

THE  
ONLY  
CONSTANT  
IS CHANGE

DEMYC - 40<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY

# DEMYC

40TH ANNIVERSARY

THE ONLY CONSTANT  
IS CHANGE

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# PREFACE

The Democrat Youth Community of Europe (DEMYC) has been playing an active role in European integration for the last 40 years. As the international youth organisation of Christian-Democratic, Conservative and like-minded parties, it has made - and continues to make - an important contribution to the European decision making process.

Holding a regular dialogue with international youth organisations and tapping their wealth of innovative ideas is crucial for the European institutions and in particular the European Commission as the engine of integration.

Today, Europe stands at a crossroads. We need to deepen our political project and its democratic foundations, revitalise Europe's economies and strengthen the EU's international stance. Europe's young generation plays a key part in overcoming these challenges. It is a main source of the dynamism of our continent.

To build our common European home, we need internationally-minded and politically active young citizens who strengthen the EU from the roots.



Benita Ferrero-Waldner

I am therefore impressed by this new "generation without borders", true Europeans who use the Union's freedoms of work, travel, education and culture so actively.

As the European Commissioner for External Relations, I am particularly pleased with the many international activities of DEMYC. Reaching out across the globe to its partners and tying transcontinental networks is critical to help spread Europe's ideas and values. Our European model is a major pole of attraction in the world, and DEMYC is one of its ambassadors.

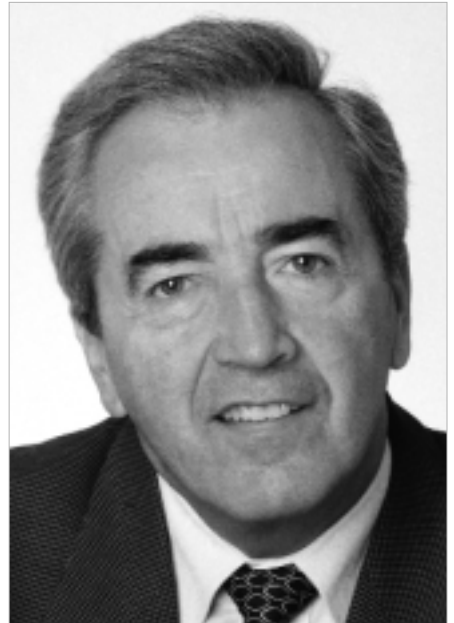
My best wishes go out to the many members of DEMYC at the occasion of its anniversary. I am sure that you will continue to make an impact with your ideas and positive energy and that, as young leaders, you will further develop the great contribution which the Christian-Democratic family has made to the European project of peace and prosperity.

Dr. Benita Ferrero-Waldner  
Commissioner for External Relations  
and European Neighbourhood Policy

## INTERVIEW WITH DR. ALOIS MOCK

*Alois Mock was Austria's Vice-chancellor, Minister for Education and Minister for For- eign Affairs. He was co-founder and long term President of EDU. 1995 he was leading his home country Austria into the European Union and for more than ten years he headed the ÖVP, whose honorary chief he is today.*

*Dear Dr. Mock: in 1964 COCDYC, DEMYC's predecessor was established. This was the first merger of conservative and Christian-social parties in Europe. Do you think that this led the way to the later establishment of EDU, which took place with your significant support?*



Alois Mock

The establishment of COCDYC and later of DEMYC was for sure, as the experience has shown, an important practical contribution for the later founding of EDU. I think especially because it resulted in personal acquaintances. Further there were working relationships established which were crucial during negotiations and preparation phases of important Europe wide euro-political decisions.



There is a series of people who have known each other since the Nineteen sixties or who showed a great deal of personal engagement later. Since then it was easy, since you would only pick up the telephone if you were stuck and then you would ask your old contacts for a solution or a compromise. It also helped when founding the EDU. This shows the greater significance of this, initially often as quite weak characterised organisation. That means that COCDYC respectively DEMYC were stronger than commonly thought.

*COCDYC respectively DEMYC constantly tried to advance and promote European Integration, whereas especially youth organisations from countries not yet belonging to the EEC respectively the EC or EU were involved. Do you think that the efforts of the youth accelerated European Integration in these countries?*

Definitely! The work and efforts of the youth were absolutely indispensable here. Let us look at a group which was already member of DEMYC in its early phase, namely the Austrian. It had a leading role the whole time until the decision was taken that Austria should ask for becoming full-fledged member in the EU. Internally as well as externally! It was DEMYC member JVP under Othmar Karras' leadership, today Austrian MEP, which decided to ask for full-fledged membership being the first Austrian organisation of a political party. At the same time it was made public and that way the ground was prepared for the next steps. And I think it was similar in other countries.

*DEMYC tried already before the fall of the Iron Curtain to socialise with Eastern Europe. How do you see DEMYC's role as organisation which was building bridges since you were at that time in the decision making positions of EDU President and Austrian Minister for Foreign Affairs?*

DEMYC certainly did this because of its socio-political position but it was easier. I think here again about member organisations like the Austrian, which had easy access to the people in the suppressed communist countries.

This strengthened as well the feeling of togetherness of the respective member organisations because it was only possible to move together. Further one could reach more with cooperation in these difficult political times. It was much easier for representatives of the youth organisations to become engaged than for the official representatives of the countries. Youth sure had a much more unconstrained approach and it is obvious that in the former communist countries youth played a crucial role during the peaceful changes of power.

*If you look at political parties today, especially those whose youth organisations were member of DEMYC, one would notice that more often youth representatives are ranked on "selectable" places. Do you think that politics are becoming younger?*

It is difficult to give a complete answer to this question. I think that I am not the only one who has difficulties but let me try. I think that the young ones are in the trend and that they should be involved more. At the same time I think that one should not forget the "old" ones, they should also be more involved. Why not combine the youthful enthusiasms and the experience of the older ones. I think that also in this area balance is necessary.

*What should be the main political focus of political youth organisations such as DEMYC and its member organisations; in which direction should they develop? Should they become a service institution or a political training ground for new cadres?*

They should by all means stay with a clear position, justify it and convince others. In order to reach this there should be practical components, oriented towards further training and education. It is obvious that these attempts are not immediately successful. One may not expect miracles from such programmes.

However one should not forget the practical side; only ideology is not enough. The representatives of the youth have to learn how to solve conflicts practically. One should try to offer the service without losing the future aim.

*Finally the last question: looking back on 40 years of DEMYC, where do you see DEMYC in 10 years?*

I think it lies in pursuing the course of the past years. Although admittedly the Conservatives in the past 40 years left the impression that they are torn.

The cores of the group are those people who avowed to a clear line. In the sixties there were ongoing discussions concerning the question conservative or not conservative, or still Christian-social. One has to know that there are things which are confirmed through mutual conviction, but also confirmed through opportunistic adaptations. Next to all conservative preserving components social components should melt in too.

*Dear Minister, thank you very much for the interview!*

# THE ONLY CONSTANT IS CHANGE

## Preamble

The fall of the Berlin Wall in 1989 and the war on Iraq are the bookends of a long transition period. During that period DEMYC and many of its member organisations searched for an overarching explanatory theory or framework that would describe new threats and the proper response to them. Some said that nations and their militaries were no longer relevant, only global markets knitted together by new technologies.

Others foresaw a future dominated by ethnic conflict. And some thought that in the future the primary energies of our armed forces would be devoted to managing civil conflict and humanitarian assistance. Perhaps most fundamentally, 9/11 and its aftermaths in Europe crystallized our vulnerability. It also drew into sharp relief the nature of the threats we face today. They come less from massive armies than from small groups of terrorists and less from strong states than from isolated states that failed politically.



Meinhard Friedl  
Chairman

## Security

To this day security both at home and abroad, respect for human rights and promotion of freedom, democracy, the rule of the law and sustainable development constitute the very pillars of value related foreign relations. Over the past four decades these virtues formed the foundation of what DEMYC has been all about. Above all, trust in DEMYC and its member organisation has been an indispensable capital we must not squander easily.

Some twenty years ago we would most likely not have enforced peace in Kosovo. On the contrary, we would probably have turned our backs on it. The fact that we did engage in perilous peace missions was the result of a wide range of changes - the end of the cold war, the fall of the Berlin Wall, changing technologies, and the spread of democracy. But it is more than that.

We now have fifteen years of experience since the end of the Cold War. It has certainly been a less easy time than many hoped in the euphoria that followed the collapse of the Berlin Wall. Our armed forces have been busier than ever delivering humanitarian aid, deterring attacks on defenceless people, backing up UN resolutions and for some of us it even meant engaging in major wars such as on Iraq and in the Balkans.

One of the reasons why it was so important for democracy to win these conflicts was to ensure that ruthless governments have no opportunity to seize power and be capable of committing the same crimes in the future. That in itself is a major step to ensuring that the next decades will not be as difficult as the past.

We must bear in mind, however, that democracy and human rights are violated at this very moment. The fight for freedom and democracy is not over yet and at any time we must not forget DEMYC's obligation to maintain a close eye on these violations and to speak with a firm voice on behalf of democracy and human rights.

## Interdependence

One of DEMYC's pressing problems in the coming years will be to identify the circumstances in which to get actively involved in other countries' problems, in other countries' conflicts. Non-interference has long been considered an important principle of international order. And it is not one we would want to jettison too readily. A country or government should never feel to have the right to change the political system of another or foment subversion or seize pieces of territory to which it feels it should have some claim.

But the principle of non-interference must be qualified in important respects. Acts of genocide and violations of human rights and democracy can never be a purely internal matter. Human rights and democracy violations anywhere in the world must meet with our contradiction on principle. A selective approach would harm our credibility and water down our ability to judge the situation of democratic structures and the rule of the law.

When oppression produces massive flows of refugees which unsettle neighbouring countries then they must properly be described as threats to international peace and security. Then we must stand together and act on behalf of democracy and use DEMYC as the cosmopolitan voice of our member organisations so as to be heard in the international community.

## Globalization

Over the past decades the world has changed in a fundamental way. Globalization has transformed our economies and our working practices. But globalization is not just economic; it is also a political and security phenomenon. We live in a world where isolationism has ceased to have a reason to exist. By necessity we have to cooperate with each other across nations.

Many of our domestic problems are caused by other countries in Europe, in other parts of the world. Financial and political instability in any country is capable of destroying jobs in other countries. Poverty in one country may mean more drugs on the streets of another country and military conflicts cause more refugees to be hosted in and around neighbouring countries. These problems can only be addressed by international cooperation.

Over the past forty years DEMYC has addressed these issues in council meetings, seminars, congresses, resolutions and alike. Our participation in DEMYC has made us all internationalists. In order to innovate our member organisations and DEMYC we have had to approach new political ideas in other European countries. In order to promote democracy and security we are not allowed turn our backs on conflicts or the violation of human rights.

## Europe

On the dawn of a new millennium we should feel privileged to live in a new Europe, a peaceful Europe with new borders where literally only the sky is the limit. This new Europe, however, requires new rules for international cooperation and new ways of organising our international institutions. Just as we may need new rules for DEMYC in order to maintain our organisation's success in the coming decades.

Today the impulse towards interdependence in DEMYC is perhaps even greater than before. We are witnessing the beginning of a new political era by observing the first referenda on the European Constitution. More than ever before we are forced to realize that we are indeed mutually dependent. National interests are to a significant extent - and more than ever - governed by international collaboration.

The unification of Europe guarantees us stability and security throughout Europe. The eastward extension of the European Union marks the highlight of an epoch by overcoming the artificial division of our continent. For Europe the accession of Central, East and Southeast European neighbours is an investment in the future and a future safeguard. It is a pivotal project through which Europe's ability to act and its future capability will be forced to stand the test. After all, enlargement will require a unique economic and political integration effort.

These efforts and the future steps connected therewith meant to complete the unity of the continent require a joint understanding of a European identity, of its nature of a community glued together by a joint heritage and its borders. Only an intense discussion of these issues in the future will enable Europe to define a clear, tightly knit and long-term relationship with its neighbours.

## Training and Education

In the coming years DEMYC will need a clear and coherent debate as to the direction where it shall take us in the field of international endeavours. Just as within domestic politics, the notion of community, the belief that partnership and cooperation are essential to advance self interest, is not only coming to its own but needs to find its own international echo.



DEMYC has had and will have to cope with rapid changes. It is important for us not to regard the process of political and economic development as an end in itself. We have to configure the political and economic order in such a way as to allow DEMYC, our member organisations and each individual the chance to benefit personally and gain new experiences and know-how.

Organisations and individuals alike in need of our help are entitled to our experience and support. But if others ask for our help, then in return they must also contribute as much as they are able to. Organisational and personal development on the one hand and the willingness to aid and help on the other hand, these are the two sides of DEMYC.

As training and education facilities for European centre right organisations are both weak and limited, we may not be able to render such help as we deem necessary. Thus strengthening such facilities must be one of DEMYC's prime objectives in the future. We must not be content to maintain the high level and quality of DEMYC activities but strive to improve in quality and quantity.

ad multos annos

# FOREWORD

The year of 2004 marks the 40th anniversary of the The Democratic Youth Community of Europe (DEMYC). Over the past four decades DEMYC has grown prosperously and successfully increased its members from a few thousands to 1.000.000, representing more than 30 European countries 2005 and is currently still expanding.

DEMYC has had the merit to develop its function, governing body and ideology in a direct relation to the continuously changing environment, and has been able to adjust successfully to new challenges and changing world order. DEMYC is proud of its engagement in founding, supporting or participating in other center-right organizations such as EPYC, AEYSC, EYF, IYDU and ECB, which have led to more unity and understanding between the center-right youth all over the world.



Lasse Krull  
Secretary General

Participation in a DEMYC seminar is not only educational it is also fun and builds up future friendship that has in many cases have lasted a lifetime. Active members of DEMYC have often become leading politicians in their home countries or e.g. members of the European Parliament, and the network achieved in DEMYC has been useful in developing policies.

DEMYC has therefore been able to create a successful mixture of training young people as well as building up future politicians on an international level that can enhance their cross country networking later on in life.

DEMYC has played a vital role in influencing and encouraging young people, both inside and outside of Europe in discussing, evaluating and solving current problems. DEMYC has also been engaged in campaigning for center-right values in former communist countries such as the "Free Belarus" campaign. Helping the member organizations in form of support, listening and spreading the word of the youth in order to enhance further understanding, has always been a key-issue for the different DEMYC-bureaus throughout the last four decades.

Needless to say, the peace and safety of the nation cannot be secured simply with army strength but more importantly with communication and understanding between people, where freedom and human-rights go hand in hand, enhanced and respected by all individuals. Therefore the importance of DEMYC as an organization will continue to grow and be necessary for the decades to come. Nevertheless it must be recognized that the success of DEMYC is due to the boosting young people that have been and are engaged in the activities through the years, been creating fruitful discussions and solutions. Without all the young people, participants, board members and supporters of DEMYC, it would not have been the guiding light of democracy as it is and has been.

Thanks to you all.

# DEMYC - 40 YEARS

There are plenty of possibilities to celebrate a Birthday. One can be celebrated and rest on acquired laurels or one could critically question what one has already reached or effectuated in his life.

When organisations celebrate their Birthday then it means that you could itemise their so far achieved merits or that you would question the worth of the merits achieved so far. In the case of DEMYC this leads to the question: What is DEMYC and how did it blend into its ambit during the forty years of its existence? Nowadays for a political organisation forty years is a comparably long period. However, the last four decades represent especially in Europe a time of change. Looking back today, one might forget that you should not measure past events on today's norms. It would be easy to compile a list where you would find many prominent names associated with DEMYC such as future Presidents of Parliaments, legions of assembly members, successful businessmen, and high-ranking officials. However, it is far more interesting to show the interaction between what happened in DEMYC internally and what occurred around it. It will be more understandable this way than observing the situation isolated.

COCDYC and DEMYC released a series of publications but, because of the records available, still it is not easy to draw a precise picture. In forty years and during several moves a lot can be lost. The picture you will find here does not claim to be exhaustive. Main developments should be pointed out and not mentioning a name or event should not be considered a valuation. Because of the numerous events a complete chronicle of COCDYC/DEMYC would go beyond the scope.

Emphasis was put on euro-political events and the DEMYC's role or reaction to them. After all, this essay shows clearly that COCDYC/DEMYC always played their self-assigned role.

# THE SIXTIES

## **1964 for a year of change!**

In 1964 Leonid Brezhnev followed Nikita Churšcov. GDR's Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl died and Willi Steph succeeded him in office. In South Africa Nelson Mandela was sentenced for life imprisonment. In the USA, the so-called Tonkin resolution passed and regular troops were sent to Vietnam. US President Lyndon B. Johnson was re-elected after succeeding assassinated President John F. Kennedy a year earlier. Cassius Clay won the Boxing World Championship for the first time. In Germany a new sports car was introduced, the so-called Porsche 911. The United Nations sent peacekeeping troops to Cyprus. In Great Britain Prince Edward, Queen Elizabeth's youngest child was born and the Labour Government replaced the conservative. On 3rd May, the first regular flight-connection between Germany and the Soviet Union was established - and finally yet importantly, the COCDYC was founded. 1964 was as well the year when the German censorship authorities attacked a movie by director Ingmar Bergmann because there were three scenes that would bear the threat of endangering young people in the worst possible manner. In the same year, women still would be imprisoned for being topless on the beach. However, since 1964 there were even bigger changes. Many of these changes are for a long time in oblivion again.

Today's youth knows the Soviet Union and the "Cold War" only out of history books; the GDR does not exist anymore. One might even ask who was Churšcov? Other than in 1964, the European Union does not consist of five countries but of five times as many. The youth organisations are more self-confident, because their representatives played a more substantial role.

Thus at the last National Council elections in Austria two delegates from the Christian-Democratic Austrian People's Party ÖVP were elected into parliament not even being 22 years old.

The Conservative and Christian Social Youth Organisations represent retention. It is a first-class certificate for their work that they could come up to this task for the past 40 years. Since, considering the above-mentioned points, the only two institutions that managed to survive since 1964 remain the Porsche 911 and the Conservative Youth Organisation, meanwhile called DEMYC.

In today's Europe, there are countless parties in a broad political spectrum: left wing socialists, moderate socialists, social-democrats, social liberals, economic liberals, free democrats, moderate conservatives, and strict conservatives, like the Christian-socialists. And the political landscape keeps changing; some are newly established, they unite, or they fall apart. However particularly DEMYC represents a quiescent pole within this restless range, but they should not be considered calm in the sense of immobile or lethargic but moreover calm in the sense of acting well considered.

Each political party, even each community, each union or association, which intends to play a moulding role, has to build on its youth. Involving the new generation from the start is extremely important. However, often the generation conflict slows this inclusion down. Socrates' opinion about "today's youth" in ancient Greece is well known - youth loves luxury nowadays. It has bad manners, despises authority, no more respect for older people and discusses where it should work. Young people do not rise, if older ones enter the room. It contradicts parents and browbeats the teachers - and these sentences commensurate this very day to what numerous members of the "parents' generation" think. Pert revolutionaries and other designations often leave the mouths of decision makers when the new generation expresses its desires. Nevertheless, today's critics become tomorrow's designers. This is a well-known fact today. 40 years ago however there was no conservative or Christian-social youth organisation acting Europe-wide.

The voice of the youth could not yet articulate in the spectrum of the political centre, whereas social democrats and liberals could fall back on strong cross border youth organisations.

This way the Sixties should become the decade of youth; not only because of the student protests of the year 1968. In general the youth was headstrong or simply more courageous - youth became the "trendsetter".

In the case of a framework of Christian-democratic and conservative organisations, youth in general was much faster than their mother parties were. The EDU the European Democratic Union was founded in 1978 and Alois Mock, Austrian Vice-Chancellor, Minister for Foreign Affairs and long-time president of the EDU stated in 1985, "In fact it were the youth organisations which gave a good example to the senior parties by forming DEMYC in 1964 - long before the European Democrat Union was founded in 1978." All started with a lot of youthful enthusiasm in 1964. There was no master plan to found a youth organisation of young conservatives and Christian-democrats, and there were no instructions from the adults either. It was a simple invitation, which was sent to some organisations in April 1964 with a likewise simple text. From 30th of April to 2nd May, the "Junge Union Deutschlands" German Young Union hosted a German-Scandinavian conference, where next to the Young German Christian-Democrats, young conservatives from the neighbouring countries, such as Scandinavia and Great Britain took part. Such conferences usually were nothing special but this time something happened that would change the political situation of Europe's youth. At that time trouble was that there were two different parties representing the centre of the political landscape. In West and South Europe there were the Christian-democratic parties, like the CDU/CSU in Germany or the ÖVP in Austria, but now there were established conservative parties in these countries. In Scandinavia as well as in Great Britain the situation was the exact opposite - there were no Christian-democratic parties but very strong conservative ones.





D. Bollmann

Mitglied des Deutschen Bundestages

33 Bonn, den 27. April 1964

Formul. 206 /3524

Die Wahl dieser Rufnummer versteht den  
gewöhnlichen Hausanschluss.

Kennet sie Anruf nicht zustande, bitte  
Nr. 3041 (Bundestage-Vermittlung) anrufen.

Vom 30. April bis zum 2. Mai führt die Junge Union Deutschlands in Hamburg eine Deutsch-Scandinavische Konferenz durch, an der junge Christliche Demokraten aus Deutschland und den benachbarten Ländern und junge Konservative aus Skandinavien und Großbritannien teilnehmen. Am 3. Mai schließt sich ein Gründungskongress der "Arbeitsgemeinschaft christlich-demokratischer und konservativer Jugendverbände" an. Nähere Einzelheiten können Sie aus dem beiliegenden Programm entnehmen.

Zwischen den jungen Christlichen Demokraten und den jungen Konservativen haben schon immer viele einzelne Kontakte bestanden. Diese Deutsch-Scandinavische Konferenz wird ihre erste große Begegnung sein. Insofern wird diese Tagung auch die Beziehungen zwischen Deutschland und Skandinavien in einer ganz ~~neuen~~ <sup>neuen</sup> Ebene ausbauen und festigen. Hamburg mit seinen alten Bindungen in den skandinavischen Raum bot sich ~~ausgesprochen~~ <sup>ausgesprochen</sup> als Tagungsort geradezu an.

In dieser Konferenz soll deutlich werden, was junge Christliche Demokraten und junge Konservative eint und trennt - in der Idee und im Programm wie in der praktischen Politik. Auf diese Weise wollen wir die Basis für eine engere Zusammenarbeit der jungen Christlichen Demokraten und Konservativen in Europa legen. Ein hervorragendes Thema wird die Frage der Europäischen Einigung sein. Die Christlichen Demokraten sind daran interessiert, daß die skandinavischen Länder und Großbritannien ein Teil des geeinten Europas werden. Wir werden sehen, wie weit unsere konservativen Freunde diesen Weg mit uns gehen wollen.

Im Namen der Jungen Union Deutschland darf ich Sie zu der Deutsch-Scandinavischen Konferenz und zu dem Gründungskongress der "Arbeitsgemeinschaft christlich-demokratischer und konservativer Jugendverbände" sehr herzlich einladen.

Invitation to for the „Deutsch Skandinavische Konferenz 1964“

It was a main problem, that in all these countries political enemies were well organised and that they were not fragmented into different groups. Consequently it was much easier for them to establish and organise a European headquarter. Dietrich Rollmann, one of the first two Vice Presidents of the COCDYC abstracted this dreadful situation saying, that a Christian-democratic movement would not have any chance in Great Britain or Scandinavia and the West and South European countries were not open-minded enough to accept a real conservative movement. Hence for Rollmann it was time to force common ideas and forget everything separating similar political movements. The Christian Democrats as well as the conservatives should do everything to form a block, which would be strong enough to hold against the solidarity of the socialists. Thus the conference showed that this kind of cooperation was possible and the next 40 years should show that Rollman's idea did not remain a vision but that they became reality. However, not only the fusion of the two groups of parties was one of the milestones of this conference but the parties agreed as well that it would be necessary to get into contact with representatives of the states behind the Iron Curtain. For an emerging European Community this was essential, stated Eric Blumenfeld Chairman of Hamburg's CSU during the conference.

Following the Scandinavian Conference on 3rd May the chairman of the Young Union opened the convention where the conservative and Christian-Democratic Youth Community of Europe (COCDYC) were established. The plan was to develop a framework for exchange of ideas aiming at working together for a united Europe. John MacGregor became the first President of this young organisation and as it was the start for COCDYC it was the starting point of his remarkable political career. From autumn 1965 to 1968 he was Head of Mr. Heths' Private Office in his function as Leader of the opposition in Great Britain.



John MacGregor (left) and Dietrich Rollmann -  
Two men who formed the COCDYC from the very first beginning

He obtained the post of the Director at Hill Samuel and Co Ltd, and joined the House of Commons in 1974. 1985 until 1987 he was Chief Secretary to the treasury, 1987 to 1989 Secretary of State for education and science, Leader of the House of Commons from 1989 to 1990 and Lord President of the Council from 1990 to 1992. Following that he was Secretary of State for Transport until 1994 and 2001 he became life peer as Lord MacGregor of Pulham Market.

The founding declaration of COCDYC was made known during the convention in Hamburg on 3rd May 1964. The two blocks agreed that this new community should be established on the basis of Christianity, human dignity, liberty and social justice. Other main points of this declaration were European cultural heritage, it's nations and the wish to make a contribution to the creation of an united Europe. It was signed by Norway's Unge HNYres Landesforbund, Sweden's Moderata Ungdomsforbundet, Denmark's Konservativ

Ungdom, the Young Conservative Organisation of England and Wales, Luxembourg's Section Des Jeunes du Parti Chretien Social, Austria's Junge ÖVP, Germany's Junge Union and the exile organisation of the Equipe Hongroise du Parti Populaire. Organisations from Lithuania and Czechoslovakia received observer status since involving exile organisations was a signal that this new community really wanted to keep the contact to the exponents of the countries lacking democratic structures so far. Considering this list it is clear that a majority of the member organisations emerged from countries, which at this time were (still) not members of the EEC. Nevertheless and quite remarkably, European unification is one of the central requests of the COCDYC from the start. However the inclusion of the organisations from Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Lithuania are particularly notable, since without any doubt these were exile organisations, which were in a certain contact with their homelands, but they could neither live nor work there.

The value and importance of parties and governments in exile are not undisputed yet especially such organisations are the foundation for later national independence, as documented in particular after World War I. Lithuania definitely earns the most attention in this circle of three "exotics", since at that time it was part of the Soviet Union, and it seemed quite unlikely that this would change soon.

Therefore from the very start it was COCDYC's main idea to keep European values including that of all the member countries and not forming a cultural melting pot as possible competing organisations intended. It is natural for conservatives that they place great emphasis on national identity and uniqueness of the respective culture. COCDYC and later DEMYC represent a community for people bearing the ideas of humanity and not an organisation, whose only right to exist lies in preserving the organisation. However reaching these requirements was a balancing act. The main pillars were laid down in the first constitution, and most of them were kept until today: every member organisation has two delegates, nominated by the respective organi-

sation; observer organisations have only one delegate; for admission of a new or elimination of member organisations fifty percent of the members have to be present and a two third majority has to vote for such a claim; there will be biennial congresses, where the President and two Vice-Presidents will be elected; the members of the Community will meet on alternate places twice a year; each member, the President and the two Vice-Presidents have two votes; binding resolutions can only be taken, when at least half of the national organisations are present and in case of parity a resolution is rejected. Further the President and the two Vice Presidents are responsible for the organisation and the costs are being shared by the national members through fees.

In order to underline this, a resolution was published, which was not only signed by the founding countries but also by the French Young Christian-Democrats and the Young Irish Democrats.

**Mitteilung für die Presse  
der Jungen Union Deutschland**

Am 3. Mai wurde in Hamburg die Arbeitsgemeinschaft Christlich-Demokratischer und Konservativer Jugendverbände von Delegationen aus Norwegen, Schweden, Dänemark, Deutschland, Groß Britannien, Luxemburg, Ungarn und Österreich ins Leben gerufen. Zum Präsidenten der Arbeitsgemeinschaft wurden John MacGregor (Groß Britannien), zu Vize-Präsidenten Dr. Birger Hagard (Schweden) und der Bundestagsabgeordnete Dietrich Hollmann (Deutschland) gewählt.

In seiner Rede auf dem Gründungskongress nannte der Vorsitzende der Hamburger CDU, Bundestagsabgeordneter Erik Blumenfeld, Kennedy und Schahé "Prototypen der modernen Konservativität". Erhard's Konzept der "Sozialen Marktwirtschaft" sei eine glückliche Verbindung von Konservativismus und Fortschritt. Blumenfeld gab seiner Überzeugung Ausdruck, daß Erhard solche Synthesen auch in der Innen- und Außenpolitik gelingen würden. Blumenfeld forderte "das Gespräch mit den Menschen und Politikern in den Ostblockstaaten aufzunehmen." Er könne auf keinen Fall einsehen, was derartige Versuche schaden sollten. "Gespräche mit Freiheit und ohne Schemen, ja auch mit Härte geführt, sind besser, als der drahtlose oder gedruckte Austausch verhärteter Vorurteile."

Der Gründung der Arbeitsgemeinschaft vorausgegangen war eine zweitägige Deutsch- skandinavische Konferenz, die sich mit Fragen der europäischen Einigung und der sowjetischen Politik im Ostseeraum beschäftigte. In einer Resolution betonte die Konferenz ihre Treue zu dem Ideal der Einigung des Freien Europas. Die Notwendigkeit eines Brückenschlages zwischen EWG und NPTA wurde betont. Die Konferenz sprach sich für die Gründung eines europäischen Jugendverbandes aus, durch den im großen Stil die Begegnung zwischen der Jugend Europas ermöglicht werden soll.

*Dietrich Hollmann*

Dietrich Hollmann, M.D.

RESOLUTION

The fourth conference of the COEDYC held from the 29th of Oct. to the 1st Nov. in Vienna recognizes that-

- a) two thirds of the world's population are facing poverty and starvation.
- b) the developed one third has a responsibility to alleviate this misery.
- c) at the present rate of progress no real improvement in standards is likely.
- d) the population of many underdeveloped countries is growing faster than their economies can support.

Therefore it resolves -

- 1) The Countries of Western Europe must increase all their forms of aid in accordance with resolution passed at the United Nations.
- 2) Industrialized countries should seek to stabilize prices of commodity exports.
- 3) Western European Governments should do all they can to encourage and if necessary guarantee private investment in underdeveloped countries.
- 4) COEDYC must encourage all forms of voluntary aid from its member countries, which has a particular appeal to young people.
- 5) The Countries of EEC and EFTA should work more closely to harmonize their aid policies.
- 6) A massive programme of education and free assistance should be undertaken to help countries control their problems of a rapidly expanding population.

Hence COCDYC started its working programme and the first COCDYC Conference was held in London from 27th to 29th of November 1964 followed by another Conference in May 1965 in Stockholm. The next Conference brought COCDYC to Vienna for the first time where the question of European cooperation and the developing countries was the main topic. Especially in 1965 there were serious problems in the field of European integration. Like a year earlier COCDYC confirmed that it would see the "most important challenge" in European integration. In its resolution from 1st November 1965 one can read that " ... the economic nationalism, which is embarked by some socialist parties to build up a socialist economic Constitution, is no possible way to solve today's economic problems. We are sorry, that the European integration has reached a critical point. Moreover, because of becoming of political and economic nationalisms it is in danger ..." Thus COCDYC tried to promote the "project Europe" although the conference took place in a neutral state and despite the fact that only Germany and Luxembourg belonged to that community.

However not only Europe was in the centre of their efforts, but above all the problem of the developing countries was a matter near to the heart of the members of COCDYC. In order to solve the problems of poverty and hunger COCDYC argued that "the countries of Western Europe must increase all their forms of aid in accordance with the resolution passed at the United States. " Besides that the "industrialized countries should seek to stabilise prices of commodity imports. " Point 4 of this resolution showed, that the engagement for these countries was not only a lip service of the Christian-democratic and conservative youth. "COCDYC must encourage all forms of voluntary aid from its member countries that has a particular appeal to young people. " Already eighteen months after the establishment of the "Frameworks" the co-operation within COCDYC worked thoroughly, and as mentioned initially youth took over the role of the mastermind, given that the proceedings, demanded in the resolution, are still prevailing today.



In 1966, there were several slight changes such as an extension of the proceedings. During the first meeting, which was as well COCDYC's second Congress, a new chairperson was elected; thus Vice-President Dietrich Rollmann became the new President during this congress held in Oslo.

For the beginning of 1967 struggles took centre stage with the problem of mutual acknowledgment of education certificates, being of special importance for the youth. Here it became obvious that the COCDYC was ready to seize burning questions. Training periods as well as examinations, diplomas and certificates should be standardized through the so-called effectus civillis. This way it would be possible to work in the attached countries; that means that long before the Erasmus program started and the PISA study was conducted, COCDYC aimed at an efficient European-wide education system. In addition, the demand was fixed that no high level of education in individual states may suffer under this standardisation. However these standardisations should not only remain limited to the range of university, but also be expanded to vocational and specialized schools. In this sense one of the quintessential points of the resolution adapted to this conference was that it understands a long-term basis for a certain adjustment in the education systems of the individual countries. COCDYC argued especially with the necessity for the job market, since one assumed an effective shift of workers was feasible with a uniform education system within the European states only.

One and a half years later COCDYC set a sign by bringing the conference to Berlin for the first time and Rollmann certainly wanted to make his farewell special. In Berlin, the city representing a divided Europe and two classes, COCDYC Vice President Keith Speed committed himself to a unique Europe. "The History of Europe is scared by the blitzes of Waterloo, Belenheim, Verdun, Dresden Rotterdam, Hamburg and Coventry. The History of Europe is also Beethoven, Pasteur, Leonardo da Vinci, Goethe, Chopin, Shakespeare, Ibsen and Nobel.

As young people we learn from the history but we must look to the future - for we shall play our part in shaping it. We seek a strong Europe [...] I believe we cannot stand idly by and let the world's problems be solved by the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union while we seem unwilling or unable to take any action." Nothing of the stated has lost actuality, except that the Soviet Union does not exist anymore. In spring 1968 during the Congress in Gothenburg First Vice-President Ragenvald Dahl became new President. He was the first coming from a state that was not member of the European Community, since for COCDYC, Europe represented more than only political structures. Dahl's presidency started with the largest crises Europe had seen since the erection of the Berlin Wall. It is not necessary to state that COCDYC was standing for freedom and therefore in a resolution they condemned the invasion of Warsaw pact troops, collapsing the Prague Spring. It was not the only time that COCDYC took party for the haunted. Other resolutions dealt with the violation of human rights in Portugal and Spain. COCDYC also regretted the inhuman practice of the Greek junta, above all because democracy as one of COCDYC's precious goods emerged from this country.

Thus from the very beginning Dahl's presidency had to argue with all the separation that Europe and the world held in breath at that time. The setback happening in 1968, obviously questions all those efforts for European unification, which were raised by COCDYC from the start. After the events of the year 1968 it seemed more doubtful than ever that once there would be a Europe, in which the exile organisations, which were represented in the COCDYC from the outset, would be able to represent a free and democratic country. Nevertheless COCDYC continued to believe in this Europe. In order to improve the situation COCDYC started negotiations with the Council of Europe under Dahl's presidency, aiming at achieving a consultative status within the Council of Europe. Two years later, they succeeded and Dahl's presidency was crowned by the fact that the COCDYC at this instant officially became an important power in Europe.



Keith Speed  
(Vice-Chairman 1966 - 1968)

In no more than six years the young European Christian-Democrats and conservatives managed to develop from a loose union, from an organisation that actually only exchanged views, into a serious voice in Europe that was heard. Thus,

COCDYC was much more advanced than their mother parties were. The following years should further consolidate COCDYC on the one hand however on the other hand they would bring some changes.



Ragnvald Dahl  
(Vice-Chairman 1966 - 1968  
Chairman 1968-1970)

# THE SEVENTIES

## **From COCDYC to DEMYC - Towards the North, South and West**

The Nineteen-Seventies brought vast changes for COCDYC. After its integration into the Council of Europe cooperation with numerous other institutions should follow. Due to the consequent growth of organisational effort, in 1970 COCDYC elected a full time Secretary General. Though, the very same year represents an exception.

For the first time, there was only one meeting, namely the Congress, which took place every two years. The reason for the delay of this Congress, which was held in autumn in Copenhagen, were the elections in Great Britain, since initially they should meet in Edinburgh. The conservatives won the elections again, which made the member organisations exult as expected. In this light, the drop out of the Conference was not really a problem. On the basis of the rotation principle, a new President was elected, and Alan Haselhurst succeeded Ragnvald Dahl as President, and Andres Björck and Volker Rühle became Vice-Presidents. So, after John MacGregor, yet again a representative from Great Britain was heading COCDYC. Looking at the composition of the leaders in the first few years, you will encounter that there was certain English-German domination. Out of the nine persons who were members of the management between 1964 and 1972, three were from Great Britain, three from Germany, two from Sweden and one from Norway. Additionally Great Britain provided with Roger Boaden the first Secretary General.

Several topics should mould the following years. On first place there was the relationship between EFTA and EEC since the majority of COCDYC members were from countries, not being part of the EEC; but this should change partly. 1973 two COCDYC founding members, the United Kingdom and Demark, joined the EEC. This naturally caused that especially the representatives from these countries were interested in intensifying European contacts. In 1964 the two blocks, the conservatives and the Christian-democrats launched COCDYC, but now intensifying the relationship to other, ideologically similar youth associations was on first place. Furthermore, COCDYC was aiming at establishing a network of political youth organisations throughout Europe. Through the new status within the Council of Europe, in 1970 collaboration with the so-called European Youth Centre started. Already in 1971 COCDYC was elected into its Advisory Committee and in 1972 into its Governing Board.



Copenhagen 1970  
COCDYC Representatives after discussion

In 1970 COCDYC organised a seminar in the framework of the European Youth Centre, whereby a new kind of work started. Up until then the Conferences were mainly reserved for member representatives, whereas now they began to reach broader public in organising seminars. In 1973, COCDYC became founding member of the European Youth Foundation EYF and was elected into its Governing Board.

The other founders of the EYF were the governments of France, Italy, the Federal Republic of Germany, Luxemburg, Norway, the United Kingdom, Turkey and Austria as well as the following NGO's: COCDYC, the European Confederation of Trade Unions, the International Falcon Movement (IFM-SEI), as well as the International Union of Socialist Youth representing a political antagonist to COCDYC within this Board. Finally in 1974 COCDYC became member of the European Co-ordination Bureau of International Youth Organisations (ECB). Another field of activity for COCDYC were direct contacts to other organisations with similar ideological orientation. In 1972, the relationship with the European Union of Young Christian -Democrats EUYCD was intensified.

There were traditionally good contacts with the European conservative and Christian Democratic Students ECCS, later European Democratic Students EDS. Cooperation with ECCS was much easier than with others since several members were also active in different parts of COCDYC. Under the same circumstances later, there were some contacts with the EKV established in 1975. In the early Seventies, as in the years before, COCDYC thematically focused on a variety of European issues, such as East-West contacts, the relationship between the EFTA and the EEC and starting in 1971 problems of environmental protection, long before the Green-Movement became popular. Especially during the Conference in April 1972 the relationship towards the neutral states and their possible embedment into the EEC was a main topic of discussion. One year later Ireland joined the EEC as first Non-Aligned Nation and this enlargement round became the second emphasis in COCDYC's work in 1972. Volker Rühle took over

COCDYC's leadership during the Congress in Munich, being the shooting star of Hamburg's CDU and the second German, or to be precise, even the second person from Hamburg, on this post. So for a long time COCDYC's "birthplace" stayed closely connected with its successful children through "its" political representatives. Rhe was also the architect of one of the most crucial rearrangements in the following two years - the reorganisation of COCDYC into DEMYC - being completed by his successor Per Unckel.



DEMYC, Vienna 1973

Not only the EEC but also COCDYC decided to increase the number of its members in 1973. Already in 1967 Finnish Kokoomuksen Nuorten Litto (KNL) became observing member of COCDYC and in 1972 the last Scandinavian country became full member. Likewise at the end of the Sixties another organisation originating from the United Kingdom, the Scottish Young Conservatives SYC, joined COCDYC and they stayed separate member until they united with the English Conservatives in 1989.

Although as observing member the first French organisation, Mouvement des Jeunes pour la Démocratie Française MJDF, joined COCDYC in 1973.

In the same year Moviment Zghazagh tal-Partit Nazzjonalista MZPN from Malt became full member and with the accession of A.A.Y.P.L. from the U.S.A. as observer, an organisation not domiciled in Europe joined COCDYC. Yet since the exile organisation of the Young Hungarian Conservatives dissolved in the early Seventies, COCDYC even lost a member.

After this enlargement, COCDYC now encompassed a considerable part of Europe. Only west of France and England there was almost no possibility for finding member organisations because of the political situation on the Iberian Peninsula. Thus especially the mid Nineteen-Seventies brought some major political changes for Europe. In April 1974 the so called "Carnation Revolution" ended the oldest European dictatorship in Portugal after 64 years. In the same year, the dictatorship of the Greek Junta ceased to exist after the failure of the Cyprus adventure. With General Franco's death in 1975, finally Spain should start to develop towards democracy too. During the Sixties, these regimes were often harshly criticised by COCDYC, but it went on with its path of dedication. Hence, President Per Unckel took part in a Cyprus Conference in Athens. The events, which he summarised later in a report, already showed how much COCDYC understood the necessity of Christian-Democratic and Conservative Youth Organisations taking an active part in forming the emerging young democracies. Unckel tackled an old problem in his report, namely, that the Communist and Socialist Youth Association would have notably good management and organisation. These two association which were also very well represented during the Cyprus Conference, tried to present the Turkish intervention in Cyprus as an act pushed by NATO and the U.S.A. Especially the Socialists wanted to reach reprobation of the so called "US-imperialism" and mentioning in the final documents.



In a number of youth organisations the tale about the bad bellicose West and the peace loving communist East was widely spread. Especially through COCDYC's help, a less socialist compromise was found, together with support from EDS and EUYDC. COCDYC also succeeded in establishing contacts with two attached youth organisations from shortly afore authoritarian Greece. Even during the conference Cypriote PEON asked formally for observer status within COCDYC and there were also socialisations with the Greek ONNED, which already had previous contact with EDS and now asked for accession.



Volker Rühle  
Chairman 1972-1974



Per Unckel -  
Chairman 1974-1970

Unckel's survey is very characteristic: he reports joyfully about the democratic spirit which emerged after the fall of the junta in Greece, and he emphasised that in the future COCDYC would have to engage more in international conferences in order to receive a real chance in realising its ideas on a broad basis.

At that time this broadening to a wider base was pushed forward by two lines. On one hand COCDYC aimed at expanding by accepting new members and on the other hand already since 1973 they tried to improve their contacts with EUYCD. The situation reminded a little on that in the year 1964, when conservative and Christian-democratic youth associations of particular states gave an impulse towards international cooperation in establishing COCDYC. Now there were two politically close umbrella organisations, which were trying to bridge the gaps Rollmann has already seen in 1964. Already in 1971/72 British Young Conservatives tried again to intensify cooperation with the UEJCD and precautiously asked concerning a possible membership. However, the attempt failed anon, since the conservative organisations within the UEJCD did not even receive observer status, not to mention full membership. Despite this discouraging event, COCDYC went on intensifying its contacts with the UEJCD.

The Austrian JVP and the German JU played a special role since both have been, JVP permanently and JU partially, members in both organisations.

Whereas, the UEJCD saw its orientation as being "centre-left", COCDYC was more centre-right but it was obvious that the differences would have been bridgeable since there were double memberships. Next to Germany and Austria there were Luxemburg and Malt represented with their Christian-Social Youth Organisations. While Germany, as mentioned at the beginning, was always strongly positioned in the executive committee of COCDYC, Austria until then did not expose itself on the managing level and it should still take until 1981. That year the small neutral Alpine Republic had a leading role with Alexander Demblin in the new function of Bureau-Member within the managing board. Thus the special role of not being burdened enabled then-JVP-Chief Josef Höchtel to act as mediator. Until 1975, one tried constantly to bring both organisations in line.

It in this sense there was a proposal that at one of the two annual Meetings should take place at the same time and in the same city; this became reality in Vienna from 5th to 7th October 1973. Eventually the UEJCD was obviously not interested enough. Both organisations tried to safeguard their interests against the Socialistic Youth Organisations but more should not materialise.

In COCDYC's view these double memberships were the best way to show their common ground and the same was true for the other interested parties from the new democracies Greece and Cyprus. In 1975 the number of COCDYC member organisations increased again since the Icelandic SAMBAD Ungra Sjalfstaedismanna and the Jugendreferat from Liechtenstein joined as observers. After the Cyprus Conference, end of May and beginning of June 1975, COCDYC also took part in the 3rd Consultative Meeting Of European Youth and Student Organisations in Balatonalmadi in Hungary. Here it showed again that it would be a gain to organise the political centre.

Since the talks with UEJCD even now did not bring the expected success, the double memberships still existed and since several organisations joined, which were quite near to COCDYC, but neither conservative in the genuine sense nor Christian-democrat, COCDYC decided to broaden its base in order to be open for these organisations as well. Initially COCDYC was an organisation, that was meant for North and Central European circumstances but the political changes made rethinking necessary. During the Conference in June 1975 in Hyvinkää in Finland, the member organisations already decided to change the name of the organisation but only during the next Conference in Manchester taking place from 24th until 26th October, they changed the name into Democrat Youth Community of Europe DEMYC.

This renaming together with its opening for other parties did not mean the abandonment of principles, quite on the contrary, a discussion platform in the narrower sense became a significant NGO in the field of youth work. DEMYC was a re-launch, and the new organisation instantly blasted-off.



Through passing the Declaration of Principles and Beliefs, DEMYC released the programme that should design its future work. In many points there was a radical distance to the umbrella organisation of the national Youth Associations. This document is already of great importance because conservative and Christian values were transported without hindering the opening, intended by renaming and redesigning. One of the main points was that DEMYC saw the purpose of the state itself that it should give every individual the possibility to develop. This self-opted personal development was a great concern that should sharply discern DEMYC in particular from socialist youth organisations. Although there is an allusion in the Declaration concerning a basic security of the individual taken on by the state, DEMYC did not demand a socialist welfare state. Moreover individual responsibility was the core. It almost deems unnecessary to mention thirty years later that the first points were principles such separation of powers, independent courts, freedom of decision, opinion and faith. Today the realisation of these values goes far beyond the borders of the fifteen DEMYC members from 1975, but considering the political situation in Europe in 1975, these ethics were not at all understood. DEMYC considered the state being an independent mediator of interest groups in the society, but this is only possible in democratic countries, and there were not many in 1975. Several of these principles have to be seen under the influence of the mighty Soviet Empire.

In this sense DEMYC compared consciously in its claims the system of decentralised market economy with the centrally planned economy of the COMECON.

Another claim was the withdrawal of the state from core areas of the industry that today again is undisputable and partially even regulated within the EU, but in 1975, this represented a quite courageous request. DEMYC intended to fight unemployment, in particular youth unemployment, with special training. The state should also deal with regional planning in order to enhance the economy but being anxious to consider the whole situation and not through advancement of individual interests. Social policy should not only be a problem of reallocation but a path for development for independent and self-assured citizens. Dependency on general welfare should be avoided by all means.

It is remarkable that besides these traditional values of conservative policy there were areas explicitly mentioned but where the implementation was long in coming. So for example, special furtherance of handicapped persons through special facilities and handicapped accessible flats were equally one of DEMYC's principles as encouragement of disadvantaged groups like the especially mentioned migrant workers and their families. Some points contain claims which still today are not realised in many European countries or were just recently decided upon such as part time employment for mothers, sufficient space in kindergartens but as well as recognition of house work as equal job. Almost to mention idly that DEMYC avowed itself to the EEC and the UN and that it saw an indispensable arbitrating body especially in the latter. The Declaration was basically generated by COCDYC during the Conference in Strasbourg in the same year and was adopted by DEMYC. In the course of renaming for the first time the term of office of the whole managing board was extended, thus the team appointed in 1974 next to Chairman Per Unckel was in office until 1977. Further there were two Secretary Generals for the first time. In addition to this programmatic work, the new DEMYC, compared to its predecessor, should receive a slightly different method of work.

The regular annual Conferences were substituted by Executive Committees which should consist of DEMYC officers and one representative from the respective member organisation.

The predominant programmatic topics of the years 1975 until 1977 were election systems and campaigns. Within these two years DEMYC organised as many as eleven seminars on this topic and in doing so before long visited the capitals of the countries DEMYC members originated from. The final visit took place in Spain in November 1977.

In 1976 DEMYC joined the Youth Committee of the European Communities and was as a result represented in another crucial European youth organisation. The Icelandic Samband Ungra Sjalfstlismana (SUS) became full member of DEMYC in the same year and Juventude Centrista from Portugal, representing Centro Democrático e Social's youth organisation, joined a year later. In 1977 there was again a modification of the managing board where there were three Vice-chairmen for the first time whereby with Ray Bondon there was now a representative from Malt in DEMYC's highest body. Finally in 1978 the senior parties realised what the youth already achieved in 1964 with COCDYC; after tedious negotiations EDU was established as umbrella organisation of the European centre-right parties. In 1979 DEMYC became permanent observer to EDU. The Sixties have clearly been the construction phase of COCDYC but the classification of the Seventies is considerably more difficult. Too much has happened in this period in order to talk about homogenous development. Certainly the renaming is most remarkable as well as the partial change of orientation eleven years after its establishment. One would act unjustly if you would reduce the Seventies only to this point. The development from a discussion platform, from a framework to a hyperactive organisation is equally part of the Seventies like the attempt to consolidate the power of the political centre. COCDYC respectively DEMYC was extremely expanding. Although countries like Italy were not represented in DEMYC, one could state that all democratic countries were in a certain way surrounded. From Iceland in the North to Malt in the South, Portugal in the West and Austria in the East and bordering the Iron Curtain there was actually no country that did not at least adjoin to a DEMYC member.

Coming from a regionally structured Europe, where state borders are not always identical with borders of nationalities or mentalities, one can say that within DEMYC at least rudimentary all free Europeans were represented. Initially there were six COCDYC languages, English, German, Norwegian, Swedish, Danish and Luxembourg, and until the end of the Seventies there were five additional ones with Finnish, Icelandic, Maltese, Portuguese and French. Emerging from an organisation limited to the United Kingdom, Scandinavia and the German speaking area it developed into a multilingual, multinational and as well multicultural organisation.

Different from the socialist organisations, which dreamed of the unification of the whole, DEMYC always succeeded to extract mutuality from these dividing factors. The Seventies were for sure a decade where there have been many upheavals, which were not to be foreseen but in the Eighties Europe should be rolled over by a wave of change no one would have expected in his wildest dreams. And despite its unpredictability DEMYC was armed at best.



Joint Meeting of the leaderships of DEMYC, EUYCD and EDS, London 1977. From left to right: EYCD Secretary General Christian Koutzine, EDS Chairman Scott Hamilton, EUYCD Secretary General Peter Helmes, EDS Secretary General Nigel Ashford, DEMYC Vice Chairman Elmar Brok, DEMYC Chairman Tony Kerpel, EUYCD Chairman Matthias Wissmann. Photo taken by DEMYC Secretary General Jon Halldorsson.

# THE EIGHTIES

## **Towards the East!**

The early Eighties certainly mark the start of a new era. With Ronald Reagan a US President took office, who initially outside his country was sniggered at as a former actor. His critics should err. He was not only one of the most popular presidents who appeared on the scene but also the man who should crucially weaken Europe's tragic post-war order. Already in 1978 Pope John Paul II became head of the Catholics, a man who experienced Communism on his own skin. Although they had a different approach, both personalities were similar in their aims. In Europe a conservative change became apparent as well. In the United Kingdom on 4th May 1979 Margaret Thatcher took on the post of the Prime minister. Her policy was similar to Ronald Reagan's and her programme met in several points exactly the Declaration of Principles and Beliefs and with it DEMYC's demands. In 1982 there was also a change in Germany and Helmut Kohl became Chancellor. Moreover in Norway and Denmark conservatives came into power. That means that the situation for DEMYC had enhanced gradually since the support within the governments increased.

Programmatically the early Eighties were mostly affected by the events in Poland. By establishing the independent union Solidarnosc there was a silver lining on the dark horizon but it was washed away by the martial law being proclaimed on 13th December 1981 including the ban of Solidarnosc. DEMYC reacted as entire organisation as well as through its members.



In February 1982 it released a bureau-statement, which condemned the incidents in Poland and asked for abidance of human rights in general and the Helsinki Charter in particular. The role of the Soviet Union in the case of Poland was also condemned by DEMYC, in particular because Moscow wanted to go back to normal soon.

The actions the member organisations undertook were different but quite creative. In Malt MZPN organised demonstrations against the Polish Ambassador, the Portuguese Juventude Centriste held a seminar on Poland where they invited mainly foreign policy analysts. At the same time they composed a petition, which was signed by numerous people on the street and handed which was handed over to the Polish Embassy. The Austrian JVP was selling special Solidarnosc t-shirts and organised concerts in order to collect money for the now banned union. British Young Conservatives invited a Polish refugee to the National Congress, who held a harangue which culminated in an appeal for money. At the same time it was tried to better and simplify the tense relationship between East and West caused by the Polish crisis through the "Framework of All-European Youth and Student Cooperation" (AEYSC) formed in 1980. There is a certain difficulty during the Eighties determined by the very dominant Communist Youth Organisation (WFDY), which tried to block DEMYC and use AEYSC as propaganda platform. That means that AEYSC's relevance was quite low at its start. The situation was slightly different within the socialist parties. An analysis at the beginning of 1983, which was already presented earlier by DEMYC Chairman Gunar Hökmark at the EDU Party Chairmen Conference, showed that the socialist party landscape had considerably changed. On one hand there was a significant group of Social-Democratic Parties that has moved towards the centre.

Basically they accepted the market economy driven social system and dreamed of the general welfare state. Cooperation with this kind of parties seemed possible for Hökmark. He thought that these parties were driven mire by pragmatism than by ideology.



DEMYC Summer School 1983  
Längenfeld, Austria

On the other hand Hökmark also mentioned the new Green Parties. This political phenomenon, which developed until today in different countries in various directions, was categorised in the early Eighties as ideologically quite "dangerous". Many representatives of the Green Movement emerged from the students' revolts of 1968, and they educated at universities and therefore they had a much better background intellectually than the classic social or social-democratic parties. In addition the parties internally fell into several groups. On one hand already at that time there were Green representatives who would see market economy as possible way and on the other hand there were some who wanted to replace this system with a socialist social order with strict command economy.

Although many people did not rate the Green as dangerous and predicted them a short life span because of their internal conflicts and their struggle for direction, DEMYC realised in these domesticated Communists a political opponent that should not be underestimated by all means.

It should be proved correct because even though basic requirements as environmental protection were taken over by classic parties soon, in most European countries one can not dismiss the Green Movement from his thoughts. During that time there was a tight connection between the Green Movement and different Peace Movements. There were demonstrations in several European countries, where unilateralism was called for. Although a general condemnation of the Peace Movement is not appropriate, some of the small sub-organisations were just a disguise for communist propaganda. DEMYC clarified that it was supporting the demand for World Peace and that in principle it would support all efforts for securing peace but that it is critical about some approaches of the Movement. Quite in the sense of the Senior Parties DEMYC supported a certain pressure on the Soviet Union and the demand for intensifying arms control programmes. In the early Eighties DEMYC began as well to broaden its interests across European borders. Already since the Sixties there were contacts especially with American conservatives.



DEMYC Seminar on Neutrality and Neutralism  
Vienna, August 1984

Establishing the IYDU International Young Democrat Union there was an institution that enabled world wide coordination of young conservatives.

Here the already mentioned global political situation - Reagan in the USA, Thatcher in the UK - had a positive effect on the organisations involved. In addition to DEMYC youth organisations from Australia, New Zealand, the USA and Canada were members of the IYDU. It was especially important for DEMYC's role within the newly established organisation that with Elmar Brok, a German, a former Vice-chairman (1977-1979) and Chairman (1979-1981) became the first Chairman of the IYDU.



MUF Congress, November 1984, Stockholm  
Beatrice Ask and Gunnar Hökmark

But the senior parties established a new umbrella organisation in 1983, the IDU. The members were the EDU, the Pacific Democrat Union and the Caribbean Democratic Union. DEMYC's Spanish member Nuevas Generaciones initiated in 1984 the establishment of the Union de Juventudes Democráticas Hispanoamericanas (UJDH). Alongside with Spain there were 12 representatives from Latin American countries in this organisation. Although DEMYC was connected with them only through one Spanish member, there were very constant contacts between both organisations as e.g. during their combined summer school in July 1988.

# **FOR EUROPE WITHOUT FRONTIERS**

POUR UNE EUROPE SANS FRONTIERES  
FÜR EUROPA OHNE GRENZEN  
POR UNA EUROPA SIN FRONTERAS  
FÖR ETT EUROPA UTAN GRÄNSER  
ΓΙΑ ΜΙΑ ΕΥΡΩΠΗ ΧΩΡΙΣ ΣΥΝΟΡΑ



**DEMOCRAT YOUTH COMMUNITY OF EUROPE**

**11th Congress  
Cap d'Agde, France  
17-18 August 1985**

in "The European Democrat", August 1985, No. 9

Through this expansion, for DEMYC there were now several new areas of interest as well as different topics to engage in. Thus one could find the conflict in the Near East as well as in Afghanistan on the agenda. Especially the latter was of much concern to DEMYC because there was a close connection to the events in Poland. In both cases Soviet Imperialism showed at its worst. Here DEMYC protested as well and set an action which was entirely new to the organisation but at the same time very creative. They spread stickers almost in entire Europe where one could read "Free Afghanistan". Further they supported explicitly the boycott of the 1980 Summer Olympics in Moscow. There was also an event in the seminar programme which dealt with the future of South Africa. Here internationally accepted experts on South Africa as well as representatives from SWAPO and several Scandinavian refugee organisations were able to speak up.

Since DEMYC opened for the whole world and organised study trips the mobility of its members became stronger. First there was a study visit to the USA in February 1980 and in the same year they visited Ireland. In 1981 they organised trips to Israel, China and again to the USA. Although the frequency dropped a bit in the following years, this kind of events staid a crucial part of DEMYC's work in the years to come. A possible visit to Moscow was not expected soon because DEMYC would forbear from it because of Poland and Afghanistan. In 1982 DEMYC added another speciality to its programme; from 31st of July until 8th August they held their first International Summer School Lisbon. These Summer Schools should become an integral part in the future years. The aim was to give members of the organisation who were not able to collect international experience the possibility to do so. Slowly the relationship to the other democratically oriented umbrella organisations in Europe began to normalise. The difficulties between DEMYC and UEYCD were left behind, they came to an arrangement. The Seventies were affected by the establishment of numerous platforms lobbying for the youth, but now the goal was to find less but more effective unions.

The jungle of institutions should be thinned. Especially because of DEMYC's proactive role in 1984 the European Political Youth Council (EPYC) was established. On the level of EPYC for the first time it was possible to get to an understanding with those political youth organisations which were not on DEMYC's ideological line. The first meeting took place in Vienna on 13th January 1984. Alongside with DEMYC and the EUYCD the International Federation of Liberal and Radical Youth (IFLRY) and the International Union of Socialist Youth (IUSY) were present.

In 1983 "The European Democrat" was published for the first time. The journal was issued four times in its first year and it informed about the main events within DEMYC and EDU. Its first editor was the Austrian Alexander Demblin. In 1985 the project was cancelled but in 1988 revitalised.



During the Junge Union "Deutschlandtag", November 1985, Osnabrück: (from left to right): DEMYC Secretary General Henning Eilert-Olsen, former DEMYC Vice Chairman Bernd Huck, DEMYC Chairman Alexander Demblin, DEMYC Vice Chairman Manthos Mavromatis.







DEMYC Chairmen's Conference (Board),  
Athens, 1988



DEMYC Chairmen's Conference,  
Athens, 1988

In the Eighties there was also another enlargement. In 1979 the Spanish Juventudes Centristas joined as well as the Young Likud from Israel. In 1983 the Cypriote NEDISY and the Greek ONNED became affiliated. In the mid Nineteen-Eighties there were essential innovations during the election of the Chairman. During this meeting in 1985 for the first time a Chairman who did neither originate from the United Kingdom nor from Germany, Sweden or Norway was elected. The new Chairman, the Austrian Alexander Demblin was member of DEMYC's managing board since 1981 and shortly before he has been Secretary General. Furthermore, with Swedish Beatrice Ask, who was installed as Vice-chairperson in 1986 during the actual office term, there was a woman in DEMYC's managing board for the first time.

In the Seventies DEMYC was dealing with questions of European integration and the cooperation between EEC and EFTA, whereas in the Eighties for a long time the main topic was the question of East-West relationship. The fact that with Demblin there was a representative of a neutral country on DEMYC's top may have played a role that the ice started slowly to melt. Despite the earlier disputes with the Communist Internationals in particular, the Hungarian Youth Council MIOT invited the Junge ÖVP and the Norwegian Unge Høyre, two DEMYC founding members, for consultations. This contact outside the organised Youth Conferences represents the first important step for enhancing the relationship between East and West.

It became apparent that after the founding of EPYC there could slowly be a normalisation of powers behind the Iron Curtain. A year later AEYSC was re-launched. Perestroika and Glasnost in Moscow enabled DEMYC to better contacts with countries in East-Central Europe, although they could move only quite slowly. Thus that there has been development is proven by a study visit that DEMYC undertook to China and the Soviet Union. Especially a visit to the motherland of Communism was refused by DEMYC members just a few years earlier. The Iron Curtain got holes, even though only small ones for the time being.

When DEMYC celebrated its 25th anniversary it was an important organisation with a remarkable number of members. Besides the founding members Austria, Denmark, Germany, Luxemburg, Norway, Sweden and the United Kingdom it consisted of Cyprus (1983), Finland (1967/72), France (1973/75, 1989), Greece (1983), Iceland (1975/77), Israel (1979, 1986), Italy (1987), Liechtenstein (1975/1988), Malt (1973), Portugal (1976/77) and Spain (1983). The Italian representative had a special role because the "Junge Generation der Südtiroler Volkspartei" joined DEMYC in 1987 as observing member. It was only active in the Northern part of Italy and clearly a German speaking organisation, as the name already reveals. Its senior party SVP is regarded as a sister party to the ÖVP, where there is a special closeness because of the protective status that South-Tyrol Autonomy enjoys from the Republic of Austria. SVP could therefore not be seen exactly as representative of Italian interests within DEMYC.



DEMYC Meeting with NATO Secretary General Lord Carrington, Brussels, February 1985

At the beginning of 1989 barley anyone noticed that 25 year young DEMYC was imminent the largest expansion. In early summer ministers Mock and Horn cut the Iron Curtain in Sopron. This historical event was a development which already started in the Eighties and found its preliminary peak at that moment. Already in the previous years there were numerous contacts between the two countries. Ease of travel for Hungarian citizens to Austria made people many hope that Janos Kadar's so-called Gulyas-Communism would allow the opening of the East. On 18th and 19th August DEMYC held its 45. Executive Committee in Paris. The emphasis was not on communist Eastern Europe but on a certain state which already had a representative in DEMYC for quite some time, namely Cyprus. The discussions terminated with a resolution where DEMYC argued for a final solution of the problems in Cyprus and called upon both conflicting parties to stick to UN Secretary's Peace Plan. The Turkish settlement policy in North Cyprus was refused as well as the recognition of the Northern Cypriot state.



DEMYC Executive Committee, Athens, June 1988. From left to right: Peter Luksep (Sweden), Beatrice Ask (Sweden), Manthis Mavromatis (Cyprus), Peter Prantl (Austria), DEMYC Vice Chairman Henning Eilert-Olsen (Norway), DEMYC Vice Chairman Bernd Huck (Germany), DEMYC Chairman Robert Miller-Bakewell (U.K.), DEMYC Secretary General Alexander Demblin (Austria)



DEMYC Visit in Israel, 1989

When DEMYC's meeting was coming to an end, 2000 km further East numerous GDR tourists who spent their holidays in Hungary gathered in order to take part in the Pan European Picnic nearby Sopron. The rest is history. Until the end of the year Communist Regimes all over Europe fell like domino stones, be it in Prague, East-Berlin or Bucharest.

The changes in the East presumably put DEMYC before its greatest challenge, but the year long work on the base, the numerous individual contacts were bearing fruit immediately. It was a reasonable strategy to support the young democratic parties from the political centre on one side and to keep contact with communist youth organisations on the other side. Now it became clear to everyone in DEMYC that they were facing the largest expansion in their history.

Especially on the "side scenes" there were potential candidates for accession. So a week after the fall of the Berlin Wall Mladi krcanski demokrati (MKD), which was founded on 7th November 1989 in the capital of Yugoslavia's republic of Slovenia, asked now for establishment of relations.

Two years later they were granted their wish. DEMYC, in the Sixties with COCDYC still an enthusiastic advocate of the EEC, could tell even before the fall of the Berlin Wall that Europe's future was more than the events within the EC. This became public in its position paper to the European Elections in 1989. During the 13th DEMYC Congress in June 1989 the positive developments in the Soviet Union (Perestroika) as well as in Poland and Hungary were acclaimed and the developments and violations of human rights in GDR, Romania and Czechoslovakia were harshly condemned. Point three of the Resolution, the request to the COMECON states to allow political pluralism and free economic initiatives, in June still sounded a bit premature but they were quickly realised.

Immediately after the break down of the governments of the communist satellite states in 1990 DEMYC tried, initiated by the Greek member ONNED, to put pressure on Albania through a resolution. Two years later the Albanian FR-DP became observer in DEMYC. On the occasion of the anniversary of the Velvet Revolution DEMYC's managing board left for a fact finding mission to Czechoslovakia. This as well seemed very unlikely only a year earlier.

Already a year later parties from former communist countries such as Slovenia, Czech Republic, Slovak Republic, Romania and Hungary were accepted in DEMYC. In 1992 Albania joined, there was an additional representative from Hungary and in 1993 Estonia, Lithuania, Poland and Bulgaria followed.

Thus at the beginning of the Nineties DEMYC was in the lucky situation that all its main wishes from the past year became true. The EEC has developed into a substantially integrative association and contacts to the East were not possible but became intense through the fall of the Iron Curtain. Whereas during the existence of COCDYC the term Europe in its name was still very narrow, now it could really call itself a European party.

Still there were problems that did not emerge until then. Starting with the war in Yugoslavia suddenly two member organisations were involved in warfare. Europe's attitude towards this war was divergent. The threat of war was surely underestimated at the beginning and the recognition of the republic seeking independence took long time. Already in November 1991 DEMYC asked in a resolution for the right of self-determination for Slovenia and Croatia and de facto asked for the recognition of these new states by the European community of states. DEMYC was leading the way through its acceptance of the independent organisations from Croatia and Slovenia. It exerted itself for being on the spot. Already in January 1991 they visited Croatia in the framework of a fact finding mission and in August they undertook a study trip which led them also to Serbia. In November they passed a resolution, which dealt with the developments in Croatia and Slovenia.

A year later, in October 1993, they organised a seminar on the Balkan Crisis in conjunction with the 60th Executive Committee Meeting in Split, in crisis-ridden Croatia. During visits in Poland and Romania representatives from DEMYC could get a picture on the spot. The claim for acceptance of minority rights not only in the Yugoslav Republics was already expressed when this topic was not yet discussed on a broad basis.



Study visit Soviet Union, 1988

Because of its swift reaction and the relatively quick admittance of the new democracies into the organisation, DEMYC performed democratic structural work that fifteen years later led to the largest enlargement of the European Union.

The great chance of DEMYC was that especially the youth in the former Communist countries should become the bearer of democracy. They were much more open to the new ideas than the parents who feared change much more. Especially the campaign for the youth organisations was a necessary investment in the future which should pave the way to stable democracies. In this case "Democratic Foreign Aid" was no lip service but an honest concern.

The broad basis was for sure added value to the success. Being an organisation of Christian-democratic, conservative and similar powers DEMYC represented a broad spectrum. In this case it was not a burden but a chance.

Young democracies would often fight with the split of the party landscape. Parties would pitchfork in enormous speed to the top but would decline as fast. The mobility of voters is also much higher than in traditional democracies. Especially in these situations it is necessary to have a network that would help to dive through difficult political phases. Already in January 1990 DEMYC organised the First All European Youth Conference in order to assure the juvenile youth organisations in the equally young democracies. With the second Conference taking place in June 1991 DEMYC tried to gain ground in the Soviet Union as well. After the dissolution of this huge empire the emphasis was on the former European republics.

As mentioned, two members from the Baltics were accepted soon in DEMYC. Nevertheless DEMYC did not lose sight of its aims outside of Europe. They visited crisis-ridden Taiwan or took part in a meeting of friendly organisations such as the Caribbean Youth Leaders. It honours DEMYC that even great problems could not overstrain it in those times and that next to the intensified engagement the "normal day to day business" enrolled perfectly.





# *CHARTER FOR A FREE EUROPE*



# THE NINETIES

## **The End of Europe's Dichotomy!**

Through the opening of borders DEMYC's work in the new democracies became much easier. The freedom of travel for the new DEMYC members was of utmost importance because it enabled them to take part in various trainings and seminars organised by Western sister-organisations. In this sense DEMYC was working on two levels; on one hand the organisation as a whole tried to support all democratic endeavours and on the other hand it recollected its very own purpose and thus helped to establish a respective network. Later DEMYC should concentrate in its political work that the countries in South-East Europe and specially those on the Balkans would be accepted as soon as possible into the EU. In 1995 three more DEMYC founding members were included into the EU: Finland, Sweden and Austria. Although important DEMYC members such as Norway were not part of the EU still a majority of DEMYC's members were anchored in the EU or worked on it. Even after the first euphoria about the fall of the Iron Curtain the emphasis rested on the Eastern European countries. In 1991 the USSR dissolved and many republics, which had to live under communist leadership for decades, could turn independent. On 1st of January 1993 Czechoslovakia divided into the Czech and the Slovak Republic.

The chance and perspective offered by the now open borders was used to organise more events, study trips and seminars in the East of Europe. Even the topic of the respective seminars shifted to this part of Europe.



DEMYC 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary 1994

Already the slogan of the 15th Congress, taking place between 20th and 22nd August 1993 in Helsinki, was "Towards a united Europe - the future is ours". The first DEMYC Congress being held in the "new" countries was the 19th taking place from 18th to 21st October 1997 in Prague.

When DEMYC celebrated its 30th anniversary in 1994 the following countries and Youth Organisation from the former Eastern Block had associated by then: Mladeshki Sojus na Demokratizesja Partija (Bulgaria), Mladez Hrvatska Demokratsja Zajednica (Croatia), Krestansko Demokratska Mladez and Mladi Konzervativci (Czech Republic), Res Publica (Estonia), Ifjusagi Demokrata Forum and Ifjusagi Keresztenydemokrata Unió, as well as Függettlen Ifjusag Orszagos Központja (Hungary), Lietvos Jaunieji Krikscioys Demokratai (Lithuania), Mlodzi Demokraci (Poland), Partidul National Taranesc Crestin si Democrat - Organizatia de Tineret (Romania), Krestansko Demokratska Mladez Slovenska (Slovak Republic), Mladi Krescanski Demokrati and Mlada Inicitiva pri Slovenski Demokratski Zvezi (Slovenia). Out of the 35 member organisations already 14 came from the East. In 1991 the first person from a former communist country became member of DEMYC's managing board. Zoltán Pecze held the post of the Vice-Chairman from 1991 until 1993. Another Vice-Chairman was Slovene Jakob Stunf from 1993 until 1995. Other than in the past representatives of new member organisations were integrated into the team of leaders quite quickly.

During this decade DEMYC puts special emphasis on the future of the countries that emerged from Yugoslavia. A series of seminars, resolutions and study visits was organised and elaborated in order to give the member organisations an understanding of the recent developments. Starting in 1993 where special focus was on the Yugoslav province of Kosovo, which did not calm down since the disintegration of Yugoslavia. It was in DEMYC's interest as well to ease the situation.

A seminar in November 1996 was followed by a Kosovo-Resolution, and choosing Tirana as meeting place was meant as signal: "... Whereas, Albanians make up 90 percent of the formerly autonomous province of Kosovo and; ... Whereas, the political rights of the Albanian majority of Kosovo were drastically curtailed when the Government of Yugoslavia illegally amended the Yugoslav constitution without the consent of the people of Kosovo on March 23, 1989, revoking Kosovo's autonomous status and; ... DEMYC therefore urges the international community to react on the situation in Kosovo. ... 1. The situation in Kosovo must be resolved peacefully before there can be any recognition by the United Nations of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia (Serbia and Montenegro); 2. The human rights of the people of Kosovo must be resolved to levels guaranteed by international law; ... 3. DEMYC supports the legitimate claims of the people of Kosovo to self-determination, a right embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Charter, respecting the principle of territorial integrity following the spirit of the Final Act of the CSCE; 4. International observers should be returned to Kosovo as soon as possible; ..." This Resolution was followed by another in May 1998 and a third one in February 1999 entitled "The Conflict in Kosovo".





The European Democrat, March 1995

In a nutshell they contain the following concrete statements: "This conflict that destabilises the whole region can not be seen as an "internal affair" of Yugoslavia; DEMYC warns that radical, militant forces among the Albanian population will increase the conflict and will allow the nationalist forces in Serbia an excuse for further violence; DEMYC recognises the recent initiatives taken by the international society, e.g. EU and NATO, to establish negotiations involving all parties in the conflict to reach a durable solution in the conflict. DEMYC stresses that a solution should be achieved by using all diplomatic efforts.

A durable solution cannot be achieved by the use of armed force, but only by political means; DEMYC does not support a change of borders, but wants to respect the will of the people of Kosovo so that they can have a local autonomy and decide for themselves on internal affairs".



The Democrat Youth Community of Europe (DEMYC) is the international umbrella organisation of the youth wings of Christian-Democratic, Conservative and like-minded parties of Europe. With currently now more than one million affiliates in its member organisations, DEMYC is one of the strongest political youth organisations in Europe.

It is DEMYC's aim to further contacts and strengthen co-operation between its member organisations from different European countries and thereby to contribute to a united Europe.

DEMYC represents its member organisations in a number of structures on a European or world-wide level, including the Youth Forum of the European Union (YF-EU), the European Coordination Bureau of International Youth Organisations (ECBI), the European Youth Foundation (EYF) and the European Youth Centre (EYC).

Through its involvement in the European Political Youth Council (EPYC) and through participation in a number of East-West youth contacts DEMYC has close contacts with other international youth organisations.

On a world-wide level DEMYC has promoted the creation of the International Young Democrat Union (IYDU), thus guaranteeing permanent links to centre and centre-right parties all around the globe. Excellent relations have thereby developed to the Republican Party of the United States as well as to like-minded organisations in Latin-America, Africa and Asia.

# Demokratischer Jugendverband Europas



**МОЛОДИЙ РУХ**  
**Християнсько-**  
**Демократична**  
**молодь України**

*Молодь  
обирає  
європейський  
шлях!*

**Seminar**  
**“The Youth Chooses A European Path.**  
**The Election Campaigning in Ukraine“**  
**The 76<sup>TH</sup> DEMYC**  
**Executive Committee Meeting**

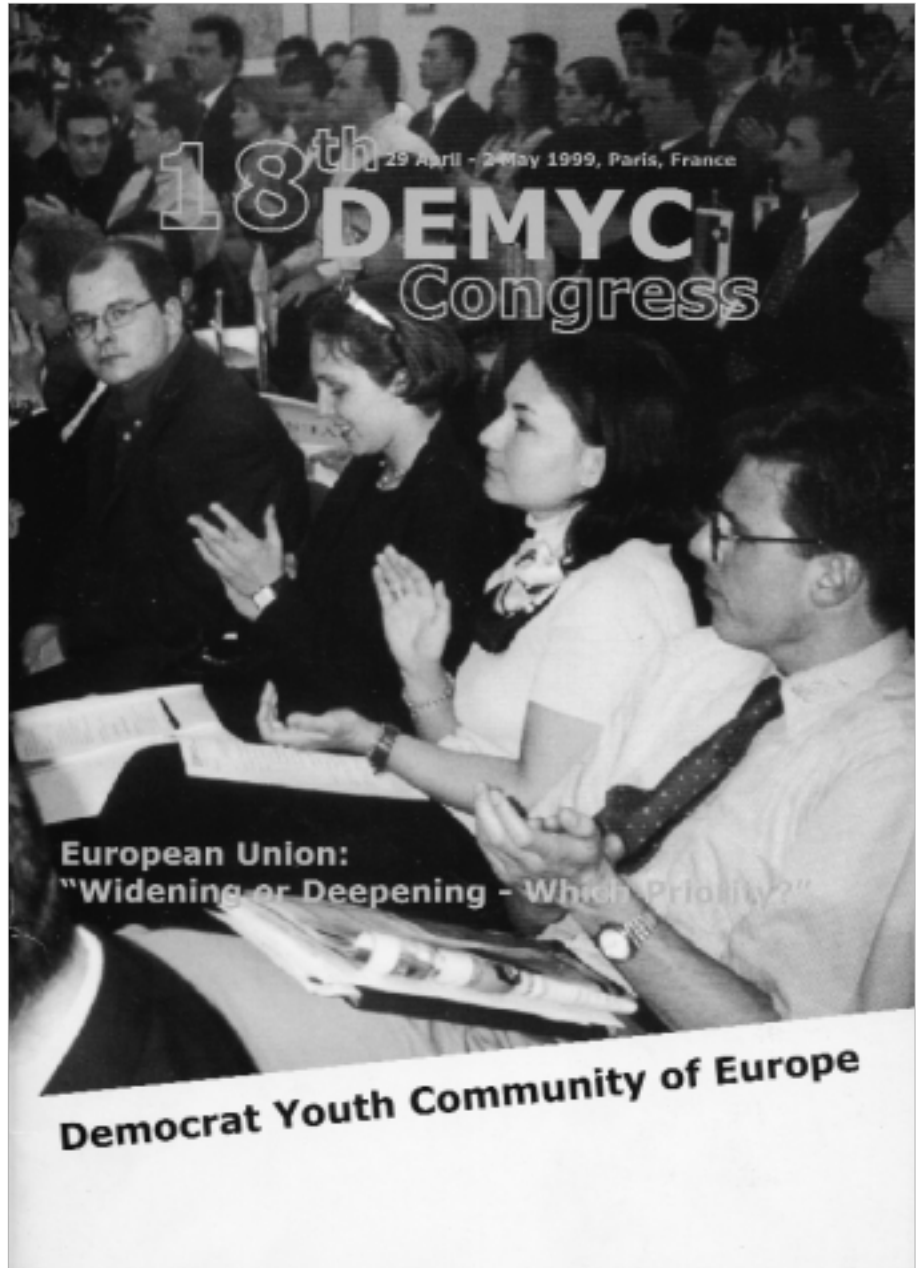
**Organizers:**  
**Youth Organization of the Popular**  
**Movement of Ukraine “RUKH”**  
**Christian Democratic Youth of Ukraine**

**February, 19-22**  
**Kyiv, UKRAINE**  
**1998**



Numerous seminars were held on these topics: new democracies, economic and political changes and developments in Eastern Europe, the situation in the Baltic States, as well as with special focus on certain countries or elections. Not only countries which became member of the EU in 2004 or the ones still to come were picked out as central topics. Upon the invitation of the Ukrainian Young RUKH (YOPMU) - RUKH was at that time the second largest faction in the Ukrainian Parliament - DEMYC organised a study visit to Kiev between 19th and 22nd October 1995. The delegation consisted of Secretary General Matthias Peterlik, Vice-Chairman Grzegorz Bielowicki, and Arthur Winkler-Hermaden, acting Chairman in 1994/95. 1998 there was a seminar in Kiev that dealt with the elections in the Ukrainian Parliament in December 1995, subtitled "Youth of Ukraine chooses the European way". An in-depth analysis of DEMYC's activities shows that the experiences of the passed years were realised and some actions such as dealing with the election system could be replicated. A country sparsely picked by European media is Belarus, although this democracy is still on weak legs and its relationship towards Russia is still not clarified. Already in May 1996 DEMYC gave a deep insight into its political situation when a resolution was presented by Poland: "DEMYC fully supports the independence of the Republic of Belarus. ... The right of self-determination of nations, widely recognised in democratic Europe since the beginning of this century and lately reinforced by events of 1989 and 1990 in Central and Eastern Europe, is still valid and cannot be given up in favour of the old-fashioned ideas of spheres of influence and imperial interests. ... People of Belarus must be allowed to determine their future in a democratic way". Another resolution followed in 1998 as well as a study trip to Minsk.

The aim of the journey was to get a picture as clear as possible on the political situation in Belarus, especially since Alexander Lukashenko introduced an authoritarian Presidency through a non constitutional referendum.



DEMYC 18<sup>th</sup> Congress, Paris 1999

The study trip was organised and guided by Civil Forum, the youth organisation of the United Civil Party of Belarus, which became associated member of DEMYC during the 18th Congress in May 1999. In the Resolution "Violation of Human Rights in Belarus" DEMYC clarified: "... DEMYC protests the violation of human rights, which is continuously taking place in Belarus. Particularly alarming are the steps taken by the government of Belarus towards limiting the freedom of opinion and expression and freedom of assembly and association, such as: ... expelling students from Universities for taking part in Rallies against the Government of Belarus; arresting and exercising physical violence on young people for demonstrating for Democracy and respect of Basic Human Rights, which is especially dangerous for the future of Belarus.

DEMYC therefore urges the International Community to exert maximum pressure and influence on the Government of Belarus, to restore Basic Human Rights, Democracy, and a Rule of Law". Similar to the protest against Afghanistan in the beginning of the Eighties DEMYC initiated a special protest. The height of the 79th Executive Meeting 1998 in London was the starting point of a protest campaign together with the European Young Conservatives and the European Democrat Students. Postcards were handed over to the national members to be personally signed by them and then being sent to pre-printed addresses like CNN, BBC or Euronews. Thus DEMYC tried to call media attention to the almost uncountable violations of Human Rights. Finally, there were more than 30,000 cards sent. Next to the development in Europe in the Nineties DEMYC focused more on the Near East. The Israeli Young Likud already joined DEMYC in September 1979. In 1986 it split into Young Herut and Young Liberals both of which were members of DEMYC.

Inherently this fact shows DEMYC's heightened interest in the Near East. Already in the Eighties there have been three study trips to Israel and with Avital Sahar an Israeli held the post of Vice-Chairman from 2001 until 2003.

In the Nineties the aim was to intensify the interest and in February 1992 during a seminar on Euro-Arab Relations three Resolutions were passed: "Israel", "Western Sahara" and "Lebanon". 1994 the annual Summer School took place in Israel. During a study visit in the same year Vice-Chairman Arthur Winkler-Hermaden met former Prime Minister and LIKUD Chairman Yitzak Shamir, as well as other high ranking party members. The discussion focused on the Peace Process in the Near East. DEMYC states in the "Resolution on the Developments in the Eastern Mediterranean", passed in March 1996 on Cyprus: "DEMYC fully supports all efforts initiated after the end of the Cold War which push forward the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians. They must now be made irreversible. We condemn all acts of terrorism since they aim to undermine and freeze the peace negotiations in their present state or even could destroy the prevailing results of the entire process; DEMYC urges Israel, its direct Arab neighbours, and the other members of the Arab League to overcome their mutual feelings of hate and enmity and to negotiate bilateral peace treaties between the Arab states and Israel".

The events in this part of the world made DEMYC pass another resolution in Budapest in 1997. In "On Peace in the Middle East" they declared: "The participants at the DEMYC Seminar ... strongly support the peace process between the Israeli and the Palestinian and see it as essential not only for the stability in the Middle East but for the whole world. It is important that the International Community, and especially the United Nations, ensure that the two parties fulfil their obligations according to the Oslo Agreements and refrain from using violence". In order to get a current picture DEMYC undertook another study trip to Israel together with the European Young Conservatives (EYC) in March 1999. Upon the invitation of the Young Likud 25 young politicians used the chance to get to know the situation first hand. They had the possibility to meet high-ranking Israeli politicians and even Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu.

"The meeting in the Prime Minister's Office in Jerusalem was dominated by the beginning of NATO air strikes against Yugoslavia and the decision of the European Council's Summit in Berlin to support the foundation of a Palestine State by the year 2000. Prime Minister Netanyahu emphasised that he will not accept a dictate from the outside. Other politically interesting visits included the headquarters of the Likud Party in Tel Aviv, a tour to the Golan Heights and Northern Israel and a visit to the Holocaust museum in Jerusalem. But, one could not visit Israel without seeing the Holy sights. This included visits to the Sea of Galilee and to the Holy places in Bethlehem and Jerusalem". As measured by the other areas of concern the Near East certainly represents the most complex one. Here the difference between the respective member organisations shows most. The hard line LIKUD takes up in Israel is by far not appreciated by all members. The above mentioned Resolution also does not follow the marked path the senior party showed the two DEMYC members. Unfortunately DEMYC will not be able to contribute much to the Near East Peace Process.

Another area that gained weight in the Nineties was minorities. DEMYC tackled this explosive issue consistently already since the end of the Seventies and in the Nineties it intensified its efforts. DEMYC's first seminar was titled "Ethnic Minorities and Separatistic Movements in Europe" and took place in Spain. But only in 1994 the topic was brought up again. DEMYC now brought more and more minority rights in coherence to Human Rights. The first seminar tackling this was organised in Budapest. Holding the seminar "Life - Survival: Minorities and Federalism in the EU" in Bozen/Bolzano DEMYC entered a European region where minority questions dominated the political scene already the past decades. Following the invitation of the "Junge Generation der Südtiroler Volkspartei" dozens of young politicians had the possibility to get to know South Tyrol. The newspaper "Die Dolomiten" titled on 26th October 1994: "Make South Tyrol's Problems Known".

In general this event was well perceived in South Tyrol's media landscape whereas there was a second topic as well: "Environmental Problems in the EU". SVP-European Parliamentarian Michl Ebner referred on South Tyrol's and Europe's minority policy. Siegfried Brugger, SVP-Chairman put special emphasis on the situation in South Tyrol where he informed about some basic rules that are crucial to an ethnic group in order to survive: The will to survive, coherence, contact to the mother culture and to other minorities: "Isolation is the biggest threat for a minority". Similar as in the Near East Question DEMYC had a person concerned in its rows. Although there are still dissonances and even though in the past years Italian nationalism in South Tyrol showed some menacing signs of life, the South Tyrol regulation is an internationally renowned autonomy provision that could serve as an example for many hot spots.

DEMYC's Thirstiest anniversary was marked by the 4th Chairman's Conference in Larnaka. Upon the invitation of the DEMYC member organisation Neolaia Dimokratikou Synagermoy (NEDISY) more than 80 delegates from 35 organisation coming from 28 European countries celebrated between 28th and 31st of July 1994. One of the highlights was a reception by Glafcos Clerides, President of the Republic of Cyprus. In his speech he mentioned the still not solved problem of Cyprus and asked for help in order to make it possible for Cyprus to join the EU as soon as possible.

DEMYC already dealt with the Cyprus Question for many years. Already in 1978 they undertook a study visit, in 1985 Manthos Mavromatis became Vice-Chairman, as first Cypriot, and in the Nineties even three resolutions dealt with this topic. The situation of Turkey is closely connected with the question of Cyprus. DEMYC took position, made its opinion public and still ten years after DEMYC's thirstiest anniversary they are up to date since the discussions on starting the negotiations for accession to the EU are omnipresent.

In 1996 EMYC wanted to study the situation at close range. Being invited by ANAP and with help from the young Turkish Democrats DEMYC members they went on a study visit end of March beginning of April. Led by DEMYC Chairman Fredrik Reinfeldt seven participants visited Istanbul (30/31 March) and Ankara (31st March to 4th April). An additional goal was to find a suitable youth organisation in Turkey that could become DEMYC member. Further they wanted to get a picture of the real political situation on the spot. During the visit they could also meet Orthodox Patriarch Bartholomeus II. There were slight discrepancies because the North-Cypriot flag was flown several times but upon intervention of the DEMYC delegates it was struck.

During the time after the study trip each year there was one resolution on Turkey. In April 1997 the Resolution "On Relations between Greece and Turkey" was passed in Budapest. Here DEMYC supports among other things: "1. solving the conflict of the Turkish government questioning the Greek ownership of a part of the Aegean Islands has to be an issue on the agenda of all European and international organisations; ... 4. Turkey should not become a member of the EU unless it guarantees full protection of all human rights, democracy and laicism (separation between government and Islam)".

The next Resolution, released by Greek ONNED in February 1998 was "DEMYC condemns the recent bomb attack against the Patriarchy of Constantinople", especially mentioning that: "DEMYC recognises Turkey's tradition in openness to religion and therefore urges the Turkish authorities to conduct persistent and thorough investigation into these onerous crimes against the Christian Orthodox Church and prosecute the perpetrators of these horrendous acts. ... DEMYC strongly believes in the inherent right of freedom of religion which is well defined in article 9 of the European Convention of Human Rights and which has now become part of the *aquis communautaire* as one of the fundamental principles of the Treaty on the European Union in accordance with the Treaty of Amsterdam."

The Resolution "In relation to the implementation by Turkey of the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights in relation to the case of Loizidou against Turkey" which was passed in May 1999 in Paris during the 18th DEMYC Congress and supported by Cypriot NE.DI.SY. and brought in by Greek O.N.N.E.D., stated: "WHEREAS the ECHR has on 18 December 1996 found Turkey liable for the continuing violation of Mrs Loizidou's human rights (Article 1 of Protocol No 1 of the European Convention on Human Rights) in relation to her property situated in Kyrenia in the Northern part of Cyprus, which is currently under the effective control of the Turkish Army and WHEREAS the ECHR has on 28 July 1998 decided the Turkey should pay to Mrs Loizidou by way of just satisfaction (Article 50 of the Convention) an amount of C£ 320,000 plus costs by 28 October 1998 TAKING note that Turkey is bound in accordance with the Convention to abide by the said judgements of the Court and taking note that Turkey has until today failed to pay the above mentioned amount and to restore Mrs Loizidou's human rights that are continuously violated and BEARING in mind that failure by member states of the Council of Europe to abide by judgements of the Court undermine the status of the Court as well as the credibility and effectiveness of the mechanism for the collective enforcement of Human Rights by the Council of Europe and may actually threaten the Public Order of Europe."

The special interest on Turkey and the problems in Cyprus could also be explained by the fact that with Stavros Papastavrou a Greek was President of DEMYC for the first time. Papastavrou was the first DEMYC Chairman who became re-elected and with Meinhard Friedl again an Austrian succeeded him. Friedl was the one to realise the change which was decided in his first year and that should change DEMYC fundamentally. During the 19th DEMYC Congress on 20th October in Prague a new Constitution was decreed for DEMYC.



The "Democratic Youth Community of Europe" as named officially in this Constitution lays its goals as follows:

- a) to promote the role of democracy, freedom and human rights in Europe and world-wide through its international partners
- b) to promote the role of young people in politics
- c) to stress the importance of centre-right ideas and human dignity
- d) to support European cooperation, integration and enlargement
- e) to exchange experience and information
- f) to provide a platform for training and campaigning, and
- g) to support the continuous development of a broad European network of young politicians on the centre-right.

The new Constitution determines for the first time all the missions and tasks that have emerged in the past.

Still DEMYC changed substantially since the "new" DEMYC clearly became a service organization for its members. In this sense Friedl states: "DEMYC turned his whole structure towards the future and changed its constitution to become not a new but a different organisation. The core competence of the reorganised DEMYC is to offer seminars, political training courses and know how to its members. To help our member organisations to use our network and to benefit from our common knowledge." It is less about enforcing political content but more about developing the means for realising political substance. Today DEMYC apprehends itself first place as a security net; a position it already had but still not entirely.

# INSTEAD OF AN EPILOGUE

What is DEMYC and how did it integrate during its forty years of existence into its environment?

This was the question posed at the start of this essay. As history shows the first part is not to be answered the same way for the whole period of its existence. Thus the historical presentation shows that DEMYC satisfied its function as NGO in whatever necessary and suitable form. DEMYC has tried to shape its environment. Stating that it adapted to its surrounding would be unjust because it was definitely way too much active and creative in order to only melt in. Summarising, DEMYC was a framework for the Sixties that became a framework for the new Millennium. It consistently anticipated new trends and tried to be on the right time on the right spot in order to get the pole position. Thus the second part of the question can be answered as "excellent". DEMYC's reorganisation in the past four years was a necessary step out of its own history since today we have to deal with a different Europe, even with a different World. In times of Internet and modern communication technologies, in times of cheap flights and a saturated cellular phone market successful organisation needs new means. It is characteristic for DEMYC that it took this path on the right time - service is everything. Special education and special exchange of experiences is more important than ever. Today, above all, such a DEMYC is not only necessary but even accomplishable. With today's structures DEMYC can exist today, but would not have had a chance in the Sixties and in the early Eighties.

It is eminently important for a youth organisation to be able to survive over a long time span since different than in senior parties fluctuation is tremendously high. The two DEMYC Chairmen holding office, Papastavrou and Friedl, were leading DEMYC just for four years and the longest serving members of the board where there for six years. In a senior party this would have been a very short time, just one election period. Exactly because of the fast moving youth such an organisation has to be disciplined and is only able to be successful if the idea backing it is genuinely sound and fully developed.

Just because of DEMYC's reorganisation a whole range of crucial tasks arise for the future. In a world where more frequently extremists come into power parties from the centre sometimes have their difficulties. DEMYC still manages as a light tower in the dark surf to show the youth a passable path. If it stays aware of its tradition and if it stays on its track, DEMYC will do so still in the future.

**DEMYC - solid as a rock and  
yet speedy as a sports car.**

# COCDYC/DEMYC OFFICERS

1964-1966

Chairman: **John MacGregor** (Great Britain)

Born 14 February 1937, educated at St. Andrews University and Kings College in London, various positions in and Chairman of the Young Conservatives (1956-1965), special assistant to Prime Minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home (1963-1964), Head of the Private Office of Prime Minister Edward Heath (1965-1968), elected member of Parliament (1974), Appointed Opposition Whip (1977), Lord Commissioner of Her Majesty's Treasury (1979), Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State, Department of Industry (1981), Minister of State at the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (1983), Chief Secretary of the Treasury (1985), Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (1987), promoted to Secretary of State for Education (1989), Leader of the House of Commons and Lord President of the Council (1990-1992), Secretary of State for Transport (1992-1994)

Vice-Chairman: Birger Hagard (Sweden)

Vice-Chairman: Dietrich Rollmann (Germany)

## 1966-68

**Chairman: Dietrich Rollmann** (Germany)

Born in Berlin in 1932. Universities of Hamburg and Marburg, graduated in Law (1955), Member of the Hamburger City Council (1957-60), Member of the board of Junge Union Deutschland (1960-65), Member of Parliament (1957-76), Business and PR Consultant, Secretary General of the Bundesverband der Freien Berufe, the German federation of independent professions

**Vice-Chairman: Ragnvald Dahl** (Norway)

**Vice-Chairman: Keith Speed** (Great Britain)

## 1968-1970

**Chairman: Ragnvald Dahl** (Norway)

Born in 1938, Master of Science (1966), Chairman of Unge Hoyre (1965-69), Member of the City Council of Oslo (1963-1975), Deputy Member of Parliament (1969-1973), Teacher at the University of Oslo (1965-1968), Deputy Director General at the Ministry of Social Affairs (1982-1984), Director General for Social Affairs, Oslo (1984-1988), Director of the Executive Board of the City of Oslo (1988)

**Vice-Chairmen: Jürgen Echternach** (Germany), **Alan Haselhurst** (Great Britain)

## 1970-1972

Chairman: **Alan Haselhurst** (Great Britain)

Born 23 June 1937, educated at Oriel College, Oxford, president of the Oxford University Conservative Association and officer of the Oxford Union Society (1959-1960), National Chairman of Young Conservatives (1966-1968), Member of Parliament for Middleton and Prestwich (1970-1974) and from 1977 for Saffron Walden, P.P.S. to Home Secretary (1973-1974), Chairman of the Commonwealth Youth Exchange Council (1978-1981), P.P.S. to the Secretary of State for Education (1979-1981), Member of the Select Committee on European Legislation (1982-1997), on Transport (1992-1997) and on Catering (1992-1997), Member of the Speaker's Panel of Chairmen (1992-1997), Deputy Speaker of the House of Commons, member of the Privy Council, Knighted 1995

Vice-Chairmen: Anders Björck (Sweden), Volker Rühle (Germany)  
Secretary General: Roger Boaden (Great Britain)

## 1972-1974

Chairman: **Volker Rühle** (Germany)

Born 25 September 1942 in Hamburg, studied languages (English and German) and works as a teacher, joined des CDU in 1963, held several positions in the party including the chairmanship of the Foreign Policy Committee in the Hamburg CDU, Member of the Hamburger Bürgerschaft (1970-1976), then appointed Deputy Chairman of the CDU/CSU parliamentary group in the Bundestag (1982-1989), responsible for the coordination of Foreign Policy, German-German policy and Developing Aid, chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the IDU, Secretary General of the CDU Deutschland (1989-1992), Federal Minister of Defence (1992-1998), since October 1998 Deputy

Chairman of the CDU/CSU Parliamentary Faction (Foreign, Defence and Security Policy)

Vice-Chairmen: David Hunt (Great Britain), Ole Gay Petersen (Denmark)

Secretary General: Peter Helmes (Germany)

## 1974-1977

Chairman: **Per Unckel** (Sweden)

Born in 1948, studied law at the University of Uppsala (1968-1971), Chairman of the Moderata Ungdomsförbundet (MUF) (1971-75), Member of Parliament (1976-1986), Party Spokesman on Energy (1978-1982) and Education and Science (1982-1986), Secretary General of Moderaterna (1986-1991), Minister for Science (1991), Party Spokesman for questions of the Labour Market (1994-1998), Faction Chairman of Moderaterna (1999), Secretary General of the Nordic Council of Ministers (since 2003)

Vice-Chairmen: Peter Helmes (Germany), Clive Landa (Great Britain)

Secretary Generals: Roger Boaden (Great Britain), Olof Ehrenkrona (Sweden)

## 1977-1979

Chairman: **Tony Kerpel** (Great Britain)

Born in 1945 in London, Bath University, B.Sc. Sociology (1964-1968), President of the Students Union (1969), Civil Press Spokesman (1969-1972), Film examiner by the British Board of Film Censors (1972-1986), National Chairman of Young Conservatives (1975-1976), Councillor of London Borough of Camden (1974-1986), Special Advisor to Secretary

of State for Environment and Education (1981), MBE for political and public services, Chairman of the Conservatives in the Camden Council

Vice-Chairmen: Ray Bondin (Malta), Elmar Brok (Germany), Per Kristian Foss (Norway)

Secretary General: Jon Ormur Halldorsson (Iceland)

## 1979-1981

Chairman: **Elmar Brok** (Germany)

Born 14 May 1946 in Verl, studied Journalism at the University of Edinburgh, Deputy Chairman of Junge Union Deutschland (1973-1981), President of the International Young Democrat Union (1981-1983), since 1980 Member of the European Parliament, Member of the Social Affairs Committee, Chairman of the EPP group in the Social Affairs Committee, Member of the Political Affairs Committee, Member of the Board of CDU North Rhine-Westphalia, Vice-Chairman of the CDU Commission of International Affairs, Chairman of the EPP group in the EU-Convent for the Future of Europe, Chairman of the Committee for Human Rights, mutual Security and Defence Policy of the European Parliament (1996-2004)

Vice-Chairmen: Phil Bradbourn (Great Britain), Francisco Fereira (Portugal), Jon Ormur Halldorsson (Iceland)

Secretary Generals: 1979/80 Bernd Reinert (Germany), 1980/81 Bernd Sumbel (Germany), David Grayson (Great Britain)



## 1981-1983

Chairman: **Gunnar Hökmark** (Sweden)

Born 19 September 1952 in Ystad, Business studies (1972-1975), Officer in the Swedish Army (1975), Chairman of the Moderata Ungdomsförbundet (1979-1984), Member of Parliament (1982), Editor of the conservative magazine "Svensk Tidskrift" (1984), Moderata's spokesman on energy policy and on issues regarding privacy and personal integrity, Member of the Swedish Broadcasting Corporation and the Swedish Data-Protection Agency, MEP of the EPP, Member of the Committee for Economy and Currency, Member of the Delegation in the Mixed Parliamentary Committee on EU-Turkey, Delegation for Relations with Israel

Vice-Chairmen: Phil Bradbourn (Great Britain), Bernd Huck (Germany), Francis Zammit Dimech (Malta)

Secretary General: David Grayson (Great Britain)

Bureau Members: Alexander Demblin (Austria), Henning Eilert-Olson (Norway)

## 1983-1985

Chairman: **Robert Miller-Bakewell** (Great Britain)

Born in 1953, National Chairman of the Scottish Young Conservatives (1980-1982), Chairman of the Edinburgh Leith Conservatives (1982-1986), Chairman of the Lothians Euro-Conservatives (1983), Director of Investment Research (1989)

Vice-Chairmen: Henning Eilert-Olson (Norway), Bernd Huck (Germany), Acacio Piloto (Portugal)

Secretary General: Alexander Demblin (Austria)

## 1985-1987

Chairman: **Alexander Demblin** (Austria)

Born 1953 in Stuttgart (Germany), law-studies at the University of Vienna, graduated 1979, staff member for high school affairs of Junge ÖVP's National Secretariat (1975-1978), co-opted Member of Junge ÖVP's National Committee (1977-1978 and 1981-1987), International Secretary of Junge ÖVP (1981-1987), joined the Allgemeine Baugesellschaft - A Porr A.G. in 1980, head of the international contracts department (1984), head of PR department (1989), published several books

Vice-Chairpersons: Nicolas Forissier (France), Manthos Mavromatis (Cyprus), Thomas Stritzl (Germany), 1986/87 Beatrice Ask (Sweden)

Secretary General: 1985/86 Henning Eilert-Olson (Norway)

## 1987-1989

Chairman: **Neale Stevenson** (Great Britain)

Born in 1961, studied politics and economy at Oxford University, whilst studying President of the Oxford University Young Conservatives and the Oxford Union, Advisor to Peter Walker, Secretary for Wales

Vice-Chairpersons: Beatrice Ask (Sweden), Salvador Garriga (Spain), Alberto Guimaraes (Portugal), Thomas Stritzl (Germany)

Secretary General: Alexis Wintoniak (Austria)

## 1989-1991

Chairman: **Neale Stevenson** (Great Britain)

Deputy Chairman: Thomas Stritzl (Germany)

Vice-Chairmen: Alberto Guimaraes (Portugal), Trond Helleland (Norway), Harry Hiltunen (Finland), Alexis Wintoniak (Austria)

Secretary General: Tasos Mitsopoulos (Greece)

## 1991-1993

Chairman: **Klaus Welle** (Germany)

Born 3 July 1964 in Beelen, Trainee at West LB-Münster (1987-1991), studied economy at the University of Witten/Herdecke, Head of the Department for Foreign and EU-Policy of the CDU (1991-1994), Spokesman for Foreign Policy Issues of the Junge Union Deutschland (1989), Secretary General of EPP-ED (1994)

Vice-Chairmen: Trond Helleland (Norway), Thierry Kunicki (France), Tasos Mitsopoulos (Greece), Zoltán Pecze (Hungary), Dieter Staib-Natalicchio (Spain)

Secretary General: Arthur Winkler-Hermaden (Austria)

## 1993-1995

Chairman: 1993/94 **Klaus Welle** (Germany), 1994/95 acting Chairman, **Arthur Winkler-Hermaden** (Austria)

Studied philosophy and economy, Ambassador Councillor at the Austrian Embassy in Stockholm

stockholm-ob@bmaa.gv.at

Vice-Chairmen: Alberto Alonso (Spain), Thierry Kunicki (France), Michael Raphael (Cyprus), Jakob Stunf (Slovenia)

Secretary General: Mika Nykänen (Finland)

## 1995-1997

Chairman: **Fredrik Reinfeldt** (Sweden)

Born 4 August 1965 in Täby, Member of Parliament (1991), President of the Moderate Youth League (1992-1995), Chairman of Moderata samlingspartiet (2003)

Vice-Chairmen: Grzegorz Bielowicki (Poland), Mika Nykänen (Finland), Stavros Papastavrou (Greece), Belen Ureña (Spain), Winfried Weck (Germany)

Secretary General: Matthias Peterlik (Austria)

## 1997-1999

Chairman: **Stavros Papastavrou** (Greece)

Born 23 July 1967 in Athens, Greece, studied law at the University of Athens Law School, LL.B 1990 (Valedictorian), Harvard Law School LL.M 1992, S.J.D 1997 (a.b.d.) and the Academy of European Law, Florence, Certificate 1994. Chairman of EDS (1989-1991), Deputy Chairman of IYDU (1997-1999). Partner and head of the Capital Markets Department of a Greek law firm.

Secretary of International Relations and European Affairs of Nea Demokratia (2004).

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Vice-Chairpersons: Lars Christensen (Denmark), Michael Hahn (Germany), Natasa Kavas (Slovenia), Sophia Michaelides (Cyprus), Andrzej Saja (Poland)

Secretary General: Matthias Peterlik (Austria)

## 1999-2001

Chairman: **Stavros Papastavrou** (Greece)

Vice-Chairman: Matthias Peterlik (Austria)

Vice-Chairpersons: Sophia Michaelides (Cyprus), Ville Oksanen (Finland), Matvydas Juozapavicius (Lithuania), Jerome Sterkers (France), Neven Ferencic (Croatia), Alessandro Maria Poggiali (Italy)

Secretary General: Natasa Kavas (Slovenia)

## 2001-2003

Chairman: **Meinhard Friedl** (Austria)

Born 1971 in Bruck a.d. Mur, currently finishing his Executive MBA at the California State University Hayward in cooperation with the private University Imadec in Vienna, Managing Director for the "Seminar Hotel Springer Schloessl" (1997-2001), since 2002 Chief Executive Officer to the Austrian Youth Hostelling Association and Supertramp GmbH., Deputy Manager of the "Karl von Vogelsang-Institut"

Deputy Chairman: Sigmundur Sigurgeirsson (Iceland)

Vice-Chairmen: Diogo de Belford-Henriques (Portugal), Mantvidas Juozapavicius (Lithuania), Stefanos Kavallierakis (Greece), Jean Baptiste Lemoyne (France), David R?c (Czech Republic), Avital Sahar (Israel), Vladislav Synyahovsky (Ukraine)  
Secretary General: Mikkel Loft (Denmark)

## Since 2003

Chairman: **Meinhard Friedl** (Austria)

Deputy Chairman: Diogo de Belford-Henriques (Portugal)

Vice-Chairpersons: Kornely Kakachia (Georgia), Ingrida Palkavniece (Latvia), Tomas Jirsa (Czech Republic), Kaloyan Metodiev (Bulgaria), Giedre Uzdilaite (Lithuania), Kosta Giannikopoulos (Greece)  
Secretary General: Lasse Krull (Denmark)



