



# esntrain

CONNECTING EUROPE

Communication Booklet

the **esntrain** project

March 28<sup>th</sup>  
April 21<sup>st</sup>  
2009

12000 kilometres  
700 beds  
40 cities  
18 countries  
1 train

CONNECTING EUROPE

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Release: 03.02.2009



## ESN - The Organisation

The Erasmus Student Network (ESN) is one of the biggest interdisciplinary student associations in Europe, founded 20 years ago for supporting and developing student exchange.

ESN is present in over 280 Higher Education Institutions in 33 countries. The network is constantly developing and expanding.

ESN is working in Higher Education

- offering services to 150,000 students
- mainly on a volunteer basis
- with an average annual growth rate of 12.3% since 1990

ESN works for the creation of a more mobile and flexible education environment by supporting and developing the student exchange from different levels and providing an intercultural experience also to those students who cannot access a period abroad ("internationalisation at home").

### Mission statement

"The mission of ESN is to foster student mobility in Higher Education under the principle of SHS — Students Helping Students."

### Our vision

"The Erasmus Student Network cooperates with European Institutions and other relevant bodies and policy makers in the ambitious project of creating and fostering the development of a society based upon mutual knowledge, respect, trust and therefore peace among individuals, groups, communities, people and countries."

### Our values

- Unity in diversity, diversity in the unity
- Students helping students
- Fun in friendship and respect
- International dimensions of life
- Love for Europe as an area of peace and cultural exchange
- Openness with tolerance

## ESNtrain - The Project

### 2009

- ESN celebrates its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary
  - Europe celebrates its reunification (1989 fall of the Berlin Wall, 1989 fall of the Iron Curtain)
- => Europe's longest rolling communication platform

### The ESNtrain Project

The ESNtrain consists of 16 wagons and will cross Europe during 25 days from March 28<sup>th</sup> - April 21<sup>st</sup> 2009, visiting 40 cities in 18 countries and passing by 90 UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Travelling mainly during the night, participants will have the pleasure to wake up in a different city every day where local ESN people will show them around, giving everyone a chance to learn about the history, the culture, the way of living and the typical features of each place.

Activities will be organised at the various train stops. Examples include city tours, workshops, sports like Inline Skating or River Rafting, concerts or parties. In addition to the daytime programme, the evening activities on the train are a second pillar of this project. Such activities include dance courses, language courses, games, presentations or workshops.

The ESNtrain provides beds for 700 people. We built the participation concept in a modular way, which will enable about 5,000 people to travel for all or parts of the journey. With the events at the different locations, it will definitely attract a lot of attention from local people and local media once several thousands of students gather at the train stops.

### The train as a communication platform

A train is a unique communication platform. It involves ample times of inactivity that offers the opportunity to talk together. It also provides sufficient room for encounters. The rolling stock composing the ESNtrain comes from all over Europe. Thus, it underlines the project's vision of overcoming boundaries. Thanks to an enormous logistical effort, we were able to gather various unique wagons, including historical ones. This train will be Europe's longest rolling communication platform. The goal is not the destination, but the journey!

### On the journey, participants will have the chance to

- Visit Europe's most fascinating spots
- Experience and learn about European cultures in a unique way and to get in touch with local people
- Use the train as a platform for a reunion with old friends spread all over Europe
- Spend some days in a multicultural environment that will be as unforgettable as an entire exchange year
- Improve their intercultural competence and language skills
- Simply have a good and precious time

### The goals are to

- Enable as many people as possible to experience the above mentioned encounters and adventures
- Show the world how European students joyfully live together in a mix of cultures
- Make a positive contribution to society through the open dialogue
- Forge intercultural friendships





## Sponsoring

Our sponsors actively participate in the design of this unique and first-time project. The possibilities span from branding an entire wagon to designing the interior up to supporting promotion events such as offering a breakfast. Our sponsors stress the train's characteristic as a rolling communication platform which will travel across 18 countries for three weeks.

In the lead-time, an international team of 500 people stands by for putting their ideas into action and over 100 staffs will be on board throughout the trip. This team relies on 12,000 ESN-staffs, who will inform 150,000 exchange students throughout

Europe. Moreover, there is a significant cooperation beyond the Erasmus Students' network.

The media will surely give the ESNtrain lot of importance. National public networks plan to send a movie set on the journey. Additionally there will be an ESNtrain journey booklet in which the visited towns are described. After the trip there will also be a documentation book about the journey.

Well known people support our project:

## Patronage Committee



*Prof. Dr. Patrick Aebischer*, President of the EPFL (Lausanne)



*Dr. Erhard Busek*, former Austrian vicechancellor, president of the European Forum Alpbach, president of the Institute for the Danube Region and Central Europe (Vienna)



*Prof. Dr. Ralph Eichler*, President of the ETHZ (Zurich)



*Matthias Fenner*, president of the ESN (Brussels)



*Ján Figel'*, Member of the European Commission, responsible for Education, Training, Culture and Youth



*Prof. Dr. Andreas Fischer*, President of the UNIZ (Zurich)



*Adolf Ogi*, former Swiss Federal Minister and Special Adviser on Sport for Development and Peace to the United Nations Secretary-General until 2007



*Prof. Dr. Konrad Osterwalder*, Rector of the United Nations University (Tokyo)

## ESN Partners



Association des Etats Généraux des Etudiants de l'Europe



Erasmus Mundus Students and Alumni Association



European Pharmaceutical Students' Association



European Students' Union



European Youth Forum



Informal Forum of International Students Organisations



Scout Movement



World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts



# ESNtrain - Impressions



# ESNtrain - Impressions





# ESNtrain - The Route

(2009-03-09)

Sa	28.03	Bratislava	SK	08:00	Meeting of the first participants
Sa	28.03	Vienna	AT	09:00 - 10:00	Program for first participants from Friday on
Sa	28.03	Bruck/Mur	AT	12:15	Train catches more travellers
Sa	28.03	Villach	AT	15:00 - 19:00	Train catches more travellers
Sa	28.03	Mallnitz	AT	20:30 - 23:59	Day Program
					Walking-tour
					-> Europe's highest IC train station
Su	29.03	Schwarzach	AT	00:45	Train catches more travellers
Su	29.03	Innsbruck	AT	04:45	Train catches more travellers; full length of the ESNtrain
Su	29.03	Schaan-Vaduz	LI	08:30 - 10:30	Breakfast and Day Program
Su	29.03	Zurich	CH	14:00 - 17:15	Sightseeing tour
Su	29.03	Winterthur	CH	17:45 - 22:00	Sightseeing tour, Museum, Rhine Falls and Evening Program
Su	29.03		CH	22:00 - 01:30	Round trip Lake Zurich (Winterthur-Zurich-Winterthur)
Mo	30.03	Zurich	CH	02:00	First night train from Zurich to Lausanne
Mo	30.03	Lucerne	CH	02:30 - 04:00	Night Program
Mo	30.03	Lausanne	CH	07:00 - 12:00	Breakfast and Day Program
					-> Very beautiful railway line
Mo	30.03	Kandersteg	CH	15:00 - 23:00	Day and Evening Program (Hike & Sports activities)
Tu	31.03	Genoa	IT	08:00 - 14:00	Breakfast and Day Program
Tu	31.03	Pisa	IT	17:00 - 23:59	Day Program
We	01.04	Rome	IT	08:00 - 14:00	Breakfast and Day Program
					-> Treaty of Rome (Rome-Strasbourg-Maastricht)
We	01.04	Siena	IT	17:30 - 01:00	Day Program
Th	02.04	Ljubljana	SI	09:00 - 16:00	Breakfast and Day Program
Th	02.04	Zagreb	HR	18:00 - 23:59	Day and Evening Program
Fr	03.04	Budapest	HU	08:00 - 02:00	Breakfast, Day and Evening Program
Sa	04.04	Bad Fischau	AT	07:00 - 11:00	Breakfast and Day Program
					Take a bath in the Crystal Thermae of Bad Fischau
Sa	04.04	Vienna	AT	13:00 - 02:00	ESNtrain sightseeing tour with a steaming engine
Su	05.04	Prague	CZ	09:20 - 23:59	Breakfast, Day and Evening Program
					-> Czech Republic holds the presidency of the EU
Mo	06.04	Dresden	DE	07:00 - 12:00	Breakfast and Day Program
Mo	06.04	Wrocław	PL	16:00 - 02:00	Day and Evening Program
Tu	07.04	Kraków	PL	08:00 - 02:00	Breakfast, Day and Evening Program
					Visit of the salt mine Wieliczka
					Visit of the concentration camp Birkenau
We	08.04	Warsaw	PL	08:00 - 23:59	Breakfast, Day and Evening Program





# ESNtrain - The Route

(2009-03-09)

Th	09.04	Malbork	PL	07:00 - 12:00	Breakfast and Day Program
Th	09.04	Gdańsk	PL	13:00 - 23:59	Day and Evening Program Visit of a water park
Fr	10.04	Berlin	DE	09:00 - 22:00	Breakfast, Day and Evening Program -> Fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989
Sa	11.04	Sassnitz	DE	01:30 - 02:15	Change from rail to ferry boat
Sa	11.04	Trelleborg	SE	06:45 - 08:00	Change from ferry boat to rail
Sa	11.04	Linköping	SE	12:00 - 23:59	Breakfast, Day and Evening Program
Su	12.04	Stockholm	SE	07:00 - 14:00	Breakfast and Day Program
Su	12.04	Uppsala	SE	15:00 - 23:59	Day and Evening Program
Mo	13.04	Trondheim	NO	10:00 - 23:59	Breakfast, Day and Evening Program -> Northernmost point of the ESNtrain trip
Tu	14.04	Oslo	NO	08:00 - 23:59	Breakfast, Day and Evening Program
We	15.04	Copenhagen	DK	08:00 - 23:59	Breakfast, Day and Evening Program
Th	16.04	Hamburg	DE	08:00 - 14:00	Breakfast and Day Program
Th	16.04	Bremen	DE	15:00 - 23:59	Day and Evening Program
Fr	17.04	Utrecht	NL	06:30 - 14:00	Breakfast and Day Program
Fr	17.04	Amsterdam	NL	15:00 - 01:00	-> AGM 2009 (March 26th - March 30th 2009; GA of ESN) Day and Evening Program
Sa	18.04	Brussels	BE	07:00 - 23:59	Breakfast, Day and Evening Program -> EU elections in 2009 -> Head Office of ESN International
Su	19.04	Strasbourg	FR	07:00 - 13:00	Breakfast and Day Program
Su	19.04	Heidelberg	DE	15:00 - 01:00	-> Treaty of Rome (Rome-Strasbourg-Maastricht) Day and Evening Program -> Oldest university of actual Germany (1386)
Mo	20.04	Berne	CH	07:00 - 13:00	Breakfast and Day Program
Mo	20.04	Zurich	CH	15:00 - 23:59	Day and Evening Program Sechseläuten / Six o' Clock Bells (traditional Swiss event)
Tu	21.04	Munich	DE	06:00 - 12:00	Breakfast and Day Program
Tu	21.04	Linz	AT	14:00 - 20:45	Last Day and Evening Program -> European Capital of Culture 2009 (together with Vilnius)
Tu	21.04	Vienna	AT	23:30	Leave-taking of the passengers Big ESNtrain Farewell Party
We	22.04	Bratislava	SK	00:45	Closure of the trip





# Contact

ESNtrain  
 President  
 Bernhard Jäggle  
 Plattform GmbH  
 Neuhofstrasse 30  
 CH-8708 Männedorf  
 bernhard.jaeggle@esntrain.org



ESNtrain  
 Information Management  
 Remo Weber  
 c/o Aprikosenweg 10  
 CH-8404 Winterthur  
 remo.weber@esntrain.org



ESNtrain  
 Country Coordinator  
 Kaspar Schüpbach  
 c/o Oststrasse 29  
 CH-8400 Winterthur  
 kaspar.schuepbach@esntrain.org



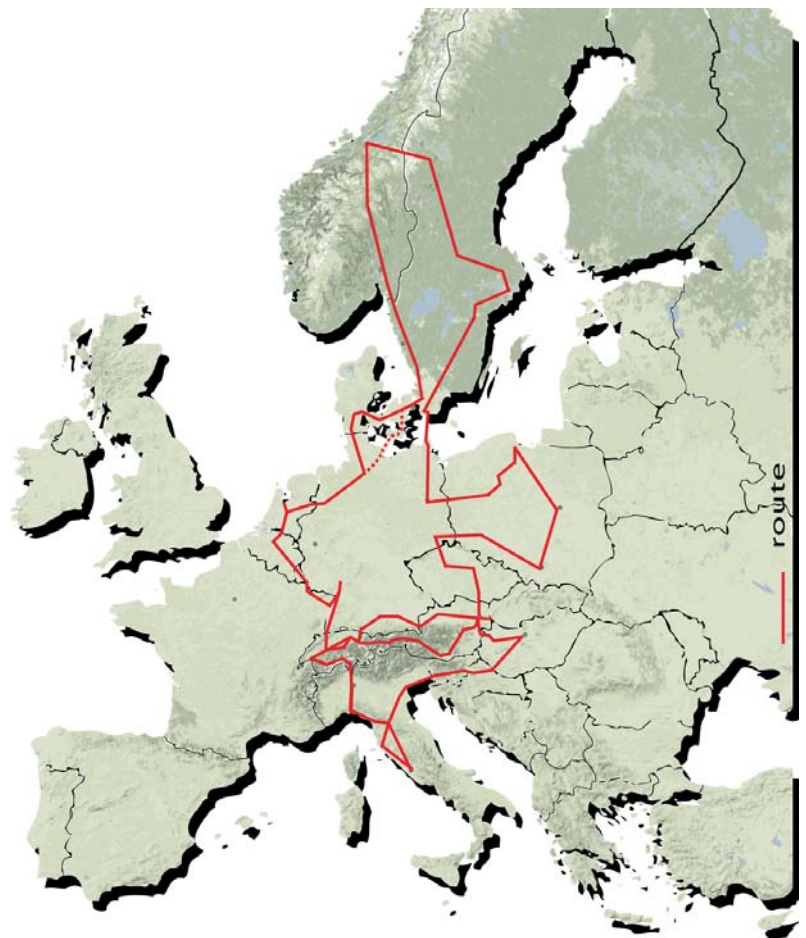
ESNtrain  
 Communications  
 Nora Kleisli  
 c/o Winterthurerstr. 320  
 CH-8057 Zürich  
 nora.kleisli@esntrain.org



ESNtrain  
 IT-Manager  
 Martin Kos  
 c/o Im Rüteli 21  
 CH-5405 Dättwil  
 martin.kos@esntrain.org



ESNtrain  
 Sponsoring  
 Monika Keller  
 c/o Juchächerstr. 25  
 CH-8966 Oberwil-Lieli  
 monika.keller@esntrain.org



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