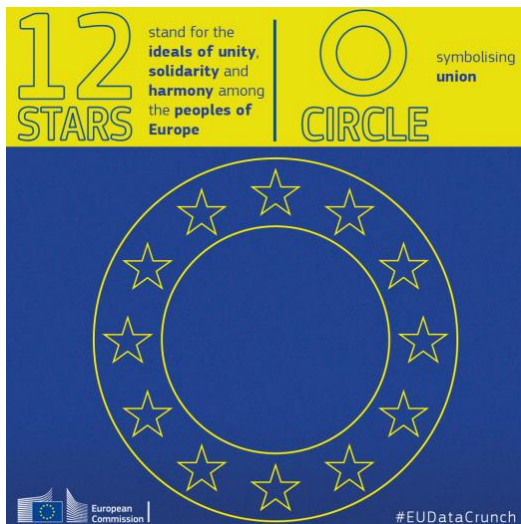




Monday 15th of May 2023

There are only two weeks left until we meet! Fifteen days before our big event, where we will celebrate Europe! Here you are the third Newsletter, which will allow you to get to know the participating European delegations, discover a brief history of the European flag and anthem, as well as inform you about the journey of an astronaut who will honour us with his presence on 30 May! Enjoy your reading!

What about European flag and european anthem?



The melody used to symbolize the EU comes from the Ninth Symphony composed in 1823 by Ludwig Van Beethoven, when he set music to the "Ode to Joy", Friedrich von Schiller's lyrical verse from 1785. The anthem symbolises not only the European Union but also Europe in a wider sense. The poem "Ode to Joy" expresses Schiller's idealistic vision of the human race becoming brothers - a vision Beethoven shared. In 1985, it was adopted by EU leaders as the official anthem of the European Union. There are no words to the anthem; it consists of music only. In the universal language of music, this anthem expresses the European ideals of freedom, peace and solidarity.

Let's introduce yourselves !



The Lithuanian delegation comes from Vilnius Jonas Basanavičius Pro-gymnasium. The pupils live in a multilingual world, they are learning French, English, and Russian. In 2020 The National Education Agency, in cooperation with the French Institute in Lithuania.

Participants from Poland will be coming to us from Kuznia-Raciborska, located in the south of the country. Poland and France have been longtime friends. The Polish delegation will be staying in Strasbourg, and as part of the cultural program, the participants will meet with their compatriots and representatives of the Polish diaspora.





The Maltese are twinned with a school from the town of Colmar. We sincerely hope that the boys and girls, as well as their teachers, will enjoy, their

interatcion, they all share an important practise of music !



The Romanian delegation will be represented by girls from Floria Capsali Choreographic High School in Bucharest ! The students of the school are proficient in dance at a professional level. They are familiar with various dance styles, including those with traditional Romanian elements. The delegation from Romania will spend time in Strasbourg and will visit the Opera in the city of Mulhouse.



The Portuguese participants will arrive from Vila nova de Paiva. It is a small village in the centre of Portugal.it is located in an area which is mainly rural with many ancient traditions. The school is small with students from kindergarten to the 12th grade. Our school organises many activities related to local traditions, sports and cultural activities. This school has also participated in some Erasmus projects.

Prepare your question to Dr Matthias Maurer you are going to meet on the 30th of May !

Dr Matthias Maurer was born on 18 March 1970 in St. Wendel in Saarland. He was officially accepted into the European Astronaut Corps in July 2015 and successfully completed both basic astronaut in 2018. In December 2020, Matthias Maurer was officially selected for his first mission to the ISS, named "Cosmic Kiss". During his time in orbit, Maurer supported more than 35 European and numerous international experiments on board and performed his first extravehicular activity in support of assembly, renovation and maintenance work on the International Space Station. He returned from this mission on 6 May 2022 after 177 days in space.

Our friends from Slovakia are from the city of Bystricany. The city was first mentioned in 1388. This delegation is twinned with the school from Marlenheim with the czech delegation too..

The Delegation from the Czech Republic will be coming to Alsace from a town called Odry. On the photos that can be viewed during our celebration concert within the Pariliament's walls, you can see how cosy it is !



Students from the city of Krize will represent Slovenia. The school has a history of over 150 years. Today, it is a school that participates in many projects, including international ones. Diligent students from Slovenia will come to Strasbourg, where they will have the opportunity to visit the commune of Illkirch. We are delighted that even before their arrival, students have had video calls with their friends from Alsace and continue to communicate, eagerly anticipating their meeting !



Our Swedish friends will come from Gothenburg. What is interesting to mention is that their school is an independent school that follows the Swedish curriculum but has a French profile. The Swedish delegation will be hosted in Saverne and we hope that is partnership will be strong in the future.



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