



# EYPaper

Monthly Newsletter of the International Youth NGO European Youth Parliament – Ukraine

## EUROPE DAY CELEBRATION: TOP EVENT OF THE MONTH!

### Europe Days: Years of Fruitful Cooperation

European Commission and the European Youth Parliament – Ukraine have long history of cooperation. Europe Days and EYP seem bounded forever. From the beginning of the new century the European Youth Parliament – Ukraine cooperated with the European Commission to implement this project.

Volunteers are one of the very important parts of Europe Days. Sometimes they become the most essential part as they are the people who assist in tents and help both Europe Days visitors and staff. Since 2003 EYP-Ukraine was responsible for recruitment and coordination of volunteers during Europe Days.

Only the most responsible and serious were selected to become volunteer coordinators, the heart of the volunteer team. These ladies (yes, there were only ladies!) invested their time and energy to make the day exciting for both visitors and volunteers.

This issue of the EYPaper is dedicated to those without whom we would never experience such great event as Europe Day: volunteers, coordinators, European Commission.

### Europe Day in Kyiv 2005

'European Youth Parliament – Ukraine' is the most devoted partner of the European Commission when it comes to conducting Europe Days in Ukraine. Members of the organization worked as volunteers during the Euro Village: young people in "Europe Day"-T-shirts helped the representatives of the embassies to present and promote their countries and cultures. They also assisted Ukrainians to get the maximum amount of useful information available and enjoy their visit to the Eurovillage. In such a way the Ukrainian youth takes the responsibility of facilitating the dialogue between the EU and their native country.

The guests of the Euro Village could not possibly get lost, the Euro-guides selected from among the EYP volunteers were always ready to help. They also taught the visitors all necessary words in every European language and handed out serious and not so serious questionnaires, made jointly by the EC and EYP-Ukraine.



EYP-Ukraine provided interesting and useful information, materials and prizes. The competition 'Tell more about Europe and opportunities of Ukrainian young people' also took place in the tent of the organization.

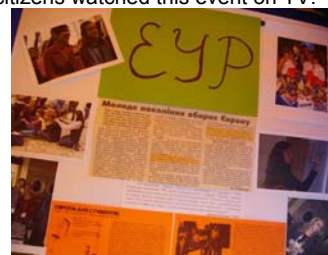
The organizers of the competitions, members of the EYP-Ukraine, managed to attract attention of many young people to the EU and EU-Ukraine matters.

European Youth Parliament appreciates greatly the opportunity to take part in the Europe Day celebration, since this is a perfect chance to get involved in promotion of the European values among Ukrainians. In other words, with Europe Days we grow as the organization, as educated Youth, as conscious Europeans. Start growing with us!

### Europe Day 2003

On 17 May 2003, Europe Day was celebrated for the first time in Ukraine. It was initiated and coordinated by the Delegation of the European Commission to Ukraine in cooperation with the European Youth Parliament – Ukraine, which recruited around 50 volunteers for the event. With the participation of the EU-member states, candidate countries and numerous other partners of the EU, this celebration became the largest European event ever held in Ukraine to date. The celebration took place in the centre of Kyiv (European Square and Khreshchatyk Street). Around 6,000 people came to see what the EU had to offer and millions of Ukrainian citizens watched this event on TV.

At the official opening all Ambassadors of the EU member states and candidate countries gathered on stage at the European Square. The European and Ukrainian anthems were performed. Anatoliy Zlenko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, greeted the public stressing the importance of and



need in strengthening the relations between the EU and Ukraine.

Romano Prodi, President of the European Commission, had prepared a short address to the Ukrainian public. Other greetings were given by the Mayor of Kyiv, the Head of the EC Delegation, and Greek Presidency Ambassador to Ukraine.

For the first time all embassies and cultural institutes of the EU member states and candidate countries gathered together on the streets of Kyiv to introduce their countries and traditions to the Ukrainian citizens during the European Village. EYP – Ukraine was the only youth organization, which was honored to present itself along with the embassies.



### Europe Day 2004

The European Youth Parliament was an active supporter of Europe Day, organized for the second time by the Delegation of the European Commission to Ukraine on May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2004. 60 volunteers from EYP in Kyiv and Lviv were involved in preparation and organization of the event. The motto of Europe Day 2004 was: 'The European Union is coming closer to Ukraine'. Celebrations took place in three cities of Ukraine: May 15, 2004 - on Khreshchatyk and Independence Square in the centre of Kyiv; May 18 – in Dnipropetrovsk on Lenin Square; May 20 in Lviv on Prospekt Svobody. More than 5 000 people visited the event in the three cities to learn about the EU. The other supporters of organization of Europe Day were: the embassies of EU Member States, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, the Kyiv City Administration, Dnipropetrovsk City Council, and Lviv City Council.



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## 2006. EYP-Ukraine: proud to be with Europe Day from its Inception



Again EYP-Ukraine was the only youth partner of the European Commission in organizing the event. In 2006 EYP coordinated the Europe Day volunteers as well as during the celebration the European Youth Parliament – Ukraine presented its latest and up-coming projects. Everyone in the European Village in the centre of Kyiv had an opportunity to get to know about the 53rd International Session of the EYP in Kyiv! Everyone was welcomed at the EYP tent near Maydan Nezalezhnosti.

Europe Day is the biggest cultural event organized by the Delegation of the European Commission to Ukraine. In 2006 the guests of the celebration had a great chance to visit the European Village, where the embassies of the EU member states represented their countries, to taste the traditional dishes from all over the continent, play real European soccer and enjoy an appealing rock-concert in the evening!



## Europe Days Volunteers' Coordinators in EYP history

2004	Anna Shypko
2005	Anna Shypko
2006	Yulia Babenko
2007	Olga Varusha
2008	Kateryna Polulyashenko

## 2007. From Olga Varusha, Coordinator of Volunteers.

Europe day. That's the day when all European cultures and traditions come together at one place – Khreshchatyk. Presenters of each country try to get Ukrainians acquainted with their customs and their style of living. They really try to make us closer to each other.



Walking around our main street at the Europe day you get a feeling you've been all around the Europe in one day time. You've seen Spanish flamenco, tried Portuguese national wine, and tasted an unforgettable Austrian strudel. You've learned a bit of German, Greek, English, and Italian. The list of fun activities can continue, so come and see it yourself. I can bet you'll fall in love with the Europe Day and you'll be looking forward to the next year to experience it once again! Just as I do...

## E U R O P E D A Y S 2 0 0 8

### Kyiv!



EYP-Ukraine played two important roles in the event. Firstly, as a good tradition, EYP-Ukraine was responsible for recruiting, training and coordinating

volunteers for the Europe Day.

Kateryna Polulyashenko, Board member on Human Resources, was the volunteer coordinator this year. Thanks to her in each tent there were people from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m. ready to assist, explain, and educate people visiting the European Village on Khreshchatyk.



Secondly, EYP Ukraine had a separate tent, where our experienced members were ready to share their experience, talk about the organization

### Odesa!

And what was that European village, located in the heart of the city on Prymorskyi Boulevard, all about? There were over 20 tents of European countries, so called 'mini-representative offices, where Ukrainians were welcomed. The Delegation of the European Commission and EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) in Odesa willingly shared information about their activities, goals and projects with the visitors. There was also a traditional Language School, where everyone could not only learn one of the European languages, but also chat with native speakers.



In the evening following the European village, there was an exciting rock-concert featuring three bands – Inculto (Lithuania), Brainstorm (Latvia) and VV (Ukraine), which really rocked Odesa. At the end of the celebration volunteers and organizers of the event traditionally greeted a truly European city of Odesa from the stage!

### Donetsk!



It was the European Village where one could get a lot of interesting information about history, culture, politics, and tourism of the represented countries of Europe. National dances and folk songs were also performed by embassies' representatives. Everyone had an opportunity to try national food of European countries, and in order to advance their knowledge about the European Union the guests of the European Village participated in the Euro-quizzes. For correct answers, they got nice Euro-souvenirs!

The evening part of the celebration, which started with an inspiring speech of Mr. Ian Boag, proved to be really thrilling. Unforgettable rock-concert performed by European rock-bands turned into the cheerful final of Europe Day celebration in Donetsk

