

# Documentation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Youth Conference 2018

WILLKOMMEN  
Ласкаво просимо  
VÍTEJTE BENVENUTO  
BIENVENUE ÜDVÖZLÉS  
WELCOME 欢迎

Let's shape

the world

of tomorrow



## IMPRINT

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# Documentation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Youth Conference 2018

29 July – 4 August 2018

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Dear reader,

I am pleased to present the official documentation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Youth Conference We R international. The conference took place in Regensburg from July 29<sup>th</sup> to August 4<sup>th</sup> 2018 and gathered 51 youngsters from seven different nations. The motto was “Let’s shape the world of tomorrow”. During this week the participants got to know each other and made friends while they worked on various subjects.

I was able to attend the conference three times: at the Welcome Evening, at the official opening as well as the Closing Event. This gave me some nice insights into the progress of the conference as well as the dynamics and atmosphere of the group. It was a pleasure to see how enriching these international days were for the participants.

I could tell how those teenagers gained self-confidence, reflected their points of view and started to become friends, regardless of their cultural backgrounds.

In times of increasing political instabilities, extremist trends and racial prejudices international exchange is more important than ever. Therefore I am really glad that the City of Regensburg organizes the International Youth Conference. It provides a possibility for young people to stand up for a tolerant and united world. The first important step for this is to get to know people from other countries and cultures, to exchange opinions, to spend time together. And this is exactly what the participants of We R International 2018 did.

Whether you are holding this documentation in your hands as participant, chaperon, member of the staff or just as interested reader without having been at the conference – this booklet will certainly be worth reading. For the participants it will surely bring back memories. To everyone else it will show what the conference was like.

Last but not least, I would like to take the opportunity to express my gratitude to the project management team as well as to each person who contributed to the success of We R International 2018.

I am already looking forward to the International Youth Conference 2020 and I wish you an enjoyable read.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "G. Maltz-Schwarzfischer".

**Gertrud Maltz-Schwarzfischer**  
Mayor



Dear reader,

You are holding the documentation of the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Youth Conference We R international 2018 in your hands. I had the great opportunity to be a member of the project management team of this extraordinary youth meeting in Regensburg. Having contributed to its success makes me feel grateful and – I have to admit – proud at the same time. However, I am aware that all efforts would have been fruitless without the support of many people. Writing these lines, I am thinking of my colleagues and the chaperons as well as the participants who committed themselves to the Youth Conference. 51 teenagers from seven different nations had decided to spend one week of their well-deserved summer vacation with other young people from our twin cities. And the meeting was not a typical vacation! The participants did not just get to relax together, but worked on challenging topics in English! A challenge which everyone mastered very well – participants, chaperons and staff. Even if there were some difficulties, for example due to language barriers, at the end, everybody could benefit from We R international. Our aim was to bring young people from different countries together in order to contribute a little to the reduction of prejudices and to a more tolerant and peaceful world. The idea behind this is and was that getting to know each other is the base of understanding and respect across borders and nations. By getting to know each other, people experience that every single person is unique, an individual who is characterized by various cultures, but should certainly not be defined by one country and/or reduced to his or her origin.

From the first day on, the participants – and also the chaperons – started to connect, to talk to each other about their daily lives and step by step also about more sensitive issues. They discovered similarities and differences, exchanged their points of view and eventually became friends. This is exactly what we wanted to achieve. So We are international 2018 was a real success.

Thanks again to everybody, to you dear colleagues, chaperons and participants! May the next youth conference be as successful as the last one!

**Barbara Stadler**  
Project management

P.S.: Don't miss the video documentation of We R international 2018 which you can find on [www.regensburg.de/youthconference!](http://www.regensburg.de/youthconference!)



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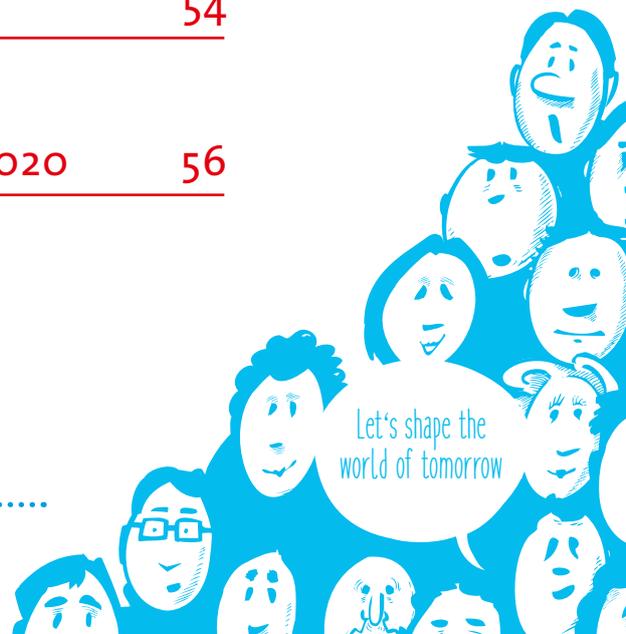
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## What is the International Youth Conference?

### The origin

The International Youth Conference 2018 was not the first youth conference taking place in Regensburg. Two years earlier, in summer 2016, the first youth conference was organized by the City of Regensburg. Back then, all eight of our twin cities accepted the invitation and participated. The conference was a great success. Hence the city decided to host an International Youth Conference regularly. As a consequence, the project management of 2018 could rely on experiences made in 2016 which facilitated the planning.

### Idea and aim

The idea of We R international is to bring together young people from all of our twin cities, regardless of the income of their families.

Why are we interested in doing this? Because young people are our future and this future cannot work without thinking outside the box! Global networks and cooperations are already part of our everyday life. The International Youth Conference wants to create a lasting effect on understanding, exchange and tolerance

across national borders. As we face increasing political instabilities and extremist trends, it is important to support the commitment and open-mindedness of young people all over the world.

Moreover, on an individual level, every young person should have the chance to make international experiences in order to gain insights in different cultures, practice foreign languages, reflect his or her points of view, get more self-confident, etc. This should not be the privilege of those growing up in well-off homes. That is why the City of Regensburg does not ask for any financial contribution from the participants and their families.

While the focus in 2016 lied on the participants' daily lives ("Let's talk about you and me"), this year's conference concentrated on political issues and commitment. The motto "Let's shape the world of tomorrow" invited the participants to treat challenging, current topics like "gender", "sustainable living" or "media and forming of opinion". It provided a framework for controversial discussions and encouraged young people's participation.

## We R international – Financing

The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Youth Conference cost about 43.000 €. The Forum Internationaler Jugendaustausch Regensburg (FIJR) supported the event financially with 25.000 €.



↓ Press conference July 24<sup>th</sup> 2018





## The participants

Each twin city of Regensburg was invited to send a delegation of a group of six young people aged 16 to 18 with a chaperon to the conference.

### Delegation from Regensburg (Germany)

Axthammer, Tabea

Dechand, Angelina

Faerber, Maria

Falk, Bernadette

Gall, Alexander

Ganchev, Rostislav

Grabietz, Philipp

Helmke, Lauren

Höhme, Philipp

Klemm, Ferdinand

Niedermeier, Bernadette

Ramezani, Matin

Samson, Salome

Schießl, Severin

Schweitzer, Nina

Seng, Luca

Stahl, Marlene

Stanojevic, Leyla

Wittmann, Pamina

Wolbergs, Anna

The twin cities which were able to accept the invitation and took part were Brixen (Italy), Clermont-Ferrand (France), Budavár (Hungary), Odessa (Ukraine), Pilsen (Czech Republic) and Qingdao (China). Unfortunately – Aberdeen (Scotland, GB) and Tempe (Arizona, USA) – were not able to attend this years' conference.

More information about the town twinnings is available on [www.regensburg.de/rathaus/partnerstaedte](http://www.regensburg.de/rathaus/partnerstaedte).

Each city delegation was supported by a volunteer of the Department for Municipal Youth Services, Regensburg. The delegation of Regensburg was a group of twenty teenagers between 15 and 17 years. Some of them were members of the Youth Parliament (Jugendbeirat) which was elected in February 2018 ([www.jugendbeirat-regensburg.de](http://www.jugendbeirat-regensburg.de)). Others had signed up on the basis of a recommendation of their schools or had gotten the information from employees of the municipal youth centers of Regensburg.

These are the seven delegations at a glance:





### Delegation from Brixen (Italy)

Faller, Patrick (Chaperon)

Ferdigg, Magdalena

Hinteregger, Benedikt

Rottonara, Kieran

Tamburini, Greta

Tamburini, Lorenzo



### Delegation from Odessa (Ukraine)

Hubanova, Natalia (Chaperon)

Klevets, Tetiana (Chaperon)

Derevianchenko, Tanya

Gerega, Vadym

Havrutenko, Vladyslav

Mykhailova, Oleksandra

Tsybulska, Kateryna

Ursu, Vladyslav



### Delegation from Clermont-Ferrand (France)

Dali, Khaled (Chaperon)

Moravcik, Lisa-Sophie (Chaperon)

Boudes, Mathylde

Boutiba, Kamel

Morera, Soleyne

Paulhac, Elise



**Delegation from Budavár (Hungary)**

Paálné Andics, Éva (Chaperon)

Dallos, Ádám

Gócza, Márton

Ökrös, Dorina

Wenczl, Gitta Zsuzsanna



**Delegation from Pilsen (Czech Republic)**

Sabelová, Kateřina (Chaperon)

Bednářová, Tereza

Datii, Olga

Jirmus, Jan

Otýs, Matěj

Štěpánek, Jakub

Žahour, David



**Delegation from Qingdao (China)**

Li, Ben (Chaperon)

Wang, Hao (Chaperon)

Bao, Han

Huang, Jixuan

Lan, Jiahui

Liu, Yuxuan

Xu, Yijia

Yang, He



“I registered for the International Youth Conference because...”

## Your statement about your participation in the youth conference in Regensburg



“I think it's a great opportunity to meet new people of my and different age and share our ideas and views of the world.”

**Otýs, Matěj**  
Pilsen

“Ever since I've come back from my year abroad, I've been thinking about another way to connect back with the concept of youth getting together, discussing important issues and just building something better and bigger together as a group. I find this conference to be just what I've been looking for.”

**Datii, Olga**  
Pilsen

“For me it's important to improve my linguistic abilities. I would like to maintain the international contact and because it's nice to meet new friends.”

**Hinteregger, Benedikt**  
Brixen

“I am eager to let the world hear my voice. I am eager to stand for my country and my city in an international conference. I want to meet other teenagers from all over the world and learn about different cultures and civilizations and work out problems with them. I want to practice my foreign languages, too.”

**Lan, Jiahui**  
Qingdao

“I'd like to do more for youth in my town and it will be nice to meet other people from different countries.”

**Samson, Salome**  
Regensburg

“This is a unique opportunity to develop many academic and social skills. Meeting new people and experiencing educational differences are also a big advantage of the International Youth Conference.”

**Ökrös, Dorina  
Budavár**

“I like to meet new people and because it's very important for me that young people have the chance to shape a part of our future. The possibility to discover a new city is also a reason for me to participate in the youth conference.”

**Ferdigg, Magdalena  
Brixen**

“To discover Germany, to meet and be able to exchange with persons from different countries.”

**Paulhac, Elise  
Clermont-Ferrand**

“I love getting to know new people.”

**Tamburini, Greta  
Brixen**

“I want to meet other students and get new experiences.”

**Žahour, David  
Pilsen**

“(…) I want to represent Regensburg and show the youngsters our beautiful city in detail.”

**Ramezani, Matin  
Regensburg**

“It is a good chance to improve my German language skills.”

**Tsybulska, Kateryna  
Odessa**

“(…) I am interested in foreign countries, their histories, their cultures. I like getting to know new people from different countries and make friends from there. I think it is a nice idea to bring young people together to discuss questions of the world.”

**Dallos, Ádám  
Budavár**

“I want to get in touch with as many people around the world as possible. I love learning new ways of how to see the world.”

**Stahl, Marlene  
Regensburg**

## The staff

The project We R international 2018 was a cooperation between the Department for Municipal Youth Services and the Main Department – International Relations and Representation. Five persons from these two departments formed the project management team.

### The project management team:



↑ From left to right:  
Sandra Schneider, Mélanie Hurteloup, Rosemarie Wöhrl, Barbara Stadler, Anja Spangel

### The team was supported by volunteers who accompanied the groups or helped as assistants. These are their names:

Volunteer	Task during the Youth Conference
Christof, Julia	co-moderation & workshop assistance
Gante, Veronika	chaperon for Odessa
Grüll, Manuel	workshop assistance
Kanli, Eleni	chaperon for Clermont-Ferrand
Nitsch, Sina-Naomi	chaperon for Clermont-Ferrand
Randall, Jenny	co-moderation
Rappl, Sophie	chaperon for Budavár
Röslmair, Maximilian	chaperon for Pilsen
Schneider, Lena	chaperon for Qingdao & workshop assistance
Stangl, Lea	chaperon for Brixen
Weigert, Leonie	chaperon for Regensburg



Each group was accompanied by one or two guest chaperons.

Guest chaperon	City
Faller, Patrick	Brixen
Paálné Andics, Éva	Budavár
Dali, Khaled Moravcik, Lisa-Sophie	Clermont-Ferrand
Klevets, Tetiana Hubanova, Natalia	Odessa
Sabelová, Kateřina	Pilsen
Wang, Hao Li, Ben	Qingdao

With joined efforts the following professionals of the Department for Municipal Youth Services made this conference possible.

Staff Department for Municipal Youth Services	Task during the Youth Conference
Raith, Annerose Head of Department for Municipal Youth Services	representation, support project management
Wöhrl, Rosemarie Department management	project management
Stadler, Barbara (former: Humbs, Barbara) International youth work	project management
Baumann, Stefanie Projects "Notinseln" and "Kinderberater"	workshop management: Human rights – today and tomorrow
Bögendörfer, Iris Youth center Fantasy	workshop management: Globalization and sustainable living – today and tomorrow
Gruber, Lucia Youth center Fantasy	workshop management: Remembering, translating



Staff Department for Municipal Youth Services	Task during the Youth Conference
Krummek, Lennart Youth center Königswiesen	workshop management: Media and forming of opinion – today and tomorrow, International Bowling
Lippert, Silke Mehrgenerationenhaus projects for children (Spielhaus)	workshop management: Future prospects – today and tomorrow
Pfreimer, Jakob Youth center Fantasy	workshop management: Globalization and sustainable living – today and tomorrow
Seeberger, Maximilian Youth center Königswiesen	workshop management: Media and forming of opinion – today and tomorrow, International Bowling
Seidl, Christoph Coordinator of the Youth Council of Regensburg	workshop management: Participation – today and tomorrow
Spörl, Martina Youth center Fantasy	workshop management: Remembering
Walden, Lisa Youth center Utopia	workshop management: Gender – today and tomorrow
Albrecht, Andreas Mehrgenerationenhaus intergenerational projects	catering, room management Mehrgenerationenhaus
Breu, Julia Youth center Utopia	support project management
Halm, Annette Youth center Königswiesen	contact person participants from Regensburg
Herden, Jamina Mehrgenerationenhaus student trainee	support Mehrgenerationenhaus
Holzhauser, Maria Youth center Königswiesen	support contact participants from Regensburg
Huber, Dominik W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur	technical support and organization for the rehearsal and the presentations, Closing Event
Huber, Tanja W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur, student trainee	support W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur



Staff Department for Municipal Youth Services	Task during the Youth Conference
Jansen, Nico Youth center Utopia	management barbecue evening
Kurz, Bianca W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur	catering, room management W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur
Lang, Elisabeth Youth center Arena	video documentation, cooperation with Filmlook Pictures
Männer, Martin Mehrgenerationenhaus, Janitor	support room & technique management Mehrgenerationenhaus
Obermaier, Simon Youth center Utopia, student trainee	support project management
Pfeiffer, Johannes (former: Schmitz, Johannes) Youth center Arena	technical support and organization for the rehearsal and the presentations, closing event
Plobner, Johannes Youth center Arena, student trainee	support video documentation
Pongratz, Katharina Youth center Königswiesen, student trainee	support project management
Schäffer, Melissa Mehrgenerationenhaus, volunteer (Bundesfreiwilligendienst)	support Mehrgenerationenhaus
Schledorn, Anna Youth welfare planning	classification of the workshops, translating
Segerer, Matthias W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur	concert W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur
Vas, Markus Youth center Arena	management closing party (DJ & rap group)
Wild, Reiner Head of Mehrgenerationenhaus	room & technique management Mehrgenerationenhaus
Graml, Marianne Financial planning	financial planning
Sipl, Barbara Administration	accounting
Stecher, Doris Administration	accounting



Staff Department for Municipal Youth Services	Task during the Youth Conference
Lungauer, Margit Administration	accounting
Simbeck, Susanne Administration trainee	accounting

### The team of the employees of the Main Department:

Staff Main Department – International Relations and Representation	Task during the Youth Conference
Kastenmeier, Bernadette Head of Main Department	representation, support project management
Schneider, Sandra Representation, twin city relations	project management
Hurteloup, Mélanie Representation, twin city relations	project management
Spangel, Anja Representation, twin city relations	project management
Sarrat, Juliette Franco-German voluntary service	support project management

### More people who contributed to the success of We R international:

Danner, Florian & Haseneder, Simon Filmlook Pictures	video documentation
Ferstl, Peter Press photographer, City of Regensburg	documentation, photos
Paukner, Katharina Drama Teacher	workshop management: Future prospects – today and tomorrow
Schneider, Elisabeth Prospective drama teacher	workshop management: Gender – today and tomorrow
Weber, Sara Prospective drama teacher	workshop management: Gender – today and tomorrow
Valentum Kommunikation Advertising agency	PR, conference material



Staff in action



## Overview program & venues

### You can look forward to this program

**SUNDAY, July 29<sup>th</sup> 2018** › 6 – 9 p.m., Kolpinghaus, lobby

#### **Welcome Evening**

With this first “get-together” you will start off your Youth Conference Adventure! While enjoying a tasty dinner you can get to know each other. Various info points will provide you with initial orientation, you will get your conference ID card, decide on a workshop and we will take photos of each group of the cities. Special Guest: Mayor Gertrud Maltz-Schwarzfischer

**MONDAY, July 30<sup>th</sup> 2018** › 9.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.,

Mehrgenerationenhaus,  
Clermont-Ferrand-Saal

#### **Let the conference begin!**

Mayor Gertrud Maltz-Schwarzfischer will welcome all participants and officially open the Youth Conference. You can get better acquainted and establish new contacts.

3 p.m. – 6 p.m., Mehrgenerationenhaus,  
Clermont-Ferrand-Saal

#### **“Where are you from?”**

Every group presents their hometown with the presentation they have prepared at home. There are no limits to your creativity!

**TUESDAY, July 31<sup>st</sup> 2018** › 9.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.,

Mehrgenerationenhaus, Clermont-Ferrand-Saal

#### **Participation – how does this work?**

Youngsters present examples of successful youth participation. We are expecting young people from Plant-for-the-Planet and the youth council of Regensburg.

3 p.m. – 4.30 p.m., Altes Rathaus (meeting point)

#### **Discover Regensburg!**

For the guests from the twin cities: You may look forward to a guided city tour in your native language! The youngsters of Regensburg will discover new sides of

their hometown on a guided tour at the construction site of the Museum of Bavarian history. Afterwards the participants from Regensburg will invite the guests for dinner at their house. Certainly a good experience for both sides!

**WEDNESDAY, August 1<sup>st</sup> 2018** &

**THURSDAY, August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018**

W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur, Mehrgenerationenhaus & Youth center Fantasy

9.30 a.m. – 1 p.m. and 3 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.

#### **Workshop-Time**

Various topics will be worked on in small multi-national groups of no more than eight persons. Every workshop-group will prepare with their workshop manager a brief, creative presentation for the Closing Event on Friday evening. By naming your three favorite workshop topics you can help choosing the right workshop for you.

**FRIDAY, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018** › until 1 p.m.

#### **Leisure time and optional program: Guided tour through the new Jewish Synagogue**

According to your own desires and expectations you can either explore Regensburg some more on your own, or sleep in a little longer to recharge your batteries for the evening. As a third option you are invited to a guided tour through the construction site of the new Jewish Synagogue. Please sign in the participation list for this tour at the Welcome-Evening.

2.30 p.m. – 6 p.m., Leerer Beutel

#### **Rehearsal for the evening program**

6.30 p.m., Leerer Beutel

#### **Closing Event**

A unique final evening is waiting for you. You will be standing on stage and present the results of your workshop group in front of an audience. Many prominent guests like Mayor Gertrud Maltz-Schwarzfischer and politicians from the twin cities are expected for this event. Parents of the participants from Regensburg and inhabitants from Regensburg are invited as well.



## Entertainment and chill out program

Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup> 2018, 7.30 p.m. – 11 p.m.,  
Youth center Utopia

**Barbecue:** grill' n' chill with music from DJ Sandro

Wednesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> 2018, 7.30 p.m. – 11 p.m.,  
Super Bowl Regensburg

**International Bowling Evening**

Thursday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018, 9 p.m. – 11 p.m.,  
W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur

**Concert**

You will get to enjoy the music of the German band  
**Redhead Gang**, [www.redheadgang.com](http://www.redheadgang.com)  
... and how about a little musical input from you?

Friday, August 3<sup>rd</sup> 2018, 9 p.m. – 1. a.m., Leerer Beutel

**Closing Party**

The week will be concluded by a large party in great atmosphere with DJ Fabs, live music performed by the Refugee Rap Squad and fine dinner. We'll be celebrating an unforgettable week and new friendships.

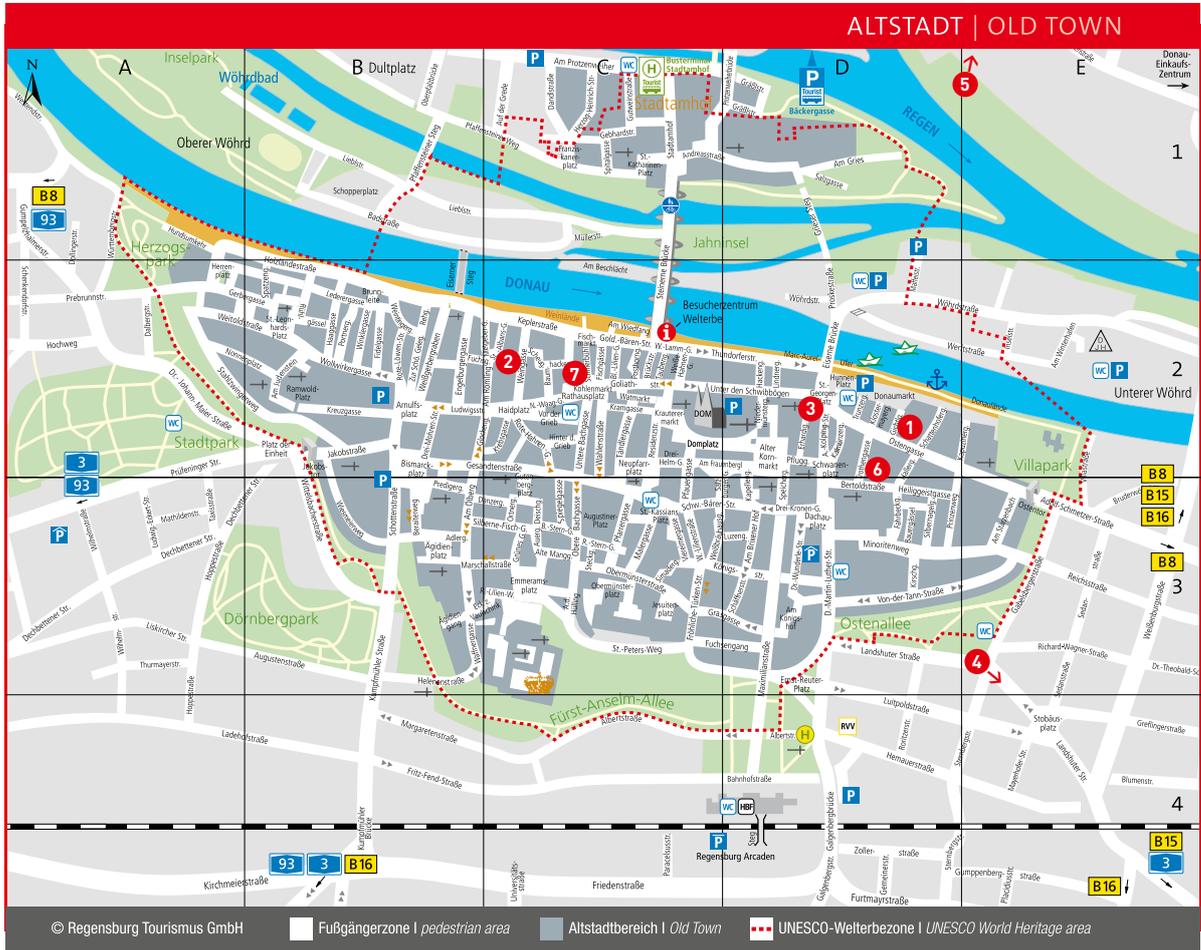
## The participants could choose between these workshop topics



## Let's talk, play, dance, sing ... about us and ...

- ... Gender – today and tomorrow
- ... Globalization and sustainable living – today and tomorrow
- ... Future prospects – today and tomorrow
- ... Participation – today and tomorrow
- ... Media and forming opinions – today and tomorrow
- ... Remembering – today and tomorrow
- ... Human rights – today and tomorrow





## ➤ Venues

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>1</b> <b>Mehrgenerationenhaus</b><br/>Ostengasse 29, 93047 Regensburg<br/><a href="http://www.regensburg.de/mgh">www.regensburg.de/mgh</a></p> <p><b>2</b> <b>W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur</b><br/>Weingasse 1, 93047 Regensburg<br/><a href="http://www.regensburg.de/w1">www.regensburg.de/w1</a></p> <p><b>3</b> <b>Kolpinghaus</b><br/>Adolph-Kolping-Straße 1, 93047 Regensburg<br/>(= accommodation for the foreign participants &amp; venue for the Welcome Evening)<br/><a href="http://www.kolpinghaus-regensburg.de">www.kolpinghaus-regensburg.de</a></p> <p><b>4</b> <b>Youth center Utopia</b><br/>Kirchfeldallee 2, 93055 Regensburg<br/><a href="http://www.regensburg.de/utopia">www.regensburg.de/utopia</a></p> | <p><b>5</b> <b>Youth center Fantasy</b><br/>Tanusstraße 5, 93057 Regensburg<br/><a href="http://www.regensburg.de/fantasy">www.regensburg.de/fantasy</a></p> <p><b>6</b> <b>Leerer Beutel</b><br/>Bertoldstraße 9, 93047 Regensburg<br/><a href="http://www.leerer-beutel.de">www.leerer-beutel.de</a></p> <p><b>7</b> <b>Altes Rathaus (Old town hall),<br/>Historischer Reichssaal</b><br/>Rathausplatz 1, 93047 Regensburg</p> |
|--|---|



## Program for the guest chaperons

In order to show the guest chaperons some interesting places in and around Regensburg while the participants were busy with their workshops, we organized three trips. The guest chaperons were free to join the trips or spend their free time at their own discretion.

The first excursion took place on Wednesday afternoon, after the youngsters' workshops had started. A group of interested chaperons visited a traditional Bavarian brewery. They were lucky and even received a liquid giveaway.

A trip to the outskirts of Regensburg was scheduled for Thursday morning. The chaperons visited the "Walhalla" as well as the museum inside this famous monument. The Walhalla was built between 1830 and 1842 on a hill at the riverside of the Danube. Standing in front of the monument, you have a great view over the river plain.



Last but not least, the chaperons could sign in to visit the factory site of the automobile company BMW on Thursday afternoon. The guided tour took two and a half hours and was very interesting.



## Welcome Evening

### Sunday, July 29<sup>th</sup> 2018, Kolpinghaus

WILLKOMMEN BIENVENUE  
 Ласкаво просимо VÍTEJTE ÜDVÖZLÉS 欢迎  
 BENVENUTO WELCOME

The 29<sup>th</sup> of July 2018 was a very special day – for the participants and chaperons as well as the staff. It was the beginning of an eventful week.

Groups of teenagers from seven different nations – Germany (Regensburg) included – arrived in the course of the day at the Kolpinghaus. The Kolpinghaus was the place where the groups from our twin cities were going to stay and also the venue for the first big get-together: the Welcome Evening. But before the evening started, everybody had to pass the three following counters:

- registration counter
- workshop counter
- photo counter

At the registration counter, organized by the Main Department, every participant and chaperon signed in and got his or her conference ID-card and an initial orientation. Moreover, everybody made a choice concerning his or her meal for the dinner in the bowling centre as well as an optional program on Friday morning. The guest chaperons were given the possibility to sign in for three optional excursions.

The workshop counter was organized by Anna Schledorn from the Department of Municipal Youth Services. Every participant named his or her three favorite workshops as 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice. In order to learn which workshop they had been admitted to, the participants had to wait till the next morning.

At the photo counter, organized by Andreas Albrecht from the Department of Municipal Youth Services, each delegation took two different group photos:



a serious one and – with the help of some fancy props – a funny one.

During this first afternoon, many participants started to get in contact with each other. First glances were exchanged, first impressions were made. Who is here? What language is that? What is going to happen, whom will I get in contact with? These were only some of the questions visible on some faces.



Full of new impressions, the afternoon went by quickly. At 6 p.m., the Mayor, Mrs. Gertrud Maltz-schwarzfischer, opened the Welcome Evening of the conference.



In her speech, she welcomed every delegation and highlighted the long journey the group from Qingdao, China, has had. Moreover, she mentioned similarities of the Youth Conference with major political summits, for example by pointing out the fact that the common conference language is English. She emphasized that seven local councils had cooperated to organize the conference and added:

**“The fact that seven cities have put so much work into this conference demonstrates how important it is to them to bring our young people together. The aim is to promote an understanding of other cultures, countries and languages and peaceful relations between our countries through personal experience. This is an aim which this youth conference can help to achieve.”**

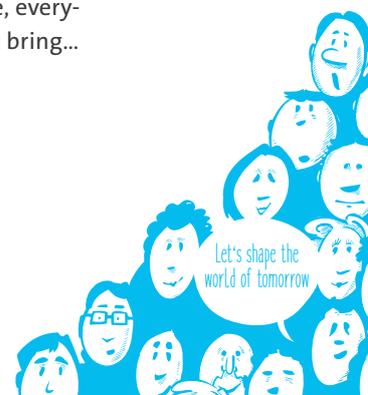
Later on, she gave a foretaste of the conference program:

**“There will be real hard work, but also time to relax together, with barbecue, bowling, a concert and of course the big party at the end. We want to give the visitors from our twinned cities a taste of what life is like in Regensburg families, so they are also invited to spend an evening with the family of one of our Regensburg delegates.”**

With this outlook, Mrs. Maltz-Schwarzfischer made everyone curious about the upcoming week and closed her speech. After a subsequent warm welcome from the project management team, the buffet was finally opened. Everybody, participants as well as chaperons and staff, enjoyed a variety of more or less typical Bavarian food, for example the so-called “Spätzle” (a sort of pasta) with mushroom sauce.



After dinner, some of the participants from Regensburg invited all teenagers from the other cities to go to “Grieser Spitz” together, a nice area on the bank of the Danube. Almost everybody came along in order to chat, to play games and get to know each other. While the evening went on in a relaxed atmosphere, everybody was curious about what the days might bring...



## Let the conference begin!

Monday, July 30<sup>th</sup> 2018, Mehrgenerationenhaus & Youth center Utopia

Monday morning, everybody met in the Mehrgenerationenhaus at 9.30 a.m. At the “check in counter”, participants and chaperons received a conference bag filled with materials like writing pads, pens and buttons. Afterwards, the first day of the youth conference started in the yard with games to get to know each other. First, the participants had to sort themselves by characteristics like their month of birth, the colour of their eyes and so on. For the second game called “Two trues and a lie”, creativity was needed. Everybody had to think of a lie and to tell it together with two true statements about herself or himself to another participant. The goal was to guess which statement was the lie. For the last game, the participants had to remember names, which was quite challenging with such a huge group of people. Everybody laughed a lot and got to know at least a few people.



The next item on the agenda was the official opening of We R international 2018 by the Mayor of Regensburg, Mrs. Gertrud Maltz-Schwarzfischer. In her speech, she talked about the City of Regensburg, its history and its residents. She highlighted that Regensburg is not only a multicultural, but also a very young city. More than 4.000 residents of Regensburg are the same age as the participants of the youth conference. Mrs. Maltz-Schwarzfischer emphasized that in her opinion, it is very important that young people in Regensburg can speak up about their ideas, desires and worries. She explained why the City of Regensburg is interested in talking to and listening to the ideas of young people:



**“Today’s politicians make decisions every day which influence the future – the future of you all. Hence, it is important that the whole society – but especially the sphere of politics – listens to young people now and includes them in decisions. After all, today already influences how we will live in the future. And that is why you should also speak up and say your opinion. We hope that in the future you will be able to improve things and do better than what we have managed so far.”**

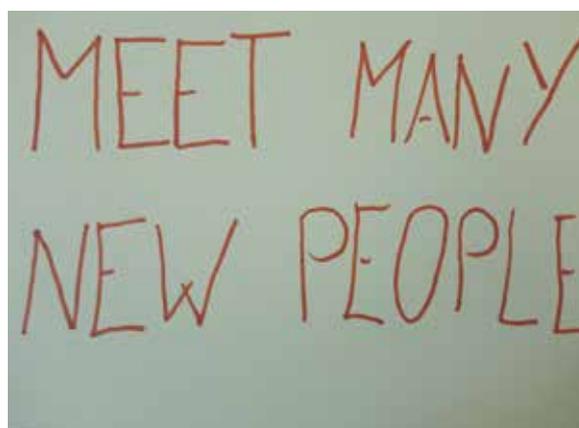
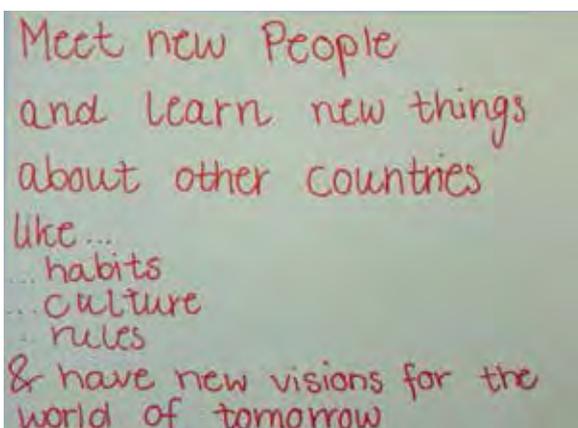
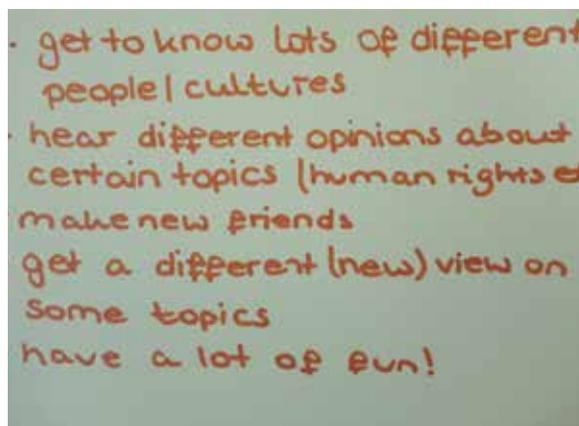
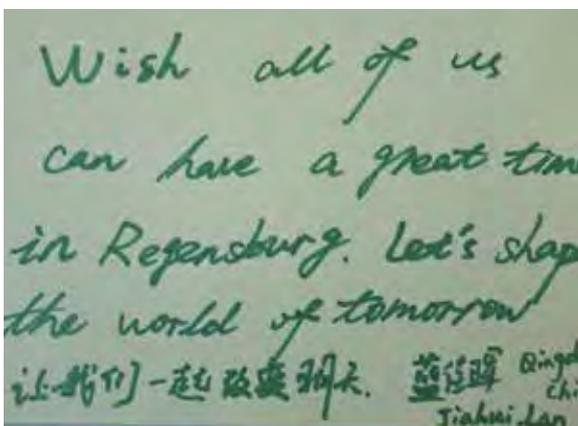
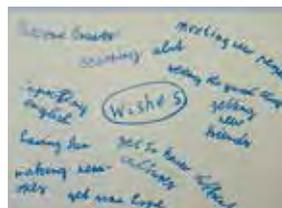
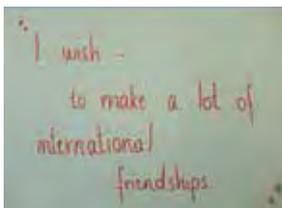


As a consequence, the following conference week was supposed to belong entirely to the wishes and dreams of the young participants from all over the world.

**“Tell us how you see your very personal future, the future for your city, your country, for Europe and for the whole world. Tell us what you expect from the people who are responsible for the important decisions today – parents, teachers, entrepreneurs, politicians and scientists. Do not just observe but take part and get involved, following**

**the motto of this youth conference: Let’s shape the world of tomorrow!”**

After this speech, Barbara Stadler from the project management team gave some general information about the week’s program and introduced some rules which were necessary for a successful course of the conference. Later on, there was time dedicated to the wishes of the participants for the conference week. Everybody took a yellow piece of paper, wrote down his or her wishes and hung it on a string. Have a look at some of the wishes:



The string with the cards was later taken down and put up in the lobby of the Kolpinghaus, the accommodation of the foreign groups.

After having lunch in the municipal canteen for the first time, the groups spent an afternoon dedicated to the question "Where are you from?". Each group presented their hometown with a presentation they had prepared at home. As there were no limits

to creativity, the audience got the chance to taste strawberry jam which had been homemade by the grandmother of a participant from Regensburg. The participants from Odessa all wore the same T-shirt displaying the name of their city and performed a song. Of course, every group wanted to introduce their hometown to the other delegations at its very best and in detail. So the presentations were quite long, but however, they were really interesting.





The final part of the day was spent in the Youth center Utopia, located on the outskirts of Regensburg. Participants and chaperons took a bus shuttle to get to this venue. Upon arrival, a tasty barbecue buffet awaited everyone. Not only food was offered, but also music performed by DJ Sandro as well as sport facilities like table tennis table, a basketball, and a volleyball court. As the weather was still very hot, the organization team from the youth center had also prepared a mini pool and a "shower" improvised with a garden hose to cool down. Later in the evening, a bonfire was lightened and campfire songs were sang and played with the guitar.

It was a great evening to relax and to get to know the others better and better.



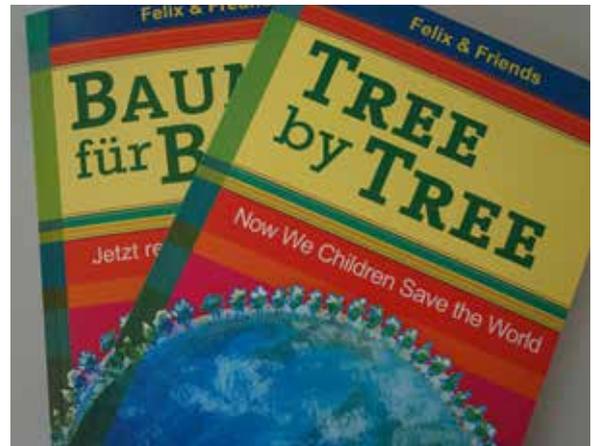
## Participation – How does this work?

Tuesday, July 31<sup>st</sup> 2018, Mehrgenerationenhaus & down town

In order for everyone to wake up and get prepared for the day, the second conference day started with a little warm-up exercise in the Mehrgenerationenhaus. Afterwards, everybody went outside to take a photo of the whole group in the yard. As this day was the birthday of a member of the project management team, we then took the chance to arrange an international choir, already well positioned on the stairs. “Happy birthday” was performed in seven different languages: first in English sang by the whole group, followed by the same song in Ukrainian, Hungarian, Czech, Italian, Chinese and French. The perfect way to start the day!



In accordance with the motto of this year's conference, the rest of that morning was dedicated to a presentation of two examples of participation. First, Charlotte, a young ambassador of the organization Plant-for-the-Planet, came from the Munich region to tell us about her volunteer work.



Plant-for-the-Planet is an initiative of children and young adults from all over the world fighting together against global warming. In 2007, a nine-year-old boy, Felix Finkbeiner, had held a school presentation about the greenhouse effect and global warming. This presentation was the beginning of the global movement Plant-for-the-Planet. Young people in more than 100 countries are actively participating in this movement. Their big aim is to plant one billion trees all over the world following the slogan “Stop talking, start planting”.

Charlotte's presentation was very interesting and well prepared. The initiative Plant-for-the-Planet is a successful example of how effective the commitment of a child can be and spread all over the world.

After break, Nina and Rostislav, two participants of We R international who are also members of the Youth Council of Regensburg, introduced the Regensburg Youth Council. They were supported by Christoph Seidl who works for the Department of



Municipal Youth Services and is responsible for the coordination of the Youth Council. Christoph Seidl gave some interesting background knowledge, for example concerning the reasons why the Regensburg Youth Council was established in 2016 and the power the Council has. Nina and Rostislav talked about their motivation to get involved and the achievements of the Council up to that day. The other participants were very interested and asked further questions after the presentation.

The participants changed their venue for the afternoon program. The groups from our twin cities met in front of the Old Town Hall where they started their guided tours through Regensburg. Every nation

had their own tour in their native language. Meanwhile, the participants from Regensburg visited the construction site of the Museum of Bavarian History. They gained interesting insights into this place which is not officially open to the public yet.

At 4.30 p.m., everybody met again in front of the Old Town Hall. A first highlight of the conference was imminent: the evening in the families of the participants from Regensburg! Every teenager from Regensburg who was allowed by his or her parents took some foreign visitors home for dinner. This evening constituted a unique possibility to gain insights into the lives of German families. Everybody, hosts like guests, appreciated it a lot.



## Workshop-Time

### Wednesday, August 1<sup>st</sup> 2018 & Thursday, August 2<sup>nd</sup> 2018, Mehrgenerationenhaus, W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur and Youth center Fantasy

The next day didn't start like the previous ones. Instead of meeting all together at the Mehrgenerationenhaus, every participant had to manage to get to the venue where his or her workshop would take place. Three workshops were organized at the W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur, three at the Mehrgenerationenhaus and one at the Youth center Fantasy. With the help of some participants from Regensburg, finding the venues didn't cause any problems and the workshops could start. All of the seven workshop topics had been very well received at the Welcome Evening when everybody had named his or her three favorites as 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> choice.

#### The participants could choose between the following topics:

Gender – today and tomorrow  
 Human rights – today and tomorrow  
 Future prospects – today and tomorrow  
 Participation – today and tomorrow  
 Remembering – today and tomorrow  
 Media and forming opinions – today and tomorrow  
 Globalization and sustainable living – today and tomorrow

There were seven or eight participants in each workshop. Every group consisted of young adults from four or five different nations so that the atmosphere was really intercultural.

For the project management team it was important that the topics were issues which are of topical interest all over the world. Moreover, the themes were as

diverse as possible in order to correspond with the interests of everybody.

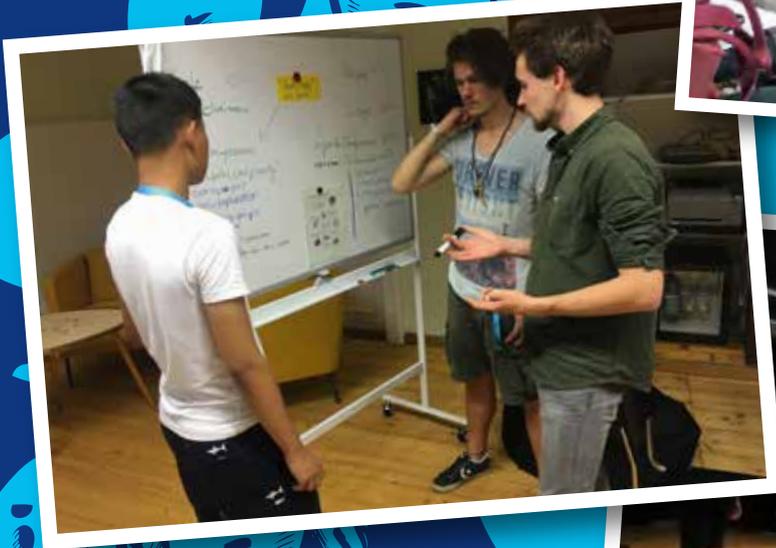
After the two workshop days, everybody was enthusiastic about the atmosphere in the groups. The participants had profound discussions and worked hard in order to prepare a performance for the Closing Event. Being confronted with diverse opinions, they questioned their own points of view and broadened their horizon. When it came to perform on stage in order to show their ideas and results in front of an audience on Friday evening, the tension was almost tangible... But step by step: You will learn more about this on the corresponding pages at the end of this booklet. First, we would like to give you an insight into the seven different workshop groups.

The following texts on the next pages were written by the workshop managers except for the creative review of the workshop "Gender – today and tomorrow". This one has been written during the workshop time by the teenagers and reflects creative writing methods used in this group.

Of course, there was also an entertainment and chill out program on Wednesday and Thursday evening. On Wednesday, the whole group went to "Super Bowl", a huge bowling center where we also had dinner. On Thursday, a dinner at the beer garden "Alte Linde" was on the agenda. Everybody could try a typical Bavarian "Brotzeit", kind of a hefty snack consisting of different kind of sausages, cold meat and cheese like our traditional "Obatzda". Not everybody was very enthusiastic about this, but it was surely a good opportunity to taste Bavarian food. Afterwards, the participants and chaperons went to W1 – Zentrum für junge Kultur in order to enjoy a concert. It was performed by the band "Redhead Gang" especially for the youth conference.



Workshop-Time



## Gender – today and tomorrow

Workshop management: Lisa Walden, Elisabeth Schneider & Sara Weber

### What is Gender? And why does it matter?

Those are only two questions we have been asking ourselves. We started off quite easy by interviewing each other and presenting what we have learned by that. Afterwards we used that input to do some creative writing. Combined with theater games we went on using those texts for our final presentation.

Because one can't really write down what impression a performance has or had, we would like to use this opportunity to rather share some of our favorite quotes with you:

“Everybody is unique. Failure is an okay thing.”

“Body  
My own  
Perception of myself  
Everyone's personal artwork  
Beauty”

“You can identify as whatever you want, can't you?”

“Religion  
I believe in a person  
Who can do wonders  
Myself”

“Don't be such an asshole and love yourself,  
because you are awesome. We are awesome.”





### Participants:

Luca Seng, Pamina Wittmann & Anna Wolbergs (Regensburg); Olga Datii & Jan Jirmus (Pilsen); Kamel Boutiba (Clermont-Ferrand); Lorenzo Tamburini (Brixen)



## Human rights – today and tomorrow

Workshop management: Steffi Baumann & Julia Christof (volunteer)

“I could go on like that forever”, Maria from Regensburg said in the middle of a lively discussion. And indeed we spent very much time discussing serious moral issues. “Having a roof over your head is more important than freedom of expression” and “Should human rights also apply to unborn children?” are just two examples of the statements and questions we discussed.

To get to this level, it was of course important to get to know each other first and to get some insights in our topic “Human rights – today and tomorrow”. That’s what we have done on our first day of the workshop. We learned a lot about each other and we learned how being a popcorn in a hot pan felt like. Besides, we did a jigsaw puzzle of the preamble of the United Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), took the human rights temperature of our schools, sorted the articles of the UDHR and named the ten most important articles, searched for the topic in newspapers, wrote poems on “Human rights” and finally explained terms like “United Nations”, “Equality” and “Education” without being allowed to use certain “taboo words”.

Our last aim was to present the “Human rights” on stage which we feared wouldn’t be easy. So we all agreed in Jakub’s idea to create an interactive quiz. We would therefore be using self-made photos of the different articles of United Declaration of Human Rights. Jakub had seen it in a similar form at the youth conference two years ago and he easily convinced us of this idea. And it was finally Jakub who spent his freetime on Friday morning to give our presentation the finishing touch.

But before that we really had a lot of fun taking the pictures. Our plans to go to the nearby Villapark were thwarted by the strong thunderstorm, which became a real adventure for some of us. The team of the Mehrgenerationenhaus fortunately had all kind of props we needed for our photos – be it plastic flowers, a prayer rug or a judge’s robe. Just have a look at some of our results.





### Participants:

Tabea Axthammer, Maria Faerber & Bernadette Niedermeier (Regensburg); Olskandra Mykhailova & Vladyslav Ursu (Odessa); Dorina Ökrös & Gitta Wenczl (Budavár); Jakub Štěpánek (Pilsen)



## Future prospects – today and tomorrow

Workshop management: Silke Lippert & Katharina Paukner

Six people from four different countries, China, Ukraine, Hungary and Germany, met for the first time in order to deal with the topic “Future prospects – today and tomorrow”, which is obviously a very big topic.

For two days the topic of future prospects was discussed from a personal as well as a social point of view. The participants debated what kind of feelings young people have, when they think about their future. Anticipation, uncertainty, excitement, curiosity were some of the feelings they mentioned. In order to get to feel confident on stage and to learn how to express feelings on stage without words, different exercises they practised different performance exercises.

On the basis of impulse questions such as “What personal challenges do you have respect for?” or “Do you want to be able to see into the future?” we talked about plans and expectations young people have for the future, but also about fears and uncertainties. With the help of the so-called “theatrical mixing desk”, the young people developed their own play, in which they incorporated their personal concerns. They also discussed the global aspect.

A youngster from China had a question on his mind all week. He noticed that in Germany potatoes are processed and eaten in many different ways and with regard to global warming he asked himself: “What would you Germans do, if there were no more potatoes?” The play ended with these words, which made the audience smile, but perhaps also made one or the other think.

To round off the workshop, at the end each participant wrote a nice message or compliment for each of the other participants and gave it to that person to take along. This gave them all a nice closure for the workshop.

The topic of future prospects could be subject of discussions for many days and due to the limited time available it could basically only be touched upon. Nevertheless, we have dealt with it intensively and as workshop managers we are very proud of what the young people have achieved.





### Participants:

Nina Schweizer & Leyla Stanojevic (Regensburg); Vadym Gerega (Odessa); Adam Dallos & Márton Gócza (Budavár); Yuxan Liu (Qingdao)



## Participation – today and tomorrow

Workshop management: Christoph Seidl & Manuel Grüll (volunteer)

The workshop “Participation – today and tomorrow” took place in the venue W1 – center for young culture, which is situated in the old town near the mayor hall.

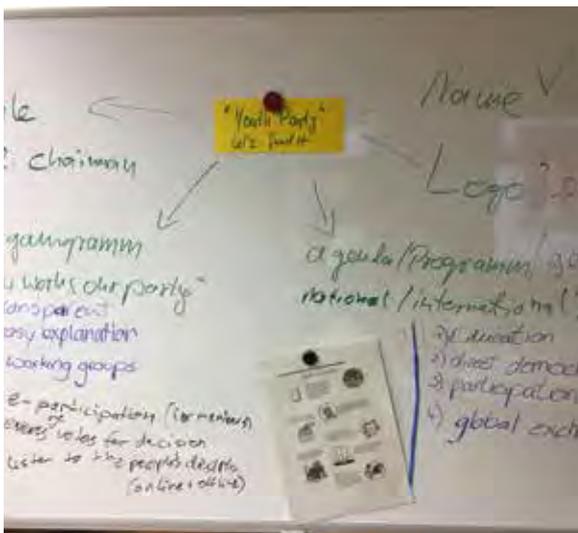
The first day of this workshop started with some sociometric exercises. In a funny and active way we got to know and understand each other better. In addition we discussed the following questions in some groupworks: In which areas of every day life can young people take part in decision-making? What degrees of participation do exist? What are the benefits – for the young participants on the one side and the society on the other side? Why is youth participation the way forward?

Using concrete examples in group work, we were able to define preconditions for successful participation projects: Early involvement of young people, transparency, information and neutrality in the management of the participation process were considered to be essential by the workshop-members. We reached a better understanding about the degrees of participation by looking at two theoretical models from the authors Scott Davidson and Phil Tres.

The second workshop day started with an interview with two former members of the youth council of Regensburg, Viktoria Schuck and Kalab Kerie. They gave a deep overview about their two year-membership in a youth council. Viktoria and Kalab were able to meet youth parliament members from Europe and even from outside Europe. An interesting discussion about their positive experiences and typical difficulties concerning youth participation took place. The lasting impressions from the two days concluded in the founding of the international youth party “Youthicipation”. A logo was designed and the program as well as the aims of the “new” party were presented at the Closing Event of the youth conference.

All in all it was very motivating to discuss and plan the development of democratic systems with these young citizens. The most important thing of course was to learn from each other by sharing different point of views and to make some really good friends!





### Participants:

Marlene Stahl, Rostislav Ganchev & Ferdinand Klemm (Regensburg); Kieran Rottonara (Brixen); Elise Paulhac & Soleyne Morera (Clermont-Ferrand); Jianhui Lan (Qingdao)



## Remembering – today and tomorrow

Workshop management: Lucia Gruber & Martina Spörl

The workshop “Remembering – today and tomorrow“ invited participants of the International Youth Conference 2018 to bring together sites of the historic city of Ratisbona with very unique and personal impressions. Music and movement were used as medium to awaken inner pictures, memories and experiences and to express those. Personal impressions told by the young people were about their activities and meaningful meetings at the IYC. Another topic that came up was the sense of history and music in the countries of origin. One teenager taught the other participants a circle dance from the Ukraine. A second one presented classical Chinese music and invited everyone to listen and enjoy. Talking about the historical meanings of music, dancing and listening to music became a connecting element of the teenager of the sister cities of Ratisbona. Afterward the workshop manager led the participants through the old town. Drifting along small lanes, walking the riverside and going inside the dome, the participants experienced the atmosphere of the historic places and the meaning of them. Putting all this together the group came up with a song. Three of them wrote a



poem about the experiences and meetings. The other four teens composed the instrumental music.

On the second day of the workshop the participants had the possibility to make music on places of their choice. They chose hidden places downtown they have seen the day before. One person at a time had the task to film the performances and the other one were the main or background musicians.



One teenager decided to do a song at a backstreet surrounded by nice houses and towers. Another location for a song played by body-percussion was at the river side walk; a further sad song was performed at the building ruin at the Thundorfer Straße. The young people were not only inspired by the historic sites of the city but also by public places. One teenager picked a path under the Eiserner Steg with the Steinerne Brücke in the background to do a dance performance. The place that became the most important one was the backyard of the dome. The old stonewalls seems to be the perfect scenery for create memories of the teenager in Ratisbona. So the group performed their own song next to the Eselsturm. The poems telling the story of the International Youth Conference and the instrumental music supporting the atmosphere of historic days.



At the end of the two-days-workshop the participants all helped together as a group to create a music video. The film was presented at the final evening of the IYC 2018. One of the teens continued his dance performance live on stage to show the connection between the memories of "today and tomorrow". With the applause of the audience at the end of the music video the teenager were filled with pride. Unique memories were made to bring them into tomorrow's remembering.



### Participants:

Angelina Dechand, Matin Ramezani & Severin Schießl (Regensburg); He Yang (Qingdao); Tanya Derevianchenko (Odessa); Magdalena Ferdigg & Benedikt Hinteregger (Brixen)



## Media and forming of opinions – today and tomorrow

Workshop management: Maximilian Seeberger & Lennart Krummeck

In the workshop “Media and forming of opinions – today and tomorrow” eight participants faced the challenge to gain an unbiased overview of today’s complex media. After a brief introduction the young adults presented several different types of media from their home countries. The goal was to achieve a deeper insight in the differences of media in several countries, especially in the time of globalization. Further more the participants engaged in the all-present debate about fake-news. They were provided with several tools and approaches to validate available information. The workshop pointed out how biased media coverage can influence the recipi-

ent. The participants were asked to unveil biased media coverage by comparing different sources.

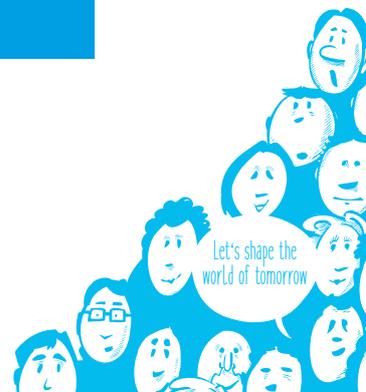
We concluded the workshop by writing a stage play. The play was about two people trying to persuade each other of their opinion. They were discussing whether the ridiculous thesis “playing football makes you stupid” was true or false. The dialog humorously pointed out the flaws of and prejudices towards different types of media. Finally the characters of the play found a common ground on how the ideal should be today and tomorrow.





### Participants:

Alexander Gall, Lauren Helmke, Philipp Höhme & Salome Samson (Regensburg); Mathylde Boudes (Clermont-Ferrand); Yijia Xu (Qingdao); Kateryna Tsybulska (Odessa); David Zahour (Pilsen)



## Globalization and sustainable living – today and tomorrow

Workshop management: Iris Bogendörfer, Jakob Pfreimer & Lena Schneider (volunteer)

The workshop “Globalization and sustainable living” took place in the youth center “Fantasy” in the northern part of Regensburg. There we could use a big garden, different rooms in the house and we had enough space to work concentrated and undisturbed.

At the beginning of the two workshop days, we started by spot-lighting different parts of this big topic: consumption, resources, diet, life style, climate change, globalization and mobility.

The young people tried to connect these different parts with each other and made a mind map that showed the complexity of the topic.

Everyone had a different understanding of these words, so one of the first things to do was to research about them and get some knowledge about what we were talking.

One conclusion was that consumption how we know it in our countries affects all people on earth and every little step we take is connected with the world around us. But most of the time we aren't aware of this impact, so it's very hard to change something about that.



With different exercises the participants learned a lot about these connections and started to get a feeling of the whole topic.

During the two days of the workshop the participants spent a lot of time discussing the aspects of globalization, climate change, diet and life styles, and how everything is connected.

It was impressive to see how much deep and fundamental knowledge the young participants had. They had a lot of fun discussing their different views, learning about similarities and differences in their countries and cultures.

The participants learned about their own ecological footprint (or carbon footprint, there are different methods) and how to reduce / impact it.

Our lifestyle and what we eat and buy has a great impact on the size of our ecological footprint. When the footprint is too big we need more resources than the earth can provide. In order to stop climate change and try to save the natural environment we are all living in, we need to care about our consumption.





In conclusion to the two workshop days, the participants worked out some ideas, how one can directly and easily change the life style of him- or herself. For example they suggest to fly less, to eat more ecological food, to recycle and to share more, to care more about what you really need and buy, so that you can reduce your garbage, plastic and so on.

Another exercise was about the different cultures and lifestyles we all come from, and how different our view on climate change, the environment and consumption can be, depending on our wealth, educational level, our age and how we live.

The participants decided to make a short movie and a power point presentation about the information they gathered and about the problems and solutions they discovered.

They wanted all the other people and also the politicians to know, how serious the topic of their workshop is and why everyone of us should care about how he or she lives.



**Participants:**  
 Bernadette Falk & Philipp Grabietz (Regensburg); Han Bao & Jixuan Huang (Qingdao); Tereza Bednářová & Matej Otýs (Pilsen); Vladyslav Havrutenko (Odessa)



## Closing Event

### Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> August 2018, Leerer Beutel

#### Program

##### Welcome speech

Gertrud Maltz-Schwarzfischer  
Mayor

##### Short movie

Impressions of the conference week

##### Presentation of the workshop results

- Gender – today and tomorrow
- Human rights – today and tomorrow
- Future prospects – today and tomorrow
- Participation – today and tomorrow
- Remembering – today and tomorrow
- Media and forming of opinion – today and tomorrow
- Globalization & sustainable living – today and tomorrow

##### Buffet and party

In the morning, the participants and chaperons had some leisure time. Depending on their preferences, they could either explore Regensburg on their own or sleep in a little longer to recharge their batteries for the evening program. Furthermore, they were given the opportunity to take part in a guided tour through the construction site of the new Jewish Synagogue in Regensburg. Some participants as well as chaperons chose that third option and learned more about this special site in the heart of Regensburg.

In the afternoon, every workshop group had an appointment at the venue Leerer Beutel. A general rehearsal for the evening program was on the agenda. Everybody used this rehearsal to be well prepared for the big performance. The Closing Event began at 6.30 p.m.

First, Mayor Mrs. Gertrud Maltz-Schwarzfischer opened the evening with her closing speech of the International Youth Conference 2018. She spoke about the beautiful venue of the event, the Leerer Beutel. This house was

built in the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> century and used as a granary in former times. Today it is under monumental protection and used, inter alia, for exhibitions, film presentations and events – like our conference. A beautiful historic building and an ideal place for the official closing ceremony of We R international!

In the course of her speech, Mrs. Maltz-Schwarzfischer mentioned the present situation of our world. She evoked the critical state of our planet:

**“Our world is growing ever closer together through the Internet and the globalisation of the economy. At the same time, many parts and aspects of our world are in anything but good shape. There are millions of people fleeing terrorism, war, persecution and hunger somewhere in our world each day. And in future, they will also be fleeing rising sea levels. You, the young people of today, will have a crucial role in determining how our world can grow closer in a peaceful process, and how we can address the greatest problems facing humanity.”**





But on the other hand, she also mentioned reasons for hope:

**“For you, the past week has been all about overcoming both national and personal boundaries. Often the little things in life are those making the difference and leading to changes. Anyone who is able to make something better each day with some small action, is contributing to make one day something huge a whole lot better.”**

After that, Barbara Stadler from the project management team entered the stage to lead through the evening. She talked about the reasons why the City of Regensburg had organized We R international for the 2<sup>nd</sup> time and about the success of this year’s conference.

The next aspect on the agenda was the presentation of a short movie that had been filmed during the Conference. The movie gave great impressions of the conference week and everybody enjoyed watching it.

Finally, it was time for the most important persons to come on stage: the participants who presented the results of their workshop groups in front of the audience. In the audience were the parents of the participants from Regensburg as well as prominent guests like the Mayor, members of the City Council and the Hungarian ambassador responsible for the relations to the Hungarian society, Krisztina Spiller, from the Hungarian Consulate General in Munich.

The presentations were made in the order you can see in the program below. Each presentation was unique and very well prepared. Nevertheless, the tension in the air was almost tangible. But at the end of the evening everybody was convinced: It wouldn’t have been necessary to worry! The whole audience was impressed by the quality of the unique and creative presentations. It was really fascinating what the participants had achieved within two days in their multi-national groups!

After these seven great performances, the groups from Qingdao and Odessa took the chance to hand over presents to the Mayor of Regensburg. Mrs. Maltz-Schwarzfischer received a banner from our Chinese twin city and one from the Ukraine.



With this lovely and generous gesture, the official part of the evening was concluded. But of course, the evening was not over yet, the party was just to begin! The atmosphere was relaxed and everyone was relieved that the performances had worked out so well. Everybody was hungry and tasted the fine buffet provided by the team of the restaurant of Leerer Beutel.

At the same time, DJ Fabs started to perform and soon the dance floor was crowded. Later, the rap group Refugee Rap Squad came on stage and replaced the DJ for about an hour. All in all, this evening was a great last get-together and everybody took the chance to celebrate an unforgettable week and new friendships.

As announced, we brought the string with the wishes for the conference week written by the participants on Monday morning to the Leerer Beutel. Moreover, we put up a second cord in the lobby on this evening’s venue. Everybody could once again take a card (a green one this time), write his or her feedback for We R international 2018 on it and put it on the line. Several people took that chance. It was very interesting to “compare” wishes and feedback, both visible at the same time. See for yourself by turning the page...





Closing Event...





We spent one week in the beautiful German city of Regensburg on the occasion of the Youth Conference 2018.

On the first day when we arrived, we had a warm welcome. The mayor of Regensburg gave us a nice opening and welcome speech.

All week we (students and chaperons) had a very interesting and highly motivating program. Besides making new friends, our students found all the workshops and plenary sessions inspiring. The highlight of the week for the students was the invitation to visit families at their homes for dinner. We also found the sightseeing tour in our language very personal. Our students took part in the workshops with pleasure. On our last day we had a special guest: Mrs Spiller from München visited us. She told us that her mother worked in our school as a director. That was a surprise! I believe your program was extremely fruitfull for all the participants and the cooperative atmosphere was inspiring.

I hope we will meet soon in the future!

*Evá Paálne Andics,  
guest chaperon from Budavár*

Some statements  
after the  
conference...

The 2<sup>nd</sup> International Youth Conference was a great opportunity to make friends from all over the world. In the workshops we were able to exchange our thoughts and to learn from the others about their countries. We could choose between the topics "Future prospects", "Participation", "Media and forming opinions", "Remembering" and "Human rights". Each workshop group consisted of people from at least three different nationalities. Therefore we were able to discuss several topics and could listen to diverse opinions. We got to know some things about the everyday life in our sister cities and discovered similarities and differences we weren't expecting. For example in Czech Republic there are only five grade levels at school and in China it's unusual to have your own plate as you grab with your chopsticks what you want to eat from a common plate. In my workshop "Human rights" we had to solve puzzles concerning human rights and to create our own posters about the topic. We considered how far these rights are implemented and discussed how content we are with the situation in our country and school.

After the workshops we went bowling, had a barbecue, just sat together and talked or took teenagers from our twin cities for dinner to our homes. In the huge group with all the participants we exchanged our thoughts and feedback about our work in the workshops and had a lot of fun playing games and getting to know different cultures and customs.

I really enjoyed the youth conference and hope that I will be able to travel to each of our sister cities, meet the friends I got to know during the conference again and discover their hometowns.

*Bernadette Niedermeier,  
Regensburg*



I am very honored to be invited to participate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> International Youth Conference in Regensburg. It was a very precious experience for our teenagers and for me. The organization of the conference was great! We were here to meet and became friends with teenagers from all over the world. Just in one week, we saw the city style and historical heritage of Regensburg, experienced the fusion of multinational culture, felt the spiritual outlook of young people from all over the world and their new insights into the world. The organization of the event was meticulous and orderly, we have been well taken care of and helped here. I hope to continue to provide a small contribution to youth development in the days to come. I hope that the Regensburg Youth Conference will be better and better. Once again thanks to all the friends and colleagues in Regensburg. I hope we could see each other again!

*Hao Wang,  
guest chaperon from Qingdao*

...The next day we had breakfast and we packed our bags. Then the hardest part came – saying goodbye. I have to say that everybody was really great. There was no one who would not have talked to us or who would have been unpleasant. I am happy that I was able to take part in this conference. I will miss it all.

*Tereza Bednářová,  
Pilsen*

Continuez!  
C'est une excellente  
initiative.

*Khaled Dali,  
guest chaperon from  
Clermont-Ferrand*

Excellent chance of making  
friends with great young  
people and improve language  
skills. Hope this conference  
will be better!

*Jixuan Huang,  
Qingdao*

I'm very glad, that I was able to  
take part in the conference,  
meet so many new people,  
got new friends and had a  
fun time. Thank you all.

*Luca Seng,  
Regensburg*

This conference was  
perfect so I have no ideas  
what can you improve.  
Thank you very much.

*Vadym Gerega,  
Odessa*

It's a rare chance for me to make so  
many nice friends from all over the world  
and deeply understand the culture in  
Regensburg. The workshop made me  
concentrate on globalization and sus-  
tainable living as well. I really appreciate  
this fantastic conference and hope it can  
continue to provide the chance for more  
youth. Wish this conference can be more  
and more successful!

*Han Bao,  
Qingdao*

Thank you for warm meeting, for your  
hospitality, for excellent organisation, for  
friendly atmosphere, for nice emotions, for  
a good mood and for such great opportu-  
nity for our students to prove themselves.

*Tetiana Klevets & Natalia Hubanova,  
guest chaperons from Odessa*

At first I want to say that it was amazing!  
I could not even imagine that I met such  
cool people. Thanks a lot for many memo-  
ries, for great time which I spent with  
everyone. On this conference all my  
dreams came true!

*Tanya Derevyanchenko,  
Odessa*

We spent some nice and  
funny days together!  
We have to repeat it!

*Philipp Höhme,  
Regensburg*



It was a life-changing experience  
to be part of such an international  
and open-minded project.  
To see how the teenagers  
opened up to the thoughts  
of all the others made  
me really proud to be a  
human

There's too much to write it all down  
but I loved talking to every single one  
of you guys, I had the greatest discussion!  
Participating in this kinda changed me  
~~err~~ so thanks to all of you.  
We. are. awesome. 

Great   
experience  


LOVE YOU ALL  
SO MUCH!  


Don't want  
this to end 

  A  
class

We  
are  
one BIG  
FAMILY NOW!!!  
-sally-

I hope that  
the things we  
have learned won't  
vanish after returning  
into our daily life

## Press review

As a great international youth meeting like our youth conference is a rare and special event, many different newspapers and websites reported on We R international 2018. Here you can find an extract:





36 STADTEILE Mittelbayernische



Die Jugendlichen der Welt sind in Regensburg. Sie sind hier, um die Welt zu verändern.

## Zusammen die Welt verändern

**AUSTAUSCH** Jugendliche aus Regensburg und den Partnerstädten diskutieren diverse Themen. Am Freitag endet die Jugendkonferenz.

VON MERIAM BAUER

Die Jugendlichen der Welt sind in Regensburg. Sie sind hier, um die Welt zu verändern. Am Freitag endet die Jugendkonferenz. Die Jugendlichen der Welt sind in Regensburg. Sie sind hier, um die Welt zu verändern. Am Freitag endet die Jugendkonferenz.

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## Die Welt kommt nach Regensburg

**AUSTAUSCH** Zur Internationalen Jugendkonferenz reisen Gäste aus den Partnerstädten an.

VON MERIAM BAUER



Die Jugendlichen der Welt sind in Regensburg. Sie sind hier, um die Welt zu verändern. Am Freitag endet die Jugendkonferenz. Die Jugendlichen der Welt sind in Regensburg. Sie sind hier, um die Welt zu verändern. Am Freitag endet die Jugendkonferenz.

Mittelbayernische Dienstag, 31. Juli 2018



## Die Jugend der Welt ist zu Gast

**AUSTAUSCH** Bürgermeisterin Maibach begrüßt die Teilnehmer der zweiten internationalen Jugendkonferenz.

VON MERIAM BAUER

Die Jugendlichen der Welt sind in Regensburg. Sie sind hier, um die Welt zu verändern. Am Freitag endet die Jugendkonferenz. Die Jugendlichen der Welt sind in Regensburg. Sie sind hier, um die Welt zu verändern. Am Freitag endet die Jugendkonferenz.

regensburg Mittwoch, 1. August 2018

## "We R international"

Die zweite Internationale Jugendkonferenz in Regensburg

*"Let's shape the world of tomorrow!" - Under this motto we will have the 2nd International Youth Conference in Regensburg on Tuesday, August 1st, 2018. The conference will be held in the Regensburg City Hall. The conference will be held in the Regensburg City Hall. The conference will be held in the Regensburg City Hall.*

Die Jugendlichen der Welt sind in Regensburg. Sie sind hier, um die Welt zu verändern. Am Freitag endet die Jugendkonferenz. Die Jugendlichen der Welt sind in Regensburg. Sie sind hier, um die Welt zu verändern. Am Freitag endet die Jugendkonferenz.

Let's shape the world of tomorrow



Let's shape the world of tomorrow

## Outlook for the next International Youth Conference

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Looking back, We R international 2018 was – just like We R international 2016 – a great success. As you could read on the previous pages, the feedback we received from participants and chaperons was to a large extent very good. We were overwhelmed by these positive reactions, whether it was in a verbal or written form, on the string with the feedback cards or by email.

As our Mayor Mrs. Maltz-Schwarzfischer announces in the documentation video, we are going to organize a 3<sup>rd</sup> International Youth Conference in 2020 unless one of our twin cities wishes to take over.

One wish of many was to extend the duration of the workshops. We will keep that in mind and try to integrate two and a half or three workshop days instead of just two days in the next youth conference.

Whether it will take place in Regensburg, Aberdeen, Brixen, Budavár, Clermont-Ferrand, Pilsen, Odessa, Qingdao or Tempe: We are already looking forward to We R international 2020!



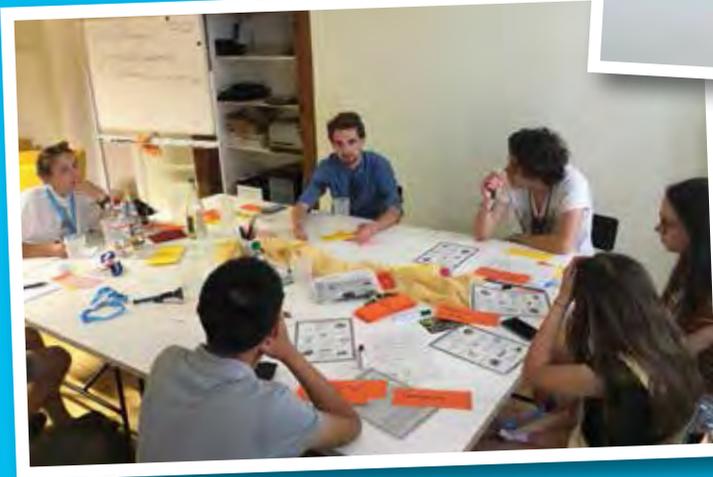
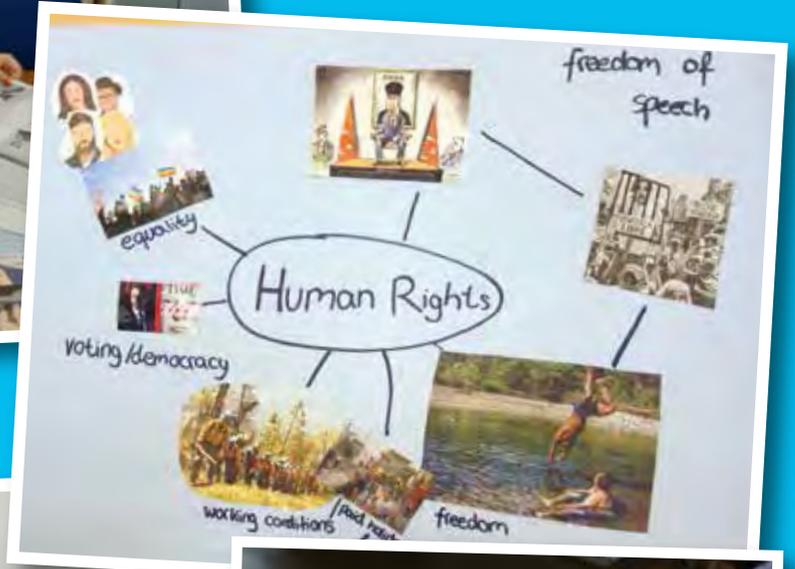
↑ Group photo of We R International 2016



# Impressions









BRIXEN BUDAVAR CLERMONT-FERRAND ODESSA PILSEN QINGDAO REGENSBURG



## ORGANISATION

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and Representation

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