



About Us

Christoph Leitl, President
Christian Buchmann, Managing Director
Kathrin Traumüller, Assistant

Christoph Leitl got in touch with the European concept in Neumarkt when he was 18. A convinced European and president of Eurochambres, he is the founder of the EYFON trust and its operating association. As a long-standing member of the regional government of Steiermark in charge of Europe and economy, member of the Committee of the Regions of the EU and currently member of the Austrian Federal Council, Christian Buchmann oversees the implementation of our goals and activities as managing director. The law graduate Kathrin Traumüller is a devoted European of Neumarkt descent and is our on-site contact person.

Apart from the significance of Europe as a union of shared values and the reinforcement of integration, young people need to be given the opportunity to find guiding principles for Europe through dialogue and encounters with peers. Principles to identify with and to propagate. After their return back home, each participant agrees to give talks and presentations about his or her experiences to at least 20 more young people, thereby creating a "snowball effect" on the European theme.

Christoph Leitl



About the Castle

The castle was built in the mid-12th century by the archbishop of Salzburg and later transferred to the sovereign as a fief.

Between 1480 and 1486 was severely damaged. In 1880 it was converted into a residential castle. In 1957, after extensive renovation, Castle Forchtenstein was inaugurated as the first Austrian "Europahaus" (European House).

The Europäische Föderalistische Bewegung (EFB), Regional Association of Styria took over the castle in 1975 and held events such as panels on Europe, international youth meetings and seminars on minorities.

In March 2018, Christoph Leitl established and co-financed Castle Forchtenstein as a public trust, and ever since then it is called "Europaburg" (Castle Europe) Forchtenstein.



What we offer

We offer an exciting and inspiring programme for young people from all over Europe – and of course Austria – about European ideas and ideals, in cooperation with relevant European institutions. Lets discuss the future of your continent, get to know your background and develop critical thinking and perspectives for a modern Europe.

Our focus is not only on the obvious question of individual nationality versus the European Community but also, among others, on tolerance within the different regions of Europe, on specific cultural characteristics, or on different approaches to questions like migration. Professional talks, presentations, and workshops alternate with fun social activities, cultural excursions, and sports events.

Young people between 16 and 25 are highly relevant when it comes to current and upcoming political changes – it is about your future, your expectations and outlook on life. We want you to make full use of the potential and countless possibilities of the digital age, internationalisation, and

migration, as well as to recognize and avert any possible risks and dangers. To reach this goal, a unified Europe is essential.

The European Youth Forum Neumarkt contributes to the inter-European dialogue by providing a platform for young people to meet, exchange thoughts and ideas. Experience the spirit of the European community first-hand and find answers to the question:

What will Europe's future look like?

You and other young Europeans will get in-depth knowledge about European ideas and ideals. You will experience Europe through constructive dialogue, discover new perspectives, and find ample motivation for a commitment to Europe, even after your return back home.



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What people say

"Great atmosphere, beautiful castle!"

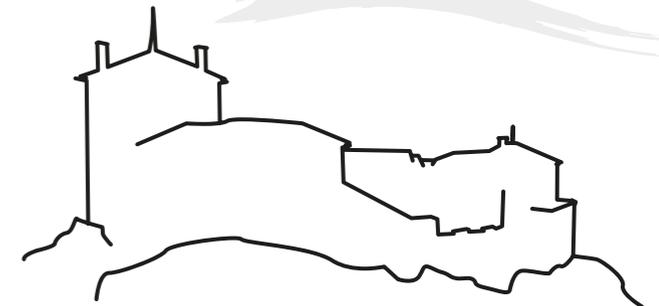
"Really diverse programme, amazing concept!"

"It was great to meet people from different countries and discuss EU topics with them."

"I'm happy that there is interest in what young people have to say."

"There should be more projects like this, that give young people the opportunity to learn more about the EU and other cultures."

"EYFON is a lifetime experience!"



European
Castle Forchtenstein
Neumarkt | Austria

Center For Communication And Dialogue

