



9 May 2007

EUROPE DAY



**European Movement
Mouvement Européen**

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Foreword



50 Years after the signing of the **Treaty of Rome** the European Movement's National Councils across Europe and its international member organisations,

the Young European Federalists (JEF) and the Association des Etats Généraux des Etudiants de l'Europe (AEGEE), celebrated the 57th anniversary of the 9th of May declaration of Robert Schuman in 25 European countries with events and festivities.

The yearly celebration of European unification and European values once again took many different forms. Conferences, debates and workshops as well as "European parties", "European weeks", informal receptions and of course the **European Contribution of the Year Award** were just a fraction of what made up the elements of a festive and informative 9th of May in 2007, not only in the EU member states but all over Europe.

Millions of people were once again reached through local, regional and national media. The success of the celebrations reconfirmed

the European Movement's ability to touch and generate interest in large audiences, and to enable dialogue and debate across and within Europe's borders.

We would like to thank our **partners** for their engagement and ever-lasting enthusiasm in promoting the European ideals to which the project aspires.

Henrik H. Kröner
Secretary General
Brussels, October 2007

the 9th of May

On the **9th May 1950** the first move was made towards the creation of what is now known as the European Union. In Paris that day, the French Foreign Minister Robert Schuman called on France and Germany to pool together their coal and steel production as "the first concrete foundation of a European federation" and at the same time invited other European countries to join.

The European Movement has celebrated this historic day every year since 1950 as a symbol of Europe's ambition to create a unified and peaceful Union. **Europe Day** is a key reminder of the European Community heritage.

Europe-wide celebration for the 9th May - Europe Day by the EM

Building on its long experience at the international and national level, the European Movement launched a **Europe-wide campaign** in 2002 with a common

structure, message and tools. The range of activities includes school training seminars, cultural exhibitions, school competitions, information exchanges, public events and concerts aiming at raising awareness and underlining the meaning of "Europe Day". An important part of the campaign is the "European Contribution of the Year Award", which is carried out by each National Council.

Project Management Team

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“ World peace cannot be safeguarded without the making of creative efforts proportionate to the dangers which threaten it.

The contribution which an organised and living Europe can bring to civilisation is indispensable to the maintenance of peaceful relations ”

Robert Schuman,
Paris, 9th of May 1950

European Contribution of the Year Award

Armenia

The Contribution of the Year Award was presented to the President of Armenia's Assistant **Vigen Sargsyan** for his role in establishing closer relations with Europe. The award was also given to the **Great Valley Company** and the Speaker of the Armenian Parliament **Tigran Torosyan**.

Belgium

The European Movement Belgium nominated four Members of the European Parliament for their outstanding work: **Bronislaw Geremek** (Poland), **Monica Frassoni** (Italy), **Evelyne Gebhardt** (Germany), and **Alojz Peterle** (Slovenia).

Bulgaria

The award was given to German Chancellor **Angela Merkel** for her determination to revive the Constitutional Treaty and to make the EU a pioneer in the fight for climate change.

Croatia

Minister of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, **Kolinda Grabar-Kitarović** was presented with the award for her participation on the 23rd March 2007 at the round table "50 Years of the EU: lessons for the future".

Czech Republic

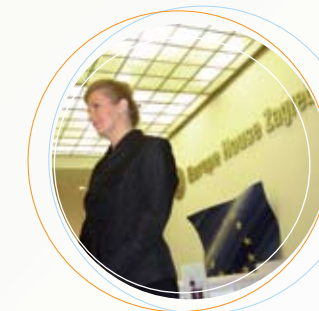
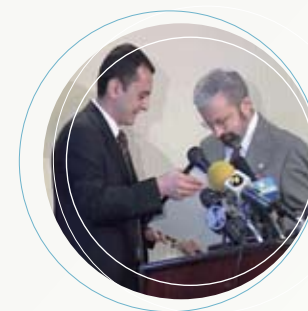
The Czech European Movement selected **ALTA**, a company from Brno, for this year's award.

Denmark

The former German Foreign Minister **Joschka Fischer** was nominated by the European Movement Denmark for the European Contribution of the Year Award for his Humboldt Speech.

Estonia

The award this year was given to former President of Estonia **Arnold Rüütel** for his efforts to reduce the gap between the European Union and its citizens.



FYROM

One of the most beloved and prominent Macedonian pop singers in the Balkans, **Toše Proeski**, was presented with the award. He tragically died in a traffic accident later this year, and the European Movement members in Macedonia will always have him in their hearts and memory.

Germany

The Polish NGO **Wolna Białoruś** was awarded the Contribution of the Year Award by the Young European Movement (JEB) Germany for its contribution to a democratic and peaceful Europe through its activities in Belarus.

Iceland

Professor of Economics at the University of Iceland, **Dr. Thorvaldur Gylfason** was honoured with the award due to his extensive writing on European Affairs.

Latvia

Girts Salmgriezis, a journalist who also hosts a programme called "Political Equators" on Radio SWH was presented with the award.

Luxembourg

EM Luxembourg proposed **Bronislaw Geremek**, **Sylvie Goulard**, **Pierre Pescatore**, and the **Centre Virtuel de la connaissance sur l'Europe** for the award. The public can vote on the website until December 15th 2007.

Serbia

This year's Contribution of the Year Award was presented to **Jovan Teokarevic**, the Director of the Centre for EU Integration.

Spain

Spanish Member of Parliament **Eugenio Nasarre de Goicoechea** was honoured for his continuous work in favour of furthering European integration.

Switzerland

Senator **Dick François Martin** was presented with the award for his report on the illegal activities of the CIA that he edited for the European Council.

ALBANIA



In Albania, the European students' platform AEGEE organised a day with speeches about European issues and the role of Albania and the Western Balkans in relation to these issues. The day was enthusiastically received by its public and considered a real success by both the participants and the speakers.

Speeches on Europe

On the 10th May, at the Luigj Gurakuqi University in Shkoder the event took place in cooperation with AEGEE-Europe, the Young Intellectuals, the MJAFT Movement, the Albanian Youth Parliament, and the Students' Government. Approximately 120 students took part in the activity. The Rector of the University, Prof. Mahir Hoti gave the first speech, which dealt with the Bologna process and the ways

in which the University tried to integrate itself in this regard.

This was followed by a speech by the Ambassador of the Netherlands in Tirana, Mr. Sweder van Voorst tot Voorst, who spoke about the history of European unification, the challenges posed by further enlargement of the EU, and the situation of the European constitution. He also spoke about the debates within Europe and the place of the Western Balkans in them. According to him, reforms of the electoral process are especially important in Albania as well as the input of civil society for an eventual Albanian accession.

Ms. Zemaïda Mozali (Chief of International Relations in the Shkodra Municipality) also tackled the issue of EU enlargement. She underlined the key moments in the

history of European Union enlargement through both pessimistic and optimistic viewpoints. In the end she concluded that enlargement had been, and is, an unstoppable process.

The final speaker was Mr. Erion Veliaj (the MJAFT Movement) who informed students about the organisation's activities and their competition "Travelling Europe" for Albanian students to win trips to visit some European Universities. A collection of approximately 200 books was also gathered to donate to an elementary school in Shkodra. The day was concluded with a cocktail party.

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AZERBAIJAN



The 9th of May was celebrated in Azerbaijan with several activities in the country from the 7th to the 10th of May by the National Council. The aim this year was foremost to inform people about how the European Union works and to get the public acquainted with its main institutions and structures.

Structural Information

Representatives of the European Movement Azerbaijan visited four universities to inform students about the European Movement, European structures and European institutions in the period around the 9th of May. The students, who were very interested, were also informed about 9th of May celebrations in other countries to illustrate the character and the scope of the celebrations.

On the 9th of May itself the European Movement Azerbaijan held a round table on the role of youth in integrating Azerbaijan into the European structures. The meeting was attended by representatives of European embassies, local youth organisations and representatives of political parties. The discussion dealt with planning for joint meetings and seminars but also with upcoming problems and their solutions for the organisation as well as for Europe and Azerbaijan.

The European Movement Azerbaijan also broadcast information on Europe and the European Union on radio "Freedom" and visited youth organisations in Gyanja, Guba, Lenkeran, Barda and Mingachevir to inform them on the European Union and its challenges and opportunities.

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BELGIUM



The European Movement in Belgium organised activities to celebrate Europe Day on the official 'Open Doors Day' of the European Institutions on Saturday 5th May 2007 in association with the European Movement International, the European Commission, the Flemish Government, JEF Belgium, and Mini-Europe.

Activities for the young and old

The organisation installed two information stands around the European Parliament – at Leopoldpark and at Place Jean Rey, where members of the public could ask and find out about the EU and the European Movement. At Leopoldpark, members of the public had the opportunity to write their thoughts about Europe on banners. Approximately 100

people participated in this activity. It was also possible to take part in a quiz about Europe, which around 300 people did. Quiz participants received a goose game made by Mini-Europe and had the chance to win an EMB T-shirt or tickets to Mini-Europe. Throughout the day, children could choose a European flag with which to have their faces painted. About 30 children took part in this activity. At Place Jean Rey, there was a 'Webmaton' – a corner of the stand comprising a camera and computer where people could sit to answer questions about Europe. This was then filmed and segments of the film were put onto the website. 100 Polaroid photos were taken of visitors, upon which they were encouraged to write something about their country or about Europe. These photos were then arranged in a collage.

At Place du Luxembourg, a series of twelve informative panels was exhibited on the themes of Europe and European integration and EU achievements over the past 50 years, to help to raise the level of awareness about the EU that people have. A European debating contest was held between 50 students from six Flemish schools in one of the rooms of the European Parliament. This debate was also accessible to members of the public.

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BULGARIA



On the 9th May 2007, the Bulgarian National Council organised a public debate in the Information Centre of the Ministry of Defence entitled 'Visions for Europe'. An accompanying information stand to celebrate Europe Day was also set up, where brochures on the European Movement International and the European Union were distributed.

Debate on 'Visions for Europe'

The topics chosen for the debate related to the roles of the European Commission and the European Parliament, and an assessment of Bulgaria prior to the European Commission's Monitoring Report. There were approximately 100 participants in the debate. The participants included MPs, MEP candidates, dignitaries from the diplomatic corps,

NGO representatives, student leaders and youth leaders.

Among the panellists were Mr Fernando Ponz Canto - Deputy Head of the EU Representation to Bulgaria, Mr Toon Streppel - Director of the Information Office of the European Parliament, H.E. Kauko Jamsen – Ambassador of Finland, and Ms Radostina Ivanova – MEP Candidate. The event was covered widely by the media, with an estimated total outreach of more than 160,000 people.

JEF Bulgaria – "Eurofest"

From the 9th to 17th May in Sofia, JEF Bulgaria organised a host of activities called "Eurofest" to celebrate Bulgaria's first 9th May as a member of the EU, aimed at targeting a variety of groups in society.

There were activities held on the streets on the 9th May itself – a speech by the former Foreign Minister Solomon Pasi, musical performances by youth groups, distribution of information about the 9th May. JEF members also held a quiz and gave small prizes such as notebooks and promotional material to those who answered correctly.

From the 10th to 16th May, a Film Festival was organised showing European films. Some more activities were held: a survey about the potential design of Euro coins, and an essay competition with the title "European Dream". Finally on the 17th May, speeches and discussions about the EU and its future were conducted between students and some EU experts.

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CROATIA



The European Movement Croatia organised 'Europe Week' from 2nd – 9th May in coordination with the Delegation of the European Commission in Croatia and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration. The goal of this week of activities was to raise awareness among the Croatian public - especially in young people - about European issues and the EU integration process.

Europe Week

Among the planned activities were projects involving 60 students from five secondary schools in the Zagreb region. The programme involved two lectures – one about Europe Day, designed to convey some fundamental information about the EU, and the second to inform the students about 'Croatia's journey to

the EU' – and a workshop 'Horoscope of Poverty' to introduce the students to human rights. Further activities were a quiz about the EU and Croatia, pantomime games, and a crossword. Prizes for participation in the quiz included a trip to the island of Krk, books about the EU, brochures about European integration, merchandise with EU logos, and one year's membership to the European Youth Club. All activities were formulated to encourage the students to communicate and voice their opinions.

The competition "Europe in School" was held around Croatia on the EU's chosen theme for 2007: "European Year of Equal Opportunities for All", which over 30,000 pupils participated in. The competition closing award ceremony was held on 11th May as part of Europe Week.

On Europe Day, a tram, playing European music travelled through the streets of Zagreb. It stopped regularly to allow members of the Euro Youth Club to interact with the public by quizzing them about the EU, and handing out information on the EU and the issues of enlargement, multiculturalism and young people in the EU.

A photographic exhibition entitled "Building Europe" was held in Europe House Zagreb of works by Ivan Bavčević with the theme of European cultural identity and what it means to be European.

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CZECH REPUBLIC



Many activities were organised by the European Movement Czech Republic in the framework of the 9th of May 2007. On the national as well as the regional level very successful events took place.

Celebrating and discussing

A member organisation of the European Movement Czech Republic organised an international conference around the theme "Fifty years since the Treaty of Rome". Among the distinguished speakers were the Commissioner for Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities, several European Ministers and members of the European Parliament. The conference was concluded by a speech of Mr. Vaclav Havel, former President of the Czech Republic. A seminar was also organised on "Europe and multilingualism" in which also many distinguished personalities took part.

The 9th of May was celebrated on the streets of Prague where the European Movement attracted the attention of the passers-by with a jazz band. Several local politicians and experts delivered speeches on the European Union on the spot. For the children, lighter entertainment was provided in the form of a singing contest in which they could compete for European t-shirts, books and postcards.

On the same day a discussion seminar took place called "Historical persons of European stature in the areas of industry, market and culture in relation to the Moravia region", focusing especially on European cooperation.

The exhibition "50 years since the Treaty of Rome" could be seen at the Foundry Vankovka Cultural Centre from the 20th until

the 15th of May 2007, which also provided information on the new member states.

The regional branches of the European Movement contributed significantly to the celebration of the 9th of May in the Czech Republic. In Hradec Kralove a meeting was organised on opportunities for working in the EU. The young European Movement also organised eighteen discussion afternoons with students of secondary schools in four different regions focusing on working opportunities.

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DENMARK



The European Movement Denmark celebrated the 9th of May with different activities in seven major Danish cities in every region of the country. Local and national politicians as well as the Ambassadors of Romania and Bulgaria took part in the activities.

Cake and Quizzes

In Copenhagen, Roskilde, Århus, Sønderborg, Odense, Aalborg, Bronholm and Rønne, the European Movement Denmark handed out coffee and cake with an image of the EU flag and sought to have conversations about the EU with the people passing by. Local and national politicians helped them to hand out the cake and of course also contributed to the discussions by giving speeches.

In Odense politicians from all over the Danish political spectrum presented their views on Europe. Furthermore, in Copenhagen, Turkish EU membership was promoted by TRiEU, and in Rønne the Ambassadors of Romania and Bulgaria held a speech describing what EU membership means for their countries.

In addition to these events the European Movement also organised EU quizzes in which the participants could not only test their knowledge of the European Union, but could also win a trip to Brussels.

Moreover the European Movement convinced many municipalities to hoist the European flag on the 9th of May adding to the visibility of the celebration. In Copenhagen even the buses carried

a European flag for that day. Also in Copenhagen the work of the European Movement was presented in the form of an exhibition in the main library.

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ESTONIA



The European Movement Estonia organised several activities throughout the country that all had the same elements, but were also adapted to the local situations. The objective was to involve as many people as possible and inform a large audience with their 9th of May activities.

Information points, simulations and presentations

In four different cities the European Movement Estonia organised entertaining public events to attract people and set up information points about Europe. The people going to the events were provided with information material on the workings of the European Union, enlargement, and the Treaty of Rome.

There were debates on the Treaty of Rome, enlargement and equal opportunities. In addition to providing the public with a platform to voice and hear opinions, these debates also gave people a chance to meet local and European representatives face to face.

Furthermore the EM Estonia organised interactive shows on European youth projects and the European Voluntary Service. These shows were made by Estonian youth, but also youngsters from other European countries. Hereby the possibilities for young Europeans were highlighted.

A "Movie Day" was also part of the celebrations, where the European Movement showed videos about people

living and working abroad as well as people from abroad living in Estonia. Also there were videos around more general themes like tolerance and peace.

Simulation games of the European Parliament were set up where groups of 25 youngsters learned in practice about the European Parliament. Also the European Movement Estonia launched a call to organise European events to all kinds of organisations presenting the best ones with an award. This initiative had very satisfying and original results as predominantly the schools put a lot of work into their contributions.

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FINLAND



In Finland AEGEE organised a workshop around the Eurovision Song Contest for the occasion of the 9th of May. The political side of the Eurovision Song Contest and the characteristics of "European Music" were discussed with people from different European countries with some very interesting results.

"No matter who wins, Europe always wins!"

In a workshop which involved participants from all over Europe, AEGEE assessed the political aspects of the Eurovision Song Contest. As it appeared the political aspects were many and the contest had different meanings for different people from different countries.

For countries aspiring to be in the

European Union, the Song Contest seems to be a way to present themselves to the public within the European Union. On the other hand for countries that are not member states of the European Union, and do not aspire to be one, the contest is a way to show that they are as European as any member state is.

Furthermore, the voting of the public in the different countries reveals ties between peoples and fondness between related cultures and languages as well as between countries with similar stances in foreign politics. International events moreover do seem to influence the voting process of the European publics.

Many people see the Eurovision Song Contest as an event in which Europe is united in its broadest sense. The

voting procedures and results are seen with different eyes across Europe, nevertheless it is an event which is viewed and discussed across Europe. As one of the participants put it "No matter who wins, Europe always wins!"

The participants in the workshop also tried to define "European music". As one can imagine this was not an easy task and in the end the participants concluded that European music as such can better be defined in many different subcategories. The best way to define European music is not.

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FRANCE



JEF France organised numerous activities to celebrate the 9th of May. Many people were reached by the debate and the message of a united Europe.

Information and debate

Stands with information on Europe were set up all around the country in Strasbourg, Bordeaux, Lille, Nancy, Rouen and Paris. In Strasbourg this coincided with the open day of the European Parliament and in Bordeaux an exhibition about 50 years of European construction was shown at the same time. In Lille information was given not only on Europe and the European Union, but also on the Erasmus programme which has enabled student exchanges for twenty years now. Of course also in Paris there was an information stand and

in addition to this JEF France also took part in several debates on the European Union and a European tandem bike ride.

In Strasbourg the City Council, the European Movement and JEF organised a European picnic. There was an information stand set up here. A magician, a European quiz and hand-made kites attracted the attention of the public.

The 9th of May celebrations in France involved several debates and conferences. A conference on the French-Belgian Euro-district was organised and attended by approximately sixty people and there was also a very interesting conference on European Cinema. A debate was organised on 50 years of Treaty of Rome and 20 years of the Erasmus

programme. For youngsters JEF France also organised a number of interactive lectures in schools.

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FYROM



The European Movement FYROM organised many different activities to celebrate the 9th of May under the banner "Together towards Europe". The activities took place in the period from the 30th of April until the 15th of May and served to increase public awareness on EU topics, stimulate discussion and develop a democratic dialogue on FYROM accession as well as to strengthen the civil sector in FYROM.

Workshops, debates, conferences and celebrations

In Berovo the EM FYROM organised an educational camp for youngsters from 130 FYROM high schools. Students from outside FYROM also attended. The youngsters spoke with representatives of several European organisations like the EU, the OSCE, and the European

Movement discussing topics of concern for the region.

In Veles a public debate took place called "European standards for the protection of the environment: Challenges or the end of the agony of Veles?". In Strumica the visa regime and the process of European integration were the topic of the debate. The Common Agricultural Policy was debated in Kavadarci and in Prilep a conference took place with the theme "Euroregions and small businesses". In the same period other conferences, workshops and debates also took place in many other parts of the country.

A European Happening was the setting in which the Embassies of the EU member states presented themselves with the help of elementary school students, while

FYROM artists gave a concert. The 9th of May was also celebrated in Skopje by mountaineers, who carried the European and FYROM flags up to the top of Vodno Mountain to be hoisted. A European Party was also added to the festivities. The yearly conference "Together towards Europe: Are we moving forward or backwards?" took place as well as the traditional Solemn Academy.

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GERMANY



The Young European Movement Germany (JEB) organised a European Week from 7th to 12th May in Berlin for this year's 9th May celebrations and AEGEE Stuttgart cooperated with the government of Baden-Württemberg in the organisation of the project "Baden-Württemberg in Europa".

Debates about Europe

There was a series of debates held during the European week. The first debate was about the relationship between France and Germany with speakers such as Dr. U. Guérot (German Marshall Fund) and Dr. K. O. Lang (Scientific and Political Association). The second debate was entitled "An EUlogy? About the Death of the never born EU Public Sphere". Dr. G. Sabathil from the European Commission, and C. Linden from the European Movement Germany Network were panellists. The third debate

focused on the role of faith in the European Union. Panellists here were for example P. Gröning (Filmmaker), and Dr. R. Ghadban (Evangelical College of Higher Education, Berlin). The next debate: "Lost in Translation? The European Union on its Way to a Cultural Community", addressed the topic of what comprises a common European culture. The final debate concentrated on Human Rights in the European Union and was discussed by Dr. Hans-Georg Wieck (Association of Human Rights in Belarus) and Ulrike Pfeifer (Amnesty International) among others. A European Party took place on the last day of the week.

The activities of AEGEE focused on the EU's regional policies and the role of Baden-Württemberg in Europe. Also a workshop focused on the German presidency of the European Council took place around the 9th of May and AEGEE provided youngsters with

information on student mobility programmes and AEGEE summer schools. On the 9th of May itself AEGEE took part in an activity at city hall which dealt with the history of European unification and the festivities were ended two days later with the ultimate European dinner, at which food from all over Europe was prepared and tasted.

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GREECE



For the fifth consecutive year, JEF Greece celebrated the 9th of May with a series of street actions in the cities of Athens, Heraklion and Komotini. The actions were foremost aimed at discussing European topics with local youngsters.

Street actions

In Heraklion, JEF members distributed information leaflets in the city's main square. Each of the 12 youngsters acted as "EU communicators". In cooperation with the City of Heraklion and the local Europe Direct Office, they answered questions on EU matters and discussed with youth from the island of Crete their opinions of the future of Europe and the impact of the EU on their lives. Especially on an island that is as popular with tourists as Crete, the EU has a significant impact and its consequences

have high visibility because citizens from other member states visit it daily. This initiative to involve the young citizens in the streets was received very enthusiastically and the passers-by were eager to join in the conversations.

In Athens and Komotini similar street actions took place. Youngsters distributed informative leaflets, as well as copies of the EU publications they had secured from the EU Commission Representation and the Europe Direct Office of Komotini respectively. The actions took place in Athens at Syntagma main square and in the main shopping precinct of Ermou Street. In Komotini, an information stand was set up in Plateio Eirinis (Peace Square) and in addition, "EU communicators" were active in the pedestrian streets of Venizelou and MM Vasileio.

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ICELAND



The European Movement Iceland brought the celebrations to the countryside this year. Debates took place in the little towns of Akureyri and Ísafjörður, where the local population was encouraged to take part in the debate on Europe and Iceland's place in it.

Countryside debates

In both towns the whole morning was reserved for several presentations and debates on Europe. Due to the location of the event one element of the morning was of course a discussion on the role of the Icelandic countryside in a united Europe. Both of the presenters agreed in this case that for those living in rural areas Union membership might be beneficial. After this the benefits and lessons of the 50 years since the Treaty of Rome

were highlighted as well as the role of small countries in the world economy. To conclude, a presentation was given on the differences and similarities between Iceland and Europe.

The most interesting element of the debates was that the European Movement Iceland had not only invited speakers from within their own network and line of thinking, but also the Chairman of Heimssýn, an organisation which strives to keep Iceland out of the European Union. This assured a good debate. Although the discussion was not about the eventuality of Iceland becoming a member of the European Union this also became a topic in both of the discussions.

Media coverage of both events was quite extensive as the largest Icelandic papers took interest in the debates as well as radio stations, websites and newsletters.

Special thanks to:
The Federation of Icelandic Industry, the Young People Forum in Ísafjörður, and the University of Akureyri.

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IRELAND



The European Movement Ireland organised two events on the 9th May to celebrate Europe Day. EM Ireland volunteers and staff dressed in branded t-shirts and met with members of the public in the main Irish shopping precinct and at all the major Dublin train stations. They handed out leaflets: “The EU in the time it takes to make a cup of tea”, and “What does the EU do with the Lolly?” and EMI lollipops, as well as speaking with the public. Through this event over 25,000 members of the public were reached.

50 years of Europe discussion

In the evening, an event entitled “50 Years of Europe” was arranged. The aim of this activity was to create an environment that would enable EMI members, members

of the public, and partner organisations to engage with the Chairman of the European Movement Ireland Ruairi Quinn and other speakers on European issues. This event was co-hosted with the European Cultural Foundation (ECF) and the Dublin Docklands Development Authority (DDDA). A speech was given by Ruairi Quinn entitled “My view of 50 years of Europe”. It was well received, and also poignant given the political climate of the day. There were contributions from the floor and the discussion was led by former Taoiseach Garrett Fitzgerald. The head of the DDDA gave a speech about the development of Dublin’s docklands. He highlighted the positive effects the development has had on people who are disadvantaged, and in addition, how vital EU funding is to this project.

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ITALY



In Rome, the European Movement Italy celebrated the 9th of May with informative as well as festive events for people of different ages. The activities of Europe day in Rome were widely publicised throughout five universities in Rome with posters, and via mailing lists and local newspapers.

An exposition, a debate, a buffet and a party

An exposition was opened for the 9th of May on the history of European integration in the “Casa della Memoria e della Storia” (Rome City Council Department). In the evening, a debate took place at the same venue, which assessed the perspectives of European integration at the present time and the importance of the celebration of the 9th of May. Among

the speakers invited were Sen. Valerio Zanone, On. Paolo Masini, Prof. Massimo Rendina and Prof. Virgilio Dastoli. The debate was concluded with a buffet for the participants, who mainly comprised students and young researchers.

Later that night, at 10pm, the festivities moved to the more relaxed location of a disco. The events developed a more informal character as the Erasmus student network and JEF Rome organised a night to celebrate European unification and values with music, dancing amidst European flags and gadgets in the disco. The party was very popular and lasted until the early hours, attracting approximately 600 people.

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KOSOVO



JEF Kosovo members and AEGEE celebrated the 9th May 2007 by organising events on the streets, a debate, a dinner, speeches and a party.

“Europe is Here”

JEF Kosovo activists were suitably dressed in T-Shirts with the message ‘Europe United’ while handing out flyers about the mission, vision, and organisation of JEF Kosovo to members of the public. The JEF members spoke with citizens and young people about Europe today and the European Union of the future that JEF Kosovo envisions. The activity was also broadcast on television and radio.

In the afternoon, a round table on the topic “European Union and Kosovo” was held in the premises of the Centre for Human Rights in Prishtina, organised in coordination

with the Youth Initiative for Human Rights (YIHR). A dinner with representatives of NGO organisations and government officials was organised for that evening in order to thank the NGOs for their support of JEF Kosovo.

JEF drew an analogy between the long queues and expensive entrance fees to bars and clubs in Prishtina and the long line that Kosovans have to stand in to obtain visas to enter EU countries, and organised a “Party Without Visa” with a local rock band performance.

The European Students’ Forum (AEGEE) also held activities in Kosovo on the 9th and 10th May with around 80 participants. Speeches were organised at Fama University, Prishtina: Mr. Beqiraga (Executive Director of Young Intellectuals, Hope/AEGEE-Shkoder), encouraged the students to become more involved in AEGEE-Prishtina.

Prof. Kuqi (Deputy Head of the Democratic Party of Kosovo), discussed the steps taken to define the status of Kosovo. Fama University lecturer Shpejtim Desku spoke on the topic of EU enlargement. The final speech was given by Mr Halimi (Executive Director of Fishiket) about initiatives the organisation has taken to facilitate integration of the Serb minority in Mitrovica.

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LATVIA



For the occasion of Europe Day this year, the European Movement Latvia in coordination with the European Parliament hosted a conference with around 200 participants entitled “Latvia – three years in the EU”.

Conference for Europe Day

The European Commission Representation in Latvia opened the conference with a reception. The Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Artis Pabriks, and the Chairwoman of the European Commission Representation in Latvia, Mrs. Iveta Šulca remarked upon the twin celebration of the 50th EU anniversary and the third year of Latvian membership in the EU. The goal of the conference was to involve the wider society in discussions on Europe’s achievements and challenges since the signing

of the Treaty on the European Union and the Treaty of Rome, as well as the experiences of the new member states in the European Union.

Radio Latvia One covered the conference, which had an estimated audience of 50,000 people. The major news agencies LETA and BNS, as well as a number of other journalists covered the event as well. The nominated European of the Year Mr. Girts Salmgriezis from Radio SWH made a speech. Other speakers were MEP Girts-Valdis Kristovskis, the Ambassador from Germany H.E.E. Schuppius (EU Presidency), entrepreneur Edgars Stelmahers, sociologist Aigars Freimanis, and Chairwoman of the Latvian Platform for Development Cooperation Mara Simane.

The regional event took place in western Latvia in Liepaja, during Europe Week 2007. This event focused on young people, and attracted people from the primary schools, high schools, and local municipalities. There was also media coverage. In the Student Centre, a discussion was organised on the topic: „Vai tiešām visi kopā?” (Are we all really together?). Participants also discussed the 50th anniversary of the European Union and Rome Treaties, and latest events in the EU. The Europe quiz was a high point of the conference.

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LITHUANIA



In Lithuania, JEF Lithuania celebrated the 9th of May by bringing their event to the second largest city of the country: Kaunas. In previous years the celebrations for Europe Day for the most part took place in the capital, so this proved to be a nice change of scene.

“Our Europe, Our future” Conference

The conference that was organised was aimed at youngsters and called “Our Europe, Our future”. Speakers with understanding of youth work and European programmes were invited to share their knowledge and their experiences. In addition, some facts and figures about the EU and the history of Europe were presented. There was a lively discussion about several European topics, both among the speakers, as well as

between the speakers and the public. The reaction of the young audience to this event was very positive. Even those who already had kept an eye on EU affairs were surprised by the animated and entertaining conference. Some people even perceived the conference as an eye-opener about European issues!

Special thanks to: The Commission Representation and the Europe Direct office in Lithuania

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LUXEMBOURG



This year the European Movement Luxembourg organised two events to celebrate the 9th of May. The events took place in the city of Luxembourg and at the castle of Munsbach.

A ceremony and a castle

On the 9th of May itself, the European Movement Luxembourg organised a ceremony with the 27 Ambassadors of the EU member states, representatives of national and European institutions and high school students. This ceremony took place on the Place de la Foire and at the Europe House in the heart of the city of Luxembourg. The attending students performed a small concert to add to the festive mood. The press also covered the event, so the whole country was reached by the celebration.

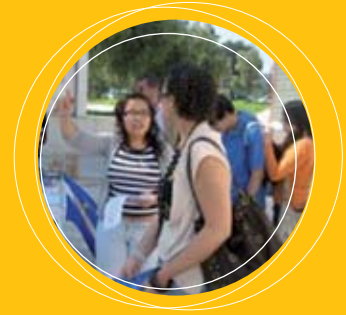
One month later, a second event was organised to enhance the spirit of the 9th of May. In the castle of Munsbach the European Movement Luxembourg organised (with some like-minded partners) a day to inform the general public about their work and the possibilities of the European project. Programmes for student exchange, training on EU law for young entrepreneurs, and possibilities for conferences and events were highlighted. This was combined with an open doors day, so after the information on the organisations, the visitors could explore the recently renovated castle and its park. In the different rooms of the castle, there were also documents on the EU and multimedia presentations for the public to enjoy. The day concluded with a cocktail party.

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PORTUGAL



For the 9th May 2007, the European Movement Portugal along with JEF Portugal collaborated to organise activities to celebrate the day on the streets of Lisbon.

Street activities

A stand was set up outside the metro station to the university, where a variety of activities took place. Young Europeans were filmed while being asked the following question: "Today is Europe day - what does Europe mean for you?" During these interviews, the issues of cooperation, peace, a borderless Europe, progress, and diversity were highlighted as positive aspects of Europe, along with some issues requiring clarification. A selection of these interviews was uploaded onto YouTube.com.

Over 200 signatures for the Referendum Campaign were collected during the day. While this was being done discussions about Europe were started with the EM and JEF representatives, and many people informed themselves further at the information table - where material about Europe, the European Movement, JEF, federalism, and also about the Referendum Campaign asking for a European wide referendum on the European Constitution was displayed.

There was a special edition of a radio broadcast focusing on European issues: "A Europa de que se fala" (The Europe about which we talk) by national radio station Rádio Renascença. EM President Pat Cox was interviewed and José Rodriguez the President of JEF Portugal also participated. There was a discussion of youth topics from both a national and a

European perspective, and a debate about the agenda of the Portuguese Presidency. The opportunity was also used to present the activities of the European Movement and JEF Portugal.

Café Europe

In one of the popular cafés in Lisbon city centre, the first of a series of Café Europe discussions was held between young Europeans. The topic for the discussion was: "Russia In or Out? - Energy dependency, authoritarianism of Putin and EU/Russian relations". Professor Pedro da Fonseca, an expert in this area, introduced each topic, and lively discussions followed.

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ROMANIA



The European Movement Romania and AEGEE both organised events for 9th May this year. The EM Romania held a debate and activities for school students. AEGEE set up an exposition and a debate in the capital Bucharest.

Bringing Romanian citizens closer to the EU

The EM Romania aimed to strengthen the relations between civil society and the European Union by celebrating with its citizens on 9th May. One of the main achievements of the activities was to bring together the political power and the opposition in an open discussion to help the citizens to believe that the European Union supports them and their goals as new members of the European Union.

Further activities took place also in Bucharest

and Calarasi. In Bucharest, 800 students from different schools took part in activities to make them feel that they are doing something for Europe. In Calarasi, The EM Romania and Mayor Nicolae Dragu, together with hundreds of citizens, celebrated Europe Day accompanied by the town's orchestra at a rural festival, which was covered by national press.

Portraying a European home

AEGEE organised a photo contest under the banner "Some call it Europe, we call it home". Over 200 high school and university students took part in this competition. The 36 pictures that best expressed the theme were combined to form an online photo exhibition, attracting an audience of 600 visitors.

After the exhibition, there was a debate on the impact of NGOs, youth exchanges,

volunteering programmes and different mobility programmes on Romanian society and youth in the context of European integration. Among the speakers were Mircea Toma, Director of "Academia Catavencu", a well-known local magazine, Lucretia Baluta from the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO, and Dan Puric, director and actor. This debate attracted another 300 people, and was therefore a big success.

EM Romania

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SERBIA



Together with many partners the EM Serbia celebrated the 9th of May extensively under the banner “You are entitled to Europe”. An extra reason for celebration was the 15th anniversary of the European Movement in Serbia.

Entertainment and debate

The exhibition “European spirit – Sport spirit in Serbia” set up in cooperation with the museum of sport was very well received by its audience. The exhibition focused on the European and national dimensions of sport. The exhibition was opened by the Czech Ambassador and visited by over 400 people.

Furthermore, on national television the TV-quiz “You are entitled to Europe” was broadcast on a morning show for several

days around the 9th of May. During the show, the contestant’s knowledge of the EU member states was tested. Winners were rewarded with gifts from the member states provided by the embassies of several EU member states.

The EM Serbia also organised a debate under the banner “New EU members – Old friends”. The Ambassadors of Romania and Bulgaria took part in this debate as representatives of the two new member states. Young Bulgarian musicians also contributed to the pleasant atmosphere with classical music. Another debate was organised on the possibilities of Serbian membership of NATO.

Under the banner “Europe at school”, creative expressions of Europe were made in Serbian schools all over the country in

the form of art and literary work. The creative expressions were all contributions to a nationwide competition of which the winning works were exhibited in an art gallery in Belgrade for two weeks.

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SPAIN



The European Movement Spain organised celebrations on the 9th of May 2007 throughout the country. This year the events especially focused on maintaining the Europe Day tradition of celebrating in small and medium sized towns.

A festival of Europe

The main element of the celebrations was the hoisting of the European and Spanish flags in cities all over the country. Naturally, the celebration also took place in Madrid, and this was on the popular “Plaza del Descubrimiento” where live music contributed to the festive atmosphere. Similar celebrations took place all over the country at exactly the same time. Numerous personalities attended these ceremonies such as ambassadors, mayors and representatives of the European institutions in Spain.

In Fuenlabrada however, the celebration was organised one day later in order that it could be combined with a debate on the future of Europe in the framework of the “Speak up Europe” campaign, which attracted local youngsters and students. The same day the Mayor of Fuenlabrada inaugurated a new Europa Square in the presence of several European Parliament members. More than a thousand children dressed up in t-shirts with the European flag printed on it, while they attended the flag hoisting ceremony and sang the European anthem.

Special thanks to:

The European Parliament Office in Madrid, the European Commission Office in Madrid, the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces, the Mayors of Madrid and Fuenlabrada and the Community of Madrid.

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SWITZERLAND



Europe Day 2007 was celebrated in Switzerland by the national European Movement as a part of their General Assembly on the 5th of May. The event took place in Bern where under a lot of media attention the European Contribution of the Year Award was awarded in a short ceremony.

Ceremony and celebration

The keynote speaker that day was the German Ambassador to Switzerland Andreas von Stechow. Ambassador von Stechow dealt with the challenges and the results of the German Presidency up to that point. Moreover, the Ambassador highlighted the importance of the Treaties of Rome for Europe as a whole and Switzerland in particular, underlining the role that Switzerland should and could play

in a united Europe. He also referred to the major anniversary celebrations in Berlin.

Another highlight of the day was the award ceremony of the European Contribution of the Year Award. In an exciting internet vote throughout the month of April, the Swiss public had the chance to cast their votes on one of the four nominees, causing an all-time record of 3500 unique visitors to the EM Switzerland website in the run up to the Assembly. Media attention for the event was high, as a Swiss national television crew attended the General Assembly to report on the award ceremony.

The celebration was also attended by Dr Michael Reiterer, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Switzerland and of course hosted by Christa Markwalder Bär in her capacity

of President of the European Movement Switzerland.

Co-operation with the German embassy made it possible to show some objects of the exhibition "Guten Tag! Hier spricht Europa...", which the embassy had set up to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the European Union.

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European Movement Activities

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The **European Movement** is an international pan-European organisation, represented in 41 European Countries, founded in the wake of the Hague Congress in 1948. Its objective is to contribute to the establishment of a united, federal Europe, founded on the respect of basic human rights and democratic principles, solidarity and citizen's participation by influencing decision makers and informing and mobilising citizens at all levels of European society.

Le **Mouvement Européen**, une organisation internationale paneuropéenne représentée dans 41 pays européens, a été fondé à suite du Congrès de La Haye en 1948. Elle a pour objectif de contribuer à la réalisation d'une Europe unie à caractère fédéral, fondée sur le respect des droits de l'homme et sur des principes démocratiques, de solidarité et sur la participation des citoyens en informant et en mobilisant les citoyens et en influençant les décideurs à tous les niveaux de la société Européenne.



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