

## Forum 2008 - Reports

We started the forum with a delicious lunch at the "KUFA", then the LGE welcomed us in their school canteen, where each school introduced itself (except the Athénée, whose delegates did not turn up).

The second day started with an inspiring speech made by Sr Karoline Mayer, who told us about her personal experience helping the very poor in Bolivia. Afterwards poverty and the North South divide were dealt with in different workshops.

The main debates on Tuesday revolved around the role of NGOs and on the impact of different economic and political factors. We were given an extremely interesting introduction by Camille Gira, Mike Mathias, Luc Dockendorf and Jean-Louis Zeyen.

Unfortunately the organizers insisted on respecting the schedule, so that we did not have enough time to ask all the questions we wanted to and there was not much of a debate. Luckily the speakers were really friendly and kept answering our questions in private after everybody had left.

The last day started with a rather soporific speech by an expert on the NGO "Guiden a Scouten mat der 3. Welt". When he had finally finished, we went to our workshops and prepared the plenary session, which was a real success. There were more debates and we enjoyed the performance of the dancers and the 'African' drummers. The forum ended with a party at the TNL.

As a conclusion, I'd like to say that it was really worth taking part, but four days are undoubtedly too short to find a satisfying solution to such an important issue! Even we came up with a fairly utopian final resolution, it expresses our positive attitude. After all, hope and belief are the first steps to a better world!

*Gilles Weber 2eC*

Last week I took part in the 'Forum pour une Europe multiculturelle'. This year's topic was the 'North-South divide'. We were given a number of interesting talks about poverty and NGOs. Personally I found Sr Karoline Mayer's account very inspiring. Apart from debating we took part in various workshops. I was in the African dance workshop and after three exhausting days of hard work (the first day my muscles felt all stiff), we performed in front of all the members of the forum, while African drums were being played by the people from the music workshop.

The Forum gave us the chance to get to know students from all over Europe, to find out more about their different backgrounds and school systems. It was also a great opportunity to speak English and to get a lot of practice. Our English students were particularly nice and I really enjoyed our free-time activities.

*Nathalie Paquay 2eC*

The few days at the forum were great. First of all, getting in touch with people from different EU countries and getting to know more about their culture was very interesting.

The various speakers who gave us talks about the North- South divide provided us with useful new insights. Personally I appreciated Karoline Mayer most because of her vast knowledge and her varied experiences.

Furthermore I enjoyed the African dance class, where I learned something about the dance and the culture in Africa. I will never forget the fun we had together! Thank you all!

*Nina Kayser 2eE*

The 'Forum for a multi-cultural Europe' was fun and allowed me to make a number of valuable experiences.

There were 4 of us from the LGL and we had four English guests, who stayed with us from Saturday night to Thursday morning. It was an interesting challenge to communicate with them in their language. After some teething troubles we got used to each other and had a lot of fun together.

From Monday to Wednesday we had the opportunity both to attend lectures on the North South Divide and to meet people from other European countries in a variety of workshops. I myself was in a creative workshop led by Florence Hoffmann, a well-known Luxembourgish artist, and we made a painting relating to the topic of this year's Forum. Looking back I am very glad that I could participate in this exchange and I enjoyed the experience – I will remember it all my life.

*Charli Dennewald 2eE*