

EGEA NORTH&BALTIC REGIONAL CONGRESS

April 05th-09th, 2005, Ignalina, Lithuania.

It was the first time I visited regional Congress, because my first experience was richer – a fortune was so favorable to me that it gave me a chance to come to the 16th Annual Congress in Baarlo. I believe that everyone who was there is of the same point of view that it was really perfect.

Nevertheless, the Congress, held by EGEA-Vilnius, was smaller but, to my mind, it was more impressive. There were not so much people as in Baarlo, and everybody lived as one team.

There were 7 people in our Moscow group, and mostly my colleagues took part in Congress for the first time... And according to their words, it is unforgettable!!!

Besides EGEA-Moscow there were funny Dutch, calm Finns and Estonians, crazy Polish, polite Germans, lazy Greeks, two pretty Slovenian girls and hospitable Lithuanian organizing team.

The Congress was important and useful for us both from the scientific and entertainment points of view.

The combination of workshops was really very exact to tackle the problems that Lithuania experiences nowadays. And lots of solutions were offered. Everyone actively took part in workshops, shared the problems of his country and expressed his opinion concerning the topic of workshop.

Social and cultural life of the Congress was also very remarkable for the variety of excursions (my workshop had a real 15 km trip along the national park in the surroundings of Ignalina – its name is so difficult to pronounce that I wouldn't dare to write it) and for the very interesting and pompous program in the evenings. The entities presentations were full of artistic features. I can remember the remarkable play of EGEA-Amsterdam with their multicultural and multilingual penguin, the funny presentation of Malakas from Greece, and lots of contests held by other entities. The Lithuanian evening was very exciting, as they have shown us a costume play telling the history of Ignalina. It was also impressive to see and participate in national Lithuanian competitions, where we have never had to wait for the volunteers, because everyone wanted to take part in some games, everyone was active at the Congress. To my mind, the point to be most memorized is dancing... I think that we were dancing all the time there, and everyone was somehow involved in it. We learnt how to dance Polish Menuet, Greek Sirtaki and even Lithuanian national dances.

I think that the Congress's raisin was non-traditional drinking contest resulting from the orientation competition. That day was very replete, because it started from workshops, and then flowed into orientation games and then in sauna! That was also amazing!

Now you can see that we were able to do so much just for 5 days! And none will forget them.

I'd like to say, that the best amount of people coming to the congress varies from 40 to 60, because only then you can know each other better and make good friends! I believe we achieved this goal!

Thanks particularly to the Organizing team that worked greatly all these days and thanks to everyone who came there! Hope to see you soon!

Anastassia Kazakova

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