rent* extra computers, big screens for

video and power point presentation and projection and other IT material and to pay for the expenses related to transmitting the various lectures given at the folk high schools *live* on the Internet.

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Fund-raising

Youth 2002 will be funded by a wide range of sponsors, be it private or public funds, companies, organisations etc. Below is a list of possible sources.

Group A	Group B	Group C	Group D	Group E
Institutions	Organisations	Companies	Funds	Miscellaneous
The Danish Ministry of Education	Dansk Industri	B & O	Rockwool	Dansk Ungdoms-Fællesråd
The Danish Foreign Ministry	METAL	Arla	Højgaard	DCCA
The Danish Agency for Development of Trade and Industry	LO	VESTAS	Soros	DUPI
The European Commission	DA	Micon	Oticon	Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke
The European Parliament	Finansrådet	Danfoss	Simon Spies	Nævnet vedr. EU-oplysning
The Council of Europe (European Youth Foundation)	Landbrugsrådet	Grundfos	FLS	
The Nordic Council	Håndværksrådet	TDC	Egmont	
The City of Copenhagen	Dansk Handel & Service	Danish Crown	Demokratifonden	
(NATO)	SiD	Price Waterhouse Coopers	Danisco	
(OSCE)	HK	Siemens	BG Bankens Fond	
	KAD	Danske Bank	Politiken	
		Tivoli	Berlingske	
		Compaq	Danida's oplysningsbevilling	
		Nokia	Kong Frederik og Dronning Ingrid's Fond	
		Alcotini	Nordisk folkeoplysning	
		NOVO	Alex Foss' Industrifond	
		NKT	Carlsberg	
		Radiometer	Ole Kirk	
		SAS	Fonden for Int. Forståelse	
		DSB		
		LEGO		
		TELIA		

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Thousand Young People at Folk High Schools

What makes this project so special when compared to other youth conferences held in other European countries is the participation of the folk high schools. It makes a crucial difference whether these young people stay together for three days or for three weeks. That sense of identity shared with the group, that feeling of belonging in a group which will invariably emerge at a school such as this where you eat together, live together, work together and sleep together will in all probability lead to the fact that the participants will experience this feeling without giving up their own sense of affiliation.

It is and will always be a core issue in the debate concerning the future Europe how historical, linguistic, national and cultural differences can be ensured. This very part of the debate concerning democracy will receive increased attention in the years to come. Thus, one of the purposes of sending a thousand young people to these folk high schools is to qualify for a debate concerning this very important part of the debate concerning democracy: The central issue exists in finding the right balance between commonality and action in unity and respect for diversity and difference. The folk high schools are for various reasons particularly qualified to constitute the framework for this debate.

In short, during the three weeks these young people will come to know each other well. And it will without a doubt be reflected in the proposal for a European Constitution, which the young people will draw up. These young people will participate in various activities at the schools, and these activities will indeed be versatile. The teaching and lectures will cover a very broad range of themes, and the folk high schools have a special ability to create a whole in which the usual rigid division between education and social activities cease to exist.

The words "unity in diversity" have been used as a motto to pursue for Europe but can thus also be employed as a headline describing the efforts underlying Youth 2002. The schools are part of a joint project but at the same time contribute to the project with each their own distinctive character. The debate at the individual schools will to a large extent be dealing with the same themes but each school will at the same time give at least one particular theme special attention.

In the weeks and months to come, the exact course of events at the folk high schools will be planned and coordinated, but allow us briefly to give a few *examples* of some of the more specific considerations we have had so far:

As the first week of Youth 2002 comes to an end, connections and contacts between the participating folk high schools will be established via the Internet. The first lectures, held by some of Europe's leading lecturers, will have been given by this time and transmitted *live* on the Internet from the folk high schools. Some of these lectures will be related to the general discussions whereas others will be concerned with the specific theme chosen by the individual folk high schools.

The individual schools' specific theme will thus constitute the springboard to the more general discussions connected to the debate concerning a European Constitution. During the course of the three weeks, each of the schools will constitute a *Constitutional Forum* in itself, and during the course of the third week of youth 2002, each school will be able to submit a proposal (or a draft) for a European Constitution. Then follows the more difficult work of preparing a joint proposal.

First, the young people will seek to arrive on an agreement regarding the 14 proposals and drafts through correspondence via the Internet. The final agreement and the final proposal should be reached at a meeting where representatives from the 14 folk high schools, and from all nationalities involved, will convene. It has been suggested that the meeting should be held in a specific room in the tower at Rønshoved Højskole in Southern Jutland close to the Danish-German border. This room has windows facing all four corners of the world — which is of course very symbolic — and there is a magnificent view from this room over the bay with Germany clearly visible on the other side.

The meeting in this room will of course be transmitted *live* on the Internet and everyone interested will be able to follow the meeting including the friends of the young people attending the meeting who will be staying at the folk high schools while the negotiations take place. Friends at home will also be able to follow the negotiations via the computer. After the negotiations, the young people

will have to translate their joint proposal regarding a European Constitution to at least 25 languages and via the Internet send the proposal to at least 3000 central political actors — all over Europe.

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Speakers/advisers

Youth 2002 will be held at a very professional level with regard to teaching, lectures and content. At the folk high school, there will be one teacher for every ten to twelve students. Furthermore, we will make use of a number of speakers and advisers from outside during these three weeks who will give lectures as well as be part of the events at the schools. Events, which will include a wide range of themes. It is important that the debate concerning a European Constitution not be too narrow.

Group 1
List of <i>keynote speakers</i> who might figure at the welcoming and/or concluding ceremony in Copenhagen for all the thousand young people as well as others interested.
Vaclav HAVEL Manuel CASTELLS Ulrick BECH Anthony GIDDENS Romano PRODI Joschka FISCHER Tony BLAIR Poul NYRUP RASMUSSEN Uffe ELLEMAN-JENSEN

Group 2	Group 3	Group 4	Group 5
"The EU" Politicians, civil servants etc. (should in particular act as lecturers at the folk high schools. Always transmitted on the Internet)	"From abroad" Employees at universities and think tanks and authors (should in particular act as lecturers at the folk high schools. Always transmitted on the Internet)	"From home" Employees at universities, think tanks and authors (should in particular act as lecturers at the folk high schools. Always transmitted on the Internet)	"Assistants" PhDs and others from home and abroad (should in particular act as professional assistants at the folk high schools. In a few cases transmitted on the Internet)
Anna DIAMANTOPOULOU Commissioner Employment and Social Affairs (Greece)	Sunita NAIRIN Centre for Science and Environment (India)	Anne KNUDSEN Editor, Anthropologist	Marlene WIND PhD. University of Copenhagen (Denmark)
Monica FRASSONI MEP/the Greens/EFA (France)	Jacques DELORS Former President of the European Commission (France)	Drude DAHLERUP The June Movement	Trine MACH The June Movement (Denmark)

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<p>Jens-Peter BONDE MEP/EDD The June Movement (Denmark)</p>	<p>Petra BUZKOVA Vice-President, The parliament of the Czech Republic (the Czech Republic)</p>	<p>Tøger SEIDENFADEN Editor in chief</p>	<p>Lykke FRIIS DUPI (Denmark)</p>
<p>Claus HAUGAARD SØRENSEN Head of office The European Commission (Denmark)</p>	<p>Bill JORDAN General secretary International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (Belgium)</p>	<p>Lars REBIEN SØRENSEN President and CEO Novo Nordisk</p>	<p>David MUNIS ZEPERNIC DUPI (Denmark)</p>
<p>Michel BARNIER Commissioner Regional politics Reform of institutions (France)</p>	<p>Erik HOBBSAWN Historian (Great Britain)</p>	<p>Hans FLUGER Former general secretary of the Metal Workers Federation</p>	<p>Sten RYNNING COPRI (Denmark)</p>
<p>Anne E. JENSEN MEP/ELDR (Denmark)</p>	<p>Ricardo PETRELLA Professor of economy (Italy)</p>	<p>Karen DYEKJÆR-HANSEN Lawyer</p>	<p>Morten RASMUSSEN The Jean Monnet Centre (Denmark)</p>
<p>Christa RANDZIO-PLATH MEP/ PES Chairman Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs (Germany)</p>	<p>Bruno BOISSIERE Secretary general U.E.F. (France)</p>	<p>Erik BOEL Chairman The Danish European Movement</p>	<p>Camilla ANDERSEN Research Assistant The Federal Trust (Great Britain)</p>
<p>Pernille FRAHM MEP/GUE-NGL (Denmark)</p>	<p>Björn STIGSON President World Business Council of Sustainable Development (Sweden)</p>	<p>Ebbe KLØVEDAL REICH Author</p>	<p>Conchi GALLEGO Journalist (Spain)</p>
<p>Elmar BROK MEP/PPE (Germany)</p>	<p>Helen WALLACE Professor Sussex European Institute (Great Britain)</p>	<p>Christian FRIIS BACH Former chairman of Mellemfolkeligt Samvirke</p>	<p>László DANI Vice-Chairperson ACC (Hungary)</p>
<p>Jacques SANTER MEP/PPE</p>	<p>John PALMER Director European Policy Centre (Belgium/Great Britain)</p>	<p>Per Stig MØLLER MP The Conservative Party</p>	<p>Siebren DE BOER MA (econ) (The Netherlands)</p>
<p>Erkki LIIKANEN Commissioner Enterprise and Information society</p>	<p>Susan GEORGE Professor, initiator of ATTAC (the USA/France)</p>	<p>Ove KORSGAARD Chairman Association of World Education</p>	<p>Linda JAKOBSONE Director EU Integration Office (Latvia)</p>
		<p>Niels HØJLUND Editor</p>	<p>Mjellma MEHMETI Project-leader Association for Emancipation, Solidarity and Equality of Women (Macedonia)</p>

How to contact Youth 2002

In Youth 2002, we are very interested in establishing initial contact with a wide range of partners, which will be detrimental to the success of this project. Below you will find a brief overview of how to contact Youth 2002.

The Youth 2002 Secretariat
Brandbjerg Højskole
Brandbjergvej 12
DK - 7300 Jelling
Denmark

John PETERSEN (0045) 7020 1425
Søren WINTHER LUNDBY (0045) 7025 1420

john@youth2002.org
soren@youth2002.org

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Ask Højskole

Mail address: Østergårdsvej 202
 Postal district: DK-8340
 City: Malling
 Phonenumber: +45 8692 7195
 Fax: +45 8692 6581
 Webaddress: www.askhojskole.dk
 E-mail address: ask@grundtvig.dk
 Legal frame: Act on Danish Folk High Schools
 Residential school, 70 students
 Headmaster: Henrik Høyer

The Youth 2002 project

Title: Relations between the EU and the USA in a cultural and political context
 Coordinator: Mads Fuglede
 Staff: Mads Fuglede, Henrik Høyer + 2

Ask Højskole is a Danish Grundtvigian folk high school. The view of teaching stems from the ideas presented in the middle of the 19th century by N.F.S. Grundtvig, a Danish poet, clergyman and statesman.

Grundtvig wanted a school that could “stimulate and inform” ordinary people. Thus it is not the aim to find narrow-minded experts or dutiful students but people with a zest for life that wish to express themselves.

Grundtvig did not care much for daily grind and heavy books. He preferred “the living word” in stories and conversation.

Ask Højskole is one of the oldest folk high schools in Denmark. The school is independent of political and religious special interests, and we have kept the word alive since 1869.

Project description: The relations between the EU and the USA in a cultural and political context

Summary

Ask Højskole, Danish folk high school, intends to carry through a three weeks' folk high school course on the subject of the relations between the EU and the USA in a politico-cultural context.

The project is an integrated part of the project Youth2002. The discussions and contexts of globalization, the enlargement of the EU and the debate about a European constitution are the central topics of this common project leading to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans called Youth2002 Constitution for Europe. Furthermore the course will focus on the role of the United States in the development of EU/European policies.

70 young Europeans engaged in NGO's are going to take part in the course. The aim of the course is to create an awareness of the EU/European policies towards the United States in general and the similarities and differences between EU/Europe and the United States. The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st 2001. It is our expectation that through the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at a folk high school promotes, participants will obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations created between young and active NGO members from east, west, north and south are of the utmost interest and importance for the events.

General background

Europe and the USA are inseparably bound together. Since World War II and especially during the cold war a link between the two continents was forged, influenced by the impact from Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union. The fall of the Wall in Berlin in 1989 created a new basis for the relations between the USA and Europe.

Furthermore the USA represents a large and strong monoculture that has manifested itself in all Europeans' everyday life one way or another. Europe, on the other hand, represents a patchwork quilt of various cultures that are less uniform than the American. American lifestyle, music etc. have had an enormous influence to the delight of some people and the source of great concern for others. By the end of the bipolar world order the US interests in European questions regarding security policy have changed. The US plans of a missile defence; the conflicts in the Balkans and the strengthening of the European defence cooperation are examples of the changed situation as regards security policy. Furthermore the EU plans of an enlargement towards the east are inseparably bound with considerations regarding security policy. There is a need for a pan-European debate about the US role in European culture and the basic appearance of a continued co-operation regarding security policy.

It is necessary for us Europeans to know much more about each other, to understand the backgrounds of the points of views presented in different forums and by representatives from the different states, and it is important that we understand which cultural values the

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populations want to preserve and respect. It is important to discuss which values should be considered common among Europeans.

These important discussions should not only take place within narrow circles among professionals and experts but should comprise the total European population.

Specific background

For many years in the future Europe and the USA will be the points of departure for the prevailing world order in many respects. Discussions about global climate and environmental policy, security policy, the global economic development and defence of human rights all over the world are based on the relations between the EU and the USA. It is consequently important to focus on the relations between the USA and the EU as it is here the values and aims for the future development arise. A profound knowledge of each other's values and aims and mutual importance is a vital discussion.

The importance of the mutual relations between the EU and the USA can be discussed in a number of contexts:

- Cultural changes and changes in matters regarding cultural affiliation.
- The effects of the clash between a huge powerful monoculture and various small cultures.
- The need for changes in the political landscape and the juridical sphere.
- How to arouse respect and understanding for each other's values.
- The fear of American culture in Europe and the need to preserve values perceived as European values.
- Changes in the way of thinking regarding matters of security.
- The role in the processing of human rights on a global scale.
- The role in environmental issues.

Target group

It is crucial for us to find representatives from many European identities. We want the group discussing the relations between the United States and the EU to be an international one and no party should be dominating. To ensure as broad an effect as possible, we aim at a balanced representation of both genders, from many different nations and from Northern, Southern as well as from Eastern, Western and Central Europe.

In accordance with the general policy of Youth2002, we expect to recruit participants between NGO's and active young people in general from all over Europe, which in this context is understood as EU countries, applicant countries and the Balkan states.

To participate, English must be understood and spoken. We aim at receiving 66 participants.

The contents of the course

The course will last for three weeks. Participation in the course includes room and board at Ask Højskole in Denmark. The boarding school format is supposed to make discussions much more serious as it is our experience that living, eating, discussing and learning together under the very

same roof are very stimulating factors, guaranteeing the seriousness of debates. Through this, we expect participants to obtain an understanding of and a respect for the European diversity.

First week: The first week of the course is going to concentrate on the cultural differences between Europe and The United States. Lectures will focus on these questions by representatives with an insight in various cultural areas such as art, movies, lifestyle, history etc. The draft work for a European constitution will begin at the end of the week. There will be excursions focusing on the area near Ask Højskole and on local museums to present this part of Denmark to the participants.

Second week: The second week of the course is dedicated to an instruction in the general political context of Europe and America of our time. Important are the differences and similarities between the two as regards the political process. Through the knowledge of the political working process in the EU and the USA it will be possible to understand the context in which the topics of the course will be discussed. The US attitude to Europe will be elucidated as well as vice versa by representatives from the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the American Embassy in Denmark. It is the intention to continue the work with the European constitution for the whole week.

Third week: The third week of the course will focus on security policy questions seen in the light of the historical development and the world of today. This will take place with the assistance of experts in these fields. Furthermore the role of the EU and the USA in the globalization perspective will be discussed. At the end of the week the final proposal for a European constitution will be prepared including the experience learned during the course.

Methodology: The programme is prepared with lectures, excursions and workshops. Activities aiming at bringing people together such as socializing games will ensure a comfortable environment for the discussions. It is important to invite people with a very different outlook on the same issues to spark a debate between the participants.

Timetable

The course is going to take place from June 30th to July 21st 2002. We expect the course to be repeated in the following years if it turns out to be a success.

Organizational elements

One coordinator is going to be responsible for the planning and implementation of the course. The planning, fund raising and recruitment of participants are done in close cooperation with the secretariat of Youth 2002.

The course language will be English.

Financing

We expect the project to be supported by the Danish Ministry of Education, the EU, by funds generated from the operation and from private enterprises and local sponsors. Participants are expected to pay a participation fee themselves.

Multiplyer effect

As described above, it is the intention that the participants will work specifically with issues related to the multiplyer effect during the last week of the course.

This will be done in accordance with the common strategy of Youth 2002 as described in the common project description. One major means in this respect is the handing over of the Youth2002 Constitution for Europe to the presidency of the European Union. Another aim is to create an ongoing debate about global issues at the Portal of Globalization.

Cooperators

Ask Højskole is working in a close cooperation with other Danish folk high schools and institutions. These are Askov Højskole, Brandbjerg Højskole, Esbjerg Højskole, Egmont Højskolen, Højskolen Østersøen, International People's College, Snoghøj IT-folkehøjskole, Kerteminde Højskole, Oure Idrætshøjskole, Ry Højskole, Rønshoved Højskole, Skælskør Folkehøjskole, IUC-Svendborg, Nyt Europa, Association for Community Colleges (ACC), Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd (DUF) and Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark (FFD), as united in Youth2002.

We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

The main recruitment of participants will be carried out in close co-operation with our partners in the involved countries.

Mads Fuglede, project coordinator



Brandbjerg Højskole

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 Fax: +45 7680 1602
 Website: www.brandbjerg.dk
 E-mail: bh@brandbjerg.dk
 Legal frame: Act on Danish Folk High Schools
 Residential school, 100 students
 Headmaster: Asbjørn Lyby

The Youth 2002 Project

Title: Visions for the European House
 Coordinator: Jakob Nielsen
 Staff: Jakob Nielsen, Asbjørn Lyby + 2

Brandbjerg Folk High School is build around an old manor beautifully situated next to a forest 10 km from Vejle, a town on the east coast of Jutland.

The Danish Folk High Schools including Brandbjerg are a unique opportunity to meet and live together with young people from Denmark and different places around the world. At the school there are no exams. Every body meet at an equal level and discuss things that matters for our lives at the moment. The process of finding arguments is as important as learning the right results.

The school has some very good facilities in terms of workshops, a gymnasium, a well-equipped music room, computers with internet access and a drama room.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Project Description: "Visions for the European House"

Summary

Brandbjerg Højskole is going to carry through a three-week folk high school course dealing with the future politics of EU/Europe in the context of globalisation.

The project is an integrated part of the project Youth2002. The discussions and contexts of globalisation, the EU-enlargement process and the debate about a European constitution are the turn points of this common project leading to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans Youth2002 Constitution for Europe

100 young Europeans engaged in NGO's are going to take part in the course. The aim of the course is to create an awareness of our common European history and culture in order to enable the participants to take an active part in discussing future challenges for Europe/EU.

The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. It is our expectation that through the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations created between young and active NGO-members from East and West, North and South are of utmost interest and importance of the events.

Background in general

Throughout history a lot of important persons in European history have been talking about a common European house. But often it has just been their personal view of the world they would like everybody else to follow.

The European Union is the most advanced attempt in history to make a European house, where at the same time the different parts of the union can be heard. But a large part of the population in Europe feel that they are homeless. They do not identify themselves as inhabitants in a European house in the form of the European Union.

The European Union is facing a dangerous challenge due to the following two dilemmas.

It is attacked from people seeing it as being a social democratic or socialistic project with the aim of limiting free capitalism and at the same time it is attacked by people seeing it as a capitalistic project with the aim of reducing the welfare state.

It is attacked from people seeing it as being a part of globalization and power moving away from the individual and the nation and at the same time it is attacked by people seeing it as being just a larger state taking national interest in a global world.

And the problem is that the critics might be right all of them.

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"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

So it could be very interesting and important to try to find similarities and common ground and try to express it in a set of visions for a European house.

The object of the "Visions for the European House"

The object of the course is primarily to bring young people from all over Europe together in a common search for a common history and culture, which hopefully will enable them to take part in the discussion over the challenges for the European Union in the present and in the future.

Secondly, through lectures and discussions to qualify the current debate over globalisation to try to see if there can be built a bridge of understanding between anti-globalists and Europeans and find out what the common ground could be.

Thirdly, it is the overall idea to get people to participate in the path towards formulating visions for a European constitution based on common background and similarities with respect for differences and combined with respect for the fears of the people which is extremely put forward by nationalists and anti-globalists.

On Brandbjerg Højskole we have a long tradition for involving in European politics and a long tradition of bringing people with different views together and discuss peacefully in a dialogue. We think that it can be good for the debate about Europe in connection with the Danish presidency in the short run, and in the long run we hope that it will create links and understanding between the participants, and that they will function as multipliers.

Target group

It is crucial for us to find representatives of many European identities. We want the group constituting the "Visions for the European House" to be an international one and no parties should be dominating. To ensure as broad an effect as possible, we aim at a balanced representation from both genders, from many different nations and from North and South as well as from Eastern, Western and Central Europe.

In accordance with the general policy of the Youth 2002, we expect to recruit participants between NGO's and active young people in general from all over Europe -which in this context is understood as EU-countries, applicant-countries and Balkan countries.

To participate English must be understood and spoken. We aim at receiving 100 participants.

The contents of the course

The course will last for 3 weeks and will consist of two parts.

The first part is dealing with the question if there is a common European "fundament" to build a house upon and what the elements in that "fundament" are. The nature of the fundament is a major influent in deciding what kind of house that is possible building upon it.

There will be 4 different ways to approach the question:

- 1) a **philosophical approach**: How has the idea of Europe evolved in a political context,

- 2) a **religious approach**: are we united by our common Christian past or are the differences between the catholic, protestant and orthodox churches bigger than what unites us,
- 3) a **political-historic approach**: How has politicians wish for power influenced the relations between people, how has the state evolved, and what is the history and role of the nation , and
- 4) a **culture-historic approach**: do we have a common European culture? Are national cultures just varieties of a common European culture? To what degree have waves as for instance renaissance or enlightenment contributed to a common European culture.

What do we have in common and what are the differences? Through lectures and dialogue we will search for answers.

The second part is dealing with the present question of the role of the nation-state, the European union and globalization. It will focus on following issues:

- 1) The **ATTAC-challenge** to global capitalism is also an attack on the European union. What is ATTAC, what are their arguments and are there counter-arguments.
- 2) **Lack of democracy in international organisations** - is the European Union an example of institutions with distance to the people, with limited legitimacy in the population and lack of openness in decision-making and even agenda setting or is the European union an exception?
- 3) The **distance between the people and the establishment**. What are the courses and how can they be overcome?
- 4) The **nation-state** as a parenthesis in world history or as the bricks upon which the future world is going to be built? Is the nation-state as identity giving so deeply rooted in the populations that it is not possible to decide without? What would the implications for a common European house be?

These problems will be linked with the overall theme of creating a draft for a European constitution.

Timetable

The course is going to take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. We expect the course to be repeated in the following years in case it is going to be a success.

Organizational elements

One co-ordinator is going to be responsible for the carrying out and the planning of the course. The planning, the fundraising and the recruitment of participants is done in close co-operation with the secretariat of Youth 2002.

The language of the course will be English

Financing

We expect the project to be supported by the Danish Ministry of Education, the EU, by funds generated from the operation and from private enterprises and local sponsors. Participants are expected to pay a participation fee themselves.

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"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Multiplying effect

As described above, the intention is that the participants will work specifically with issues related to multiplying in the last week of the course.

This will be done in accordance with the common strategy of the Youth 2002 as described in the common project description. One major mean in this respect is the handing over of the Youth2002 Constitution for Europe to the presidency of the European Union. Another aim is to create an ongoing debate about global issues at the Portal of Globalization.

Co-operators

The school is working closely together with Ask Højskole, Askov Højskole, Brandbjerg Højskole, Esbjerg Højskole, Egmont Højskolen, Højskolen Østersøen, International People's College, IT-folkehøjskolen Snoghøj, Kerteminde Højskole, Oure Idrætshøjskole, Ry Højskole, Rønshoved Højskole, Skælskør Folkehøjskole, IUC-Svendborg, Nyt Europa, Association for Community Colleges (ACC), Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark (FFD) and Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd (DUF), as united in Youth2002.

We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

The main recruitment of participants will be carried out in close co-operation with our partners in the involved countries.

Jakob Nielsen, project co-ordinator, July 2001



Egmont Højskolen

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 E-mail address: mail@egmont-hs.dk
 Legal frame: Act on Danish Folk High Schools
 Residential school, 100 students
 Headmaster: Ole Lauth

The Youth 2002 project

Title: EU, Social Security and the principle of subsidiarity
 Coordinator: Henrik Brock Lips
 Staff: John Row, Ole Lauth + 1

The National Association of the Disabled in Denmark originally founded Egmont Højskolen as a place only for students with mobility impairments. In 1970 the formal purpose of the organisation was changed to secure real integration of people with disabilities. Today Egmont Højskolen is a school for all but with a special obligation towards people with disabilities. During the school year 1995-1996 about half of the students attending courses at Egmont Højskolen had some kind of disability.

Characteristic of the school today is total accessibility as this has been a main priority over the years. The school has a number of double rooms and single rooms, especially designed to suit the needs of people with disabilities, modern well-equipped class rooms, excellent catering facilities, home helper's service for people with disabilities requiring this, a lecture hall, a gym etc.

The school is very beautifully situated close to woods and beaches on the outskirts of the small seaport of Hou.

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"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Project Description: "Visions of a Europe for people with disabilities"

Summary

Egmont Højskolen is going to carry through a three-week folk high school course dealing with the future politics of EU/Europe in the context of globalization.

The project is an integrated part of the project Youth2002. The discussions and contexts of globalization, the EU-enlargement process and the debate about a European constitution are the turn points of this common project leading to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans Youth2002 Constitution for Europe.

55 young Europeans engaged in NGO's are going to take part in the course. The aim of the course is to create an awareness of disabled peoples political possibilities in the European political frames as well as drafting visions for a future Europe for disadvantaged groups.

The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. It is our expectation that through the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations created between young and active NGO-members from East and West, North and South are of utmost interest and importance of the events.

Background in general

Historically, three welfare models: the liberal, the Scandinavian and the continental insurance model have developed in the Western world and in spite of globalization and economic growth these models have diversified since the 60'ies.

The liberal model found in for example the U.K and the U.S. is the basis for the Scandinavian model - in a budget version. Social benefits, which are relatively limited, are reserved for the socially and economically disadvantaged.

In the tax-based Scandinavian welfare model all citizens have, in principle, equal rights to receive benefits: The same pensions, educational grants, unemployment benefits etc. The state redistributes resources between (economically) strong and weak groups in society.

The Continental insurance-model is primarily based on the individuals' private payments to an insurance system through their connections to the employment market. In this system the family has a key role in taking care of children, old people and people with disabilities.

On the background of these differences in European welfare models obviously there is a huge difference in the level of social security North-South and since 1989 (the fall of the Berlin wall) also Eastern/Western in Europe.

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"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Due to the historical, social, economical and cultural differences described above, the socially disadvantaged groups, especially people with disabilities who have difficulties entering the employment market, will have very different opportunities and income/security in Europe. In other words: It makes a big difference where you are born.

This means that visions for a future Europe for disadvantaged groups must take account of the widely varied views and backgrounds. And it is impossible to discuss the contents of a European constitution from a disability angle without discussing and comparing the three welfare-models outlined above. But at the same time it is important to consider at which level decisions that concern people with disabilities should be made.

Should for example the principle of subsidiarity apply in all cases?

And it is a necessity that the Europeans in general and people with disabilities in specific know much more about each other and their needs, that we try to understand and respect the background of the points of views presented in different forums and that we understand which cultural values the populations want to preserve and to be respected. It is important to discuss which values should be considered common among Europeans with disabilities.

The object of the "Visions of a Europe for people with disabilities"

The objectives of "Visions of a Europe for people with disabilities" is to provide the framework for an open discussion among participants - disabled and non-disabled - on different welfare systems, living conditions and to give basis for comparisons and evaluations.

The debates should focus on breaking down existing barriers and creating equal opportunities for people with disabilities in a future Europe of regions and contribute to the ongoing discussions of the social dimensions of a European Constitution in the form of a paper to be sent to the European Commission.

Target group

It is crucial for us to find representatives of many European identities. We want the group constituting the "Visions of a Europe for people with disabilities" to be an international one and no parties should be dominating. To ensure as broad an effect as possible, we aim at a balanced representation from both genders, from many different nations and from North and South as well as from Eastern, Western and Central Europe.

In accordance with the general policy of the Youth 2002, we expect to recruit participants between NGO's and active young people in general from all over Europe -which in this context is understood as EU-countries, applicant-countries and Balkan countries.

To participate English must be understood and spoken well. We aim at receiving 55 participants.

The contents of the course

The course will be a mixture of exchanges of experience, presentations by professionals (for example Aase Olesen, Christian Albrekt Larsen, Steen Bengtson, Stig Langvad, Bent Rold Andersen etc), workshops, plenary sessions and internet-conferencing.

Themes:

- Definition of Disability in Europe
- Accessibility
- Equal opportunities
- Awareness raising for disability issues
- Principle of Subsidiarity
- Independent Living
- Citizenship - historical, political and cultural
- Empowerment of people with disabilities
- Rights and obligations
- Cultural possibilities

Recreational and social activities:

- Sailing
- Painting
- Music and singing workshops
- Media
- Theatre and drama
- The Danish heritage
- Climbing

Timetable

The course is going to take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. We expect the course to be repeated in the following years in case it is going to be a success.

Organizational elements

One coordinator is going to be responsible for the carrying out and the planning of the course. The planning, the fundraising and the recruitment of participants is done in close co-operation with the secretariat of Youth 2002.

The language of the course will be English

Financing

We expect the project to be supported by the Danish Ministry of Education, the EU, by funds generated from the operation and from private enterprises and local sponsors. Participants are expected to pay a participation fee themselves.

Multiplying effect

As described above, the intention is that the participants will work specifically with issues related to multiplying in the last week of the course.

This will be done in accordance with the common strategy of the Youth 2002 as described in the common project description. One major mean in this respect is the handing over of the Youth2002 Constitution for Europe to the presidency of the European Union. Another aim is to create an ongoing debate about global issues at the Portal of Globalization.

Co-operators

The school is working closely together with Ask Højskole, Askov Højskole, Brandbjerg Højskole, Esbjerg Højskole, Højskolen Østersøen, International People's College, IT-folkehøjskolen Snoghøj, Kerteminde Højskole, Oure Idrætshøjskole, Ry Højskole, Rønshoved Højskole, Skælskør Folkehøjskole, IUC-Svendborg, Nyt Europa, Association for Community Colleges (ACC) and Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark (FFD) and Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd (DUF), as united in Youth2002.

We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

The main recruitment of participants will be carried out in close co-operation with our partners in the involved countries.

Henrik Broch-Lips, project coordinator, August 2001



The International People's College

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 Website: www.ipc.dk
 E-mail: ipc@ipc.dk
 Legal frame: Act on Danish Folk High Schools,
 Residential school, 100 students
 Headmaster: Kristof Kristiansen

The Youth 2002 Project

Title: Europe and the Challenge of Globalisation
 Coordinator: Nina Brinck
 Staff: Garba Diallo, Runa Midtvåge, Jørn Nielsen, Kristof Kristiansen

The International People's College (IPC) is a Danish folk high school founded in 1921, offering liberal education to adults. An international faculty teaches inter-disciplinary and creative subjects to students from all parts of the world residing at the College.

The IPC was founded after the First World War and became an instrument for the non-violent promotion of social and economic justice through cross-cultural dialogue and cooperation. Since then, more than 50,000 students have attended the school, and, in 1988, the College was designated a 'Peace Messenger' by the United Nations.

The IPC is located on the outskirts of the charming seaport of Helsingør (Elsinore), known all over the world as the home of Shakespeare's Hamlet. Copenhagen is a 45-minute train ride away and Sweden is just a 20-minute ferry ride away across Øresund. The College offers comfortable surroundings with modern accommodation for 100 participants.

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"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Project Description: "EU and the challenge of globalisation"

Summary.

The International People's College (IPC) is going to carry through a three-week folk high school course dealing with the future of EU and Europe in the context of globalisation. 50 young Europeans engaged in NGOs are going to take part in the course. The aim of the course is to create an awareness of the EU/European policies towards the developing countries in general and towards the ACP countries specifically. The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002.

It is our expectation that through the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations and networks created between young people from East and West, North and South are of utmost interest and importance to the events.

The project is an integrated part of the project Youth2002. The context or focal points of the project are themes like globalisation, the EU-enlargement process and the debate about a European constitution. The project will lead to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans; 'Youth2002 Constitution for Europe'

General background:

Europeans have realized the existence of issues, which cannot be solved inside a system of all-sovereign states.

A certain development has characterised the history after the Second World War, where the sovereignty of each nation state has become looser and issues are debated in super-nation-state forums as well as within the nation-state. More and more people can now imagine a system of states less defined in accordance with national borders. The European capitals, former centres of major decisions and discussions, now have to realise that they are both centres and peripheries. The discussions have not only moved horizontally (to Brussels, Strasbourg and in many other directions), but also vertically. However, most of us are not participants in the definite discussions, since they are mostly run by professionals and officials that are not elected as our representatives and whose names we do not even know. Moreover, we do not know the parties discussing or the parties that our state-politicians meet in discussions. We do not know their viewpoints and we do not know the contexts of these viewpoints.

The voters do not know, with whom the elected representatives are actually talking. In such a system it is a permanent temptation for those in power and for those giving voice to public opinion to make these mysterious unknown dialogue-partners into scapegoats and culprits in problems that in reality belong to domestic affairs. It is a necessity that the Europeans get to know much more about each other, that we understand the contexts of the viewpoints presented in the different forums and the backgrounds of the representatives of the different states. Furthermore it is very important that we understand which cultural values the

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"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

populations of Europe want to preserve and to be respected. At the same time it is of big importance to discuss which values should be considered common among Europeans. In short, a common European public and permanent discussion is needed. This "community" based on common questions should not only be a professional one.

Specific background:

To a lot of Europeans as well as non-Europeans, whether they are living inside or outside the European Union, the EU institutions, its offices and bureaucracy seem very distant and confusing. As a common citizen you very easily get the feeling that EU is reserved for politicians and highly educated people who discuss and make decisions in closed forums. Getting knowledge about the EU, its policies and institutions is not a simple thing. The great mass of treaties, regulations and declarations that constitute the foundation of the EU policies can easily discourage even the most committed student. The general lack of knowledge about the EU has a significant impact on the democratic development both in the union as a whole, in the present member states and in the candidate countries as well as on the relations with developing countries. Democracy implies public, common debates and discussions about values, goals, ideas etc. but these are to a considerable extent impeded by the fact that most people do not know what the debate is about, how to access it or with whom they are discussing.

When it comes to the relationship between EU and the developing countries, there is a general lack of knowledge about the policies on which it is built and the institutions connected to it. There is a growing need for information about the role of EU as a development agent and the EU development funds - which countries, NGOs or institutions the EU supports or under which criteria.

This lack of insight in the development policies of the EU is not only common among the general public, but also among many of the NGOs working within this field, with whom the EU states that it wants to cooperate. This means that many NGOs are not able to engage themselves in any debate about the EU policy on development. They get no significant influence and hence little share in funds and less chance to cooperate with the EU.

One of the aims of the 'EU and the challenge of globalisation' is to start changing this state of affairs by putting the EU development policies and the related institutions and regulations on the agenda for discussions.

The objective of the "EU and the challenge of globalization":

In order to let young people active in NGOs from all Europe become familiar with the EU policies on developing countries and with the possibilities of influencing these policies and of using related instruments (funds, programmes etc.), we wish to put these issues on the agenda of the EU and the challenge of globalisation.

In addition to giving each individual participant an understanding of and knowledge about the EU development policies and the related institutions and instruments, the course seeks to raise awareness of the fact that this is a common European topic. Development policies, whether related to the EU or to any other actor on the international scene, should not be discussed only in closed forums in intra- or inter-governmental institutions. We hope that with personal

contacts made and networks created during the course, participants will start exchanging and not let their cooperation be stopped by the old nation-state borders.

This course might be the first of its kind. But we see it as an experiment, on which we can build and organise similar courses in the future, eventually with several institutions cooperating.

Target group:

It is crucial for us to find representatives of many European identities. We want the group constituting the 'EU and the challenge of globalisation' to be an international one and no parties should be dominating. To ensure the communication to be as broad and fruitful as possible, we will aim at getting a balanced representation, both gender and nation-wise. In accordance with the general policy of the Youth 2002, we expect to recruit participants from NGOs and active young people in general from all over Europe -which in this context is understood as EU-countries, applicant-countries and Balkan countries. In addition to European course participants, it would be an absolute advantage if a certain number (5-8) course participants could be recruited from European NGOs' partner organisations in developing countries. We see this as an important step towards real dialogue and a way to avoid the course to end up with too much of an internal focus.

We further expect the course participants to belong to the age group 18-25 and to have working knowledge of English language.

Course content:

The course will last for three weeks. All participants will receive board and lodging at IPC. Each participant will make a presentation of his/her own NGO in order to ensure networking in the future

1) First week: General introduction to the EU-policies on Development

- Global political context
- the Lomé conventions, EU policies towards ACP-countries and the history behind
- the Economical-political incentives and motives. Why is the EU engaged in development?
- EU-institutions active in the field/ EU structures and regulations in relation to development
- migration/immigration issues from both in- and outside
- the European Development Fund
- trade, relations to WTO
- Special priority areas for the EU: Poverty reduction, human rights, democracy, good governance etc.
- Relevant statistics

Different resource persons in this field will be invited to give lectures, among others the former Danish Minister for Development, Helle Degn.

2) Second week: Project and case related discussions

- Discussions about how European NGOs can benefit from networking on EU/development issues
- Development of guidelines on project management and fundraising
- Study of specific cases relevant to the participants

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"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

- Presentations of different project-experiences made both by participants and by resource persons.
- Visits to Danish developmental institutions and NGOs , such as DANIDA, MS, IBIS, DanChurchaid,
- Introduction to instruments that can be used in the practical work with fundraising, public relations, communication with relevant authorities, participation in public discussions about EU and development etc.

The focus of this week will be practical and especially related to NGOs. As we will focus on the special opportunities that NGOs from all over Europe have in this field and how they can become catalysts in international cooperation across all borders.

Different resource persons will be invited to give inputs

3) Third week: *Multiplying and collecting experiences*

The participants will be divided into groups and work on different issues related to multiplying.

Group 1: The work will concentrate on collecting all the experiences made during the previous two weeks and prepare a status report on EU and Globalisation to be put in relevant homepages on the Internet. This will make it possible for other NGOs who did not participate to get an insight into the knowledge and experiences accumulated during the course.

Group 2: The work will concentrate on making contacts to the public media in Europe, i.e. writing articles for newspapers, contacting TV or radio stations etc.

Group 3: Here the work will concentrate on making specific guidelines for NGOs that want to work with development issues in relation to the EU: Which institutions are there in this field, which funds can be used etc. These guidelines will also be uploaded on the Internet.

Generally about the program:

It is our expectation that through the international but informal atmosphere of the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will obtain an understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. Studying at a folk high school is a unique experience which most of our students and in this case course participants are not familiar with before coming here. Living together under the same roof in a multi-cultural community provides opportunities to discover new ways of learning and sharing; quite different from the traditional education system they are used to back home.

Timetable.

The course is going to last three weeks and will take place from June 30th - July 21st, 2002. We expect the course to be repeated in the following years.

Organizational elements

One co-ordinator is going to be responsible for the carrying out and the planning of the course. The planning, the fundraising and the recruitment of participants is done in close co-operation with the secretariat of Youth 2002.

The language of the course will be English

Financing

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"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

We expect the project to be supported by the Danish Ministry of Education, the EU, by funds generated from the operation and from private enterprises and local sponsors. Participants are expected to pay a participation fee themselves.

Multiplying effect

As described above, the intention is that the participants will work specifically with issues related to multiplying in the last week of the course.

This will be done in accordance with the common strategy of the Youth 2002 as described in the common project description. One major mean in this respect is the handing over of the Youth2002 Constitution for Europe to the presidency of the European Union. Another aim is to create an ongoing debate about global issues at the Portal of Globalization.

Co-operators

The school is working closely together with Ask Højskole, Askov Højskole, Brandbjerg Højskole, Esbjerg Højskole, Egmont Højskolen, Højskolen Østersøen, Snoghøj IT-folkehøjskole, Kerteminde Højskole, Oure Idrætshøjskole, Ry Højskole, Rønshoved Højskole, Skælskør Folkehøjskole, IUC-Svendborg, Nyt Europa, Association for Community Colleges (ACC), Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark (FFD) and Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd (DUF) as united in Youth2002.

We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

IPC, August 2001

Runa Midtvåge, teacher and course coordinator¹
The International People's College

¹ This draft is to a large extent based on a project proposal made by Jette Nielsen, ACC, November 2000



IUC-Europe

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 Webaddress: www.iuc-europe.dk
 E-mail address: iuc@iuc-europe.dk
 Legal frame: Danish Europehouse
 Chairman: Nina Nørgaard

The Youth 2002 project

Title: Unity and Diversity: The Regions of Europe -The Europe of Regions
 Coordinator: Nina Nørgaard
 Staff: Nina Nørgaard, Kirsten Stribley

IUC-Europe is a non-profit, non-partisan organization, partly funded by the Danish Ministry of Education and the European Union (EU).

IUC has affiliates and partners in most European countries and North America.

IUC programmes are designed for students, educators and professionals. At the heart of our seminars and study tours is the commitment to combine knowledge of theory with practical examples; to combine insight into human life with insight into history; to initiate interpretations of the meaning of "democracy", and to promote dialogue and debate between participants.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Project Description: "Unity and Diversity: The Regions of Europe - Europe of Regions"

Summary

The IUC-Europe is going to carry through a three-week folk high school course dealing with the future politics of EU/Europe in the context of globalization.

The project is an integrated part of the project Youth2002. The discussions and contexts of globalization, the EU-enlargement process and the debate about a European constitution are the turn points of this common project leading to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans *Youth2002 Constitution for Europe*.

30 young Europeans are going to take part in the course. The course will focus upon issues arising from the desire both to protect the multitude of national and/or regional differences at the same time as creating an ever closer and larger union. The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. It is our expectation that through the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations created between young and active Europeans from East and West, North and South are of utmost interest and importance of the events.

Background

The last Century was marked by big changes and developments both nationally and internationally. We saw 2 world wars ending with a partition of the globe and creation of an iron curtain down the middle of Europe dividing not only former neighbours but also splitting up countries in an East and West conflict known as the Cold War. We also saw the break down of this Cold War and the crumbling of the iron curtain, and this experience has led us to realise, that in order to promote peace and prosperity we have to strengthen the ties amongst our neighbours and work together in a much more closely knit co-operation. We have seen, that there are certain issues, which are best discussed and solved on a international level, but at the same time we have also seen a growing concern about the alienation of the public from those who govern us, as well as a fear of losing our national identity in the creation of an ever closer and larger union. The public is divided in their opinion on various issues, and therefore there is even more than ever a need for a common European debate on how we picture the future of the EU and of Europe.

In this Century we stand before an enlargement of the EU towards the Central and Eastern European Countries, which provides a variety of challenges and possibilities. Big changes have to be made to incorporate the new members of the family, and in this connection it is very important to create an ongoing discussion on the upcoming changes, not only to inform but also to create a dynamic exchange of ideas, fears and know-how. It is important to involve the entire European public at the grassroots level in order to avoid fears and alienation.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

The object of the "Unity and Diversity: The Regions of Europe - Europe of Regions"

This project is created to bring together 30 European youths and give them a forum for discussing European issues. It is created to give young people an opportunity to have a voice in the future development of the EU. We intend to provide them with information regarding the most recent developments within the EU as well as provide them with a tool for letting their voice be heard. We hope to create a dynamic environment where youth can voice their hopes and fears, exchange ideas and know-how as well as create a base for an ongoing debate of European issues.

Target group

It is crucial for us to find representatives of many European identities. We want the group constituting the "**Unity and Diversity: The Regions of Europe – Europe of Regions**" to be an international one and no parties should be dominating. To ensure as broad an effect as possible, we aim at a balanced representation from both genders, from many different nations and from North and South as well as from Eastern, Western and Central Europe.

In accordance with the general policy of the Youth 2002, we expect to recruit participants between active young people in general from all over Europe -which in this context is understood as EU-countries, applicant-countries and Balkan countries.

To participate English must be understood and spoken well. We aim at receiving 30 participants.

The contents of the course.

Our course **Unity and Diversity: The Regions of Europe – Europe of Regions**, will focus upon issues arising from the desire both to protect the multitude of national and/or regional differences at the same time as creating an ever closer and larger union. How do we protect some of our differences e.g. in culture at the same time as streamlining our efforts within areas of international concern e.g. environment. We can all agree upon the fact, that certain issues are better dealt with in an international forum where as other issues are better dealt with on the national, regional or even local level. But where is the dividing line and how far should we go?

The first week we will concentrate upon an introduction to the project and each other. The participants will be asked to introduce themselves and to give a description of their country/region, and they will attend lectures giving an introduction to certain topics such as how the EU functions, thoughts on the re-constituting Europe, regional influence in the EU and constitutional issues of the EU. The participants will also be involved in simulation/computer games centred round the topic of the project.

The second week will be made up of a workshop constitution week, where the participants will attend a lecture on: What is globalisation and what is the relation to the EU? The rest of the week

they will work on drafting their suggestion for a constitutional text if or when a European constitution is to be agreed upon by the different nations. These drafts will then work as a base for discussions in week 3, where the delegates have to agree upon a common wording of their suggestion for a Youth 2002 Constitution for Europe.

Week 3 will concentrate upon multiplication, where we will follow up upon the last two weeks work as well as prepare the common wording of the Constitution for Europe. The delegates will work with disseminating the information they have obtained including contacts with the media, working out a strategy for dissemination within the attending nations and other interested parties, translation of document and possibly drafting of articles. The common wording of the Constitution for Europe will be agreed upon in a meeting attended by 2 delegates from every school or institution and witnessed by the Youth 2002 plenary on the web. The project will end with a ceremony, where four delegates hand over the finished product: *the Youth 2002 Constitution for Europe* to the presidency of the EU.

The programme will be made up by lectures, excursions, socializing as well as simulation/computer games and workshops, which will create a useful mixture of formal and informal learning as well as provide some cultural input. We believe this will create a dynamic atmosphere, where ideas and knowledge will be shared across borders and result in a document presenting the European youth's solution to the European future.

Timetable

The course is going to take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. We expect the course to be repeated in the following years in case it is going to be a success.

Organizational elements

One coordinator is going to be responsible for the carrying out and the planning of the course. The planning, the fundraising and the recruitment of participants is done in close co-operation with the secretariat of Youth 2002.

The language of the course will be English

Financing

We expect the project to be supported by the Danish Ministry of Education, the EU, by funds generated from the operation and from private enterprises and local sponsors. Participants are expected to pay a participation fee themselves.

Multiplying effect

As described above, the intention is that the participants will work specifically with issues related to multiplying in the last week of the course.

This will be done in accordance with the common strategy of the Youth 2002 as described in the common project description. One major mean in this respect is the handing over of the *Youth2002 Constitution for Europe* to the presidency of the European Union. Another aim is to create an ongoing debate about global issues at the Portal of Globalization.

Co-operators

IUC-Europe is working closely together with Ask Højskole, Askov Højskole , Brandbjerg Højskole, Esbjerg Højskole, Egmont Højskole, Højskolen Østersøen, International People's College, IT-folkehøjskolen Snoghøj, Kerteminde Højskole, Oure Idrætshøjskole, Ry Højskole, Rønshoved Højskole, Skælskør Folkehøjskole, Nyt Europa, Association for Community Colleges (ACC), Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark (FFD) and Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd (DUF), as united in Youth 2002.

We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

The main recruitment of participants will be carried out in a close co-operation with our partners in the involved countries.

Nina Nørgaard, Project Co-ordinator



Kerteminde Højskole

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 Website: www.husflidshojskolen.dk
 E-mail: hoj@husflidshojskolen.dk
 Legal frame: Act on Danish Folk High Schools
 Residential school, 80 students
 Headmaster: Torben Jørgensen

The Youth 2002 Project

Title: EU beyond politics: The common language of arts, crafts and cultures
 Coordinator: Jonie Kristensen and Lotte Helle
 Staff: Jonie Kristensen and Lotte Helle + 2

Kerteminde Højskole is situated on a hill in the beautiful old fishing town of Kerteminde on the east coast of Funen. The school overlooks Kerteminde bay with its fine beaches, and the impressive new bridge linking Funen and Zealand can be seen from the school's park. Large wooded areas are within walking distance both to the north and south of Kerteminde.

Kerteminde Højskole was founded in 1908 by the fishermen of Kerteminde and was a general folk high school for many years. In 1952, the school was bought by the Danish Society for Arts and Crafts (founded in 1872) and became a folk high school specialising in arts and crafts. It is known all over Denmark for its extremely well equipped handcraft workshops and excellent teachers. The school is still primarily funded by the Danish Society for Arts and Crafts with its 6000 members and 160 local associations.

A college of education with more than 200 students educates teachers of arts and crafts over a period of three years and shares facilities with Kerteminde Højskole. The many buildings of the school are spread over a large area with pleasant gardens in between.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Project description by Kerteminde Højskole:

”EU beyond politics
– the common language of arts, crafts and cultures”

Summary

Kerteminde Højskole is going to carry through a three-week folk high school course dealing with the future of EU/Europe.

The project is an integrated part of the project Youth2002. The discussions and contexts of globalization, the EU-enlargement process and the debate about a European constitution are the turn points of this common project leading to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans *Youth2002 Constitution for Europe*.

80-90 young Europeans engaged in NGO's are going to take part in the course. The specific aim of the course is to investigate and develop by practicing the possibility of a common European language of symbols.

The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. It is our expectation that through the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations created between young and active NGO-members from East and West, North and South are of utmost interest and importance of the events.

Background

“The silent language” of art and culture can be expressed by working on concrete subjects and handcraft projects together in workshops. Dialogue will freely develop during processes of work with a common theme and with a concrete handcraft.

Discussion/debate with the concrete work at hand can create meaningful research into one's own and others' cultural language and expression. And perhaps background for a common European language of symbols can be developed – or discovered - at the same time.

In a European constitution it is important to secure all citizens' right to, and possibility for, creating, preserving and developing arts and handcrafts.

Europe's cultural history does not follow current borders between countries. European youth need to know their common – and different – cultural histories.

Cultural differences enrich, stimulate and inspire new cultural expressions. In order to fight against the boring and repetitive media-dominated cultural products, citizens must know their cultural inheritances and give these present-day forms. Culture is the area where people can express themselves at the same time that the new political organizational structure is being established.

An important goal for European cooperation is PEACE for new cultural development. Hopefully, there will be much cooperation in the future in the artistic/cultural areas. There will be more and more cooperative exhibitions across borders – “dialogue exhibitions”. Handcraft artists will make many contacts that give mutual inspiration.

Understanding for and appreciation of the cultural differences in the creative/artistic areas will prevent cultural causes of violent conflicts. “The foreign”, “the different”, will become exciting and inspiring, instead of being “irritating”, “strange” or “wrong”.

The Youth2002 project can create a consciousness in every participant about all humans’ right to express themselves, both in a political language and a cultural language. Political calm and stability is a prerequisite for citizens’ possibility for cultural development. The goal is peace and cooperation in Europe in the best possible ways, in order to secure the citizens’ right to a good life, filled with self-created, flowering cultural expressions!

The object of the “EU beyond politics...”

Kerteminde Højskole’s three-week course will have as specific purposes:

- to use artistic and cultural forms of expression in order to encourage understanding of the different countries’ cultural traditions and let them “talk” together.
- to let the traditions meet through practical joint work with symbols and decorations, theater (with music).
- to work on a suggestion for a possible European constitution which, among other things, secures the possibility for the different regions to carry their uniqueness into the future, without isolating themselves and without drowning in the international media’s dominance.
- to work on a suggestion for a possible European constitution, which secures the individual citizens’ right to free personal development through artistic and cultural expression.
- to work on a suggestion for a possible European constitution which secures the different regions’ right to free cultural expression.
- to work on a complete suggestion for a possible European constitution, together with the other Youth2002 participants at the other folk high schools.

The contents of the course.

Participants at a course at a Danish folk high school live, eat, and work together in the same atmosphere during the whole period. The debate about the future of Europe and about a possible constitution will take place both as planned group activities and informally throughout the day. As a support process for the questions about the future of Europe and the constitution, Kerteminde Højskole has chosen to offer work with art and handcrafts in the school’s well-equipped workshops.

Youth 2002

“The young citizens of Europe propose..“

During the period of 3 weeks it will be possible to achieve knowledge about the subject, the European language of art and culture, both through lectures and debate and through concrete work in the workshops: theater (including music), making paper art, painting and drawing, textile design, ceramics and making of jewelry. The participants' expressions in these workshops will be a continuation of the debates and will give the opportunity for many conversations in the working groups. The workshop groups will be the same as the discussion groups. The debate will go on naturally by keeping the group structure throughout the whole day.

The day's program will be as follows

08:00 – 10:00	Morning gathering and "Today's subject": lectures and/or discussion groups. "Today's subject" will be concentrated on the points under Kerteminde Højskole's special purposes of the project (see above). (Lecturers engaged by Youth2002 will speak at appointed times via Internet.)
10:00 – 15:00	Discussion groups continue in the workshops. (short noon pause)
15:00 – 16:00	"Today's news" – summaries of discussions about "Today's subject".
16:00 – 18:00	Free time and IT- and contact time Groups and individuals can meet around work in the IT rooms, be in contact with other participants at other folk high schools, continue talking about the discussion subjects, send ideas about different sections of the constitution to other participants at other schools.
Evenings:	Song evenings, entertainment, more debates, lectures, public debate evenings, excursions, parties, evenings at the homes of Kerteminde citizens.

Description of the points of the day's program

Morning gatherings will include songs, stories, music, readings of a non-religious nature.

"Today's subject": Forms will vary between lectures, films, presentations for debate, free discussion forums, and work in the discussion groups, all centered around the title of the course, "EU beyond politics – the common language of arts, crafts and cultures". Relevant subjects can be:

- body language in different cultures
- religious symbols in different cultures
- the form language of art in European traditions of art
- the power of colors - and advertising tyranny today
- European cultural history across country borders
- the wealth of music over all of Europe, before and now
- art and handcrafts as opposed to mass production
- how can everyone's right to cultural expression be secured?
- how does the human being develop as a cultural being?
- which sections of a possible European constitution do we wish to influence and how?

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Workshops

The common theme “Ornaments and symbols” will be the starting point for concrete work in the workshops, in dialog with subjects that are brought forth under “Subject of the day”. This is an opportunity for all the participants to contribute with their own experiences and traditions. At the same time there is the possibility to work toward – or discover – new common European forms for ornaments and symbols.

Today’s News

- Results of conversations about “*Today’s* subject”
- Short presentations and questions for debate brought by the various discussion groups or individuals.
- Summary of contributions to suggestions for paragraphs of a possible European constitution.
- Interested local persons can be included here as debate participants, so that the course becomes meaningful for the local community.

IT- and contact time

Here it is possible to send and receive debate contributions and suggestions to the constitution to and from those who participate in Youth2002 at other folk high schools. This time can also be used for internal contacts between groups at the Kerteminde Højskole (and the participants will take turns setting the tables for dinner - another form for contact)!

Excursions

The day’s program will be adjusted to include excursions and visits in the school’s local area. This special area of Denmark offers many nature experiences. And the group will visit important museums and local artists. In the Kerteminde area nature and culture are tightly woven together.

Conclusion

The third week ends with an exhibition of the theme-centered handcrafts, made in the workshops by the participants in the course during their stay. The exhibition will take place in the main exhibition hall at Odense City Hall 17-18 July 2002 and will be arranged by all the participants on July 16. (The process of being many persons who arrange an exhibition together will give a new cooperative experience!)

The tourist season will bring many visitors to the exhibition. This will give the possibility for the participants in the course to come into dialogue with many people from the whole world about “the silent language”, which art and handcrafts represent. Holding the exhibition at Odense City Hall will give many contacts, and the participants can take turns being available for conversation at the exhibition. These conversations with visitors can present new questions for debate among the participants in the course themselves. And the visitors hopefully will not forget their meeting with youth from many European countries and their expressions through arts and handcrafts!

Participants can also use these days to experience parts of the Danish culture, by visiting for example, Saint Knud's Church and Odense's museums and galleries.

Target group

It is crucial for us to find representatives of many European identities. We want the group constituting the **"EU beyond politics – the common language of arts, crafts and cultures"** to be an international one and no parties should be dominating. To ensure as broad an effect as possible, we aim at a balanced representation from both genders, from many different nations and from North and South as well as from Eastern, Western and Central Europe.

In accordance with the general policy of the Youth2002, we expect to recruit participants between NGO's and active young people in general from all over Europe -which in this context is understood as EU-countries, applicant-countries and Balkan countries.

To participate English must be understood and spoken. We aim at receiving 80-90 participants.

Timetable

The course is going to take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. We expect the course to be repeated in the following years if it is going to be a success.

Organizational elements

One or more co-coordinators are going to be responsible for the carrying out and the planning of the course. The planning, the fundraising and the recruitment of participants is done in close co-operation with the secretariat of Youth2002.

The language of the course will be English

Financing

We expect the project to be supported by the Danish Ministry of Education, the EU, by funds generated from the operation and from private enterprises and local sponsors. Participants are expected to pay a participation fee themselves. Kerteminde Højskoles well-equipped workshops and experienced teachers stand ready to be used for the purposes of the course.

Multiplying effect

As described above, the intention is that the participants will work specifically with issues related to multiplying in the last week of the course.

This will be done in accordance with the common strategy of the Youth2002 as described in the common project description. One major mean in this respect is the handing over of the *Youth2002*

Constitution for Europe to the presidency of the European Union. Another aim is to create an ongoing debate about global issues at the Portal of Globalization.

Co-operators

The school is working closely together with Ask Højskole, Askov Højskole, Brandbjerg Højskole, Esbjerg Højskole, Egmont Højskolen, Højskolen Østersøen, International People's College, International People's College (IPC), IT-folkehøjskolen Snoghøj, Oure Idrætshøjskole, Ry Højskole, Rønshoved Højskole, Skælskør Folkehøjskole, IUC-Svendborg, Nyt Europa, Association for Community Colleges (ACC), Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark (FFD) and Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd, as united in Youth2002.

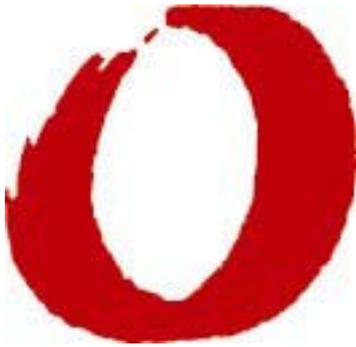
We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

The main recruitment of participants will be carried out in close co-operation with our partners in the involved countries.

Kerteminde Højskole, July 2001

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."



Oure Idrætshøjskole

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 Webaddress: www.oure.com
 E-mail address: info@oure.dk
 Legal frame: Act on Danish Folk High Schools
 Residential school, 600 students
 Headmaster: Carsten Petersen

The Youth 2002 project

Title: Europe after the nation-state?
 Coordinator: Kennie Katborg
 Staff: Kennie Katborg, Lars Madsen+ 2

Oure Idrætshøjskol was founded in 1987 and is part of a large school complex including both a residential school and a course centre.

Oure Idrætshøjskole is beautifully situated at the island of Fuenen, in the middle of Denmark.

The basis of our activities is the fact that we, in our modern society, have new and changed relations to the conception of the word body. Compared to the hard physical work of the past as well as the way in which the authorities chastised the sinful body, we claim at Oure Idrætshøjskole that we have been given back our body.

Through our body we experience joy and lust, and through sports we forget ourselves and experience "flow". In sports - as is the case with music, theatre and literature - the more we absorb the greater the experience and the insight.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Sports must be learned and the foundation is laid for lifelong sports exertion as a source of physical and mental wellbeing. But the body is not a goal in itself. The old ideal of the complete individual is still a very current issue.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Project Description: "Europe after the nation-state?"

Summary

Oure Idrætshøjskole is going to carry through a three-week folk high school course dealing with the future politics of EU/Europe in the context of globalization.

The project is an integrated part of the project Youth2002. The discussions and contexts of globalization, the EU-enlargement process and the debate about a European constitution are the turn points of this common project leading to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans *Youth2002 Constitution for Europe*

100 young Europeans engaged in NGO's are going to take part in the course. The aim of the course is to create an awareness of the EU/European policies navigating in a globalized world. In specific the concept of nation-state is going to be debated within the context.

The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. It is our expectation that through the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations created between young and active NGO-members from East and West, North and South are of utmost interest and importance of the events.

Background

12 years after the collapse of the Berlin Wall and the emerge of the new democracies in eastern Europe struggling to find a place in Europe and a new European identity - and facing the unpredictable and challenging consequences of globalization there is an urgent need for a broad discussion about our common European future.

This discussion is too important to be left only to governments, ministers, officials and experts. If anything the events in Genoa show the alarming lack of dialogue between the European establishment/institutions and large groups of the European people and a democratic defiance in the European debate in general.

In Denmark the various referendums on European issues show the same picture. Though the development of the European Union and the challenge of globalization effects each and everyone of us - this is in large parts of the Danish population conceived as an elitarian project taking place in the corridors of power in Christiansborg, Brussels and Strasbourg. And the between 40% and 50% of the Danish people voting "no" to any European issue since 1972 are - partly - voting "no" to the feeling of not being heard.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

The responsibility of counterbalancing the democratic defiance in framing our common European future lies with the governments and the European institutions – but it also lies with the European People it self.

This is the main purpose and target of the project “Europe after the nation-state”: The need of dialogue and the creation of one of many necessary inter-European networks between young people from all parts of the continent.

Target group

It is crucial for us to find representatives of many European identities. We want the group constituting the "**Europe after the nation-state**" to be an international one and no parties should be dominating. To ensure as broad an effect as possible, we aim at a balanced representation from both genders, from many different nations and from North and South as well as from Eastern, Western and Central Europe.

In accordance with the general policy of the Youth 2002, we expect to recruit participants between NGO's and active young people in general from all over Europe -which in this context is understood as EU-countries, applicant-countries and Balkan countries.

To participate English must be understood and spoken.

We aim at receiving 100 participants.

The contents of the course

In a three week period we aim through workshops, lectures, discussions and group projects to focus on the exercise: "The European Constitution – why, and how?". To approach this giant target we will concentrate the first two weeks of the course around two main clusters of discussions:

A. The search for a common European democratic history.

Does this exist? Yes, if we by history understand the chronological chain of historic events. When it comes to explain the coherence and cause/effect of history - the interpretation of history – the diversion from country to country starts. Just to exemplify this in a simple way: The Danish conception of the Second World War will in any way separate from the polish – not to mention the German. If we transfer this to each single country's democratic history and tradition – (or lack of this) - we will end up with a picture, where the differences are many and profound and the resemblances few .Is it in spite of this possible to establish a common basis and from this develop a pan-European and historically based concept of democracy?

B. Globalization/super-national state versus democracy.

Most of the European democratic constitutions were developed in the 19. century and their main purpose was to secure the individual democratic rights and to create a constitutional frame around

the exercise of power. This in most constitutions as the so-called "tripartite of power". In our present post-industrial and modern era it is an open question if the principles and the ideas of the 19. century are sufficient to secure the development of democracy for each single citizen in Europe.

One of the main challenges of globalization is the tendency of social, economical and spiritual marginalization of whole regions and whole groups of citizens. This calls upon a discussion about the very principles of our conception of democracy. Facing the global future and the perspective of a super-national European construction of state the question arise if the right to vote, the freedom of speech and the national tripartite of power alone can constitute democracy at length.

The big, challenging exercise is finding the formula where a possible common-European construction of state will have institutionally power enough to deal with the heavy and complex consequences of the global process – and at the same time make sure that this structure is porous and decentralized to the extent, where it still can function as being democratic.

C. Writing the European constitution.

On the basis of the two first week's discussions of the issues as mentioned above we will write and put forward our proposal to the draft of a common-European constitution.

Timetable

The course is going to take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. We expect the course to be repeated in the following years in case it is going to be a success.

Organizational elements

One co-coordinator is going to be responsible for the carrying out and the planning of the course. The planning, the fundraising and the recruitment of participants is done in close co-operation with the secretariat of Youth 2002.

The language of the course will be English

Financing

We expect the project to be supported by the Danish Ministry of Education, the EU, by funds generated from the operation and from private enterprises and local sponsors. Participants are expected to pay a participation fee themselves.

Multiplying effect

The intention is that the participants will work specifically with issues related to multiplying in the last week of the course.

This will be done in accordance with the common strategy of the Youth 2002 as described in the common project description. One major mean in this respect is the handing over of the *Youth2002 Constitution for Europe* to the presidency of the European Union. Another aim is to create an ongoing debate about global issues at the Portal of Globalization.

Cooperators

The school is working closely together with Ask Højskole, Askov Højskole, Brandbjerg Højskole, Esbjerg Højskole, Egmont Højskolen, Højskolen Østersøen, International People's College, Snoghøj IT-folkehøjskole, Kerteminde Højskole, Ry Højskole, Rønshoved Højskole, Skælskør Folkehøjskole, IUC-Svendborg, Nyt Europa, Association for Community Colleges (ACC) and Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark (FFD), as united in Youth2002.

We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

The main recruitment of participants will be carried out in close co-operation with our partners in the involved countries.

Projecktcoordinators/ Kennie Katborg & Lars Madsen



Ry Højskole

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 City: Ry
 Phone number: +45 8689 1888
 Fax: +45 8689 1877
 Website: www.ryhojskole.dk
 E-mail: kontoret@ryhojskole.dk
 Legal frame: Act on Danish Folk High Schools
 Residential school, 85 students
 Headmaster: Henrik Kidmose

The Youth 2002 project

Title: The EU, Freedom of Speech and Core Democratic Values
 Coordinator: Henrik Kidmose
 Staff: Tove Bloch, Morten Brockhoff, and Mads Rykind-Eriksen

Ry Højskole is a traditional Danish folk high school based on N.F.S. Grundtvig's theories of a liberal school system. It was founded back in 1892 and is one of the old folk high schools.

Ry Højskole is first and foremost a liberal school of learning. The people who come here study different subjects that interest them. We do not have any kind of examination requirements so the education is based on one's interests and skills.

People's differences and respect for each other is what characterises Ry Højskole socially. Most of the students think that Ry Højskole offers great opportunities for individual development, and at the same time they find it challenging to get along with so many people who have gathered together and who live together for a longer period of time.

Project description by Ry Højskole:
”The EU, Freedom of Speech and Core Democratic Values”

Summary

Ry Højskole is going to carry through a three-week folk high school course dealing with the future of EU/Europe.

The project is an integrated part of the project Youth2002. The discussions and contexts of globalization, the EU-enlargement process and the debate about a European constitution are the turn points of this common project leading to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans *Youth2002 Constitution for Europe*.

100 young Europeans engaged in NGO's are going to take part in the course. Journalism, media and the ethics of the press will be the main subject of the course, but it will also include a broad variety of fields: history, society, politics, environmental issues etc. The students will learn about journalism both from practical experience and from introductions and discussions.

The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. It is our expectation that through the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations created between young and active NGO-members from East and West, North and South are of utmost interest and importance of the events.

Background

In all modern societies the media, the freedom of speech and the questions about the core democratic values are very fundamental and important issues. But most of these discussions have been kept on a national level. Our purpose with this course at Ry Højskole is to start debating these issues on a European level.

Nearly daily in the news one can read about the problems concerning the relation between the power elite in EU and the public. It is obvious that better communication on EU level is needed. How can that be established? And how can we make sure that this initiative will develop as a place for true public debate, and not only a place where information can be sent from the top to the bottom?

In working with these problems it is a necessity that the Europeans have a chance to meet and exchange ideas and experiences. How can we assure the true freedom of speech in all of Europe? Is it for example a problem, that the Prime Minister of Italy, Silvio Berlusconi, has direct and indirect control over 6 national TV-stations? Which problems are the former communist countries dealing with?

The object of “The EU, Freedom of Speech and Core Democratic Values”

The object of the course is to give the participants a deeper understanding of journalism in relation to EU/Europe, democracy and to themselves as both media consumers and potential participators. Our aim is to give the participants some tools that make them able to participate in the political debate in their local area. The aim is also to pass on an understanding of the press as a watchdog in the development of EU, critical at all time. We hope to create a network that can exist after the three weeks in Ry.

The contents of the course

In the **first week** the participants are introduced to the tools of journalism. They will get an introduction to the fundamental ideas of writing for the press: the language, the structure of the article, the research, etc. They will also start writing themselves making small interviews and reporting. The lectures and discussions will put attention to the reality of the press today: the news as an agenda of political character in the space of power and as a potential critical voice in the modern democracy. The participants will visit a Danish paper (Jyllands-Posten) and learn about the modern news media.

In the **second and third week** the participants will start working on a larger project, most likely a “paper” for the Internet. Here the participants will present and discuss some of the most important issues of the course: the development of EU, the ethics of the press, how to assure the freedom of speech and the core democratic values. This big project will still be combined with lessons and common discussions that can qualify both the communication and the content of the articles.

Target group

It is crucial for us to find representatives of many European identities. We want the group constituting “**The EU, Freedom of Speech and Core Democratic Values**” to be an international one and no parties should be dominating. To ensure as broad an effect as possible, we aim at a balanced representation from both genders, from many different nations and from North and South as well as from Eastern, Western and Central Europe.

In accordance with the general policy of the Youth2002, we expect to recruit participants between NGO’s and active young people in general from all over Europe -which in this context is understood as EU-countries, applicant-countries and Balkan countries.

To participate English must be understood and spoken. We aim at receiving 100 participants.

Timetable

The course is going to take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. We expect the course to be repeated in the following years in case it is going to be a success.

Organizational elements

One coordinator is going to be responsible for the carrying out and the planning of the course. The planning, the fundraising and the recruitment of participants is done in close co-operation with the secretariat of Youth2002.

The language of the course will be English

Financing

We expect the project to be supported by the Danish Ministry of Education, the EU, by funds generated from the operation and from private enterprises and local sponsors. Participants are expected to pay a participation fee themselves.

Multiplying effect

As described above, the intention is that the participants will work specifically with issues related to multiplying in the last week of the course.

This will be done in accordance with the common strategy of the Youth2002 as described in the common project description. One major mean in this respect is the handing over of the *Youth2002 Constitution for Europe* to the presidency of the European Union. Another aim is to create an ongoing debate about global issues at the Portal of Globalization.

Co-operators

The school is working closely together with Ask Højskole, Askov Højskole, Brandbjerg Højskole, Eshjerg Højskole, Egmont Højskolen, Højskolen Østersøen, International People's College, IT-folkehøjskolen Snoghøj, Kerteminde Højskole, Oure Idrætshøjskole, Rønshoved Højskole, Skælskør Folkehøjskole, International People's College (IPC), IUC-Svendborg, Nyt Europa, Association for Community Colleges (ACC), Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark (FFD) and Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd (DUF), as united in Youth2002.

We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

The main recruitment of participants will be carried out in close co-operation with our partners in the involved countries.

Ry Højskole, July 2001



Rønshoved Højskole

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 E-mail: ronshoved@grundtvig.dk
 Legal frame: Act on Danish Folk High Schools
 Residential school, 135 students
 Headmaster: Thue Damgaard Kjærhus

The Youth 2002 Project

Title: A Europe of Regions and Minorities
 Coordinator: Thue Damgaard Kjærhus
 Staff: Gry Guldberg, Stig Troelsen + 2

Rønshoved Højskole is a traditional Danish folk high school based on N.F.S. Grundtvig's theories of a liberal school system. It was founded in 1921 just after the unification of Northern Schleswig and Denmark. Thus, the school is historically and culturally situated in the Danish-German borderland.

The courses at the school usually include an introduction to the history of Northern Schleswig and to minority issues since there is a German minority living on the Danish side and a Danish minority living on the German side of the border.

Rønshoved Højskole is situated on the shores of Flensburg Fjord and is surrounded by beautiful forests.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Project Description: "A Europe of Regions and Minorities"

Summary

Rønshoved Højskole is going to carry through a three-week folk high school course dealing with the future politics of EU/Europe in the context of globalization.

The project is an integrated part of the project Youth2002. The discussions and contexts of globalization, the EU-enlargement process and the debate about a European constitution are the turn points of this common project leading to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans *Youth2002 Constitution for Europe*

50 young Europeans engaged in NGO's are going to take part in the course. The aim of the course is to create an awareness of the EU/European policies towards regions and the national minorities of Europe. The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. It is our expectation that through the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations created between young and active NGO-members from East and West, North and South are of utmost interest and importance of the events.

Background in general

Historically the European democracy must be seen as an experiment.

Cabinet responsibility in Denmark is only 100 years old.

Germany, Spain, Portugal and Greece have not seriously established their democracy in a stable social order until the third part of the 20th Century after experiencing dictatorship.

Even in France democracy was seriously challenged between the 4th and 5th Republic in the late 50ies.

In order to function appropriately democracy must be part of a popular culture as well as a popular education within the meaning of Humboldt. Thus, democracy is also just a question of how we debate and how we treat what is strange and different. The Danish folk high schools, which together with the co-op movement and the Danish labour movement, have played a crucial role in the development of a democratic popular character in Denmark, are able to – once again – take a democratic lead as was the case during the 19th Century.

To us it is only natural and obvious that the folk high school at this point in time, must be an active catalyst and a prime mover in the democratic development in Europe and in the EU. Therefore we would like to participate in debating democracy and a possible European constitution.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Background in specific

At this point of time in Europe the need is bigger than ever to develop a democratic culture which can form the basis of a society, which can debate democratically at a level that matches the complexity characterized by the social order in relation to learned society.

The debate on the EU enlargement towards the East accentuates the necessity of a popular development of the democratic practice. Most Eastern countries have limited democratic traditions. Till 1918 they were either pertaining to czarist Russia, the German empire, the Hapsburgs or the Osmanli empire and during the 30ies marked by dictatorship. After World War II the countries were governed by the Soviet dictatorship. With this background the EU faces a gigantic democratic task in the years to come in developing a democratic EU based on the democratic being of the individual citizen.

Rønshoved Højskole, a border high school with historical experience in minority problems and the development of a democratic understanding of the necessity of a boundary between different nationalities based on a democratic balance, will, thus, with both soul, experience and interest enter into a debate on democracy, minority regions and tolerance.

With this project Youth 2002 we have chosen to focus on the development of a European public and a democratic popular character in which democracy reflects the form of a democratic being which includes both the multiplicity of Europe as well as the complexity of the democratic decision-making process within the EU.

If we are to develop a fungible European constitution we find it important to discuss the following issues:

Can a European Parliament be built up which can control the decision-taking procedures and bureaucracy?

Can a common European public with joint parties, interest organizations and a common democratic being be developed?

Can we integrate Eastern Europe in a democratic discourse and culture?

In which order must democracy be developed within the EU and how?

The object of the "A Europe of Regions and Minorities"

We aim to focus at the Europe of regions versus nation-states. How can we integrate the national minorities in the EU when it is so difficult for the nation-states? Can the EU solve such a problem? Will an enlargement towards the East destabilize the efficiency of the EU?

Firstly, the purpose of the theme is to discuss and to reflect upon the possibilities and limitations of the EU when Eastern European countries are accepted into the EU. Secondly, to discuss if the EU – through division in regions – can create solutions in the Basque country, in Corsica, in Ireland, in Brittany, in Belgium, in the Balkans etc. Under this theme we will also discuss the lines of demarcation between regions, nation-states and the EU, in this context it is also natural to discuss competence catalogues contra a federal EU.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Excursions in our own border region to both Danish and German institutions, schools and politicians. We also intend to involve cultural personalities from the region.

The purpose of the 3 weeks programme is to discuss and debate the above mentioned problems as well as involve our own border region in the debate.

Target group

It is crucial for us to find representatives of many European identities. We want the group constituting the **"A Europe of Regions and Minorities"** to be an international one and no parties should be dominating. To ensure as broad an effect as possible, we aim at a balanced representation from both genders, from many different nations and from North and South as well as from Eastern, Western and Central Europe.

In accordance with the general policy of the Youth 2002, we expect to recruit participants between NGO's and active young people in general from all over Europe -which in this context is understood as EU-countries, applicant-countries and Balkan countries.

To participate English must be understood and spoken. We aim at receiving 50 participants.

The contents of the course

First Week

The history and formal functions of the EU.

A general introduction to democracy based on the enlightenment enthusiasts. (What are the social and philosophical conditions for democracy?).

The status of the EU in the different states.

The social order and democracy in relation to the Europe of regions. (Durkheim, Weber, Adorno, Arendt, Habermas and Giddens.)

The European vision (Monet and Schumann)/the history of the EU.

The European financial and political history during the second half of the 20th Century.

Eastern Europe, the nation-state and the Europe of regions (Arendt and Bauman.)

Second and third week

Workshops, excursions and networking combined with lectures.

The European financial and political history during the second half of the 20th Century/ followed by debate.

Eastern Europe, the nation-state and the Europe of regions (Arendt and Bauman)/ followed by debate.

Democracy and the social order in relation the Europe of regions.

Globalization.

EU and Eastern Europe.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

EU and pluralism.
 EU and the European identity.
 Visiting the Danish and German minorities (schools, associations)
 Visiting border research institutions.
 Introduction to the business life of the border region (meeting local businessmen)

Timetable

The course is going to take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. We expect the course to be repeated in the following years in case it is going to be a success.

Organizational elements

One co-ordinator is going to be responsible for the carrying out and the planning of the course. The planning, the fundraising and the recruitment of participants is done in close co-operation with the secretariat of Youth 2002. The language of the course will be English

Financing

We expect the project to be supported by the Danish Ministry of Education, the EU, by funds generated from the operation and from private enterprises and local sponsors. Participants are expected to pay a participation fee themselves.

Multiplying effect

As described above, the intention is that the participants will work specifically with issues related to multiplying in the last week of the course.

This will be done in accordance with the common strategy of the Youth 2002 as described in the common project description. One major mean in this respect is the handing over of the *Youth2002 Constitution for Europe* to the presidency of the European Union. Another aim is to create an ongoing debate about global issues at the Portal of Globalization.

Co-operators

The school is working closely together with Ask Højskole, Askov Højskole, Brandbjerg Højskole, Esbjerg Højskole, Egmont Højskolen, Højskolen Østersøen, International People's College, IT-folkehøjskolen Snoghøj, Kerteminde Højskole, Oure Idrætshøjskole, Ry Højskole, Rønshoved Højskole, Skælskør Folkehøjskole, IUC-Svendborg, Nyt Europa, Association for Community Colleges (ACC), Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark (FFD) and Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd (DUF), as united in Youth2002.

We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

The main recruitment of participants will be carried out in close co-operation with our partners in the involved countries.

Thue Kjærhus, project co-ordinator



Skælskør Folkehøjskole

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 Fax: +45 5819 6667
 Webaddress: www.skaelskoerfh.dk
 E-mail address: skaelskoer@grundtvig.dk
 Legal frame: Act on Danish Folk High Schools
 Residential school, 92 students
 Headmaster: Birgitte Hansen

The Youth 2002 project

Title: Europe's enlargement towards east
 Coordinator: Flemming Cederholm
 Staff: Flemming Cederholm, H.C.Nielsen + 4

Skælskør Folkehøjskole was built in 1973 and is situated next to Skælskør Fjord with a beautiful sea-view from all rooms.

One of the most attractive beaches in Denmark, Kobæk Strand, is only 2 km from the school.

The Danish Folk High Schools, including Skælskør Folkehøjskole, are a unique opportunity to meet and live together with young people from Denmark and different places around the world. At the school there are no exams.

Everybody meet at an equal level and discuss issues of topical interest and importance in our lives. The process of finding arguments is as important as learning the right results.

The school has very good facilities in terms of workshops, a well-equipped music house, and computers with internet access, sailing boats, canoes, wind-surfing equipment, and a glass house with all glassmaking facilities.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Project Description: "Visions of a Europe after enlargement towards the East"

Summary

Skælskør Folkehøjskole is going to carry through a three-week folk high school course dealing with the future politics of EU/Europe in the context of globalisation. The project is an integrated part of the project Youth 2002. The discussions and contexts of globalisation, the EU-enlargement process and the debate about a European constitution are the turn points of this common project leading to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans Youth 2002 Constitution for Europe.

90 young Europeans engaged in NGO's are going to take part in the course. All membership countries of today face the challenge of the planned EU extension towards the East. The course aims at creating an awareness of the challenge. The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. It is our expectation that through the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations created between young and active NGO-members from East and West, North and South are of utmost interest and importance of the events.

Background in general

European integration has seen an inconsecutive tendency over the years. From 1957 to 1966 the common market, the customs union, the common commercial policies and the agricultural policies were established. Later came the common currency. France put a stop to that, however, using the veto made possible by the Luxembourg Agreement. From 1966 to 1986 Europe saw a slow integration. The Inner Market, the Maastricht Treaty, and later the Nice Treaty, added new dynamics to the process. Today all EU-countries want an EU-extension towards the East. After the fall of the Wall in 1989 it is not possible to build a new wall to keep out the previously Soviet-dominated countries. Especially the German government works persistently for the eastwards EU-enlargement.

The extension could result in 30 very different membership countries. Consequently, working with the conditions and the consequences of the extension is of great importance.

The object of the "Visions of a Europe after the enlargement towards east"

The object of the course is primarily to bring young people from all over Europe together in a common search for a common history and culture, which hopefully will enable them to take part in the discussion of the challenges of the European union in the present and in the future.

And secondly through lectures and discussions to qualify the current debates over a new perspective in a larger Europe to try to see if there can be build a bridge of understanding between cultural, linguistic, and historical differences.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Thirdly it is the overall idea to get people to participate in the path towards formulating visions for a European constitution based on common background and similarities and with respect for differences combined with respect for the fears of the people.

Target group

It is crucial for us to find representatives of many European identities. We want the group constituting the "Visions of a Europe after the enlargement" to be an international one and no parties should be dominating. To ensure as broad an effect as possible, we aim at a balanced representation from both genders, from many different nations and from North and South as well as from Eastern, Western and Central Europe.

In accordance with the general policy of the Youth 2002, we expect to recruit participants between NGO's and active young people in general from all over Europe -which in this context is understood as EU-countries, applicant-countries and Balkan countries.

To participate English must be understood and spoken well. We aim at receiving 90 participants.

The contents of the course

The course will be a combination of exchanges of experiences, presentations by professionals (for example Lone Dybkjær, Niels Meier, Ebbe Lundgård), workshops, plenary sessions and internet-conferencing.

Themes:

- The Political background for the extension
- Clarification of the historical conditions
- Clarification of the cultural conditions
- Accession and integration of new nations in the European Community
- Harmonizing economic differences
- Harmonizing educational and professional differences
- Overcoming linguistic barriers
- Possibilities of commerce and co-operation
- International understanding of political, commercial and grassroots levels

Recreational and social activities:

- Sailing
- Windsurfing
- Outdoor sports and canoe sailing
- Painting, drawing and watercolour painting
- The art of ceramics
- Textile workshops
- Music and singing workshops

Timetable

The course is going to take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. We are sure the course will be a success and therefore we expect to repeat the course in the following years.

Organisational elements

One co-ordinator is going to be responsible for the carrying out and the planning of the course. The planning, the fundraising and the recruitment of participants is done in close co-operation with the secretariat of Youth 2002.

The language of the course will be English

Financing

We expect the project to be supported by the Danish Ministry of Education, the EU, by funds generated from the operation and from private enterprises and local sponsors. Participants are expected to pay a participation fee themselves.

Multiplying effect

As described above, the intention is that the participants will work specifically with issues related to multiplying in the last week of the course.

This will be done in accordance with the common strategy of the Youth 2002 as described in the common project description. One major mean in this respect is the handing over of the Youth2002 Constitution for Europe to the presidency of the European Union. Another aim is to create an ongoing debate about global issues at the Portal of Globalisation.

Co-operators

The school is working closely together with Ask Højskole, Askov Højskole, Brandbjerg Højskole, Egmont Højskolen, Esbjerg Højskole, Højskolen Østersøen, International People's College, Snoghøj IT-folkehøjskole, Kerteminde Højskole, Oure Idrættshøjskole, Ry Højskole, Rønshoved Højskole, IUC-Svendborg, Nyt Europa, Association for Community Colleges (ACC), Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark (FFD) and Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd (DUF), as united in Youth2002.

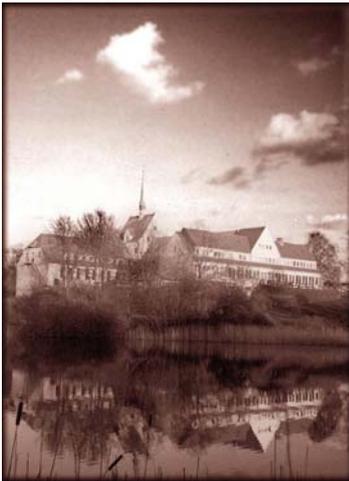
We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

The main recruitment of participants will be carried out in close co-operation with our partners in the involved countries.

Birgitte Hansen, Headmaster, August 2001

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."



Snoghøj IT-folkehøjskole

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 Fax: +45 7594 1462
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 E-mail: info@snoghoj.dk
 Legal frame: Act on Danish Folk High Schools,
 Residential school, 70 students
 Headmaster: Hans Jørgen Vodsgård

The Youth 2002 Project

Title: The European Charter and the EU-citizenship
 Coordinator: Hans Jørgen Vodsgård
 Staff: Hans Jørgen Vodsgård, Claus Bach Mogensen + 2

The school was established in 1913. It is situated on the shores of Lillebælt (the Little Belt) – overlooking the sea and the forest – in one of the most dynamic areas in Denmark with regard to trade and industry.

IT-Folkehøjskolen Snoghøj is a folk high school that combines education concerning information and communication technologies with general education concerning culture, philosophy, politics and the arts.

The school aims at giving adults the opportunity to express themselves – artistically, politically, culturally – and it teaches the use of computers as a means to those ends. IT-folkehøjskolen works hard to help society overcome the digital divide.

Project Description: "The European Charter and the EU-Citizenship"

Summary

Snoghøj IT-folkehøjskole is going to carry through a three-week folk high school course dealing with the future politics of EU/Europe in the context of globalization.

The project is an integrated part of the project Youth2002. The discussions and contexts of globalization, the EU-enlargement process and the debate about a European constitution are the turn points of this common project leading to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans *Youth2002 Constitution for Europe*

80 young Europeans engaged in NGO's are going to take part in the course.

The aim of the course is to elaborate and to create an awareness of the concept of EU-citizenship in general and to investigate the interpretations of the European Charter in particular.

The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2001. It is our expectation that through the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political, religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations created between young and active NGO-members from East and West, North and South are of utmost interest and importance of the events.

Background in general

Europeans have realized the existence of questions which are not to be solved inside a system of states all having sovereignty in all questions. A certain development has then characterized the history after the Second World War. Sovereignties among states have been loosened and discussions now take place in super-nation-states forums as well as in the nation-states forums. More and more people can imagine a system of states less defined in accordance with national borders.

The European capitals former the centers of discussions now have to realize that they are both centers and periphery. The discussions have, unfortunately, not only moved horizontally (to Brussels, Strasbourg etc) and in many directions. The discussions have also moved vertically. Most of us are not participants in the definite discussions. They are much more run by professionals, by officials, most not even elected, and we don't even know their names. Moreover, we do not know the parties discussing, those parties our state-politicians meet in discussions, we don't know their points of view and we don't know the contexts of these points of view.

Those in power in this system (the voters of the citizens) do not know, with whom they are talking. In such a system it is a permanent temptation for those in decision and for those giving voice to public opinion to make these mysterious unknown dialogue-partners into scapegoats and culprits in problems belonging in reality to domestic affairs.

It is a necessity that the Europeans know much more about each other, that we understand the backgrounds of the points of views presented in the different forums and of the representatives of the different states, and it is important that we understand which cultural values the populations want to preserve and to be respected. It is important to discuss which values should be considered common among Europeans.

In short a **common European public and permanent discussion is needed**. This "community" based on common questions should not only be a professional one.

The object of the "The European Charter and the EU-Citizenship"

In order to let young NGO's and active people in general from all over Europe become familiar with the recent development in the European Union concerning the description of the EU-citizenship, we wish to put this issue on the agenda of a community college course, taking place first time in summer 2001 at Snoghøj IT-folkehøjskole.

The new means available by help of the recent ICT development are obvious tools when meeting the enormous educational challenges described. So is the unique boarding school format.

The pilot-project is going to take place at the school. We expect the course to be the first of its kind. We do see it as an experiment, which should lead to the development of a model combining the obvious advantages of the boarding school format with the distant learning ambitions made possible by the ICT-development. We are considering the courses, the carrying out and planning a two years development project in this perspective.

Target group

It is crucial for us to find representatives of many European identities. We want the group constituting the "The European Charter and the EU-Citizenship" to be an international one and no parties should be dominating. To ensure as broad an effect as possible, we aim at a balanced representation from both genders, from many different nations and from North and South as well as from Eastern, Western and Central Europe.

In accordance with the general policy of the Youth 2002, we expect to recruit participants between NGO's and active young people in general from all over Europe -which in this context is understood as EU-countries, applicant-countries and Balkan countries.

To participate English must be understood and spoken. We aim at receiving 80 participants.

The contents of the course

The course will last three weeks. Participation **includes room and board at Snoghøj IT-folkehøjskole.**

First week: The participants are asked to find out, **(a)** how the charter and the idea of the charter were and are received in their countries. This in particular when it comes to the medias. The participants are **(b)** also asked to investigate which problems the charter would face in their particular countries. Finally the participants are asked to **(c)** present their results during different events both face-to-face and directly on the Internet. The method should be the most modern one. Snoghøj IT-folkehøjskole has very good possibilities and is still updated.

Second week: As part of the second weeks programme, it is expected of all participants **(a)** that they are presenting the main information sources on the Internet of their respective countries and/or regions for the other participants. This will be part of the programme. Snoghøj IT-folkehøjskole has the sufficient hard- and software for the purpose. To give thorough information about the European Charter process, **(b)** experts are invited to give their presentation of the facts of this process and of the political potential in it. Experts from both the political and the educational sector are going to be invited. **(c)** The school in close cooperation with the International People`s College (IPC) planning the workshops on the issues.

Even though the European Charter is covering only the EU-member states we are going to pay attention to non-EU-member-states as well. It is crucial for us not to be a part of an exclusive thinking, but rather to be a part of an inclusive one, encouraging the inspiration to flow between EU-states, EU-member states to come and non-EU-states.

Third week: The idea is to establish a network of informers who could be used by the teachers/students/participants as an on-line community when future common European topics come up. It is crucial for the value of these on-line circles that the backgrounds to them are community college courses. The face-to-face meeting among Europeans can probably never be replaced by wired communication. To continue this process, the participants are asked to develop a meeting-plan of the autumn. Web-meetings on burning issues in European policy should be covered by these meetings. Though, the topics are to be planned by mostly the participants themselves.

Through the face-to-face part of the community college course, we expect the participants to obtain an understanding of which values could be considered European –this including respect for the European diversity.

Timetable

The course is going to take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. We expect the course to be repeated in the following years in case it is going to be a success.

Organizational elements

One co-coordinator is going to be responsible for the carrying out and the planning of the course. The planning, the fundraising and the recruitment of participants is done in close co-operation with the secretariat of Youth 2002.

The language of the course will be English

Financing

We expect the project to be supported by the Danish Ministry of Education, the EU, by funds generated from the operation and from private enterprises and local sponsors. Participants are expected to pay a participation fee themselves.

Multiplying effect

As described above, the intention is that the participants will work specifically with issues related to multiplying in the last week of the course.

This will be done in accordance with the common strategy of the Youth 2002 as described in the common project description. One major mean in this respect is the handing over of the *Youth2002 Constitution for Europe* to the presidency of the European Union. Another aim is to create an ongoing debate about global issues at the Portal of Globalization.

Co-operators

The school is working closely together with Ask Højskole, Askov Højskole, Brandbjerg Højskole, Esbjerg Højskole, Egmont Højskolen, Højskolen Østersøen, International People's College, Kerteminde Højskole, Oure Idrætshøjskole, Ry Højskole, Rønshoved Højskole, Skælskør Folkehøjskole, IUC-Svendborg, Nyt Europa, Association for Community Colleges (ACC), Folkehøjskolernes Forening i Danmark (FFD) and Dansk Ungdoms Fællesråd, as united in Youth2002.

We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

The main recruitment of participants will be carried out in close co-operation with our partners in the involved countries.

Snoghøj, den 15. august 2001

Hans Jørgen Vodsgård, projectcoordinator

Based on a draft by the ACC International programme office, january 2000



Højskolen Østersøen

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 Website: www.hojoster.dk
 E-mail: adm@hojoster.dk
 Legal frame: Act on Danish Folk High Schools
 Residential school, 60 students
 Headmaster: Birthe and Knud-Erik Therkelsen

The Youth 2002 Project

Title: The Regions –Diversity and Equality in Europe
 Coordinator: Allan Kruse
 Staff: Jesper Nielsen, Elly Andersen, Knud-Erik Therkelsen

Højskolen Østersøen was founded on August 1st 1993 under the Danish folk high school legislation. The school is an independent institution, and the members of the board represent a wide range of Danish society including representatives of both the business and cultural community.

The main aim of Højskolen Østersøen is to be a folk high school capable of enhancing the student's abilities in his or her future working life, either in Denmark or Germany, while at the same time maintaining the ideas of the traditional Danish folk high school movement, which is generally aimed at qualifying the student's individual outlook on life. Højskolen Østersøen's aim is to focus on both.

Højskolen Østersøen is situated in Aabenraa, Northern Schleswig, in the Danish-German borderland.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

Project Description: "The Regions -Diversity and Equality in Europe"

Summary

Højskolen Østersøen is going to carry through a three-week course dealing with the future politics and democratisation of Europe/EU in the context of regionalism and cross border connections.

The project is and integrated part of the project Youth 2002. The discussion and contexts of globalisation, the EU-enlargement process and the debate about a European constitution are the turning points of this common project leading to a proposal by 1000 young Europeans *Youth 2002 Constitution for Europe*.

65 young Europeans engaged in NGO's are going to take part in the course. The aim of the course is to create an awareness of European/EU policy towards the developing regionalism in Europe. The course will take place from June 30th to July 21st, 2002. It is our expectation that through the lectures, the workshops, the informal atmosphere at the school and the close personal contacts, which a stay at the school promotes, participants will get important knowledge and obtain a unique understanding that goes beyond cultural, political religious and linguistic barriers. The interpersonal relations created between young and active NGO-members from East and West, South and North are of utmost interest and importance of the event.

Background

Europe of regions is one vision of Europe. The European integration process has transferred national sovereignty to trans- and supranational institutions, and decentralized powers/authority to the regional level. At the same time a new regional consciousness has arisen all over Europe. Somewhere this regionalization touch up old historical and cultural roots, elsewhere it just has pragmatic aims: cross-border co-operation on environment, trade, infrastructure, employment, tourism etc. Both motives share the principle of subsidiarity. Altogether the regions will become still more important in he future European integration and co-operation.

The nation states in Europe are changing radically. Nation and state no longer determine European's address, place of work, or consume. Furthermore identities and cultures are being opened, and societies cross borders. The new regional consciousness is a result of this process, which challenges the nation state while questioning the entity of state, sovereignty, territory, and society (culture and identity).

The nation state has always been the frame for democracy in Europe. The regionalization and the European integration are breaking up this frame. Therefore it is necessary to discuss the new conditions for democracy according to the European, the national, and the regional level.

This process leading towards a post-national Europe was started by the nation-states after World War II. At that time the legitimacy of the nation states was threatened, because they could not on their own guarantee for the sovereignty and the material survival of the people. A limited trans-national, European sovereignty was the solution put forward to the political, economical, and social problems facing Europe at that time. Ever since this sovereignty has been delimited while new problems have arisen: globalization, environment, war, etc.

In Højskolen Østersøen's opinion this process has decisive democratic implications and perspectives that need to be discussed among Europeans.

The object of the "The Regions - Diversity and Equality in Europe"

The participants will get a broader perspective on Europe, exchange visions and pragmatic ideas, and receive current, updated knowledge. Another key aim of the course is to engage young Europeans in the important debate about regions in Europe. We hope the results will qualify the ongoing public debate and inspire politicians. Moreover, during the course the participants will establish personal relations and networks of utmost importance for their future work on regionalisation and the various democratic, cultural, and economic problems within it. In the entire course will help the diversity in Europe taking root in equality and mutual recognition.

Target group

It is crucial for us to find representatives of many European regions and regionalisms. We want the group constituting "**The Regions – Diversity and Equality in Europe**" to be an international one and no interests should be dominating. To ensure as broad an effect as possible, we aim at a balanced representation from both genders, and from all over Europe.

In accordance with the general policy of the Youth 2002, we expect to recruit participants between NGO's and active young people in general from all over Europe – which in this context is understood as EU-countries, applicant-countries, and Balkan countries. To participate English must be understood and spoken. We aim at receiving 65 participants

The contents of the course

Regionalization and cross-border co-operation is more than pragmatic and economic co-operation. The regions of Europe are also laboratories for peace, diversity, solving of minority problems, subsidiarity and trans- and post-national democracy. These topics are challenges to the future Europe.

The Europe of regions challenges the democratic participation, having more horizons than the nation state. The popular discussions on how democratic interest and participation may be thought and practised in this new reality do not prove equal to the regionalization and the cross-border co-operation already taking place. The course is therefore going to focus on the following questions:

Why regionalization at all? What does regional identity really mean? What does languages mean to the regions? How do we avoid that regionalization degenerate into regionalism, understood as regional chauvinism? Which is the position of the regions in a future European constitution? What will democracy and participation herein look like in context of the regionalization? Will we become multiple citizens, meaning European, national and regional citizens? How can we integrate a polycentric, multilingual, and decentralized Europe?

Timetable

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Organizational elements

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The language of the course will be English

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Multiplying effect

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Co-operators

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We are going to cooperate with the European Youth Forum (EYF) and other youth umbrella organizations as well as national, regional and local NGO's in all the countries involved.

Youth 2002

"The young citizens of Europe propose.."

The main recruitment of participants will be carried out in close co-operation with our partners in the involved countries.

Allan Kruse, project-coordinator