

YOUTH FORUM OF EUROPEAN UNIVERSITY STUDENTS

REPORT OF THE MEETING

BRUSSELS - FEBRUARY 2009

Throughout our discussions during our meetings on Wednesday afternoon, the 25th of February 2009, with National Coordinators and Thursday morning, the 26th of February 2009, with complete National Delegations, what was agreed concerning future activities of the FORUM for the next academic 2009/2010 on the topic of **“Give voice to the University in Europe and give voice to Europe in the University”**. The FORUM will start operating simultaneously on three different levels:

- **Development and consolidation of the FORUM at National level:** Fostering the development of activities, such as Seminars or Conferences organized even within University environments, aimed at promoting FORUM values in EU, in order to give voice to Europe reaching youngsters (in particular University students) and also be able to “listen” and report what youngsters have to say concerning EU’s policies and programs. We suggest to propose to the National Representations of the European Parliament and of the European Commission in every EU country and also to the Rectors of your Universities to start endorsing a “Youth FORUM of European Studies” in your country, in order to create a virtual space in which you will have the possibility to foster activities similar to those regularly presented by AESI in Italy. AESI and EUCA will support the proposals of each EU Countries to promote this activities;
- **European Union Programs Level:** Carrying out common programs concerning general topics which interest all EU countries, aimed generally to achieve a reliable image of how certain topics are perceived especially by University students of all EU countries and gather effective proposals and new ideas from them. Our first common program, proposed by EUCA, and on which we agreed will be about “New Media Instruments connecting EU with its Citizens”, developed following three main study lines, proposed by Professor Enrique Banus, which is being assessed in these days by the European Commission in order to seek appropriate funding. The FORUM will be the operative actor of the program, with a Declaration of Intents between AESI and EUCA, supported by MedinEurope;
- **International Level:** Keeping in mind that the general title of FORUM activities in 2008 was “EU promoting globalization of Peace and Solidarity” it is important to continue to operate even in this direction, underlining EU’s great importance as a new international actor, which can effectively intervene in critical areas outside its

boundaries to bring stabilization and peace. Our first common program, proposed by AESI, and on which we agreed will be centered on the “contemporary situation in Lebanon”, a small middle-eastern country which tackles on a daily basis a great challenge of intercultural coexistence. A study mission to Lebanon has already been organized from the 15th to the 22nd of next October and you are all welcome to participate.

Referring to the **publication** which was presented to the President of European Parliament, H.E. Hans-Gert Poettering, it is important that all National Delegations have at least 9-10 copies of it. In this way each component of every National Delegation will have one, and the National Coordinator will have some extra copies in order to use them as a “business card” when meeting the Directors/Public Relation Officers of the Representations of the European Parliament and of the European Commission which are based in every capital of each EU Member State, as well as any other dignitary which might be interested or involved in the FORUM activities. We invite all National Coordinators which have not received adequate number of copies of our publication to get in contact with the organizing staff in order to agree a way how to receive them.

On the **25th of June 2009** you are all invited to Rome for a one-day meeting that will take place within the Italian Diplomatic Institute, part of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, located in the beautiful park of Villa Madama, a famous manor built in the XVI century on the side of Mount Mario in Rome. This occasion will be useful in order to evaluate progress on all three operational levels of the FORUM activities and to discuss the proposals regarding the name and logo for the FORUM. As of today, only a little scholarships can be granted by the organization in order to cover travel or accommodation expenses for this occasion. We invite all to start organizing this trip to Rome as soon as possible, in order to find low-cost solutions and eventually some sort of funding.

EU FORUM Delegations : AESI and EUCA kindly request to you the names of the coordinator and the other member of the national delegations (better two girls and two boys, representing undergraduates and post young graduates) before the **10th of April 2009**. **In the same date please we request the confirmation of the participation on the FORUM Meeting in Rome on 25th June 2009**

EU FORUM Presidency : Prof. Massimo Caneva - President

Avv. Gian Luca Giovannucci - Secretary General

Dr. Antonio Romano - Administrator