

News from IPWG

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The International Politics Working Group of AEGEE is here once again to share with the whole Network some important information. A new board has started its way from Magusa to Leiden, taking the knowledge of their predecessors, who have been doing a great job until our general meeting in Cyprus.

Since then, the current board has been working together with the previous one to develop the projects, but also came to some fresh and interesting ideas to carry on during the next months. To find out more about this, go on reading and enjoy!

Board and Members meeting in Poznan

From 6th to 8th March, the former board of the IPWG met in the city of Poznan (Poland) and worked these three days with Marcin and Natalia, members of the Group. Together they analyzed results of past activities and the survey sent to all IPWG members and one of the most important outcomes of the discussion was the creation of the blog, which is currently moderated by Marcin. The board had also the great opportunity to hold a presentation about IPWG for AEGEE-Poznan.



During the meeting they also worked on the ideas for new projects like the European Citizenship Training Course in Thessaloniki or the Diplomatic Seminar in Budapest, and most of them will be presented in the next newsletter. All their meritable work was taken by the new board to bring it into practice in the next months.



Words for the previous Board



We owe a big amount of gratitude to the previous board, Agata, Mario, Christian, Cezary, Maciej, Eren and Justin for their constant support and help, and for giving birth to the next flagship project of AEGEE Europe and one of the biggest challenges in our lives, "Beyond Europe".

Last but not least, we would like to specifically thank our former Speaker, Agata Patecka, for the energy and the inspiration she continues to inject in us, and we would like to wholeheartedly wish her a very successful and fruitful term as the new President of AEGEE Europe !

Flagship elections in Agora Magusa

Three Flagship Topic Proposals - each of them carrying a powerful conception for the future of AEGEE-Europe - were presented to the AGORA, our general assembly, on the beautiful island of Cyprus. One of many decisive moments in a truly fantastic and rich statutory meeting. The result: Beyond Europe got more than half of all votes and was selected by the AGORA as the next Flagship Topic for the years 2010-12!!! A dream comes true...

How did we get there? The journey started in the heads, hearts and minds of a group of people who by-and-by figured out that they share a very similar vision and conception of European students' and AEGEE's role in a broader environment. Subsequent discussions, debates and drafts bind the dreamers together and shaped what became known as the Beyond Europe Flagship Topic Proposal.

Where do we go from here? One thing seems to become clear: This project - now AEGEE's biggest project in the years to come - is not only a dream that is coming true, but a huge once-in-a-lifetime challenge for all people involved! For now, we only have two things to say: Join us on this journey! And: Let's roll!





New faces in the board

During the Spring Agora in Cyprus, the new board for the IPWG was elected among the presented candidates. Some of the faces are already known, but others completely new. Therefore, there is a little introduction to discover who are the seven motivated members who will be working in the IPWG board for the next year, till Agora Leiden.



Name: Mario Giuseppe Varrenti

Position: Speaker

Local: AEGEE-Warwick

He is in IPWG because...

...In this group he can pursue the interests he has dedicated his studies to. He thinks this is the right place for those like him who like discussing on International Politics with people sharing the same enthusiasm.

He loves...

...Spending weekends with his family in the countryside.



Name: Fotis Kanavos

Position: Secretary General

Local: AEGEE-Athina

He is in IPWG because...

...he pursues purposeful and meaningful things...and there is nothing more like that than a group of young people focusing on the world's issues and problems and being always open to new ideas, new opinions, seeking understanding through pluralism of thoughts and arguments

He loves...

... his family, his friends, and the Cyclades every time of the year, for the next forever



Name: Christian Eichenmüller

Position: Treasurer

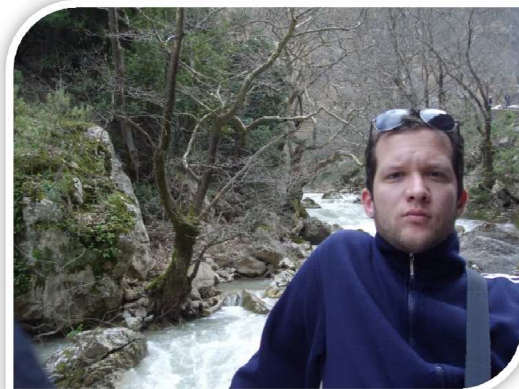
Local: AEGEE-Mainz

He is in IPWG because...

...international politics and geopolitical issues are more than a hobby for him. They are one of his main interests and are also represented in his studies as he is studying Geography and Political Science. Following the world affairs from different perspectives and discussing the big issues of our time is enriching and exciting... just try it yourselves ;-)

He loves...

...travelling with his friends



Name: Panagiotis Papagiannakos

Position: Projects Responsible

Local: AEGEE-Peiraias

He is in IPWG because...

...he loves discussing and learning about relations between countries! Since he comes from a country with several important foreign issues, he would love to find out the points of the other sides. Moreover, it is a great challenge to inform AEGEE members and also people outside the Association,

about the world we live in, since the ignorance is much more than he expected!

He loves...

...being with friends, traveling around, Greek cuisine!!!



Name: Julia Batkaeva

Position: Human Resources Responsible

Local: AEGEE-Sankt Petersburg

She is in IPWG because...

...she is addicted to politics, international politics & discussions about the above mentioned. Moreover, she is addicted to AEGEE. So, IPWG is a perfect combination.

She loves...

...getting to know people. It is always so exciting!



Name: Prisca Merz
Position: Fund Raising Responsible
Local: AEGEE-Passau

She is in IPWG because...

...she says it is the working group that from the moment she joined AEGEE attracted her attention the most... she loves to discuss and explore International politics and it is also a great possibility to encourage more people to become active in those fields!

She loves...

...being with people, especially groups full of AEGEE spirit ;) partying through the nights and still working the next day ;)



Name: Marta Gutiérrez
Position: Public Relations
Local: Aegee-Valencia

She is in IPWG because...

...she got addicted with the Group when she attended her first event in AEGEE, which was IPWG goes Den Haag.

She loves...

...talking with her friends, the parties with them, and also spending her time with her family.

Final information

Finally, we want to encourage all members to keep updated with IPWG work and to join us in our next activities. One of the most important platforms of discussion between members and board is our IPWG blog, available on:

<http://ipwg.blogactiv.eu/>

Please, feel free to contribute with your post and comments.

On the other hand, we are planning to have an online meeting on June 23rd with all interested members about the current situation in Iran after the elections. Just read the article on the mailing list, prepared by our Speaker, Mario Giuseppe Varrenti, and join the discussion from 21.00 CET on.

(Please, contact Julia through julia.batkaeva@aegee.org for further information).

Kind regards from IPWG board (already working on June's Newsletter),

Mario, Fotis, Christian, Panos, Prisca, Julia and Marta