

European Conference  
**Cities and Urban Spaces: Chances for Cultural and Citizenship Education**

29 September - 1 October 2010  
 Trieste, Italy

## Project Fact Sheet

### Workshop VI Living in Green Cities: The Significance of Cultural and Citizenship Education for Sustainable Urban Development

|   | Section   | Indications of content   |
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| 1 | <b>Title of the project</b>   | YPAC (Youthparliament of Alpine Convention)  |
| 2 | <b>Location</b>   | Innsbruck is the lead partner, the venues vary: in each member state of the Alpine Convention a participating school organizes a meeting (Austria/Innsbruck, France/Chamonix, Germany/Rosenheim and Sonthofen, Italy/Meran, Bassano and Bergamo, Principality of Liechtenstein/Vaduz, Slovenia/Maribor and Kamnik, Switzerland/Trogen)   |
| 3 | <b>Main topics</b>  | Culture; economy and social affairs; regional policy and tourism; alpine resources   |
| 4 | <b>Practice-related keywords</b>  | Active participation; discussing opinions about issues of the Alpine Convention; taking on responsibility  |
| 5 | <b>Brief description of the project</b>   | The idea of YPAC is to create parliamentary meetings during which young representatives of the member states create a network with the aim to discuss and decide upon issues of the Alpine region from the point of view of young people. Furthermore, the results will be handed on to the committees of the Alpine Convention. The Committees are not bound to take up the recommendations. However, they serve as a valuable orientation for people who have to decide upon issues concerning young people. In order to work out solutions, the simulation consists of several organised discussions. The participants in the conference representing members of the Alpine Convention are called 'delegates'. The group of delegates that discusses an issue is called a 'committee'. There are four committees discussing four different topics. The resolutions that have been produced during the committee meetings are submitted to the general assembly, which is directed by a president and two vice-presidents. There they are presented, discussed, and voted on by all delegates. |
| 6 | <b>Objectives of the project</b>  | The simulation of parliamentary meetings are the basis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• For the active participation of young people in the development of their Alpine surroundings and environment;</li> <li>• For a well-organized process for young people to make up their opinions about issues of the Alpine Convention;</li> <li>• For taking on responsibility by young people in the regional and European process of unification.</li> </ul>  |
| 7 | <b>Impact/ Chances for cultural and citizenship education in the context of the development of cities</b> | Preparation is a profound part of the simulation. Students have to have a wide knowledge of the topic, so they can follow and take part in the discussion. It's a game for students by students. It should be the opportunity of gaining new insights and making new friends. The  |

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|    | <b>and urban spaces</b>  | meetings will lead to a greater awareness of the region “Alps“ and we want to build a network between the different parts of the Alpine regions.   |
| 8  | <b>Target groups</b>   | 16 to 19 year old students, who want to discuss about sustainable development of their region and exchange opinions.   |
| 9  | <b>Project methods/ project format</b>                           | Parliamentary meetings simulation  |
| 10 | <b>Project planning schedule</b>                                 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Autumn: Topic discussion in the participating schools, election of the presidency; coordination meeting of teachers; organization plan.</li> <li>• From autumn until the meeting students get in contact via mail; time for preparation; getting basic knowledge, informing about important political decisions concerning the topic and about the respective policy of the regional administration; talk to teachers and other participating students.</li> <li>• Shortly before the meeting sending a preparation paper to the committee presidents, so they are able to prepare the committee meetings.</li> <li>• March: The (five) four days meeting of the Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention</li> </ul> |
| 11 | <b>Project initiator</b>   | “The Akademisches Gymnasium Innsbruck” (Claudia Rauchegger and Irmgard Senhofer) in cooperation with the Permanent Secretariat of the Alpine Convention  |
| 12 | <b>Resources involved</b>  | Sponsors: The Austrian Federal Ministry of Environment, EU-Office of Tyrol; the city, village and country of the school where the meetings take place; private institutions; host families   |
| 13 | <b>Evaluation of the project/ materials/ presentation format</b> | All participants fill in an evaluation sheet. There are no fixed rules. Again and again can and will be made changes by students after discussions. Thus students are also responsible for the rules   |
| 14 | <b>Range and sustainability of the project</b>                   | Students are excited and enthusiastic for a long time, several people, familiar with the project, get to know the Alpine Convention; more and more schools want to participate in the project, which unfortunately due to lack of resources is not possible.   |
| 15 | <b>Project results</b>   | Austrian students took part in competitions on European development, integration and European identity and won several prizes.   |
| 16 | <b>Project funding</b>   | Above-mentioned sponsors; through voluntary assistance by fellow teachers Rauchegger and Senhofer are paid the equivalent of two teaching hours per week by the Federal Ministry of Education.   |
| 17 | <b>Space for your own comments</b>                               | It is a project in which students benefit in many ways: Awareness of democracy; knowledge of various political influences; they get to know and accept different opinions; language learning, since meetings are held in English only.   |
| 18 | <b>Contact information</b>                                       | Akademisches Gymnasium Innsbruck<br>YPAC coordinating teacher: Prof. Mag. Irmgard Senhofer<br>Website: <a href="http://www.agi.tsn">www.agi.tsn</a><br>Email: <a href="mailto:j.senhofer@chello.at">j.senhofer@chello.at</a>   |