

DEVOTIONAL HUMANS**GERMAN-ROMANIAN-BOSNIAN-
POLISH YOUTH EXCHANGE**

**Dinara
Forum –
Dinara
l'Ateneu**



**February 23 – March 3, 2019 (Germany)
June 8 – June 16, 2019 (Romania)**

**A project by Gesamteuropäisches Studienwerk e.V. (D) in cooperation with Puzzle Optimeast (RO),
Dinara Forum / Dinara l'Ateneu (BIH) and Fundacja Europejski Instytut Outsourcingu (PL)**

Religious culture touches upon many rites and traditions, complex historical developments and recently also political debates. To name just one example, daily routines such as eating habits may ignite deep discussions about values and lifestyles, for instance when someone with a kosher or halal diet meets a vegan. The development of different religious communities and their coexistence within society also make for a fruitful starting point in getting to know a different culture. Finally, in all of Europe, there is public discourse on migration from the Arab world and the effects of Muslim traditions on predominantly Christian countries. Because those debates are often led by resentment, it is especially important and valuable that young people of different faiths and those who do not believe at all shall meet – in order to prevent them from developing stereotypes and prejudice.

In order to achieve this, GESW from Germany and Puzzle OptimEast from Romania are hosting an international youth exchange encompassing two activities, one in Vlotho (Germany) and one in Târgu Neamț (Romania). In both countries a variety of different faiths and religious communities shape the culture: In Germany there are not only Catholic and Protestant Christians, but also a large Muslim minority. In Romania, there are Orthodox Christians professing the old or the new style, but also minorities of Protestants (Transylvania), Catholics (Hungarians and Danube Swabians), Muslims (Tatars) and Jews. While the activity in Germany is set in Westphalia, where the Thirty Year's War as a religious conflict was reconciled, the part in Romania will take place in one of the most spiritual places of Christian Orthodoxy, Western Moldavia.

Participants must be 26 years or younger and ready to participate fully in both activities. They must be able to speak English so well that they can follow the seminar contents. It is not necessary to belong to any faith; next to believers of any religion, we welcome agnostics and atheists. Openness to situations of interreligious and intercultural confrontation and the readiness to deal with one's own religious and cultural characteristics and to put the discoveries up for discussion are assumed. Participants should also be willing to actively engage in planning the program and conducting the meeting, and be curious about the interplay of religious and political spheres in different societies. We especially encourage participants that belong to religious or cultural minorities in their home countries.

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Participation Fee: **Germans: 90€** (50€ for the activity in D, 40€ for the activity in RO)

Romanians, Bosnians, Poles: 45€ (25€ for D, 20€ for RO)

Travel Costs: Travel Costs will be partially refunded. Travel to an activity within the home country will be subsidized depending upon the distance to the location of the activity. Travel to an activity abroad will be subsidised up to **275€**.



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PROGRAM IN GERMANY: FEBRUARY 23RD – MARCH 3RD, 2019

February 23

- before 18:00 **Arrival in Vlotho**
18:30 Dinner
19:30 – 21:00 **Introductions and Welcome**
Getting to know each other | Introduction to the house and the program

February 24 **Vlotho**

- 8:30 Breakfast
9:30 – 11:45 **Church Service at Heilig Kreuz, Vlotho**
11:45 – 12:30 **Youthpass and Project Charter**
Explanation of the Youthpass | Design of a project charter
12:30 Lunch
14:00 – 16:15 **Experiencing interreligious contact**
Theatre workshop | *Markus Hühn*
16:15 Coffee Break
16:45 -18:15 **Experiencing interreligious contact**
18:30 Dinner
19:30 – 20:15 **Reflection Round**

February 25 **Vlotho**

- 8:30 Breakfast
9:30 – 11:00 **What do you believe? I**
Meeting Faith – Speeddating of participants
11:00 – 12:30 **What do you believe? II**
Creative reflexion of value systems
12:30 Lunch
14:30 – 16:00 **Jewish and Christian cemeteries in Vlotho**
Religious rites and ideas of death | *Angela Winkler*
16:00 Coffee Break
16:30 – 18:00 **Fishbowl-Diskussion**
Death and Funeral, Birth and Baptism, Love and Marriage
18:30 Dinner
19:30 – 20:15 **Reflection Round**

February 26 **Vlotho / Bielefeld**

- 8:30 Breakfast (with packed lunches)
9:30 – 11:00 **Visit to the Organisation of Turkish Workers in Vlotho and Surroundings**
Talk with representative about Islam in Vlotho
afterwards *Transfer to Bielefeld*
12:00 – 15:00 **City Rallye in nationally mixed groups**
Catholic Church Sankt Jodokus, Lutheran Church Altstädter Nikolaikirchengemeinde, Reformed Church Süsterkirche, International Christian Fellowship Bielefeld, Monastery Shop Bielefeld
15:00 – 17:15 Free Time
18:30 Dinner
19:30 – 20:15 **Reflection Round**

February 27 **Vlotho**

- 8:30 Breakfast
9:30 – 11:00 **Exchange on the City Rallye**
Presentations on the experiences of the previous day

- 11:00 – 12:30 **Prayer**
Participants show each other how they pray and talk about what they pray for
- 12:30 Lunch
- 14:30 Coffee Break
- 15:00 – 16:30 **Talk with Britta Haßelmann (Bündnis 90 / Die Grünen), Member of Parliament**
Politics, Religion and Society
- 17:00 – 18:30 **Midterm Evaluation**
- 18:30 Dinner
- 19:30 – 20:15 **Reflection Round**
- February 28** **Vlotho**
- 8:30 Breakfast
- 9:30 – 12:30 **Sketchnotes Workshop**
Visualizing complex thoughts
- 12:30 Lunch
- 14:30 – 16:00 **Religion painting**
Creating paintings of religions in nationally mixed workshop groups
- 16:00 Coffee Break
- 16:30 – 18:00 **Religion painting**
Exhibition of art works
- 18:30 Dinner
- 19:30 – 20:15 **Reflection Round**
- March 1** **Vlotho / Hamelin / Bodenwerder**
- 8:30 Breakfast (with packed lunches)
- 9:30 *Transfer to Hamelin*
- 10:00 – 12:15 **Visit to the Synagoge and the Jewish Community Hamelin**
- 12:15 – 14:30 Free time
- 14:30 *Transfer to Bodenwerder*
- 16:00 – 19:00 **German Orthodox Holy Trinity Monastery**
Church Service and Talk with a monk
- 19:00 *Transfer to Vlotho*
- 20:00 Dinner
- 21:00 – 21:45 **Reflection Round**
- March 2** **Vlotho**
- 8:30 Breakfast
- 10:00 – 12:15 **Religion and Feminism**
Workshop
- 12:30 Lunch
- 14:00 – 16:15 **Creative Seminar Evaluation / Youthpass-Reflection**
- 16:15 Coffee Break
- 16:45 – 17:30 **Outlook on the Activity in Romania**
- 18:30 Dinner
- Anschl. **Interreligious Night**
- March 3**
- 8:30 Breakfast
- afterwards **Departure**

PROGRAM IN TÂRGU NEAMȚ: JUNE 8TH – JUNE 16TH, 2019

8. Juni

Afternoon **Arrival in Târgu Neamț**

Dinner

Evening **Welcome**

9. Juni

Târgu Neamț

Breakfast

Morning **Teambuilding**

Interactive getting to know each other

Youthpass and Projekt Charter

Return to the Youth Pass and the Project Charter

Lunch

Afternoon **Târgu Neamț as an Interreligious City**

Guided tour by participants for participants

Dinner

Evening **Reflection Round**

10. Juni

Târgu Neamț

Breakfast

Morning **Church Service in the Orthodox Church**

Talk with the priest

Lunch

Afternoon **Religions in Europe**

Creative workshops

Religion through Time

Interactive Creation of a Religious Timeline

Evening **Reflection Round**

11. Juni

Târgu Neamț

Breakfast

Morning **The Jewish Community of Târgu Neamț**

Visit and talk

Lunch

Afternoon **Religion during War**

Talk with a Historian

Evening **Reflection Round**

12. Juni

Târgu Neamț / Sighisoara

Breakfast

Morning **Transfer to Sighișoara**

Lunch

Afternoon **Visit to the Church Fortresses**

Guided tour / talk

Visit to the German Cemetery

Talk with a representative from the protestant community

Midterm Evaluation

Dinner

Evening **Reflection Round**

<u>13. Juni</u>	<u>Sighisoara / Târgu Neamț</u>
	Breakfast
Morning	Protestant Church in Sighisoara Talk about religion in Transylvania
Afternoon	Transfer to Târgu Neamț
Unterwegs	Lunch
	Monastery Războieni Guided tour / talk
	Dinner
Evening	Reflection Round
<u>14. Juni</u>	<u>Târgu Neamț</u>
	Breakfast
Morning	Western Moldavian Monasteries Visit to a monastery and talk to a monk
	Religion and Nature Visit to Bison Country
	Lunch
Afternoon	Religion during Communism Talk with a monk about discrimination of religion during communist times
	Dinner
Evening	Reflection Round
<u>15. Juni</u>	<u>Târgu Neamț</u>
	Breakfast
Morning	Monastery Villages Visit and Talk
	Outlook What now? Perspectives for Devotional Humans
	Lunch
Afternoon	Creative Seminar Evaluation / Youthpass-Reflection Youthpass Ceremony
	Dinner
Evening	Interreligious Night / Farewell Night
<u>16. Juni</u>	<u>Târgu Neamț</u>
	Breakfast
Morning	Departure

-- SUBJECT TO CHANGE --