



International Comenius Week

“Europe: Unity in Diversity”

May 13 – 17 2018

Europe is rich in her variety of languages, cultural habits and societal ways of living. Diversity makes this continent such an interesting place to be. The workshop will explore ways of combining unity with diversity in Europe. In finding out what makes us different and what brings us together, we may strengthen our commitment to the European project. The different activities will bring together students from different European (and non-European) countries to discuss and to enjoy the richness of European traditions. **The highlight of the week will be a field trip to one of the capitals of Europe: Strasbourg!**



Schwäbisch Gmünd is a cosy medieval town situated in Southern Germany, 50 km away from Stuttgart, the capital of South-Western Germany. At the University of Education Schwäbisch Gmünd about 3000 students are preparing their degrees as preschool, primary and lower secondary school teachers and other experts in the field of Education.



Activities during the International Comenius Week 2019:

- different workshops and seminars on cultural identity and diversity
- a basic German lesson
- a workshop on the German educational system
- visits to schools, preschools or other educational institutions
- an intercultural and interactive discovery of Schwäbisch Gmünd
- social activities with German and international students from all over the world and a cooking evening
- **an introduction to Europe and the European Institutions**
- **a two-day excursion to Strasbourg (France) (visits of several European Institutions) – the transportation and the accommodation in Strasbourg will be organized and fully covered by the University of Education.**





Practical Information

This special edition of the Comenius Week **“Europe”** has a strong focus on the European idea and the European Institutions. **It will be especially attractive for students who are interested in politics.** The week will include a two-day trip to Strasbourg (approx. 3 hours by bus from Schwäbisch Gmünd); After three days in **Schwäbisch Gmünd** (Mon to Wed) the group will change places and go to **Strasbourg** (France) (Thu and Fri) to visit the European Parliament and other European Institutions.

Costs for the students:

- Travel expenses to Schwäbisch Gmünd (Flight/fast train/bus to Stuttgart + 25 € return ticket local train Stuttgart – Schwäbisch Gmünd).
- Lunch (university restaurant or quick meals in town – max. 5 Euro per meal)
- 1-2 dinners
- Public transport to the university, to and from the schools and to the meeting points (if necessary)
- In case there is no 1:1 mutual exchange, students might be charged 65 € for “Bed&Breakfast” for the week.

Covered by the University of Education Schwäbisch Gmünd:

Guided tours, cooking evening, an international dinner in a restaurant, **excursion to Strasbourg (France) (including transportation, accommodation, breakfast, entrance fees).**

Hosting students and their families are expected:

... to offer their hosts: Bed & Breakfast from **Sunday** evening to **Saturday** (without the night from Thursday to Friday);

... pick up the hosts **at Schwäbisch Gmünd train station.**

... take them to the university, the meeting points of the week and to schools by public transport or by car.

Arrival and departure:

The closest international airport is Stuttgart. From there visitors can easily get to Schwäbisch Gmünd by local train via Stuttgart main station. There are also good train and bus connections to Stuttgart. Students will meet their hosts at Schwäbisch Gmünd railway station.

The programme starts on **Monday, 13th of May**, at 10:00 in the morning; the participants arrive on **Sunday, 12th of May**. Departure: The official programme will end on **Friday, 17th of May**, late in the evening at Schwäbisch Gmünd. **Therefore, a departure earlier than Saturday 18th of May will not be possible.**

Places: The number of places is limited to **20**. There will be a waiting list in case there will be more places available. We are trying to have as much diversity in the group as possible!

Language of the week: English (at least B1 required)

ECTS: 2 (3 if students hand in a paper connected with the project after the week)

Further information:

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Application Deadline: November 20th, 2018