

HISTOR EUSTOR DEMOCRAC

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE



History Matters!

Dear reader,

In order to create this magazine, we, 23 young participants from twelve countries came together in Oslo, Norway. The occasion was the 200 year jubilee of the Norwegian constitution; this celebration led the Eustory history camp for winners of national history competitions to be dedicated to European democracy and constitutions in general. With seven days of hard work behind us, we created a magazine that tries to cover all our discussions and experiences.

One of the main questions we dealt with was how people's attitude towards democracy differs within the European states. This was done through collecting data in advance for the camp and evaluating the outcome. See this on page 12. Furthermore we discussed the trust-based Norwegian political system and what this

meant for the minorities. This resulted in an article about trust p. 14 as well as a guide to the Norwegian constitution p. 8.

We suggest you also read about interaction between social media and politics on page 20 along with how different organisations are connected to democracy in Norway p. 10.

Although we had a busy program, we did have time to get to know each other better, get to know different languages and cultures and finally become friends. We exchanged many stories about our countries which resulted in a lot of fun facts that will accompany you throughout the whole magazine. Besides that, you will get an insight in our running gags, so we give you the opportunity to pick your very own favourite German on page 26.

Enjoy!

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History Network for Young Europeans

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Norwegian History Timeline

1160

Church intercedes were in favour of Magnus Erlingsson, who was the first Norwegian Monarch getting crowned. The opposition, headed by Sverre Sigurdson, resisted and defeated Magnus I in 1192. Sigurdson crowned himself king in 1194 but got excommunicated.

1349

In 1349 the great plague caused not just the loss of a half of the population but also important social, political and economic damages.

1000

1090

1180

1270

1066–1130

Norway experienced a period of stability, peace and economic development during Olaf III *"The Peaceful"*'s reign. Many cities started to prosper, as did the case of Oslo. Magnus I *"The Barefeet"* started a military campaign against Britannic Islands, where he soon died. As for the matter of government, his elder sons (Oysteir I and Sigurd I) performed different roles within the government following the succession of Norwegian laws. These established that every male successor would inherit the crown. After Sigurd *"the Crusader"*'s death in 1130, a civil war started and social and political conflicts lasted a whole century.

1217–1299

Norway suffered another crisis and it was not until 1217, when Haakon IV was reckoned as Norwegian king, that Norway got unified again. The last insurrection was repressed and defeated in 1240. In 1260, Norway reached its maximum extension and Bergen was chosen as the capital of the kingdom, which was moved to Oslo in 1299. His son, Magnus VI, was also known as *"the legislative"* because he promulgated the first national enforcement law, and his grandson, became Swedish king.



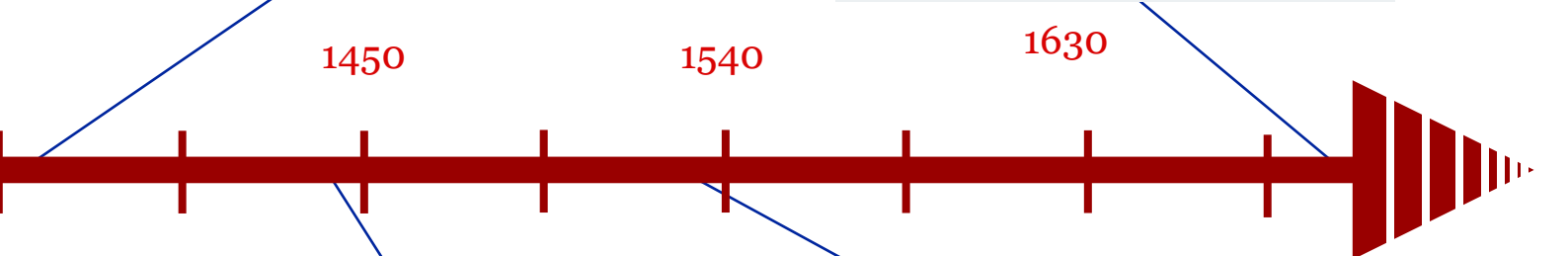


1362–1388

Magnus VI abdicated in favour of his son Haakon VI in 1362, who got married with Margarita from Denmark and became Denmark's king in 1375, as well as Norway's king in 1388 after his father's death.

1695–1696

The famine of 1695 -96 killed roughly 10% of Norway's population. The harvest failed in Scandinavia at least nine times between 1740 and 1800, with caused great loss of life.



1450

1540

1630

1444–1446

Once Olaf had died at the age of 17, his mother became Denmark, Norway and Sweden's queen. She constituted the Kalmar Union, a treaty that provided a personal relationship among the countries. After her death, Erik de Pomerania was proclaimed king. He was considered to be incompetent and passive about the internal conflicts, so the union broke apart.

1536

In 1536, the Norwegian archbishopric in Trondheim was dissolved, and Norway lost its independence and became a part of Denmark.



1814

After the Napoleonic wars Norway was given to Sweden as a gift. They decided to revolt. Norwegians wrote their own constitution in Eidsvoll within 6 weeks. The constitution was based on American and French models. They elected the Crown Prince of Denmark and Norway, Christian Frederick, as king on the 17th of May 1814.

After that, Norway declared its independence but was then occupied by Sweden. The Parliament was allowed to continue working though and that is why the constitution from 1814 still exists today.



1945

At the time of German surrender on the 8th of May 1945, there were 360,000 German soldiers in the country.

1972–1994

Two referendums on whether to join the European Union failed by narrow margins between 1972 and 1994.

1720

1810

1900

1990

1939

From the start of World War II in 1939, Norway retained strict neutrality, the same as during World War I. Nevertheless Britain and Germany realized the strategic location; both then made plans to invade Norway, regardless of Norwegian opposition.

1949

Norway became a founding member of NATO

1940

Norway was occupied by German forces from the 9th of April 1940 to the 8th of May 1945. King Haakon and the Norwegian government escaped to Rotherhithe, in London, England. They supported the fight through inspirational radio speeches from London and by supporting clandestine military actions in Norway against the Nazis.

1945–1962

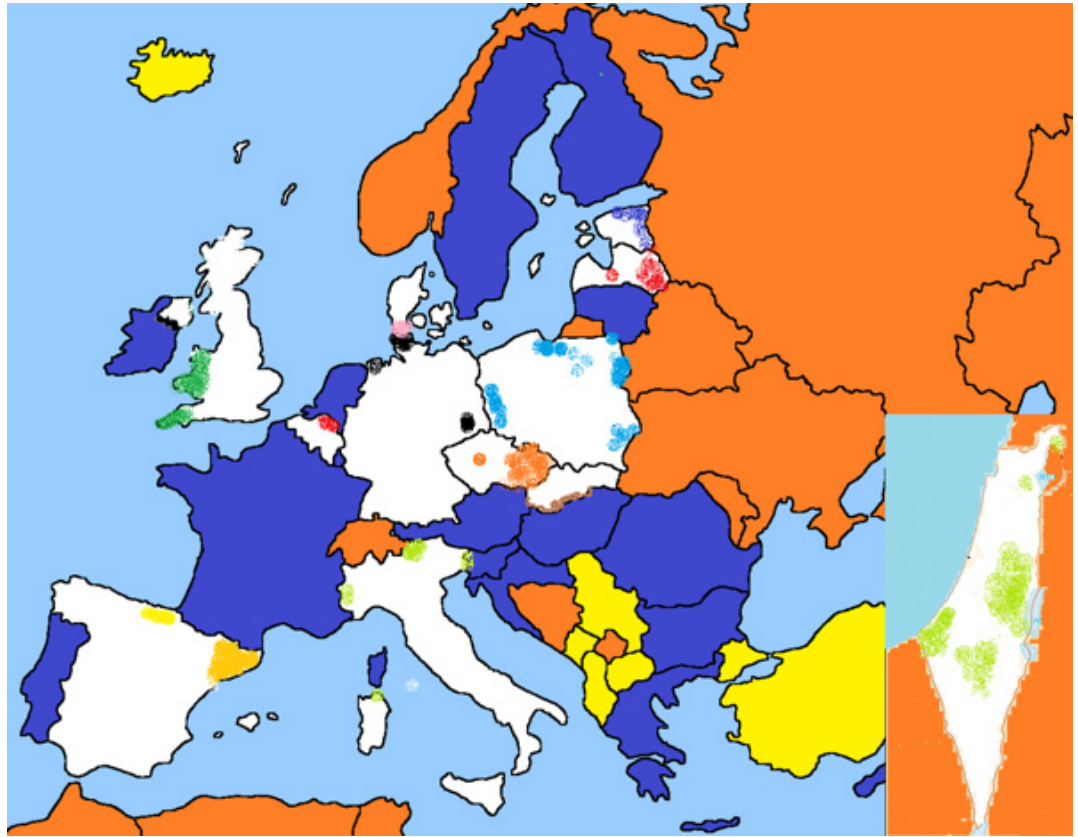
The Labour Party had majority in Norwegian Parliament. In Norway started a process of industrialisation and cooperation between trade unions and employers' organisations

2011

Terrorist attacks on the Government Headquarters and camp at Utøya. After the national elections in September 2013 a coalition of the Conservative Party and the populist anti-immigration Progress Party was created.

Minorities In Europe

There are many minorities in all European countries. We decided to compile their situation by looking at the nations we are coming from. We interviewed one person of every nationality and found out which historical minorities are in our countries. We asked everyone to draw the approximate position of their historical minorities and so we created a map. The countries in orange are not members of European Union and Israel, the ones in blue are members of the EU. The ones in yellow may perhaps become members. We analysed the white countries, from which we all come from. However you cannot locate the other minorities who moved to the European countries due to the bad living standards in their home country.



Countries	Minorities	Discrimination (1-10)
Great Britain	Cornish, Welsh	0
Latvia	Russians	4
Slovakia	Hungarians	0
Czech Republic	Slovaks, Moravians	1
Israel	Arabs, Bedouins, Palestinians, Druzes	A-4, B-5, P-4, D-1
Spain	Catalans, Basques	0
Germany	Danish, Frisians, Sorbs	0
Denmark	Germans	0
Poland	Germans, Byelorussians, Lithuanians, Ukrainians	2
Italy	Germans, French, Occitans, Slovenians, Croatians	0
Belgium	Italians, Germans	1-2, G-0
Estonia	Russians, Ukrainians	5

How To Build A Democracy

#7

The Norwegian guide, step by step

If your vikingship ever gets lost in the ocean and you find yourself in a 1000-year-old city (aka a super tiny European capital) you will probably keep getting lost in the maze. Here are the places you should visit before the democracy monster finds you. Beware, it's all over Oslo!

#8

Vigeland park

- ◇ The largest park in Oslo contains hundreds of real size naked people.
- ◇ The real name of the park is Frogher but everyone calls it Vigeland because that is the artist's name.
- ◇ Each year there are between 1-2 million visitors in the park.
- ◇ TIP: if you're there, don't forget to take some pictures with the sculpters.



#4

Nobel Peace Center

- ◇ It was opened on the 25th of June 2005 by the king of Norway
- ◇ There are 5 exhibitions in 1 building.
- ◇ Only 1 exhibition is actually permanent; it's about the laureates of the current Nobel Peace Prize winners.
- ◇ The other exhibitions are e.g. about how social media influences democracy, how children around the world express themselves, Lui Xiaobo, chemical weapons and the laureates of the current Nobel Peace Prize.
- ◇ Actually no one knows for certain why Alfred Nobel wanted a Norwegian committee award the Peace Prize in particular.
- ◇ TIP: Post your selfie on twitter *#BeDemocracy* and see it on the active twitter wall.



#5

City Hall

- ◇ Every year on the 10th of December the Nobel Peace Price Ceremony takes place there.
- ◇ It's full of various pieces of art and even contains three art studios that you can visit for free.
- ◇ TIP: You should learn about the chamber with the paintings on all the walls that deals with Norwegian history.



8

#9

Royal Palace

- ◇ In the past the Norwegian flag was shown only when the king was inside the palace; nowadays it is always shown so that people won't know where the king is. Out of fear of terroristic acts.
- ◇ The construction of the palace was completed in 1849.
- ◇ There are 173 rooms in the palace.
- ◇ It was originally built for Charles III, who was also the king of Sweden.
- ◇ At 1827, the building of the palace stopped for 6 years because of lack of money.
- ◇ TIP: don't miss the great view on Karl Johans Street!



Parliament

- ◇ It has Viking style furniture inside.
- ◇ In the conference room everyone is sitting according to their regions and not according to their parties.
- ◇ The king is only allowed to the parliament once a year.
- ◇ TIP: Find the oldest clock.

#2

#3

#1

#6

Opera House

- ◇ It cost 4.1 billion NOK to build the Opera House, which is equivalent to ~ 707 million US\$.
- ◇ The Opera House is shaped like an iceberg.
- ◇ The Opera House won the Cultural Award in the World Architecture Festival in 2008.
- ◇ The structure contains 1.100 rooms
- ◇ TIP: don't miss the view from the top!



Organizations Of A Democracy

#4

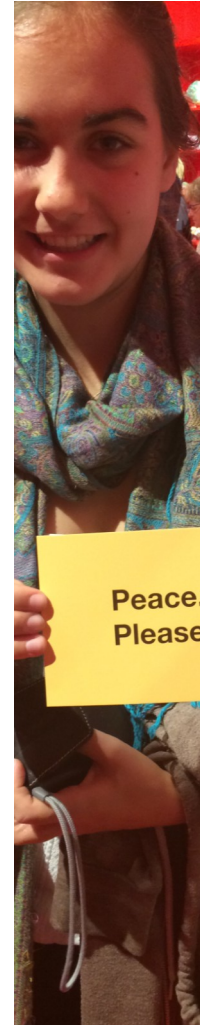
On the first day we separated into small groups and visited some Norwegian institutions. In each one we interviewed a member of the organisation who told us how they were related with democracy. Here is a summary of the main ideas, so the next time you want to create a democracy you have just the right tools!

#1 The Archives and Library of the

Norwegian Labour Movement is directed by Frank Meyer. This institution was created in 1899, when several local labour movements that had developed because of the working class situation at the time, mixed together. That is how they started to fight for their rights as workers and constituted an umbrella-structured institution which would assume a really important role in Norwegian democracy. Through this incipient confederation, citizens, workers, the unemployed and common people found a way to get higher wages, social security, health-care, the right to vote and leaves of absence. Of course, these important achievements in terms of democracy were obtained through many years of fight, so people demonstrated and went on strike. Frank emphasized LO's importance for the Norwegian democracy: "*It is a strong force to support and guarantee democracy*". It has 900,000 members and is a very successful and influential institution.

#2 The "Ombudsman" governmental organization of Norway

operates in five different ways: it helps people who have experienced discrimination; it has lawyers that take care of the cases of discrimination; it gives people advice about discrimination; its members take part in debates on equality and discrimination, to inform people about them. It also influences the governmental politics and controls what the government does and wants to do according to the International Conventions and the human rights. It is funded and appointed by the parliament, even though it operates independently. It is like an intermediary between the State and NGOs: it supports the disadvantaged ones according to the guideline politics of the government.



#3 Gyldendal Norsk Forlag is a publishing house, founded in 1770.

Ulv Pedersen, the head of Gyldendal Education, said: "*Freedom of speech is very strong in Norway. Of course, you have to be careful. You have to protect each particular person. You can't print everything. (...) There is difference between books and newspapers. In newspapers everything is very quick (...) but in books you go further, you are checking everything and so on. (...) But there is no topic in Norway you couldn't really write about.*" Besides the fact, that there are no limits in everyday literature in Norway, the state also doesn't have any surveillance on content of educational books - governmental probation was cancelled in the year 2000: "*We want to educate children to think critically and to be able to be good citizens. (...) And also, when it comes to immigration (...) it's important to make this a good society. And school is very important. This is probably the most important international way*".

Havlar Tjønn

has been a **journalist** for 30 years. He believes that the media has changed in the last decade not only by the evolution of the online paper, but also concerning a journalist's income - for the same amount of information they get less income. Written information is less worthy and newspapers became a minority. He also said that in order to do the best work as a journalist you have to be open-minded. As he said, in Norway anyone can say anything, hence the influence on democracy.

#5

Juss-Buss is a pro-bono law organization that provides free legal aid for the less fortunate. The organization was founded by law students in 1971. They decided to do research about the need for legal aid by driving around Norway on a bus - this is where the name "*Juss-Buss*" comes from. Around 30 students research law issues and inform clients mostly on a voluntary basis alongside their studies. At Juss-Buss they see "*outreach work*" as a big task because "*the most vulnerable will not come to them but have to be reached by the volunteers.*" They also organize demonstrations and debates where politicians, experts and ordinary people come together to discuss law specific topics that have been in the media recently. 80% of their work consists of particular cases and consultancy for which they also prepare brochures and textbooks about different subject-matters. Another important part of their work is to confront politicians with the impact the laws they make have on the people. As many of their clients do not have the right to vote, Juss-Buss try giving them a voice in the Norwegian democracy.

#8

◇ "**Frognerseteren**" means "the mountain dairy farm"

- ◇ The **restaurant** is located on a mountain so you have a beautiful view of Oslo City.
- ◇ The Holmenkollen ski jump is about a 15-minute walk from the restaurant.
- ◇ The ingredients for meals are fresh and are collected directly from nature.
- ◇ The staff in the kitchen has taken up the old preparation methods such as salting, smoking and picking of food.
- ◇ TIP: Take the apple pie with whipped cream.

#6

LLH is the Norwegian national association for lesbians, gays, bisexual and transgender people. 5% of the population identifies themselves as being part of this group, LGBT people. The organization has existed since 1950 and in 1972 homosexual-relations were no longer criminalized. This helped change the common perception that being gay was accompanied with being sick and wrong. Since 1993, a civil partnership between gays is allowed, even though only 30% of the population had agreed to the idea. In 2008 marriage between homosexual couples was finally legalized, and this time 70 % percent of the population was in favor. "*Gay rights are good for straight people, because a society with equal rights is nice to live in*", says Nylund, the leader of LLH. Norway has come a long way since 1950. Today the parliament has 6 openly gay politicians, but the fight for equal rights is not over. The organization believes that education is the way to acceptance in the future.

#7

CICERO, Centre for international

climate and environmental research in Norway, is financed by the fuel industries income of the Norwegian state but they try to work as independently as possible. Their main role is to supply information through their research so that the government can form policies or strategies to enact on problems caused by climate change. They try to help other people/countries and especially the government to make decisions based on their research.



#9

◇ The main attractions at the **Viking Ship Museum** are the Oseberg ship, Gokstad ship and Tune ship.

- ◇ The hall for the Oseberg ship was built with funding from the Parliament of Norway.
- ◇ The halls for the ships from Gokstad and Tune were completed in 1932.
- ◇ The construction of the museum had been delayed because of World War 2.
- ◇ The museum has around 400,000 visitors annually.
- ◇ TIP: Try on the Viking hats in the souvenir shop.

What 's Your Real Nationality?

Have you ever wondered if you're living in the right place?

As a citizen of a European country you may have noticed that not all the countries share the same culture and values. And you may as well have noticed that decision making of your country's government can affect your whole life immensely. Do you feel accepted in your country? Do you have the impression that your future will be bright in the place your living? Not sure? Let's find out by answering the test underneath that is based on questionnaires the Eustory participants brought with them from each of their countries.

1. Do you consider yourself participating in your own country's politics?

Yes! 2.1 Would you describe your country as reliable concerning decision making for the future?

No! 2.2 Have you ever felt betrayed/ ignored by your country's government?

2. Pick the word that attracts you the most?

Yes! 2.1.1

- A. cool
- B. strict
- C. colorful

No! 2.1.2

- A. tiny
- B. naturous
- C. historical

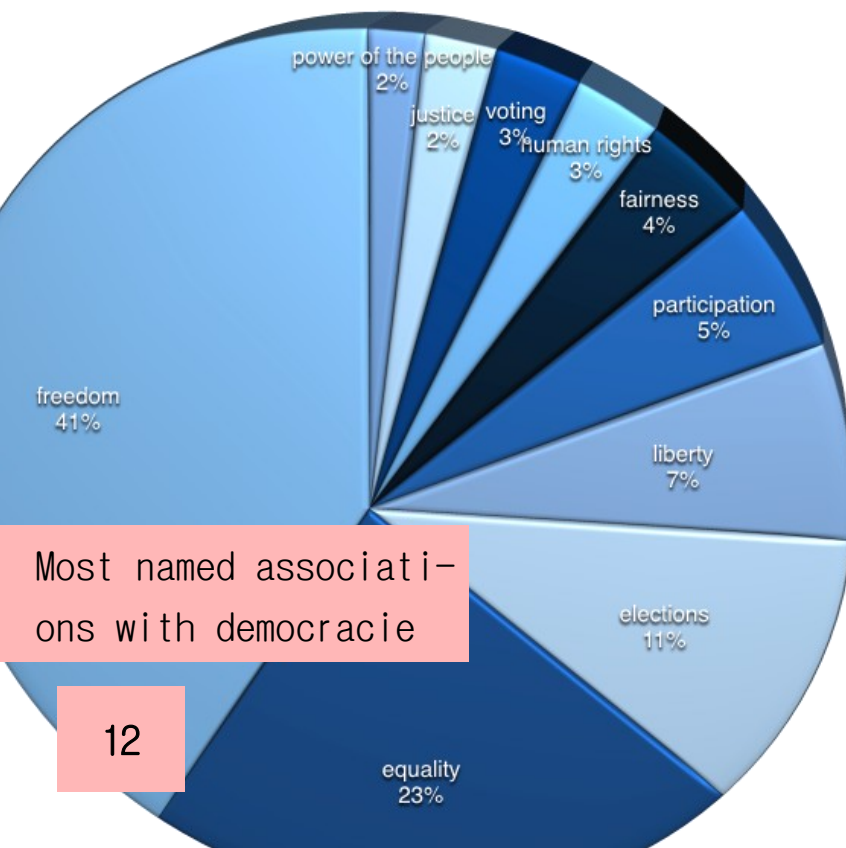
Yes! 2.2.1

- A. delicious
- B. religious
- C. forested

No! 2.2.2

- A. continous
- B. traditional
- C. warm

3. See next page, please!



Most named associations with democracie

12



Ranking most reliable countries

1. Denmark
2. Germany
3. Israel
4. Belgium
5. Estonia
6. Wales
7. Italy
8. Poland
9. Latvia
10. Czech Republic
11. Slovakia
12. Spain

Result ;)

2.1.1 A: Either you are citizen of a Scandinavian country or you should consider moving to one like Denmark. The Scandinavian population is known for being very pleasant, especially when it comes to decision making.

2.1.1 B: Germany is the place to be when you are caring about values like tidyness and punctuality. Apart from that, you will live in a place of "*unity in diversity*", a stable democracy and a majority of people who are willing to trust their government.

2.1.1. C: A mixture of warm-tempered people and beautiful landscape: Israel is indeed no European country, but a dear appreciated friend that made great achievements in terms of democracy.

2.1.2 A: How about living in a country where 3 languages are being spoken in a rather small area? Apart from a restricted amount of pessimistic thoughts, Belgium's monarchy is being much appreciated by the population. Do you see yourself here?

2.1.2 B: Generally speaking, the Estonian population is neither fully satisfied nor disappointed in their government. So if you are looking for a country that is usually not in the centre of it all and enjoy the natorous environment, Estonia is the place to be.

2.1.2 C: With its bigger population, Wales is waiting for you with its huge historical background. An incision is being made when it comes to the political contentment.

2.2.1 A: Which country has the most delicate food to offer? According to Italians it would be... who would have guessed... Italy! I think we would all agree upon it, nevertheless you should not forget to mention the corrupt events Italy went through and thus lost its trust towards the population.

2.2.1 B: Poland is rich of its religious history and therefore have a very religious population. But when politicians are distracted with their own discussions instead of trying to concentrate on what the people is concerned about is definately not the right decision.

2.2.1 C: You'll also find a lot of picturesque landscapes through out Latvia, but keeping in mind that the Latvian people are not pleased with the decision making of the government puts a more shadowed light on the country in Eastern Europe.

2.2.2 A: The German ones among us should watch out for the amazing Czech beers. One aspect about Czech Republic that can be acknowleged is their attempt to go one step further and achieve progress in terms of politics.

2.2.2 B: Holding on to your traditions is a vital point in the Slovakian culture, every year folk festivals are held all over the country. The Slovakian government fails in many ways. The Human Development Index is deminishing every year, people are dissapointed by the attitude of their politicians. They avoid the real important issues that matter to the Slovaks.

2.2.2 C: Spain closes the list of trust, because the Spanish people have expirienced may cases of corruption in the past. Specially the money laundering by politicians had a very bad influence on trust issues. Another big problem in Spanish constitution in the unclear seperation of powers in the country. Apart from that Spain is a enjoyable and nice country with lots of amazing people.

(How) Trust Works

A Comment



"Trust works." These were **Stefan Heggelund**'s first words when opening our conversation in the Norwegian Parliament. The conservative parliamentarian believes that Norwegian politics is widely based on a concept of trust. "Let me give you an example: Norway does not have a minimum wage. But neither the labor unions nor the employers want one; this is because they trust each other."

Three days after our visit to the parliament, **Halvor Tjønn**, historian and journalist held a lecture on trust-based societies. To him it is confidence that puts Norway ahead. This reciprocal confidence that people have in each other and in politics is what he calls a "concept of

trust". "It makes business, economics and education a whole lot easier." Though there are only few figures on trust available. This is partly because it is difficult to give an exact definition for a concept of trust and it is even harder to measure the degree of trust.

Nevertheless, if you believe Stefan Heggelund and Halvor Tjønn there is a high level of trust in Norway. And they might be right. The horrible terrorist attacks three years ago were directly aiming at the trust that is vivid in the Norwegian society. But they were not able to destroy. It seems today that the country is holding on to its principles even stronger than before.

Trust is the confidence in someone's reliability. Per definition the concept of trust always includes the possibility that the people who are trusted do not meet the expectations others have in them. That is why you need good reasons to trust in someone. If you do not have any this is naive and dangerous. It may even turn out to be a threat to the existing system to trust someone in decisive questions and then being disappointed.

But why should for instances Norwegian politicians be more trustworthy than others? It is hardly believable that Norwegians are naturally more reliable than people from other nations. A common answer to that question is that Norwegians have a general culture of trust. Nevertheless this does not explain how this culture of trust developed and why it developed in Norway and not in China.

The difference between a concept that "works" and a belief that is simply naive is in my opinion a set of institutions that ensure someone's trustworthiness. It is the institutional differences that let people in Norway have higher

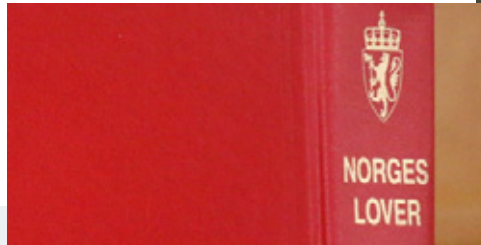


confidence in politics than people in China do. In this context institutions can have varying forms. Legislation, organizations and tradition/ experience are all vivid kinds of institutions that are necessary for trust:

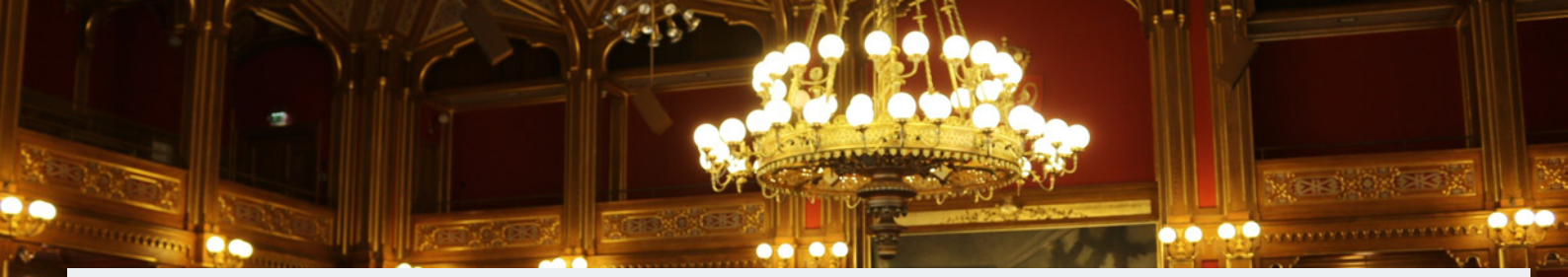
When the labor union rejects the idea of a minimum wage that is not because they just trust the employers to be nice to them but they rely on their right to have a say on workers' wages. As a matter of fact it is legislation that ensures that both employers and labor unions will be heard. Members of Parliament are more likely to trust each other cross-party if they are seated between members of another party. The Norwegian parliamentarians are seated according to the region they come from and not the party they belong to. This may lead to getting to know each other



better, taking each other more seriously, having better debates and in the end of the day having more trust in each other. Institutions that do not seem important at first sight might turn out to be crucial for the concept of trust as the example of the seating order in the Norwegian parliament shows. After a debate in parliament is closed and the parliamentarians leave the chamber they cannot simply go home. In case that there is a journalist waiting outside the chamber in "strolling hall". It is an unwritten rule that the members of parliament will have to answer these questions. This ensures a high level of monitoring throughout the media. Breaking promises will be different if you know that there is a journalist waiting outside the chamber you cannot get away from. That is why a vivid system of media plays a major role in the concept of trust. The role that traditions and experiences play in the question of trust is not to be underestimated. Stefan Heggelund points out that there is a "long tradition of consensus in major decisions" in Norway. For instance the recent reform of the pension system was done with the consent of all major parties. This tradition is kept alive partly because all parties know that they might not be part



of the government anymore in the next legislation period and might themselves be dependent on the next government. Beneath this "golden-rule"-approach it might also be because parliamentarians simply think it is the right thing to do. In a plural society everyone is dependent on each other whereas a system in which the power lies with a narrow elite is not as much dependent on trust. Absolutist elites will rather rely on oppression than on trust: "Trust is fine. Control is better" (Josef Stalin). That is why trust plays a major role only in plural societies (/ democracies) and not in absolutist/elitist systems. Norway is famous for having a welfare state and providing a high level of social security. People from Norway do not have to spend money on health insurance because it is public and they must not fear hunger if they lose their jobs. This gives them the basic security they need to trust in the system they live in. During our visit to Norway we also got to know about the



Norwegian constitution from 1814 that was indeed very liberal at that time. It seems natural to us today that we live under rule of law and are being protected from attacks on our personal rights (both from the state and from others), but actually a significant amount of people around the globe **cannot enjoy civil rights**. Obviously a lack of civil rights will automatically lead to a lack of confidence, since neither participation nor security is guaranteed without civil rights. To sum it up, trust is mostly dependent on the following institutions: inclusive legislation/rule of law (→ everyone has their say, e.g. minimum wage example), (social) security (→welfare state, property rights), a plural society/democracy (→ tradition of consensus), dialogue (→ seating order in the parliament), monitoring (→ media monitoring politics, freedom of speech). These are mostly those institutions that are the key-institutions to an inclusive, social, liberal and democratic society. That is why political

trust might serve as an indicator for this kind of society. The most important point however is that the concept of trust itself is not about common culture but about a liberal and social state with an inclusive set of institutions. That is why I strongly disagree with saying that trust is a question of common culture and common political opinions. In fact my guess is that it is helpful to have different political ideas and values because they create a dependency on each other just as long as the political ideas do not turn against the liberal and

Why conservatives may be on the wrong path

democratic concept itself. The conservative approach to a high level of trust often is to reduce state-activity. The line of argumentation is rather simple: the more trust there is in the society the less legislation is needed and the more should politics “*trust*” people and give more responsibility to individuals. Still, this argument is misleading: Cutting the state

down to a minimum will potentially destroy the basis of trust because it partly harms the set of institutions that is fundamental for the concept of trust. Most importantly it affects social security. People who have to fear they are left behind are by far more likely to lose their faith into a fair society. Even worse, with their economic decline people will lose a big deal of political influence as well. Their right to have their say (and to be heard) is at stake then. In the long run this will strongly undermine the concept of trust. You can see that for instance in the USA where a large part of the society is suffers from a lack of social security (such as health-care) and political participation. As a consequence this necessarily leads to a lack of trust.

Norway is not the only country that profits from a high level of trust. Other countries that have a set of liberal, social and democratic institutions do so to. It is this set of institutions that allows the concept of trust to flourish.

Jan Schmelter



Constitutions

Historia magistra vitae

The constitution... What does it actually mean? It is a set of fundamental principles or established precedents according to which a state or other organization is governed. It's one of the most important... No! Actually it's the most important document for country. And that's why every one of us did research of constitutions in our countries, and we found it very interesting to share it with others.

We researched 12 constitutions from different countries - Estonia, Spain, Latvia, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Israel, Italy, Slovakia, Wales, Poland and Czech Republic. And we were all really surprised that we could find so much in common. Of course, there was also a noteworthy number of differences. We also realized that the Importance of a Constitution lies way deeper than it might seem at first. It is a fundament for country. We

came to the conclusion that the main value of constitution is, democracy and freedom, it is actually the key to a full-fledged life because, if you cannot be free, you cannot achieve your best, if you cannot achieve your best, you cannot be happy, and if you cannot be happy, then what else is there? Really, what else is there? As well the sovereignty is one of the fundamental principles of constitutionalism.



Many constitutions were made shortly after war

Difficult to alter them

All of our countries are democratic

Everyone is created equal

Human rights guaranteed

Similarities

First article

Differences

Voting / No voting

Some countries were forced to create constitutions, some wanted to

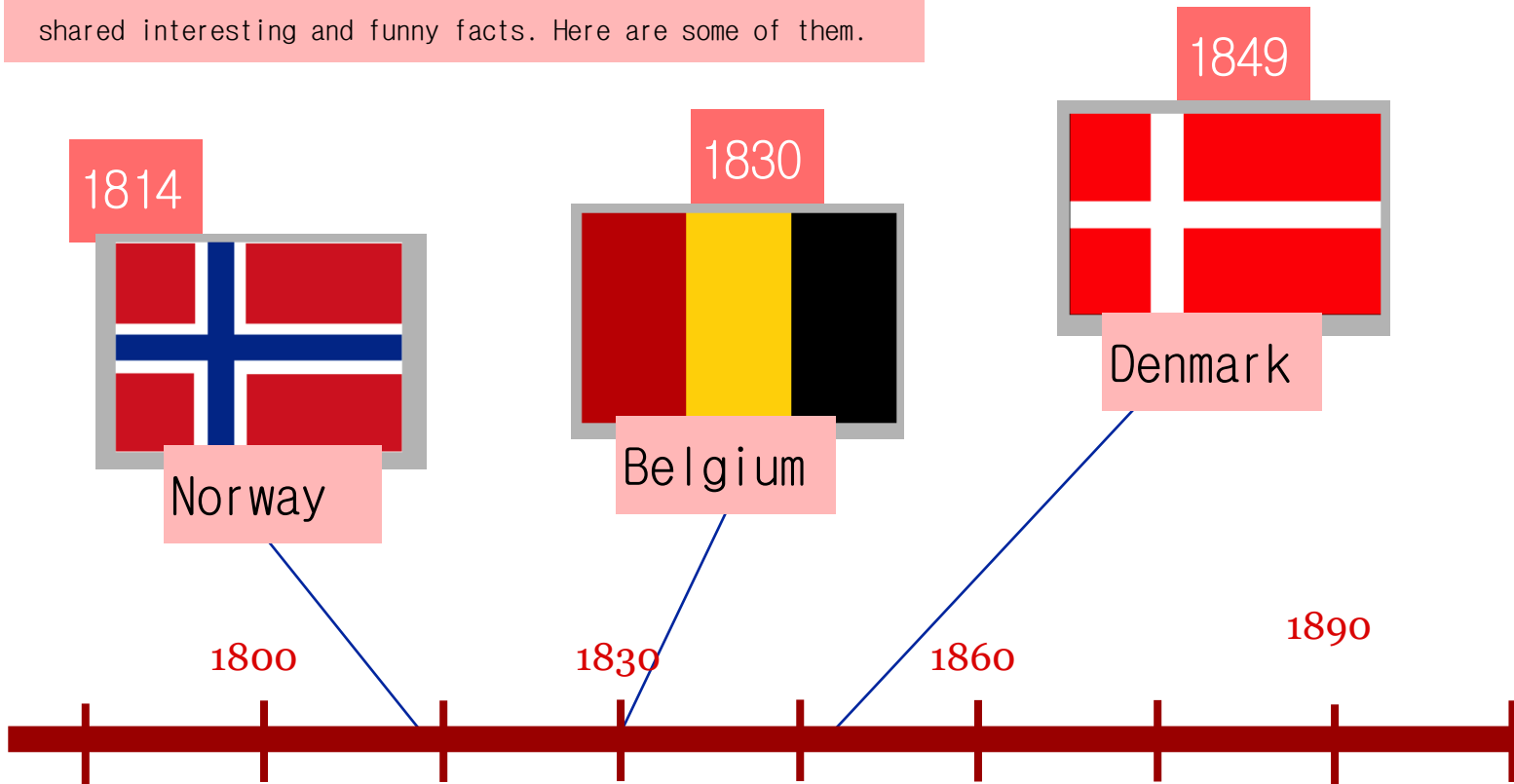
The Norwegian Constitution

On Sunday, we went on an excursion to Eidsvoll, where the Norwegian constitution was written. A guide gave us a short look into the Norwegian history and constitution, which was really interesting. We felt that Norwegians are really proud of their constitution and country in general, which blew

our minds. This is most likely the cause of Norwegian's great economy and high social standards, because they are united and they rely on each other. It was also like a trip into the past, which was a really breathtaking moment.

Constitutions Timeline

During the week, we also discussed about our constitutions, shared interesting and funny facts. Here are some of them.



Interesting and funny facts

Wales - Britain has an unwritten constitution, which was created in 1215.

Italy - If constitution of Italy became active, it would be the most beautiful constitution in the world.

Israel - Israel doesn't have a constitution

Latvia - There is an article in Latvian Constitution, which says "You have the right to know your rights"

Germany - In Germany constitution is being called "The Basic Law"

Czech Republic - Human rights are not directly included in the constitutions

Denmark - Had a change in the constitution in 1953, and Greenland became a part of Denmark instead of being colony

Slovakia - In Slovakian constitution there is an article, which says that your life is already protected before you are born.

Poland - The first constitution was created in 1791, which makes it the oldest in the Europe.

Belgium - Constitution of Belgium is written in 3 different languages.

Estonia - Constitution of the Republic of Estonia have 47 fundamental rights freedoms and duties for humans.

Spain - First constitution was called "La Pepa"

Norway - In the room, where 112 men were creating a constitution, was a painting on the wall, which was taken away, so they could concentrate on the constitution.



Italy

- ◇ The colors of the Italian flag were fistly described as “shiny grass green”, “milk white” and “tomato red”.
- ◇ In Italy there are more than 1600 professional soccer clubs.
- ◇ Want to try food like you have never eaten before? - Come to Italy!

1949



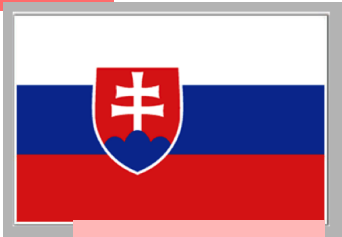
Germany

1922



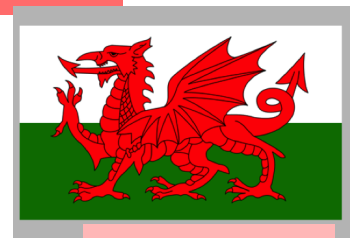
Latvia

1992



Slovakia

2006



Wales

1920

1950

1980

2010

1918



Estonia

1978



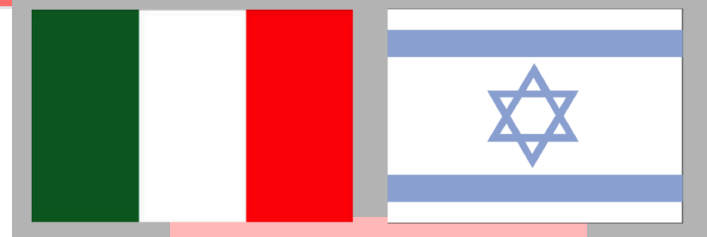
Spain

1997



Poland

1948



Italy / Israel

1992



Czech Republic



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From all over the world

PHOTOS



RECENT ACTIVITY



Eustory History Camp Oslo 2014 updated the current city to Oslo, Norway.

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Eustory History Camp Oslo 2014

August 31 at 3:16pm · 🌐

Sunday we went also to the Viking Ship Museum, where we got to know a lot of Norwegian Vikings history. There were a lot of interesting things, including the Vikingships. We can't believe that everything is made out of wood and we even saw some real skeletons that still has their teeth on!



Eustory History Camp Oslo 2014

August 31 at 11:07am · 🌐

The morning that we spent in Eidsvoll was really meaningful. We visited Carsten Tank Anker's and his family house, which was pretty interesting. Such a great time walking the gardens, playing giant chess and walking on stilts!



Eustory History Camp Oslo 2014

August 30 at 5:23pm · 🌐

During our visit to the Nobel Peace Center we found out that 95% of the Norwegian people has acces to the internet and social media on a daily basis. Facebook and Twitter are now political platforms and we can participate in political discussions online. This of course raises some interesting dilemas about the possibility of limiting freedom of speech online.



Eustory History Camp Oslo 2014

August 30 at 4:59pm · 🌐

On Saturday we have been to the Nobel Peace Center; Loved this quotes: "Be the change you want to see in the world" and also - "Language doesn't describe reality. Language creates the reality it describes."



Eustory History Camp Oslo 2014

August 29 at 6:14pm · 🌐

On Friday we went also on a boat trip. That was really funny 😄



Eustory History Camp Oslo 2014

August 29 at 5:12pm · 🌐

Just imitating those sculptures in Vigelands Park. So much fun 😄

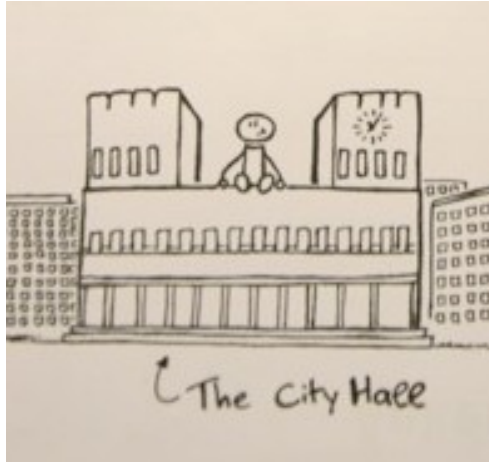


Poland

- ◇ 170 cats work in the Palace of Science and Culture in Warsaw catching mice.
- ◇ Pole Andrzej K. is the world's fastest person in drinking beer. He drinks half a litre in 3 seconds.
- ◇ When a Pole speaks his native language it sounds like someone is opening a bottle of Sprite. You will hear the sound ch sh zch and many types of ch's

Comic

We wrote articles, listened to lectures, cutted videos, made photos... and drew a comic!



Slovakia

- ◇ Slovakian mountains produce their own tea which contains 50-70% of alcohol.
- ◇ Slovakia has reversed pyramid which pretends to be Slovak National Radio.
- ◇ Another nice habit of Slovaks is to be drunken when there is a possible occasion.

Germany

- ◇ Oktoberfest actually starts in September
- ◇ Nutella has no correct article
- ◇ Germans actually do not spend the whole day drinking beer and eating pretzels! - because they do not eat pretzels all day.

Spain

- ◇ In "la tomatina" Valencians throw tomatoes at each other. It is a tradition which has its roots in a fight of young men in 1945.
- ◇ Spanish are ashamed of Madrid's Mayor saying according to the Olympic Games in 2020 "a relaxing cup of café con leche in Plaza Mayor"
- ◇ Most Spanish people do not even like flamenco and bullfighters.

Participants Map

Once upon a time, in a kingdom far far away, a democratic constitution has been written only to be discovered after 200 years by 23 noble youngsters also known as the "chosen ones"



Kristine Jørsboe

1996, Denmark



Louis Kniefs

1996, Germany



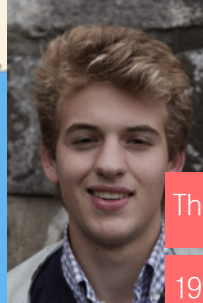
Huw Rowlands

1997, Wales



Heledd Thomas

1997, Wales



Gregor Christiansmeyer

1996, Germany



Thomas Dirven

1998, Belgium



Mette Stoffels

1996, Belgium

Hannah Walter

1996, Germany



Jan Schmelter

1995, Germany



Alicia Fraguas Rubio

1995, Spain



Mette Stoffels

1996, Belgium

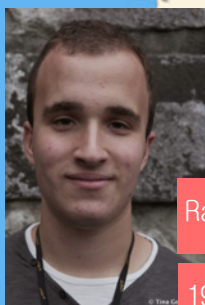
Hannah Walter

1996, Germany



Jan Schmelter

1995, Germany



Alicia Fraguas Rubio

1995, Spain



Pietro Tarozzo

1995, Italy

Rafael Jiménez Montoya

1996, Spain



Rafael Jiménez Montoya

1996, Spain



Giulia Fregnan

1995, Italy



Carina Aria

1996, Estonia



Ģirts Kārklīš

1996, Latvia



Tomas Senda

1996, Poland



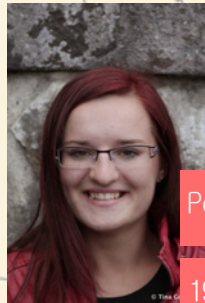
Jan Havránek

1995, Czech Republic



Tancia Manzambi Garcia

1995, Germany



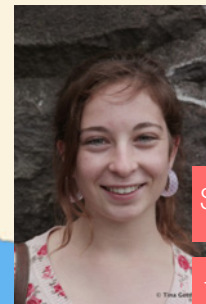
Petra Krňanová

1996, Slovakia



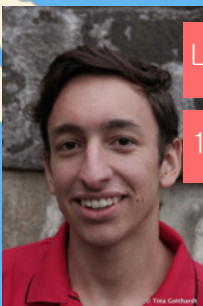
Ján Mozoš

1997, Slovakia



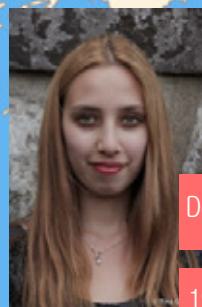
Shir Cohen

1996, Israel



Leonardo Galanti

1995, Italy



Dorin Rottenshtreich

1995, Israel



Sleepyville Politics

Intro: The difficulty of coming to an agreement in a city council was learned through the simulation 'Sleepyville'. The task was to find out whether a small city should build a mosque or not. The focus was on the pro/con arguments as well as press coverage. The outcome of every simulation is different. In this case the mosque was built.

© Tina Gotthardt

Pro

The arguments in favour of the mosque focused on human rights. Both religious freedom as well as equality was mentioned. Being able to practice your religion should be possible for anyone, and therefore one religion should not be favoured over another. The religious minorities should have equal rights. Integration was also mentioned, as a religious centre would give a feeling of belonging.

- ◇ *"It is hurting our religious feelings. We have been living here for two generations already and the community still won't accept us. We are equal and we deserve equal rights."*
- ◇ *"Giving each religion its place and right to be will make our community stronger, including the Christian and the Jewish people."*

Contra

Arguments against the mosque focused primarily on economy and traditions. Not supporting any religion would make a more liberal society was one argument, but another was that the city simply could not afford it. The tradition-based arguments talked about the difference between Christianity and Islam, and a mosque would show acceptance of Islamic values. Fear for radicalism was also mentioned. The citizens who had complained were also mentioned, as a democracy should listen to the voice of the people.

- ◇ *"We live in a liberal state that needs to be secular. We do not want to give money to any religious group and it is not right that we will favour any religious group."*



Experience

"It has been very strange to be a Muslim (pro mosque), which is mainly because I am catholic! Also in my country I represent a majority, while as a delegate I played the role of a member of a minority. I experienced how difficult it is for them to obtain what they need and ask for. I felt helpless. The opponents used all the excuses that I have heard in my country and maybe, why not, I slightly shared. Looking for reason in favor of the construction of the mosque made me think a lot. I can say I was deeply shaken by this simulation (as well as I enjoyed it a lot!)."

- Leonardo Galanti

...allows citizens to get involved and take part in politics as well as to develop themselves personally, politically and socially.

Alicia, Spain

...is the most fragile and most valuable Chinese vase we can have.

Honza, Czech Republic

...without rule of law is like a beautiful car without brakes.

Jan, Germany

...is like a beautiful picture: it unifies a lot of different colours into something harmonious and precious.

Pietro, Italy

...is the key for any great invention.

Kristine, Denmark

Democracy . . .

... is full of opposites.

Petra, Slovakia

...is a great gift. We should be thankful to be born into a democratic system every day and make most of the freedom we have.

Hannah, Germany

...is freedom and equality for everyone.

Giulia, Italy

...gives us the opportunity to make important things, but the courage for making them is something we must look for inside ourselves.

Rafael, Spain

...is a form of government which is the hallmark of citizenship, participation in politics, balance of powers, supremacy of law and respect for human rights and civil liberties.

Carina, Estonia

Fun stuff :P

Pick your favourite German!

Gregor

You need this German if you really do not like silence. It is always going to have a comment, but it can also be quite nice. It can even protect you with its judo-skills!



Hannah

Here is a German that is as clever as she is cute. It does however not like chocolate, and the reason why is unclear, so watch out!



Jan

If you enjoy long deep discussions, this German is just right for you! It is intelligent and eats a lot of vegetables, but comes with one disadvantage: It enjoys German Schlager-music...



Tancia

Pick this German if you like travelling, you will have a loyal companion. If you take it to Paris, it will do all the French-speaking for you perfectly. NB: It does not come with a bob - the hair is actually longer.



Louis

This German comes with great editing skills and a lot of jokes. It is often whistling, and if you care for that, any tune is available, if it is not in your interest - choose another German!



Is toast toast if it is not toasted yet?



"The left one is bread made for toasting, and the right is toasted bread"

- Thomas Dirven

Tongue Twisters

Danish:

- ◊ Rødgrød med fløde
- ◊ Fem flødebolle på et flødebollefad

German:

- ◊ Der Kaplan klebt Pappplakate an

Netherlands:

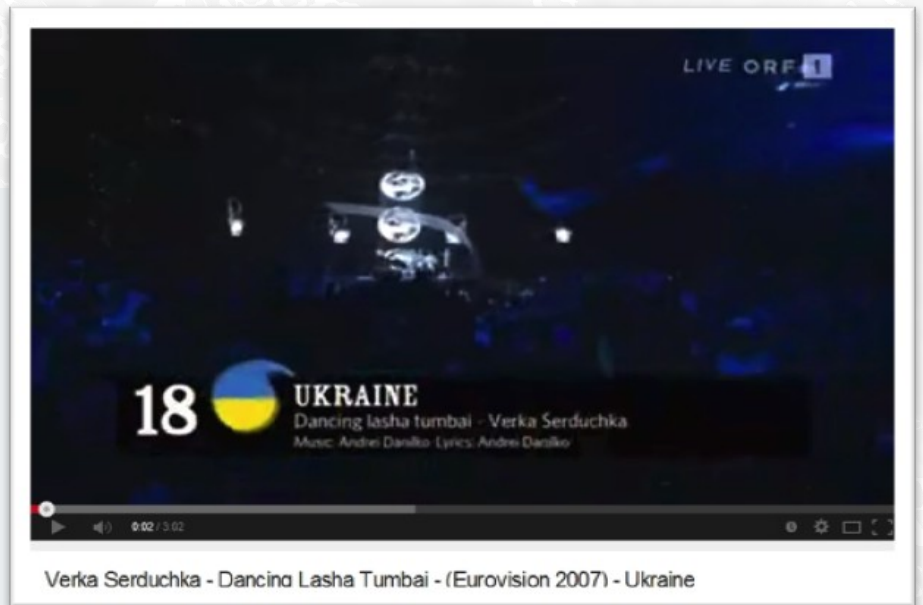
- ◊ De koetsier poets de postkoets met postkoetspoets.

Polish:

- ◊ W Szczepreszynie chrzascz brzmi w trzcinnie.

YouTube Favourites!

Missing a fun group activity? Or do your dance moves just need an update? This song has the perfect moves for everyone! It also includes lyrics that are easy to learn and quite poetic. What are you waiting for? Turn up the volume! Sieben, sieben, aylulu... Yes, we already know the lyrics!



Is Europe able to do *anything* better than the U.S.? Well, yes, Norwegian has a secret weapon! The extra vowels Æ , Ø and Å is something that the U.S. cannot compete with. Watch the movie for a further introduction, but be careful! The song gets rather easily stuck in your head...



Belgium

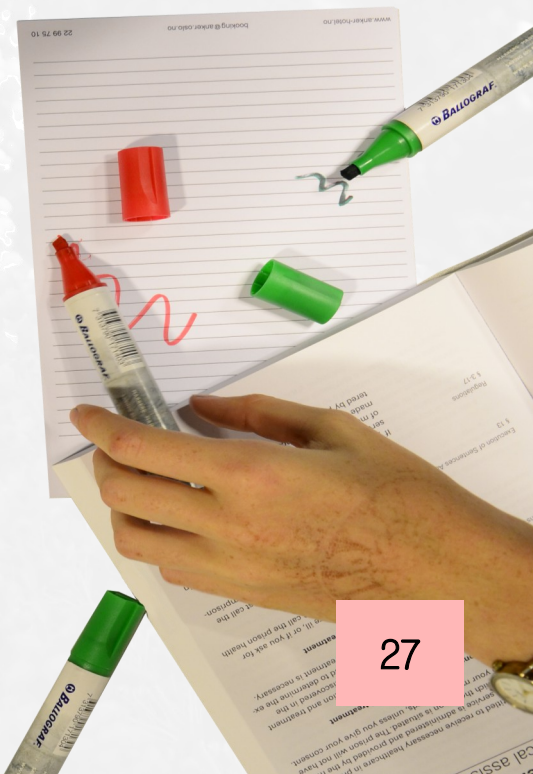
- ◇ The “Chips-Revolution” took place in Belgium
- ◇ Belgium broke the World record in government forming – it took them about 1 and a 1/2 years
- ◇ One of the national symbols of Belgium is a peeing boy

Norway

- ◇ It is possible to buy whale-meat in most grocery stores.
- ◇ The Sami people have their own parliament.
- ◇ In school, pupils have to learn two written Norwegian languages.

Estonia

- ◇ Estonians invented Skype.
- ◇ Every year several European countries meet in Estonia for the strange sport called “wife-carrying”.
- ◇ The European song contest brings happiness to Estonians. The competitors tend to be more successful when they're 4th or 10th on stage.



Culture And Language

You have to imagine a group of 12 different nations coming together to discuss democracy. You would think that they wouldn't understand each other, but some languages are similar so people could understand – Welcome to Oslo History Camp Dictionary 2014.

Let's practice with some words! First, the word is in English and then it is translated to numerous languages:



Language

Greetings and Gratitude This is very easy because everybody wants/needs to know how to say “Hello” and “Thank you” in different languages. Even if you don't know when to shake hands or when to give two kisses (don't do this with Germans!), with this little help you will know how to help your-

self. **Animals** We are in Norway so it is common to have fish for lunch and dinner. That's what we did and, while waiting for dinner, we decided to search for a difficult word to translate. **Food** After such a good meal at the restaurant, we had to get a dessert, and we discovered how to say we want dessert and apple pie in loads of different languages, such a simple dessert with so many different translations. **Keyboard** From time to time somebody wanted to borrow a computer and with the different languages came different keyboards, this created some extraordinary words. Some keyboards are *QWERTZ* and others are *QWERTY*. So it inspired us to translate the word Keyboard.

Hello	Thank you!	Fish	Butterfly
Hallo	Dank u wel	Vis	Vlinder
Ahoj	Děkuji	Ryba	Motýl
Hej	Tak	Fisk	Sommer fugl
Tere	Aitäh!	Kala	Liblikas
Hallo	Danke	Fisch	Schmetterling
Schalom; שלום	Toda; תודה	Dug; דג	Parpar; פרפר
Ciao	Grazie	Pesce	Farfalla
Sveiki	Paldies	Zivs	Taurenis
-	-	Zuvis	Drugeles
cześć!	dziękuję	Ryba	Motyl
Ahoj	Ďakujem	Ryba	Motýľ
Hola	Grcias	Pez	Mariposa
Heho	Diolch yn fawr	Pysgodyn	Pili pala



Czech Republic

- ◇ Every Czech (including children) drinks in average 163,5l of beer every year
- ◇ The Czech invented sugar in cubes
- ◇ Even though Czech republic hasn't got any sea, it fought one naval battle (on Lake Baikal) - it was victorious



Israel

- ◇ In order to get a divorce in Israel the man has to throw a shoe above his wife.
- ◇ An average Israel cow produces three times more the amount of milk than a European one does.
- ◇ A man with the last name "Cohen" is not allowed to marry a divorced woman.

Latvia

- ◇ here is an article in the Latvian constitution which says "You have the right to know your right!"
- ◇ Ever wondered who inspired Crocodile Dundee? - A Latvian who killed 10000 crocodiles.
- ◇ Latvian basketball player Uljana Semjonova is the 7th tallest woman in the world.

I want a dessert

Apple pie

Keyboard

	Ik wil een nagerecht	Appel taart	Toetsenbord
	Chci dezert	Jablečný koláč	Klávesnice
	Jeg vil gerne bede om en dessert	æbletærte	Tastatur
	Ma tahan magustoitu!	Õunakook	Klaviatuur
	Ich hätte gerne einen Nachtisch	Apfelkuchen	Tastatur
	ani rotza kinuah; קינח רוצה אני	pai tapoohim; תפוחים פאי	Mikledet; מקלדת
	Vorrei un dolce	Torta di mele	Tastiera
	Es gribu desertu	Ābolu pīrags	Klavieratūra
	Noriu desertas!	Obuolių pyragas	Klavieratūra
	Chcę deser	Szarlotka	Klavieratūra
	Chcem dezert	Jablkový koláč	Klávesnica
	Quiero un postre	Tarta de manzana	Teclado
	Rydw I moen pwdŷn	Tarten afal	Allweddell

Keyboards...

Germany

Slovakia

Wales

Czech Republic

Amnesty International

Amnesty International connects people all around the world and as a non-governmental organisation they do not accept governmental funds. The sign of the organization is a candle with prickles. They got the idea from one of the churches in London and it refers to the motto of the organization.

AMNESTY
INTERNATIONAL



Interviewers: Hello Gerald. What are you in charge of?

Gerald: I'm in charge of Human Rights, Security, Surveillance, Arms Trade... All the time interacting with people.

I: What is the difference between Amnesty International and the Government?

G: The position of the government is more like stand there and talk, like a monologue. We talk to people from the beginning, we work with them, it's like a dialogue.

I: What should the government do?

G: Government has to respect and protect human rights.

I: What are the characteristics of human rights?

G: They are universal, you cannot take them away from anyone, they represent your dignity, they are the base for a good life.

I: What is the major violation of human rights?

G: This year, we have a major campaign related to domestic violence. It's because the most common death of women between 16-45 years old in Europe is that they are beaten to death by their partners. Every day in Europe 10 people die due to domestic violence.

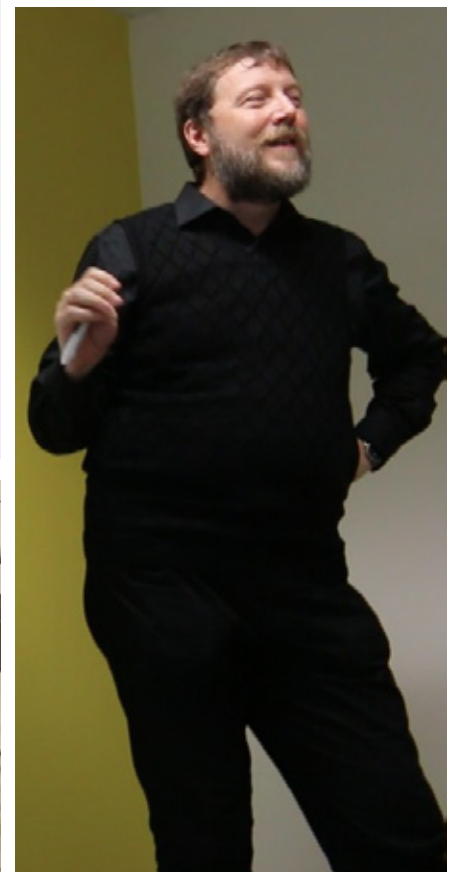
I: How can you overcome prejudices?

G: Education/school is supposed to inform people about human rights. We need an exchange of opinions.

I: What are the biggest issues for Amnesty International?

G: Migration from Africa, discrimination against Roma, Muslims, LGBTI, other ethnics or races, the implementation of freedom of speech and social rights and dealing with armed conflicts.

"Human rights are international and it's a thing that no one can take away from you even if you don't want them," said Mr. **Gerald Kador Folkvord**, a political advisor of Amnesty International in Oslo, Norway. He received us there, in a not so really big building in the middle of Oslo. This could be a metaphor: the sede of a big organization is close to the people, and the action of them is close too.



Giulia's and Leonardo's Lobby Chills

Sunday, 31 August 2014

Today we all met in the conference room to decide how the online magazine tasks should be assigned. I soon disappear and avoid showing off for not getting the difficult assignments. I go down the stairs and head outside. I know that Hannah, the director, who is German, will find me soon and I want to enjoy a few minutes of rest. The cool of the late afternoon of Oslo fancies my face and I am forced to wear my sweatshirt. Outside I notice Girts, who comes from Latvia, talking with someone around a coffee table. I walk over and introduce myself. I discover that the man with whom Girts speaks is an Afro American from Kentucky. We discuss about cinema and literature. It all seems incredibly strange: a Roman, a Latvian and an American talking in English (with the help of the hands) in front of a cafe in the center of Oslo. Situations like this have been common during these past few days but only now I realize what it means.

Monday, 1 September 2014

I sit in a corner of the lobby of the hotel waiting for dinner. Being here does not mean simply talking in English about democracy and constitutions with different people. It is much more. It means touching with your hands, your eyes, with all your senses, the Europe we talk and we hear so much about but we've never lived. Beyond the work and studies we carry out, what we do is sharing, communicating and thinking. Working in this group, I felt part of something big, without any prejudice. I have found that, in the end, what separates us are not really the language and customs, nor the mentality, but simply the weight of the legacy of our history, that we, the new young Europeans, can choose to refuse. Perhaps with the flowing of time I will forget the faces, the conversations, the details, but one thing definitely will last: a memory, positive and encouraging, that makes you smile at the future. Suddenly I realize the time I spent in the lobby. It is ten past eight! Everyone is already seated around the table, let's hope they left something for me!

Denmark

- ◇ We have Æ Ø Å - which is also a song
- ◇ Danes are the most pasta-eating people in the world
- ◇ They have invented LEGO, do I need to say more?

Wales

- ◇ Welsh people are known as sheep
- ◇ Only 21% of the population speaks the native language - Welsh
- ◇ There is a town called Llanfairpwllgwyngyllgogerychwindrobwylantasillogogoch which is the world's longest name





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Eustory



History Network for Young Europeans