

TOPICS

- Ukrainian and German traces in Lublin
- Human rights workshops
- Stereotypes and prejudices workshop
- Pro-contra debate
- Moving exhibition
- Majdanek
- Language animation

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Common past, common future, looking for a dialog!

TRILATERAL EXCHANGE

29/03-05/04/2009

Polish-Ukrainian-German youth exchange

Youth from Münster (Germany), Luck (Ukraine) and lubelskie region met together in Nasutów and Lublin during a youth exchange. The project

“Common past, common future: looking for a dialogue” aimed to facilitate getting to know culture and history of our neighbours and was a platform for looking for a dialogue in discussion on historic

and political topics by means of numerous integration workshops, language animation, debates and simulation workshops. Each of national groups will also presented their traditions and local customs and showed a movie produced in their country.



During the „Moving exhibition“ in Lublin

An important part of the activities was a documentation of tracks of Ukrainian and German culture in Lublin which are part of

the multicultural past of the city. The results of this work was publicly presented in “a moving exhibition”, which appeared on the streets of Lublin on April 2nd as well as during follow-up exhibitions in Lublin after the project. The young people will also visit the

former concentration camp of Majdanek and will take part in human rights workshops prepared by a fellow of Humanity in Action.



We stayed in Nasutów, which is a village of about 80 inhabitants 16km north from Lublin in

East Poland. Here is the „Dom Nasutów“ (Nasutów House – Meeting Centre) located, near the complex of Kozłowiecki Forests.

Training and conference facilities include a complex of four buildings: a Manor House, a Mansion, a Land steward’s house, an Orangery and Stables, all built in an old-Polish set of mansions.



Programme

Day	Day 1 29.03 Sun	Day 2 30.03 Mon	Day 3 31.03 Tue	Day 4 01.04 Wed	Day 5 02.04 Thu	Day 6 03.04 Fri	Day 7 04.04 Sat	Day 8 05.04 Sun
Title / Topic of the day	ARRIVAL	<i>Intercultural dialogue</i>	<i>Lublin</i>	<i>Historical Dialogue</i>	<i>Lublin II</i>	<i>Dialogue for the future</i>	<i>The final game</i>	<i>DE- PAR TURE</i>
		Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast	Breakfast
Morn- ing Ses- sion 09:45 – 14:00	Possi- bility of sight- see- ing of Lub- lin	Ice breaking games Presentation of the programme Language animation “Derdians game”	Departure to Lublin City game	Summary of yester- day’s work, Presenttion of results Selection of photos for a “ moving exhibition”	Departure to Lublin “roots” of Human rights workshop at the Majdanek grounds Guided tour in Majdanek	Summary of the previous day preparing a permanent exhibition	Pro-contra debate Should the EU still enlarge?	D E P A R T U R E
14:00		Lunch	Lunch / restaurant	Lunch	Lunch packets	Lunch	Lunch	
After- noon session 15:30 – 19:00		Stereotypes and prejudice- workshop	On-the-streets multi- cultural Lublin photo shooting– led by the Polish group afterwards: free time in Lublin	Historic perspectives Historic dialogue workshop Preparation of the dinner	“moving exibition “ afterwards: free time in Lublin	Sports after- noon “Access to medicine” court simultion workshop	Photos from our home- towns Evaluation	
19:00	Supper	Supper	Supper	INTERNA- TIONAL DINNER!	Supper	Supper	Supper	
Evening events	Ice breaking games	Introduction to photography	Film evening Polish group		Film evening Ukrainian group	Film evening German group	Campfire/ Barbeque Farewell party	

Polish report on the exchange



**March,
29th**

Today is Sunday, and it's our first day of the project. We meet with all participants at castle square and together moved to Lublin. On the beginning we've got many questions in our heads: will we be able to communicate with Germans and Ukrainians, will we understand different cultures, will we break through stereotypes and prejudices...?

Our first impression was really good. Everybody seemed to be straightforward, open minded and friendly. We've even got companion from Portugal, there is also one more project from southern-east countries so really international company !! We are sure that it will be excellent time !!



March, 30th

Today's day was full of interesting activities. After ice breaking games, which was for us to know each other better, we played game about culture differences. Some of us was the citizens of a city called Derdia, who wanted to build a bridge to go to the nearest city but didn't know how to do it. Some of us was the builders and they had to show



how to build. The only problem was that Derdian's have very specific culture and nobody can exactly understand them. We had a lot of fun

playing this game, which had to show us how cultural differences can be hard to overcome...

March, 31st

Hooray !! The first day without rain !! Sun was shining very clearly so everybody was enthusiastic and full of energy to aim new goals. After breakfast we moved to Lublin to play some city game (which we were very curious what it will be) and to find some signs of German and Ukrainian culture.

In the city game we had to be very creative: we were divided into 4 different groups and had to thought about tasks or others. So finding highest buildings or singing with citizens of LUBLIN gave us a lot of fun !! After playing we ate pizza in "Sid" restaurant which is probably the best pizza in eastern Poland :D

Second part of the day was to look for German and Ukrainian culture in the city. Different groups had different tasks, so some of us had meeting in orthodox church, whereas the others went to evangelic church to listen about Germans in Lublin. Great history lesson. From every place where we've been we took some photos for photo exhibition, which is planned to be on Thursday. After those we had some free time to do some shopping and buy gifts for secret friends... Now we're preparing for a Polish evening so one thing is sure: this evening won't finish early...



April, 1st

Today is the "prima aprilis day" so everybody is in the mood for joking (especially Ewelina) and making tricks. The other cause of our well-being is the sunny weather - we exactly we've got our batteries full charged...

After breakfast was some energizer made by Ricardo do wake up everybody who was still sleepy. Then we're deciding about which photo should be chosen for our open-air exhibition in Lublin. Then

free time - so we were playing some volleyball match: Ukraine against Poland (which has ended with a tie- let say :P)

Afternoon session began with discussion about our common history in Second World War. Everybody agreed that we shouldn't forget about the past but also we need to look into the future and don't repeat past mistakes.

After this we started preparations for an international evening. Great

FUN!

During evening we were singing Ukrainian, German, Polish songs, eating national dishes, dancing, laughing. In two words: CHILL OUT !!! Everybody has great mood.

At about 10 o'clock party moved to "Orangeria" to the Hungarians. And one thing is sure - it was very INTERNATIONAL and MULTICULTURAL evening!!!!

April, 2nd

Hmm... what should I write... maybe only that it's the morning after party... without comments :P

After breakfast we went to Lublin to see have some guided tour in Majdanek (former Nazi's concentration camp). It made us feel nostalgic - everybody was very impressed. I think that this doesn't need any comments...

At 3.30 we started our exhibition in Lublin. To be

honest - we were surprised because of so many manifestations which took place!! There were a group 'Solidarity with Belarus',

Georgians manifestation. We started our march from Krakowska Gate, through Krakowskie Przedmiescie to the Litewski Square. People on the street were very curious about what we are fighting for etc. If it comes to our feeling, they

were very different: firstly we felt strange and stupid but then we brought down our prejudices and had a lot of fun. Then free time - a great majority of us went to make some shopping (especially girls) whereas the others go for a walk etc. After arrival to Nasutów we had Ukrainian evening... Film, games, dancing - Ukrainian soul! We won't forget this evening!!

April, 3rd

Friday was, probably, one of the most lazy days of our project. Everybody wanted to do nothing. There were many delays for our sessions. I think it's because of the weather which was so beautiful.

During the morning session we were preparing

our permanent exhibition. We were divided into two groups. Especially girls were so involved: they were making flowers from paper, decorating photos and trying to decorate the best.

Then we had some break so we used it for playing some football and volley-

ball which is our most favourite free time activity. In the afternoon session we had some workshop about HIV/AIDS problem in Africa. To be honest, it was maybe not too difficult but rather tough for us to discuss. So not everybody was keen on this but it doesn't matter.

April, 4th

What can I say... This is the last day of our project so everybody feel maybe not sad, but we all agree that we wanna stay a bit longer...

Through the morning session we had some pro-contra debate. The subject wasn't prepared so everybody could make a suggestion and write down own idea. Finally we decided to debate about if European Union should still enlarge? Proponents and opponents were fighting very strong, there were a lot of arguments but the final result

was that opponents of enlarging won. To be honest this debate gave us a lot of fun, especially for those interested in world politics. It was very unique chance to know the perspective of citizens of non EU member state.

In the afternoon free time, volleyball, evaluation and preparations for the campfire and bad taste party...

In the end, in the name of our Polish group, I want to thank for this fantastic time for everybody. We really appreciated to be here with you, to chill

out and to meet so many interesting and open minded people. I hope we will keep in touch and meet in the nearest future !!



Ukrainian point of view



Hi, guys! As you have already seen from the heading- Ukrainians are writing to you and we are expressing our impressions about our staying in Poland.

First of all we'd like to mention that we are having a great time.

We've got acquainted with many new interesting people. Guys, we are so different! Sometimes we even play jokes on that item! We live on one

planet, even one continent and we have so many differences!

Portugal Ricardo likes green wine and cherry cigarettes. Hungarians from the other programme adore parties.

Germans are trying to understand Ukrainian humour. Will they do it? We are not sure! But we'll try to do everything possible :-)) And at last Poles! We like you!

We like listening to "Pshe-pshe-pshe" and sometimes we try to do the same ;)

Except having fun together we have some serious issues to be discussed- stereotypes, our history and interrelation between countries.

We are sure we can combine these two sides of action-packed adventure and its gonna be a great success.



Day in Lublin



At last the sunny day has come! We, Ukrainian group, expected it so much! And when we got up in the morning and saw the glorious sunrises, we exclaimed "Hurray!". Poland has proved to be a hospitable country!

This day, Tuesday, wasn't an ordinary one. Yeah, we hadn't indoor workshops but had fun and enjoyed our international company and cultural diversity in the open air. The comfortable



bus took us to Lublin, where adventures began. We liked city game so much because it needed creativity and new ideas. When we were divided into international groups to fulfill the tasks of the game the feelings and memories of childhood captured us. It was so interesting to find spots in a new place and create tasks in order for other group to find them.



When every participant had already felt the spirit of the city the time for lunch had come. Eating pizza in Polish pub was really cool. At last our stomachs were satisfied and we were ready for a new challenge. We had one more task-to find the traces of the German culture in Lublin and commit this evidence to our cameras. The first idea that flashed in our minds:



"German beer!", and really, we found the Bavarian pub. "Trendy sportswear- Adidas"-NOTHING IMPOSSIBLE'-we do like it. "ROSSMANN cosmetics"-BEAUTY WILL SAVE THE WORLD. Mercedes-Benz, BMW, Volkswagen. Just look around.

To cut the story short we can say that it was really an impressive day full of positive emotions, challenges, smiles and sun.



International Dinner

Yummy-yummy for my tummy. This phrase was in the air during the whole evening on Wednesday. As you know, it was International Dinner. Every group had to prepare the national dishes and treat all the guests.

We started our preparation even in Ukraine.



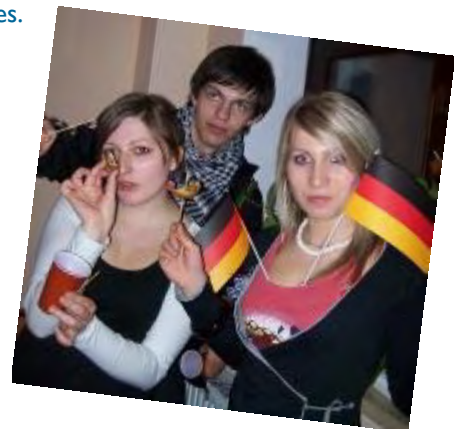
It was not difficult for us to do it, because we knew for sure what we had to take with- of course Ukrainian "salo". So, Ukrainians started cooking process. Malte gave us all the needed stuff and we began creating our masterpieces.



Oh, we forgot, DESSERT! Delicious Ukrainian candies! As real Ukrainians we brought world known "Horilka" too.

When we entered the dining room, singing a song, the German and the Polish tables were already ready. At this moment the real fun started. Singing international songs, dancing, drinking, eating! Multi-kulti in the air!

And what about stereotypes? Hey, man, they were completely broken :-)



Ukrainians rock!

The light is over. The incredible silence... At last "Shche ne vmerla Ukrayiny" and we are at stage, proud of being Ukrainians. National costumes add the atmosphere of Ukrainian spirit.

Our task was to reflect the Ukrainian life in many

aspects. First, gorgeous video presentation of our motherland. Second, quiz "Things you wanted to know about Ukraine but were afraid to ask", energizing, funny games and at last cartoon.

Hope you enjoyed it as we did. Ukrainians rock!



German impressions



Nasutow... We usually call this place „The Middle Of Nowhere“. Surrounded by the forest and fields, it makes an impression of the place, which is separated from the rest of the world. But it was only in the beginning and now we really love the place, because so many unforgettable histories are connected with it.

Every day here was a real adventure, filled with impressions and emotions. The time spent here gave us a possibility to find something new for us and share our thoughts, to find new friends and to familiarize with other cultures. It gave us indispensable experience how to deal with other people.

We are all different, but we always tried to be tolerant and really enjoyed the week spent together. We will never forget these cozy houses, beautiful nature and people met here and always think about it with particular warmth.

Derdian game



This is an article about a game, called “Derdian game”, that we did on the second day of our project. The sense of this game was to create a situation, when two groups of people, who didn’t know the culture and language of each other must meet them. I was a member of the group of people, who represented engineer, that means the group of peo-

ple, who had a project to construct a bridge for the inhabitants of a non-existing country called Derdia. So we did meet them twice: first time for discuss about the project and then to build it. The other group of the people was the Derdians, that means the inhabitants of this non-existing country. This group had a task to do so, that they had abso-

lutely other customs and culture like our culture: for example the greeting was the kissing on the shoulder of other person and to shake a hand was an insult. Our task was to construct a bridge with the simplest means like scissors, glue and paper. This bridge had to be so stable, that it can carry these means without being broken. We had to teach them to build it themselves and this without using of language.



The sense was to create a situation, that two cultures or nationalities meet them and must to integrate them like in this game. The representatives of our group were very surprised about a reactions (for example the kind of greeting or a kind to show the outrage), because they didn’t know the habits of the

others and they didn’t know, what they have to do like reaction of this change in the behavior of the member of other group, so they had to learn that during the situation and to communicate without words. But we have managed that very successful, so we learn that it’s possible, if a one want

(meeting of new people and their cultures) really.



Majdanek

During our project we went to Majdanek, which was a quite impressive experience. We had a chance to see a place we knew from our history books. After a Humanity in Action Workshop we went for a guided tour through the camp, which was organized by two

friendly women. As for me, I took part in the English tour, so I can just tell my feelings about that. Our guide showed us the most significant parts of the former concentration camp, which is nowadays a museum, surrounded by skyscrapers and streets, which made the visit even

more surreal. During our walk through the camp we saw a lot of Israeli people, which also influenced our mood. Some of us started thinking about how it would be, if our relatives were killed in the camp...



However, we followed our guide and she informed us not only about the daily life routine in the camp, but also about the historical background and the cruel things the Nazis did with the people which were arrested there. It was quite shocking to hear about those things, especially while staying in

one of those small barracks, where around 800 were pent up, a experience which was even more strengthened through this very special smell we smelled. At the end of our tour we visited the memorial statue, which consists of two parts. Right next to one part there was an event

organized by the Israeli people, saying a special prayer for those people who died after suffering in the camp, which made us also reflect about our experience during the tour through the camp and even caused some pain in our stomach.

The creation of a photo-exhibition



The development of an exhibition showing multicultural aspects and traces of German and Ukrainian culture in Lublin was one of our main aims during the project. Working in groups we did new steps for this every day, starting with a theoretical introduction to the main rules of creative photography up to the final preparations of a permanent exhibition with our own pictures! On Monday evening we had a very nice presentation introducing us to the main things you should consider when taking an interesting and creative picture.



The presentation was done with clear examples and in a motivating way ("you can always break the rules"), so that everybody could learn something new and try it out on the next day. On Tuesday we had time for walking around in the Center of Lublin to search for things one could see as traces of non-polish elements in the cities past and present. We worked in small groups. My group wanted to focus on German traces in the city. From the project-coordinators we got a map of Lublin in 1942 and were very irritated about the "German traces" it showed. From the project-coordinators we got a map of

Lublin in 1942 and were very irritated about the "German traces" it showed. The Nazi-occupation of that time had given the city the face of a town dominated by the Nazi-system and institutions. Although we think that a critical confrontation with this time is needed, we decided that we don't want to give this part of Lublin's history a lot of space in our exhibition because it stands hardly against the multiculturalism and equality of different groups of people we want to live and promote.



We were happy to find an old evangelical church on our route, there we had a special guided tour with a woman from the community which told us a lot about the history of the evangelic community in and around which is connected with German settlements but also with the Nazis who occupied the town. Besides this church we could take pictures of German names and trade-

marks we found in the city. Pictures of the so-called "Hotel Europa" and a international language school we took as a symbol for Lublin's connection with other European countries. On Wednesday we selected our best pictures and presented them and their context to the other groups. It was very interesting to see how the different groups worked on the task in different

ways, and that broad verity of things we all consider as aspects of Ukrainian or German culture. In two steps the very best and most interesting pictures were selected. On Tuesday we got the developed pictures and in very short time we managed to put them all on coloured paper and give titles to them. The exhibition was very colourful and divers.



about diversity using our diversity

In the afternoon we went all together with the whole group to the city center. Spontaneously we decided to walk in a long line, everybody with a picture in front. We went along the main boulevard, were a lot of people could see us. At some points we stopped

and froze, which supported the flash-mob effect of the action. Although it was a funny experience to be part of such a unusual event, it was also a little bit uncomfortable to be watched by the passengers. Unfortunately nobody came closer to

look or speak with us and we had now big signs explaining our aim, so the message of the action could have been unclear to the people around. But it was a good experience to see what you are able to do just with a group of creative and open-minded people ;)



On Friday we changed our "moving exhibition" into a permanent one. Again we were asked to work in groups and using colourful materials and our imagination very creative picture-collages were the outcome. From single pictures with small articles explaining the topic up to a huge "network" of different Ukrainian traces con-

nected with each other through cord. It was important and interesting to have a process there we as a multicultural project created our own exhibition, all together with one aim but using a diversity of methods in the groups and the individual and special interests and skills everybody of us has.



**MOVING
EXHIBITION
ON
GERMAN
AND
UKRAINIAN
TRACES
IN
LUBLIN**

Torture, kissing and national pride

To give an impression of our national identity to the others, every group prepared a national film-evening.

First the Polish participants showed us a piece of their culture by presenting some important and typical things of Poland in a photo-show. Afterwards the audience had to answer several questions about Poland. The second part was the movie "Interrogation", an anti-communism-film from 1982

which narrates the tortures of a woman in a Polish prison under communist control. The movie created a creepy and sad atmosphere, but nevertheless we were glad to watch it because we got a deep impression of communist roughness. In contrast to that the Ukrainian film-evening was really funny and cheerful with lots of games, music and dances. The Ukrainian "welcome" for us

was really great because the Ukrainian participants were all wearing traditional clothes from their country and they were singing the national anthem, what was very impressive and emotional. After that we were watching a short presentation of their country and we learned that the Ukrainians are very proud of their young nation. The games they played with us in their evening, let us



recognize a difference between the German and the Ukrainian culture concerning personal space: while the Ukrainian participants played games with touching and kissing each other, the Germans felt a bit strange about this intimate gestures. It shows that we in Germany keep more distance from each other and do not want to touch people we do not know well. At the beginning of the film Andrii really shocked us by telling it would last about three hours, but in reality they showed us a very nice short

cartoon, whose setting was a Ukrainian village, which all of us liked very much. Last – but I hope not least – there was the German film-evening. For us it was really difficult to create a "German presentation" because in Germany it is taboo to say that we are "proud of our nation". As Silke said at our "German evening" the reason might be our countries national history. So we showed the spot "You are Germany" – an initiative of the German government to make the people a bit more patriotic

and active. First we thought the clip could be too patriotic, but after watching it several times we now like it better. After it we showed the movie "Good Bye, Lenin!" – a German movie about the end of the GDR which is quite interesting and humorous, too. All in all the film-evenings were an important part of this week because we could learn many new aspects of the other nationalities (also in the way people present their country) and even of ourselves – and we had a lot of fun with it!

Human rights role-playing game

In a role play of human rights we tried to discuss a problem that appeared some years ago in Africa: While a pharmaceutical company had the concession for a drug against HIV/AIDS and they sold it for a high price, the government started a campaign against the disease by copying the medication and giving it to the people for free. The pharmaceutical company conducted a lawsuit because the governments procedure was illegal and compromised their business. Every participant of our

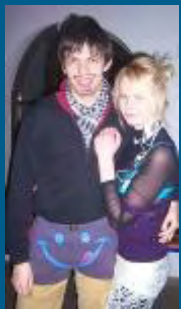
project was allocated to one of the groups: pharmaceutical company, government, NGO, judges. After discussion of the own position in the group we played the process; in several steps we tried to compromise between the different parts. Especially for those whose personal opinion was different from what they had to represent in that role in several steps we tried to compromise between the different parts. play, it was first really difficult to make a putting oneself in the ac-

ording position we could even find a lot of true arguments for the pharmaceutical company. So what we learned by this game is that human rights are the basic and most necessary fundament of the law, but you have always also to include the needs and rights of other people who are involved in an act like that. Of course, I did not change my personal mind in this theme, but I got to know that a pharmaceutical company is not only the evil-doer, but they are as well people with very human fears and needs.





*good
taste ?
-
bad
taste ?*



The farewell party

A big surprise in German eyes was the final evening in Nasutów, more accurately, the farewell party. It began already in the morning, as someone proposed to give the party the title "bad taste" and dress like that. While the Ukrainian participants, we already learned to know as very open and spontaneous people, expressed immediately their enthusiasm for this idea, we, the "boring, narrow-minded" Germans, tried it with an unsuccessful

"No, please, we don't want to do it!". But: It did not work against the "bad-taste-party"!

The first people in bad-taste-outfit were already seen in the early afternoon in the garden – two girls from the Polish group. The Germans still did not like the idea of joining the party in a bad-taste-style and they even considered not to go to the party at all. But it came closer and closer. At the common bonfire, which was the

first part of the evening, we thought all the time, that we sure would make fools of ourselves with our "far too artless" outfits and our friends from the East would probably wear "very fancy and inventive" clothes. So we would again encourage the stereotype of the boring Germans. However, we bravely searched out the most colourful and garish clothes we could find in our wardrobes and started a crazy make-up and



hairdressing, which was accompanied by loud laughter and screeches of some Ukrainian girls in the adjacent rooms. "They have a lot of fun because they are already dressed up so funny!" we all thought. And so we were very astonished when we met the Ukrainians in front of the building: They did not change their clothes at

all! They were looking like every day! No indication of bad taste!

And even more surprise was the beginning of the party. After a humorous photo-shooting we started to dance and had a lot of fun at the dance floor, only some Polish showed their solidarity and joined us. Not till the late night, when we were already

tired and went to bed, the Ukrainian group started with their party. Good dressed, what goes without saying.

We really tried to interpret what happened that strange day, but we did not make it. Maybe someone can give us a little advice?

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