

EU Internet Award 2010

www.eu-internet-award.de

Idea

The EU has declared 2010 the **European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion** (<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?langId=en&catId=637>).

- The European Year aims to raise public awareness of the fact that social exclusion exists and how exclusion affects those who suffer from it, as well as awareness of the various facets of poverty and exclusion. It is also intended to encourage politics and media to treat this theme in a more sensitive way, so that people affected by poverty risks and exclusion are not subject to prejudices and possible discrimination.
- The European Year aims to promote a sense of common responsibility for social cohesion and inclusion among Europe's citizens. It is intended to show how individuals and society benefit from reducing social exclusion and poverty risks (e.g. a stronger democracy, social welfare, higher quality of life through peaceful social relations).

In order to make the topic and the aims of the European Year 2010 accessible to pupils and students as well and to encourage in-depth discussion about these issues in the classroom, the European Movement in Germany - Zentrum für Europäische Bildung announces the **EU Internet Award 2010**. The competition aims at:

- raising interest in "poverty and social exclusion" as a topic in class,
- fostering transnational cooperation by discussing and working on "poverty and social exclusion" in European project groups,
- contributing to the application and deepening of intercultural learning and exchange through practical project work,
- stimulating sensible usage of information and communication technologies in the classroom and establishing (school) partnerships.



Topic

The European Year for Combating Poverty and Social Exclusion provides the framework for the topic of the **EU Internet Award 2010**. The project groups can choose between two issues:

1. Integration – an answer to exclusion?

- What is exclusion? In which areas can exclusion be observed?
- What actions could schools (teachers, pupils/students, parents) take to confront exclusion?
- What could pupils/students contribute to strengthening the cohesion within a group, class, or working group of young people from different backgrounds (ethnic, social, religious)?
- Which contribution can the school community make to counter exclusion of pupils/students?
- Which specific actions are suited to prevent and tackle social isolation?

2. Qualification – making use of resources and potentials

- Which contribution can the school community make to counterbalance individual and social disadvantages suffered by pupils/students?
- How can the school community create a learning environment which grants all pupils/students equal opportunities?

The project groups are free to choose their own focus of attention and to decide if they wish to explore religious or ethical, political or social aspects of their chosen theme.

Task

The task of the **EU Internet Award** is to develop a website which discusses one or more aspects of the topic. The website has to be the result of visible co-operation amongst a project group which consists of three working groups from schools in three European countries. The teams can choose any language for their projects, but in any event a summary / short description of the results has to be given in English. The website will be presented on the internet by the participants. In particular, a good presentation will make the communication within the project group visible.

After three partners have established a European Project Group, they should carry out the following tasks:

- Choose (one or several) specific aspect(s) of the topic which you wish to treat in your joint project.
- Agree on the working forms and methods you will use (research/field study, interview/questionnaire, visit of relevant institutions or initiatives, ...)
- Find a suitable presentation for your joint website (diary, report, scenario, interactive game, comic strip, database containing information and addresses, collection of links, ...)
- Distribute tasks among the partners (who will collect which pieces of information, who will be responsible for which steps, who will contribute what until when, who will integrate everything into one joint result, ...)

Conditions of participation

Schools of every kind (but not universities) from EU member states or countries associated with the EU can take part in the **EU Internet Award**. Participants are teams (classes or project groups, not individuals) which work together either inside or outside of school. The minimum age for participants ought to be 9 years. The team needs an unambiguous project email address for any communication.

Please consider some recommendations for clear and reliable communication

"Project etiquette":

- Your communication partners should not have to guess who you are! Please state your name, your school name and town in every message.
- Messages addressed to you should not disappear in virtual Nirwana! Please answer any message that you receive, even if your reply is very short and/or negative.
- Please communicate immediately any change relating to your co-ordinates (especially your e-mail address for the contact)!
- Please inform your partners about times when you can be contacted most easily (e.g. computer access) and also about times when you cannot be reached (e.g. holidays).

- If you have made any promise or commitment, yet some change of your situation prevents you from keeping it, then please relay this information immediately. It is much better to learn bad news than to look forward to something which will never happen! Thank you very much!

Finding partners

All schools willing to participate need to register with the online database and make available all information necessary for the finding of partners and project-based team working. The database is only open to schools which have registered in search of two project partners – other visitors to the site cannot access the data. The aim is to establish a **“European Project Group”** consisting of three schools of different European countries.

Already existing school partnerships can be utilised by registering up to three partnered schools at the same time and thus forming a European Project Group.

Each registered team will receive a confirmation of their registration including a registration number and password. After that the following steps should be taken:

- Access the online database and check if your team's data are complete and correct, by using the "Update" page.
- Those who bring along partners should make sure that their partners have registered, too, and inform the organizer about the partnership.
- Those in search of partners should visit the "Search" page, where they will get a list of other registered teams who are also looking for partners.
- Select candidates from the list, contact them and ask them if they are willing to cooperate.
- When a partner has been found, please update the team's record, giving the partner's coordinates.
- As soon as an agreement between three teams has been reached, the organizer should be informed about the partnership. The three teams now constitute a European Project Group.

Time table

Action	From	To
Registration by interested schools with the online database	15 September 2009	30 November 2009
Finding partners and establishing European Project Groups	23 September 2009	10 December 2009
Working phase	January 2010	April 2010
Presentation of working results online		30 April 2010
Determining the winners by an international panel of experts		May 2010
Handing the prizes to the winners Sending of certificates to all teams which presented results		June 2010
Presentation of the award winning projects online on www.eu-internet-award.de	June 2010	December 2010

Prizes

All entries to the competition are judged in a two stage process. After an initial vote amongst the participating teams, an international jury of experts determines the best project results, according to these **criteria**:

European Dimension

C1 European dimension of the work, regarding cooperation

The actual transnational (European) cooperation of the groups of pupils involved in the project is one important aspect of the work's European dimension. In particular, a good presentation will make the dialogue within the project group visible.

C2 European dimension of the work, regarding contents

The participants, by working on the theme, should get in touch with questions relating to the process of European integration. In this sense it should be visible from the project that 'Europe' was the object of reflection.

Contents

C3 exploration of the theme

C4 clarity of the message

Presentation

C5 web-design

C6 originality / creativity

The winners will be given **prizes** amounting to a total of € 9,000. Up to 10 European project groups, i.e. up to 30 schools, will be awarded:

1 st prize:	€ 750 per school	€ 2,250 in total
2 nd prize:	€ 650 per school	€ 1,950 in total
3 rd prize:	€ 550 per school	€ 1,650 in total
4 th to 10 th prize:	€ 150 per school	€ 3,150 in total

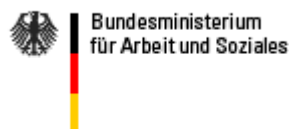
Furthermore, every team which presented results with its European Project Group receives a certificate.

Winners

To give an example and to stimulate ideas we present three successful award winning projects of the years 2005, 2008, and 2009 on www.eu-internet-award.de/seiten/internet_award/gewinner.html

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