**Project Title**

The European Dream - Visions and Realities

**Project Coordinator**

**Organisation**  STADT DETMOLD

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**Project Information**

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**Project Web Site**  http://Stadtdetmold.de

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**EC Contribution**  22,806.05 EUR

**Partners**  Ville de Saint-Omer (FR), Lutsk City Council (UA), Powiat Chodzieski (PL), Anaptyxiakos Syllologos Monolofou (EL), STAD HASSELT (BE), KAUNO MIESTO SAVIVALDYBES ADMINISTRACIJA (LT), Savonlinnan lyseon lukio (FI), CTG Centro Turistico Giovanile (IT)

**Topics**  EU Citizenship, EU awareness and Democracy; Home and justice affairs (human rights & rule of law); Labour market issues incl. career guidance / youth unemployment
Project Summary

European Youth sticks to the European Dream

The city of Detmold had invited 48 young people from their twin cities and districts to reflect on the visions and realities of the European dream. This project has been supported by the district of Lippe and was cofinanced by Erasmus+.

In Detmold’s youth hostel, young people from Savonlinna/ Finland, Saint- Omer/ France, Hasselt/ Belgium, and Oraiokastro/ Greece, Verona/ Italy, Kaunas/ Lithuania, Chodziez/ Poland, Lutsk/Ukraine - the “youngest” partner since September 2015- and Detmold have interacted during workshops, discussions, games and conversations. Thereby they got to know each other as well as their countries, cultures and lifestyles. The idea of unified Europe is taken for granted by many young people. Now they learnt what had moved the founding members and got information on the civil rights that have been achieved. The “Europa-Union” developed with them that the longing for peace had led the European countries after the Second World War to the foundation of the European community by treaties for commerce and mobility of people. The young participants informed themselves at the University of Bielefeld and at the job agency on the offers of education and jobs within the EU. Also the acquirement of the Europan Youthpass will raise their opportunities in the European working field. The local church organization “Lippische Landeskirche” reflected with them the international cooperation of Christians and the common values within the European community that also include religious freedom. They learnt in a mosque that the muslim citizens who primary had just come for a temporary job to Germany, finally became immigrants and now are longing for understanding and participation in the German culture and language so that the mosques have become Islam communication centres full of hospitality which the participants really experienced when they were unceremoniously invited to a delicious dinner. A common art project and theatre play with refugees under age created deep understanding for their reasons to escape and for the life conditions in their home countries Syria and Afghanistan. The district of Lippe discussed with them the meaning and influence of twinnings as well as youth work. With an EU assemblywoman, they planned their possible engagement and the configuration of the future EU. So the young participants who are just looking for job perspectives and orientation at the end of their schooltime learned many details on active EU citizenship, European values, human rights and job relevant items such as career guidance and youth unemployment.

The young people presented themselves their home countries, explained cultural differences and originalities and melted by support of the English language to a happy international group. Besides that games and sports filled in these eventful days. They discovered Detmold and surrounding, watched eagles in free flight and discussed the historical background of Herman “Cherusker”. “The European Community is a big family with plenty of interests and opinions, but finally it has to stick together like a big family”, resumed the delegation from Greece the future of the European community.

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* Results are available for this project. You can click on the link above, and go to "Results" section to view them