

The word "orange" is written in a lowercase, sans-serif font. The letter 'o' is stylized with a blue comma-like shape inside it. The background of the entire page is a warm, orange-toned photograph of two hands of different skin tones clasped together. The top left corner features a decorative border of diagonal red and white stripes.

orange

REINFORCING TIES

AFRICA-EUROPE YOUTH SUMMIT



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EDITORIAL

The relationship between Africa and Europe hasn't always been easy or peaceful. If we think on a deeper level we realise that even in Europe the relationships between nations have always been complicated! Africa is not an exception. As Europeans we also have faced several wars. It is only in the last couple of years that we are working together for a peaceful and prosperous common life. Africa will not be an exception. For the first time ever, hundreds of young Europeans and Africans came together to have their say on a future that interests and matters to both. These two continents, united and represented by their youths, worked on what they believe to be the best. The best is cooperation. A youth event has never been so enthusiastic. The Africans took every chance they had to raise their hands to ask questions and clarify some doubts. And about the Europeans... well, we all could notice where the habit of participation has come from! If real time had not put its limits, we are sure the debate would have lasted many more days! In the end, the guarantee that this is just the beginning remains.

Rafaela Grácio

NOTED

A SERIOUS ISSUE:**EUROPEAN VISA RESTRICTIONS**

Maqueto Lopes, Secretary General of the Panafrican Youth Union, was obviously sad to not being able to welcoming all expected participants of the Africa-Europe Youth Summit. Due to visa restrictions of the European Union some participants in the end did not have the opportunity to attend. "We want all our governments to overcome these kind of regulations. We don't agree that youth organisations are penalised for something they are not responsible for."



EVERYTHING TO WIN, A LOT TO LOSE

THE OPENING CELEBRATION WAS NOT A TIME FOR CONCRETE WORDS. IT WAS ABOUT HIGHLIGHTING THE HISTORICAL IMPORTANCE OF A DIALOGUE BETWEEN EUROPE AND AFRICA'S FUTURE GENERATION ON AN EQUAL FOOTING. "I EXPECT YOUNG PEOPLE TO DEMAND RESULTS," PORTUGAL'S PRESIDENT ANÍBAL CAVACO SILVA CLAIMED.
BY MAXIMILIAN KALL

Nigerian beats, sounds and voices vibrated in our ears on entering the conference hall in the Centro Ismaili, the main venue for the Africa-Europe Youth Summit on Wednesday. It was a prestigious place for a prestigious opening event with high-rank speakers like the President of the Republic of Portugal, Aníbal Cavaco Silva, representatives of the organising institutions and international youth associations. The summit is about establishing and encouraging a dialogue between the African and European future leading generations – a dialogue on an equal footing, a dialogue of exchanging views, perspectives and backgrounds. One that reflects the whole diversity of both continents, one that has less to do with help and donations than about joint strategies, attempts and approaches to face the crucial chal-

lenges like hunger, poverty, conflicts and diseases.

Honouring the event with his opening speech the President of the Republic of Portugal, Aníbal Cavaco Silva, shared "the will and determination to promote and reinforce the relationship between Europe and Africa, particularly the meeting and exchange between the youth". "We are living in a moment of extraordinary importance for the future," President Silva stated. While Europe was celebrating the 50th anniversary of its political integration process, initiated by signing the Treaty of Rome in 1957, Africa this year celebrated 50 years of overcoming colonialism and fighting for independence. The President connected both historical achievements; to him they build a way "for the first time in history defining a true strategic partnership." Human rights, free-

VENUE

CENTRO ISMAILI IN LISBON, HEADQUARTER OF THE AGA KHAN DEVELOPMENT NETWORK

Welcoming the more than 200 participants from across Africa and all over Europe Nasim Ahmad from the Aga Khan Development Network that is based in the Centro Ismaili in Lisbon, presented the venue as a “space where knowledge can be shared and social initiatives can be started”. “The Aga Khan Development Network seeks to contribute for improving the life standards and the access to opportunities in more than 30 countries. Nine agencies work hard for on economic development in the Ivory Coast, food security in Madagascar, youth services in Kenia and Uganda, and various other projects,” Mr Ahmad presented the network.

dom, democracy, equality and justice must be the base for any development. Mentioning extreme poverty, hunger and the most serious effects of climate change in Africa, President Silva called for urgent actions that have an impact on people’s living conditions: “It is the young generation that has the most to lose and the most to win. I expect young people to demand results!” The civil society, the President said, must be enforced to play a strong role in any development process.

“We as young people want a birth of a new relationship that is sustainable and based on the interests of the future generations,” Maquento Lopes, Secretary General of the Panafrican Youth Union stressed in his opening speech. “Both continents do not want to sit back and look. We believe that the fame of our summit is not over at the end of the summit. We will keep this fame alive.” Carla Cruz Mouro, President of the Portuguese National Youth Council, reminded the audience that the gap between the poor and the rich is still increasing: “Even today we are living in a world of Apartheid. But the will for more solidarity is leading this summit.”

Bettina Schwarzmayer, President of the European Youth Forum, criticised the stereotypes that are spread every day – especially now, in Christmas

time, when aid and donations increase: “Drowning migrants, starving children, refugee camps – images about Africa in European media are not very diverse”. She called for respect and teamwork. “Things will not change because we are simply a little nicer to each other. Political structures need to be changed. Africa is on the move; we are the generation to shape it.” Assunção Afonso Sousa dos Anjos, ambassador of Angola and dean of the African ambassadors in Portugal, found even more prophetic words. “We have to be architects of our own destiny. This dialogue between civilisations will result in a cultural rainbow.”

The Council of Europe is one of the hosts of the event and a “forefront guardian for human rights in Europe,” as Bettina Schwarzmayer said. Its representative Mrs Maud de Boer Buquichio gave a small lesson in geography that can truly be highly symbolic. At the narrowest point of the street of Gibraltar, marking the border between Africa and Europe in the very south of Spain and the very north of Morocco, Europe and Africa are just 13 kilometres away. “I think of the bridges one could imagine to link these 13 kilometres. We are neighbours. And just like in every neighbourhood young people will break the ice and bring the neighbours together.”

The President of the Republic of Portugal, Aníbal Cavaco Silva, welcoming participants



STEPS ON A BRIDGE

THE FIRST EUROPE- AFRICA YOUTH SUMMIT HAS COME TO AN END. BUT WE ALL AGREE THAT THIS SHOULD NOT HAVE BEEN THE LAST STEP. THEREFORE WE ALSO WANT TO REMIND OURSELVES OF (THE FURTHER) STEPS THAT HAVE BEEN DONE SO FAR.

BY KATHARINA MOSER AND HELENA DE CARVALHO

Thinking back to being at school, “history” always sounded like a boring thing. Unless of course you were one of the really lucky ones to have had an enthusiastic teacher. But during the EU-Africa Youth Summit the phrase “making history” has been echoing through the halls. This is a concept that sounds much more exciting. Long before this summit began on December 5th, Europe and Africa have been making history. A common history. It has been a commercial one, largely focused on the trade of goods. But these days it is changing. This first Youth Summit between Africa and Europe has brought another chapter to this history: In 2007 it is not about exchanging resources. We want to exchange ideas and engender the hope of a common and better future. To get to this point, there have been a lot of steps to take. And this brings us back to history, because these steps started quite long ago. So what are the most important dates and facts? And what are the opinions of the people who made this process possible? Let’s find out!



Marcos Andrade - Coordinator of the Youth Programme at the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe

WHAT ARE THE FIRST THREE WORDS COMING TO YOUR MIND WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT AFRICA?

Inspiring, beautiful and shared.

WHAT ARE THE FIRST THREE WORDS COMING TO YOUR MIND WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT EUROPE?

Inspiring, beautiful and shared.

WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE CONSULTATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN GOING ON SO FAR?

I visited three out of the four African consultations and I think

they were very meaningful. This summit might not have the same people as during those consultations, but diversifying this process a bit more encourages it further.

It was very inspirational and I think it is a fundamental basis of this process, being very different to each other but at the same way very similar to each other.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE FINAL DECLARATION AND THE OUTCOME OF THIS PROCESS?

The results of the process are very valuable, but it must be improved by the participants. I think it can make a big impact.

„Inspiring, beautiful and shared.“

CHRONOLOGY

1957: The Treaty of Rome grants associated status to 31 overseas collectivities and territories and provides for the creation of a European Development Fund to the countries which were still under European rule at the time.

1963: Cameroon: First Yaoundé Convention by the Representatives of the European Economic Community Member States, 17 African countries and Madagascar.

1969: The agreements made in the first Yaoundé Convention are renewed by the second Yaoundé Convention which lasts until 1975.

1975: The first Lomé Convention is signed, designed to provide a new framework of cooperation between the then European Community (EC) and developing ACP countries („Africa, Caribbean, and Pacific“)



„ We could not really imagine, at that time, that this would be possible!“

Diogo Pinto – secretary general of European Youth Forum

WHAT ARE THE FIRST THREE WORDS COMING TO YOUR MIND WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT AFRICA?

Mozambique because it is the city where I was born. Joy and future

WHAT ARE THE FIRST THREE WORDS COMING TO YOUR MIND WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT EUROPE?

Diversity, freedom and future
WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE CONSULTATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN GOING ON SO FAR?

The Africa EU Summit was quite a long and challenging process that started one and a half years ago. We could not really imagine, at that time, that this would be possible! We were making history! But there were lots of things that were problematic. The biggest difficulty is that no one has done this before. As the secretary general I know

how to organize a European meeting but not a meeting with African youth. We didn't know who and how are the participants, we are not familiarized with their problems and what they want to discuss. It must be built from the beginning, it is a revolutionary step! Next time it won't be the same, there will be references, guidelines, evaluations, recommendations, a whole work already done.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE FINAL DECLARATION AND THE OUTCOME OF THIS PROCESS?

The declaration that is being presented now doesn't have to reflect exactly our opinion and recommendations, which means that the final results go beyond the content. But we are very happy with the fact that there is a result. There are very good ideas. We were afraid people would not feel comfortable to express their ideas freely but, on the contrary, this has been a space of freedom.

3.-4. April 2000: 1st EU- Africa Summit, Cairo: The Cairo Plan of Action by the Heads of State and Government of African States and of the European Union is signed.

10. July 2001: Establishment of the African Union in South Africa

December 2005: The Heads of State and Government of the EU adopt a new strategy for Africa: “The EU and Africa: Towards a strategic partnership”

July 2006: “Africa- Europa Training Course for Youth Organisations”, Almada Portugal

November 2006: European Development Days, Brussels, Belgium

22.-25. July 2007: European and African Youth Diaspora Living in Europa Consultation Meeting

1.-3. October 2007: West Africa Regional Consultation Meeting

10.-12. October 2007: Central Africa Regional Consultation Meeting

15.-17. October 2007: East Africa Regional Consultation Meeting

29.-31. October 2007: North Africa Regional Consultation Meeting

4.-7. December 2007: Africa- Europe Youth Summit

8.-9. December 2007: 2nd EU-AU Summit



Manqueto Lopes – Secretary General of the Pan African Youth Union

„I hope that each of the representatives that are here will be able to pass the message of this summit to at least another person of their homeland.“

WHAT ARE THE FIRST THREE WORDS COMING TO YOUR MIND WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT AFRICA?

Lack of efficiency in projects,

more personal interests and perspectives, difficult daily life

WHAT ARE THE FIRST THREE WORDS COMING TO YOUR MIND WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT EUROPE?

Europe reminds us of history: history reflected in 3 moments or words a PAST, a PRESENT and it can have a BETTER FUTURE

WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE CONSULTATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN GOING ON SO FAR?

This summit might not solve all the problems that these people expect but the important is that is has been done

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE FINAL DECLARATION AND THE OUTCOME OF THIS PROCESS?

I hope that each of the representatives that are here will be able to pass the message of this summit to at least another person of their homeland. The summit has developed a greater partnership between these two continents.

////// A SUMMIT TO ALL GENERATIONS?



This event did not only host over two hundred participants aged between 16 and 30 - we had also a family with 3 generations represented!

Alice Tulelo from South Africa came to the EU-Africa Summit with her granddaughter on her back to make it possible for her daughter, Vuyiswa, to participate in the meetings. This is because having a voice in politics and in the public sphere is a fundamental right that African people don't want to loose anymore. Alice herself represents the African Women's League.

Her wishes for the cooperation

between Africa and Europe concern the immigration question, which she would like to see solved. All nations have the right to be free, she believes. Europe can give a hand to Africa until the continent is able to support everything on its own back!

Carla Mouro – President of the Portuguese National Youth Council:

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE FINAL DECLARATION AND THE OUTCOME OF THIS PROCESS?

Potential, development, leadership

WHAT ARE THE FIRST THREE WORDS COMING TO YOUR MIND WHEN YOU THINK ABOUT EUROPE?

Leadership, cooperation and understanding

WHAT CAN YOU TELL US ABOUT THE CONSULTATIONS THAT HAVE BEEN GOING ON SO FAR?

The summit resulted, at first, from a debate that the NYC (National Youth Council) had with the North South Centre in 1996, where European young people showed an intense will of participating in an event together with African youth. The objective was to hold a summit and not merely a meeting. The process had to be developed in a democratic way. A national meeting took place in every country, and six regional meetings took place, one in Europe and five across Africa. The subjects debated there are the same as those being debated in this summit and will form the final declaration of the youth summit. We believe that this is not the end but the beginning of a big

future – because people that are here today will be our future politicians.

WHAT IS YOUR OPINION ABOUT THE FINAL DECLARATION AND THE OUTCOME OF THIS PROCESS?

It was a long process that arrives here with a strong base. African Union and European organisations and platforms will be able to build something together. We don't have anymore expectations for the moment that we truly hope that will come true in the future.



„We believe that this is not the end but the beginning of a big future – because people that are here today will be our future politicians.“





IT'S NOT ALWAYS BLACK OR WHITE

Stereotypes. Let's face the truth, we all have them. "Stereotypes are a part of life." (Tom, UK)

People always tend to divide others into groupings, to pigeonhole them, to accredit stereotypes to them. It is a way of dealing with life, a way of arranging the world in order to not get too confused by all the people we meet and the information we have to deal with.

Europeans. Africans. These two groups by themselves seem to be so unmanageably big and diverse that it might be impossible to even have stereotypes about them. But even if people don't consider them as their own opinion, everyone knows that we have them.

AFRICANS WEAR SUITS THAT ARE TOO BIG...

When you ask people about stereotypes the truth is the answers aren't very surprising. One of the characteristics of stereotypes is that they are pretty well known anyway. But sometimes there still are some "smaller" ones, that can even be funny. Like the ones about Africans saying "they wear suits that are too big" or "they are always late". (Rogier, Netherlands)

But who would tell the welcome choir at the Summit that sang such powerful songs to the audience that "strange, funny, colourful clothes and people that like to dance traditional dances and to sing" is actually a stereotype Europeans have about Africa? (As Marc from Spain tells me). But why not talk about it?

Happy people are a nice image, why not say that it's good to see that this stereotype about Africa is grounded in some form of truth?

Maybe because that's not the whole truth. Stereotypes are never the whole truth. They are just short images. On the one hand there are these positive images, like Africans as happy people, that like to smile. "They are cheerful and have amazing body language" (Nils, Denmark). Or even the running athlete who always beats the others at the Olympics, because he is still "more bound to nature". But on the other hand Europeans face the images of Africans as big desperate eyes looking out of a half famished black girls face, ten year old children soldiers or other war pictures.

////// vox pops When you think about Europe ...

„Happiness“



... I think about development and cooperation, happiness and human rights.
Washington Katema,
Zimbabwe

„Fairness“



... I think about the cold weather, but that's good. The dynamic youth that lives in a fair and equal environment.
Marie Tamaifo,
Cameroon

„Diversity“



... I think about a place where you can pursue the desire at any cost. And a place where people respect diversity.
Eyob Balcha, Ethiopia



WHEN AFRICANS AND EUROPEANS MEET THERE IS ONE ISSUE INEVITABLY PRESENT EVEN IF IT'S NOT ON THE OFFICIAL AGENDA: STEREOTYPES. BY KATHARINA MOSER

... AND EUROPEANS LIKE GIRLS WITH LONG HAIR

The other way round the first words sound very much nicer than these last images. "Peace, democracy and human rights" says Narcisse from the Congo, when asked about European stereotypes. But just next to that we start with the biggest stereotype. Europeans just think they are better. Or another one: "One big stereotype about Europeans is that they are very individualistic in their whole way of living." (Ngwoko, Cameroon - UK) Narcisse from Congo outlines this individual behaviour of Europeans. After a meeting like this he would count about hundred people to be his new friends whereas Europeans would probably go back home just remembering 3 or 4. And when it comes to looks it is almost obvious that in comparison to the tight

braids of the African girls the image of the Europeans female is of long, loose, blonde hair.

OPEN THE BOXES

Here we reach the root of stereotypes. Stereotypes about others are always created by comparing them to what we know and what we are used to. They are tiny bits of information but at the same time they are a big lack of information.

A stereotype is a generalisation. It's not true for everybody. "For instance I come from Spain and not all Spanish people are unpunctual, but it is true that there are a lot cases in which it is true." (Marc, Spain)

And that's exactly why stereotypes have such a bad connotation. That is why they are such a delicate subject that no one really wants to bring up directly.

They can be offensive as no one likes to be put into a group of generalized associations especially without even been known by the one announcing them. As Ngwoko from Cameroon complains "When people in Europe go to a certain country in Africa, they just say "I go to Africa". That is humiliating." He just wants to state that there are different countries that are very diverse and you can't just put them all together in a box.

But if you really think of it as a box, that might be a way of learning how to deal with stereotypes. Because it is important not only to trust and believe in the big and colourful or even the nasty and dirty wrapping of this box called stereotype, but to rather take this as an encouragement to everyone's curiosity. Open the box and have the heart to ask - what's behind this stereotype?

voX pops When you think about Africa ...

„Colourful“



... I think about a strong and determined power. Colourful from the dry Sahara to the tropical parts of Kenia. Bettina Schwarzmayr, Austria

„Warm“



...I think about something vibrant and at the same time chaotic... but warm in both physical and methaphorical ways. Bart Woord, Netherlands

„Roots“



...Africa makes me think about human roots, the sense of community and horizon. Ana Janine, Portugal

PORTRAITS



PHILIPPE KADIMA , 27
SOUTH AFRICA

‘We had a generation in the past who fought for the decolonization in Africa. Similarly in Europe we had a generation who fought for democracy. This means that the new generation is going to make a new history. We talk about sustainable development, human development, achievement of MDGs, the fight against HIV. When did the past generations start to fight for a better world? When they were young, not when they were 60 years old. Now it is up to us make history and fight the problems that affect the young

people.’

‘I am impressed by the determination to work together, you can see it from both sides. But we are talking about a process and processes take time. We can’t expect an immediate result after this summit. If the Heads of State don’t care about the final declaration it would be wrong. I believe that they care about what we say. The only problem will be the implementation. We have to monitor the process of the implementation of the declaration.’



RICARDO LINO, 26
PORTUGAL

‘Currently I’m studying Archeology and History in Coimbra. I’m also a member of an association called Intercâmbio Europeu de Jovens (European Exchange for Youth), that is part of the Portuguese National Youth Council, where we value the exchange of people and cultures. In this summit I’m working as a volunteer. I decided to be a volunteer on such a big summit to be a part of the team and be involved somehow in the event. As volunteers we are here to help and facilitate all the work. It’s

not easy, but it is worth it when we see all these people together and contributing to a common goal. That’s the reason why I found this opportunity very interesting. I can give my personal contribution to all the work that is going to be done here. I hope the final declaration will be successful and well received on the Africa-Europe Summit of the Heads of State next weekend. It’s an important step for all of us - Europeans and Africans youth.



MARIA KALTSAKI, 26
CYPRUS

‘I studied Theology – Orthodox Religion and I also have my master on this subject. Here in the summit I’m representing the Cyprus Youth Council where I’m a volunteer on the board. In our Youth Council all the board members are volunteers. Now I’m waiting for the Cypriot government to call me to be a theology teacher. Meanwhile I am a policewoman because I needed to do something in between. So I work

in the airport security and, to be honest, it is not that hard. I hope this event gives good feedback for all the work that has been done to make it. From the conclusion that will result on the final declaration I hope it will have a good impact in Cyprus as well. It is also a good opportunity for me to get to know African people as I don’t have any kind of relationship with Africans.

////////////////////// PORTRAITS ////////////////////////

“As an Algerian woman I studied in Algeria and I’m living there. I studied Informatics, Secretariat Direction and I also studied something that is not related, but I love it, which is Style and Fashion design. And I’m here as the secretary and assistant of the regional office of the Pan-African Youth Union, so I’m part of the mission group for the steering group of the Summit. I really appreciated the opening speech. It is very important to have

“Diaby is one of several participants that dedicate their lives to an organisation and to a cause that they believe in. This organisation is called Alliance for peace in Africa and it endorses activities to promote peace between young people in a continent that still suffers a lot with war. Diaby believes that there is no use in changing politicians’ minds in the African countries because it would be too difficult and too complicated. “They already have their own system and their closed way of seeing life, they are already used to live in a world of conflict, only young people minds can be changed. Youth still have the spirit of fighting for a better and peaceful world, if they have someone who tell them that this is possible”. The international conferences that the organisation promotes, in different countries as Tchad and Senegal,

“This summit is about co-operation. Its about the possibilities that exist, and making a lasting connection between Africa and Europe. So far it’s been really interesting as the people here provide lots of differing viewpoints. I’ve come to realize that in Europe we have everything. We are used to

this transparency that we feel here. With all these working groups and debates it’s very clear what African and European young people want. They are here and together for some reason, and that is very clear for everyone. We are finally producing something that is really concrete and that is what I like the most. We are in Lisbon to find conclusions and to make them work now and in the future.

have the objective to show to youth that they can have a better future in their own country and that they have the possibility of being against all the violence that is spread in many regions of Africa. “But we need the help of the European Community to achieve this, they help us with funds and making awareness campaigns”. Meetings like this might not be a solution but a step forward: “I don’t know yet if this summit can solve African problems, but at least I can make my voice heard“, says Diaby Youssouf.

Even if the result is not in front of our eyes, Europe and Africa should walk together but without a peaceful ambience nothing is possible. As the president of Youth Alliance reaffirmed: “no peace, no development; no peace, no wishes, no peace, no future!”

being listened to, to things being done in a democratic way. I never thought how some people don’t have that. But the main question here today is, what happens next? We can make 10,000’s of declarations but what is the point unless we know where we are going next.



BOUREGAA NAWEL, 28
ALGERIA



DIABY YOUSOUF, 28
IVORY COAST



BARBARA MURK, 25
SLOVENIA

WORKING NINE TO FIVE

BY ANGELA STEEN

Flip charts, laptop screens and permanent markers. The second day of the summit was characterized by action. The young African and European participants spent the day working in groups to promote discussion and debate and towards working goals. How did they fare?

MILLENNIUM DEVELOPMENT GOALS

“It went very well,” smiles Elnara Mamadova from Azerbaijan. “We debated the subjects of the Declaration project to see if we as young people could improve on them, if there were things we could add or take out.” People have a major role to play in this process. We must assure that the partnerships are effective between the African countries and the EU. Elnara adds a final comment. “We must ensure that we work together to achieve these objectives.”

GOOD GOVERNANCE AND DEMOCRACY

Good governance and democracy are both a component and an aim of development. Antoine Dulin from France was

a member of the draft committee for this group. “It is important to satisfy everybody and to achieve a consensus”, he states. The Millennium Development Goals will not be able to be achieved without governance that condemns corruption and makes the human rights issue the priority. The youth of today that may be part of the government of tomorrow is asked to take action already, because, as the draft states “they are also agents of change”.

PEACE AND CONFLICT

Without peace there is no possibility for socioeconomic development. This was the conviction of all the stakeholders at the Peace and Conflict Workshop. Seka Arcadius Guiedi, from Youth Action for Peace, tells me how this is a delicate issue connected to all sectors (political, civic, economic). The debate focused on the importance of addressing the issue of children in conflict and the illegal weapons market. “It is very positive that these two continents make a joint declaration, with all the challenges that large scale cooperation means”, Doreen Vorndran from Youth Action in Peace states.

GLOBALIZATION, COMMERCE AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

“It was a very interesting morning”, says Vuyiswa Tulelo from South Africa. “It was very dialogue orientated as opposed to a polarized discussion and the participants were very open-minded.” This consensual approach has led to an enrichment of the text and Vuyiswa is confident it will strengthen the input of the globalization issue. “We especially focused on the issue of debt in Africa and the notion that Africa is always seen in terms of needing aid as oppose to the cancellation of debt.”

CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

This is the “hot topic” of the summit. Several recommendations were made to improve the current situation.. But as Marie Tamoifo, organizer of the regional consultation of Central Africa said “these concrete measures need to be developed on a national, but also on a regional level.” The campaigns and the recommendations should not be seen as “empty words”, says Marc Giménez, from the Federation of European Greens. “We must work together and transform this problem as a priority issue for next summit.”

MIGRATION, MOBILITY, INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE AND CO-DEVELOPMENT

“Since 1993 there have already been 9000 undocumented people who died trying to migrate” says Camelia Nistor from the Advisory Council on Youth issues of the council of Europe. “There has been little change with regard to migration policies and we must remember that migration in many cases is not a choice.” The fifty group members have added a whole list of important topics that they still wanted to discuss in order to improve the draft. Among these ideas were questions like “How can mobility lead to inequality in our society?”, “What risks does mobility have?” “What right and duties do migrants have?” “How are forms of racism linked with migration?” And of course the same





STRATEGY AND INSTRUMENTS FOR EURO-AFRICAN YOUTH PARTICIPATION AND COOPERATION

Group spokesperson Christoffer Grondstad of Norway, a member of the European Youth Forum said the workshop focused on the development of the concept of an African-European Youth Programme. “We also came up with new elements related to exchanges and student programmes”, he states, an issue which is central to understanding. “But this summit itself is the horrible and sad proof of the visa regime”, he continues. Many participants from Africa never made it to Lisbon despite the efforts of the organizers and the embassies.

By nightfall music once again filled the halls and the groups descended for a much deserved dinner, filled with new ideas and new hopes for a future of cooperation and understanding.



question as in all of the working groups – “how can we change all these existing problems?”

EMPLOYMENT AND DECENT AGENDA

Yvonne O’Callaghan of the International Union of Socialist Young (Austria) brings up the concept of formal economy. “More, Africans and Europeans don’t agree on the meaning of the concept formal economy and so we should discuss this”, she states. “But we also discussed new things such as fundamental working rights for young people, participation of the young people in the decision making process and the development of the social dialogue”, she explains. These issues represent a challenge both in Europe and in Africa, but the group are positive that they can get a consensus on these policies across all governments.



AFRICAN YOUTH DIASPORA LOOKING FOR BASIC RIGHTS

BY MARCO RICIPUTI



According to the United Nations there are an estimated 191 million international migrants in the world, the majority of whom live in developed countries. In the European Union, the largest numbers of African emigrants come from Nigeria, Senegal and Somalia. There is growing evidence that these communities contribute to the development process of home countries through remittances, investments, entrepreneurial activities and the transfer of knowledge.

EXPERIENCE THE DIASPORA

For this reason we should not be surprised with the inclusion of a diaspora group as a key consultation grouping. Together with the national consultations there were 5 different regional meetings – North, Central,

South, East and West Africa - plus the European and youth diaspora living in Europe.

Around 130 delegates met in Marly le Ro in France last July. 'Diaspora means different networks all around the world' say David Adeyeye. 'It is an umbrella of youth organizations and organizations and also the people working for it.' David is a perfect example. He is Nigerian, lives in Ireland and represents the National Youth Council of Ireland. He is also the unofficial spokesperson of the African diaspora at the EU/Africa Youth Summit in Lisbon.

African diaspora is more a cultural actor than a political one even if it wishes to become more influential in everyday political life. It was something that grew from the youth themselves. 'Africans in Europe

were affected by what happened in Europe and the Africans in Africa were affected by what happened in Europe', explains David.

This spontaneous transnational Africans mood remains today. There is no formal organization. No official spokesperson. It is a sort of solidarity network of people and organizations that share the experience of being immigrants. 'It might be harder depending on the policies of the different countries. Africans share the same experience so developing a common identity is inherent to be an immigrant', says David.

WORKING WITHOUT VOTING

There are some priorities in the diaspora within the European agenda. They need measures that facilitate the transfer of funds, knowledge, skills and the equal opportunity of employment. They feel that they lack civil rights even though they work and contribute to the wellness of the country.

The African diaspora is conscious of the role that it plays in the economy of the hosting countries as well for the development of the Africa. The Constitutive Act of the African Union encourages the African diaspora to participate in the construction of the organization.

They do this whilst reminding the EU that supporting non democratic African regimes is not the smart thing to do.



EUROPEAN YOUTH PRESS NETWORK OF YOUNG JOURNALISTS

The European Youth Press is an umbrella association of young journalists in Europe. It involves more than 48 000 young journalists less than 30 years of age. Up to now the young association consists of thirteen national youth media associations.

The objectives of the European Youth Press are the strong cooperation among national youth media structures in Europe and their support. The overall aim is to strengthen the role of youth media and the freedom of press in Europe. The association sees itself as a service for the national structures and will foster projects of the different partners and projects that are organised by young media makers in Europe. The association provides contact forums and educational seminars for multipliers of the member associations and forces internal and external communication among all partners.

With concrete projects, e.g. the international event magazine „Orange“ with print magazines or Blogs, PodCasts and V-Casts, the association wants to give young media makers from all over Europe the opportunity to cooperate directly

with each other. Above all, the aim of all member associations and the umbrella structure is to inspire young people to deal with media and take an active part in society by fostering objective and independent journalism.

ORANGE EVENT MAGAZINE

Orange is a Europe based event and theme magazine made by young journalists. This creates learning by doing experiences for the young journalists and also a magazine with a young and innovative view for the reader. The fact that the journalists come from different countries with different backgrounds of course makes this magazine very unique. Oranges have been created on a European basis since 2004 on several different topics and events such as political topics, religion and different festivals. The aim of the magazine is to let young journalists from all over Europe meet, work together and create multi-faced magazines with new and interesting contents. Creating it means having an exciting time in a quite unusual environment. Reading it means getting facts and opinions directly from young and innovative journalists. All in all, our Orange is always fresh and juicy.

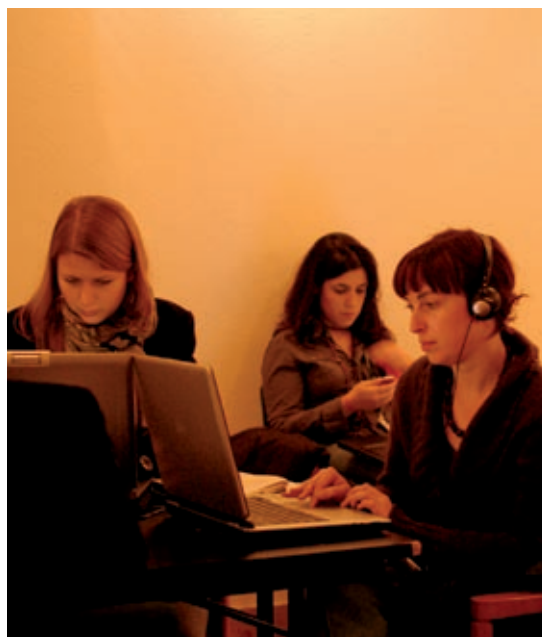
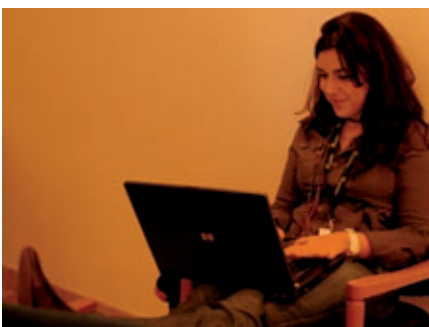
AFRICA-EUROPE YOUTH SUMMIT

The Africa-Europe Youth Summit takes place in Lisbon 5-7 December. The aim of the summit is to increase young people's participation in the Euro-African Cooperation and to reinforce youth work in Africa and Europe influencing the youth policy in Euro-African Cooperation. An immediate expected result is the submission of a final declaration by a youth delegation to the EU-Africa Heads of State Summit. Over 250 youth representatives from Europe and Africa are present at the summit.

The Youth Summit takes as a starting point thematic areas of concern that have earlier been identified by young people from Europe and Africa, namely: Poverty eradication; Gender equality; Millenium Development Goals; Good governance and democracy; Peace and conflict; Climate change and sustainable development; Trade and socio-economic development; Migration, mobility and co-development; Inter-cultural dialogue; Employment ad social cohesion; Strategy and instruments for participation and cooperation. The summit is organised by a steering group facilitated by the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe.



ORANGE TEAM AT WORK



IMPRINT

This Orange was made by a team of international young journalists from Austria, Germany, Italy, Ireland, Lithuania and Portugal at the Africa-Europe Youth Summit 2007 in Lisbon. All articles do not necessarily represent the opinions of the magazine.

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Also have a look at: www.orangelog.eu

I TAKE HOME FROM THIS EVENT ...

Ana Priscila,
Mozambique

... a very rich experience

Philippe, Congo (!!)

... that we can carry on working,
in order to achieve what we would
like to achieve.

Rogier, The Netherlands

... a heart attack..

Magnus, Sweden (!!)

... a realistic declaration

Likeleli, Lesotho

... clear
cooperation
between Europe
and Africa - and
the final adopted
declaration.

Luca, Italy

... a commitment to create a better
cooperation between the two
continents.

Shaban, Uganda

... very good
practices that I
have learned from
other young people
here and that I can
take home to my
organization.

Marc, Spain (!!)

... I hope that at
least everyone
here will adopt
the document
as a guideline.

Eyob, Ethiopia

... various experiences, various
concerns, various aspirations
for young people of the two
continents.

Valdrie, Burkina Faso

... hope for change.

Bertin, Rwanda

... I will go back home with
a profound experience from
the people here. .

Barbara, Slovenia

... something new. Something I didn't
know about Africa and the situation
there.

Camelia, Romania

... to put in practice on a
local level what we are
promising here in the
papers.

Basil, Estonia

... experience, new ideas,
a new vision of different
people.

David

... as an African philosopher said: You can't cut the hair of somebody who is
not there, therefore this meeting itself was symbolically very important.

