The Day of European Authors is an initiative of the European Commission, to connect younger generations with book reading and to help them discover the diversity of European literature. This yearly celebration aims to show how literature can be a tool for individual empowerment. Books and reading can enable people in secondary education to engage with ongoing social and personal challenges. The Day is also an opportunity to emphasise the importance of all the programmes and initiatives already running in individual EU countries to promote reading and allow for sharing experiences and inspire the others. The first edition of the Day of European Authors took place on 27 March 2023. Three parallel activities were organized during the Day.
Reading in School Sessions

Schools across the EU and beyond organised reading aloud sessions with European authors.

920 schools took part in this action in 34 participating countries.

See links below to access more images and videos capturing sessions from the Reading in Schools sessions:

IES Padre Feijoo, Gijón, Spain
Първо Средно Училище Св.Седмочисленици, Targovishte Bulgaria
Zespół Szkół im. Marii Konopnickiej, Pyskowice, Poland
Școala Gimnazială Nr. 3 Rovinari, Romania
Riga Trade Vocational Secondary School, Latvia
Tour of European Authors

The Commission organised a tour of European authors who visited schools, libraries and bookstores, who read a piece of their works and encouraged students to discover other European authors. The tour of European authors was organised in collaboration with its partners, the European Writers Council (EWC) and the European Union Prize for Literature (EUPL) Consortium including Fédération des Éditeurs Européens (FEP) and European and International Booksellers Federation (EIBIF). Many of the participating authors were winners of the EU Prize for Literature or members of the EWC.

See links below to access the images capturing sessions from the Tour of European Authors:
Igor Rajki at Škola za modu i dizajn, Zagreb, Croatia
Dulce Maria Cardoso at Escola Secundária Pedro Nunes, Lisbon, Portugal
Gaea Schoeters at Kunsthumaniora Forum Da Vinci school, Sint-Niklaas, Belgium
Gabriela Babnik Ouattara at European School Ljubljana, Slovenia
Peter Karoshi at Amerlinggymnasium, Vienna, Austria
Sara Mannheimer at Stockholms Estetiska Gymnasium, Stockholm, Sweden
Mudlum at Tallinna Humanitaargümnaasium, Tallinn, Estonia
Translator Anne Posten at the Canadian School of Florence, Italy
Magdalena Hai at Nousiaisten Lukio, Nousiainen, Finland
Jáchym Topol at Gymnárium Dr. Josefa Pekaře, Mladá Boleslav, Czechia

Day of European Authors Conference

The European Commission organised on 27 March 2023 a one-day conference in Sofia (Bulgaria) on reading promotion.

The event gathered Member States’ representatives of the ministries of Culture and/or Education, relevant public institutions and national non-governmental organisations active in this field, as well as organisations representing the book and cultural sectors at European level.

The conference was a great opportunity to share examples and best practices on how the education system and the book sector are collaborating to implement reading promotion actions in schools at local, national and European level.

In the second part, 4 working group sessions focused on “Reading promotion best practices”, “Digital technologies”, “Inclusiveness”, “Promotion of careers in the book sector”

Don’t miss the opportunity to participate in the second edition of the Day of European Authors which will take place on 25 March 2024!

For more information, please check the website Day of European Authors | Culture and Creativity (europa.eu)