

NEWSLETTER

EU Office, Chemnitz

Chemnitz, 6 May 2019



This year's Europe Week in Chemnitz is set to be a non-stop parade of colourful events

Photo: Prodan



Citizens of Chemnitz singing the Anthem of Europe
Source: City of Chemnitz



Blowing bubbles, tennis school, music and dancing at European Neighbours' Day

Photo: City of Chemnitz

Diese Maßnahme wird mitfinanziert mit Steuermitteln auf Grundlage des von den Abgeordneten des Sächsischen Landtags beschlossenen Haushaltes.



Join the celebrations for Europe Week: a perfect occasion to sing, read, listen, discover and discuss

May greets us not only with beautiful sunshine, but also with a number of exciting events on a European theme. Once again, the EU Office in Chemnitz has teamed up with many other local organisations to invite citizens to [Europe Week](#), which will be hosted nationwide from 4 to 12 May 2019.

One particular highlight is European Neighbours' Day, which kicks off at 4 p.m. on Neumarkt square on 9 May with everybody singing the Anthem of Europe. Anyone who loves to sing or play an instrument is warmly invited to join in with a rousing rendition of "Ode to Joy". Straight afterwards, you can head to the TIETZ cultural centre to hear readings by Czech authors, a great afternoon that concludes with a traditional Czech buffet. The World Café on 10 May is a forum for interested visitors to share their experiences and knowledge on a variety of subjects. Finally, the Rosenhof will be transformed into a vibrant buzz of activity at 2 p.m. European Neighbours' Day will be celebrated in fitting style with an extensive programme of music and dance performances, plus sports and games at the stands of various Chemnitz institutions.

Chemnitz is also expecting visitors from its Finnish partner city, Tampere. Four photographers will proudly present their exhibition *TAMPERE DOK* at the Volkshochschule Chemnitz (Chemnitz Adult Education Centre), displaying images that explore the subject of urban changes in their home city. The exhibition opens on 7 May at 6 p.m. On the same day, these esteemed Finnish guests will be hosting two workshops for anyone with an interest in photography; sign up free of charge on the [Volkshochschule website](#).

It's well worth taking a look at the Europe Week [programme](#). In addition to many other activities, there's also a panel discussion on "Europe & youth: European civil society is young" at the Weltecho cultural centre, while the solaris Förderzentrum für Jugend und Umwelt gGmbH (Centre for Youth and the Environment) will explain how European voluntary service works. The international drama festival NONSTOP EUROPA! will bring Europe Week to a sensational close; it's open every day from 11 to 19 May at the Schauspielhaus Chemnitz.

International get-together for older citizens on Women's Day in Chemnitz

Friendships blossomed after a chance encounter between two senior citizen clubs from Louny and Chemnitz (Bürgertreff "bei Heckerts" social club). In the summer of 2018, a group of senior citizens from living communities in Chemnitz's Heckert neighbourhood went to a village festival in the Erzgebirge region, where they happened to bump into members of a senior citizens' club from the town of Louny in the Czech Republic. Despite the initial language barrier, the two groups stayed in touch and further get-togethers were planned. After making the trip to Louny for International Day of Older Persons on 1 October 2018, the Chemnitz residents welcomed their new Czech friends for coffee and cake at a Women's Day event and showed them around a few of the living communities run by the local Volkssolidarität association. A number of other joint projects are planned for the rest of the year, including a steamboat trip in Louny and a visit to the district festival in Heckert.



Senior groups welcoming their Czech friends in the Heckert area of Chemnitz Photo: Jan Schulze

Symposium on the future of the city partnership between Ústí nad Labem and Chemnitz

On 3 and 4 April, Chemnitz association Die Brücke e. V. hosted a symposium to discuss the future of the city's partnership with Ústí nad Labem. Representatives from various cultural institutions in both cities came along to share project ideas and suggestions for future events. The aim is to get citizens more involved and to inject more life into the partnership. Speakers delivered talks on project funding and Chemnitz's application to become a European Capital of Culture in 2025.



Representatives from Ústí nad Labem city council joined in the discussion Photo: [Ondřej Kofínek](#)

Uferlos is the Office for International Youth Work in the Free State of Saxony (IJA)

"Young people who have not yet seen the world are by no means lacking motivation; it's just that they haven't been able to make it a reality..." By launching a number of suitable measures, Uferlos ("Boundless"), the Office for International Youth Work in the Free State of Saxony, supports young people with a state-wide network of specialist services. In addition to lobbying for international youth work, Uferlos offers process-oriented advice on topics such as youth meetings and professional exchange programmes; it also liaises with national and international partners and works with them to plan training courses. Up-to-date information is available online at uferlos.agjf-sachsen.de. Uferlos is funded by the Saxon State Ministry for Social Affairs and Consumer Protection.



Uferlos is a project of AGJF Sachsen e. V.

Source: Uferlos



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EUROCITIES Culture Forum from 10 to 13 April 2019 in Chemnitz

The EUROCITIES Culture Forum offers those working in municipal cultural policy the chance to share experiences with other cities and to gain insights into the cultural life of their host city. From 10 to 13 April, Chemnitz welcomed around 115 members of the EUROCITIES Culture Forum from 57 European cities. Delegates came together to discuss “Municipal development and support from local cultural organisational networks” in order to highlight the importance of municipal collaboration in European cultural policy and to shape it in a way that is both sustainable and citizen-centred. The springboard for the forum this time was the development of a new cultural strategy for Chemnitz – involving cultural stakeholders and interest groups active in the field of cultural urban development.



The EUROCITIES Culture Forum held a conference at the Cultural and Congress Centre
Photo: Vladimir Shvemmer

A plenary session held at Chemnitz Culture and Congress Centre marked the official launch of the event, with Deputy Mayor Ralph Burghart greeting European guests with a speech in English, extolling the virtues of the Culture Forum as a symbol of how communities can come together. He went on to describe Europe as a great peace project, which can, however, no longer be taken for granted. Burghart then drew attention to the 40 institutions involved in the Culture Forum in Chemnitz and thanked the Chemnitz organisational team for their efforts. Next, Jaana Jalonen, Culture Forum Chair and City Councillor of Espoo, welcomed representatives from member states in German with a “Guten Morgen”.



Deputy Mayor Ralph Burghart on a study visit to the TIETZ cultural centre
Photo: Vladimir Shvemmer

The international forum delegates took an in-depth look at the work of various cultural institutions in Chemnitz, gathering plenty of ideas and impressions to take home with them from their visits. Museums such as the Natural History Museum, the Art Collections and the Railway Museum, as well as smaller cultural associations including Kreatives Chemnitz e. V., DELPHIN-Projekte gGmbH and KOMPLEX, were also represented at the event. At the final session on Friday, the best practices presented during the visits were praised as highly inspiring. European guests were particularly impressed by Chemnitz’s industrial culture, cross-generational work and the development potential that the free space in the city offers. There was even talk of the “luxury of emptiness”.



The fourth study visit was devoted to “Art, Culture and Education”
Photo: Vladimir Shvemmer

The cultural strategy presented and discussed during the conference is now available in English and can be viewed as a [PDF](#) or as a printed version.

Travel app now offers tips for longer stays

Spending time abroad is an exciting experience. Whether they are for school, studies, a job as an au pair or for general work and travel, longer stays are increasingly popular. To make sure that things run smoothly, the European Consumer Centre Germany (EVZ) has expanded the scope of its “APP ins EU-Ausland”, developed especially with young people in mind, and now offers additional tips for longer stays. If you’ve got any questions about official procedures, insurance, banks or how to find a job in the 15 most-visited EU member states, the app is the place to go. It also features a checklist, tips for saving money, and general information on each country.



Source: EVZ

Other events in Europe Week 2019

06/05/2019 5.30 p.m. Weltecho Café
Panel discussion “Europe & youth: European civil society is young” – civil engagement for Europe

09/05/2019 10.30 a.m. - 2 p.m. Student canteen at Chemnitz University of Technology
Information point run by Initiative Europastudien e. V. on EU elections

09/05/2019 4 p.m. Railway Museum Chemnitz
Exhibition opening *I'M TURNING FIFTY! The legendary Tatra T3 in Chemnitz and in Liberec*

09/05/2019 4.30 p.m. - 6.30 p.m. Erlebnispädagogisches Zentrum
Information event: Europe to GO – Helping and Learning across Europe

10/05/2019 3 p.m. - 6 p.m. Volkshochschule Chemnitz
Workshop: “Civic participation in the EU – Merely a pipe dream?”

The app is available to download from the iTunes Store, Google Play and directly from the following link:

<https://www.evz.de/de/apps-und-publikationen/apps/app-ins-eu-ausland/>



Across Europe, voting for the new European Parliament is taking place from 23 to 26 May.

Source: www.diesmalwaehleich.eu

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Editorial deadline: 30/04/2019
The next newsletter will be published on 05/08/2019.

