

ERWEITERE DEINEN HORIZONT

#DiscoverEU

Erasmus+

Youth

TAG 1

WO BIN ICH?

DATUM 09.08.26

Berlin, Deutschland

REISETIPPS

Wie viel weißt du über deine Rechte, wenn du durch Europa reist? Mehr darüber erfährst du unter https://europa.eu/euanome/passion/passenger-rights_de.

KULTURHIGHLIGHTS

INTERESSANTESTER ORT ODER INTERESSANTESTE VERANSTALTUNG HEUTE WAR:

East-West Comedy Berlin-Wedding

UN-GLAUB-LICH!

ETWAS FANTASTISCHES, was ich heute gelernt habe:

I've learned how hard it is for small comedians to gain enough for a living...



Herausforderung des Tages!

Erinnerst du dich an fünf Wörter in der Landessprache?

Wort	Übersetzung
hello	Hallo
good morning	Guten Morgen
goodbye	Auf Wiedersehen
yes	Ja
no	Nein

This is the first day of the project and I'm really excited. Although we have only been here in Berlin for a few hours. The majority of the day consisted of our train rides from our home to Berlin. At around 2 p.m. I arrived at the main station and already met two girls of our group. It was hot inside the train, so we immediately got some water from the supermarket REWE. Not long after that we decided to check in at the hotel, we will stay in for two days. A long train ride is always exhausting... That's why we were extremly happy to finally all meet together. Since there was not a lot of time left and we still had to wait for one participant whose train was way too late, we had the option to visit a small local comedy event in Berlin called "Fast-food comedy". I was interested to see how interesting a show like this can truly be. After getting finished with our luggage and belongings in the hotel room, we immediately went outside and explored a few food hotspots. We are a group of 6 and be split us at least for now, due to varying interest in the optional program. What excited me the



most was trying the vegan food here. It really feels like heaven here, due to the crazy good quality and options to choose from. After our short food trip, it was finally time for the comedy event. I would not have thought how different the atmosphere truly is when you are part of it and not just watching videos online. I realized that my dark humor can reach ~~these~~ high levels when it is not taken out of context. It was an extremely inclusive and comfortable atmosphere! People pulled very ~~pretty~~ racist and sometimes very mind-hitting jokes that did not feel out of place. These were all own experiences and felt like a way of handling own struggles. I truly liked the interactive nature of it. I want to rethink a lot about cancel culture and overall judgement on social media. I believe way too many stories on the internet are taken out of context and hurt the creators more than they deserve. Everyone has their opinion on the topic and mine definitely changed a bit after being very sensitive about those things.

There was actually got a lot left that happened on that Sunday. We went back to the hotel and wrapped it up for the day. A very difficult and easy start to a project that will probably be worked for many many years ♡





TAG 2

WO BIN ICH?

DATUM 08.26

Berlin, Deutschland

REISETIPPS

In den Niederlanden? Besuche auf jeden Fall das Dorf Giethoorn. Statt Straßen gibt es hier Kanäle – daher der Beiname „Venedig der Niederlande".

KULTURHIGHLIGHTS

INTERESSANTESTER ORT ODER INTERESSANTESTE VERANSTALTUNG HEUTE WAR:

topography of terror

UN-GLAUB-LICH!

ETWAS FANTASTISCHES, was ich heute gelernt habe:

I've learned more about the allies of Adolf Hitler and their responsibilities during nationalsocialism



Herausforderung des Tages!

Sprich mit Ortsansässigen! Frage sie nach einem Grund dafür, dass sie gerne in ihrem Land leben.

WAS HABEN SIE GESAGT?

they feel home here (and the water)

It's time for our second of top days!
90% are already done. Compared to yesterday our schedule is way more packed.
We obviously also have more time now!
It started really great. We had the chance to sleep in and be fully rested for what is about to go down!
~~It all started with a trip~~
That is an aspect I truly love about the whole journey. No one starts way too early. We need our time to rest. Sometimes, less is truly more.
It all started with a small trip to the "futurium" in Berlin right next to the Bundestag and Main Station.
I have already visited this place lately in October last year. That's why I remembered quite a lot, sadly. Doesn't mean it's not worth seeing. This is probably one of the best museums you can enter for free. I like how the focus, this time is not on the past and what happened but what could happen and should open our eyes for. I like the optimistic standpoints on possible creative ways to solve problems, like climate change, food shortage in the world and later social factors. We are being fed with negative



worst case scenarios, which
pollute our head very
so much. Especially in
my surroundings in a
smaller village in NRW, Germany
everyone is always complaining
without delivering any solutions. This
trip was a needed breath of
fresh air. Following the museum we
worked together in the whole group
of 15 to collect many different
photos around Berlin in the form of
a rallye. This was a very nice
way to connect even deeper within the
group and also get in contact with
local citizens. I loved the "Pariser
Platz" as different people all over
the world coming together right be-
fore the Brandenburg gate. As
a German citizen, now living in Düssel-
dorf, I can truly say that Berlin
does not feel like a typical
German city. It is way more
colorful, open-minded and obviously inter-
national than any other city in
Germany I visited. Truly a great
city. For our last event we
visited "topography of terror,"

which is also completely free and full of knowledge to gain!
I know way too little important details on World War II. Luckily I was able to update some false facts and gain new and terrifying insights. You can ever know enough about the tragedy of nationalsocialism. Our tour guide was extremely professional and presented the topic in a very interesting and compelling manner. This was 100% my absolute highlight during the day. All of us were feeling very tired after the day, we decided to already walk back to our accomodation and rest.
Tomorrow is probably quite a good day. We will not only visit the Bundestag but also ride over 8 stops with trains to Brussels in Belgium. I will update you on all of that tomorrow. I am really thrilled!

TAG 3

WO BIN ICH?

DATUM 11.08.16

Brussels, Belgium

REISETIPPS

In der Altstadt der österreichischen Stadt Graz gibt es über 1000 verschiedene Architekturstile, von Barock bis zu moderner Architektur. Wie viele entdeckst du?

KULTURHIGHLIGHTS

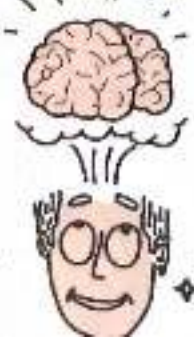
INTERESSANTESTER ORT ODER INTERESSANTESTE VERANSTALTUNG HEUTE WAR:

Bundestag, Germany

UN-GLAUB-LICH!

ETWAS FANTASTISCHES, was ich heute gelernt habe:

I've learned about the history of the German parliament and saw it from the inside



Herausforderung des Tages!

Fotografiere den interessantesten Ort, den du heute besucht hast. Teile das Foto auf Instagram mit den Hashtags #DiscoverEU und #Companion.

Möchtest du etwas teilen? Schreibe doch etwas, das du über den Ort erfahren hast, in deinen Post.

This will be the last day we are travelling around Berlin during the DOTS-project. I loved the city and was immediately impressed. Especially when I was there for the very first time in October of 2025. Before we went to the Bundestag and went to our train ride to Brussels, we packed all of our stuff to be finished as fast as possible, when coming back from the parliament. Our trip to the German Bundestag was really special. I think I can speak for everyone, when I say this. Our host Anton has told us a lot about the Soviets marking down their names on the facade of the main building after the Second World War ended. Our tour guide after this ~~[illegible]~~ has brought us inside of the building and the room of legislation. We received an hour long speech on the history of the building, which was extremely fun. It was a long-time wish of mine to visit the building, now I was finally able to! To finish it all we went up to the dome and enjoyed the amazing view all over Berlin. I am very happy that I will go back just



in a few weeks with my scholarship. Not a lot has happened after that. We went to the hotel as quickly as possible, we stayed up for a bit too long on top of the Sundesbag and struggled a bit to catch the train in time. Luckily everything worked out and we are now in Brussels. The train ride was not as exhausting as expected actually. We had about 4 hours to Frankfurt am Main and then switched trains to get to Brussels. This also took about 3-4 hours. We were there around 10 p.m. and were just happy that everything worked out. We will see us third on the next day. One third is basically. That is kinda crazy to think about. Time is moving way too fast...

TAG 4

WO BIN ICH?

DATUM: 12.08.20

Brussels, Belgium

REISETIPPS

Andy Warhols Eltern waren Slowaken, und in der Slowakei befindet sich die größte Sammlung seiner Kunst außerhalb der USA. Bist du ein Pop-Art-Fan, kommst du an der Slowakei nicht vorbei!

KULTURHIGHLIGHTS

INTERESSANTESTER ORT ODER INTERESSANTESTE VERANSTALTUNG HEUTE WAR:

EU-parliament Experience

UN-GLAUB-LICH!

ETWAS FANTASTISCHES, was ich heute gelernt habe:

I got a deep dive into the history of the EU, the founding states and which states entered later



Herausforderung des Tages!

Zeit, der Umwelt zu helfen! Sammle heute in der Stadt fünf Abfallstücke auf.

Wie grün ist die Stadt, in der du bist? Gibt es hier Mietfahrräder? Was könnte man verbessern?

Our first (and sadly last) complete day in Brussels, Belgium! This one was a bit confusing for me. Let me explain, when we arrived yesterday in the dark, we obviously could not see how the city looks. When we then opened the curtains and got out of the hotel in the morning, we were pretty disappointed. We haven't seen the beautiful building from the Brochure yet... ~~At all, started~~ Our schedule started at the district of the EU, the first activity was really really fun! ~~[illegible]~~ am not quite sure how the building was called but we did a little touristic experience that showed us the history of the EU with many different interactive stations. At one you were asked to look at the economical and social connections between the states and outside of the Union on the other you were able to see all the representatives of all states and then there was also a station, where you could look at individual stories from citizens all over the EU! This was a very nice way to get in touch with the fundamental



impact the EU has on all member states. We often forget how much the EU influences daily life, especially for us in Germany. Compared to the other days, most of us already felt very exhausted. It was not due to the activities, the weather was very extreme. It was quite hot and it was noticeable noticable right away. That's why the whole time in Brussels was optional and we had a few hours until 4 p.m. where we took our time to rest, explore the beautiful parts of the city and just had fun :) For our last activity we visited the office of the European Youth Forum. This was sadly not as exciting as the other things we already did on the project. It was quite nice to get to know how the many different NGO's play a role in political participation on a local level everywhere around in the EU. But yeah, our days task was getting empty. That is also why everyone of us decided to take it slow in the



evening and don't do much more. Well, these I was are last exciting activity we did.

After many many years there was one again an Eclipse visible in the EU, in Brussels. ~~The sun only stayed for~~ The sun sadly only darkened for round about 60%, it was still a very interesting sight to see. I enjoyed it a lot!

That was it for the day, two fifths are over, let's see where DOTS will bring us to in the next few days :)



TAG 5

WO BIN ICH?

DATUM 13.08.2

Luxemburg

REISETIPPS

Der Plattensee in Ungarn ist der größte See in Mitteleuropa. Er ist bekannt für seine tollen Strände. Wenn du etwas Erholung gebrauchen kannst, fahr doch einfach dorthin.

KULTURHIGHLIGHTS

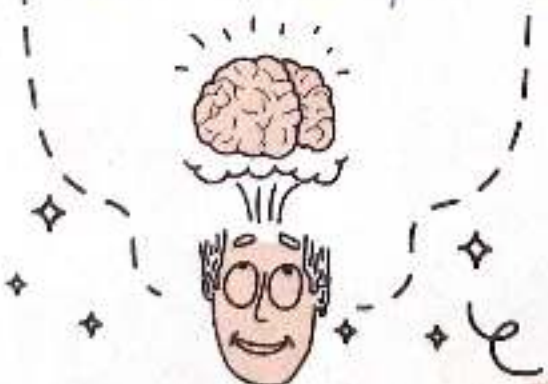
INTERESSANTESTER ORT ODER INTERESSANTESTE VERANSTALTUNG HEUTE WAR:

Hemicycle, Brussels Belgium

UN-GLAUB-LICH!

ETWAS FANTASTISCHES, was ich heute gelernt habe:

I've found out how legislation works within the EU-parliament!



Herausforderung des Tages!

Heute schauen wir in die Vergangenheit. Findest du die Antworten auf diese historischen/ kulturellen Fragen?

TIPP: Frag doch einen Ortsansässigen.

In welchem Jahr wurde das Land gegründet, in dem du bist?

Kannst du drei Schriftsteller, Künstler oder Musiker aus diesem Land nennen?

We are on our last day of Brussels and will conclude the first half of this lady project :) Like we did on our last day of Berlin, we visited the most exciting institution of them all, the EU-parliament. This was a very nice and exciting activity. Especially we also had a nice guide, which answered our questions regarding the EU. There was not a lot of new stuff, but we learned, how it was more of a basic introduction to what is happening at the parliament. Including the 27 current member states, the Brexit and its influences on EU decision-making. After that we still had some time left to take pictures inside of the building, that was quite nice :) We immediately went to the hotel, packed our stuff and got on our train to Luxembourg-city! We discussed if we'd rather want to visit Zurich or Paris as a little side-quest on our free day on Sunday, I really don't know if I would just rather be on my own and go to my favorite parts of Strasbourg when we are already there... Let's see how I'll decide in the



next few days.
We arrived at around 6 p.m. at the train station of Luxembourg-city. Like in the case of Brussels I've never visited the country, I've heard a lot of promising things about the city, but now I can finally see it with my own eyes. I was extremely impressed at how idyllic it ~~[illegible]~~ was. It is very modern, the nature is incredible and overall I would want to visit it once again I find more time for it :)

We arrived at the hotel, laid down our stuff and went back to the city, no other activities today. Luxembourg has quite many sight-seeing platforms, which I liked a lot. A great opportunity to simply indulge in the beauty of it all.

That was basically it for today, let's enjoy our day tomorrow :)

TAG 6

WO BIN ICH?

DATUM: 14.08.26

Luxemburg-city

REISETIPPS

Der Legende nach wird dir, wenn du den Blarney-Stein im irischen Cork besuchst – und küsst –, Glück und Beredsamkeit beschert.

KULTURHIGHLIGHTS

INTERESSANTESTER ORT ODER INTERESSANTESTE VERANSTALTUNG HEUTE WAR:

LGBTQI+-watchtp!

UN-GLAUB-LICH!

ETWAS FANTASTISCHES, was ich heute gelernt habe:

which countries around the EU and Europe are the most, or least LGBTQ+ friendly



Herausforderung des Tages!

HOL DEINE STIFTE RAUS!

Denk an das für dich bisher schönste Kunstwerk (Malerei, Skulptur, Architektur... du entscheidest!) und skizziere es auf der nächsten Seite.

Over the half of the DOTS-project is now over. Hop, great that we continue with, possibly my highlight of the entire project, a full day in Luxembourg. We didn't have a lot of obligatory activities that were needed to be attended. But there was one and this has been my favorite so far! We visited an organization, which fight for LGBTQIA+ rights, within Luxembourg. It was called "Rosa Lëtzebuerg" (I think at least). Not an easy one... This was really fun, we had time to ask many different questions on diversity and how good overall acceptance and tolerance is going compared to Germany. We all decided on a country within Europe and looked up statistics to see how well the respect is going, law-wise. I was quite surprised that Spain was on top of it all. I wasn't surprised that Russia was the worst one at of them all... The woman who talked with us even asked us a few questions about our perception on the topic in Germany. She really loves her job, you were able to see it in her eyes.



We were finished at the beginning of the afternoon and had quite a lot of time left, especially considering that our train to Strasbourg tomorrow will arrive at 5am!! This was when we ate together at Loteria, explored the cathedral and went to a very special event right after, we rested for a bit in the hotel. There was an open-air cinema for free in the park, where we watched the Barbie movie of 2023 together! I really loved it with them all :)

Once again this was our day, tomorrow we will visit our last city of the project, Strasbourg! We will see us tomorrow :)

TAG 7

WO BIN ICH?

DATUM: 15.08.26

Strasbourg France

REISETIPPS

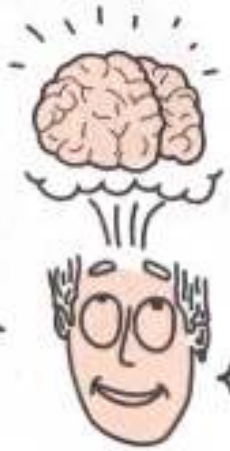
Wenn du Finnland bereist, darf ein Saunabesuch nicht fehlen. Es gibt in Finnland mehr Saunen als Autos!

KULTURHIGHLIGHTS

INTERESSANTESTER ORT ODER INTERESSANTESTE VERANSTALTUNG HEUTE WAR:

UN-GLAUB-LICH!

ETWAS FANTASTISCHES, was ich heute gelernt habe:



Herausforderung des Tages!

Manchmal läuft es nicht so wie geplant. Auch die erfahrensten Entdecker stehen vor Herausforderungen!

Beschreibe auf der nächsten Seite ein unerwartetes Problem, auf das du während der bisherigen Reise gestoßen bist, und erkläre, wie du es gelöst hast.

The 4th of 10 days! This was probably the most uneventful day of them all simply because we had no real activities this time. Our host tried to get us in a few weeks ago but it sadly did not work out. On top of that it was already hot which I really did not enjoy at all... We went to the city and grabbed our food for the day. We used our last few hours of Luxembourg in order to visit the valley underneath the main city. The parks were great, I truly loved it down there.

One important thing we discussed was our destination for Sunday. The group decided we will visit Zurich! I thought about it and I decided to stay here in Strasbourg. I think this is the best for me at the moment. After our 3 hour long train ride, we finally arrived and grabbed some food at the gas station next to the hotel. A very, very nice accomodation, I truly like it.

Like I said, not a lot has happened



our trip today. On Monday we will have the last upcoming activities!

Since tomorrow there is nothing planned at all, it wouldn't make sense to do a diary entry.

With this being said I'm very excited for our last days on the project. We will see us the day after tomorrow!

TAG 8

WO BIN ICH?

DATUM: 17.08.26

Strasbourg, France

REISETIPPS

Die Stadt Porto in Portugal ist berühmt für ihre Brücken. Aber wusstest du, dass zwei von ihnen von Gustave Eiffel gebaut wurden – dem Kopf hinter dem Eiffelturm?

KULTURHIGHLIGHTS

INTERESSANTESTER ORT ODER INTERESSANTESTE VERANSTALTUNG HEUTE WAR:

EU parliament and hemicycle

UN-GLAUB-LICH!

ETWAS FANTASTISCHES, was ich heute gelernt habe:

I've learned about the 8 different political groups within the EU and how they were created!



Herausforderung des Tages!

Beim Reisen geht es darum, das Unbekannte zu entdecken.

Probiere eine Spezialität des Landes, in dem du bist, und beschreibe den Geschmack:

Our last day has just concluded and I am very excited to tell you about it. Technically tomorrow will be our last day but this will just be our train rides back home. There is just not a lot that will happen. Our schedule was very very interesting, at first we visited the council of Europe right before midday. We had the chance to talk to a worker of the council for up to an hour in a very interesting chat. We discussed some of the standards every member state of the council has to follow in form of the European human right convention. Otherwise they will be kicked out like Russia did in 2022 with their attack on Ukraine. We also learned that almost every European country is part of the council, with no obligatory need to be part of the European Union. Germany could therefore theoretically leave the Union and still be one of the 46 members of the council, quite interesting :)

We had about 4 hours left in the day before we would visit the European Parliament. That was quite



nice. For some reason we were not able to find a proper restaurant for every one, and had to split up. I was very exhausted due to poor sleep and tried to rest a bit in the old city of Strasbourg. At around 3 p.m. we got together again and took the tram to the parliament. That was truly exciting :) We already visited it during the EYE 2023 and thought that this is probably the most beautiful building of all EU-institutions. I think I was right! When we got in, we were immediately greeted by our tour-guide. He was a very nice guy and did his job very well! This was quite surprised that many right-wing parties seperated from each other during the last few legislative periods. Always the thought the Brits are known for this. We were finished pretty fast and then were able to discover the visitors area of the building. Sadly the terrace was



under construction, work...
We were able to get in and see the hemicycle, even with an audio-guide, but you couldn't see how it looked of full body.
I especially remembered the current president of the EU parliament, Roberta Metsola. She is not only from the smallest EU-country, but also the third woman, who ever had this position. Very impressive!

Our trip is coming to an end here, we really enjoyed our last few hours together at the park, where we finished up some last few details regarding our YouthPass certificate. I really hope you enjoyed this little perspective on the DOTS-project by me, Marcel! :)

It is sad that it is over but I can also not wait to get back home in Düsseldorf, Germany! My bed and friends are waiting for me :)

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Amt für Veröffentlichungen
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