

9 May 2008

EUROPE DAY



**European Movement  
Mouvement Européen**

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Education and culture

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## Foreword

*In 2008, 60 years after the founding of the European Movement by Winston Churchill, Altiero Spinelli and Konrad Adenauer amongst others, the EMI, its 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 58<sup>th</sup> edition of the 9<sup>th</sup> of May – Europe Day in 21 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 9<sup>th</sup> of May in 2008, not only in the EU member states but all over Europe.*

*Some 10 million 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, November 2008

# The 9<sup>th</sup> of May

On the **9<sup>th</sup> 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 9<sup>th</sup> May - Europe Day by the European Movement

Building on its' vast 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 by National Councils across Europe.

### 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, 9<sup>th</sup> of May 1950

# European Contribution of the Year Award

## Armenia

MP **Harutyun Pambukyan** (Republican Party), MP Zaruhi Postanjyan (Heritage Party), Director of Aesthetic Arts Center **Hovhannes Igityan**, Ambassador of Armenia in Brussels **Viguen Tchitechyan** and Head of EC Delegation Ambassador **Raul de Luzenberger** were awarded with Best European Contribution of the Year for their work on Armenian - EU affairs.

## Bulgaria

**Milan Predan**, received the award on behalf of the Slovenian EU Presidency. The nomination reflected the success of the first new member state taking over the EU Presidency following the 5th enlargement of the European Union.

## Croatia

This year the European Award “European Speech of the Year” was presented to the Rector of the University of Rijeka **Ph. D. Pero Lučin**. Mr. Lučin presented his speech in Europe House Zagreb 21st February 2008 - the theme was: “What the European Union brings to Croatia in education fields?”

## Finland

Active youth NGO-actor, **Jaakko Weuro** was awarded as the Young European of the Year 2008 for his effective and assiduous work both in Finland and in Europe, he has brought European youth politics closer to young people.

## FYROM

As is traditional in the FYROM the European Personality of the Year was announced at a large gathering of European stakeholders. This year **Vlatko Stefanovski**, the prominent composer from Macedonia was selected as the EU person for 2008.

## Germany

This year the German-Polish association ‘**Stubfurt e.V.**’ was chosen to receive the European Movement of the Year Award. This association was founded by the artist Michael Kurzwelly in Frankfurt (Oder) in 1999.



## Iceland

The European Movement Iceland selected **Björvin G. Sigurðsson**, the Minister of Trade and Commerce, for this year's award.

## Latvia

The European of the Year, was awarded to the EU's energy commissioner Mr. **Andris Piebalgs** for his work in representing Latvia in the EU and for his work in the EC.

## Portugal

In Portugal the winner was the **approval of the Treaty of Lisbon**, and the entire year was dedicated to it.

## Serbia

This year, the award was given to **Milica Delevic**, assistant to Minister of Foreign Affairs and to **EXIT Festival** represented by Bojan Boskovic.

## Spain

Ex-President of Spain and Head of the Expert's Committee on the Future of Europe, **Felipe González Márquez** was honoured with the Contribution of the Year Award for his continuous work in favour of further European integration.

## Switzerland

**Laurent Flütsch**, director of the Roman Museum of Lausanne-Vidy, a regular co-host of the satirical broadcast 'La Soupe' of Radio Suisse Romande, was presented with the award, for her effort to foster the ideals and values of the European Integration in the Swiss public.



# Armenia

In honour of the Europe Day, the European Movement in Armenia organised a reception where many of its members, political leaders, NGOs, Mass Media and International organizations participated.

## “Europe is a community of Values”

During the reception, the former Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia, Mr. Oskanian, was awarded with an Honorary Member Diploma and delivered a speech where he recalled that Europe is not a geographical community but a community of Values and Identity where Armenia has its own place.

MP Harutyun Pambukyan (Republican Party), MP Zaruhi Postanjyan (Heritage

Party), the Director of Aesthetic Arts Center, Mr. Hovhannes Igityan, the Ambassador of Armenia in Brussels, Mr. Vigen Tchitechyan and the Head of the EC Delegation Ambassador Raul de Luzenberger were awarded with the European Contribution of the Year.

The European Movement in Armenia was established in early 2005 by Mr. Viktor Yengibaryan, with alumni students mainly from German Universities. Its objectives are to disseminate the main European values in the Armenian society and to accelerate the effective cultural, economic, political and educational integration of Armenia into European structures and the Union. The European Movement in Armenia intends to play a critical role in these integration processes and puts significant share in it. At this moment,

the European Movement in Armenia has over 1.000 individual members, coming from different regions of Armenia, with different backgrounds and age.

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# Austria

The 9<sup>th</sup> of May activities in Austria were carried out by the Young European Federalists (JEF) in cooperation with the European Movement Austria and the Union of European Federalists Austria.

## European Training Days

Together with the Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture, JEF and EM Austria organized four “European training days” for teachers. During these three days of seminars, the teachers were trained and motivated to promote the 9 May - Europe Day in their schools and communities. They were informed about what they could do in their local area for Europe day (e.g. organizing a debate, local campaign, info stands at school) and encouraged to take actions.

## Public Events

Classic public events such as, information stands were also organised in the cities of Graz and Feldbach. Citizens asked questions and gather useful information about the European Union, its structure and its politics. Sport competitions and musical events took place in Styria as well as a “EuropaQuiz”.

Together with the City of Graz, JEF Styria organized a Europe Day festival and set up a big stage in Graz’s main square. This stage was surrounded by many different info stalls of pro European organizations and cultural organizations. Young people from various schools presented short sketches about Europe

In other cities (Vienna, Innsbruck, Dornbirn & Salzburg), several cultural

events were organized in order to increase citizens’ European awareness: folk dancers and music groups from Slovakia, Hungary and the Czech Republic impressed the many visitors. Information stands were also set up, notably at the Business University of Vienna and in schools where young people took the opportunity to become more informed about the EU policy in the youth field through a competition on Children’s Rights

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# Belgium

In celebrating the Europe Day, the European Movement Belgium organized several activities around two central venues: one stand was installed alongside the Leopold Park, and another one inside the European Parliament.

At both stands, a broad range of information about the European Movement was displayed. The volunteers and staff were present at every moment to inform people about the European Movement Belgium and International, to hand out flyers, brochures and Annual Reports from the EMB and the EMI, and to answer questions about Europe.

## Learning about Europe through play

In the stand at the Leopoldpark, the EMB organised a quiz in cooperation with the

Robert Schuman Foundation where people filled in different questions about Europe. Every participant received a small prize and people could also win a T-shirt of the EMB or an art book.

A European Wheel of Fortune was also set up in cooperation with Mini-Europe, which brought a very playful aspect of learning about Europe for the visitors.

The whole day children had the possibility to choose their favourite flag of the European member states and have it painted on their faces with make-up.

The volunteers took Polaroid pictures from people passing by the stands or visiting the European area. These people, coming from very different corners of Europe, could write something on their own picture, a remark on Europe or on

the country which they came from. From these pictures, a collage of “European visitors” was created and displayed, on the stand.

Inside the European Parliament, visitors could play a game on the computer and get more information about Europe and the European Movement.

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# Bulgaria

On the occasion of Europe Day, the Bulgarian National Council of the European Movement organised a public debate entitled “Building the Europe of the Future Together” and set up an Information stand.

The challenges the EU will have to face in 3 important areas were discussed:

- Political Europe
- Economic and Social Europe
- Education and Cultural Europe

## Debate and reception

The event took place in the Information Centre of the Ministry of Defence on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May 2008 and was followed by a reception. About 100 people participated in the Debate. MPs, MEPs, dignitaries from the diplomatic corps, journalists, NGO representatives, youth

and students’ leaders shared their vision for the Future of Europe. The participants received a greeting on behalf of the Bulgarian Government from Mrs Meglena Ploumchieva, Deputy PM and the panellists included Ms Bilyana Raeva, MEP, Mrs Gudrun Elisabeth Steinacker, Deputy Head of Mission at the German Embassy, Mr Milan Predan, from the Office of the Slovenian EU Presidency in Bulgaria and Mr Vladimir Shopov, Politologist at Sofia Analytica. The exchanges with the public were moderated by the Secretary General of the EM Bulgaria. As usual, part of the time was devoted to the replies to questions about the internal situation - mismanagement of the EU funds and insufficient progress in the fight against corruption and organised crime in particular.

In front of the Conference hall an info stall was arranged.

The event was covered by Bulgarian National Radio, Focus Information Agency, Mediapool, Dir.bg, Evrokom TV, Evropa TV, Military TV Channel, Actualno.com and “Dnevnik” daily.

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# Croatia

For Europe Day, the European Movement Croatia organized a **“Europe week”** to inform and acquaint the Croatian public, especially young people about the importance of the EU integration process and raise their awareness on European issues.

The European week was coordinated with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration, the City of Zagreb and the Zagrebačka County.

## Europe Week

During a week, the European Movement Croatia visited five high schools and set up a program based on the principle of informal education. Sixty students from each high school (first to fourth grade) attended lectures which provided them with basic knowledge on the European Union and the European integration (“Croatia’s journey to the EU”).

A workshop on Children’s Rights introduced young people to the convention on the rights of the child (CRC).

A Euro quiz was organized with questions on the European Union and Croatia as well as a game on “European Union Celebrities” and a crossword puzzle. The thirty Quiz winners were awarded with one day trips to Crikvenica and one year’s free membership of the European Youth Club. The competition “Europe at School” was held around Croatia on the EU’s chosen theme for 2008: “European Year of Intercultural Dialogue”, which over 20.000 pupils participated.

On Europe Day, a tram playing European music drove through Zagreb. Onboard, members of the *EuroYouth Club* and *Young European Federalist* invited the public to climb in. People were asked

questions about the EU, receiving small rewards according to the number of successful answers.

The European Movement Croatia also organized an exhibition “Homage to Croatian and European Painters” in the Europe House Zagreb with author Nedeljko Tintor.

A *“European Speech of the Year”* Award was given to the Rector of the University of Rijeka, Ph. D. Pero Lučin for the individual speech and accomplishments achieved in the European integration process of Croatia and also in the process of European values affirmation.

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# Czech Republic

For Europe Day, the European Movement Czech Republic organized many events with the aim of exchanging opinions and experiences in the regions, four years after the accession of the Czech Republic to the EU.

The overall goal was to address the undetermined groups of citizens (especially housewives, entrepreneurs & the elderly) and provide them with practical information about the economic and social aspects of the EU, as well as bringing new information on the European integration process to the region of West Bohemia.

## Celebrating and debating

On the 6th of May, the festival “Europe Day 2008” took place at the Gold Angel, the modern cultural and commercial centre of the Capital City of Prague.

At the beginning of a lovely afternoon, passers-by were entertained by Traditional jazz group led by Pavel Smetacek. The rest of the programme included speeches, notably by Mr. Edvard Outrata, Vice-president of EMI, and Mrs Moozova, Head of representation of the European Commission in the Czech Republic.

A very successful singing competition was organised for children where the winners were rewarded T-shirts, books, postcards and other gifts.

Although the celebrations culminated with the Europe Day festival, various seminars linked to the project were held before and after the 9<sup>th</sup> of May: “Insist on your rights” (with discussions on the theme of EU and national law system),

“Effects and risks of the adoption of the Euro in the Czech Republic” (broadcast on the Czech Radio 2 “Prague”), “European identity – United in Diversity”, “History and future EU”, “View on Ethics and Business in the EU”...

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# Denmark

For the 9<sup>th</sup> of May in Denmark, the European Movement, along with JEF Denmark, the European Commission in Denmark and TRIEU (Turkey in the EU), organized activities in seven major cities.

## Cake, EU Quiz and European flag

In Gråsten, Århus, Aalborg, Odense, Hillerød, Copenhagen and Rønne, street actions were planned for people and politicians to meet in the central squares of the cities, share a piece of “Europe cake” (made after the European flag) and debate on the European Union.

Besides the public EU information stands, local and national politicians were invited to give speeches.

In Copenhagen, for example, the celebrations were held in the rush-hour

after work, thus enabling to reach a lot of people on their way home.

The European Movement Denmark organized an EU Quiz for participants in order to test their knowledge of the EU. Radios, ball pen kits, wine and beer gifts were awarded to the winners.

In addition to these activities, a large national campaign was launched asking the local municipalities to fly the European flag on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May. 42 of the 98 Danish municipalities agreed to hoist the European colours, and even the buses in Copenhagen carried the European flag for the occasion.

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# Finland

In Finland, the local sections of JEF, in close cooperation with the European Movement, organised a wide variety of activities to offer young people a sphere for discussion in a joyful European atmosphere. Information was provided about the EU and the European Parliament and creative fun festivities were organised. EU dances, competitions, stand-up comedy and karaoke were organised in order to remind people that integration and especially Europe is something that young people can also enjoy!

## Information and entertainment

Stands were set up in Helsinki to give passers-by information and material about the EU and to offer them the possibility to discuss and debate European issues with JEF's active

members. A Seminar was also held in a cosy café on the theme "As a Foreign Professional in the EU: Challenges of work in Finland and in Europe". There, people from different backgrounds who had worked abroad in some EU countries shared their experiences about living and working in a different country and culture.

Among the speakers were: Mr. Thomas Bergman, special adviser for Finnish Minister of European Affairs, Mr. Jacques Guillame, a French doctor working in Finland, Mr. Shoujun Li, Chinese student studying in Finland...

In the evening, two well-known stand up comedians performed in a comedy club.

In Jyväskylä, JEF and the EM launched a drawing competition entitled "Minä Euroopassa - I am in Europe" for local schools. The winning drawings were

presented at a street stand where visitors could also share a cup of coffee and a slice of Europe Day Cake, while debating European issue or simply enjoy the performances of the dance groups. In the evening JEF organized a Europe-Jam in a local bar with music, dance, EU-discussions, snacks and drinks.

Many other activities were organised by local JEF sections in Tampere (Tai chi, capoeira and musical performances, EU bar-quiz), in Oulu (Europe karaoke, big band), in Turku and in Rovaniemi (Europe Day Sauna evenings for students and board games on Europe).

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# France

The European Movement France & JEF-France combined forces in order to talk to pupils all around the country about Europe on the 9<sup>th</sup> May. The purpose was to facilitate exchanges between young people, coming from various countries and backgrounds.

## Europe at school

JEF-France and its local sections went to 34 schools all over France and talked to more than 1000 pupils about the EU, its symbols, legends, history, etc. Free discussion with the pupils followed on a question & answer basis, and a Quiz was organized among the students. Through these interventions, the comprehension of European issues, the interest for other European cultures, languages and the participation of young people in the European adventure were

promoted. Information material from the European Parliament and the European Commission was distributed along with balloons and flags.

## Celebrate Europe in Paris

AEGEE-Paris organised an event called “Celebrate Europe in Paris”. 50 students from many European countries were invited to join in the celebratory activities during a four day event, where they also had the chance to meet the European Youth NGOs of Paris (Association of Polish students, The European Youth Parliament, Eurofil) and share with them their views and experiences about Europe.

The students were also invited to take part in the activities of the European Village organised by the Prefecture of Paris and the ‘Maison de l’Europe de

Paris’ in the framework of their event “*Faites l’Europe!*”.

AEGEE also had a stand in the Youth and Mobility kiosk during two days where participants attended a French linguistic workshop. At the same time they had the opportunity to meet interesting people such as the Ambassador of Slovenia, Jacques Barrot (Vice-president of the European Commission) and many representatives of the European Institutions.

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# FYROM

“GETTING CLOSER TO EUROPE”, was the motto of the overall program carried out for the Europe Day 2008 in the FYROM, from the 30<sup>th</sup> April to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of May.

In accordance with the Action Program of the European Movement FYROM, the activities aimed at increasing the public awareness of European values, ideals and a common European future; expressing the original discussions of the citizens in the FYROM concerning the European integration process; developing democratic dialogue regarding all aspects of country's accession to the European Union process; and strengthening the capacity of the civic sector in the FYROM for the integration into the European Civil Society.

“Getting closer to Europe” organised civil platforms in 5 different cities (Struga, Stip, Kumanovo, Kicevo and Gevgelija) in order to discuss various European subjects at conferences and round tables.

## Forums, student gatherings and celebrations

A forum was organised in Skopje in order to present the most successful Macedonian brands. On this occasion, over 10,000 students were invited to participate in a contest to create posters on the “Macedonian brand for Europe”. An international scientific conference on “Macedonia as a role model in the Balkan” was also held and on the 4<sup>th</sup> of May. A traditional hiking and scouting action, placing the European and FYROM flags on top of

the Vodno Mountain was organised on the European Flag Day.

In Tetovo, students gathered at the SEE University to debate the subject “The Bologna process in Macedonia-Achievements, limits, problems” whereas in the Youth Park of Veles, a European happening took place. Participants from primary and high schools, NGOs, citizens and representatives of the 27 EU states enjoyed a cultural program during “EUROLAND”, an open air festival with famous musicians and singers.

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# Germany

For the fourth year, the Young European Movement Germany (JEB) organised a European Week from the 5<sup>th</sup> to the 9<sup>th</sup> of May in Berlin.

Besides the organisation of classic round tables on EU political issues, the European Week 2008 addressed topics of citizenship, diversity and identity in Europe through cultural activities like concerts, theatrical performance, and an evening of short films, thus intending to attract audiences that would not usually attend events about the European Union.

## “Ich, Europa”

“Ich, Europa”, a stage reading on the story of the mythological character Europa was performed in the presence of the author and director Mottel Schuscha who then interacted with the public.

On the 6<sup>th</sup> of May, a conference was held in cooperation with Europa-Union Berlin on the theme: *“The European Parliament after Lisbon. Well prepared for the European elections 2009?”*

On the 7<sup>th</sup>, a hip hop concert “Live eyes wide open!” preceded a discussion between the rapper Mr. Jones and the young audience on what we can do to change our lives and to solve the problems we are facing in Europe today?

Europe’s cultural diversity was finally highlighted by the projection of a series of short films from various European countries. Artistic productions, satires and stories allowing insights into everyday life in EU candidate states were among the films presented on

the evening of the 8<sup>th</sup> of May. The open discussion that followed gave the audience the opportunity to exchange their interpretations of the film and compare the stories told with their own experiences on the subjects.

The European week ended with an official ceremony “*Absolute European Party*” celebrating the European Movement of the Year Award.

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# Iceland

The European Movement in Iceland organized two activities to celebrate the European Day 2008 in Akureyri and in Reykjavik, focusing this year on the work of the European Parliament.

## Meeting and debates

The event in Akureyri was an open meeting organised in cooperation with the youth movements of all the political parties in Akureyri and addressed several issues among which *“How will Europe help the tourist industry?”*, *“The European perspective-the view of a disillusioned conservative”* or *“The importance of the European Parliament for Iceland”*. During the second debate, Mr. Hallgrímsson (member of the Conservative party and deputy chairman of the European Movement in Iceland) gave a humorous speech on how it is

to be a member of the Conservative party and at the same time being very much pro-European. He discussed the development of the European debate within the party from 1989 until now.

The event in Reykjavik was held in one of Iceland’s most prestigious hotels: the Hotel Saga. The key-note speaker, Mrs. Rina Valeur Rasmussen, Secretary General of the Danish European Movement, explained how the Danish population has always been rather sceptical about European integration, but at the same time pro-European. She also discussed the role of small states in the European Union and especially how Denmark used its position within the European Parliament to further its aims and objectives in international affairs.

Before the key-note speech Mr. Jakob Magnússon, one of Iceland’s most famous musicians and his daughter Bryndís premiered a new song “Wings of Europe” which they had especially composed for the event.

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# Italy

For Europe Day, the Italian Council of the European Movement (CIME) organised two Europe Day events in Rome.

## A seminar and a concert

“Intercultural dialogue: the keystone of democratic citizenship and European integration” was the title of a seminar sponsored by the CIME, which took place in the Sala delle Bandiere of the Italian Office of the European Parliament and gathered more than 1000 students from high schools of the Lazio and Abruzzo regions. Besides representing a moment of celebration of the 9<sup>th</sup> of May and a moment of debate on the future of Europe, this seminar was the occasion to reward the winners of a European competition launched among the schools of the Lazio region, which

included the participation of 30 schools and 1,500 students.

A round table “the floor to the youth”, offered the students the opportunity to introduce their works on intercultural dialogue in Europe and to express their opinions on the topic of the seminar/competition. All participants were then invited to a buffet.

A concert of the music group REZOPHONIC was given on the 9<sup>th</sup> of May “EUROPE DAY, the youths for the future”, co-sponsored by the CIME in collaboration with the Rome City Council, the Association Cantiereuropa and the representations of the European institutions in Rome.

On that occasion, the CIME, along with the Roman section of JEF Italy, set up

an informative stand on the European Union.

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# Latvia

The European Movement in Latvia celebrated the 9<sup>th</sup> of May with high level discussions in Riga's society hall and in the region of Liepaja. These events were organised in cooperation with the European Union Information Agency – Latvia, the Foreign Ministry of Latvia and the European Parliament Information Center.

The effects after EU accession of Latvia during the past four year in politics, culture, media, business and normal life were discussed, including international challenges and actualities.

In Riga, national policy makers and opinion leaders, such as Maris Riekstins, Foreign minister of Latvia, Valdis Dombrovskis MEP and European of the year 2006, Iveta Sulca, Chair of the EC in Latvia, Laima Muktupavela,

writer, Edijs Boss, journalist, Lotte Tisenkopfa, entrepreneur, Ivars Ijabs, politologist, and Andris Gobins, president of the European Movement in Latvia participated in the radio broadcast debate.

Even though the European of the Year, Energy commissioner Mr. Andris Piebalgs could not participate at the event, his greetings were given to the audience and a speech of the European of the year 2005, MEP Valdis Dombrovskis was included in the programme.

## Broad media coverage

The European Movement Latvia used its media experience acquired in the previous years' activities and used its contacts to ensure a maximum media

coverage of the two events: Press releases, radio coverage, interviews etc. This intense media work achieved great results; for instance, Radio Latvia One covered the Riga conference, reaching an estimated audience of 100.000 people.

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# Portugal

The European Movement, in cooperation with JEF-Portugal, organised two conferences for Europe Day in Lisbon.

## Debating with students

The first conference took place in the Faculty of Medicine at the University of Lisbon and brought together medical students, teachers, practitioners and a representative of the EU institutions (Maria da Assunção ESTEVES, EM Portugal President and MEP), with the objective of addressing the group, which is not normally familiar with EU issues.

Among the outcomes of the meeting was the proposal to create an institutionalised European network of hospitals, whose concrete features were presented to the EM President,

who then suggested effective ways of taking the proposal to the European Commission.

The MEP/EM President then discussed with the audience issues, such as the Treaty of Lisbon and its importance for governing an enlarged Union, democratic accountability and the role of the European Parliament, and the need of intercultural dialogue in an increasing multicultural society such as in Portugal.

The second conference discussed the role of the media in bringing the citizens closer to the European Union and gathered journalism students, young journalists, young lawyers and specialists on European Affairs. The invited guests were Luisa Meireles,

senior editor of “Expresso” (the most read weekly magazine in Portugal) and Isabel Meirelles, a specialist who guests a weekly TV show on EU topics.

Participants at both conferences were invited to fill in a form to vote for the European Contribution of the Year Award.

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# Romania

After the great success of the 2007 edition of Europe Day, the European Movement Romania decided in 2008 to organise a new series of events in many provinces of the country for the 9<sup>th</sup> of May.

In Calarasi, Pucioasa, Bacau, Bistrita, Caras Severin, Alexandria, Neamt, Constanta and Craiova, the members of the regional offices of the European Movement got together to celebrate Europe Day and try to make Romanian citizens understand the importance of The European Union. The actions organised encouraged the citizens to speak freely, share their expectations and assure them of an institutional support.

The 9<sup>th</sup> May – Europe Day was considered as an excellent opportunity to

renew the relations between Romania and the European Union and to assure citizens that the European Movement Romania is and will be close to them through initiatives and activities.

## Celebrations, concert and information stands

A concert was given to celebrate the Europe Day in Calarasi. In Pucioasa, Mr. Adrian Budacu, Director of the External Affairs Department of the European Movement Romania celebrated the union between Pucioasa and the Lithuanian city of Jonava.

In Bucharest, a conference was held on the significance of 9<sup>th</sup> May – Europe Day for the European and Romanian Citizens, where all the participants were given a series of materials containing

information on the importance of the European Union and the benefits of being part of it. All over the city, information stands were installed and volunteers distributed leaflets to passers-by.

A series of lectures on “*The democratic system guaranteed by the European Union*” was organised for two days in a cinema hall, and in the Alexandru Ioan Cuza Park, a field festivity for young people took place.

Finally, a reception was given at the headquarters of European Movement Romania.

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# Serbia

The European Movement in Serbia (EMinS), with the active involvement of its 19 local councils, celebrated the 9<sup>th</sup> of May with a series of activities organised in cooperation with the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung, the Ministry for Youth and Sport, Embassies of EU countries in Serbia and Radio Television B92.

## And My Europe, too!

The overall project idea “**And my Europe, too!**”, was to inform and educate Serbian citizens about the EU (especially the role of the European Parliament) and the role of the European Movement in the process of European integration.

As part of the manifestation, a panel-debate on “*The European Parliament - A Solution for Democratic Deficit*”, was

organised with the following panellists: Mr. Oliver Dulic, then President of the National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia; Mrs. Claudia Nolte, Head of the Belgrade office of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation and Mr. Kristian Vigenin, Member of the European Parliament.

Street actions were also part of *this activity*. There, EMinS volunteers distributed promotional material (balloons, leaflets, etc.) and talked to citizens about EU issues on the central streets and squares of 19 Serbian towns. Young people were particularly targeted by these actions as they represent the future of Serbia.

## TV QUIZ – Wake up in Europe

A traditional TV Quiz was broadcast

on TV B92 from May 5<sup>th</sup> to May 9<sup>th</sup>, to help viewers find out more about the history and everyday life of people in EU countries and promote friendship between Serbia and the EU.

EU members Embassies in Serbia were invited to provide symbolic gifts to the contestants who gave correct answers related to history and data about EU countries.

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# Spain

The European Movement Spain, in partnership with the European Parliament and European Commission Offices in Madrid, the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces, the Community of Madrid, the Community of Cantabria and the European Journalists Association, celebrated the 9<sup>th</sup> of May in Madrid and many other major Spanish cities.

## Flag raising

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of May, a meeting was held in the popular Madrid square *Plaza del Descubrimiento* for the solemn hoisting of the European and Spanish flags, in presence of numerous personalities such as the Mayor of Madrid, the Secretary of State for EU Affairs, MEPs, Parliament Members, Ambassadors, and representatives of the European

institutions in Spain. The hoisting was accompanied by the Marina Española Band.

Europe's Week 2008, organized by the Community of Madrid with the participation of the European Movement, was the occasion to celebrate and set up activities for the citizens in general and the youngsters and elderly people in particular. On this occasion, 27 metro stations were decorated in Member States' motifs, plus others decorated with the European Commission, European Parliament, and Europe banners.

The *Puerta del Sol* in Madrid accommodated many stands from member states, European entities and associations and live shows were performed during the Europe Day.

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# Switzerland

The Europe Day 2008 was celebrated in Switzerland by the national European Movement as a part of their Annual General Assembly at the Hotel Allegro Kursaal in Berne. On this occasion, other events were celebrated such as the 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the European Movement International and the 50 Years of the European Parliament.

## Europe awards

The EM Switzerland's main activity, celebrating «Europe Day» is the bestowal of the "Europe Award", given to a personality or institution from Switzerland who performed a substantial effort in his/her/its activities to foster the ideals and values of the European Integration in the Swiss public.

The members of EM Switzerland (4.500 persons) and the general public were

invited to vote on the EM Switzerland's website where they could also read general texts about the background of the «Europe Day»-celebrations.

This year, Laurent Flütsch, archaeologist and director of the Roman Museum of Lausanne-Vidy was presented with the award, in presence of Dr Michael Reiterer, Head of the Delegation of the European Commission to Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein as well as several other ambassadors of EU member states (e.g. Germany, Bulgaria, Austria, and Luxembourg).

Additionally, EM Switzerland organised an exhibition to celebrate its anniversary. On ten posters, the important developments of the organisation were mirrored with those of the European Union and the official Swiss European policy.

In order to celebrate the jubilees of the European Parliament and the European Movement, Christa Markwalder, MP & president of the EM Switzerland presented to the audience the achievements of both organisations. She emphasised the importance of the Parliament as the most democratic institution within the EU.

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# Turkey

For Europe Day, the national council of the European Movement in Turkey organised a conference in cooperation with the University of Ankara and the Turkey-EU Association. Many high level personalities were present, such as the President of the Republic, Mr. Süleyman Demirel, the representative of the EU delegation in Ankara, Mr. Diego Mellado, as well as the Ambassador of Slovenia in Turkey, four members of the National Parliament and the President of the European Movement Turkey, Dr. Haluk Gunugur, who gave the opening speech.

“In which kind of Europe will we take part?”

More than 500 participants attended the conference and roundtables were held. The results of these were published in Turkish and English in a booklet entitled “*In which kind of Europe will we take part?*”

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FROM EUROPE WITH LOVE  
ALL NIGHT FILM FESTIVAL  
PRINCE CHARLES CINE



# United Kingdom

## From Europe with Love 2008

On Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May 2008, The European Movement UK celebrated Europe Day with an all-night festival of European cinema, **From Europe With Love**. The event began with a double-bill matinee of classic European films, Cocteau's 1946 *La belle et la bête* followed by Fellini's *8½* (courtesy of The British Film Institute).

The main feature of the evening (in association with the Hungarian Cultural Centre and the Goethe Institut, London) was a Q&A with Hungarian film director, Szabolcs Hajdu and opera-director Elijah Moshinsky, followed by the UK premiere of Hajdu's film, *Tamara* and the German documentary, *Rhythm Is It!*.

For the truly dedicated cinemagoers, the final session of **From Europe with Love** was an all-night triple-bill of films and shorts. It began at the stroke of midnight with the 70s cult thriller, *Don't Look Now*, set in the beautifully chilling backstreets of Venice. This was followed by Bergman's classic, *Persona* and Polanski's tension-mounting *Nóż w wodzie*.

The three feature films were interspersed with a selection of animated shorts from the short-film festival and organisation, *Betting on Shorts*. With an endless supply of Innocent smoothies to keep the energy levels up, **From Europe With Love** kept London's independent Prince Charles Cinema buzzing through until the first tube home.

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# European Movement Activities



A pan-European debate among citizens from every EU Member State discussing what the EU can do to shape our economic and social future in a globalised world.



A European wide information and debating campaign designed for young people by young people in view of the 2009 European Parliament elections.



High-quality courses for professionals, civil servants, businessmen, post-graduates, etc. Transmitting EMI experience and knowledge in European public affairs.



To design and set up a training program for Human Resources managers focusing on management systems for gender equality and Family Responsible Organisations.



Is this not a reasonable question? Europe's contribution to our daily lives is not always obvious, but decisions taken on a European level have fundamentally improved the lives of Europeans for the better.



The "North-South Mediterranean Dialogue" has as its objective, to define a vision for the future of our part of this world and to foster cooperation between civil society on both sides of the Mediterranean.

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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