

# Newsletter

MIJARC EUROPE

Edition 2 - June 2010

## MIJARC EUROPE NEWS

### *MIJARC Europe has a new General Secretary, Ana Silva!*



Hi there!

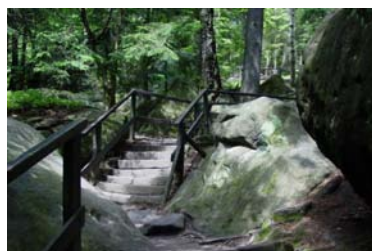
I'm Ana Silva from Portugal, and I'm very happy and proud for being chosen to be the next MIJARC Europe Secretary. I've been involved in JARC Portugal since 2006 and I worked as part-time secretary in JARC Portugal office for one year (2008-2009).

My first direct contact with MIJARC was in a Summer Camp in Belgium, in 2008. Since then, I had the pleasure to become the Portuguese coordinator for MIJARC Europe and European Women Commissioner for MIJARC World.

From now on, working as European secretary, I hope to contribute significantly to MIJARC Europe's expansion and spreading out. I hope to meet all the needs and expectations from your movement and, of course, to meet you personally on the next MIJARC Europe activities!

*Ana Silva*

### *INVITATION to our Summer Camp in Poland* *[16- 22 August 2010] - Let's give our Villages a better image!* *Call for Participants!*



The camp will take place between the 16<sup>th</sup> and the 22<sup>nd</sup> of August 2010 (7 days) close to Wroclaw in western Poland. We are inviting 5 participants (including 1 group leader) from each member or associated movement of MIJARC Europe to part-take in this event! *We have received the grant for this year's summer camp!*

*Join us for a chance to experience the beauties of Poland in a week of hikes, workshops and games!*



Wielki Szezeliniec, Poland  
A destination for this camp!

Our Summer Camp of 2010, *Let's give our Villages a better image!*, will offer each participant the opportunity to broaden their knowledge on Polish culture, sustainable development and climate change with like-minded peers. The camp will be comprised youth from 9 different nationalities (Portugal, Germany, Austria, France, Spain, Bulgaria, Belgium, Poland, Holland) set against picturesque backdrop of Poland.

*Hope to see you there!*



## *Food Sovereignty Seminar Success!* (Strasbourg- EJC : 25/05/10 - 31/05/10)



The recent success of the Food Sovereignty seminar hosted in the European Youth Centre of the Council of Europe brought together eight different nations from all over Europe. France, Germany, Portugal, Bulgaria, Poland and contact movements from Nicaragua, Armenia, Norway were present in during the week-long seminar held during the last week of May 2010. The seminar was voted a unanimous success. It featured regular talks by experts, daily working groups, study-visits, games and many great discussions culminating in the writing of a political paper on Food Sovereignty. The political paper will be debated and voted on during the upcoming GA in Germany. This is the first of many seminars on Food

Sovereignty organized by MIJARC Europe and it marks the first big step towards spreading the essential movement of Food Sovereignty.

## *MIJARC's visit to Plattelandsjongeren, Holland*

Plattelandsjongeren.nl has been an active member of MIJARC Europe for many years. Up until two years ago, the strong relations with the Dutch movement gradually started to dwindle until contact was eventually lost. In March 2010 a meeting between the two succeeded in rekindling and reinforcing the old connections. The newly-elected board of Plattelandsjongeren.nl and Lyubomir Todorov, Vice-President of MIJARC Europe, met in Utrecht at the headquarters of the Dutch organization. This was just the first step to strengthening former-relations. MIJARC Europe now is looking forward to working together with Plattelandsjongeren.nl again and hopes to welcome participants from the Netherlands to all future international events.

*Lyubomir Todorov*

## *MIJARC Participation to EFJ Meeting*

Everything new comes in the May! (German Poem)



MIJARC participated in this year's European Youth Forum council of members meeting. The council of members met during the last days of April but nevertheless, the poem is still applicable), a lot of things changed during this meeting! The new EFJ logo was introduced not to mention the launch of the new homepage (which can be viewed on : [www.youthforum.org](http://www.youthforum.org))! However the changes did not stop there! Structural improvements had been decided upon with the vote for new statutes. And more importantly, in statement from European Commission Vice President, Maroš Šefčovič, he stated

that : *In future non-formal education shall be more recognized in the society and specially by employers.*

## *MIJARC Europe meets with Rural Youth Europe*



MIJARC Team met the board of Rural Youth Europe (RYE) on the 30th April 2010. The meal we shared together in Brussels was a great occasion to better understand how our respective organizations worked and considering what potential partnerships projects we could embark on. We invited each other to our GA's and we are currently organizing a joint Seminar in February 2011 in Finland about Rural Youth Participation. Keep your eyes peeled!



## EUROPE NEWS

### *Future of European agriculture - have your say!*

Agriculture article from the European Commission :  
[http://ec.europa.eu/news/agriculture/100413\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/news/agriculture/100413_en.htm)

**EU opens public debate on its agricultural policy, the prelude to a major reform in 2013.**

The commission announced plans this week to overhaul its agricultural policy in line with the EU's new long-term economic strategy. In a [speech](#) at the European parliament, agriculture commissioner Dacian Cioloş, said the current policy faces major challenges, including climate change, problems with food availability and pressures on resources and rural economies.

Changes will be proposed toward the end of this year, after the commission has reviewed the public comments. They would take effect after the current programme of funding expires in 2013. It is hoped the consultation, which ends in June, will draw contributions from consumers, environmental campaigners and animal welfare groups, in addition to farmers.

The EU is working on a 10-year economic plan, the Europe 2020 strategy. It is likely to have far-reaching implications for agriculture, in part because of its emphasis on a low-carbon economy. EU agricultural policy - CAP - seeks to guarantee farmers a reasonable standard of living, ensure sufficient food at fair prices, and preserve Europe's rural heritage. Costing about €55bn a year, it accounts for 40% of the EU's budget, most of which is paid to farmers in the form of direct subsidies. About 5% of the working population is engaged in agriculture.

The EU has made extensive changes to the policy over the last decades, abolishing production-based farm aid and giving farmers more freedom to grow what the market wants. A [recent EU survey](#) shows broad support for the policy, with six in 10 respondents saying they support current spending levels or an even bigger budget.

As the EU pursues further reform, commissioner Cioloş warned that the stakes are high: "The events that the world has experience in the last two years serve as a reminder of this." In 2008 the world saw a sudden and steep rise in food prices that triggered protests in many countries. Last year, European dairy farmers took to the streets in anger over plummeting milk prices.

To have your say following the link :  
[http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/cap-post-2013/debate/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/cap-post-2013/debate/index_en.htm)



## MOVEMENT NEWS

*YMDRAB, Bulgaria has received the grant for their  
"NO to Poverty - YES to Labour" project!*



'Youth in Action' Programme



2010, the year officially dedicated to combating Poverty and Social Exclusion, sees the "Youth Movement for Development of the Rural Areas in Bulgaria" (YMDRAB) receive their grant from Youth in Action Programme, and Action 1.2 Youth Initiatives to implement a project entitled "NO to Poverty - YES to Labour". As afore-mentioned in InfoEurope, this nationwide youth initiative aims at reducing youth unemployment among the Roma in rural areas through their active participation in environment protection activities. The initiative will be carried out by 12 young people within Etropole Municipality. The group will cooperate with "Hristo Botev" Secondary School in Lopyan village and Etropole State Forestry (Etropole SF) to fulfill this 8 month long project.

### *MRJC Upcoming General Assembly*

MRJC France GA will take place in Paris from the 11th to the 13th June 2010. It will be an important meeting for the movement as this year the regions will have to agree on a strategic plan which will be in effect over the next 3 years. Keep up-to-date in the next newsletter!!!