

'thinking Europe'

What is Europe: a historical constellation, a visionary political project, or rather an economic challenge?
Do the borders of Europe depend on its member states, those countries which want to belong to EU, those who develop it together or those, who are committed to its values?
Which hopes, expectations or fears are connected with Europe?
How does Europe affect people, who are not (yet) involved in the European process?

'Mission Europe' is the title of a complex of different activities, which try to mediate and treat the concept called 'European Identity'. There is no better place to examine this subject of discussion than on its borders or better said in those areas which are currently in the process of 'becoming- European'. The political, social and economical processes which occur at the expanding 'eastern margins' of the EU also influence the terms of integration and exclusion.

In September 2006 young artists from France, Poland and Germany will go on an intensive research journey into neighbour states of the European Union (Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Serbia) bringing them into contact with people involved in "European missions" as peacemakers, in humanitarian, ecological and economical projects.

On June 23rd-24th, a symposium will take place in Weimar. There representatives of e.g. Red Cross Bulgaria, European Movement Serbia, Center for Cultural Decontamination Belgrade, Regional Environmental Center Sarajevo, Bundeswehr (Mission 'Althea', Sarajevo) and scientific researchers of culture and economy will talk about their work in those countries, which are currently in processes of EU accession. Questions and critical contributions from the audience will hopefully produce lively discussion.

The Symposium will not only be a platform for the artists and the referees but is open to the public. Everyone interested in the issue is welcome!

Both, Symposium and research journey will form the basis for critical, provoking, multimedia art work by the artists of the 'Weimar Triangle', which will be shown in an itinerant exhibition in Krakow, Marseille and Weimar in 2007.

Presentations are held in English and will last about 45 minutes each.

For further details see: www.missioneuropa.info

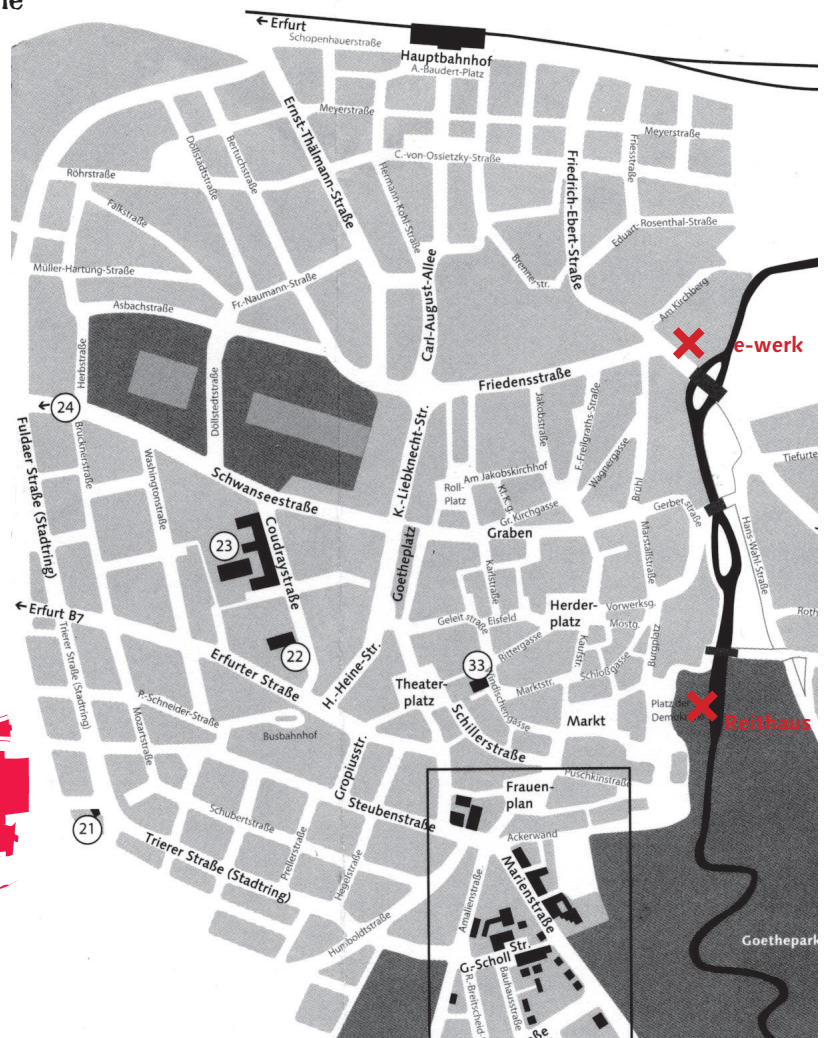


Symposium 23.-24.06.2006

Organised by e-werk weimar e.V.
supported by EJBWeimar

**Reithaus, Weimar
Platz der Demokratie 5**
Tickets 3/2Eur per day

**Special Event at E-Werk: Fri-
day night starting 20:30 BBQ,
Football/23:00 in Concert:
Hempel&Sauter, New Telephat-
ics with MXZEHN, Wojciech
Kosma and Krzysztof Topolski
/DJ: Darryn Harkness**
Tickets: <23h 4eur/>23h 6eur



Schedule



Friday 23/06

9:00 Opening of the Symposium by the organizer e-werk weimar e.V.

9:30 Foreign assignments of the German Federal Armed Forces
Representative of the Federal Armed Forces from Erfurt

10:15 Operation Althea in Sarajevo

Two German soldiers who served at Althea in Sarajevo will report about their personal experience.

In December 2004 the EU took over commando for the peacekeeping force in Bosnia-Herzegovina. The EUFOR's operation in Althea is the biggest military operation of the EU so far. The German troops are responsible for the military safeguarding of the Dayton peace agreement, to keep the ethnics groups from hostilities and to ensure the freedom of movement of their own troops, international organizations and NGOs.

14:00 Bosnia and Herzegovina - Resources and Opportunities

- *REC in Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) and in Bosnia-Herzegovina (BiH)*
- *Activities of the previous nine years and current projects*

- *The potential in BiH: historical, touristy and other resources and chances*

Jasmina Islambegovic is Grant Officer/Technical Assistant at the **Regional Environmental Centre (REC)** in Sarajevo. REC is a non-partisan, non-advocacy, non-profit organization with a mission to assist in solving environmental problems in CEE. The center promotes cooperation among NGOs, governments and businesses and supports public participation in environmental decision-making. REC was established in 1990 by the U.S., the European Commission and Hungary. REC BiH was established in 1997 with the main goal to provide adequate support to the development of environmental protection, conservation and improvement in the country.

14:45 Is an organization like the E-Werk feasible in Serbia?

- *Differences between Serbian and European daily life and their legal systems*
- *How do Europeans search for their identity? And how Serbians?*
- *How can a German program open the door to the EU?*

Katarina Tojic, Dipl. Philologist, B.A. Culture Management and Politics on the Balkan, from Serbia and Montenegro holds a scholarship of the Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) culture manager program of the **Robert-Bosch-Foundation**. The program supports 12 young culture managers from CEE, with the aim to create an understanding of the cultural diversity of the CEE, to strengthen network structures for cooperation between Germany and its neighboring countries. Tojic works for the Foundation of Weimar Classics /Weimar-Jena-Akademie e.V. .

16:00 Europe: Mission (Im)Possible? Kosovo's Quest for Political Stability & Economic Development and the Prospects of European Integration

- *Kosovo 2000: A non-existent country, a non-existent economy*

- *Post-war reconstruction and economic development*

- *The EU's policy towards Kosovo*

- *Current problems & future prospects: Is Kosovo becoming a European ghetto?*

Mathias Rauch studied political science, economics, and law in Leipzig (GER) and Newcastle (UK). Since 2004 he is research fellow and teaching assistant with the **Department of Economic Policy Research, University of Leipzig**. In 2005 he was Jean Monnet visiting professor for European integration at the Kwantlen University College in Vancouver. His areas of interest are European integration, international relations & international economics in general and post-conflict reconstruction and economic development in particular.

16:45 Artistic practice and its relations to political crisis and hostile surroundings

- *The particular position of the art-scene in the period of extremely radical transition of public discourse, institutional system and complete field of culture*
- *Artistic practice, between cultural and public sphere: Serbia from the early 1990s until today*

Vladimir Tupanjac is Culture and Arts Program Director of the **Center for Cultural Decontamination (CZKd), Belgrade**. The CZKd was founded in 1994 to counteract the pervasive poisons of the Milosevic regime and to strengthen the resistance of the body politic. CZKd has organized over 2500 events: performances, exhibitions, protests, public discussions, lecture series and miscellaneous minoculations. Through cultural and social engagement, CZKd works against nationalism, xenophobia, intolerance, hatred and fear.

9:30 The Work of European Movement in Serbia

- *EMinS mission and projects- promoting respect for human values, freedom*
- *Establishment of the rule of law and appreciation of cultural differences*

Ksenija Milivojevic is Secretary General of the **European Movement in Serbia (EMinS), Belgrade**. The basic mission of EMinS is to influence the public in Serbia to commit itself to building a democratic pluralist society, to achieve equality among people and their communities and to promote the European heritage and values, with support for processes and events in Serbia which will lead to this. The European Movement also works for the accession of Serbia to the European Union.

10:15 M/Othering Europe Or How Europe and Atlas are Balancing Hand in Hand on the Prime Meridian - she Carrying the Alphabet, he Shouldering the Globe they are Walking on

Dr. Sonja Neef studied Dutch and German language and literature studies and Philosophy in Utrecht and Cologne and worked as translator and interpreter. Her dissertation on calligrams and writing as media she wrote at Mieke Bal in the Amsterdam School for Cultural Analysis (ASCA). In 2000 she got the PhD in the Discipline of Arts. As post-doc researcher at the Department of Media and Arts at University Amsterdam she hold the research project 'Hand-writing as cultural practise in the age of new media' Since 2003 she teaches as Junior Professor of European Media Culture at **Bauhaus-University Weimar**. Several publications and articles have been released by her, e.g. 'Travelling Concepts: Text, Subjectivity, Hybridity' and 'Mieke Bal, Essays zur Kulturanalyse' FfM: Suhrkamp 2002

11:15 Civic activism goes online in Bulgaria

- *Review of NGO movement in Bulgaria*

- *Civic participation in the decision making process*

- *EU influence on the civic processes in Bulgaria*

Milena Bokova is Executive Director of **BlueLink Information Network in Sofia**. BlueLink.net is a virtual network offering a broad variety of internet based information about projects and activities which are related to environment, natural resources, and sustainable development in Bulgaria.

13:30 Bulgaria and Romania before the accession to the EU

- *Aspects of the political and social development considering the example of the work of a political foundation*

- *Political framework and scope for movement of artists and intellectuals*

- *Promotion of democracy as task of the German development cooperation*

Dr. Wolfgang Sachsenröder is Project Director for Romania, Moldova, Bulgaria and Macedonia of the **Friedrich Naumann Foundation (FNF)**. Originating in Germany, the FNF promotes freedom in human dignity as the ultimate precondition of a society where people can live freely and in peace. Since 1990 the Foundation is active in Romania and Bulgaria. At the centre of their work is the support of the transformation process towards democracy, constitutional state and market economy.

14:15 Work and visions of the CHANCE FOR LIFE Foundation

- *Our activities*

- *How we as a NGO handle European influences*

- *Encouraging active participation of the Romanian citizens*

Heidi Nietzsche works for **CHANCE FOR LIFE (CFL)** in Bucharest, Romania as a volunteer of the organization **EIRENE- International Christian Service for Peace**. CFL's trys to sustain the optimal development of children that are at high risk of social exclusion: HIV positive children, institutionalized children, children that come from poor families with high intellectual capacities.

15:30 Croatia's way from national independence to EU accession proceedings

- *Political and economic situation of the 1990s and after the beginning of the accession proceedings*

- *Harmonization with the EU*

Dr. Siniša Kušić is expert for transformation, EU-integration and economic development in South East Europe with Croatia being his focal point. He is research fellow and habilitating at the **Department for Comparison and Transition of Economic Systems at the Goethe University Frankfurt/Main**. Among others he is involved with conjoint projects with the Institute of Economics Zagreb (EIZ) and member of the Croatian expert group involved in the proceedings of joining EU.

16:15 Belarus- an unknown centre of Europe

- *Reasons why I chose to live and work in Belarus*

- *Challenges and most important experiences and how these influence my life back in Germany*

Grit Gierth spent one year at the **Institute for German Studies in Minsk** teaching politics and society of Germany and Europe as a guest lecturer of the Robert Bosch Foundation. Although the autocratic President Alyaksandr Lukashenko appeared on the news the country itself is widely unknown to the Western public. Due to her work she got insight into the belarussian society and the life of political activists and ordinary people.