



## Minutes of the IPWG Workshop „Shape up, IPWG!“ Agora Warszawa, 7th of May 2006

**Aim:** brainstorm for the IPWG - Strategy

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### Participants:

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### Agenda

- 1) Introduction
- 2) Obstacles in WGS/Projects
- 3) Role of IPWG in AEGEE network/ Aims
- 4) Implementation of these aims

### 1) Introduction

First, Arleta gave a brief introduction about the idea of the workshop and informed the participants about problems IPWG Board faced in the past. After everybody introduced himself, Arleta and Patrick gave an overview of past IPWG activities.



## 2) Obstacles

Referring to the beforehand mentioned problems, the participants collected ideas on how to improve the communication flow and on how to overcome the problems.

- important to meet at statutory events
- “be present”
- Surveys among members: when to meet?, what ideas to implement?,...
- Specialists/lectures/WS-Leaders should be available for locals
  - o Give input for locals
  - o Database where locals can find specialists needed
- Local Working Groups
  - o Give them space on website
  - o Promote the idea of local IPWGs

## 3) Aims

The participants brainstormed on the aims of IPWG (in general):

- breaking stereotypes about Islamic World ( in cooperation with EuroIslam)
  - o Turkey
  - o Cyprus
  - o Kurds
- Expansion of EU → problems and chances; acceptance?
- Constitution of the EU → when the topic comes back
- Strengthen local IPWGs
- Belarus case
- Developing countries
- How to start a careers in EU
- Immigrants → the not chosen proposal for the Yearplan Topic “Integrateful”

## 4) Implementation

General ideas

- Internal guidelines, how to build a project?
- How to do FR? → database of foundations



- Problem: conferences/speakers are expensive
  - Database of the Speakers → local can check who lives in the region
  - Get in contact with other NGOs
- a) Stereotypes
- Exchanges very important to “break stereotypes”
  - SU -> one day with workshop about stereotypes
  - Idea to make a movie as result, can be used externally and reaches a bigger group than only a result booklet
  - Generally promote results widely!
  - “Action Day”: local events to get in contact with Muslims/ immigrants/...
  - Co-operation with YnterAct-project
  - Opinion polls
  - Collect “statements” to make people think of (-> posters at the Agora)
- b) Expansion of EU
- Survey, different opinions (acceptance) in different regions
  - Inform about EU
  - What means European Identity (*Comment by Patrik*: use results from past projects)
  - Make people (outside AEGEE) more aware of problems/Benefits
  - E.g. case study trip Balkans of AEGEE-Utrecht
- c) Career in EU
- Local “Information Days” -> job chances in Europe
  - Build up network of people working in EU (Les Anciens)
  - A kind of manual, hints, links on the website of IPWG
- d) Immigrants
- Project idea is already there (Julia)
  - Has to be further evolved
- e) Belarus
- Opposition NGOs from there can be contacted
  - Help Belarusian opposition from outside
  - European Youth Parliament is active in this field
  - Contact with other NGOs is important