



# EU2009.CZ

**SPECIAL FOCUS ON THE SEMESTER OF CZECH PRESIDENCY**

## HIGHLIGHTS

### PAGE 2-4

#### WHAT'S NEW FROM BRUSSELS

For an entire week, Luhacovice hosted Europe: first, young delegates from all over the EU met there for a special session of the European Youth Forum, then the EU ministries for Employment and Social Affairs joined the spa center for an informal meeting devoted to the financial crisis and the possible solutions.

In this issue, we present you a resume of this challenging week that provided a perfect occasion for showing how the Region can be good in organising whatever international high-level event.

### PAGE 5

#### CZECH PRESIDENCY IN THE ZLIN REGION

The calendar of the regional events for the Czech Presidency was rich of events. Read here about the nicest ones, including exhibitions, cultural visits and concerts.

### PAGE 6

#### CALLS FOR PROPOSALS

### PAGE 7

#### VACANCIES IN EUROPE

Don't forget to have a look at our calendar of EU events and at the vacancies currently published by the EC

## Editorial

*Mattia Crosetto*

Dear readers,

As we are saying here aside in the "highlights", last week Luhacovice hosted a piece of Europe. More than 500 people composing 36 political delegations, the representatives and experts of the EU Youth Forum, guests and journalists from national and foreigner seats arrived in the Region and spent there the all week.

How we can resume for you all the events and their meaning for the Region? Well, in my opinion we can be synthetic, by simply saying that it was a total success.

The organization required a huge effort, because the requirements were numerous and differentiate: from security concerns, up to the accommodations, from the technical preparation of the meeting rooms up to the transports of the delegates. However, everything went on well.

In my job in Brussels I have experienced several Presidencies – to be precise, since 1993 this is my 32<sup>nd</sup> Presidency – and I can surely admit that this was one of the best organized informal meeting I have ever participating in. My judgment depends not only on the positive performance of the organization (just to be clear, no major problems occurred, delegates were happy and satisfied, the meetings were fruitful and the agenda perfectly respected), but also on the general impression provided to the people coming from the Member States. Visitors enjoyed the perfect atmosphere of the Zlin Region and of Moravia, with the nice environment and the positive attitude of the people there leaving.

Finally, a comment on the event we directly organized: the special session of the European Youth Forum. Also this represented a success, ended up with a formal presentation of the "Zlin Paper" to the plenary of Ministers. We are happy of having contributed with this event to improve the working conditions of young European people and we will continue to make our part in the Presidency!

Sincerely,

Mattia Crosetto  
The Head of Office  
Zlin Region in Brussels

## WHAT'S NEW FROM BRUSSELS?

*The European Youth Forum is a platform bringing together 99 international youth organisations and national youth councils, representing the interests of dozens of millions of young people in Europe.*

*Together with the Zlín Region, the Youth Forum co-organised the event "Youth Employment in times of crisis: an EU–Youth dialogue in the Zlín Region", which provided young people a unique chance to reaffirm and further develop their positions in the context of the current economic crisis.*

*During a two-day event, youth organisations from all over Europe, policy makers, EC officers, representatives of the social partners and of the Zlín Region got together in Luhacovice to discuss the topics of Youth Employment in a time of crisis and possible solutions to it. The outcomes of the discussions were presented to the plenary of EU Ministries.*

## EU YOUTH Forum in the Zlín Region Two days of work for producing the recommendations to EU Ministries

The 20<sup>th</sup>-21<sup>st</sup> of January 2009, the Municipality of Luhacovice hosted an extraordinary event: a special session of the EU Youth Forum, devoted to the problems of employment and working conditions for young people in the present time of crisis.

Youth and experts coming from all EU Member States sat and jointly worked with the European Commission, Committee of the Regions and finally the EU Council to express their visions and propose solutions to problems that are really important for them and for their professional lives.

The program included an opening session, thematic speeches, working group meetings and a final plenary for the presentation of the conclusions.

It was the perfect occasion to demonstrate that it is not true at all that Europe and its Institutions are far from the citizens and their problems, nor that it is difficult – if not impossible – to participate to the formulation of the common policies.

It is not by chance that this event occurred in the Zlín Region, a Region that has always been attentive to the social aspects of public policies and notably of those involving the youth.

The President of the Zlín Region, Mr. Stanislav Misak, officially inaugurated the event by welcoming the foreigner delegations and wishing them a fruitful job. He also underlined the importance of the event, notably in the perspective of the Ministerial Meeting of EU Ministries for Employment and Social Affairs.

The Major of Luhacovice, Mr. Frantisek Hubacek, renewed the welcome address of President Misak, confirming the pleasure of the gem of Moravian spa in hosting an international event involving youth.

Mr. Tine Radinja, President of the European Youth Forum, replied to the welcoming speeches by thanking the Zlín Region for having taken the initiative of organising such a special event and presented the priorities of the two-day-session: quality of jobs and "flexicurity", development of skills and mobility of workers. He invited all the delegates of the youth organisations present to the event to devote the maximum of their attention for examining the present situation on the job market and propose their visions for getting out from the crisis. He also launched a motto for the event: "let's work altogether for using the young generations as a resource for getting out of the crisis"

Ms Wallis Goelen, Head of the Unit for Employment Services and Mobility at DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities at the European Commission, together with Mrs. Miranda McIntosh, Officer at DG Employment, Social Affairs and Equal Opportunities of the European Commission provided an updated vision of the position of the EU Institutions in the fields of employment and working conditions for young generations. Ms Erika Brselova, Representative of the European Trade Union Confederation, introduced the position of the EU workers.

Mrs. Alena Gajduskova, 1st Vice-President of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic addressed a speech from the side of the national institutions and chaired the opening session.

*"I propose you a to work altogether for using the young generations as a resource to get out from the present economic crisis", Mr. Tine Radinja, President of the EU Youth Forum*

*I'm offering myself as a testimonial of the fact that mobility of workers in Europe is not only a "theoretical principle", but a reality: I am Italian, I studied in France and Belgium, I have a company with its seat in London, I work in my office in Brussels and there I represent Czech Regions to the EU", Mr. Mattia Crosetto, Head of the Zlín Region in Brussels*

## Youth Employment in Time of Crisis, Luhacovice, 20-21 January 2009

### Audition to the plenary of EU Ministries



*EU Ministers for Employment and Social Affairs met in Luhacovice to highlight the role of workforce mobility in enhancing labour market flexibility, social cohesion and economic growth. Many countries appreciated the decision of the Czech Presidency to choose the mobility of the workforce as a major priority. This was also a key point in the conclusions of the EU Youth Forum presented to the Ministers.*

The delegations of the EU Ministries for Employment and Social Affairs started arriving in Luhacovice on the 21<sup>st</sup> of January 2009. The official meeting was scheduled for the 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> of January, with Friday reserved to informal discussions and the cultural program.

The Czech Presidency aimed at raising this occasion to point out that the current financial and economic crisis highlights the need for greater workforce mobility. The situation at hand thus requires quick adaptation of employees to changing conditions, transfer of workforce to regions where new jobs are being created as well as rapid re-inclusion of unemployed and inactive persons into the labour market.

EU Ministers discussed those points during the plenary session in the afternoon of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January. They also exchanged their views with the European Commission, represented by Commissioner Spidla, and the partners from the civil society: trade unions, economic categories and employers.

A special attention was devoted to the official intervention of the European Youth Forum.

At 16h55, the Chairman of the session, Mr. Petr Necas, Czech Minister for Employment and Social Affairs, gave the floor to Mr. Radijna who resumed the key recommendations of EU young people to EU Ministries for relaunching the growth in the Union. He specifically asked for that the EU Ministries take into careful consideration the concerns of young people when developing employment policies in view of meeting the Lisbon Strategy commitments. He also pleaded for that Ministries introduce education policies focused on the development of skills that can foster the transition of young people from education to the labour market. EU Ministerial programs should also promote and fully recognize the competences that young people can acquire through non-formal education and volunteering activities, as well as through vocational training. Finally, Mr. Radijna said, Member States should make further progress towards the mutual recognition of qualifications and skills, and better compatibility of national social security systems, especially of pension systems, in order to foster the mobility of young workers.

On the occasion of the audition to the plenary of Ministries, the President of the Youth Forum and the Director of the Zlin Region in Brussels presented the final paper of the EYF Special Session of Luhacovice. The final document that was signed by all the participants of the event contained these main themes:

- Need of increased attention to stable and quality employment due to the crisis
- Urge not to lose the possibilities of the "young generation that has the highest potential to contribute to a lasting recovery from the current crisis"
- Importance of communication between the younger generations and the policy makers on the themes of employment

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### Accompanying events

The Zlin Region accompanied the participation of the EU Youth Forum to the plenary of the European Ministries with other events.

The arrival of the EYF delegation was recorded by the TV press and the journalists accredited at the Ministerial meeting. The press also interviewed the EYF delegation. The national TV channel one broadcasted it in the frame of the Czech Presidency news.

The EYF had also the possibility of leaving a copy of the Conclusions to EC Commissioner Spidla at his arrival at the venue of the Ministerial Meeting. Copies of the document, prepared by the Zlin Region, have also been distributed to all the 36 national and international delegations present at the event.

The Ministerial Meeting doesn't conclude the cooperation between the Zlin Region and the EYF: further initiatives will occur in the future to underline the commitment of the Region for promoting good conditions of work and living for all citizens and young generations especially.

**Youth Employment in Time of Crisis, Luhacovice, 20-21 January 2009**  
**Meeting of the EU Ministries for Employment and Social Affairs**  
*The photogallery*

## SHORTS FROM BRUSSELS



*The Zlin Region hosted the first Ministerial event of the Czech Presidency and the Special Session of the EYF.*

*In parallel, the Regional Authorities promoted several cultural initiatives.*

*We resume here the most important among them.*

### **Czech Presidency in Zlin Region Competition "The Heart and the Head of Europe"**

On the occasion of the EYF Session and the Informal Meeting of the EU Ministries for Employment and Social Affairs that occurred in Luhacovice, the Zlin Region Representative Office in cooperation with the Eurocentre Zlin, launched a competition for young people from the regional schools.

The competition "the Heart and the head of Europe" provided an opportunity for young people to express their own ideas and thoughts on the Presidency. Students were invited to draw their visions of the EU and their wishes for the cooperation among Member states. The nicest draws have been presented to the EU delegations in an exhibition at the Bata 21 building, the seat of the Zlin Region.

A booklet printed for the occasion presented the best pieces and their authors to the public.



A second initiative targeted the primary schools of the Regions. The pupils were invited to decorate the hall of the Zlin Municipal Theatre that would have hosted the concert of the Zlin symphonic orchestra. The response was enthusiastic and the children prepared a series of panels describing the 27<sup>th</sup> Member States and their national features.

The two exhibitions have been promoted also in the frame of the EuroFestival organised in cooperation with the Czech Presidency.

### **Promoting the Zlin Region towards international guests: a guided tour through the Region**

The local events of the Czech Presidency were important occasions also for the promotion of the Zlin Region and of its historical sites for tourists and cultural visits.

For this reason, the Zlin Region, in collaboration with the Municipalities and the local partners, prepared a rich program of visits and cultural accompanying events. The foreign delegations have been amazed by the welcome received and brought back home a great memory of the "Moravian mission".

On the evening of the 22<sup>nd</sup> of January a marvellous dinner was offered to the 500 guests of the Ministry Meeting. Gastronomic specialties of the traditional cuisine, original handicrafts, musicians and dancers gave to the honourable delegates a perfect impression of the Region, its cultural richness and its charming communities. The event was a real success, positively commented by all participants.



On the day after, the delegations have been invited to a concert in the basilica of Velehrad. There, they could appreciate the historical atmosphere recalling the passage of Cyrillus and Methodius, the patrons of Europe, together with the enchanting sounds of a chamber concert.

In the evening, the Zlin Region organised a visit to its headquarter – the famous Bata21 building. There, the exact scenario of the 30's was recreated with the help of professional actors. Visitors could thus experiment a normal day of job in the Bata plant at the time when the multinational was moving its first steps. The visit ended with a glass of wine and a jazz concert.

Finally, the Municipality of Zlin offered its theatre for a concert of the local symphonic orchestra. Promotional videos of the Region accompanied the music for a relaxing evening, enriched with a gala dinner for all the delegations.

*All the compliments for a successful promotional program!*

# Calls for proposals

<b>Galileo Program</b>	Support to the European Global Navigation Satellite System Deadline: <b>31. 03. 2009</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2008:324:0016:0016:EN:PDF">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2008:324:0016:0016:EN:PDF</a>
<b>CIP Program</b>	Entrepreneurial cultural of young people and entrepreneurship education Deadline: <b>20. 04. 2009</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2009:020:0026:0027:EN:PDF">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2009:020:0026:0027:EN:PDF</a>
<b>Education</b>	Tempus IV – Reform of higher education through university cooperation Deadline: <b>28. 04. 2009</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2009:018:0031:0032:EN:PDF">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2009:018:0031:0032:EN:PDF</a>
<b>Education</b>	Erasmus Program – Student mobility for studies and placements Deadline: <b>13. 03. 2009</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2008:255:0006:0007:EN:PDF">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2008:255:0006:0007:EN:PDF</a>
<b>Education</b>	Grundtvig Program – Assistantships, Senior Volunteering Projects Deadline: <b>31. 03. 2009</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2008:255:0006:0007:EN:PDF">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2008:255:0006:0007:EN:PDF</a>
<b>Culture</b>	Cooperation projects and measures; support for cultural bodies Deadline: <b>Various</b> <a href="http://www.europanostra.org/">http://www.europanostra.org/</a>
<b>Transport</b>	Urban Transports Grants for sustainable mobility policies in urban agglomerations Deadline: <b>31. 03. 2009</b> <a href="http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/energy_transport/grants/proposal_en.htm">http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/energy_transport/grants/proposal_en.htm</a>
<b>Research</b>	Seventh Framework Program for Research and Development Energy Second Generation Biofuels - EU Brazil Coordinated Call Deadline: <b>05. 05. 2009</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2009:001:0010:0010:EN:PDF">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2009:001:0010:0010:EN:PDF</a>
<b>Research</b>	Seventh Framework Program for Research and Development Call for proposals for grant to research infrastructures Deadline: <b>27. 03. 2009</b> <a href="http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2008:314:0011:0011:EN:PDF">http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=OJ:C:2008:314:0011:0011:EN:PDF</a>



## Czech Reg Days

11.2. – 21.4.2009 CoR

Regions of the Czech Republic contribute to the program of Czech Presidency

### Zlín Region in Brussels

The Rose House

46, Boulevard de la Cambre – B1000 Bruxelles

Tel. (32) 2 641.17.60 – Fax (32) 2 641.17.69

email : [info@zlinregioninbrussels.eu](mailto:info@zlinregioninbrussels.eu)

## CALENDAR

### FEBRUARY

**2. 2. 2009**

Open Days 2009

Partners meeting at the Zlin Region in Brussels

Rose House

Brussels, Belgium

**5. 2. 2009**

EUREGHA Annual Conference and Meeting of the Management Board Committee of the Regions

**20. 2. 2009**

SupPolicy Project

Final Conference for the presentation of project results Committee of the Regions Brussels, Belgium

**24. 2. 2009**

Regional Dimension of TEN-T Projects

Conference part of the Czech Reg Days in Brussels

Committee of the Regions Brussels, Belgium

## Vacancies in Europe

### ARTEMIS Computer Systems EU Agency

#### • General Management Unit

Vacancy notice: TA-GradeAD11

Program Manager

Place of work: Brussels, Belgium

Deadline: 2. 03. 2009

Info: <https://www.artemis-ju.eu/>

### ARTEMIS Computer Systems EU Agency

#### • General Management Unit

Vacancy notice: TA-GradeAD08

Project Officer

Place of work: Brussels, Belgium

Deadline: 2. 03. 2009

Info: <https://www.artemis-ju.eu/>

### ARTEMIS Computer Systems EU Agency

#### • Administration

Vacancy notice: TA-GradeAD08(2)

Legal Officer

Place of work: Brussels, Belgium

Deadline: 2. 03. 2009

Info: <https://www.artemis-ju.eu/>



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31. 01. 2009

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