

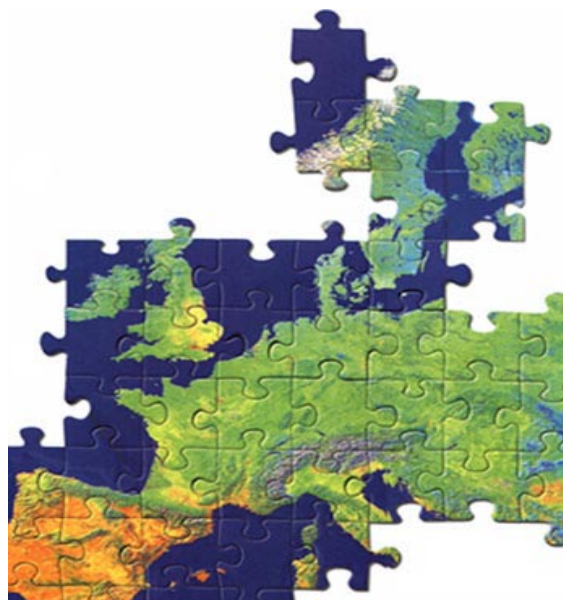
eye - Contact

Issue 4 06 May 2003

The Journal of the European Young Engineers

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Insight EYE

Helsinki is coming: 6.-8. June 2003



Welcome to Finland!

We welcome you to join a very special EYE-event in the land of Santa Claus and snow.

...err... Actually, it's not exactly as we just said. To tell you the truth: the event will take place at the Baltic sea among polar bears and seals. This extraordinary EYE event is going to be held in floating surroundings on the M/S Viking Mariella. And why is it so special? Well, this event is going to start in Helsinki where we capture the ship and cast off to Stockholm, Sweden and then back to Helsinki, Finland. So the meeting is going to be held in two countries, two time zones and in a route that is approx 800 km long.

What makes this event also a special one is the program. There are no company visits at all. Instead there is a whole lot of time for developing the idea of EYE and the skills of the participants in workshops.

See the program on the web: www.iol.fi/eye and make sure to join us!

With friendly greetings,

Heikki and Björn

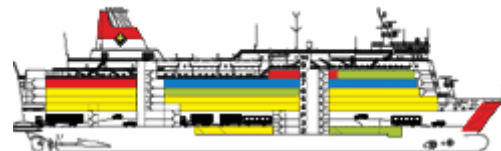
The Union of Professional Engineers in Finland
(Insinööriliitto IL ry)

Friday (Helsinki Polytechnic, Technology)

- 12.00 Council meeting
- 13.45 Coffee
- 14.15 Opening, information about the event
Mr Bjorn Wiemers, president of EYE
- 14.30 Mr Hannu Saarikangas (Member of the Parliament of Finland)
- 15.00 Mr Markus Penttinen (Specialist for international matters, AKAVA - the Confederation of Unions for Academic Professionals in Finland)
- 16.00 Entering the M/S Viking Mariella
- 17.00 Coffee
- 17.30 Workshops
- 20.30 Buffet Dinner

Saturday (M/S Viking Mariella)

- 08.00 Breakfast
- 09.30 Workshops
- 12.30 Free time
- 16.00 Presentation of the ships machine room (if possible) and other activities
- 18.00 Workshops
- 20.30 Buffet Dinner



Sunday (M/S Viking Mariella)

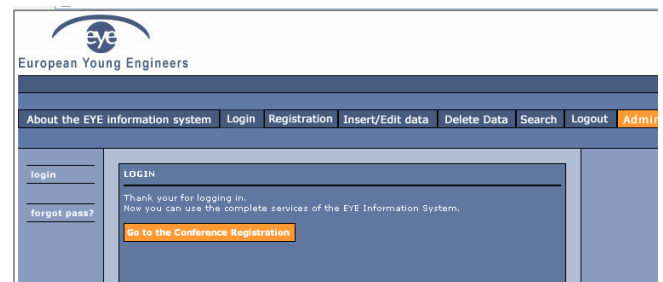
- 08.00 Breakfast
- 10.00 Arrival in Helsinki
- 10.00 Transfer of chairmanship
- 11.00 End of the official program



Heikki Kontkanen

Online Conference Registration

With the Helsinki Conference we modernized the way how to register for our conferences. For this meeting (06.-08. June) for the first time the online registration form has been established. The system is fairly simple. If you have entered the EYE Info System, you will find a button for the online registration.



A standard form will be filled in automatically with your personal data, if you entered them into the EYE Information System. Concerning the accommodation you can choose between an organised accommodation and a self organised accommodation.

We are sure that you will enjoy this comfortable new way to register for the conferences in future.

[About the EYE information system](#) | [Login](#) | [Registration](#) | [Insert/Edit data](#) | [Delete Data](#) | [Search](#) | [Logout](#) | [Admin](#)

personal
company
working abroad
Add Files
EYE-active
Send mail to mailgroups
Conference Registration

CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

EYE Conference, Helsinki, Finland
06.06.2003-08.06.2003

The EYE Conference Helsinki offers you an unique EYE event: everything will take place on a ship: the M/S Viking Marella.

Register now to get hold of your place!
The deadline for the registration is the 23.5.2003. Please keep in mind that only 90 places are available.

Participation fee for the complete event is 120 Euro. We hope you'll understand that in this special case we can not offer any additional support for accommodation for those who stay longer.

If you should have any questions, please contact the EYE-Helsinki team email.
Or visit the EYE Helsinki Web page www.eye.fi.

The fields marked (*) are obligatory.

Title

First name*

Surname*

Gender* Male Female

Nationality*

Date Of Birth* [DD/MM/YYYY]

Address*

Zip code*

City*

Country*

Phone number*

Cellular phone

Private e-mail*

Study*

Membership in Engineering Association* Yes No
If yes, which kind of association?

Date of arrival*

Date of departure*

Overnight stay* Organized By EYE (only possible for the period from Friday to Sunday) Self-Organised

Food* Normal Diet Vegetarian

Special diets / food allergies:

Comments

When you have filled in your data you just have to put the submit button and your registration has been send to Helsinki. CU@Helsinki2003.

Rainer Finke

EYE Family

Who is Who in EYE? – Mr President

Hi! My name is Björn Wiemers, and I'm the current president of EYE until June 2003. In the age of 26 I work as an advisor at the Union of Professional Engineers in Finland for the Union of Finnish Engineering Students in Helsinki. This includes training of actives of the union, information of students about the professional life of engineers, marketing of the union, cooperation with partners, schools and students as well as working in many different projects in the union. My geographical working area is the whole country of Finland and sometimes even abroad.



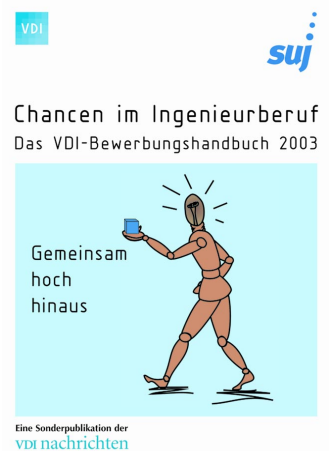
I have graduated at Jyväskylä Polytechnics as an IT-engineer (B.Sc.) in November 2002. Before starting to work for the union, I worked for Planmea Oy (dental x-rays) as a specialist for digital products.

It has been quite natural for me to begin to work for the union, as I have been an activist of the Union of Finnish Engineering Students from the beginning of my studies in polytechnics. So you could say a hobby has become a job for me!

Björn Wiemers

Tips and Tricks for a better Application

Everybody interested in working as an engineer in Germany is encouraged to consult the new issue of "Chances in Engineering – together to the top". The publication of the VDI students and young engineers in cooperation with the VDI newspaper explains in detail the different stages of the application, assistance for the first "100 days" as well as two special topics on the European job market and the situation of female engineers. The publication with more than 300 pages is only available in German (€12,78) and can be ordered by e-mail: karriere@vdi.de.



Jörg Niehoff

Europe EYE

Eurobarometer: Research

On the 3rd of April the European Union published a study which investigated the knowledge and interest of the population of EU applicant countries concerning science and technology. One interesting result is that the interviewed people (1000 per country) did not show much interest in a professional career in one of these areas and had little scientific knowledge. A similar study had already been published one year ago for the member countries of the EU. 31% of EU inhabitants agreed on the statement that the sun would revolve around the earth.

The people in the candidate countries were asked the same questions like the EU people. Even 2% (33%) more than in the EU believed in the geocentric world view. No more than 59% knew that radioactive contaminated milk would still be contaminated after scalding. In the EU just 5% more knew the correct answer.

These two examples reflect the study quite good because the answers on most questions showed this proportion. Whereas the population in Turkey, Rumania and Malta performed according to the questions below the average, people from Slovenia, Hungary and the Czech Republic knew more. All in all it can be said, that people in the candidate countries have still to catch up a bit concerning knowledge in science and technology.

Nevertheless 81% of applicant countries' population believes in the assumption that science would make their lives easier, healthier and more comfortable. On the other hand the interest in a scientific or technical profession is rather low. Most often people pointed out that the wages paid in these professions were a lot to low to attract employees.

A leverage effect for the natural sciences through the entry into the EU is expected by most of the asked persons.

<http://www.vdi.de/imperia/md/content/brobrssel/aktuelles/34.pdf> = Candidate Countries

<http://www.vdi.de/imperia/md/content/brobrssel/aktuelles/13.pdf> = EU

Vera Kessler

Embryonic Stem Cell Research

The Commission released on the 7th of April a report on the scientific, ethical, legal and socio-economic issues related to human embryonic stem cell research. The question on how to decide on EU funding for projects involving research with human embryonic stem cells had been left open in the decision-making process on the EU's 6th Research Framework Programme (FP6, see also our last issue 3/03). The Council of Ministers, Parliament and Commission agreed to decide on this issue in the course of 2003 and to debate it at a seminar with experts in the field. The Commission's report examines the potential

benefits of human stem cell research and the pros and cons of using stem cells from different sources. It also reviews the current state of legislation in various EU Member States and the governance of human stem cell research under FP6. The report provides a basis for an open and informed debate at the forthcoming inter-institutional seminar on 24 April 2003. The seminar will contribute to defining guidelines for EU-funded stem cell research.

The seminar, with the participation of Ministers of Research, Members of the European Parliament and experts in science, law and ethics, feeds into the Europe-wide debate on the issue. Following the seminar the Commission intends to submit to Council and Parliament a proposal for establishing guidelines for deciding on EU funding of research projects involving the use of human embryos and human embryonic stem cell in the context of FP6.

Stem cell research is one of the most promising areas of biotechnology, which offers the prospect of developing new methods to repair or replace tissues or cells damaged by injuries or diseases and to treat serious chronic diseases like Parkinson's or Alzheimer's disease. Stem cell research is expected to be equally important for basic science, as well as for the understanding of disease development and for the development of safer and more effective drugs. It does, however, raise ethical questions when stem cells are derived from human embryos.

During the decision-making process on FP6, the Commission agreed not to fund research projects using human embryos and embryonic stem cells, with the exception of banked or isolated human embryonic stem cells in culture, until implementing provisions were agreed by the end of 2003. The Commission committed itself to monitor the scientific advances and needs, as well as the evolution of international and national legislation, regulations and ethical rules regarding human embryonic stem cell research, taking into account also the opinion of the European Group on Ethics in Science and New technologies (EGE). The results of the Commissions monitoring is published as a report to be found under:

http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/press/2003/pdf/sec2003-441report_en.pdf

Rainer Finke

EU Institutions: Convention

Europe is changing, and the operation, rules and the very role of the European Union must change too.

After the disappointing results of the Nice meeting of the Council of ministers in December 2000 under the French presidency politicians feared that Europe would not be able to cope with the challenges of the future especially the enlargement by 10 more members, the greatest enlargement in inhabitants as well as in countries up to now. They therefore founded the European Convention to propose ways of adapting and renovating Europe's institutional and political framework.

With his latest ideas in the European convention its president Valéry Giscard d'Estaing expressed a very controversial position. He recently argued for a powerful "Super-President" leading the European Union in Brussels. Separation of powers would decrease then towards a sole appendix.

In theory institutions in Brussels are supposed to be transparent, efficient and democratic. But many concerned persons do not think that this is already given. With the coming enlargement of the Union towards 25 member states the whole organisation runs the risk of failing.

Two main positions can be found in today's discussion about the future face of the EU. The smaller countries (on a meeting of seven in Luxemburg in March) favour a model consolidating the influence of the national states; a position which includes the upholding of a commission with one commissioner of each country. In an enlarged EU with 25 members that would nearly double up the commission.

A suggestion made by France and Germany, which found also the general approval of Spain and the United Kingdom, however favours a model which resembles the latest suggestion of the board of the convention. It says generally: National states have to integrate further into the EU and that reappears in the balance of the three bodies, commission, council of ministers and parliament. It says that in future the president of the council shall be elected for at least two years.

Today's system will not be feasible after the accession of ten more members (a revolving system of a presidency of six months of each country). The president shall have a representative function. He will be responsible for the external representation of the Union concerning the CFSP (Common Foreign and Security Policy) as well as for the defence policy. His power will not be clearly defined but limited because of the role of the European Foreign Minister who shall be introduced. His most important right would be the right to take any initiative in this area.

Furthermore the commission shall be reduced from 20 to 15 commissioners but may have some additional commissioners without the right to vote for those 10 countries which will not send a "full" commissioner.

The results of the discussion are still open, especially because of the mostly discerning reactions of Members of the European Parliament.

Lysann Müller

EYE Opener

Study: Regulation in liberal professions and its effects

The role of services in the economy and their potential for growth and employment was highlighted at the Lisbon European Council of EU leaders in March 2000. The Lisbon European Council adopted an economic reform programme with the aim of making the EU the most competitive and dynamic knowledge-based economy in the world by 2010.

Decision makers like the responsible Commissioner Mario Monti pointed out afterwards that regulation in professions is one of the major growth killers. Cross border services are faced with high border crossing barriers. Those barriers disturb most small and medium-sized enterprises (SME) and the recipients of services. Most often (in most member states) liberal professions for example lawyers, architects and engineers are characterized by a high level of regulation, either imposed by national governments or self-regulation by the professional bodies. This regulation can affect, inter alia, the number of entrants into the profession, the prices professionals may charge, the permitted charging arrangements and the exclusive rights they enjoy. 8.8% of the total employment in the EU and 1.2% value added are provided by business services.

A case study "Technical Professions" has been worked out by the Vienna "Institute for Higher Studies" recently. The study develops "regulation indices" for comparisons among the professions covered by the study, these being legal services (lawyers and notaries), accountancy services (accountants, auditors and tax advisers) and pharmacy services (pharmacists in retail business) as well as technical services (architects and consulting engineers) and across countries. There is one index for regulation of market entry, one for regulation of conduct and an overall index. Countries with the highest level of regulation for all professions are Austria, Italy, Luxemburg and (with one exception) Germany. Belgium, France, Portugal and Spain appear to be in the medium field, whereas the UK, Sweden and Denmark (with the exception of pharmacists), the Netherlands, Ireland and Finland show rather liberal regulatory regimes from a comparative point of view.

Total regulation indices for different professions

	Acc.	Legal	Arch.	Engin.	Pharma.
Austria	6.2	7.3	5.1	5.0	7.3
Belgium	6.3	4.6	3.9	1.2	5.4
Denmark	2.8	3.0	0	0	5.9
Finland	3.5	0.3	1.4	1.3	7.0
France	5.8	6.6	3.1	0	7.3
Germany	6.1	6.5	4.5	7.4	5.7
Greece	5.1	9.5	n.a.	n.a.	8.9
Ireland	3.0	4.5	0	0	2.7
Italy	5.1	6.4	6.2	6.4	8.4
Luxembourg	5.0	6.6	5.3	5.3	7.9
Netherlands	4.5	3.9	0	1.5	3.0
Portugal	n.a.	5.7	2.8	n.a.	8.0
Spain	3.4	6.5	4.0	3.2	7.5
Sweden	3.3	2.4	0	0	12.0
UK	3.0	4.0	0	0	4.1

IHS Vienna: January 2003

(Acc.: Accountants, Arch.: Architects, Engin.: Engineers, Pharma.: Pharmacists)

The study goes on to point out that there are no apparent signs of problems in those countries where there is less regulation. The study data also seems to indicate that low regulation is not a hindrance but rather a spur to overall wealth creation, because in countries with low degrees of regulation, there are relatively lower revenues per professional, but a proportionally higher number of practising professionals generating a relatively higher overall turnover.

An internal market related measure worth mentioning in this context is the Commission proposal for a Directive on recognition of professional qualifications of March 2002. It covers all regulated professions. One of its main aspects concerns the right of any professional legally established in one member state to provide temporary and occasional services into another member state without undergoing any further requirements or formalities. This enables professionals more easily to access new markets and thereby ensure greater consumer choice. Consumer protection is ensured through the provision of information.

The commission invites everyone interested to comment the topic in question.

The study as well as the questionnaire for comments can be found under:

http://www.europa.eu.int/comm/competition/general_info/invitation/en.pdf

Rainer Finke

Emission Trading - VDI conference on latest developments and prospects on June 11th in Brussels

Preventing the damaging effects on our climate is doubtlessly one of the main objectives of EU Environmental Policy. The European Union has proved it's determination on the subject when it undertook to reduce it's emission of the relevant gases by 8% compared to the level of 1990. Now the European Union is implementing a new system to reach the desired reductions: a trading system for CO2 will soon be established as EU-Law. The aim of the system is to create incentives for the reduction of emission gases. Companies which manage to reduce emissions can sell their licences. As the system is still in the making many critics of the idea doubt if it will be feasible. Supporters of the idea however emphasize that emission trading is the cheapest and the economically least damaging approach to climate protection VDI The Association of Engineers and EFAEP the European Federation of Associations for Environmental Professionals are holding a forum to discuss the subject. The venue of the event will be the representation of the German Land Baden- Württemberg in Brussels. Experts from industry, politics, environmental professionals and representatives of the European institutions will give closer insight into the concept of the planned guideline and will discuss its chances of success. Furthermore representatives of the industry will let the participants know how their company is dealing with these new challenges.

Everyone interested in participating in the conference should contact:

Dr. Jörg Niehoff, niehoff@vdi.de

Vera Kessler

EYE Liner

Famous Engineering Quotations

"Inventing is the mixing of brains and materials.

The more brains you use, the less material you need."

Charles F. Kettering

"When a train goes through a tunnel and it gets dark, you don't throwaway the ticket and jump off. You sit still and trust the engineer"

Corrie Ten Boom

"It has become appallingly obvious that our technology has exceeded our humanity"

Albert Einstein

EYE Forecast

Autumn 2003 – Conference in Cologne

Don't forget to block the weekend 14 to 16 November in your agenda for the EYE conference in Cologne. The German team is already planning an unforgettable event. You will get more detailed information about it on the coming conference in Helsinki in June.

Rainer Finke

European Opportunities for Engineers

The Italian Engineer Organisation will hold a meeting in Bergamo on the 10th of May investigating "The differences in university studies in Europe: obstacle or opportunity to the profession in Europe".

Speeches given by representatives from the respective countries will deal with professional training and professional opportunities for young engineers in Germany, the Netherlands, UK, Finland and Italy followed by a debate about the European dimension concerning studies and professional conditions.

Jörg Niehoff

Why do we need an action plan? We need it because our resources are limited. Therefore, any action has to take rare resources into consideration. This is the main goal of the EYE Task Force which has been set in charge by the Council to deal with this subject.

During the EYE Task Force meeting (the task force is the responsible body) a number of activities have been collected, detailed and discussed, leading to the structure of five thematic areas and related activities.

The Task Force figured out that EYE's communication and information system and the organisation itself are the pillars of the products as well as the projects of EYE. This system of four components is resource intense.

The blueprint of the Action Plan will be presented to the next Council in Helsinki after being discussed with the actives.

Rainer Finke

Imprint

The eye-contact is compiled by the EYE Task Force and puts together articles about EYE activities like the EYE-conferences, the member organisations as well as EU activities relevant for young engineers. The circulation of eye-contact is strongly encouraged. Any comments or articles may be sent to the EYE Office in Brussels:

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 Internet : www.e-y-e.org

U&EYE

EYE Action Plan

The idea of setting up an action plan for EYE was brought into the discussion in The Hague by the Finish delegation. The Council welcomed it and assigned the Task Force to make a draft until the next conference. The action plan should cover the next 2-3 years.

