

Third Swiss History Competition HISTORIA 2007-2009

«Borders»

Report

We successfully finished our third competition round on the topic «Borders» in May 2009. A national jury has examined 47 research works from 70 participants in total, which is a positive growth compared to the last rounds. The papers from 13 young people from all parts of the country have made it to the first places. The young explorers have worked with commitment, care and stamina on their projects. Their dedication is reflected in the great variety of approaches of the topic «Borders». For example a long forgotten diplomatic scandal between Italy and Switzerland was rediscovered. The relationship between Swiss Germans and Germans was studied. Furthermore the migration from Switzerland to North America or Africa, the general strike in the canton Uri of 1918 or the view of the French speaking Switzerland concerning the Berlin Wall have been researched.

The award ceremony was held in May in Zurich with an audience of about 180 people. Again we have tried to reach more media attention, which is still an issue to work on. One goal is the establishment of HISTORIA as *the* nationally known history competition.

Concerning the financial aspects we are proud that the foundation Mercator Switzerland is supporting our competition until 2011. Also the collaboration with «Schweizer Jugend forscht (SJf)» is very satisfactory and will of course go on. Administratively HISTORIA has turned from a rather loose working group into a nonprofit association.

Dr. Nicole Billeter
Managing director of HISTORIA