

NECE – Networking European Citizenship Education “EYCE 2005: National Experiences – European Challenges”

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Country Profile III. Denmark

In my presentation I want to give a very brief description of the status of civic education in DK and IUC-Europe's role in this field.

I will focus on 2 major IUC projects in 2005 linked to the European Year of Citizenship through education and link them to the overall discussion of citizenship and participatory democracy. Also in this context I will focus on IUC's project development within the field, e.g the project Waves of Democracy with partner New Europe and a network of Europe Houses and international institutions in Europe.

Below please find a brief description of 2 projects we have carried out/will carry out in 2005 in this context.

YOUTH 2005 was linked to the European Year of Citizenship through Education and wished to draw the attention to how crucial political education – formal as well as non-formal in a lifelong learning perspective in a global world– is to the development of active citizenship, the quality of participation in a democratic society and in fostering democratic culture. The seminar addressed vital issues at a time when knowledge and skills are rapidly becoming obsolete but nevertheless form the basis of our being able to redefine who we are nationally and internationally. The seminar took its starting-point in academic approaches to these issues and came up with attempts at solutions and conclusions in the form of the document ***Citizens' Agenda*** through a variety of lectures, committees, workshops as well as plenary sessions. Also included in the seminar was a full-day excursion with a study visit to “The Kaospilots”, International School of New Business Design and Social Innovation, and glimpses into European film, music and literature. The programme will be presented in the workshop.

Europe4You/ November 13-19, 2005

Young Europeans from 5 countries visit Danish high schools/business schools to present themselves and to engage young Danes in the debate on Europe, focusing on their dreams and hopes for the future. The project focuses on workshops run by the 5 “youth ambassadors” and young people speaking to/ discussing with young people without the interference of teachers/directors. The programme will be presented in the workshop.

In my concluding remarks I will refer to a large European project: Waves of Democracy, which is developed with Danish partner New Europe and EUNET /European Network of Education and Training – based upon the experiences from 2005.