

Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention Merano '09

The second day

Second day, the first real work in the committees began. Yesterday it was mainly to get to know each other and exchange first ideas, but today the ideas had to be worked out and the resolutions had to be made. Although in the end there was little time, all Committees did pretty well, possibly because of the recreative breaks, where fruits, cake and drinks were provided. In the afternoon the Preparation of the general assembly was held and the resolutions were presented. Furthermore we were pleased to hear an interesting report from Dr. Georg Schedereit.

Thursday, 19.03.2009	
temp. min.	1°C
temp. max.	13°C
morning	
afternoon	
evening	

Interview with Sebastian Juen:

Committee President of Committee 4:

1. *Hi, this is the second time you take part in the Youth Parliament. Due to the sudden illness of a committee president, you were chosen to fill in for her. How was this decision for you? How did you feel?*

It was weird at the first time because I didn't really know what the topic of the Committee is about, but I was kind of curious to be a CP because I saw there work last year and it looked like fun. So I just said that I will do it and definitely I don't regret.

2. *What was your experience the last days?*

It was hard work but I had a lot of fun working with my Committee.

3. *Is it hard for you to lead committee 4 without big preparation?*

Well, I learned a lot about Alpine Identity during the first day, when I was talking to some Delegates and listening to the Workshop, so it was not too difficult.

4. *What are your expectations and how far did they come true yet?*

As I said, it is fun to be a Committee President and I don't regret my decision. I'm also looking forward to tomorrow's General Assembly.

5. *What is your aim this year?*

To find at least one good resolution!

6. *What do you think about the dress code?*

Even more fun!!

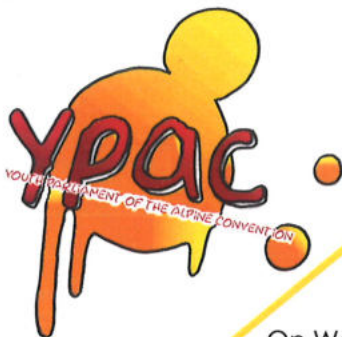


Preparation of the General Assembly



In the afternoon, after a few changes of program, the Preparation of the General Assembly finally took place. All participants gathered in the auditorium to present their resolutions, although few of them were not ready yet, because there was too little time to finish it completely; nevertheless they did a great job. One important aspect of the Preparation is that there are just factual questions allowed. It is about to understand the resolutions of the different committees, to gain an insight of what they've talked about and in case of ambiguities, to ask questions. Although the difference between factual and non-factual questions was not always clear, as for example, if Committee four thought about Milka Chocolate, while they wrote

their resolutions containing the establishment of Alpine brands, thanks to our presidency no discussions were started. Subsequently the committees had time to form amendments, questions and answers for the General Assembly, they are all looking forward to, the next day.



Liebeswerk C.P.

On Wednesday at 12 o'clock, the whole crew of the YPAC went to have lunch at „Liebeswerk“. Some of us were wondering about the name of our “restaurant”; maybe it could have been a brothel once, but no – in that case we wouldn't have gone to eat there.

Actually it is a welfare institution especially for youths.

Peter, one of my colleagues, who was not pleased with his lunch on Tuesday because it was too little, was certainly very delighted this time: You could eat soup, noodles, pizza, salad, vanilla pudding or Viennese Schnitzel, or – how wonderful! – all together!

After eating as much as we could we had another half an hour time for a little break. Some of us lay down at the benches beside the basketball area and tried to get sun-tanned. It was great!

Unfortunately we had to get up soon again and the Day of Discussion continued, but never mind, because we are here to get some resolutions!

Interview with Verena Rottensteiner:

The President:

1. *How did you feel as a delegate last year in Maribor?*

It was very funny and interesting. It was great that people from other countries were together. It was nice for me that many people could speak German, too. We had to work really hard in meetings and discussions, but we had lots of breaks and most people were very nice and friendly.

2. *What do you expect as the president of the YPAC this year?*

I hope it will be at least as funny as last year also the finally party. I also hope that everything will run smoothly and that I will meet new people and find new friends.

3. *What are your expectations regarding the YPAC here in Merano this year?*

I am glad that the YPAC will be here in Merano this year. I hope everything will proceed according to our plans and that the members will like. And we hope the Austrians will understand that “Ötzi” and Andreas Hofer belong to South Tyrol.

4. *What would you like to achieve this year?*

This year's aim is to come up with new ideas and solutions. I hope there will not be any internal quarrels at the meetings and at the committees.

5. *What do you think about the dress code?*

I think the dress code is a very good idea. In this way there are not any differences between the participants from the single countries. You can enter every club or bar. More over the dress code makes a good impression on everyone.

6. *What other requests would you like to be published?*

I think it is a real pity that some participants of last year will not be here in Merano this year. Last year the nationalities did not really mix, they tried to, but in vain. The presentations of the countries of the YPAC in Maribor were really funny and interesting. I think everybody was delighted.



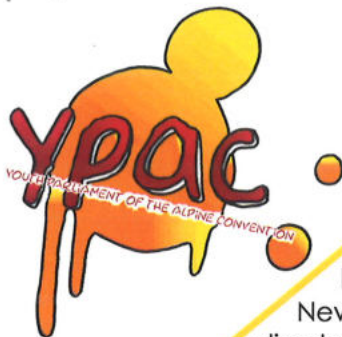
A Labyrinth called FOS

C.P.

It's 10:30 a.m. on Wednesday, 18th of March, and I just managed to find the computer rooms where the press resides to write their articles after a short coffee break – I really didn't know how I made that.

The FOS is a very beautiful school in comparison with the school I attend (though currently renovated) – a wonderful lounge with a bar where you can buy delicious snacks and coffee, creative designs of the corridors, nice classrooms and so on. I was especially amazed by graffiti and quotes of famous persons at the school's walls (p.e. Albert Einstein: “Imagination is more important than knowledge, because knowledge is bounded.” – What a wonderful quote to read in a school!).

to be continued ...



Did you know that the FOS had once been a hotel?

Nevertheless, the school has a very big disadvantage: It's a labyrinth. As I already suggested, I was just straying through all the corridors and all the floors of the FOS to find my beloved computer room. I was told at 10:00 that a coffee break was taking place at the moment, so I got up to find my colleagues to chat a bit, but couldn't find them. Fortunately I found Manu, who told me they all were in the kitchen in the 5th floor and who was so kind as to show me the elevator ("I think you know how to press the button with the "5" on it, don't you?" I nodded).



He left and I entered the elevator and was a bit confused because there was no button with a "5" on it. Fortunately some pupils of the FOS joined me, so that I gained confidence again to reach the



kitchen before the end of the break. They told me that the school actually has another 3 floors in the underground. Isn't it a bit weird?

However - we went as high as we could by elevator (3rd floor) and then looked for a staircase to get onto the 5th floor. We went upstairs and suddenly found ourselves somewhere on the roof of the building. ("We haven't ever been to this place!", was the comment of the South Tyroleans.). I was desperate, because it was already 10:20 and I was quite hungry.

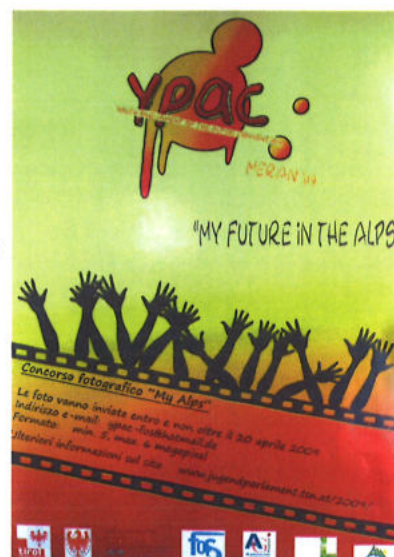
We strayed a bit and then finally found a bigger staircase, which led us into the kitchen. I was so relieved! And fortunately my fears of starving didn't come true.

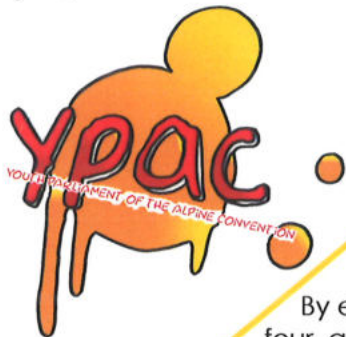
I was already frightened of the next barrier – finding back to the computer rooms. This time there were no members of the press team to join me, so I had to find my way on my own. I left the elevator on the ground floor close to the lounge and was so happy, because I knew how to find the computer room! I couldn't believe it!

Anyway, I think I won't leave this room again until midday when we will have lunch at Liebeswerk.

My Alps

The dedicated Organisers of the Fourth Youth Parliament succeeded in realizing the idea of a photo contest, where nearly everybody can participate. If you are a passionate photographer, who has taken amazing pictures of the Alps, send a digital version to the FOS Marie Curie or ypac-fos@hotmail.de before the 20.4.09. For further information pay a visit to the official website www.jugendparlament.tsn.at/2009.





Committee 4

By entering the room of committee number four, a blank document of Microsoft Word 2007 was projected onto a sizeable silver screen.

A new high definition of a committee meeting, this was the first impression of my short visit. In my view, a big contrast to the fitness centre with its mirror ball and aerobic step the day before. However, I hope that was exceptional case.

Committee four has ten absolutely motivated faces watching curiously to the two appealing committee presidents, hoping to convince them of their arguments. It didn't take long and the first sentence rather resolution was written. Enragements were following and at the same time the committee presidents were appeasing their delegates. In general, the theme of their discussion was about finding a brand that represents people living in the Alps. On the one hand, ideas like building a shopping centre or a university as an attraction for foreign people to colonise were quickly refused. On the other hand, the delegates came to new conclusions. A good example to mention is the fact that our mountains are located in the Alps.©

Finally I want to add some positive aspects of committee number four, as respecting each other, responding to each other and having the ability to continue thoughts and ideas. The atmosphere was comfortable and peaceable and I'm looking forward to their resolutions at the General Assembly.



Solutions from yesterday:

Connecting Facts:

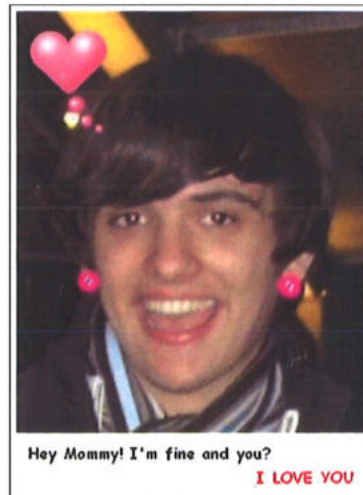
Veronika: b - e - i - k - m

Tim: c - d - g - l - o

Verena: a - f - h - j - n

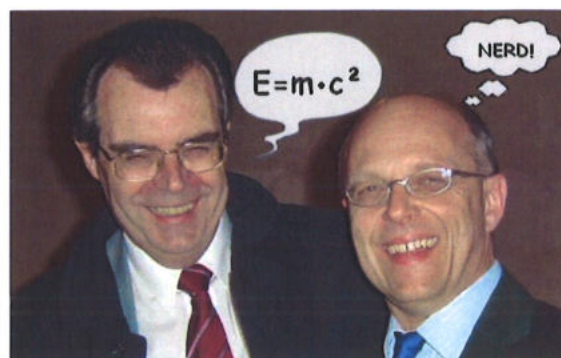
What's the correct answer?

1. A
2. B
3. C



Can you find the 7 participating Alpine Countries?
(all directions)

D	B	G	L	D	I	K	E	C	A	R	F	T
N	N	S	W	I	S	B	B	P	Y	R	L	R
A	L	S	M	A	Z	B	L	Q	A	J	C	B
L	M	I	T	A	L	Y	S	N	T	V	M	D
R	P	I	F	V	C	G	C	A	I	A	K	J
E	H	S	L	O	V	E	N	I	A	I	E	J
Z	Q	X	F	W	P	R	S	R	W	V	U	H
T	V	G	F	G	O	M	D	T	T	Z	N	Q
I	W	Q	J	X	Q	A	T	S	R	J	C	L
W	I	R	I	F	E	N	R	U	E	P	A	X
S	C	E	T	A	L	Y	K	A	Z	F	B	I
N	I	E	T	S	N	E	T	H	C	E	I	L



Committee – Presidents:

Who is Who? Match the names and the right faces!

a) Domen Presern



b) Manolo Kahl



c) Miriam Raab



d) Julia Barenth



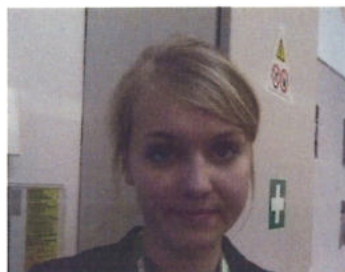
e) Annika Langenbach

f) Sebastian Juen

g) Manuel De Dorigo



h) Laura Vogt



„I think I'm a man“ *Denise Nyffenegger*

After having fed our hungry mouths with delicious pizza, a discussion with the journalist, Georg Schedereit, was following. The topic was "boarders" because of that we watched two films. Strange statements ("I'm not a hen") and funny people (there was a half-naked gardener with a garden hose) in the film made the German-speaking people laugh. The Italians, Frenchs and Slovenes didn't understand a word because everything was in German. The journalist tried to translate it into English, which ended up in a big confusion in which either the German-speaking people did not understand anything nor did the others. Afterwards this was commented by a Slovene by answering the journalist's question in Slovenian. But this was not enough; he spent the discussion in interrupting with aggressive comments and questions to the journalist.

Georg Schedereit also involved the teachers, which caused an interesting statement of a South Tyrolean teacher. As he was asked about his identity he just answered "I think I'm a man" (not wrong at all!).

All in all, Georg Schedereit did a good job and made a great effort to encourage the students to participate in the discussion, but nearly everybody was tired, so not all members shared his enthusiasm. The atmosphere was noisy, phones rang (someone even answered the phone), while others were busy with their laptops.

Finally, we were all happy to leave the discussion, even if some students left the room earlier because of a not known "illness". Curiously parts of the French delegation missed the whole discussion because they suffered from a mysterious headache.