

Capacity Building Workshop on  
"Shared Groundwater Resources Management"

2 – 4 December 2008 / Postojna, Slovenia



# YOUTH PARLIAMENT OF THE ALPINE CONVENTION

YPAC

*Katja Holnthaner Zorec, II. gimnazija Maribor*

*Darja Kravanja, II. gimnazija Maribor*



II. GIMNAZIJA MARIBOR



# What is YPAC?

The idea of the YPAC is to create parliamentary meetings in which young representatives of all member states - Slovenia, Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Principality of Liechtenstein, France, Italy- create a network in which issues of the Alpine region from the points of view of young people are being discussed and decided upon.

# What is YPAC?

## I Initiative

The Youth Parliament of the Alpine Convention (YPAC) was founded by two Austrian teachers, Mrs. Rauchegger and Mrs. Senhofer from Akademische Gymnasium Innsbruck in cooperation with Office of the Alpine Convention.



# What is YPAC?

## I Goals

- active participation of young people in the development of their Alpine surroundings and environment
- organized process for young people to form their opinions about issues of the Alpine Convention
- taking the responsibility by young people in the regional and European process of unification

# Set up of the YPAC

## I Participants

In each member state one school for 16-19 year old is nominated to send delegation of four representatives.

YPAC is the simulation of the parliamentary work and students can take part in different roles:

- **delegates**: organized in four committees, discussing issues, preparing the resolutions.
- **committee presidents**: guide the preparations, lead the discussions in committees
- **general presidents**: run the whole organization
- **press group**: reporting, filming, taking pictures

# Set up of the YPAC

## Organization scheme

- **planning:** team of teachers from each participant school choose the topic and discuss about the program of the next meeting
- **preparations:** led by general presidents and committee presidents over the internet communication (e – mail)
- **YPAC meeting:** every year on one of the participant schools

# 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the YPAC - Maribor 2008

4<sup>th</sup> March 2008: Arrival of the delegations and teachers in Maribor  
Meeting of the Committee presidents and Presidency

5<sup>th</sup> March 2008: Official ceremony at the beginning of the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the YPAC  
Guided Tour of Maribor: Joining in Committees  
1<sup>st</sup> Committee Meeting Committee Meeting with Experts  
Dinner and Evening Program

6<sup>th</sup> March 2008 2<sup>nd</sup> Committee Meeting  
1<sup>st</sup> General Assembly (Information-Assembly)  
Delegation Meeting  
3<sup>rd</sup> Committee Meeting

7<sup>th</sup> March 2008 Lobbying  
General Assembly  
Closing Ceremony  
Evening program: Farewell party

8<sup>th</sup> March 2008 Excursion in Slovenia (Bled, Postojna Cave, the Cerknica Lake,  
Ljubljana)

## 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the YPAC - Maribor 2008

- Location: II. gimnazija Maribor, Slovenija
- over 70 participants
- Topic: **“Economy versus Ecology”**
- Examples of resolutions:
  - Support price reduction for railway transportation
  - request more promotional activities for local products
  - Encourage the use of wood as a local building and manufacturing material



# 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the YPAC - Maribor 2008

## General Assembly



# 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the YPAC - Maribor 2008

Committee meeting



# 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the YPAC - Maribor 2008

## General Assembly



# YPAC - conclusions

This is a great opportunity to engage young people in discussion of the problems in the Alpine region, to exchange opinions, to learn about the Alpine region cultures and to involve them in multicultural dialog and cooperation.



[www.jugendparlament.tsn.at](http://www.jugendparlament.tsn.at)