

# The Pupils' Voice

European School of Luxembourg I

June 2014 - Edition no. 3

## Euroschool



Vassilacou in Interview	2
Infrastructure Raises Questions	3
Orchestra and Choir Trips	4
Anonymous Student	6
Mysterious Timetable Organizers	6
Graduates Reporting Back	7
Model European Council	8

## Luxembourg



Take Life One Cup at a Time	10
-----------------------------	----

## Media

A Tribute to Paco de Lucia	11
Disney Movie Review	12
Faire dodo, c'est bien!	12

## Sports



Eurosport Special	13
-------------------	----

## Featured

Globalisation	16
---------------	----

## Entertainment

Akinator	15
Comic	15

## Editorial

Putin Strikes back	18
Conchita Wurst	18
Serious Topics in Media	19
Chief Editor's Column	19

## Exclusive Interview with Raymond Acs



Image: Meldra Vasarina

In our school there are many people in the staff that we see every single day: librarians, canteen ladies, councilors, the concierge, and at the gates, the guards. Interestingly, we know almost nothing about any of these people, so wouldn't it be great to know more about them? I believe it to be important that we know about the people who work in our school, so that we students can trust them and have a proper relationship with them. At the end of the day, these people are part

of the school as much as we are. The school newspaper is a perfect opportunity to discover and share the lives of these people that are so influential to our everyday lives, so that hopefully we can see them from a different light, and understand them better. I decided to interview someone that everyone in the school knows, that everyone sees every single day, whether it be at the gates or in the corridors. Mr. Raymond Acs...

**Read on page 3**



## Globalisation

How we wipe out poor countries so we can have a better life.

**Page 14**



## Memo des Lehrers

### Stefan Haubold



Liebe Leserinnen und Leser,

ihr haltet nun bereits die 3. Ausgabe der Schulzeitung „The Pupils' Voice“ in Händen. In dieser Ausgabe wurde das Leben in unserer Schule in den Fokus gerückt. Die Schule ist schließlich mehr als eine Lernfabrik, sie ist gleichzeitig Lebensraum für Schülerinnen und Schüler, Lehrkräfte und Verwaltungspersonal. Viele von uns verbringen hier mehr Zeit als sie für Freunde und Familie außerhalb der Schule aufbringen können.

Umso wichtiger ist es, dass wir uns in unserer Schule wohlfühlen können und uns als Menschen akzeptieren und schätzen können. Die Größe der Schule bringt jedoch ein gewisse Anonymität mit sich: Oft wissen wir nicht, wer sich hinter einer E-Mail-Adresse oder einem Büroarbeitsplatz verbirgt. Und so ist es allzu leicht, auf die „Verwaltung“ zu schimpfen. Doch diese besteht aus Menschen, die allesamt das Beste für unsere Schule wollen und ihre jeweiligen Aufgaben zu erledigen haben, die aber oft unangenehme Entscheidungen treffen und verteidigen müssen.

Deshalb findet ihr in dieser Ausgabe ein Interview mit dem Wachmann Raymond Acs, der tagtäglich Konflikte am Schuleingang aushalten muss, dies aber für unsere Sicherheit tut. Außerdem sprachen unsere Redakteure mit Kari Valkama und Marcus Balloch, die in unzähligen Stunden während der Sommerferien die Stundenpläne ausarbeiten, dafür aber wenig Dank erhalten und dafür umso mehr Beschwerden ertragen müssen. Wir hoffen, dass ihr mit diesen Artikeln diese Menschen etwas besser kennenlernt und sie deshalb besser verstehen könnt.

Ein weiterer Schwerpunkt dieser Ausgabe sind die Berichte der Chor- und Orchesterfahrten nach Italien und Griechenland, die unter der Leitung von Noel Morgan durchgeführt wurden. Wenn es gelingt, etwas von der Begeisterung überspringen zu lassen, welche die Schülerinnen und Schüler von diesen Fahrten mitbringen, kann die Schule auf das Schulleben stolz sein, das sie erfüllt!

Ich danke der Redaktion unter der Leitung von Chefredakteur Joshua Oudendijk für ihre phantastische Arbeit und wünsche euch viel Spaß beim Lesen!

Stefan Haubold

## The Pupils' Voice

### Goes Green

This newspaper has been made using recycled paper. It feels good to protect the environment!



## Marie-Laure Sultan - Not just a teacher

**Teachers. We see them everyday, all year round, and for some reason we know very little about them. One stereotype is that teachers haven't got any hobbies and spend their time marking homework, but truth is lots of teachers do in fact do interesting things besides school. I interviewed Mrs. Sultan and was quite surprised by her passion.**

Mrs. Sultan has been a singer since her childhood. As I was very interested, I asked her how it all began. "I started singing in the shower" she told me with a warm smile. "My brother told me my voice was unbearable. But I never gave up and kept on practicing!"

She studied literature at the age of 17 because this was and will always be her passion. It was time again to work hard and study carefully. As her weeks were full of learning and exams, the time for music was very limited. At university, she had found a way to get both, music and studying, into her life by entering the OCUP (Orchestre et Choeur des Universités de Paris).

At the age of 19 she started a band with some friends playing blues, jazz and funk. Initially they performed at small venues and weddings of their friends and family. Even little pubs in Paris were among the gigs. The owners started offering them dinner and money from which they bought better equipment. Upon asking her what her favourite memory was she enthusiastically said "The «Fête de la Musique» in «Saint Germain des Prés»! We played between 8 pm and 2 am. The place was full! People were really dancing to the rhythm of the music!" When Mrs. Sultan started teaching in 2001 it became difficult to keep her voice clear. Unfortunately, she had to stop singing. Moving to Freiburg in 2007 she joined the choir of the Lycées Franco-Allemand together with her students and colleagues.

It's incredible what a life a teacher can have before moving to Luxembourg. Here, Mrs. Sultan tries to maintain music in her life so she made up a choir with 9 other singers which are Belgian, French, Luxembourgish, Polish, Romanian and Swedish.

Luckily, music is not unwelcomed at our school. A month ago, her colleagues Peter Cafferky and Peter Clarke invited her to sing at their next concert with their band "The Hudsons Blues". She enjoys having



Image: Helena Mello Rose

the fantastic opportunity to sing blues with such gentlemen.

But what interested me the most was, what music means to her: "What I really love is to feel that we can express emotions as a group and feel that we have to take care of each other and to do the best possible. My favourite music styles to sing are baroque (I love Purcell, Bach...) and jazz-blues (Billie Holiday for example)."

As a matter of fact, what I have learnt from this interview goes beyond the fact that some teachers can actually sing. I think now I am generally more interested knowing Mme. Sultans background, and seeing her in a different light. I think this sort of relationship with a teacher can really benefit the lessons, and if all the teachers did it then probably it would make other subjects more interesting too. If just more teachers would compare and combine interests in their lessons, to inspire students, to involve students, and to communicate just like ordinary humans, and not make us just absorb data like machines, then student might give more attention in classes. Wouldn't we?

Janina Garboutcheva

## Interview with Toula Vassilacou

"The Pupils' Voice" thought it was a great idea to ask Mme. Vassilacou some questions looking back on the school year of 2013/2014, and most importantly ask about future changes and events.



To begin, we asked her whether she thought this year was successful: "There is definitely a pedagogical success this year. I see it because the students are happy. One of our main concerns is security, and another is the happiness of the students. These are indicators that, along with the success of the compos and baccalaureate, measure the pedagogical success of the school. And of course how many students fail the year. We also compete in a lot of contests and we do a lot of projects. So far, all these things have brought me to the conclusion that we are a successful school." Then we asked her about the growth of the school, and whether there are many new teachers or students, where Mme Vassilacou replied: ►

"Normal amount of newcomers, although it happens that quite a few teachers will be ending their career as a teacher here".

After these questions we entered a conversation about the changes that have, and will happen to our school:

#### ■ Has there been any big/noticeable changes this year since the last?

No, not really. Although, we have become a lot more active in the primary school's anti-bullying project (KIVA), and with the school's Comenius project. We also now have more collaboration with other schools, especially other European Schools.

#### ■ Will there be any major changes next year?

Yes. There will be the application of the Reform, for the new years 1, 2, and 3. This means that L3 will start in Year 1, you can start Latin in Year 2, and in Year 3, religion will be in the student's second language.

#### ■ Is it true that Human Sciences will no longer be in L2?

No, it will remain as it is. It's just a rumour.

#### ■ Why put religion in L2?

The Representatives of the 28 Ministries of Education of Member States decided to offer for religion to be in L2 to economise, and to harmonize with Human Sciences.

#### ■ Why will Latin be introduced in Year 2 instead of Year 3?

The working group of inspectors think this will help students learn better. Also, in most countries, learning Latin starts at the equivalent of Year 2.

#### ■ Is the school going ahead with the mixing of the sciences?

In Years 1, 2, and 3, no. In the years above, no reform has yet been decided on, but it's still under discussion.

#### ■ Will anything ever get done about T and L blocks?

About T block, yes, but the problem is we need it. About trying to get rid of the smell problem, we are going to get the dirty water evacuated more often. In the case of L block, we have started the procedure to remove it, although this could take up to 2 years.

#### ■ Will we have a new canteen provider next year?

Yes, we are holding a contest-like event to decide who will be our food provider. This happens every 4 years, not just for the food provider, also for things like guards, cleaners, photocopying machines etc.

#### ■ Will there be anything done in the courtyard?

Yes, after L block is removed, we will build a multi-sports terrain in its place. This will be done by the Batiment Public. We are also putting in more benches and plants, both inside and outside.

#### ■ Is there anything students/parents have complained about this year?

-Complaints? Well, from the students, not really, it's almost always requests for things to be done. There have been quite a few teachers who have been unhappy with decisions of reductions in salary, but this is not the schools decision, it's a decision made by the Board of Governors.

#### ■ How do you handle complaints?

Well, first, I listen. After that, I encourage the parents to talk to the student's teacher, and then most of the time a solution is found. If not, they talk to me, and we take action immediately.

#### ■ Is there anything you would like to improve in the school?

(laughs) There is always room for improvement!

Alexandra Laidlaw, Tirion Lindsay, Zoe Upton

## Interview with Raymond Acs (continued)

Raymond Acs is our French (originally from Belgium) guard, that we see every day at the entrance or circulating the school. We all know that his job here is to guarantee the security of the people in the school, but this is not always very easy, as Mr. Acs specifies: "Usually there is no difficulty, but sometimes it can be difficult to remain calm when students are over-disruptive, or un-cooperative, but these are real minor problems, until now, I have had a smooth experience here at this school."

Prior to working at the European School, Mr. Acs was a laminator in a factory where he made and assembled body parts of cars and other vehicles. After that, he became a security guard, and has been at our school since 2005 (that is longer than any other guard). When asked about what he liked about the school, Mr. Acs, initially said jokingly "L'Ambience", but when he developed the answer, he showed real enthusiasm in working at this school: "This school is huge! It really has some infrastructure and facilities that you couldn't even dream of in any other school. What is also great is to be part of some special evenings: like the musicals, discos, and especially Luxfactor, which was a really nice change to my daily routine." Mr. Acs then went on to tell an amusing story about the BAC ceremonies, where students he has seen for 7 years were miserable most of the time at school, and suddenly were really happy to see him and thank him for his help at the ceremony. Overall, he is happy and thankful for the fact he hasn't had any really bad situations with any of the students, "which makes all the difference to wanting to go to work".

This interview really helped to get to know better the person that I see every day and discover more about his personality. Unfortunately, most people only get the chance to talk to him when they have done something wrong, which really isn't the way to meet and create a relationship with any person. Undoubtedly, he is unapologetically thorough and strict with his job, which is quite understandable, and professional. Most of all, coming out of this interview, I learnt more than just facts and information. On the contrary, having a chat with him showed him in a completely different light than before- he even cracked some jokes! - and showed that there is much more than the stern and serious face we are all used to.

Niccolo Hurst

## New Infrastructure Raises Questions

As the students and teachers returned from their well-deserved Easter holiday last month, an interesting observation was made outside the entrance to the school cafeteria. A door stopper in the shape of a triangle made out of three tubes of metal had been placed next to the bins to prevent the door from slamming into the wall when hungry and a little-too-enthusiastic kids come rushing out with their Pain au chocolate and Baguette.



Image: Joshua Oudendijk

"The Pupils' Voice" was impressed by the good investment the European School has made. However, many question the usefulness and stability of this piece of infrastructure. Editor Niccolo Hurst took a closer look and interviewed by passers on their opinion. After analysing the metal bars, Scip de Vries, a 5th year student, came to the conclusion that "the door stopper is far too big" and an unnecessary obstacle to place in front of the entrance. Also Pauline Courtin and Elisa Amerini regard the pole as a waste of money. The girls would rather see investments in other parts of the school, such as classrooms.

From all the interviews, only Leonardo Gazzola and Enrique Puente believe this pole is a fantastic improvement. "Now the door doesn't chip out paint out of the beautiful white wall anymore," says Leonardo. He would like to encourage the school to place more of these facilities. "I'm amazed by this, it makes me want to take it home". If I am not mistaken, I can see a tear running down the corner of his left eye. His friend Enrique disagrees, debating that a smaller door stopper placed in the ground be adequate instead of a massive triangular pyramid. Suddenly, he bumps his elbow into me and gasps at his discovery. "The door handle and the door stopper are made of the same metal! They fit together perfectly!" Meanwhile, the circular crowd has attracted Konstanty Wilczynski's attention. He is not too satisfied with the welding, arguing that it was a little messy and lacking perfection.

After a productive lunch break, the staff from the newspaper came to the conclusion that not everyone was pleased with the stopper. Whilst some see it as a piece of art, others remain skeptical about the school's recent investment.



## Choir trip to Karditsa, Greece

On the 11th of March during the morning break, 27 Secondary school pupils representing all 7 years and 9 different language sections left Luxembourg for an International Choir Festival in Karditsa, Greece. We were accompanied by Mr Noel Morgan and Ms Louise Hottias.

After driving to Brussels-Charleroi airport by coach, we caught the plane to Thessaloniki where another 2 hour bus journey awaited us to take us down to Karditsa. Upon arriving, the hotel staff treated us like royalty; chefs were still active in the kitchens at midnight to serve us dinner at 00:10 in the morning.

The Karditsa School Choirs Festival can be considered one of the largest in Europe. Thousands of students participate during a whole week organised by Mr Nikos Efthimiades. Most participating schools were from Greece, Crete and the Greek islands but for 6 years it has also been open to a more international circle. We joined the choir festival on two days, each performance lasting approximately half an hour. We met many different choirs coming from different corners of Greece and had the opportunity to socialise and laugh with different schools.

A great thing about being together with a choir is that you randomly burst into a song any place any time, whether it be on pedal boats on Lake Plastiras, the amphitheatre at Delphi, a hospital for old patients or in front of the Trikkala major. At the amphitheatre, the lady behind the counter had told us it was strictly forbidden to sing in the

arena on top of the hill. But a mixture of Mr. Morgan and wild choir singers is a dangerous combination! So we walked into the arena, placed ourselves in a semi-circle and hummed a few notes to get us into tune. We decided to sing "Pastime with Good Company", a very powerful piece. Ms. Hottias drummed her beat on the African drum. The music was magical, triumphant and precise. A security guard came jogging down the stairs in disgrace halfway during our song waving at us to stop immediately. Unfortunately for him, it was too much fun to stop. The guard reached out and tried to grab the drums off Ms. Hottias, failing miserably since she turned away at the right moment. He mumbled into his walkie-talkie, calling for back-up. We finished on a nervous last note, and Mr. Morgan moved off to deal with the Greek guard. He wanted to punish us, but decided to let us go. We ran out through the front gate and quickly drove off. It was the highlight for a lot of us. From that day on, we were criminals - we sang against the law.

As this is my second year in the choir, I must conclude that it is awesome. Last year we travelled to Munich, which was a lovely place. In 2012, the choir flew to Helsinki. As well as performing and having loads of fun singing, you get to meet so many people from different language sections, cultures and age groups. The only challenge is catching up with all the school work when you get back, but trust me, it is totally worth it. I hope the choir trips will continue to be as great as they are each year. Big thanks to Mr. Morgan for all the hard work, effort and organisation. These trips are a lifetime experience! **Kirsty Smith**



## Our School's Orchestra & Band on European Tour



Between 1st - 5th April 2014, the Orchestra and Jazz Group of the European Schools of Luxembourg I & II under the leadership of music teacher Noel Morgan toured Germany and Italy giving several concerts in the schools of the Lise-Meitner Gymnasium in Grenzach-Wyhlen and the European School of Varese. The orchestra has grown this year with encouragement from the music teachers. In particular, Louise Hottias, Vincent Jaminet and Martin Bennett have assisted with the general ensemble though only the two Belgians came on tour. There are now over 30 members in the orchestra and most are in the lower part of the school and so there is every probability that there will be even more of us next year. The school Jazz Band was reformed this year after a few years absence and is making a remarkable re-emergence.

Joao, an excellent coach driver from Emile Frisch, and soon to be a formidable member of our staff team, collected us on Tuesday 1st April. We drove to a German Gymnasium, Lise Meitner, in ►





a town named Grenzach-Wyhlen situated only a few kilometers off the Swiss border. The violins, trumpets, trombones, clarinets, timpani, xylophones, amplifiers and what not were all closely packed together in the luggage compartments. We arrived to a delightful welcome from Manfred Stratz, the Director and Andreas Walter, the Music Teacher. Manfred taught in our ES Lux until 2003.

Of course, part of being on tour and playing at different locations is that you have to set up everything on stage before the show. However, this is not as bad as it seems, and as strange as it may sound, gives you even more of a team spirit. After a few rehearsals, we left for the Youth hostel close by in order to be back early the next morning for our first concert.

We had two successful concerts with the Orchestra and the Nulux Jazz Band in the school. After packing up our instruments and a school lunch, we headed south to Ostello di Verbania on the West coast of Lago di Maggiore where we all settled quickly with magnificent views over the Lake. The journey was long, but the humorous bus driver kept us entertained. He'd always play pranks on us when we'd get off the bus, pretend he had stumbled and broken his nose or screamed in shock because he had lost his wallet and phone. Very amusing!

This original idea of this orchestra trip started with a discussion between Noel Morgan and Stefan Krauss, the music teacher of Varese and the main focus of the trip was always to be the collaboration of three orchestras and jazz bands (ES Varese, ES Luxembourg and ES Munich) on 3rd April.

Joao took us to the ES of Varese in the morning. When we entered their concert hall, we were confronted by a huge crowd of students and teachers that were in the middle of a rehearsal. They stuffed a piece of paper into

our hands before we had the opportunity to sit down and as it turned out, they were the lyrics to the current pop hit "Happy". There was no time for questions, because the band started playing. Most of us joined in, no idea what we were doing, whilst others' eyes moved from paper to the jumping conductor with confusion.

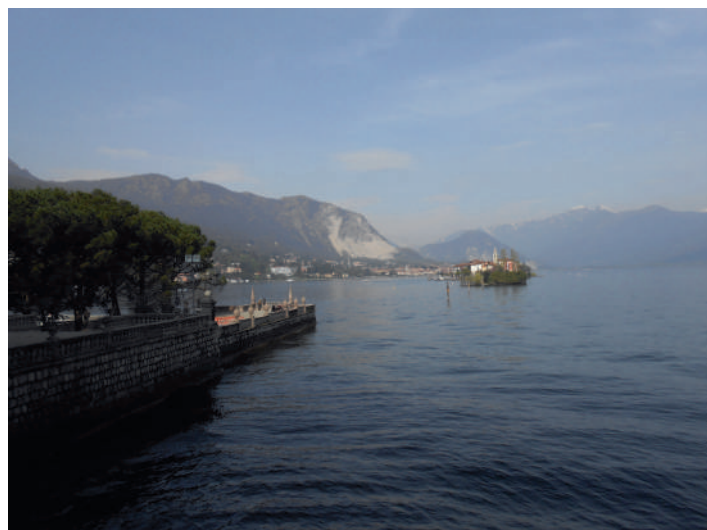
The day was filled with long rehearsals for the big concert that night. In comparison to the concert room in Varese, the Salles de Fetes really is much more spectacular. The European School of Munich was also attending and it was a lot of fun playing some pieces together with both orchestras. The jazz was even more wicked, as we had 4 times the amount of instruments. The rhythm section faced a little problem though because there were 3 bassists, 5 guitarists and 5 drummers, all wanting to play the same piece. But with a bit of communication all issues were solved rapidly. The grooves of some pieces were insanely good. It was an honour to play together with so many great musicians. We literally blew the roof off!

Besides the concerts, Mr. Morgan had also organised some sightseeing trips. We headed for Milan, walked through its massive shopping mall and other special parts of town. On our last day we went to visit the Isola Bella house and gardens on the Borromean Islands. The weather turned out to be really warm and sunny which made it a nice last chapter of the trip. The highlight of our leisure time came the following morning with azure skies and a warm spring day seeing the orchestra climb onto a private motor launch which took us across the lake to Isola Bella, one of the most beautiful jewels in Italy.

This is my first year playing clarinet in the orchestra and Nulux Jazz band. I was a bit nervous to join because I hadn't been playing very long, however Mr Morgan encouraged me to have a go and I'm so glad I did. The fellow musicians are very friendly and my clarinet skills are improving day by day! **Kirsty Smith**

Last week I was lucky, as a parent to be allowed to join the last leg of the orchestra trip to the Munich and Varese schools. At the meeting point in front of the busy Castello Sforzesco square in Milan, I identified a motley troupe as the orchestra. The members were diverse in every aspect imaginable; from barely one to two meters in height, speaking in different languages and dressed in outfits ranging from winter to summer, from hippy to combat. 'How can such a miscellaneous group ever function', was my first thought.

During the subsequent visits to the Scala, the Duomo, the icecream parlour, the Luini bar and then the next day the Palazzo Borromeo at Isola Bella and the bus journey home, I indeed found teenagers each unique and very different from one another, but at the same time I also discovered a unity and incredible coherence amongst them. Disarmingly open-minded, they interacted in such natural harmony, that it became crystal clear that under Mr Morgan's flamboyant conductorship, and with the enthusiastic assistance of Ms Hottias, Mr Jaminet and the driver Joao this group not merely worked, but simply flourished as his happy orchestra. **Helen van Gilst**





# Anonymous Student

Their identity will be kept

**CONFIDENTIAL**

*Note: The anonymous student changes per edition.*



School - boring everyday routine or a road to success - you choose.

It seems that school tends to give students different opinions and feelings towards it. When walking through the hallways in the mornings, you can see many students chatting happily with each other, people laughing and shouting and some frantically trying to finish their homework. But, as soon as the bell rings, the boring every-day routine starts, and counting the minutes until the end of class begins.

Each year, every section from the same year gathers in the Salle-des-Fêtes with Mme Vassilacou to discuss the school year and what could be improved (which seem to be the same every year and always get the same answers). Students are always complaining about the schooldays being too long, too much homework and tests being given, etc. I'm sure everyone knows that we can't have shorter schooldays, less tests, or that you can't leave school during lunch if you're too young, but we decide to complain anyway. Unfortunately, these are things we can't do anything about. But, there are other things we can change. For example; some students think school is boring and just unnecessary. The truth is everyone knows we need to go to school, so why not just make the best of it? In the end, this is for our own good, how else would we end up having

a great career and being successful?

There are so many students with a lot of potential, sometimes all you need to do is look at things from another perspective, find some motivation. If you think your classes or teachers are boring, try to look at it another way, perhaps if you knew more about the subject or understood it better, you'd like it more. We can't just expect every teacher to be funny or really nice to a class full of students who don't do any work. They're just doing their job, so if you want a teacher to like you or to be nice to you, you have to meet them half way, do something. I'm sure most teachers are nice to you if you do your work and show them respect, and to be honest, that isn't very hard.

Ten years from now, we're all going to be looking back on these school years and realise that they were, or could've been, the best years of our life. This here is the start to everything. If we study hard and stay focused, we could achieve anything later in life, we could finish school and get into a great college, find a nice job, start the career you've always dreamed of, make your parents proud, and most of all, make yourself proud. This is our time, and we can make the absolute best of it, with plenty of memories and moments of achievement and pride to look back on.

**Anonymous**

## The Mysterious Timetable Organizers

**Who hasn't asked themselves how all the timetables and exams are organized? Well, there are four helping hands who are working throughout the year to make our school life the least stressful possible. Is the task difficult for them? We interviewed Mr. Valkama and Mr. Balloch to learn more about their responsible job.**

"Last year was a very hard one since the school had split up. There was lots of organizing to do. Fortunately, this year the workload has gone down and it is much easier for us," said Mr. Valkama, coordinator for the 6th and 7th year. Mr. Balloch, the coordinator for 4th and 5th year added that one reason for this is the fewer number of students.

Their main job, they both told us, is to plan the timetables, the exam schedules and the applications to join the school for new students. "We work a lot together, although we also teach some normal classes such as science and maths and have many other different things to do."

One would have thought, as they are making the timetables, they could arrange the classes so that they get the best students. Upon asking Mr. Balloch, he laughed and told us "Of course". Evidently this is not possible, as it is a lot of work to simply arrange all the students to make everyone happy.

Each year, both men have to go through the same process again and again. "I get around 200 papers with the first choice of every student in 5th year for the 6th year, which I then try to transform into one single timetable which satisfies as many students as possible. This isn't simple. We have to start in November to organize it. If you want to know more specific information, you can find lots in the booklet about the subject choices every 5th year student receives (which is also online)."

So how come not everyone can receive their optimized timetable and 25% of the students have



**Kari Valkama (left), Marcus Balloch (right) use special computer software and spend hours and hours to arrange every single timetable.**

to make a second choice? There must be a rain of complaints.

"You can try to calculate all options you could choose, there are so many, so the basic complaint is that two classes that you have chosen run at the same time so you have to make a choice between them. Sometimes, it's also the case that there aren't enough students for a course, but that's more rarely the case." Mr. Valkama notes that if your choice doesn't work it's not very delighting, but trying to bribe the coordinators won't work. Mr. Balloch: "I'm against bribery. If students offer me a bottle of whiskey or to wash my car I won't accept. Oh and, by the way, my car does indeed need to be washed!"

**Nadja Joachim & Clara Schenk**

## School Library: Educational and Fun Place

**The library, situated on the ground floor in A Block, is a great educational and fun area to study and read. Even though students know there is a library, it remains unused by a large percentage of the pupils.**

The library is a great place to visit. You can study for whatever subject you wish and find additional information on them in the library's vast collection of specialized books. There are thousands of books in all languages of the European School. Each month, recently published books arrive (thanks to the school and APPEE) for us students. Right now, the library is full of amazing literature and information waiting to be read. If you ever need help finding anything, simply ask the librarian who is always around. There is a maximum of 3 books to borrow.



The library is managed by our librarian, Patricia Delbrassinne. She is a translator and used to be a teacher in Luxembourgish schools for a few years. Now her job in the library consists of cataloging the new arrivals in the internet (where they can be found on bibnet.lu). She also has to manage old and new books so that they all fit in the library, and sometimes has to take the old ones and put them into storage due to a shortage in space. She is the person who orders all the books being asked for by all the teachers and students and has to send the lists to different, international publishing houses. Ms Delbrassinne keeps in contact with other libraries in Luxembourg, such as The National Library, The City Library and the Mamer Library. Another part of her daily routine is binding books to protect them and helping younger students with their homework.

The library in Luxembourg 1 has about 30,000 books in English, German, French, Spanish, Lithuanian, Latvian, Irish, Luxembourgish, Swedish, Finnish, Bulgarian, Dutch and there's even a small section of books in Italian.

The biggest part of the books in the library are chosen by teachers from all the sections. They have a budget given by Brussels to buy the books. The school receives between 20,000€ - 25,000€ each year, and the money is divided by languages depending of the number of pupils per section. The school also receives an important amount of money from the parents' association. When there is remaining money at the end of a calendar year (January-December), the librarian uses the money to buy books from the suggestion box that students are allowed to fill with the novels they wish to be able to borrow.

Now that you know this, why don't you close the newspaper and go the library and find something cool to read, huh?

**Beatriz Stoyanov**



# Graduates Reporting Back

Julia König and Eduardo Almeida both graduated from the European School in 2011 and 2013. How are they doing now? The Pupils' Voice went to find out.



Julia König (on the left) with Mylène Zamboo, also a 2011 graduate from the school.

Before I dive into an account of my life, I should probably give you a bit of background information. My name is Julia König, I was in the German section and I did my BAC in 2011. Now I study at the University of Maastricht, although there was a bit of a detour - and that's exactly what I'm going to tell you about.

When you get to 6th year, everyone starts talking about universities. You look at rankings, at possible countries you could see yourself move to, you do the whole application procedure and curse at the bureaucracy that seems to exist for the sole purpose of taking the wind out of your wings. I was in that position too, and I thought long and hard about what I wanted to do and thought I had it all figured out. After a while, your response to the question "So what are you doing after school?" becomes a sort of speech you know off by heart. But here's the thing: Things might turn out completely differently, and that's okay.

I didn't get into my first choice University, decided not to opt for my second choice and instead enrolled in a History programme at the University of Luxembourg. I lasted about two months before I realised that I was not going to stay there. Catholic Theology and English Linguistics at a university in Germany didn't really do it for me either, so I ended up in Maastricht. It was a string of coincidences, laced with continued frustration and a sense of restlessness. I wanted to get started for real and finally feel like I'd found what I was meant to be doing. It all sounds dramatic when you put it that way, but I suppose it kind of is. You're met with so many

expectations and everyone just assumes that you have your life figured out at 18, it makes the whole university thing seem like a bigger deal than it is. Don't get me wrong, pursuing higher education is in fact quite a big deal, but don't let yourself be led astray by trivial things (ie. University rankings) and don't ever feel like you can't change your mind. So many people from my year have changed their majors or Universities, and I am confident enough to say that none of us will be worse off than the ones who stuck to their initial plans. If you make sure you have a rough idea of where you're going (if you want to end up being a Doctor, you should probably study something to do with medicine...) and you try to be realistic about your expectations, you'll be fine.

“Don't ever feel like you can't change your mind.”

In the end, I found what I believe to be the perfect programme for me (I study everything to do with European Integration, mainly the legal and historical perspectives on it). I love the people and the city and would not trade it for anything in the world. Would I do anything differently if I were to go back in time and do it all over again? To be honest, I wouldn't. I like the way things turned out.

If this one opinion isn't convincing enough for you, let me share with you the following anecdote... My mother went to the European School of Luxembourg as well (BAC '81), and just before my final exams started, I accompanied her to her 30-year reunion. Almost all of her former classmates showed up from all corners of the world, and there were more than a few that admitted to their lives not being what they'd first envisioned. One person always thought they would grow up to be a journalist, and now they're an accountant. Another started studying Geography, dropped out and became a translator. None of these people seemed in any way unhappy or laden with regrets.

I suppose what I would like to take away from this is that you should not take your immediate future too seriously. Things will inevitably turn out somewhat different from what you expected, no matter how much preparation you put into it. If you're open to this mindset and let yourself deviate from the course you set yourself, you'll probably end up a whole lot happier than if you stubbornly stick to a decision despite your better judgement. **Julia König**



Eduardo Almeida in front of the Guildford School of Acting.

I finished school last year and I am currently a student at the Guildford School of Acting (part of the University of Surrey) doing a foundation course in Acting. So much has happened since I started my course in September that it is hard to put in a few words how my experience of university has been, but one thing I can say for certain: it has been fun. It is true that there are challenges, there is a lot of work (yes, even in an Acting course) and at times it feels a bit overwhelming but the good always seems to outweigh the bad.

Learning how to live alone, for example, might seem hard. Learning how to cook, clean, do your laundry and all those other things everyone has to do when they get to university might sound boring but, on the other hand, you do it all yourself. You make your own rules and decide how to live your own life and that freedom is worth all the work (you also get to decide what time you get back home after a night out, which between you and me is never really a bad thing).

Going to university opens up a whole new world of experiences and opportunities but the best thing about it, by far, are the people you meet which make the whole experience worth it. The friends you make will lead you to things you never thought you could do. And there have been times throughout the year where I have thought back to my time in School and to the friends that I am no longer with, and I have missed them, but in the end you never really lose the friends you made in school and you learn to live with the fact that School is over and the rest of your life had begun. **Eduardo Almeida**



When you're from the European School, buying schoolbooks every year can be a real hassle, not to mention expensive. We decided that had to stop. Our solution? [www.eurobooks.lu](http://www.eurobooks.lu), the online second hand bookshop for European School students. EuroBooks allows you to sell your old books, and also buy second hand ones, saving you on average 125€ a year and up to 20€ a book! So head over to [www.eurobooks.lu](http://www.eurobooks.lu) and start buying and selling!

## Cours de chant et introduction au piano

Chanteur professionnel, avec expérience de l'enseignement en tant que professeur de chant (adulte), la théorie de la musique et les débutants de piano (d'enfants), prix d'honneur dans le Conservatoire du Liceo du Barcelone et un diplôme en éducation musicale de l'Université de Barcelone, enseigne aux enfants à l'École européenne de Kirchberg.

Les personnes intéressées peuvent envoyer un email ou appeler

[rnabal@gmail.com](mailto:rnabal@gmail.com)

Luxembourg 691 655 882

Like us on Facebook! Scan the code below or go to [facebook.com/thepupilsvoice](https://facebook.com/thepupilsvoice)



Reader Mail

[newspaper.euroschoo@gmail.com](mailto:newspaper.euroschoo@gmail.com)



Contrary to popular belief, MEC does not refer to the French term "mec", (the equivalent of the English dude), but to something which our school considers infinitely more productive. As Mr Julian Archer, one of the MEC advisors tells us, MEC is merely an abbreviation of Model European Council. Anyone still lost? For a clear and concise explanation, take a look at Mr Archer's one on the right. If not, then read on.

One of the coolest things about MEC is the mix of nationalities, not just of the people you meet, but also the ones that you, yourself, end up representing. Your own nationality has no effect on the official country you have to represent at MEC. So for example, to take an extreme case, you could well end up being half Swedish half German in the English section of Lux II, but representing Italy at MEC.



EU finance ministers looking intrigued

On the whole I'd say this year's MEC went pretty smoothly; except for the minor hassle on the way to Brussels (also known as the "terrorist attack"). In short, as our bus was parking by a petrol station in Belgium, a Polish lorry drove into us, knocking off the bus mirror (pictured below). This in itself was not too drastic, though we were forced to wait for over an hour and a half, which caused us (students from Lux I and Lux II) to miss the opening of MEC...

It is debateable as to whether it is harder to be a journalist or a politician. Many politicians have said that their role was harder (what with all the public speaking and being put on the spot), while I'm sure my fellow journalists would agree that, while we weren't really put on the spot, the stress of producing a complete newspaper in

only a couple of hours was a colossal challenge (ever thought having to write an essay for the next day was stressful? Try and do that same essay for the next hour). It all depends on your personality. Of course, there's the obvious stereotype that the outspoken ones will be politicians while the "shyer" ones become the journalists, and while it's true that you need to be confident to be a politician, the journalists are by no means props who perch at the back of a conference hall, taking notes in the hope of writing a perfectly structured article. Sure, being a seemingly innocuous statue during the council meetings is part of it, but a true journalist is one who can ask the politicians tough, often unpleasant questions.

What I love about MEC is that it shows that politics isn't the dry, tedious topic that it's made out to be. It's not a walk in the park, but it is fascinating stuff. It was incredible to see the passion of some of the other students. Also, as Elizabete and Kristian both say, forming international alliances is a huge part of MEC, and I thought that the collaboration between the journalists of our newspaper and the politicians from Luxembourg was fantastic!

There is so much to say, but rather than bore you with pages and pages of description, I now give the floor to Kristian Sutt (who represented the Spanish head of state), and Elizabete Ludborza: editor of our MEC newspaper, The Point. Hopefully, these two interviews will give you an idea of what it's really like. And if that's not enough... well then there's only one way to find out!

“They discuss, argue, threaten and bribe each other.”

## Our correspondent interviewed Kristian Sutt (head of state) and Elizabete Ludborza (newspaper editor) about their experiences of MEC.



Elizabete Ludborza

### ■ The Pupils' Voice: What was the biggest challenge at MEC?

*Kristian:* Personally, the biggest challenge was to get certain countries to support you which they, according to prior research, wouldn't normally do. However, I enjoyed lobbying at coffee breaks and achieving the impossible of winning support from unexpected countries. I think in politics it is very important to have the skill of persuading a person who is against you to eventually vote for you.

*Elizabete:* Without a doubt the biggest challenge for me was to make sure our paper was ready to publish before reaching the deadlines. As soon as we, the journalists, arrived at the Eurocontrol offices, we had a million tasks to complete – whether that be holding interviews with specific politicians, asking for quotes, reporting on the councils which lasted a couple of hours at least, etc... When you have so much to accomplish in approximately 5-6 hours' time, it's hard to even find the time to sit down and edit each article separately, let alone write an editorial or eat lunch! Thankfully, I had a great team with me which I could rely on, so they made sure my sanity was in check at all times!

### ■ The Pupils' Voice: What was your favourite part?

*Kristian:* My favourite part at MEC was the Council 1, the sessions for heads of state where the proposals were discussed, because I was very confident in my

## Julian Archer, along with Mireille Marciano and Christopher Atkinson, was our advisor at MEC. In this interview, he explains the basics, and fills us in on some past experiences.

### ■ The Pupils' Voice: How would you explain ME to someone who didn't know what it was?

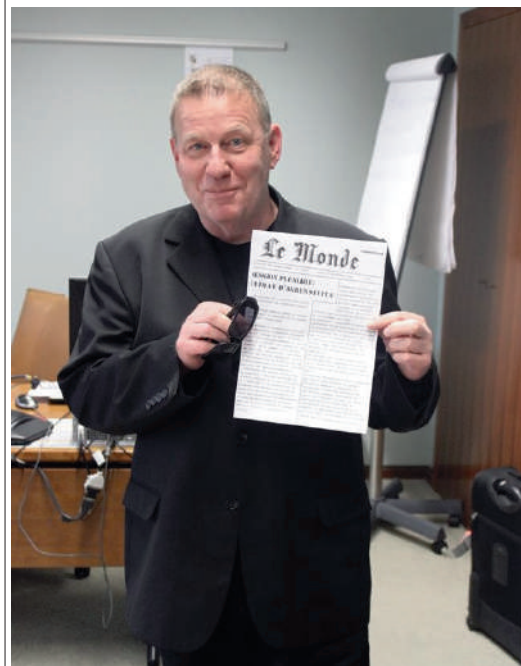
*Julian Archer:* It's a political role-playing exercise in which students represent ministers (and journalists) from all the EU member states, plus the European Commission. For two and a half days, they discuss, argue, threaten and bribe each other, before voting on and signing solutions on the proposals they've been discussing. Just like the real European Council, but with frequently more idealistic and positive outcomes.

### ■ The Pupils' Voice: What will you remember the most from this year?

*Julian Archer:* Being "attacked by terrorists" on the way to Brussels?

### ■ The Pupils' Voice: What's your best memory from MEC (in all the years you've done it)?

*Julian Archer:* They've all been good; from Munich to Goteborg, Varese to Brussels, Luxembourg to Madrid and Alicante (the Spanish have always been superb hosts). The only time we felt unwelcome was, surprisingly, an MEP session at the real European Parliament... very surly and dismissive, quite unlike the wonderful welcome at Eurocontrol (this year)!



### ■ The Pupils' Voice: You've been doing MEC since the 1980s. How has it evolved over the years?

*Julian Archer:* I've been an advisor at every MEC/MEP except the very first; the programme hasn't changed a great deal. The students we take are still talented, motivated, eager to debate and report. Though there are smaller political teams now – enlargement of the of the EU means we now represent 29 countries and the Commission, so delegations are half the size of those we took in the 1980s. We at Lux I now ask for as many countries as we can get, and traditionally take a ten-person press team. Students like you... One thing which certainly hasn't changed over the years is the support we have had from the ESL. Successive administrations have seen MECP as a flagship programme and given us essential and willing help; we couldn't do it without their goodwill.



arguments and it felt good to win them over to your side. I had many heated arguments with UK's prime minister, but at the end of the day the EU leaders decided to make history and agree on some very beneficial proposals. I liked being a head of state for two days and I had a great team of ministers who were very well prepared and made our delegation look very dominant and constantly in the spotlight.

**Elizabete:** My favourite part was getting to meet so many like-minded people from other European Schools, who were just as passionate about discussing the many vital issues that face our continent. I still keep in touch with some to this day and hope that it wasn't the first and last time meeting them. I also loved the co-operation between the politicians from Luxembourg and our journalists. They kept us up to date with any controversial statements being made off-the-record by the other politicians and we helped them out whenever we could. It all worked out seamlessly.

■ **The Pupils' Voice:** What did you learn from it, and how might this help you later on?



Kristian Sutt


Image: Chris Teichmeister

**Kristian:** Debating current affairs at the same seat where prominent EU leaders do it on regular basis opens up a new perspective on politics. I learned how to come up with even stronger and more convincing arguments, which was the key in achieving my goals at Council 1. My lobbying skills were put to a test and I improved them a


great deal. I'm certain that experiencing high level debate and discussion will benefit my future career as a lawyer because practicing law is all about arguing for your side of the story and backing it up with factual evidence. MEC is a great experience for everyone since there is a lot to learn from it no matter what your future plans might be.

**Elizabete:** Oh boy, what didn't I learn from it? Most importantly – management. You have got to stay organized at all times. In all aspects of work, organization and management is key, otherwise things start going south. This is especially true for MEC journalists, for example, making sure the journalists knew exactly what articles everybody was writing to eliminate the possibility of writing about the same event twice. Contacts are also really important, as mentioned previously!

I think no matter what you plan on doing later on in life, participating in MEC will be beneficial. You are exposed to people you don't know, you have to stand up for what you (more specifically, your country) believes in, basically you have to give a 110% in whatever it is you're doing. I could honestly not say enough good things about MEC and would highly recommend it to anyone, you won't regret it. Promise.



USE YOUR POWER.  
CHOOSE WHO'S IN CHARGE IN EUROPE.



## EU Quiz - How well do you know the EU?

With the European Parliament elections on May 25th, we thought we'd test you to see how much you known about them. Why not give it a go? You'll find the answers on the bottom of this page, flipped around.

### Question 1

Who are these two men? What do they have in common?



### Question 2

Can you name the party which had the most seats in Parliament last year?

### Question 4

Which country had the highest voting turnout in 2009?

### Question 3

How many seats will there be this year?



### Question 5

The lowest?



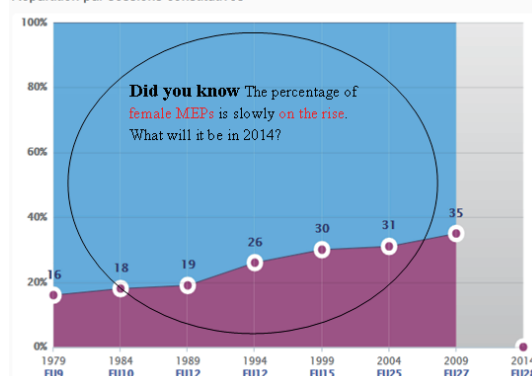
### European Pigs

When the Euro currency was introduced in 2002, the first letter of each of the countries adopting it spelt out 'baffling pigs'. And now, during the economic crisis, the countries which struggled (Portugal, Ireland, Italy, Greece and Spain) were labelled the "PIIGS". What is it with pigs and EU finance?

### Question 6

What's new in these elections? (Hint: the president of the Commission has been chosen, too).

Répartition par sessions constitutives



What do you think, should voting be compulsory? How else could people be encouraged to vote? Let us know on our facebook page  
<https://www.facebook.com/thepupilsvoice>

If you are interested, more info about the European elections can be found at  
[www.europarl.europa.eu](http://www.europarl.europa.eu)

ANSWERS: 1. Guy Verhofstadt (left) and Martin Schulz. Both are candidates for the president of the EU Commission. 2. The EPP (Group of European People's Party/Christian Democrats) 3. 751 4. Luxembourg (91%) 5. Slovenia (20%) 6. The EP elections will have direct influence on the selection of the new president of the European Commission. Also, there will be fewer seats (751).



# Take Life One Cup at a Time

Elisa Ynaraja Rodriguez & Angela Gomez Fernandez

No, there is no Starbucks in Luxembourg – and we know most people wish there were one, ourselves included – but, looking on the bright side of things, there are many good cafés in town that we probably wouldn't know of if there were a Starbucks here. So this is a little review of four cafés we recommend: to go there with friends, or to study, or anything you like.

## Golden Bean

23 Rue Chimay



The coffee here is especially good since **they bring it from Columbia themselves**; this might sound as though it's going to be quite expensive but the prices are actually reasonable. You can choose from many types of coffee and even milk, like soya milk or lactose free milk. You can also buy their coffee to make at home.

Not a huge fan of coffee? There are all sorts of teas, or hot chocolate, as well as smoothies. You will also find pastries like muffins and cheesecake, but **our personal favourite is the carrot cake**. It's a little bit expensive for the portion they give but it's totally worth it! We sometimes only go there for the carrot cake; you should give it a try, see what heaven tastes like. What we like about it is the people working there are really nice, and the place is very cute, and quite cosy too.

**Advantages:** You can choose to take your coffee to go if you don't have that much time. Free Wi-Fi; it's quite fast and works well. Fidelity cards are available and after 10 coffees you get one free.



**Coffee Lounge**  
28 Rue de la Poste

From the four cafés that we're reviewing **Coffee Lounge is the best for lunch**; they have salads, pasta, paninis and bagels. You can decide what to eat them with, from peanut butter and mozzarella cheese to Parma ham and salmon. If you feel like having something sweet, they have pancakes, muffins and cakes. Thirsty? How about a fresh fruit smoothie?

The place is quite small but they have places outside and in winter there are blankets and heating so it's still comfortable. If you're in a hurry you can take your coffee to go. **What is unique about Coffee Lounge? Without doubt the Nutella macchiato**. It's got more expensive since it's become so popular, but because it's so big you can simply share it with a friend. If you're a Nutella fan we definitely recommend it.



## Chocolate House

20 Rue Marché aux Herbes



As you can tell by the place's name, **it's all about chocolate here**. It's especially known for its Chocospoons. It's this wooden spoon with a chocolate cube on it that melts when you put it in hot milk, and voila you have a delicious hot chocolate.

You can choose from many flavours and even the type of chocolate you want (white, milk, dark). We recommend Speculoos,

brownie, and even though it's not on the menu, the cinnamon one. To go with your hot chocolate, they have a variety of cakes from which you can choose from; they're really good and homemade (warning: the portions are usually quite big!). We've never tried it before but **you can also get a chocolate fondue with fruits and cakes to dip in it**, we've seen pictures and it looks delicious! It's a bit expensive though, 12.50€ per person.

They make chocolate sweets that are sold there. You can buy Chocospoons as well, which are perfect for gifts or to enjoy a delicious hot chocolate at home. You can see the grand-ducal Palace while you're sipping your hot chocolate, and it's a very nice place to stay in for a few hours.

## Café Knopes

11 Avenue de la Porte Neuve



In our opinion this is **the best place to get coffee to go**, and if the weather's nice and you don't want a hot drink they have iced coffees as well.

Their ice tea is really good; it's homemade and **changes every day**. To take with your drink they have donuts, muffins and bagels. It's always nice when you're a bit hungry.

It's quite small inside but it's cute for a date or to go with a friend or two. You can also ask for a fidelity card here but it only counts when you take the coffee to go. They're really **good at making cute shapes on the coffee** (Latte Art); it even makes you sad to drink it.





## Glastonbury 2014

**The Glastonbury festival: one of the biggest musical festivals in the world. Surely one of the most varying when it comes to styles of music. This world renowned, five day music festival, which takes place in Pilton, Somerset, England, is organized by a man called Michael Eavis, on land which is his property, called Worthy Farm. A slightly odd place to host a music festival, but now the name of Worthy Farm has a nearly legendary meaning to it, after The Glastonbury Festival has been hosted there since 1970.**

However, the festivals increasing fame is bringing quite a new quality to it. Since its first organization, when the tickets were £1, later one free, the price has risen to £205, and the number of artists has also risen immensely. This year the tickets for the festival, which is due 25th to 29th June, were sold out in merely 1 hour and 27 minutes, in October. That paints you quite the picture.



This year's artists do not disappoint. After months of murmurs, rumor and speculation the organizers finally revealed that the lastly chosen headliner of this year's festival will be Metallica, making them the very first heavy metal band headlining the event. "They're one of the biggest bands in the world," said festival organizer Michael Eavis. "And on my travels people are always asking me, 'When are Metallica going to be playing Glastonbury?' I was so keen to book them. They'll be pleasing so many thousands of people."

As mentioned before, the variety of musical bands and acts in Glastonbury is so huge and wide, that every single one of those people, who booked their tickets for a festival in a 9 month advance, will find something that will catch their ear. Apart from Metallica there will be so many other worldwide popular bands, I cannot name all of course however the ones that truly ring the bell are:

Arcade Fire, Kasabian, Jack White, Ed Sheeran, Robert Plant, Lana del Rey, Rudimental, Lily Allen, The 1975, Kaiser Chiefs, MGMT, Lykke Li, Kodaline, Foster The People, Imagine Dragons and many others.

This year's yet again raised price of 210 pounds really does speak for itself, looking at the list of famous bands and artists playing this time out. Seems it's going to be one great festival and one of the best musical happenings of the year.

Konstanty Wilczynski



## A Tribute to Paco de Lucia

Many musicians consider him to be the greatest flamenco guitar master in the history of music. He travelled the world to bring a mixture of incredible latin, jazz and flamenco to the ears of many.



I first saw Paco live in 2013, only 8 months before his sudden death on a beach in Mexico while playing with his children. Being a classical and jazz guitarist myself, seeing this great man together with his band was a dream come true.

The soft breeze was very cooling in the hot August evening. Paco was giving an open air concert in Losheim am See, Germany. He walked on stage, quickly appreciated the roaring applause with a small nod and sat down, crossing his right leg over his left in the comfortable guitar position. While the audience slowly calmed down, he looked at the floor and closed his eyes. There was a moment of silence. Then, with a first tone as dolce as could be, he started his piece. It was very pleasant to listen to, but not as great as we all expected it to be. We later realised he did this for one reason only: to make the second piece he performed together with his band sound even greater. And indeed, they did not disappoint us.

The Spanish musicians that joined him were astonishing. The drummer started grooving on his wooden cajon, setting the tempo and beat. Paco looked over at his fellow guitarist and started making percussive strumming sounds whilst muting the strings with the left hand. The bassist walked up and down the neck - the singers clapped rhythmically to the tango. There

was constant eye contact between all of them, as if they were exchanging musical feelings. The pianist produced the most wonderful jazz chords with his 10 fingers. It was magical.

Born as Francisco Gustavo Sánchez Gomes, Paco was introduced to the guitar by his father at the age of 5. He was forced to practise 12 hours a day, every day, in order to make sure he could find success as a professional musician. In 2012, Paco stated in an interview that he learned "guitar like a child learns to speak." In 1980 he met with Al Di Meola and John McLaughlin to perform in San Francisco. The Guitar Trio released one of the most successful flamenco and jazz albums on the market today, "Friday Night in San Francisco", which sold over 1 million copies. The CD is running on my stereo for the hundredth time while I'm writing this text.

The world is angry that the life of such a great musician has been taken so soon. Journalist Rafa Cereceda wrote that "Paco de Lucia has left numerous guitarists and flamenco amateurs feeling like orphans." Carlos Santana tweeted "The Maestro King of Gypsy Flamenco Music is in heaven NOW". Paco de Lucia - a god on a wooden box with strings. Adiós Maestro.

Joshua Oudendijk

## Game Review: LEGO The Hobbit



I have lately stumbled upon this game, which, at first, did not really stun me because I have played through so many games already. However, this particular one has surprised me so much that it just pushed me to write this review.

This new game coming from the workshop of Traveler's Tales hasn't made a huge boom on the market, neither has it influenced or changed the genre of casual and loveable Lego games in a big way. Of course some alterations from any previous Lego games have been made, however these are not striking.

The game is a loose adaptation (the main plot is unchanged but little comical alterations and different scenarios (often unimaginable) were added to this game's plot) of the first two movies of The Hobbit saga. The signature cut scenes to which the voices from the movie ▶



footage was added give a new feel to the games (the Lego games only lately started applying voices to the characters rather than having them with no voice at all) and are still humorous enough to make the youngest and the oldest players laugh.

Having played the game on PS4 and having owned the game on PS3 it is undeniable that the PS4 is performing better. The graphic design, as with every year, is improving a lot. A piece truly pleasant to the eye, especially when testing the game on the new-gen consoles which performances are better. Having said that, the old-gen consoles are not so far behind and this still is a game that's best known not for its graphics but for its gameplay.

And that's yet again why I got hooked by this game. I do not know if it is the fact that the very casual, well thought-through and witty gameplay and game plot are just getting better and better



*The simple lego graphics may not impress our gamers too much, but the story and gameplay are fantastic.*

with every new game or if it's the fact that this game brings back memories of reading the book when I was small, or because I enjoyed the movies as much as ever or is it the movie soundtrack that is just so homely. There are so many pros for this game in contrary to the number of cons, which genuinely, I can't really think of any right now. This game's charm and positive aura

just really makes it pleasant and likeable. It has such a fresh and well-made feeling to it (unlike The Lego Movie game which was quite a disappointment, and gave us a feeling of being unfinished).

The game is a big success in the YouTube gaming society but has also seen a few different and varying reviews of itself. IGN gave it a 7.4/10, metacritic gave it a 3.5/5 and GameSpot gave it a 5/10.

So if someone asks you why in god's name you are enjoying a game "for kids", there are a few possible ways to answer. Either because you want to spend time with your brothers, or you are childish enough to play these video games. But inside we all know that everyone needs to be a kid sometimes and this game is a perfect opportunity to have those good ol' memories again. **Konstanty Wilczynski**

## Rock A Field 2014

Musicians as impressive as expected?



Rock-A-Field is by far Luxembourg biggest music festival. This Open-Air event has been going on from year 2006 and although not having the longest pedigree, has witnessed great success. In RAF 2010 18.000 people have gathered in Herschesfeld which was the largest attendance this festival has seen.

Organized by den Atelier, this three day festival has become really popular in Luxembourg's pop culture. So popular that all the tickets are already sold out. However, they still can be found amongst private sellers.

This year the festival will be lasting for three days, where as in the 2012 and 2013 editions it only lasted two, and even before that only one. This year's artists are quite impressive.

The highlights of day 1 will be of course Thirty Seconds To Mars and Triggerfinger where as on day 2 the bands and artists we are looking most forward to are Ellie Goulding, Skrillex, Foster the People and Alice in Chains. And finally on day 3 we will hear Kings Of Leon, Wiz Khalifa, Interpol and The Hives.

This year's edition of the festival as it seems will be sold out just like last years, and have an attendance of 18 000 people.

**Konstanty Wilczynski**

## Disney Movie Review: Frozen



"Disney's Frozen will melt your heart." "Frozen, an icy blast of fun from the first snowflake." "Disney's first widescreen fairy tale since Sleeping Beauty." One of Disney's latest animation films, directed by Chris Buck and Jennifer Lee, is Frozen. This heart warming film was released just before the holiday season of 2013 and has received many positive reviews. Critics have compared this movie with other Disney classics such as: The Little Mermaid, Sleeping Beauty and The Lion King. With an average score of 7.7/10, it's the highest-rated family film of 2013!

The story tells the tale of the brave princess of Arendelle, also known as Anna, who sets out on an adventurous journey. Her mission is to find her sister Elsa, who has fled the kingdom after her secret magical power was exposed and left the kingdom under great threat. Along the way Anna bumps into her future companions, who so happen to be a snowman, reindeer and an ice harvester. After many fun songs and exciting struggles the film soon comes to an end. Although before the film finishes the quartet face a near tragedy and betrayal. Will this Disney film have the classic happy ending?

I've seen this movie twice in the cinema and it's my favourite "modern" Disney movie by far. The music, written and composed by Robert Lopez and his wife Kristen Anderson-Lopez, is heartbreaking and moving and has become my "most listened to"-playlist. The scenery is breathtaking and I'd love to live in Arendelle, despite the fact it's always winter there. The characters are brilliant, especially Olaf, who is hilarious, and Elsa who turns into a beautiful ice princess. So, no matter how old you may be, Frozen is a must-see movie for everyone!

**Izra ter Weer**

## Faire dodo, c'est bien!



Le sommeil n'est pas une période de temps durant laquelle notre corps est simplement inactif. C'est un cycle complexe constitué de plusieurs phases.

L'endormissement est la phase durant laquelle notre organisme calme une grande partie de ses activités, le sommeil léger est la phase entre l'endormissement et le sommeil lent-profond, ce dernier va entraîner une diminution de l'activité cérébrale et va permettre au sommeil profond de s'installer. La dernière phase est celle des rêves : le sommeil paradoxal, qui est entre autres très important pour la consolidation de la mémoire. Après une étape intermédiaire, le cycle peut recommencer ou se mener à bout, provoquant le réveil définitif.

Ce processus est vital. Il l'est beaucoup plus que l'on croît; on le placerait peut-être après boire et manger. Or le corps humain est capable de fonctionner jusqu'à deux mois sans manger tandis qu'il s'écroule après onze jours d'éveil. La privation de sommeil est même une méthode de torture assez reconnue.

Il est surtout très important pendant la jeunesse, car on secrète l'hormone de croissance intensivement pendant qu'on dort. Il a un rôle très important dans la digestion; sachiez-vous qu'une semaine de troubles insomniaques peut causer un gain de poids de plus d'un kilogramme?

Par contre la durée de sommeil dépend de l'organisme et diffère d'une personne à l'autre. Eh oui, un adulte peut nécessiter autant de sommeil qu'un jeune. Une bonne quantité de sommeil fait croître les compétences d'un étudiant, la phase paradoxale permettant au cerveau de perfectionner les actions de la journée, donc, pour la réussite des épreuves de fin d'année, au lit!

**Victor Avramov**



# EUROSPORT SPECIAL



Eurosport is a competition between all European schools that is organized every two years. The main concept is that each school participating pitches their best athletes against those from the other schools. The school that is organizing Eurosport must choose two disciplines/sports of their choice. They can choose between football, basketball, handball and volleyball. Then there are base disciplines, those that are permanent: table tennis and a biathlon, that consist of 1000m and 50m swimming. The last time the European School of Luxembourg organized Eurosport was in 1997, and the next time will be in 28 years. The organization of the competition is funded by the European Union.

The European Schools make up 14 teams in total and each team is made up of 30 people, 15 girls and 15 boys. 360 students participate in total normally and the families of ESL students from the host country host all of the foreign participants. This means that even if you do not intend to participate, you can still make an effort to make this event the biggest success it can be, so we are counting on you! Given the number of students who will be participating, a help of over 1050 people will be needed for this event.

Our school has a great chance to win this year because our basketball team is of such a great standard. In fact, since the start of Eurosport, Luxembourg has never dropped out of the top 4, a remarkable record. The school that wins the Eurosport will of course receive a prize made by the art professors and will also be given a trophy that can be kept by the winning school for two years until the next edition.

Thanks to Mr. Scholl who spent his time and gave us all the information that we needed.

L'Eurosport est organisé tous les deux ans, c'est une compétition entre toutes les écoles européennes, chaque école réunit ses meilleurs sportifs. L'école qui organise l'Eurosport doit choisir deux sports entre le Football, le basketball, le handball et le volleyball, puis après il y a aussi de la table tennis et un Biathlon, qui consiste de courir 1000m et de nager 50m. La dernière fois que l'Ecole Européenne de Luxembourg a organisé l'Eurosport était en 1997, et la prochaine fois sera en 28ans. Pour organiser cet événement il nous faut un budget et c'est l'Union Européenne qui le subventionne.

Il y aura 14 équipes et dans chaque équipe il y a 30 personnes, 15 filles et 15 garçons. 360 élèves vont participer et tous ces enfants vont devoir être hébergés dans vos familles, donc on compte sur vous ;) . Vu le nombre d'élèves qui participeront on aura besoin de l'aide de 1050 personnes environ.

Nous avons une forte chance de gagner cette année car nous avons une bonne équipe de basket. En fait, Depuis le commencement de cet événement, Luxembourg n'a jamais été en dessous de la 4ème place.

L'école qui gagnera les Eurosport aura bien sûr le droit à l'honneur et recevra un prix confectionné par les professeurs d'art de l'école.

**Merci à Mr. Scholl pour nous avoir donné des réponses à toutes ces questions.**

## EUROSPORT 2015



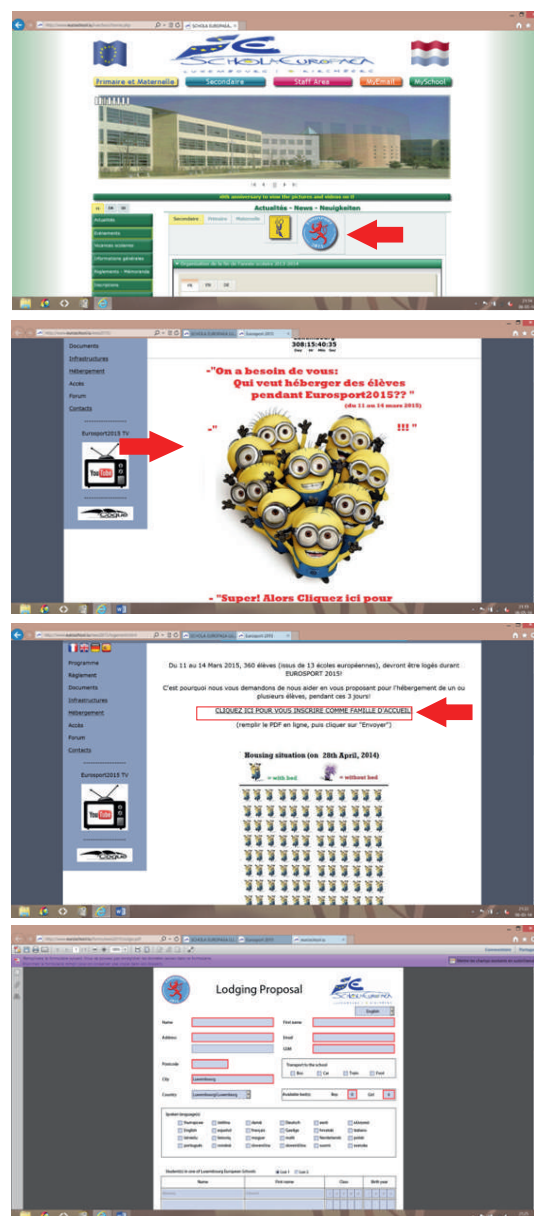
## We are looking for hostfamilies

360 students of 12 European Schools are coming to Luxembourg. That's why we need your help! Simply go on the schoolwebsite and click on the Eurosport logo to get more information about how to get involved.



euroschool.lu/eses2015/

## How it's done:





## Brésil : le pire est à venir?



**Rare sont les commentaires positifs sur le Brésil pour la Coupe du monde qui se rapproche à grande vitesse de son inauguration. Selon des experts britanniques et nord-américains, le pays ne pourra pas assurer la sécurité des stades et des plus grandes villes comme Rio, São Paulo ou même Brasília, la capitale.**

La présidente brésilienne Dilma Rousseff placera les troupes de choc de la police fédérale, l'armée de terre, de l'air et la Marine autour des quartiers pour protéger les touristes et les stades de football et débloquera des sommes d'argent importantes pour subvenir aux besoins de l'armée.

La France (qui fait frontière avec le Brésil par le département de la Guyane), le Suriname, l'Argentine et la Bolivie seront également présents pour aider le pays militairement avec des gendarmes français déployés à São Paulo et à Rio et des militaires surinamiens et argentins qui aideront l'armée brésilienne à faire des contrôles policiers sur les entrées principales de villes.

Mais est-ce que cela suffira pour modérer la violence et les vols qui actuellement font rage dans les villes du pays ? Difficile à confirmer...

Pour l'occasion, des unités d'urgence 24/24 seront ouvertes dans des dizaines d'ambassades des adeptes qui ne sont pas brésiliens, pour si jamais il y aient des problèmes sérieux. Alors ils pourront se présenter dans leurs ambassades respectives pour des cas de rapatriement ou pertes de documents d'identité produits par des vols ou des pertes.

La plus grande crainte des organisateurs et des touristes est de voir des groupes armés et très violents entrer dans les stades avec des milliers de touristes et d'adeptes à l'intérieure.

Mais toujours pour rassurer les 600.000 fans de football qui se déplaceront et les gouvernements du monde entier, le gouvernement fédérale du Brésil a annoncé le 5 mai 2014 vouloir déployer 30.000 militaires de plus, au long des 17.000 km de frontières du pays.

Gregori Quiros



## Eurosport: A little History

The first formal competition took place in 1976 and was a result of collaboration between T. Van der Zee, the deputy director of the Karlsruhe School, and J. Forster from the European School of Brussels 1 who invited athletes from the school of Varese for a three-day multi-sport competition.

Thanks to the success of the event and the enthusiasm generated by it, all the schools decided to form this competition that is now held every 2 years. For the first time 1979, the European School of Varese hosted the first ever, official Eurosport. The name stuck and has stayed as such ever since.

At the meeting of the Board of Governors of the European Schools in 2001 in Alicante, they decided to formally recognize Eurosport and decided to consecrate some of their budget towards covering part of the expenses of future events.

Year	Place	Overall Winner
1976	Karlsruhe	Varese
1977	Varese	Varese
1979	Luxembourg	Varese
1981	MOL	MOL
1983	Brussels 1	Varese
1985	Bergen	Varese
1987	Brussels 2	Varese
1989	Munich	Varese
1991	Culham	Varese
1993	Karlsruhe	Karlsruhe
1995	Varese	Brussels 1
1997	Luxembourg	Varese
1999	MOL	Luxembourg
2001	Brussels 3	Varese
2003	Bergen	Varese
2005	Munich	
2007	Brussels 1	
2009	Karlsruhe	Brussels 1
2011	Frankfurt	Brussels 3
2013	Alicante	Alicante
2015	Luxembourg	
2017	Brussels 3	
2019	Varese	



Team Culham from Eurosport 2013



Basketball girls team from Munich

**If you have any questions concerning Eurosport, simply talk to your gym teacher.**

## TENNIS SPORA

Advertisement

### STAGES DE 5 JOURS ( DU 14/07 AU 16/08 )

Du lundi au vendredi

Niveaux mini-tennis, initiation ou perfectionnement

**FORMULE 1: € 145,-**

#### STAGE DE TENNIS

- de 9h à 10h30 ou de 10h30h à 12h  
(1h ½ de tennis)

**FORMULE 2: € 185,-**

#### STAGE DE TENNIS + MULTI-ACTIVITES A LA DEMI-JOUR

- à la demi-journée : de 9h à 12h  
(7h ½ de tennis et 7h ½ de multi-activités)

**FORMULE 3: € 360,-**

#### STAGE DE TENNIS + MULTI-ACTIVITES A LA JOUR

- prise en charge de 9h à 18h  
(12h de tennis et 18h de multi-activités)
- repas chaud à midi avec dessert et boisson

Plus de renseignements sur: [www.tennisspora.lu](http://www.tennisspora.lu)



# Can Akinator Guess Jean Monnet?

If you don't know what Akinator is, you haven't been on the Internet long enough. It's a web app which simulates a genie that asks you questions, trying to guess the character you're thinking of. This time we wanted Akinator to guess Jean Monnet, one of the European Union's founding fathers.

**Q1: Has your character really existed?**

"Yes"

**Q2: Is your character a girl?**

"No"

**Q3: Is your character American?**

"No"

**Q4: Is your character currently more than 40 years old?**

Well, if he was alive, he would be. "Yes"

**Q5: Is your character dead?**

There it is. "Yes"

**Q6: Is your character European?**

We're getting somewhere. "Yes"

**Q7: Has your character killed humans?**

He did participate in two World Wars, but we're not sure: "Don't Know"

**Q8: Is your character a politician?**

"Yes"

**Q9: Is your character a communist?**

"No"

**Q10: Is your character English?**

He's French, so "No"

**Q11: Has your character lived in the 20th century?**

He was born in 1888 and died in 1979, "Yes"



**Q12: Is your character German speaking?**

We know he spoke French and English, we're not sure about German: "Don't know"

**Q13: Has your character died a natural death?**

"Yes"

**Q14: Is your character French?**

"YESSS"

**Q15: Is your character an Army General?**

"No"

**Q16: Was your character working in the 80s?**

He was dead, so we like to think "No"

**Q17: Did your character play an important role in a World War?**

"Yes"

**Q18: Did your character take part in World War II?**

"Yes"

**Q19: Is your character from France?**

We established this earlier, didn't we? "Yes"

**Q20: Is your character linked with Paris?**

"Yes"

**Q21: Is your character a teenager?**

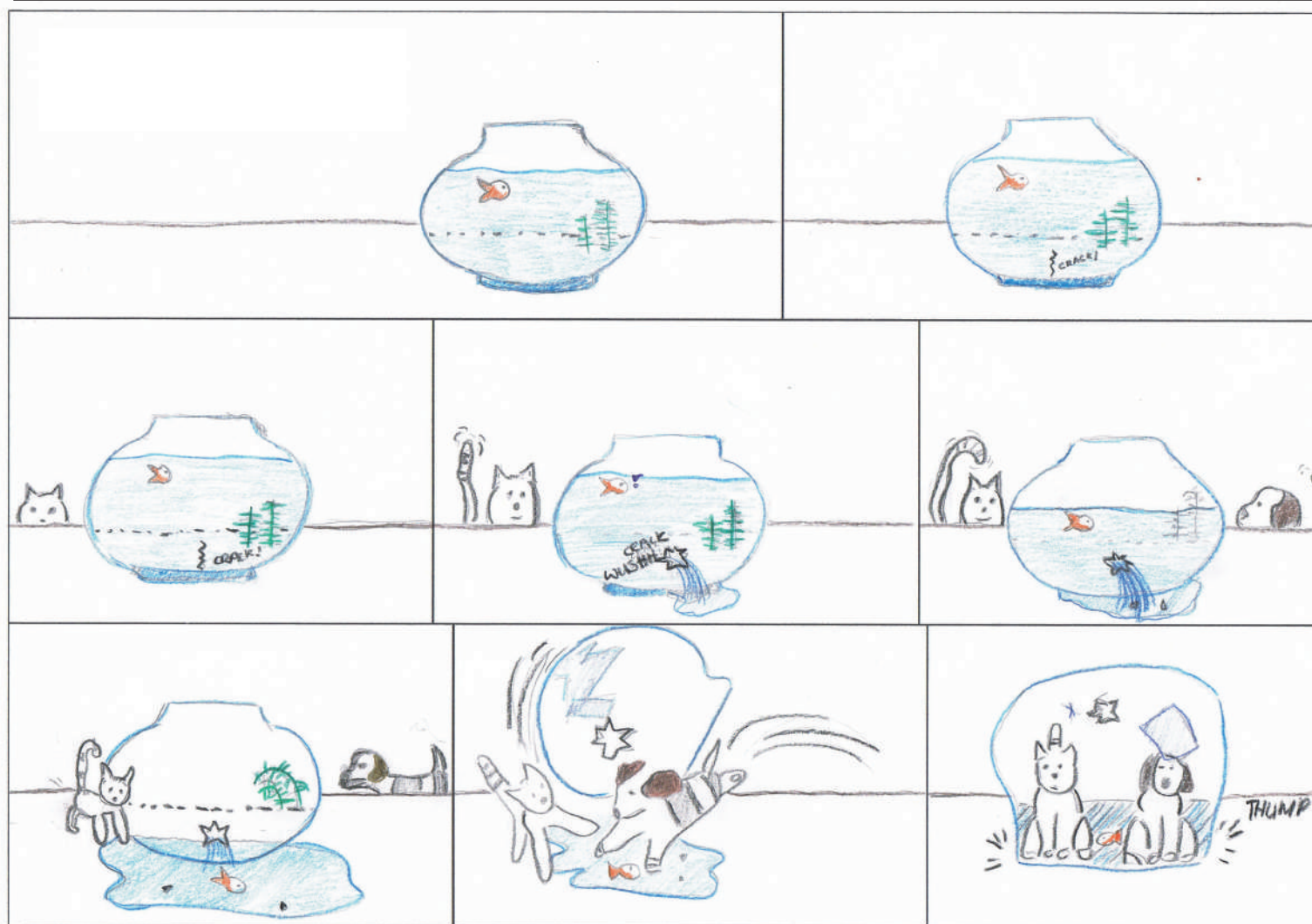
This is a random question... "No"

Akinator thinks of... **Charles de Gaulle!**

Well, we beat the web genie, as it wasn't able to guess Jean Monnet!

Try the app at home: <http://en.akinator.com/>

**Martin Arondel**







# Globalisation

How we wipe out poor countries so we can have a better life.

Based on "Die Weltreise einer Fleeceweste" by Wolfgang Korn.

It is love at first sight. Hannah walks into a local store and sees the blue jumper on the second shelf. Only €9,90! "That's a bargain", she says. Hannah takes it to one of the changing rooms and it doesn't take long before it is in her shopping bag together with the new pair of jeans. Those will fit together perfectly. What she doesn't know is that the jumper has travelled all around the globe, has been touched by many hands, causing pain, frustration and happiness.

The oil tanker Madras is slowly drifting into the harbour of Dubai. Within 48 hours, the now empty ship with a length of 194 meters will be heavily loaded with 159 million litres of crude oil. A few days ago, the black gold was still deep under the ocean floor. Now it has brought up to the surface and will be exported to many different countries for further usage.

Chief Engineer Raul Jorge coordinates the whole tanking process. Hundreds of tons of oil are flowing into six separate tanks on the ship at an incredible rate. "It is important that the ship is in balance," Raul explains. "That is why some tanks contain more oil or less oil than others. We don't want to capsizel!" Whilst the Portuguese mumbles instructions to the other crew members on deck through his walkie-talkie, his Nokia vibrates in his pocket. He sighs upon glancing at the screen. It's the boss. "How far are you, Raul? Give me a status update." The team is constantly under pressure. "The saying "time is money" is the company's favourite quote," Raul tells me. 50 000 Dollars is the daily renting price for the Madras. This means that the company has already spent 100 000 Dollars simply on getting the tanker full with oil. Every hour costs another 2800 Dollars.

It's now 18:17. The six tanks of the Madras are full. With the aid of tugboats it floats out of Dubai's port. Within half an hour, the tanker is travelling North towards the Gulf of Oman at a steady 15 knots. It will then move south along the coast of India to the Laccadive Sea and Sri Lanka where it then continues North to its destination Bangladesh.

When it's evening, Raul likes to have some privacy and often goes back to his compartment. Getting around and finding the rooms is still a challenge for many crew members. He takes out his laptop and discusses environmental problems on the internet. Once again, a discussion on the high usage of oil is heating up and the question arises if we should drop back on more renewable energy sources. Since Raul is an expert in the

field, he decides to join in and responds to the users. The facts are clear: we use up 85 million barrels of oil a day. One barrel is approximately 159 litres, thus meaning that the human population burns 13,150,000,000 litres of oil every 24 hours. This adds up to 4 932 975 000 000 litres a year. Three quarters are used in the Western industries as energy sources such as gasoline, diesel and jet fuel. The other quarter is used to make polyester, clothing, computer chips, crisp bags and phone parts.



Sheikh Mohammad turned 60 kilometres of desert into a booming business and trading paradise. Dubai's oil export revenue in 2013 was \$122 billion. Image: Designlief / iStock

The world uses  
13,150,000,000  
litres of oil per day

Bangladesh is hanging on a thread. It is a dark, tropical night in the slums of Chittagong. The smell of urine and contaminated water is hanging in the air. It hasn't rained in a while and the alleys are filled with garbage and dirt. Mohmin and his neighbour Kholil have just gone through the final preparations for tonight's big event. Because the city's power has broken down once again, both men struggle to write their words on a large bed-sheet whilst holding two petroleum lamps in their left hands. A large percentage of the population is illiterate. Kholil, fortunately, can write. He writes "Higher Salary!" and "You are Killing Us!" on the fabric. Mohmin is a worker at the local polyester factory. Kholil works in a plastic dump. Both have had enough. Every day, they work to a point that both men break down in exhaustion. Despite this, their families live in the slums. It's all a matter of safety of the workplace. 7 days a week, Mohmin walks through large factory halls where the chemical process of turning ►



the liquid into polyester begins. The company doesn't offer him any safety clothing or eye protection. Mohmin's skin is badly infected. His constant sickness is tearing him apart. The factory walls have wide cracks in them spanning both vertically and horizontally. Sadly, too often walls suddenly collapse. Last year, 1200 workers were killed when a factory roof fell down on them. The vibrations caused the floors below to crack and crumble. Within seconds, hundreds of women, children and men were crushed beneath 8 floors of concrete. The construction of the workplace does not abide by any safety regulations.



A young girl drinks contaminated water in the slums of Chittagong.

Image: W.I.N blog

Meanwhile, the demonstration has begun. It is escalating quickly. Thousands of labourers are protesting in the streets. It is one of the largest demonstrations Chittagong has ever witnessed. Cab drivers are blocking the roads with their cars, factories and shops are closed. "Down with the government!" the men and women roar. Kholil and Mohmin are leading the block, their banner high up in the air. Two rows of police officers armed with pepper spray and clubs are awaiting them in the distance at the next crossing. Kholil has never been this scared in his life. When the officers start approaching the group, he drops the banner and runs off into a side alley. Mohmin tells Kholil to come back, but he is long gone. Another protester moves forward and picks up the banner. The space between the group and police officers is rapidly shrinking. "This is a peaceful demonstration!" another leader yells at the police. But it is too late. An officer smacks the old man on the head and drags him off to a transporter. Mohmin and the others surrender. He cannot afford another expensive medical bill.

Talisma is a teenage girl working in a textile factory. She has been occupied for 16 hours straight sewing blue jumpers. Talisma has to produce another 87 jumpers by the end of the day or else her boss will beat her. "Come on! We have more blue textiles coming in! Hurry up!" the man says. A rattling tuk-tuk comes to a halt outside. A transparent bag with blue cloth is dragged off by the driver and is then thrown over his shoulder as he stumbles into the factory. Talisma looks at her colleagues. They are all thinking the same thing: more work, no breaks.

90 percent of the workers are young women under the age of 25. They struggle to work 100 hours a week. In other words, 14 hours a day. In Luxembourg the maximum workload per week is 40 hours. The minimum wage in Bangladesh is 980 Taka a month, the same as €12,50. Only by working long hours can the women support their families. Moreover, the workers are beaten by their boss regularly. He wants to achieve the impossible: produce the best quality whilst paying the lowest possible wage.



Textile workers sit on wooden benches for as long as 16 hours a day.

Image: Reuters

Hannah's blue jumper is finished at 02:23am. The same day, it is loaded onto trucks heading back to the harbour of Chittagong. The cool, morning air is filled with beeping noises of Hyundai vehicles rolling back in reverse. The back doors are opened and the jumpers are transferred into large, red container with the dimensions of 6 x 2,30 m. Logistics Master Sumon is very busy. He has to make sure all items from the trucks are stored in the correct containers. "Products ending up in the wrong countries are the last thing we want," Sumon jokes. His worker Refat taps him on the shoulder.

"Sumon, please come and check container number A142".

"Is there a problem?"

"Yes, take a look."

Sumon signals to the group that he will be back soon and walks off with Refat to container A142. Upon arriving, he can see the problem. A red fluid is dripping out from below the metal doors. Sumon moves closer and bends down.

"Looks like blood," Refat suggests while Sumon smells the liquid.

"It stinks badly."

"Check the contents paper," Sumon says.

Refat grabs the files and flicks through the sheets.

"Animal skins from China." Sumon turns his head. "They probably came directly from the slaughterhouse without being cleaned and were dumped in this container. There is nothing we can do about it. Continue the operation."

A large, yellow harbour crane picks up each individual container. It swivels around and gently puts each block down on the World Star, a container ship registered in Panama. The ship's maximum capacity is 8400 containers and the crane operator will need many hours to drag all containers on-board. The next morning, Captain Constantine is ready for another long leg. Their journey will be hazardous: Somali pirates lurk around Africa and the Red Sea in small fishing boats. They approach large vessels, climb onto the decks with ropes and ladders and hijack the ship. The crew is often taken hostage until the government pays the amount of money the pirates request. They must sail past them in order to get to the Suez Canal. "Hazardous but adventurous," laughs Constantine. Halfway through the journey, Chef Juan realises they are low on sausages, the favourite dish of the crew. Good food and quality time spent together – two things Captain Constantine thinks are crucial. Luckily, the World Star makes it to Hamburg without any unexpected problems.



Pirates are lurking around the coast of Somalia.

Image: EPA

It has now been two years since the oil has been pumped out of the ground. Hannah's blue jumper has travelled 25 000 km around the globe and has ended up in a store in Luxembourg. A few drops of oil have magically turned into clothing. Hannah buys her jumper for €9,90. Does the story have to end this way? Do we have to buy cheap and low quality products that are produced and sold by people that cannot have a proper meal every day?

We have to force our politicians to play a fair game. It's the same with sports: what's the point in playing football against a team of only five players if we have eleven players? It is unfair. Furthermore, we have to create new rules for the global market, because globalisation also means that we cannot pretend we don't care about problems in other countries. You, me and all the other consumers, on the other hand, have to do our homework. We should realise that with every product we buy, we specify the world we live in. Don't be scared to ask questions - when you see a cheap product, ask the manager where it's from. Try to buy local products. This way, you are also helping us save the environment. The people that work hard to produce our blue jumpers and jeans should have the opportunity to lead a satisfying life without starvation, violence and poverty. We should eradicate the thought that we consumers have no power whatsoever to influence the world in comparison to the politicians that fly around in helicopters and travel with private jets. Believe it or not, with our small online shopping carts, we can control what happens in the east.

Joshua Oudendijk



## Putin Strikes Back

On the 23rd of February 2014 the 5 day "Ukrainian revolution" came to an end, President Victor Yanukovich who, some would say, is in great part responsible both for igniting the revolution and it's infamously bloody events. In this particular case the straw that broke the camel's back was the mishandling by Yanukovich of trade agreements which were an idea drawn up to help improve the socio-economic situation in Ukraine, an agreement was proposed by the EU which offered economic support in exchange for reform in most aspects of Ukrainian society and a rupture in it's ties with Russia. Yanukovich instead signed a treaty with Russia at a much lesser benefit to the people of Ukraine calling the EU's offer "Austere and detrimental", this sparked civil unrest in Kiev since with this decision Yanukovich made it clear his relations with Russia were more of a priority to him than the well being of his people.

After the success of the revolution a new, pro European interim government was put into power and Russia suffered a disastrous setback, not only was it completely alienated from what was before a very close ally since many Ukrainians consider the now despised Yanukovich as merely a puppet of the Russian mafia state and there is increasing anti Russian sentiment in the Ukrainian speaking parts of Ukraine. More importantly Russia cannot afford to lose Sevastopol, its only access to warm water ports so it was not long before president Putin sent his answer.

On February the 27th 60 pro Russian gunmen seized the parliament building of Crimea; these men were not in uniform but carried Russian flags it was under the watchful eye of these men that Crimean MPs carried out the referendum to decide the question of whether or not Crimea should rejoin the Russian federation, unsurprisingly 95 percent cast a "yes" vote. Ever since



then, more and more Russian troops have been deployed in Crimea; so far it is known that 13 IL-76 planes have touched down in Hvardiyske military airport, each plane carrying 150 Russian soldiers.

Crimea is a part of Ukraine whose identity is more Russian than Ukrainian the majority of the Crimean population is ethnically Russian, even if Russia does need Sevastopol the re-conquest of Crimea could have taken place in a far less brutal, far more legitimate way, since with the increasing anti Russian sentiment in Kiev Crimean citizens

would be likely to support a legitimate referendum for Crimea to become reintegrated into the Russian federation or to become an independent state with close ties to Russian, however the crude and unnecessarily brutal execution of the Crimean takeover shows the true colours of the Russian regime perfectly, when faced with dissent the Russian state reacts like a mafia, by sending thugs to menace the dissidents into doing their bidding.

**Dominik Whittaker**

## Towards a greater Russia?

On 16th March 2014, the autonomous region of Crimea held a referendum on whether to become part of Russia. The referendum, although not permitted by the Ukrainian government and condemned by countries such as the United States and the United Kingdom, saw Crimea become a part of Russia. Could the same thing happen with Eastern Ukraine?

This crisis started back in November, when the then Ukrainian President Viktor Yanukovich decided to pull out of a deal involving closer ties with the EU. This sparked large protests, mainly in Kiev, finally leading to his downfall. The Russians reacted in March by annexing Crimea and now tension is rising in Eastern Ukraine due to strong pro-Russian feelings. There have been calls for a referendum there too because the pro-Russians feel neglected by the government in Kiev.

However, with this referendum there are two major differences. Firstly, eastern Ukraine is not under Russian control, unlike Crimea. Secondly, this time, the Russian president, Vladimir Putin, asked the pro-Russians in Ukraine to postpone the referendum.

Perhaps this time, Russia might not be seeking to enlarge its territory. Or maybe not for the moment. Rather than that, Russia may be intending to destabilise the area for the Ukrainian Presidential elections on 25th May. If elections were to take place chaotically amid ongoing clashes, the pro-Russians would then declare the election as unfair. Maybe then Russia would intervene, once again using their large number of forces stationed on the border. **Anthony Upton**

## Conchita Wurst: New Austrian Queen?



**Conchita Wurst, winner of the Eurovision Song Contest 2014 has sparked a massive debate.**

"This Eurovision family is a family I always wanted to join, because it's a project that is based on tolerance. So it felt like coming home. But I also hope that people outside the Eurovision world will support me", said the winner of the 59th Eurovision Song Contest. However, it was a bit silly to think that way. Many countries are frustrated with Europe's decision and many rude comments are written every minute on the internet. What is it that caused such a debate?

It is said that the winner of the Eurovision

Song Contest was chosen not by the quality of the song but by the appearance of the singer. Conchita Wurst, whose real name is Thomas Neuwirth, appeared on stage with lots of make-up and sporting a beard. In fact, many people think that the beard was fake because Thomas Neuwirth barely had any facial hair before he became Conchita Wurst. The question is – why would he do that? And there is an answer that immediately pops into one's head when we read that question. I myself watched the Austrian performance on YouTube before the actual contest just



I noticed the beard and became curious. Truth is, if I hadn't noticed the beard I probably wouldn't have watched it because I am not very interested in Eurovision. Conclusion - the fake beard actually calls for attention. Also, whoever did Conchita's make-up on the night of the Grand Final must have had waterproof mascara made of Teflon as tears of happiness were running down her face throughout the entire voting.

As the singer said, he (she?) wanted to show Europe that transvestites deserve to be treated as normal people because they aren't any different. Obviously, this statement faced big opposition and now Conchita is getting a lot of hate. Despite the fact she received 12 points from many countries, a lot of people are unhappy that she won the contest. It seems as if they voted for Conchita only to make fun of her later. During the voting several voters from different countries

tried to mock Conchita by hinting to the beard by gestures, or, just like the Lithuanian voter did, by taking out a razor and saying it was time to shave.

Another thing that concerns Europeans is the fact that next year we might see something even more challenging. They don't like what Eurovision is becoming and several countries have already decided not to send their singers to Vienna next year. The fact that Eurovision is not the same as it was 50 years ago is very obvious.

In my opinion there is nothing much to fight about. After several years no one will remember who won Eurovision in 2014. In fact, in several months Eurovision itself will be forgotten and only brought back in May, 2015. Nevertheless, Austria has got a new icon.

**Gabé Makaryčevaitė**

## Serious Issues brought up in Media

A clear Eye-opener or simply Free Publicity?

Recently I have been thinking about the fact movies, books and articles surrounding subjects such as racism, eating disorders and depression often get more attention and fame than media surrounding other topics. My question here is whether this is the case because the topic is something we can relate to personally or if it is simply another genius idea for easy publicity.

Take these two recent movies as examples. "Twelve Years A Slave" and "The Wolf of Wall Street" were both nominated for Oscars this year. Only Twelve Years A Slave ended up winning one.

To quickly recap these two movies, Twelve Years A Slave is a powerful and emotional story of a black man who had been taken prisoner and sold as a slave. The Wolf of Wall Street, on the other hand, is an entertaining story about a white man living the wealthy life of a Wall Street stock broker. Both movies bring up quite important issues but it was the movie containing the most feelings that won.

Why do all of these movies, book and articles concerning such heavy subjects overflow our media market? I think it's fairly easy to make a movie or write a book like that and know that there will be an audience and a lot of discussion surrounding it. Not to underestimate all the work put in to it. What we don't know is whether these stories' purpose is to give us a glimpse of being in a situation like that or if they were made into a film in order to bring in money as a certainty.

I think many people are scared to criticise a movie concerning the oppression of blacks in the past more than a movie talking about drug abuse in a wealthy society. I also think that many producers take advantage of that. That doesn't mean that there are no producers who want to create these stories to give out a message. I would say that the feeling people get when being introduced to these issues can easily be taken advantage of and that is exactly what is happening in the media world at the moment. **Johanna Lindberg**

## Are You Happy?

We all have dreams - big and small; private and public. But how should you decide whether to share your dreams with someone other?

Sometimes our dreams mean happiness to us. But how do you define the term "happiness"? Different things make different people happy. For some of us it is a lot of money, for others a bunch of good friends. Some people don't need anything because they are already happy. Do you, dear reader, need a lot to be happy?

When something bad happens to us, we usually ask our friends and/or family members to help us out. They are usually ready to help and be there for us when we need them. Sometimes it's the other way around - they become the reason as to why we are upset. It's all about trusting people you love and spend most of your time with. Very often there is only one tiny step towards happiness but we tend to complicate things. Sometimes you only need to talk to someone close to

you to realise that the conversation with that person was all you needed. There are always some people that become very important to us at a certain point in our life; we want to talk to them, find common interests and similarities. Unfortunately, we often fear that they don't want to talk or spend time together with us and it really ruins our happiness and confidence.

My advice to you - always take a risk! If you don't, you might regret it for a long time and it really won't make you happy. I have seen many people in our school crying in the corners or wandering about with sad and grumpy faces; people that seem devastated. Put a smile on your face! It is much easier to deal with everything if you smile. It makes other people happy too. Every time we become upset we should start thinking what we could do to make ourselves happy because usually happiness is very near - just around the corner.

## Chief Editor's Column

**Joshua Oudendijk**



**Dear Readers,**

Wow, what a year it has been.

Last week, I picked up a copy of our first edition that was released back in December. I smiled to myself. It was the beginning of a wonderful time, writing and designing "The Pupils' Voice" with a large, creative and open-minded team. We sat down together every month, dedicated our free lunch periods and breaks to the school newspaper and discussed new ideas, articles and topics. The quality of our editions has sky rocketed and we hope that continues to happen next year - with your help.

We are starting over with a fresh, new team next school year. **Do you enjoy writing, photography, art or design? Are you a team player and interested in learning how a newspaper functions? Then you are the right person we are looking for.** "The Pupils' Voice" is an incredible learning experience for everyone. Keep your eyes open for our posters that will be around the school in September.

This edition has been a blast. I'm proud of the interviews we had for you and hope you enjoyed reading them as much as I did. I thought the story about Raymond Acs written by Niccolo Hurst was most amusing. It's special to learn something about a person you see every day, however never get to know.

We extended our euroschool section to enable journalists to write more school-related articles, which is of course what a school newspaper really is about.

I would also like to thank James Walker, Daniel Murphy and Dominik Whittaker, three excellent editors that will be finishing school and leaving us this year. James and Daniel were a great support when it came to finding advertisers. Dominik has written extensive editorials for all our editions and shared his strong opinion about many topics, including the conflict in Syria, the inefficiency of bureaucracy and Crimea (see page 18). I wish them the best of luck for their future.

The Summer holidays. Finally. Have a long break, refuel on the sun and let go of school for a couple of weeks. Are you going anywhere special? I'll be heading off to Namibia, living with a local tribe for a couple of days that cover their bodies in clay and eat insects to stay alive. I hope to make it back alive in order to continue the newspaper! \*Gulp\*

Happy reading!

All the best,

## The Pupils' Voice

**Chief Editor** Joshua Oudendijk

**Editors**  
**Euroschooll:** Niccolo Hurst, Sara Wronski

**Luxembourg:** Francesca Chapman

**Media:** Emily Ross, Johanna Lindberg, Eleanor Boland

**Sports:** James Walker

**Entertainment:** Anthony Upton

**Editorial:** Daniel Murphy, Dominik Whittaker

**Journalists**

Nadja Joachim, Rada Biyukova, Izra ter Weer, Helena Mello Rose, Sophia Giordanengo, Chiara Sorgato, Oriane Hiernaux, Conchita Carrascosa, Konstanty Wilczynski, Johanna Lindberg, Beatriz Stoyanov, Francesca Chapman, Janina Garboutcheva, Gabé Makaryčevaitė, Alexandra Laidlaw, Zoe Upton, Ana Rita Teixeira, Clara Schenk, Gregori Quiros, Dominik Whittaker, Meldra Vasarina, Yasmine Ayman, Diana Öpik, Eirik Cervino, Elena Haccar, Martin Arondel, Elisa Ynaraja, Angela Gomez, Tirion Lindsay.

**Photography**

Elisa Ynaraja, Meldra Vasarina, Angela Gomez, Raquel Gomez, Lerma, Sophia Giordanengo, Chiara Sorgato, Tirion Lindsay, Alexandra Laidlaw, Zoe Upton, Conchita Carrascosa, Konstanty Wilczynski, Asta Seppänen, Oriane Hiernaux, Helena Mello Rose



Avec ta  
tes  
gère  
avec  
ton



et profite  
d'un

MAX

de Good Deals



**An account, a card and lots of benefits!**  
Free for young people aged between 12 and 26 years.