

Press Release No. 1 EN

LIVE FROM THE EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT. YOUTH REPORTING.
NEXT GENERATION OF JOURNALISTS MEETS IN BRUSSELS

From 15 to 17 October 2008, 200 young journalists from across the European Union will gather at the European Youth Media Days for high-ranking debates and hands-on media production. Application until 24 September 2008 at www.youthmediadays.eu.

Brussels, 4 September 2008 – New media, open minds and challenging ideas. From 15 to 17 October 2008, the next generation of European journalists meets at the European Parliament in Brussels for the second European Youth Media Days. Hosted by the European Parliament and organised with the support of the European Youth Press, the gathering of 200 emerging journalists promotes a broad discussion and networking on European issues, confronting and provoking with diverse perspectives and realities.

This year's Media Days programme emphasises the need to bridge national borders in media in order to create a European public and political sphere. To meet these aims, participants will discuss with speakers such as European Parliament President Hans-Gert Pöttering, the Chairpersons of the Parliament's political groups, and European media correspondents.

Young people interested in European media and politics, journalism students or young professionals living in one of the 27 EU countries (or being an EU national abroad) can apply until 24 September 2008 at www.youthmediadays.eu.

CREATORS OF YOUTH MEDIA SHARE THEIR VISION OF EUROPE

On Wednesday evening, 15 October 2008, Alejo Vidal-Quadras, Vice-President of the European Parliament (tbc), Francesca Ratti, Director-General for Communication of the European Parliament (tbc), along with the European Youth Press will open the event. Chairpersons of the Parliament's different political groups will critically debate their visions of the EU's future, its role in the world and its economical and social policies. Afterwards, young journalists



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gather with parliamentarians and Brussels based correspondents. Creators of youth media from across the continent share their ideas and approaches on another evening panel.

Thursday 16 October is the media day, entirely dedicated to hands-on media productions. Ranging from TV to radio, from print to web and photo, participants will work on different themes under the guidance of professional media makers with inputs from Members of the European Parliament. Themes in the workshops will include a wide range of issues and formats such as “The bigger, the better?”, a tabloid on EU enlargement, “Nuclear windmills?”, a controversial TV debate on future energy sources and climate change, “EUROpolitan”, the attempt to create a European women's magazine, or “A Free Press? Truth Hurts”, that will report on the state of freedom of press.

On Friday, 17 October, young media makers will discover Europe in a day. Initiated with a keynote speech by Hans-Gert Pöttering, President of the European Parliament, during the award ceremony of the European Parliament Prize for Journalism, the day will offer insights into the Brussels world of media and politics. During visits to the European Commission, the French EU Council Presidency and the International Press Centre, the EYMD will address issues such as civil liberties and perspectives beyond today's EU borders. The Media Days will conclude with an interactive, multimedia Media Night, offering a view ahead to the future of European media.

All information on the European Youth Media Days and the application procedure is available online at www.youthmediadays.eu.

EUROPEAN YOUTH MEDIA DAYS 2008
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