



Alumni Newsletter

Edition: Nr. 2

March 2018

The Alumni Europae Family

Currently 3.100 members

Guy Janaway – Alumnus

Where am I from? Well, what do you mean?

Do you mean my nationality? My passport?

The languages I speak? Where I was born?

The countries I've lived in? The nationalities of my parents?

These questions probably sound very familiar if you're a European School kid! The answers....

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Meetings and Events

March 2018

Last Monthly Board Meeting in Brussels

April 19, 2018

Meet and Greet of the Alumni Association in Brussels at Bar 76 from 18:00 onwards

<https://www.facebook.com/events/2001357590118853/>

Questions? Comments?

Contact: Audrey Herz

Alumni@esffm.org

<http://www.alumnieuropae.org/>

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/AlumniEuropae>

A Note from the Editor

Welcome to the second edition of the Alumni Europae newsletter!

We hope that you enjoyed the first newsletter and were able to gain some insight into Alumni Europae and its goals. The path to setting up a professional alumni network has been challenging and continues to be so. The road ahead will include many obstacles but as an alumni team we are ready to face them.

The next Alumni Europae newsletter will be published on June 19, 2018. As always, if you would like to write an article for the newsletter, please do not hesitate to send it to us. All articles may be sent up to one month in advance of the publishing date to Alumni@esffm.org. If you know anyone who would like to be added to the newsletter distribution list, please let us know at Alumni@esffm.org.

On behalf of the board, the entire Alumni Europae team and myself, as always we wish you an enjoyable and informative "read"!

Sincerely,

*Reinhold Ziegler, Chairman of Alumni Europae
The Alumni Europae Board
and
your Editor, Audrey Herz*

The New Alumni Website

In the future, the pages for the new alumni website can be found under: <https://europae.alumnii.de/>

The website is easily self-explanatory and will give you access to all the latest news and information posted by the Board and other members of the alumni community. You will be able to search for other alumni and also post news yourself. If you do not have a login, please follow the "request for login information" link and you will be provided with access information. The "going live" date will be issued on the current alumni website when it is ready.

Connect, Inform and Enjoy! We look forward to welcoming you to the community!

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Guy Janaway – Alumnus

These questions probably sound very familiar if you are a European School kid! The answers: I'm British but I was born in Brussels. I have, for the time being, a red British passport. I speak English, French and Italian because I've lived in Belgium, the UK and Italy. My parents are both English.

When it comes to my education, I obtained my European Baccalaureate from Culham in 2011. I avoided maths and science as much as possible in S7, and focused more on languages and philosophy, mainly because they were easier for me and I enjoyed the subjects. Whereas British students usually study for 3 A-levels, by studying 12 subjects for the European Baccalaureate, I was prepared not only for university but also my career. One needs to stay on top of not only homework but also essay deadlines and upcoming tests and exams. As a result, most European School alumni find it easier to manage several deadlines and priorities simultaneously.

I get the feeling that Culham is different from the other European Schools. It is much smaller (around 50 bacheliers every year) and therefore, there is a family feeling. Everybody knows everybody and over the years as students mature into adulthood, they tend to get on well with their teachers. Indeed I'm also grateful for all my teachers' help as they prepared me incredibly well for each written and oral European Baccalaureate examination.

Thanks to a fantastic career advisor at Culham, Mr John Little, who guided each and every one of us to applying through UCAS, the British university online system, I ended up going on to study International Relations and Italian at the University of Exeter. Italian was my fourth language at school and I had a passion for the language, country and culture, so I wanted to continue learning it. Furthermore, I was able to spend 9 months on my Erasmus year abroad in Venice - definitely an added bonus! Politics and/or International Relations intrigued me, especially the politics of different regions or countries. I am not really a fan of political theory or economics. I now work at the European Commission in DG DEVCO (international cooperation and development) in Brussels and I am convinced that the European Baccalaureate and the university degree helped me get where I am today.

- Guy Janaway, Alumnus

**Guy Janaway is an Alumni Europae Board Member

A Call for Volunteers - Vote Brussels campaign to target EU residents.

A campaign to encourage EU citizens to vote in local elections has been launched in Brussels.

EU citizens are entitled to vote in the local elections that will take place in Belgium on the 14th of October 2018 but to do so they must register before July 31st.

The Vote Brussels Campaign is designed to inform EU nationals about the practicalities of registration, and to encourage them to exercise their democratic rights. The initiative is part of a two-year project on the political rights of mobile EU citizens that has been awarded funding from the Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme managed by DG JUST.

The organisers of the campaign will work with volunteers to reach EU citizens in Brussels via both online and face-to-face channels. Training sessions will take place during February (there are several dates available at lunchtime, evenings or weekends). The time commitment will depend on the availability of individual volunteers, and even if you can spare just a few hours each month between now and the end of July there will be opportunities to get involved.

If you are interested in volunteering, e-mail Vote Brussels: votebrussels@migpolgroup.com. As well as English and French speakers, the organisers would be particularly interested to hear from volunteers who speak Bulgarian, Italian, Polish, Portuguese, Romanian or Spanish. They would also be happy to receive suggestions from local groups of EU citizens that could help to spread the word.

www.facebook.com/votebrussels

<https://twitter.com/votebrussels>

An Update from the “Road” and Feedback from the European Commission

In order to ensure a solid future for the Alumni Association, the current students - our future alumni and their parents must be kept up to date. Accordingly, the Parents Association agreed to include a short summary of our goals in their past newsletter. This was met with positive feedback and we look forward to working with the Parents Association in the future.

We have also been reaching out to the independent European Schools, as they represent an important part of the network of the current students. The European School Rhein-Main agrees that a solid and extensive alumni network is an integral part of keeping graduated students within the European School family, and that a collaboration to create one large network is a logical step.

The European Commission has recognized the Alumni Europae and is in full support of the initiative. In turn, they have agreed to allow for an office at the Berkendael Site of the European School in Brussels I. This gives the Alumni Europae a site and official address to operate from. Funding, however, will not be granted due to financial constraints. The Commission's priority lies exclusively in the education of the students and its financial support, to provide a top education.

In the next issue...

Our next Alumni “Spotlight”...

More news about the development of the Alumni Network: the need for a bigger Board, funding, regional challenges...