

CWG EWG EnWG HRWG IPWG SWG
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VFWG ACA CWG EWG EnWG HRWG
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IPWG VFWG ACA CWG EWG EnWG

Working Groups' Monthly Newsletter



May

2012



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AFTER AGORA - BEFORE SUMMER UNIVERSITIES

Culture Working Group



aegeecwg.blogspot.com

Flourishing nature and sparkling parties - May energy!

by Dóra Mészáros

Agora Enschede was really fantastic and we could fulfil all our goals we had been preparing for.

What have we done this month?

After the promotion of our game to make our anniversary event, we had the main task to collect all the applications from the different antennas and decide the winner. So who will be the organizer of Capital of Culture? You will get to know soon!

After Agora Enschede we discussed how it went for CWG, especially how succes

ful AEGEE Fair was for us.

As it was very important for us now to both promote CWG and our Capital of Culture event, we could set that both had been going really well and more and more people started to get interested in CWG.

We also had a lot of applications for Capital of Culture so we were satisfied with our results after Agora. We were also discussing the preparations for the anniversary event so that we can help the winner into the organization.

In the World...

May is said to be the most beautiful month of the year. The weather is almost like summer but it's not that hot yet. So guys, let's go to festivals and summer-expecting events! There are a lot now in all over Europe. Check it out at this site where you can find all the main festivals from Macedonia to Monte Carlo.

Our members

This month we have two "Members of the Month". Two really great men who have been doing a lot for CWG during Agora Enschede where they were making our stand at AEGEE Fair and in any other ways as well. These guys are **Sergio Recuero Martínez** (AEGEE-Madrid) (photo) and **Sebastian Hitz** (AEGEE-Heidelberg). Thank you both for your helpful enthusiasm!



JOIN US! FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US IN cwg@aegee.org



STUDENTS' MOBILITY: MAKING THE DREAM OF ERASMUS A REALITY FOR ALL

Education Working Group



ewgblog.wordpress.com

Mobility is our Flagship topic!

by Liliya Buyukliyska

“Students’ mobility: making the dream of Erasmus a reality for all”. If you haven’t understood this is the new and actually the last flagship topic of AEGEE, which means that for two years education and mobility would be the core topic about AEGEE. But to realise it we need you - so if you are interested in becoming part of a fantastic new project about education - write to us at STUDENTS-FLAGSHIP-L@lists.aegee.org.

Topics of the month

This month the EWG focused its forces over the flagship topic “Students mobility: Making the dream of Erasmus a reality for all” since it will be the topic AEGEE would strive for the next two years. Moreover, we started a discussion for what kind of actions AEGEE could take to gain visibility for the topic and

to achieve maximum result - at our EWG-L mailing list and the forum.

What have we done this month?

We were actively promoting the flagship topic and recruiting new people for the Flagship Topic Team.

Besides, we were shaping a concept about organizing a Mobility training school, hopefully soon you will get more news about it.

Last but not least, one of our members was present in an international conference “The EU and the world: new challenges and trends - 27 ideas from the Erasmus generation” and presented the idea for “Youth in action” programme to stay as a part of the new Erasmus for all program in front of Italian MEPs.

In the World...

The day of Europe was accompanied with many events connected with the 25th anniversary of Erasmus. Also the fruitful debate for the new “Erasmus for all” programme is still going on and it is set for now that in it it would be included a separate chapter for youth with a separate budget line after the successful conference where AEGEE was present and set its position.

Our members

Aleksandra Ivanovska (AEGEE Skopje) even though she is a member for a year feels like newbie in the AEGEE world. She study Law and actually is a big fan of debates. She thinks that our education is the main factor in fashioning us in what we want to achieve in our life and what brought her to EWG. Apart from that she is really good in snowboarding!



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AGORA PARTICIPANTS FORMING A CLIMATE DOT FOR CLIMATE IMPACT DAYS ON MAY

Environmental Working Group



www.wg.aegee.org/enwg

Green Makeover

by Hans-Peter Bretz

This May might have easily been one of the most interesting months in recent time, both for us as for the whole network. We saw an Agora that has exceeded all our expectations. It was perfectly organised (even if not perfectly green), offered a lot of food for thoughts with its thematic sessions and Frank Biancheri's speech and also offered some surprises, but also good news from the perspective of the Environmental Working Group.

What have we done this month?

EnWG is spreading not only ideas, the Agora has seen a very active participation of different EnWG members. Our board member Karolina has been elected as NetCommie, as well as our member Wieke (AEGEE-Amsterdam). With Luis (AEGEE-Las Palmas), Beata (AEGEE-Budapest) and of course Miguel (AEGEE-Alicante), three of the seven newly elected CD members are also members of the EnWG.

The European Day of Environment (EDE) is over with a vegetarian cooking competition organised by AEGEE-Aachen and in June the Summer University season 2012 is officially opened by the Green SU "Greenest Superheroes" by AEGEE-Bolu.

At the Agora we also had a stand at the AEGEE Fair. The survey about the Ecological Footprint by our board member Luca attracted a lot of people, and our stand was surrounded permanently to see how green they live. You can still fill in this and as the Agora Travel survey.

At the end of May, the Green Week took place in Brussels, and we used the opportunity to "green audit" the CD house it. It was interesting to see how the CD members live there from an environmental point of view and we tried to come up with some solutions, which are easy to implement to improve the sustainability of the house and decrease the energy bill.

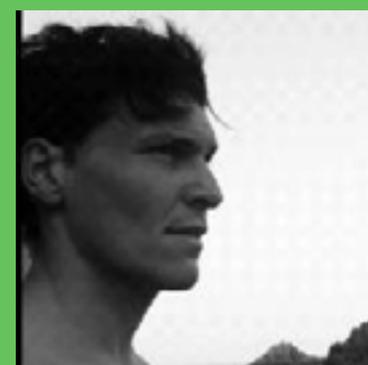
In the world...

Check our article in the AEGEEan about the Climate Dot Action.

Our members

Konstantinos Tsoleridis
(AEGEE-Aachen)

with his knowledge from studying Sustainable Housing, helped to inspect and improve living at the CD house.



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HRWG, GET IT BACK ON TRACK!

Human Rights Working Group

New, back, alive, revived!

by Maria Arends

Here we are, a kind of new Working Group, freshly installed at Agora Enschede. Until Agora we have been working together on the Social-Inclusion-L, trying to create a project, but in the end realising that our topic was too broad for that and since we wanted to make it more sustainable, we thought it to be more suitable for a Working Group. While working on this, we realised that we would be able to make it even broader, not just Social Inclusion, but Human Rights: and that is precisely what we did! And why? Because we believe everyone should be able to walk in the streets freely, without having to worry about being condemned or discriminated.

What are our aims?

- Inform young people about human rights and about the human

right problems that still exist in Europe today in order to make them aware of the topic and its current situation

- Confront young people with the situation of minority target groups in Europe by direct encounters in order to create mutual understanding.
- Foster cooperation between AEGEE and NGOs working with target minority groups, to exchange experiences in working in this field and to create a sustainable society in which human rights are not an exception.

To achieve these, our action plan contains i.a. a pre-event to Agora Budapest in Bratislava, workshops at statutory events and we want to organise Action Days. Besides these, we have a lot of plans and dreams, so you'll hear more about us for sure!

Our members

At the time of Agora Enschede we were more or less ten people, and by now we have tripled the amount of members, for which we are very glad. We are all enthusiastic people, looking forward to the interesting path ahead of us!

Gotten enthusiastic?

Please join! Everybody is free to subscribe to the list, so what are you waiting for?



BRIDGES ARE TO BE CREATED AND THE GAPS TO BE FILLED.

International Politics Working Group



www.wg.aegee.org/ipwg

May, building bridges across Europe

by Sophie Zafeiri

In May, the month of building bridges across Europe, our focus areas were the development of our cooperation with Eastern Partnership project and the new upcoming project. Our board meeting took place and the new strategies will soon become actions.

What have we done this month?

We represented IPWG in Munich during Where Does Europe End event and contacted our SU organizers for further details on our Thematic SU. Internally, our article contest started among our members,

where we try to motivate our members to express themselves, their political opinion or even the political situation in their country, through an article. We also started forming thoroughly our new project in cooperation with Eastern Partnership project, where also members of IPWG can join and take active role in the formalisation of this great new idea. Finally, many locals have contacted IPWG in order to become partners in our Youth in Action event about migration. This month will be the final selection and the finalisation of the application.

In the world...

Have you even wondered how children live in a wealthy continent like our Europe? UNICEF's research is rather shocking! Check also our website access now via QR!



Our members

IPWG Board would like to thank **Marleen Dijkhoff** (AEGEE-Utrecht) and **Andra Nicu** (AEGEE-Ploiești) for successfully representing IPWG during Spring AGORA Enschede. We feel pleased to have these two motivated and determined members within our group.

JOIN US! FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US IN ipwg@aegee.org



UNITED THROUGH SPORT

Sports Working Group

A New Idea is rising in AEGEE: SWG

by Patricia Juhl Anthony and Hakan Unal

What is the Sports Working Group?

United Through Sport is one of the main reasons to create the Sports Working Group in AEGEE. The Sports Working Group was introduced to the Network with less conviction than what could have been, but in the end it was approved thus with the name change to Sports Working Group. This WG aims to support sports activities within the AEGEE Network, on both national and international local level, gathering members from the Network with interest in any kind of sports, and who use the power of sports to unite people from different cultures...

Why is this relevant to AEGEE?

Because sport can strengthen team work, sport can unite different nationalities; sport can be used to eradicate issues such as racism, sport can be used in events such as Summer Universities. Thus, not being a main political tool,

sport is used in many political and international manners and we are happy to see the great interest from the Network already in this matter, saying "finally, somebody made this idea reality!"

Building the Sports Working Group

Thus, having worked on this SWG for months before the Agora started there remained still a lot of work for the SWG to do after Enschede. An Open Call was issued to the Network, bringing the number of members of the SWG from seven to 55 in less than a month. A Facebook group and mailing lists have been created for the communication part of the Working Groups, and we already have a document to share a European calendar of Sports events that will take part in 2013. At the moment we are working with the Juridical Commission on board elections and the results can be seen in the next WG newsletter!

In the World...

Soon UEFA EURO 2012 will start in Poland and Ukraine. (8th June-11th July) This football tournament is kicking off and debates have been ongoing regarding feminism, racism, etc. Read more here and here.
 *2011-12 UEFA Champions League final was held in Munich and Chelsea F.C. (England) won the cup!
 *2012 IAAF World Indoor Championships in Istanbul (March 9th-11th).
 *Roland Garros is going to finish soon (Paris, France).

Our members

To point out one member out of the almost 50 of the group would not be fair. AEGEEans from almost the whole network with interest in sports chose to join the SWG. What can be pointed out is the eagerness from the members to help out, a lot of great ideas have already come forward and we have more candidates than positions for the upcoming elections.

JOIN US! FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US IN: swg@aegee.org



BRIDGES ARE TO BE CREATED AND THE GAPS TO BE FILLED.

Visa Freedom Working Group



www.wg.aegee.org/vfwg

Visa Fighters never give up!

by Burak Tupaloğlu

Imagining not being able to attend an Agora, EBM, NWM, LTC, SU... because of no reasons, just because your country of origin. Join us in order to help AEGEE members; your own friends from countries who still have high walls to cross when traveling around Europe, our home.

What have we done this month?

We are looking for trainers in order to organize workshops in the summer universities we will be cooperating with. AEGEE-Paris is ready to welcome you! For more information, just contact us.

As VFWG, our HR and Secretary were in AGORA Enschede. They presented VFWG in the AEGEE Fair and presented the activity report of VFWG to AGORA. They were ready to organize their workshop but because of time problem and communication problem between organizers and Chair Team, they couldn't organize it. They really hope to organize it in any case as soon as possible! Besides, we are keeping in touch with SUCT in order to minimize the visa problems while participants of SUs are getting prepared for the visa applications.

In the world...

- Belarus plays The Border Security Card with the EU.
- Moldova-Ukraine visa liberalisation in comparison.
- Georgia with the highest EU visa refusal rate.

Our members

We met Yulia Barmakova, General Secretary of AEGEE-Kyiv, at the AEGEE Fair in AGORA Enschede and she is already ready to help!



Margaret Gorilchanik, President of AEGEE Ryazan is very interested in visa issues as well. Welcome to both of our new members!



JOIN US! FEEL FREE TO CONTACT US IN vfwg@aegee.org