

NEWSletter

June 2007


Dear Friends of ICYE European Association,

First of all we would like to thank you all for a successfully completed General Assembly in April here in Aarhus.

We are happy to send out the second edition of our NEWSletter in 2007. The newsletter will be sent out quarterly and we hope that it will give you some insides of what we are working on in ICYE EA and that you will use the opportunity to get back to us if there is any additional information you might want to add or want.

Best regards

The office and ExCom of ICYE European Association

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1. **Change of staff at the European Association office in Aarhus**
 2. **Jakob's resignation and call for candidates for Chair position**
 3. **AVSO seminars**
 4. **SHOROUK approved**
 5. **CoE language courses**
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1. Change of staff at the ICYE EA office in Aarhus

This spring has entailed great changes at the ICYE EA office in Aarhus. Sarah Gram, the office staff for more than two years, has decided to leave ICYE EA, and her position has been taken over by Bianca Andersen as of May 2007.

Both Sarah and Bianca have written a letter with regards to this change of office staff; see the following sections


Dear Friends in ICYE

With this letter I would like to thank you all for the past two years within the ICYE network. I have learned a lot and enjoyed getting to know all of you. I am quitting as information and administrative officer in ICYE EA from the 15th of May, to get more time to write my thesis and finish my master degree in Media Studies. The extra time is necessary because I will leave for NYC in June to work as a summer intern for the Consulate General of Denmark, New York in the Culture and Education department.

Since I was re-elected as the ICYE EA representative in AVSO, I know we will stay in touch and I hope that I will be able to use the knowledge I have gained to further our cooperation with AVSO.

I hope you will all give Bianca a good reception and make her feel at home.

The best regards

Sarah

Dear ICYE members.

In this letter I would first of all like to announce that I am the new ICYE European Association Information and Administrative Officer, replacing Sarah Gram as of May 15. Since I started working for ICYE EA in the middle of April, I do by now have some insight as to what both the organization and my specific job contains, but everything is naturally still very new to me, and I am still very much in the process of learning.

However, it has been very interesting so far! I started out at the same time as the seminar in Denmark was held, followed by the EA GA – meaning that I got to know a lot of ICYE people within the first week. It was great fun getting to know you all, and I am looking forward to working with you in the time to come.

Other than working at ICYE EA, I am studying Economics at the University of Aarhus. I am expecting to get my Master sometime next fall, and I hope to be working for ICYE EA until then.

I have only worked with Sarah for a relatively short period of time, but there is no doubt that her resignation is a great loss for ICYE EA. I do however hope I will be able to take up this role in a satisfactory way.

I wish Sarah all the best, and I am looking forward to getting to know you all in the ICYE network.

Best regards,

Bianca Andersen



2. Jakob's letter of resignation and call for candidates for Chair position

Dear Friends

I would like to remind you that I will, as announced during the General Assembly, resign from my position as Chair of ICYE European Association from September the 1st 2007. I am happy to have had the opportunity to work with this organisation during the last 3 years. It has been hard work and I am very happy to see that all the work is starting to have an effect on the organisation.

I have personally learned a lot, both from dealing with all the day to day issues but certainly also from all the persons that have been involved with the organisation during this time. I am very grateful for having had the opportunity to meet so many dedicated people all working hard for the interest of youth throughout the world.

With this newsletter we would like to remind you to **bring forward all the potential candidates you have for this position**. We would like to receive signs of interest latest **August 15th 2007**. The election for Chair will take place during the Extraordinary General Assembly during ICYE International General Assembly.

Yours Sincerely,
Jakob Paaske

3. AVSO seminars

- Expert seminar on exchange of information and best practice in working with the EU Youth Programme, 3rd 6th July 2007, Brussels, Belgium
- Hand-in-hand" – Expert seminar on reinforced mentorship in voluntary service project, 25th-29th September 2007, Rome, Italy. OPEN REGISTRATION FOR PARTICIPANTS!!

You can find more information about the seminars at www.avso.org, or contact Helena from AVSO at helena@avso.org or Phone +32 (0)2 230 68 13.

All ICYE EA members can apply as members of AVSO.



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4. SHOROUK – EuroMediterranean Partnership-Building to strengthen Solidarity and Participation - Euromed CMS, Rome, October 2007

ICYE European Association in co-operation with AFSAI has applied for a Euromed Partnership-Building activity (formerly called CMS – Contact Making Seminar) under the Youth in Action programme sub-action 3.1, to take place in the surroundings of Rome in October 2007. It is our pleasure to announce that we have been notified by the EACEA in Brussels that this application has been approved in principle - we are however still awaiting the full contract.

"Shorouk" will gather organisations from Programme countries - mainly ICYE committees and partners - and organisations from Algeria, Egypt, Jordan, the Palestinian Authority of the West Bank and Gaza Strip, Morocco and Syria, to foster partnerships in the frame of the Youth in Action programme. One expected outcome of "Shorouk" is the joint agreement on and shaping of a multilateral Euromed EVS project, to be co-ordinated by the EO and to be applied for by the EO at deadline February 1st.

5. CoE Intercultural Language Programmes 2007

The Council of Europe offered 6 different language courses in 2007, and ICYE EA received applications regarding 5 of them, from the national committees; from Austria to the Spanish course, from Finland to the French course, from Germany to the Arabic course, From Slovakia to the German course, and from Denmark to the Italian course. The applications to the Italian, French, and Arabic language courses were accepted, whereas the last two were put on the waiting list, and were by the CoE considered very likely to be accepted – but unfortunately ended up rejected, since none of the accepted participants chose to skip the course.

Therefore ICYE EA this year sends three applicants on language courses. We wish them all a fruitful and pleasant stay.



6. Training in Sweden – cooperation between IKU and ICYE EA, fall 2007

The training was applied for the 1st of June 2007.

In February 2007 IKU held a training for trainers in Sweden in cooperation with the European Association. One of the outcomes of this training was an agreement between the participants that learning by reflecting on real-life experience (rather than experience from simulation games and exercise from manuals) is much more powerful, engaging and useful. However, it is at the same time much more difficult to plan, and facilitate. There was therefore a request for a training on facilitating reflection on real-life experience.

This training seeks to answer this request by training of a group of young trainers/youth leaders in innovative learning tools. The participants will at the end of the training be able to facilitate self-directed learning and reflection on real-life experiences, and to apply this to various target groups, such as EVS-volunteers, youth exchanges, training of mentors, training of staff and members, etc.

The aim of the training is to increase the quality of the learning activities carried out within an organization.

The trainers will be *Yvor Broer and Lene Mogensen*.

7. ExCom meeting

The next ExCom meeting will be held in the middle of July, in Vienna, Austria.

The main topics of the meeting will be a follow-up of the ICYE EA General Assembly, held in Aarhus, Denmark, in April 2007, a review and assessment of the upcoming applications and activities, and finally the forthcoming resignation of Jakob Paaske Jensen, the board chairman, as of September this year, including the consequences of this action.



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Contact ICYE European Association:

European Office (EO)

Ms. Bianca Andersen
Information and Administrative Officer

Klosterport 4A, 3rd floor
DK-8000 Aarhus C
Denmark

Phone: (+45) 8618 0715
Fax: (+45) 8618 0761
Email: admin@icyeeurope.org
Skypename: icyeeurope_admin
Web: www.icyeeurope.org

Office hours:
Tuesday 11 -14
Friday 12-15

The Executive Committee (ExCom)

Jakob Paaske, President, jakobpaaske@jakobpaaske.dk
Oscar-Mauricio Usategui, Treasurer, oscar.mauricio.uscategui@gmail.com
MarCUS Vreecer, Third Member, arus.work@gmail.com