

ACTIVE consists of 33 member organisations from all over Europe gathered in sobriety, friendship and peace. The newsletter is issued at least 8 times a year. If you have any contributions, feel free to send them to: office@activeeurope.org

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1. State of the art

Active says "Content matters". It is always important to consider what is beneath the surface, what is under all the labels the world produces constantly. "Content matters" is a campaign that will be officially launched in April 2009 but the Active office is already busy with the preparations. It will last till the end of 2009 and the final product will be a book - a book that will contain your stories,

poems, pictures, slogans. Active has gotten a big grant from the Council of Europe to be able to carry out this exciting campaign. Now we need you to fill the frame with content. Watch the Active webpage and Newsletters for more information is coming.

2. Activities

+++ NSF Sweden organized a camp full of sports during the winter holiday in Sweden.

The camp was a one week long event of fun and action for the kids. The participants in the age group from 8 to 15 learned to cook over open fire and climbing; they also went to the movies and experienced new things through challenging themselves.

+++ *Juvente Estonia* had their congress on 7th of February, where a new board was elected.

Additionally to this, the members also participated in the "Human rights 4 all! Clothes 4 all!" campaign. One of their members is going to Kenya to work in an orphanage with 130 children, and the orphanage needs help. A remarkable amount of clothes and school supplies was collected, which the children will get in the end of March.

+++ It`s been a while since Active could point to any youth activities in Denmark. But during the last half year *IOGT Denmark* has had two EVS volunteers - Susanne Heiland from Germany and Mahmut Fatih Tekin

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from Turkey - in the city of Århus with the task to create something new. This is done in cooperation with Nordgu/Active.

After some months of getting to know each other, IOGT Denmark and the community, the results are now beginning to show.

In February they started a youth group in the city. Many of the people in this group are coming from already existing groups that IOGT Denmark has for children who are growing up with parents who are drinking too much.

In these groups they talk about their experiences, but in the Youth Group the focus will be laid on doing something fun together with other youngsters in an alcohol free environment.

+++ Not a long time ago *Active* launched the campaign "*Human Rights for ALL! Clothes for ALL!*". Basically the idea is to collect the old T-Shirts (and other clothes) and give them to someone in need. We are glad to share with you the news that *Junis* (the Junior organisation of IOGT-NTO Sweden) collected their T-Shirts and that one member of *Juvente Estonia* - Janika Tamm - will bring them to an orphans home in Nairobi. We are incredibly happy that our member organizations are cooperating so well. As you can see a simple idea can lead into an intercontinental cooperation. Let's change the world together.

+++ In the *News section at Active's web page* here you can find different in-

teresting calls - most recently the possibility to take part in photo taking competition organized by PES with the topic "*Europe in my everyday life*".

+++ Do you miss our intraweb? Do you want to see your Active friends, share pictures, discuss or just poke each other? Active always wants to include people from outside its organizational structure.

That's why we joined *OpenNetworx (aka Kaioo)* - a non-profit democratic social network. It was created and is run by a foundation, not a company. That means they will not sell your data to gain money, but live from funding and donations. Talk to your friends, share your experience...join us!

www.active.opennetworx.org

3. Newsflash

+++ In 2008, the liquor industry experienced significant losses in revenue, with more people limiting their alcohol intake and fewer people drinking in bars and restaurants, Associated Press reported. This is the proof that alcohol industry is not immune to the difficult economic times that we are facing in the latest period. The consumption of alcohol in bars and restaurants fell 2.2 percent from last year and shopping in liquor stores increased by 2.9 percent from last year.

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/headlines/inthenews/2009/alcohol-industry-is.html> from 9.2.2009

+++ The Office for National Statistics (ONS) in the United Kingdom found out that the alcohol

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related deaths among men have doubled in 16 years. According to Professor Ian Gilmore, President of the Royal College of Physician it is also alarming that the figures in men deaths are doubled in comparison with previous years and higher than women's. He claims that this is a fatal price for drinking in their twenties and thirties.

http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/health/article5601119.ece

+++ The tobacco giant Phillip Morris has been sentenced to pay a compensation of about 8 Million \$ to the widow of a smoker (aged 55) who died from lung cancer. The jury in Miami first denied the widow's pledge emphasizing the responsibility of the personal choice of the smoker, but still kept the industry re-

sponsible for its product and its effects on health. This sentence has the potential to become a test case for many other tobacco related deaths and highlights the responsibility of the industry.

<http://www.drugnews.nu/article.asp?id=4986>

+++ Toxic dust from tobacco smoke lingers on surfaces and poses a danger to children especially. In its January issue, "Pediatrics" publishes the results of a study that give evidence and highlight the vulnerability of children: "We think this is a reminder to parents - smokers and nonsmokers alike - that if they allow smoking in the home, it's going to hurt their children," said Joel Africk, president and CEO of the Respiratory Health Association of Metropolitan

Chicago. Children are especially at risk because they play on, crawl on, touch and even mouth contaminated surfaces (third hand smoking).

Studies from health institutions have long been pointing to the fact that tobacco smoke still contains many toxic substances (2nd hand smoke).

<http://www.jointogether.org/news/research/summaries/2009/thirdhand-smoke-lingers-on.html>

4. Member organisation of the month: Juvente Germany

Their famous WiLa is held every year between Xmas and New Years Eve. Members from Finland, Norway, Switzerland and Germany met again in the end of 2008 to learn something interesting in

workshops, have fun at parties and welcome together the year 2009. Also a body painting workshop, spa workshop and masque ball were the highlights that will remain in the memories of the participants for a long time.

We're looking forward to WiLa 2009/10 already, which will this time take place in – believe it or not – a place called Wila!

Subscription

ACTIVE newsletter is issued at least 8 times a year. If you wish to receive it (or to unsubscribe) send an email to: office@activeeurope.org