

The background features a light blue sky with a faint, semi-transparent image of the Antwerp skyline, including the Atomium structure and a large statue. Several blue stars of varying sizes are scattered across the sky, some with a glowing effect. A stylized black and white silhouette of a dome with a spire is positioned above the main text.

ANTWERPEN
european youth parliament
2011

Antwerpen **2011**: 1st
International Forum of
EYP-Europolis Belgium
Reminder Booklet



EUROPEAN YOUTH PARLIAMENT
 PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN DES JEUNES
 EUROPOLIS
 BELGIË BELGIQUE BELGIEN BELGIUM

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 Stefan Vandenhende (President)

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'Youth in Action' Programma

1. Welcome

Dear Participants,

As you know, Antwerpen2011 is coming closer and closer everyday, actually there's only less than one month left until we welcome you all in Antwerp! We, the Organising Team, sincerely hope that the First International Forum of the EYP-Europolis Belgium that will be held between the 29th of October and the 4th of November 2011 will be an amazing session for each and every one of you. That's why we're now sending you some more additional information to give you updated details so that you can start right now with the preparations. Also, feel free to contact the Organising Team for any questions you might have at arno.janssens@antwerpen2011.org.

We also encourage you to visit our website (www.antwerpen2011.org), to find more facts on the venues.

Please make sure that all of the delegates in your delegation receive this document and **read it carefully.**

We hope you are looking forward to the Antwerpen2011, we certainly are!

Yours,

The Organising Team

2. Session theme

Water, a sea of challenges.

Water covers almost three quarters of the earth's surface. The average person uses 125 litre of drinkable water a day. On a yearly basis, more than 7 billion products are transported over water. Hydropower is the most used form of alternative energy. More than one billion people don't have access to drinkable water.

It is clear that water has a lot of different aspects. It is a basic element in our lives and is used in more ways than we usually think of at first sight. Therefore, we are convinced that water is an ideal topic for this session. The topics of debate will be built around the main theme, so water can be discussed in various ways.

First off, there is the environmental aspect. Only 3% of the water on earth is fresh water. In many countries, mainly on the African continent, only few people have access to drinkable water. Polluted water helps the spreading of diseases like cholera and tuberculosis, which cost many lives every single day. Building infrastructures to bring drinkable water anywhere around the world should be a priority since water is a primary need and a basic right for every human being in this world.

Another issue is the sea level rise. Global warming has effects not to be ignored: because of the melting ice capes, the overall sea level rises and low-lying coastal areas are threatened by floods. What steps should be taken to counter global warming –and more pragmatic: how can we protect ourselves against the water rise?

Water is a powerful energy source. In some countries with a suitable relief like Switzerland and Austria, it is a very important energy source. As a renewable and clean source, we should be glad that hydropower is getting more widespread around the world. However, the dams being built for the hydropower also drastically change the environment of the area. There should be found a balance between preserving nature and choosing for this alternative energy.

Other than environmental, water also has an economical purpose. Water is the most important transport mode existing. Since centuries, cities close to ports have been booming and growing more important. Being cheap, relatively clean and easy, shipping is the ideal way of transporting goods such as raw materials and oil.

The port of Antwerp is the most important port of Belgium and, after Rotterdam, the second most important in Europe. In 2010, the port shipped around 178 million tons of products. The central location in North-west Europe makes Antwerp an attractive place because of its excellent connection with the most important European industrial and consumer centers, so this seaport plays a key role in international trade.

The port is an economical blessing for the city. It has made Antwerp grow ever since the 12th century. Many companies have gathered around the port because of its good location, next to the transport routes for their products. It has become a hotspot for mainly chemical industries: petrochemical companies and oil refinery companies are located near the Antwerp port. The infrastructure of the port is modern and technologically outstanding. The freight volume has grown steadily over the past 30 years, thanks in particular to the versatility of the port: Antwerp offers not only transshipment but also a wide range of related services that create added value throughout the logistics chain.

The importance of water and the port for Antwerp is clear; it speaks for itself that we feel strongly about giving this topic a main role in our session.

Water is a theme that can never be discussed upon enough: it just has too many aspects to become trivial. Water is certainly something to give some thought to. Only then, we can see past water as something we take for granted every day, and see the real challenges water holds.

Water, it really is, a sea of challenges...

3. Travel information

Please remember to send us your **e-ticket receipt** (alexander.vanlaer@antwerpen2011.org)!

3.1 When to arrive?

We expect all delegations to arrive in Antwerp before 18:00 on the 29th of October. If you are planning to arrive on an earlier date and need some help to find proper accommodation, you can send an e-mail to arno.janssens@antwerpen2011.org for further assistance. Departures will be on the 5th of November all day long. As soon as you book your tickets you should fill out the travel form at ***this link, if you haven't done so already.***

3.2 How to arrive?

There will be organisers waiting at the Antwerp bus/train station to guide you to the accommodation. Please note that there will also be organisers waiting at the airport (Brussels National Airport and Charleroi Airport), so you won't have to find your way to the train station yourself. Below you will find more information on how to get to Antwerp.

3.1.2 By plane

If you arrive at Brussels airport you will have to take the train to Brussels, making sure to get off the train in Brussels South Station. From there you should take a train to the central station in Antwerp (Antwerpen-Centraal). A few organisers will be in the main lobby of Brussels South, for your assistance. You can buy your ticket to Antwerp at the airport or online on <http://www.b-rail.be/main/E/>. On this website you can find updated timetables as well. From Charleroi airport (Brussels south) you have to take a bus (line A - €2,7 - timetable) to Charleroi Sud railway station. You can buy the busticket at the airport or on the bus. From there you should take a train to the central station of Antwerp (Antwerpen-centraal). You can purchase the train ticket at the station or online on <http://www.b-rail.be/main/E/>. On this website, you can find updated timetables as well.

3.1.2 By train

Antwerp is directly connected to Amsterdam, Paris and Brussels. Brussels is connected to Koln, Paris, Marseille, London and Amsterdam. From Brussels it takes a bit more than 30 minutes to get to Antwerp Central Station (Antwerpen-Centraal). You can find more information and book your tickets on <http://www.b-europe.com/Travel/Trains>. Some international tickets include the "any station in Belgium" option. If that's the case (make sure to check it), your ride to Antwerp is for free.

3.1.2 By bus

Eurolines has a stop in Antwerp and Brussels. When arriving in Brussels (north train station), you will have to take the train to Antwerp Central Station (Antwerpen Centraal). This ride takes a bit over 30 minutes, and tickets are bought in the station or online link.

4. Participation fee

The participation fee for delegates will be 90€ for the whole session. This includes accommodation, food and most of the events. As you will see in the session programme (further on in this booklet) there will be a committee dinner, which are not covered by the participation fee. Also, any travel costs inside Belgium to get to Antwerp or back to the airports is not included in this fee.

If you have not yet paid, please do so right away to the bank account below.

Make sure to put your ***full name and country*** in the message box of the wire transfer to the account below.

The bank account information:

Account Owner	vzw Antwerpen2011
Address	Hof van Spruytlaan 7 2550 Kontich BELGIUM
Account number	320-0115070-01
IBAN	BE43 3200 1150 7001
BIC/SWIFT	BBRU BE BB

Please make sure to pay all bank charges involved in making the transfer. We recommend you keep a copy of the transfer receipt, in case any difficulties should arise.

5. Accommodation

During the entire session, the participants will be hosted in the Etap Hotel, owned by the Accor Hotels-chain. The hotel is located near the Antwerp Central Station. This central location is of vital importance during the session because almost all event locations, which are spread throughout the city, are within walking distance of the hotel.

The address of the hotel is Lange Kievitstraat 145, 2018 Antwerpen, Belgium.

6. Elements of the session

6.1 Teambuilding, 30th of October

Teambuilding activities are essential for every delegate to get to know the committee they will be working with throughout the week. Teambuilding will take place at the Top Hat sports centre at the left bank of the river Scheldt. All delegates will have outdoors and indoors activities throughout the day with their committees. Throughout Teambuilding there will be auditions for Euroconcert (see 6.8)

Dress code: Comfortable (sports/outside activity clothing (provide rain protection!)).

6.2 Eurovillage, 30th of October

On Sunday night, each delegation will get a large table to present their country's culture and regional products at EYP's famous "Eurovillage". So make sure to bring plenty of national/regional food and beverages! You are strongly encouraged to wear your national costumes/colour (if any) and bring flags to decorate your stand. Please note that there is no possibility to warm up food and that our alcohol policy forbids anyone to bring beverages to the session above 15% Vol.!

Dress code: Casual or National Costumes

6.3 Opening Ceremony, 31st of October

The Opening Ceremony will mark the start of the academic part of the session. The Session will be officially opened in a venue at the University of Antwerp.

Dress Code: Formal

6.4 Theme party, 31st of October

Get ready to attend the most incredible halloween party ever! Dress the part with a long vampire cape and some white make up or go all the way with an entire werewolf costume.

Dress Code: Special costume

6.5 Committee Work, 31st of October - 1st of November

During three intense days of Committee Work each committee will create a resolution on their respective topic with the help of an experienced Chairperson. The venue for this important part of the forum will be "Den Bell"

Dress Code: Smart

6.6 Committee Dinner, 1st of November

On Tuesday night, the organisers will book tables at a selection of local restaurants. Each committee will be given the chance to go out for a meal together. This is a very special moment for the committee, which can spend some time together off committee work enjoying some fine local restaurants. Committee Dinner will not be covered by the participation fees, so you will have to pay your meal yourself.

Dress Code: Casual

6.7 Free Morning, 2nd of November

Delegates will have a free morning, which will allow everybody to spend time and relax with new friends as well as visiting Antwerp's city centre. We will also offer a number of exciting activities for you to choose from once you arrive!

Dress Code: Free choice

6.8 EuroConcert, 3rd of November

EuroConcert is an opportunity for the delegations' musicians to entertain the session participants and its supporters. All participants are encouraged to take part as long as a high standard is provided. Performances should be polished and well rehearsed. EuroConcert is a serious event and performances should respect the importance of the event. Please note that musicians should bring their own instruments. Only a piano and microphones will provided by the organization. Due to the usual large amount of applicants, we might not be able to let all of the applicants perform. Performers will be able to rehearse during the session. If you want to perform at the EuroConcert you should fill the EuroConcert Form at this link:

<http://bit.ly/rpiHgX>.

Dress Code: Formal/Elegant

6.9 General Assembly, 3rd of November - 4th of November

Two days of General Assembly will be the perfect setting for sharing ideas and discussing all the resolutions produced during committee work. The General Assembly will be held in the Hall of Province, better known as the 'Provinciehuis' of Antwerp which is located just outside of the older city centre in Berchem. On weekdays it houses part of the administration services of the entire province and their board granted us with the permission to use the main hall for our General Assembly

Dress Code: Formal/Suit

7. Programme

29th of October

The whole day – Arrivals, Check-in
Night – Welcome Party

30th of October

The whole day – Teambuilding
Evening – Eurovillage

31st of October

Morning – Opening Ceremony
The whole day – Committee Work
Night – Theme Party

1st of November

The whole day – Committee Work
Evening – Committee Dinner

2nd of November

Morning – Morning Off Activities
Afternoon – GA Preparation
Night – EYP Café

3rd of November

The whole day – General Assembly
Evening – Euroconcert

4th of November

The whole day – General Assembly
Evening – Farewell Party

5th of November

The whole day – Departures

8. Preparation

It is essential that each delegate PREPARES FOR HIS/HER COMMITTEE TOPIC. This includes carrying out extensive research (bring at least 10 pages of research printed out, with you to the session) and following current media coverage and the international political scene.

9. Insurance

It is vital that all participants have their own personal travel insurance. Travel insurance should cover loss of luggage, accidents, disease etc. Participants shall make sure they bring their insurance card with them if their respective insurance company requires such a proceeding.

10. Alcohol and behaviour policy

Alcohol (beer and wine respectively) will be available at some events – but the delegates should remember their national legal requirements. As young ambassadors of their country, the delegates are expected to understand that the Organisers would not wish the Delegates' stay in Antwerp to be ruined by misbehavior. The EYP frowns upon overindulgence. Delegates are reminded that any overindulgence in alcohol will result in the delegate's exclusion from the session on the delegate's own expense. EYP-Europolis Belgium operates a total zero tolerance policy with drugs. The EYP-Europolis Belgium will not allow (or sell) any beverages with an alcohol percentage above 15% during the full duration of the session. This rule also applies to any alcohol brought to the session by participants.

11. Special needs and requests

If you have any needs concerning allergies, medical treatment or handicap facilities, please send an e-mail as soon as possible with all the relevant information to arno.janssens@antwerpen2011.org.

12. Parental authorization

If you're under 18, remember to bring the original Parental Authorization document to the session, otherwise you won't be able to participate.

13. What do the dress codes mean?

The elements of the Session will take place in different venues and to many of these events there will be several high-profile guests. As participants, we should dress respectfully. Other events, such as teambuilding, will take place outdoors. So the dress codes vary throughout the Session. Of course, we want you to feel comfortable. Dress codes will go as follows:

Comfortable Clothes and shoes for Teambuilding

This means anything that you feel comfortable in if you have to run around outdoors and do various exercises (so high heels and mini-skirts would be rather uncomfortable). Warm/rain coat, T-shirt, scarf, sweater, etc.

Formal/elegant clothing

You will be in important buildings where several VIPs will be present. Suits for gentlemen, suit/ skirt/ dress for ladies for Opening Ceremony, General Assembly and Euroconcert. No jeans.

Smart clothing

For Committee Work. This is rather flexible. Jeans are ok, but no jeans with holes, no t-shirts with holes, no trainers.

Casual clothing

For evening activities. Basically, anything you like.

14. Checklist

Things to bring with you

Essentials

- Travel tickets
- Send us your e-ticket receipt
- Valid documents (see Visa section, passports, parental authorization etc.)
- Visa if required
- Valid Insurance
- Money (euro) and credit/debit cards
- Waterproof clothes/an umbrella (it can be rainy in Belgium)

Teambuilding

- Comfortable clothing and shoes for sports/outdoor activities
- Waterproof jacket
- Waterproof shoes

Eurovillage

- Items and food/beverages for your delegation stand
- National costume of your country (optional)

Committee Work


- Smart (more casual than a suit) clothing
- Research notes (Printers are not available at the session, so please print your own material on beforehand (minimum of 10 pages).)

Opening Ceremony, General Assembly, Official Receptions and EuroConcert

- Formal clothing (skirts, dresses or suits for ladies; suits for gentlemen)

Euroconcert

- Instrument(s), Sheet music
- Fill out the form at <http://bit.ly/rpiHgx>.

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