

Welcome to

E-Magazine_{no.1}

Dear Friend of the Yc³ Project,

Welcome to the first issue of the Yc³ Project E-Magazine. Every three months you will get news on our hard work.

The first issue of the E-Magazine contains brief information on Baltic E-Day, the meeting held in Kalmar, Sweden, on September 18th, 2009 as well as an interview with Irmantas Sujeta, a Lithuanian student, who is now staying in Sweden, concerning the main subject of the Baltic E-Day: youth entrepreneurship.

Welcome to E-Magazine!

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Yc³ Project's aim is to work out standpoints of young people from the Baltic Sea Region in themes such as: environment, entrepreneurship, energy, intercultural dialogue, EU Baltic Sea Strategy. The meeting in Kalmar Art Museum on September 18th, 2009 was one of the meetings concerning - among others - the youth entrepreneurship.



Lisa Andersson, Project Coordinator

At the beginning Lisa Andersson, our Project Coordinator with Cajsa Augustzén, President of the ERB Youth Board, presented the Yc³ Project as well as the ERB Youth Board.



Linnea Soderling and Jahan Roth from Drivhuset

Next, our guests from different Swedish youth organizations presented how they can help young people to establish their own business. This was followed by presentations on the same topic from the other Baltic Sea Regions representatives, i.e. Pomorskie Region and Kaliningrad Oblast. Right after we had an opportunity to exchange our opinions during workshops, which were followed by main conclusions of the day. At the end of the meeting Therese Albrechtson was our guest. Her presentation gave us a lot of power to make our dreams of running an own company come true.



ERB Youth Board with Project officers

Our next meeting, concerning intercultural dialog, will be held in Stare Jablonki, in Warmia and Mazury Region in Poland. Hopefully we'll meet you there on November 5-6th, 2009. You are most welcome ☺



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Irmantas, you come from Lithuania, what do you find difficult in being a young entrepreneur in your country?

Well we have a lot of problems in Lithuania connected with young entrepreneurs and I will try to talk from my own experience just about some of them. Firstly, government isn't interested in close and strong relations with young entrepreneurs. We can often see in Lithuanians must media, when some problems are going from the bottom to the top – government, and dialogs are very difficult complicated between them. We also have economic monopoly in some sectors of country, where big business doesn't want to be "friends" with small young entrepreneurs. I think our big problem is that we don't have science centers, who would actively work in academic societies, where business could cooperate with universities and student ideas. Also bureaucracy isn't in our side, when we want to start small business. You need a lot of permissions and documents to start your idea working in the day light. Some people, just because of intensive work with documents, are leaving their ideas for the better time. And I should mention loans; with recent economical situation we have strict policies with banks and their interest rates.

What do you think about the situation of young entrepreneurs in Sweden?

Well, first impression is very good. I think young entrepreneurs in Sweden have really great conditions, starting from generating ideas and making them work in the day light. I was very happy, that people here have big support from wide range of government and non government organizations: advices how to start everything, help with documents, consultations, loans.

According to the E-Baltic Day, where you could meet representatives from many Swedish organizations, which helps young people to create their own business, did you find that helpful for the people in your age in realizing dreams of running a company?

Well, first E-Baltic Day event was really great, we had representatives from Swedish organizations, who are directly working with people, their ideas and small business. Also we had representatives from Denmark and Poland, who shared their experience of being a young entrepreneur in their countries. In Sweden you can find help started looking from municipalities to universities, where science parks are located. I really liked an idea of science incubators, where you can see a lot of small companies working in one place – it's safe, comfortable and innovative – in my opinion, this is very good investment for the countries future. I was inspired by E-Baltic Day and want to find more ways how we could share our experience for better future of Baltic region countries.



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