



## Newsletter 2010

We are heading towards a new and interesting decade after a year of important political highlights in Europe and in our Nordic region: the European Parliament Election in June, the Lisbon Treaty finally in place with a new EU Commission, an EU strategy for the Baltic Sea Region, the COP 15 Summit – just to events that we have followed closely, and which form the basis of many of our projects and activities. In the following our main projects for 2010-11 are described as well as our cooperation with major networks.

### Major projects

#### **Waves of Democracy 2010 in Serbia ( [www.wavesofdemocracy2010.org](http://www.wavesofdemocracy2010.org) )**

100 young people from the West Balkan countries and the EU meet in Serbia/Novi Sad to discuss the challenges and possibilities that WB faces in Europe and the world, to discuss how the region can benefit from the EU and vice versa. The intercultural communication between young people from various regions of Europe will hopefully add to peace, understanding and a better future for the coming generations. They will be educated as youth ambassadors and Global Citizen editors and become part of an extensive network of young Europeans. The project will be followed up by a pan-European network conference for 200 young Europeans in 2011 with the purpose of creating a network of networks – a new international democracy movement: *YouCi – Young Citizens' Network for Democracy and Solutions*.

#### **EU-meetings in DK –“ roadshow” to 12 Danish Highschools**

The project takes its starting-point in our experiences from having young people debate and work with each other; it is a development of our former “roadshows” in DK with European trainers. The lecture team will consist of 25 students, Danish and European students in DK, who with Danish high school pupils will start the preparations of the pan-European network YouCi.. Together they will create a catalogue of competences and skills required for global navigators and create an interest in student mobility – a key priority of the Danish Ministry of Education.

#### **MEP BSR (Model European Parliament Baltic Sea Region) [www.mep.se](http://www.mep.se)**

MEP BSR is a leadership program for youth in the Nordic and Baltic countries, set up in 2004 as a regional organization of the international MEP program. It consists of schools/institutions in DK, Sweden, Finland, Russia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Germany and Iceland. The program is a training ground for future leaders and politicians as well as for talented students who share an interest in European issues. IUC is the



administrative coordinator of the program and works with partners to develop and update the program. A major activity in 2010 will be to expand the network nationally in Denmark, at present it is strongly based in the Copenhagen area. With Svendborg Gymnasium, an important IUC-partner, we will work on a model set up youth parliaments in a number of regions as well as developing our teaching material further. Internationally we are working on expanding the organization in Russia (Kaliningrad) and Norway.

## Europe celebrates its 60<sup>th</sup>-year Epic

400 young people from the 27 EU countries will meet in France in the spring to discuss the future of Europe seen from their perspective and to visually tell narratives of European integration and history. *“They will reassemble the scattered elements of the SAGA of the EUROPEAN IDEA: the major stages of the history of European integration, the values, the visions, the projects of the European pioneers...”* From 4 different courses they will set out to visit main European sites of memory, and on May 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> all of them will meet at the Robert Schuman Museum in Scy-Chazelles to reflect upon the future of the European Union etc. The main organizer is the Robert Schuman Association in Scy-Chazelles.

IUC is a partner in the project and will assist in setting up the Nordic/Danish part of the program in cooperation with other EUNET partners in the region.

## **Networks:**

### **EUNET/European Network for Education and Training ([www.european-net.org](http://www.european-net.org))**

We have always been a very active member of this European network of more than 60 Europe Houses/Academies, and at present IUC's Nina Nørgaard is chairing the Committee on Content and Methodology, which is one of 4 work committees of EUNET. We are also represented in the Youth Committee by Andreas Guidi, and Sylvia Baptista will become a member of the newly established Committee on Immigration.

### **DARE ([www.dare-network.eu](http://www.dare-network.eu))**

We have for a number of years been a member of The Democracy and Human Rights Education in Europe (DARE) Network, which currently consists of 49 members from 28 countries in Europe. This network is devoted to raise the profile of Education for Democratic Citizenship (EDC) and Human Rights Education (HRE), promote transcultural and transnational cooperation, and enhance the quality of education within these fields. IUC is also a partner in DARE's current EU-project, which focuses on **“Democracy and Human Rights Education in Adult Learning”**.



### **MEP BSR ([www.mep.se](http://www.mep.se))**

The network is briefly described under projects but a more detailed description can be found by taking a look at its website. It is becoming a very extensive network in the Nordic/Baltic region and has expanded to comprise 10 countries so far (hopefully with Norway on board soon). There are 2 parliamentary sessions per year, in 2009 in Torun, Poland and in Copenhagen – in 2010 in Stockholm and likely Kaliningrad. For the last two years experienced students from the network and organizers have been invited to take part in the Baltic Development Forum Summits.

### **Baltic Development Forum ([www.bdforum.org](http://www.bdforum.org))**

A network for business, media, academia and politics, established by former Danish Foreign Minister Uffe Ellemann Jensen as a Nordic World Economic Forum and rapidly becoming one of the most important influential networks in Northern Europe.

MEP BSR students have kindly been invited to the Summits in Copenhagen (2008) and Stockholm in 2009. At the moment we are negotiating about MEP BSR participation in the next Summit in Vilnius in June 2010. “The Summit will be an excellent occasion to document commitment and progress in different projects within the EU Strategy as well as to agree on the way for Russia to contribute to and support elements in the Strategy” (from the Conclusions part of the Stockholm 2009 meeting)

### **Global Citizen ([www.globalcitizen.org](http://www.globalcitizen.org))**

Global Citizen is a fact-based online platform for solutions without borders. It is a newly established network that IUC works closely together with, run by Søren Winther Lundby (New Europe).

“Modern media and traditional dissemination of scientific insights fall short in providing operational knowledge, broad networks and practical solutions. Thus, Global Citizen tries to find new ways of sharing knowledge, building networks and generating solutions.”

Global Citizen is a partner in the project “Waves of Democracy 2010 in Serbia and a major partner in our project development in 2011 and 2012.

For further information about IUC-Europe and its projects, activities and network please take a look at our website or contact us at [iuc@iuc-europe.dk](mailto:iuc@iuc-europe.dk) . We are looking forward to an interesting and rewarding year with partners, colleagues and friends. Also check the website for recent news.

On behalf of IUC-Europe  
Nina Nørgaard  
Chairman of the Board