



Newsletter
Issue 6
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What is Europe Direct?

Europe Direct Wrexham is an information service about Europe and the European Union. We provide a vast amount of FREE publications for all ages on all kind of subjects from the environment, European Parliament, opportunities for young people in Europe, travelling in Europe and languages. These can include maps, flag bunting and posters.

We provide packs for teachers to aid them in delivering topics on Europe and the European Union as part of the Welsh Baccalaureate qualification and Education for Sustainable Development and Global Citizenship (ESDGC).

Aside from the publications we also deliver FREE workshops on subjects such as history of the EU, what it does, how laws are made, the importance of learning modern foreign languages, business and trade and the environment. Workshops consist of various activities such as presentations, quizzes, map games, and design your MEP and European bag.

As well as workshops we can assist in organising European weeks, European assemblies, fun days and MEP visits.

The aim of this newsletter is to keep you informed of the services that Europe Direct can offer YOU. We also aim to keep you informed of any new policies, what the big topics are in the European Union right now, and what work we have been doing through workshops and attending meetings and events.

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In the next few issues we will be picking one of the European Commission's Ten Priorities for Europe. Those priorities are:

- A new boost for jobs, growth and investment,
- ✓ A connected digital single market,
- ✓ A resilient energy union with a forwards-looking climate change policy,
- A deeper and fairer internal market with a strengthened industrial base,
- A deeper and fairer Economic and Monetary Union,
- ✓ A reasonable and balanced free trade agreement with the United States,
- An area of justice and fundamental rights based on mutual trust,
- ✓ Towards a new policy on migration,
- ✓ A stronger global actor,
- ✓ A union of democratic change.

The priorities with ticks next to have been covered in previous issues. In this issue we will focus on 'A Stronger Global Actor'



The European Commission's Ten Priorities for Europe

A Stronger Global Actor

The EU is a key player on many foreign policy issues, ranging from Iran's nuclear programme and stabilising the Horn of Africa to global warming. Its joint foreign and security policy, designed to resolve conflicts and foster international understanding, is based on diplomacy, while trade, aid, security and defence all play a complementary role. The EU also deals with subjects like environment, education, crime-fighting and human rights in its relations with the rest of the world.

The EU needs a strong common foreign policy to

- respond efficiently to global challenges, including the crises in its neighbourhood,
- project its values, and
- contribute to peace and prosperity in the world.

Policy areas

Foreign policy

The EU maintains diplomatic relations with nearly all countries in the world. It has strategic partnerships with key international players.

European Neighbourhood Policy

Focuses on the stabilisation of the region, in political, economic, and security related terms. The EU's own stability is built on democracy, human rights and the rule of law and the policy will continue to make the case for these universal values.

International Cooperation and Development

Through its development cooperation policy, the EU contributes to reduce poverty in the world, to ensure sustainable economic, social and environmental development, and promotes democracy, the rule of law, good governance and the respect of human rights.

Humanitarian Aid, Civil Protection

The EU provides needs-based humanitarian aid with particular attention to the most vulnerable victims, and coordinates European civil protection assistance during disasters which occur worldwide.

Trade Policy

EU trade policy sets the direction for trade and investment in and out of the EU. It affects EU citizens and is made with their input so as to reflect EU society's values and interests as a whole. The EU help businesses make the most of global opportunities and aims at boosting growth, jobs, competitiveness and investment in the EU.

Security and Defence

The European Common Security and Defence Policy aims to strengthen the EU's ability to prevent and manage crises through the development of civilian and military capabilities.

EU Enlargement

An investment in peace, security and stability in Europe: the prospect of EU membership has a powerful transformative effect on the countries in the process, embedding positive democratic, political, economic and societal change.

From all at Europe Direct Wrexham we wish you a
Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Joyeux Noël Glædelig Jul
 Fröhliche Weihnachten God Jul
 Feliz Navidad Vrolijk Kerstfeest
 Roomsaid Joulu/Puhi Iloista Joulua
 Buon Natale Καλά Χριστούγεννα
 Kellemes Karácsonyi Ünnepeket Sretan Božić
 Nollaig Shona Duit Veselé Vánoce
 Vesel Bozic Veselé Vianoce
 Craciun Fericit Feliz Natal
 Wesolych Swiat Bozego Narodzenia
 Il-Milied It-Tajjeb Linksmu Kaledu
 Priecigus Ziemassvetkus щастлива Коледа
 Nadolig Llawen

Merry Christmas!



Christmas Tree Decoration Exchange

Our Christmas Tree of decorations made by schools from across Europe has been on display throughout December. The Christmas Tree Decoration Exchange project will take place next year so if your school is interested please get in touch for details. Places are limited.



Advent Calendar

Each day in December our Facebook and Twitter pages have featured a different decoration from those made through the project. Have a look to see if yours was featured or any that your school received. It might also give you inspiration for next year.

Facebook – www.facebook.com/europedirectwrexham

Twitter – www.twitter.com/EuropeDirectWxm / @EuropeDirectWxm

2017

2017 looks set to be another busy year. It is expected that Article 50 will be triggered which will start the negotiations as to what relationship the UK will have with the remaining 27 countries in the EU.

Despite this Europe Direct will still be operating and will be available for school workshops, information, publications and other events. If you have any queries please get in touch.

Upcoming events:

- Careers events at local schools planned.
- On Tuesday 14th February we will be attending a jobs fair at Glyndwr University.
- On Tuesday 28th February we will be attending another careers event at Glyndwr University.
- April – workshops at Coleg Cambria
- April – June – Series of workshops at St Josephs High School
- July – Llangollen Eisteddfod
- August – Denbigh & Flint Agricultural Show

Coming up in the newsletter in 2017:

- ✓ Information on the EU Solidarity Corps – an initiative bringing together opportunities for volunteering and training in other countries
- ✓ A new resource for secondary schools to raise awareness of the importance of food and farming in our daily lives. The resource looks at food, environment and farming and includes lesson plans, maps, worksheets and projects.
- ✓ An opportunity to feedback what you want from the EU and what you think the EU should be doing, particularly in light of the UK withdrawing from the EU.
- ✓ And much more.

Brexit

In this part of the newsletter we will include any news on Brexit and what it may impact and we will **try** our best to answer any questions you may have.

If you have any question, please contact us and we will do our best. The contact details are below:

Workshop Examples:

- European Fairies (Ages 3 - 11, 1 hour session)
- How well do you know Europe? (Ages 11+, 1 hour session)
- 'Europe and the European Union - what's that?' (Ages 11-18, 1 hour session)
- Design a European Cotton Bag (Ages 7-14, 1 Hour session)
- European Postcards (Ages 8-11, 1 hour session)
- Design Your Own Politician (Ages 11-16, 30 minute session)
- Design your own European Citizen (Ages 11-16, 30 minute session)
- Design an EU flag (Ages 8-11, 30 minute session)
- Erasmus + Strategic Partnerships for Schools (for teachers)
- E-Twinning (for teachers)
- European Parliament London FREE Visits
- Parlamentarium - European Parliament's Visitor centre – Brussels

If you are interested in having Europe Direct Wrexham come and do presentations, attend events, or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us on the details below:

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