

THE FLYING FACTS

~ Official YPAC News ~

No. 3



Ypac
Resolutions

Survey (the end)

Fun&Facts

Weather
Sunny

"Learning is not attained by chance, it must be sought for with ardor and diligence."

Abigail Adams

This week everyone of us has actually learned much more than we have imagined. Two whole days have been full of hard work towards the big discussion which took place yesterday. Every single person involved in YPAC had been there. Not only delegates from all participating countries, their teachers, committee presidents and the YPAC presidency were there, but also politicians who wanted to hear us young people, talking about important issues concerning the future plans for our planet.

We were honored by the presence of the president of the National assembly Dr. Milan Brglez. The attendance of the general secretary to the alpine convention Markus Reiterer was another great pleasure.

(read further on page eight)



Dear readers

Rubina Viriant,
Kamnik

Hoping that you have obtained a lot of new knowledge and experiences established new friendships that you will keep a pleasant memory on this event, I am saying good-bye to all of you.

We have spent a wonderful week, which will leave a certain impact on each of us. I hope that this affect will be nice, that you consider Ypac as a personal investment and that you will successfully transfer your experiences to future generation.

It is a real pleasure to work in a group of so motivated and hardworking students, who respect your interests and help you all the time. It is important to work as a team, to support each other and not to limit a fellow man. We must also realize that mistakes must not be identified as failures, they are only life trials bringing a better tomorrow.

COMMITTEE 1: Soil

POSTULATION 1: Wise soil management

This postulation is about dividing the Alpine region's soil into three groups based on its quality in order to regulate the soil usage and thus protect it.

POSTULATION 2: Real estate management

Seen that the Alpine region is in deep need of space due to the arising problems of climate change and population growth, we propose not to permit "virgin soil" to be built on.

POSTULATION 3: Soil Awareness

By educating students and raising people's awareness about soil, we would like to reinforce soil protection.

COMMITTEE 2: Food production and waste assimilation

POSTULATION 4: Improvement of local farmer conditions

We want an agreement between local farmers and supermarkets under state conditions.

POSTULATION 5: Eco-point system

We want to reward people who buy ecological products with our so called "eco-point system".

POSTULATION 6: Reduce food waste by helping people

Companies waste edible food, which could be given to needy people.

COMMITTEE 3: Importance of forests as the source of renewable energy

POSTULATION 7: Encouraging the use of biomass as a source of energy

This postulation aims at encouraging the use of forest biomass through an information campaign and making this source of energy more attractive for consumers.

COMMITTEE 4: Recreation and cultural aspects of Ecosystems

POSTULATION 8: Promotion of local markets

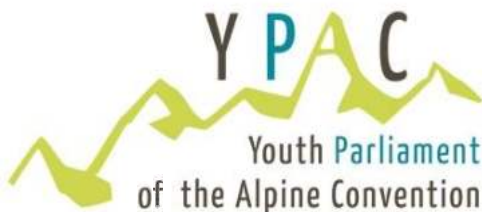
This postulation is about the promotion of a local market, which considers cultural aspects such as an improvement of social life in certain communities and also the production of goods and food.

POSTULATION 9: Raising awareness of Alpine population

This postulation is about the awareness problem solved by education.

POSTULATION 10: Involvement of young people in cultural heritage

This postulation is about increasing the involvement of youth in cultural heritage.





Rubina Viriant, Kamnik

Recharge.green summer school

From 16th to 20th June 2014 a summer school took place on Pokljuka as a part of the recharge.green project. 24 students and 10 tutors from four Slovene secondary schools (BC Naklo, SGLŠ Postojna, II. gimnazija Maribor, Gimnazija in srednja šola Rudolfa Maistra Kamnik) took part in it. The participants become familiar with the research process, i.e. with the scientific methods of collecting terrain data and with the ways of their analysis and further use. They were under the tutorship of the specialists from the Agricultural Institute of Slovenia, Institute for the woods of Slovenia, The Biotechnical Faculty, the Society for observation and investigation of the birds in Slovenia and Triglav National Park. In this way the students under the

leadership of professional tutors collected and dealt with actual data about the soil, vegetation and fauna, the biomass of wood ecosystems and the ecosystems services on Pokljuka and its surrounding. Besides new knowledge and experiences the participants of the summer school also acquired information about the contests, objectives and course of the recharge.green project. The results of the terrain work were publicly presented by the students in the Infocentre Triglavsko roža at Bled at the end of the recharge-green summer school on 17th December 2014. The students prepared short presentations, posters and articles. The latter were published in a professional magazine. The posters can be seen at hotel Jelka on Pokljuka.





Stefanie Malleier, Merano

Presenting the postulations

After our President has greeted and thanked the audience, committee 1 started the discussion with the four topics: dividing the alpine region's soil into three groups based on its quality, not permitting "virgin soil" to be built on, educating students and raising awareness about soil, and putting a tax on ski lifts to repair damage caused by them. The Topics triggered active discussion, and after all the questions of the delegates outside committee 1 got answered, the President transferred the discussion to Committee 2 which had following topics: concerns about TTIP, an agreement between local farmers and supermarkets under state conditions, introduction of an "Eco-point-system" and last but not least the possibility of giving food that would go to waste to people in need. Both committees did a great job on explaining the often very difficult topics of their postulations and trying to answer as best as possible. Every

committee showed great ambitions, when it had to support its own topics. After every committee had been heard, the delegates had the possibility to say something in favor or against a postulation. One delegate held a speech in favor of the first postulation of committee 1, saying that he liked the idea of protecting the soil by dividing it into zones, while another delegate held a speech against the same postulation. After that nobody held a speech in favor of committee 2, but one delegate held one against all the postulations of committee 2, defending his speech, for example regarding postulation 1, with the fact that a collection of signatures would have more impact on stopping the enforcement of the TTIP than sending a sign to Brussels. Yet he gave in, that postulation 4 is a good idea.

We can surely say that the committees made an exciting conference and the outcome can not be predicted.





Interview with Markus Reiterer, General Secretary of the Alpine Convention

Theresa Kreisl, Innsbruck and Magdalena Steinlechner, Innsbruck



What are your thoughts about the YPAC 2015?

I am greatly impressed about the energy and achievement of the young people. There are hardly any communication problems, because all the students speak appropriate English. It shows that their knowledge is really grand, because all the questions, which are posed during the Assembly, are well overthought.

What do you think of the postulations?

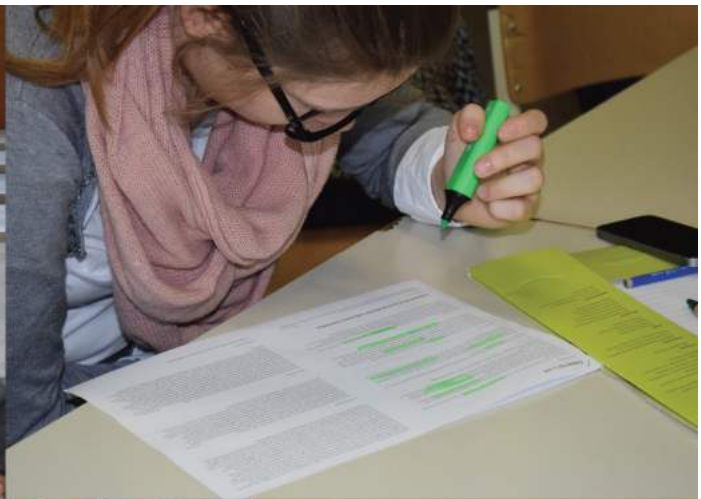
Recognising that the delegates know their topics very well, I have to say that especially the Committee 1, dealing with the subject "Soil", caught some current problems and found good solutions for them.

Also the TTIP (Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership) was mentioned and I think the students addressed exactly the problem about this issue: the lack of information.

Don't you think that the TTIP or other topics in such a political manner are too complicated for people of our age?

No, for me it is definitely an interesting topic, which also affects young people. It seems the most important Trade Agreement ever and unfortunately the population is not informed enough about it. The younger generation with its fresh touch is dealing with this problem with such a great energy that some adults should follow their example.





*by Tabea Tandler,
Sonthofen*

TWO DIFFERENT FACES OF YPAC







"Learning is not ..."

Anna Strutz, Innsbruck

(continuation from page one)

The course was precisely planned, well organized and actually it was the same for all four committees: first every committee held an opening speech, then a short presentation of their elaborated postulations was read out. This was followed by discussions about each postulation on the basis of questions from the other committees. Finally every group presented a so-called closing speech.. Every committee had about an hour to present their postulations and argue for them.

Every committee was different, some worked well together, in other groups the length of speeches differed. There was a variety of brainy questions, all countries were involved and initiated good ideas.

Although there were some small mistakes (partly also from the Presidency), the delegates had prepared themselves really well, they were polite and presented good arguments.

There presentations were really thought-provoking and I think everyone has got a new view on things now.

The only dubious thing that astonished some students was that the committee presidents were not allowed to vote in the end, which is a point to mention, because this is in need of improvement.



Magdalena Kapfinger, Rosenheim

Blanka Bartol, SI Alpine Convention Contact point

It is a great experience for me to be here today, because I haven't seen anything like that before. I think it is a great chance for Slovenia and it is really a great idea that YPAC's general assembly takes place in the National assembly of Slovenia. I was really surprised that all the students are so well prepared about the arguments they have.



Micaela Lauchenauer, Trogen

Simona Vrevc, Deputy Secretary of Alpine convention, told us that it is impressive to see how high the quality of the YPAC is. In the Alpine convention they discuss the problems in the same way and also the themes are not unknown. For her it is interesting, that the students get both sides, they first present arguments for their postulation and when another group tries to present arguments for their ideas, all have to think active about them. At least for her it is incredible how the students express themselves and treat other students with respect, even if they don't have the same opinion.



We all judge!

Giulia Me, Bassano

According to the prejudices we heard, in Switzerland every single person is rich and owns a bank. They all have a big, golden, strassed Rolex and they always declare themselves neutral, because they understood it is the only way to stay out of trouble. And of course, they eat cheese and chocolate all day long!

Slovenia and Liechtenstein, last but not least, are the smallest countries involved in the YPAC. Probably it's because of this that delegates do not have many prejudices about them. Slovenians are considered weird and crazy, and someone (who has evidently had a love story with some guy from Slovenia) said

that they are heart-breakers. Moreover they're guest-friendly, and this is not a prejudice anymore, because we are having the evidence of that. Liechtenstein is so small that it was very difficult collecting thoughts about these people: most of you think that they are similar to the Swiss, undecided on which language they have to use (not your German please, someone told us it is awful!) and very wealthy. They are provided with good humor and funny accent. That is all, a shortened summary of the main prejudices about our countries: some of them are true, but many of them are completely false. It's up to the different delegations to decide which one they are going to demonstrate!





The Immortals

Magdalena Steinlechner, Innsbruck and Giulia Me, Bassano



Last night all the delegations had the pleasure to watch the great musical performed by the English Drama Group of the Rudolf Maister Grammar and Vocational School.

The title of the musical is 'The Immortals', and it was written by Milan Mandeljc. It is set in a magic and mysterious world, divided by a river in two different parts - the good one and the evil one.

The story talks about an eternal fight between three evil witches and three good wizards: both were trying to put back together the two halves of the Cup of Time, which had the power to give immortality to its owner.

The plot is full of twists and suspense so that the attention of the delegates and teachers was caught and everybody could feel the tension between the two sides.

The orchestra was directed by Matic Smolnikar, and it was composed by many musicians who were able to arrange some modern songs in a very interesting way. The actors, all very young, did a great job in acting and especially in singing.

Surely it is not easy to stage a show as professional as this one was, and we really have to congratulate everybody who was involved in this project for giving us two hours of fun and enthusiasm.



Quotes:

(D – Germany, I – Italy, LIE – Liechtenstein)

Which impressions of YPAC did you get so far? Is there anything you want to mention, to criticise?

Vincent Kiesel (D) : “We are working very well, there are no problems, we have good discussions and work fast, we have good ideas!”

Pietro Pertile (I) : “It is a very good opportunity to compare opinions, to reflect problems, to get to know each other, to learn more about other alpine countries.”

Vivienne Kaiser (LIE) : “It is very exciting and interesting, there are so many people you can meet.”

Why are you here?

Vincent Kiesel (D) : “To get to know how politics work, to improve the language skills.”

Pietro Pertile (I) : “It is wonderful to share opinions with people from other countries.”

Vivienne Kaiser (LIE) : “I read about the YPAC at school, and was very interested. It is a really great chance to influence the political system.”

What do you think where the teachers are?

“They hopefully are in a room, talking about ... Maybe YPAC?”

“They are organizing, chatting, getting to know other teachers, tasting wine and food and having fun!”

“They drink coffee all the time, smoke, annoy, be confused!”



Maruša Terzič, Maribor

Ljubljana

Ljubljana is a wonderful city we had the opportunity to visit during YPAC week. We went on a tour of the city and had a chance to see a lot of breathtaking architectural and artistic features that our capital city offers. First we visited the Slovenian Parliament, which is located on the Republic square in Ljubljana. It is a protected monument where the YPAC General Assembly took place. Then we continued our day walking through Ljubljana, first to the Congress Square. It is one of the central squares in Ljubljana. Then we saw Robba Fountain (previously known as the Fountain of the Three Carniolan Rivers) and moved right on to the Prešeren Square, which is the main square of the city. As the name suggests, the square is

dedicated to the greatest Slovenian poet, Dr. France Prešeren. His statue stands in the middle of the square and is connected by Plečnik's Triple Bridge to the Old Town, Market and the river. The river is called Ljubljanica and it has a sense of wonder to it, which greatly inspired poets, such as previously mentioned Prešeren. Last we took a look at one of Ljubljana's trade-marks, the Dragon Bridge. It's one of the most famous sights of the city. There are four green dragons, two on each side, supposedly guarding the bridge and the city. Since the city isn't big we didn't have a lot of ground to cover, but everything we saw has a unique story to it. You only really understand the beauty of a place when you know the story behind it.

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REPUBLIKA SLOVENIJA
MINISTRSTVO ZA OKOLJE IN PROSTOR



GIMNAZIJA IN
SREDNJA ŠOLA
RUDOLFA MAISTRA



Avtobusni prevozi Florjančič s.p.; Avtoličarstvo in avtokleparstvo Papež; BAR M 2000; Calcit d.o.o.; Coca-Cola HBC Slovenija, d.o.o.; CONSAL d.o.o.; DANA d.o.o.; GOLDI d.o.o.; ILA d.o.o. - dotik ustvarjalnosti; Janko Rode, Roava; Kavarna Veronika; Kulturno umetniško društvo HIŠA KERAMIKE zakajpanemajolka; LJUBLJANSKE MLEKARNE mlekarska industrija, d. d.; Pekarna EVROPA; Picerija Napoli; POS Elektronček d.o.o.; Restavracija Arboretum; Salon Kveder, Frizerstvo, Tomaž Kveder s.p.; SAM d.o.o.; Slaščičarna ČAROBNI VRTIČEK; Tehnunion1 d.o.o.; Trival kompoziti d.o.o.; TROPIK, Ramadan Ahmetaj s. p.

Kamnik, Slovenia, 16th-20th March 2015