



## **YEPP Summerschool 2004**

Rhodos (Greece) : 28 July – 1 August 2004

*Challenges in the enlarged 'new' EU: Immigration, minorities and promotion of youth participation*

### **GENERAL REPORT**

During the summer period a small 80 participants from 23 countries were happy to take part at the YEPP Summerschool on the sunny Greek island Rhodes. Under the title of "Challenges in the enlarged 'new' EU: Immigration, minorities and promotion of youth participation", this seminar was hosted by YEPP's Greek member organisation ONNED.

The participants of the summerschool were welcomed by ONNED President George Papanikolaou and YEPP President Daniel Bautista at an opening diner.

On the Thursday the opening was held by Mrs. Vasso Kollia, Secretary General for Youth from the Ministry of National Education. There were also different panel discussions related the topic of the Summerschool. A representative for the Youth Mobility Program and from the International Immigration Office discussed about young immigrants and their possibilities. Mr. Stavros Papastavrou, Secretary General of International Affairs of Nea Demokratia and Mrs. Rodi Kratsa, MEP discussed on Minorities in the enlarged EU. YEPP participants got the opportunity to discuss afterwards. The fruitful discussion day was closed by an excellent diner beside the swimming pool in the hotel and hosted by Mr. Yiannis Valinakis, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs.

On Friday, a debate on a Common European Immigration Policy was held. Also the 4 YEPP Permanent Working groups also took place. Besides political discussions, the programme offered also some free time to profit from the magnificent historical beauty of the Rhodes city! In the evening the YEPP participants were brought to a typical Greek restaurant, where a diner was offered by Mr. Haralambos Kokkinos, Secretary General of the South Aegean Region.

The working groups related to the seminar topic were held on Saturday. In the afternoon, the YEPP Council Meeting took place. The Council approved a Resolution on Immigration, a Resolution on Minorities and a Resolution on the violence against ethnic minorities in Serbia.

EPP Deputy Secretary General Christian Kremer reported on the result of the European Elections and the role of the EPP in the choice of the new President and the Commissioners of the European Commission. There were also some extra invited guests from the Balkan region.

After the meeting, a farewell dinner took place in the centre of Rhodes City, where the YEPP delegates were welcomed by the Mayor of Rhodes. Afterwards, all participants could enjoy the Rhodes by Night!