

► Partnerships

Training initiatives for secondary schools and the apprentice-training centres of the Ile-de-France region are increasingly popular

Between December 2004 and June 2005, the Jean Monnet Association, in partnership with the Ile-de-France Regional Council, organized European awareness initiatives at the Jean Monnet House for Ile-de-France (greater Paris region) secondary schools. The initiatives were also supported by the European Commission and the European Parliament.

This school year, **67 Ile-de-France secondary schools** participated in an information programme on Europe at the Jean Monnet House, which was organized, as in preceding years, in two stages: a first series of training programmes (Phase I) for educational teams (heads, teachers and archivists), and then during the second stage (Phase II), training programmes directed at secondary school students.

In connection with Phase I, the Jean Monnet House welcomed **115** heads of establishments, teachers and archivists over seven days of training.

Phase II concerned **3,236** secondary school students representing 131 classes (2,507 students were welcomed during 2003-2004), or an increase of 29%.

The construction of Europe to a human scale

"The tour of the House is very interesting and quite moving; its setting brings a human dimension to the idea of Europe."

"Helps to approach the question of Europe on a human scale."

"The tour of the House helps students approach the topic in a more concrete way."

"A humanistic view of Europe and a vivid picture of Jean Monnet."

"Endows a topic that is rather cold and distant for students with a human dimension."

"The House is a place of remembrance that is bound to leave a lasting impression."

"Shows just how human beings can leave their mark on history."

"The history of the European undertaking takes on a very moving dimension in the simple surroundings of the House."

Highly appreciated educational know-how

"The speaker really makes you want to learn more about Europe and history in general. It's enthralling!"

"A very lively discussion! It was excellent."

"Quite sincerely, even if one is not a European, the speaker's 'passionate' approach left a particularly strong impression."

"Clear information, a very well-prepared speaker, and a very interesting educational presentation."

"Very interesting exchanges between the speaker and all of our colleagues."

"The speaker's presentation was both enriching and lively."

Content well suited to school applications

"Students are able to establish a concrete link between Jean Monnet and Europe. The place is also very pleasant and cannot fail to leave them with a positive impression."

"All the teachers I encountered and who visited the House with their classes were totally enchanted."

"It makes me want to send as many students as possible. They should all have the chance to participate in a programme of this type during their school years."

Teaching tools well adapted to school audiences

During the training sessions for teachers, we supply each teacher with a certain number of teaching tools, including a teaching aids kit particularly appreciated by the educational teams.

"The kit includes tools and interesting practical information for use in class. It is quite useful for updating our knowledge of Europe."

"Top quality information and slides."

"It brings together exhaustive recent information, which is not always easy to find."

"A wealth of content and ease of use."

"It is packed with information and extremely complete."

"This kit is a mine of information."

"The kit motivated me to completely rethink my course. It also helped me to be more at ease with the different institutions."

"The documents are readily 'accessible' because they are close to the

concerns of students."

"The documents are of good quality and constitute a very powerful teaching tool."

As for the students, they expressed a very keen sense of satisfaction with their tour of the Jean Monnet House and the following conference, as was borne out by the answers provided on their evaluation cards.

Concerning the Jean Monnet House

"It is a very original tour totally relevant to current events; the house has an enjoyable picturesque quality; the tour is informative, and even if you are not in total agreement about the EU, or rather the direction it is taking, it raises the right questions and stimulates thought."

"I particularly appreciated the freedom and autonomy left to the visitor: while listening to the comments, you can proceed at your own pace and come back to those things that interest you the most."

"I really enjoyed the tour of the House; the House's symbolism and history have a very strong impact."

"The tour helped me sort out my thoughts about the European constitution. I think it can motivate people to make the effort to get out and vote, once they have understood the importance of the EU."

"I learned a lot about Europe which should help me become a socially responsible citizen."

"The conference on Europe was really enriching. It shed some light on the European elections, which I understood only vaguely up 'til now."

"The info on the construction of Europe and its founder helped me to better understand the current situation."

Concerning the speaker's conference

"It's rare not to be bored during a conference and I came out of it a little less stupid."

"The speaker is very dynamic, which makes you want to listen."

"What I really liked about this tour was the speaker's presentation: his explanations were very clear."

"I was thrilled with the speaker's presentation which was very lively, interesting and enthusiastic. Don't change anything about it."

"The speaker is passionate about his topic and that makes you want to listen carefully and think about what he is saying."

A fruitful and welcome exchange of views

"We learned a lot, but in a way that was less rigid than at school."

"The conference provided a lot of information on the Erasmus programme, which I am thinking about applying to."

"My favourite part of the tour was the question and answer session with the speaker."

On 14 June 2005, the "Secondary School" committee of the Ile-de-France Regional Council paid a visit to the Jean Monnet House

During the 2004-05 school year, the Jean Monnet Association, in partnership with the Ile-de-France Regional Council, also organized European awareness initiatives at the Jean Monnet House for the Apprentice-Training Centres (CFA).

During this school year, **23 Apprentice-Training Centres** registered for the European programme offered at the Jean Monnet House, with a total attendance of **947 apprentices**.

A clearer view of European construction

"The tour was well organized, well planned and documented with interesting points of view."

"This tour helped me discover Europe I didn't know."

"The speaker explained quite clearly how Europe was created."

"The tour stimulated our awareness of the importance of Europe for us as French and European citizens."

"I am very satisfied with this tour because it provided additional information on Europe and helped me to better understand things."

"The speaker explains things very clearly and is quite good at answering questions."

"The speaker is full of enthusiasm, provides clear explanations, and adapts his presentation to his audience."



Young Brittons during a European training session

Renewal of the partnership with the Regional Council of Brittany

During the course of the year 2005, the Jean Monnet House welcomed 17 secondary schools from the Brittany Region, totalling 577 students. Information sessions and practical work sessions were alternated over a period of ten full days. These information sessions, financed by the Brittany Regional Council in conjunction with a contest for secondary schools entitled "Kiosque Europe", were renewed for a second consecutive year. The sessions will start again in 2007.



APM seminar at the Jean Monnet House

"The Monnet method applied to management": seminars for company managers

Since 2003, the Management Progress Association, together with the Jean Monnet Association, has organized a number of one-day seminars during which company managers are able to engage in exchanges and debates on the

"Monnet method applied to management". The two days organized in 2005 around the "Monnet method" enjoyed a high level of success with about sixty company managers.

A new issue of the European Notebooks from Houjarray

The European Notebooks from Houjarray are an "online" educational publication published twice a year by the Jean Monnet Association. The objective is to provide teachers and the general public with practical information and tools for promoting reflection on European construction, history and current developments. The latest issue includes: a portrait of Bronislaw Geremek, an interview with the United Kingdom's ambassador to France, an overview of the Constitution ratification process, and other key topics, to promote a better understanding of current European developments. You will find all the European Notebooks from Houjarray (Cahiers Européens d'Houjarray), classified by issue and by theme, at:

www.cahierseuropeens.net

► Special group visits

✓ On **22 March**, the Jean Monnet House welcomed 19 American students from Canisius College in New York. Following this visit, the Director of the Ecole Supérieure de Commerce International (International Business School), who organized the visit, addressed a letter of thanks to the lecturer: *"We would like to express our very sincere thanks and congratulations for the quality of your participation in this programme. We hope to continue this cooperative effort with the objective of better promoting the history and cultural heritage of Europe to our American partners."*

✓ On **Friday, 25 March**, at the Jean Monnet House, twenty students presented the results of their research in the canton of Montfort-l'Amaury. After several weeks of investigation, they presented the advantages that a "green lane" could offer the region. Launched five years ago, this environment-friendly project with local, national and European ramifications is aimed at creating a loop of 22 km linking seven of the canton's towns.

✓ On **16 April 2005**, the Jean Monnet House welcomed approximately sixty young executives from the UDF (a French political party, member of the ALDE Group at the European Parliament) for a training session on European history and current developments.

✓ On **21 June**, the Caisse des Dépôts organized a seminar for bailiffs at the Jean Monnet House. After a private tour of the House, presentations were delivered on the topic "The development of the profession of bailiff in Europe".



Mr Enver Hoxaj and Arnaud Pinon

✓ On **4 July 2005**, in conjunction with the invitational programme for 'Young Leaders', organized by the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Mr **Enver Hoxaj** visited the Jean Monnet House. This young PDK deputy to the Kosovo National Assembly and chairman of the Commission for Cultural Education and Youth, is also a professor of political science at the University of Pristina. Enver Hoxaj seemed to be quite open to future cooperative efforts with the Jean Monnet Association.

In his view, integration into the EU offers a positive outlook of hope for the Balkan States. The populations of the countries concerned can advance "psychologically" only through a highly concrete International and European commitment.



A delegation of Russian MPs

✓ On **29 September 2005**, a Russian company contacted the Jean Monnet Association for the purpose of organizing a one-day seminar to present to Russian elected officials the origin, goals and operation of the EU, as well as the mode of operation of the TACIS programme. During its stay, the delegation of deputies also visited the National Assembly in Paris and the European Parliament in Brussels.

A delegation of 11 deputies from the regional Duma of Samara, located in the north of Kazakhstan on the banks of the Volga, and its chairman, accompanied by a legal expert from the Duma and a translator, attended a seminar on the topics: the European Union, European law and decision-making mechanisms, the TACIS Programme and EU-Russian relations.

The delegation was also very interested to discover the figure of Jean Monnet, whose career was largely unknown to them and whose achievements often surprised them.

There were many questions on EU institutions and particularly on the role of the European Parliament and its deputies.

✓ In connection with the "citizenship" part of its programme, Crysalis Formation organized a lecture-tour of the Jean Monnet House on **6 October 2005** for 40 young Europeans.

The EUROPE CHANTIER operation, conceived by Crysalis Formation, was initiated in October 2003 as a Leonardo da Vinci European pilot project.

Crysalis Formation, the project designer, is coordinating a team of 11 partners (French, German, Spanish and Czech) for the engineering stage.

The young apprentices, involved in a European educational work-project programme (chantier-école), proved to be extremely interested in the discussions and issues concerning Europe, its construction and its current challenges (the European constitutional treaty, enlargement, budget issues, regional policy, etc.). Despite a low level of knowledge on European issues and the language barrier, the audience, comprising four different nationalities, was highly attentive. The simultaneous translation (into Spanish, German and Czech) did not interfere with the dynamic nature of the debate. The multiple perspectives of audiences of different origins are always stimulating and particularly enriching.

The Jean Monnet Association is continuing its reflection process with Chrysalis Formation and is considering, among other things, a training workshop for trainers with the objective of setting up training modules and tools on European construction, in general, and on European citizenship in particular.

✓ On **8 October**, the Young Europeans from France and Young European professionals combined forces to organize a day of seminars at Houjarray. From 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., the participants visited the House, viewed the film on the life of Jean Monnet, then engaged in a debate on European current events in the conference room. The afternoon was devoted to an internal meeting of these associations. The day offered the opportunity to exchange views with the speaker on the European educational programme deployed at Houjarray to heighten the awareness of young people.

✓ On **Sunday, 9 November**, the Jean Monnet House welcomed a Chinese delegation led by Mr Zeng Xianqi, Minister Counsellor at the Chinese Embassy in France.



Mr Zeng Xianqi signs the visitor's Book at the Jean Monnet House

► Information sessions at the Jean Monnet House on the Constitutional Treaty



A group of retired people

The main mission of the Jean Monnet Association (created in 1986 by the former associates of Jean Monnet), in addition to keeping alive the memory of Jean Monnet, is to inform and train all publics on European history and current developments (primarily at the Jean Monnet House in the Yvelines).

With the benefit of over 15 years of experience in informing and training the public in European issues, the Jean Monnet Association has organized and produced to date more than 3,000 conferences, training programmes and seminars (reaching more than 140,000 people). For several years now, it has also been designing and producing a number of teaching tools in order to "simplify" the process of introducing its visitors to the major European issues.

That is why, as soon as a referendum was announced, the Jean Monnet Association was particularly eager to mobilize its forces, as it does for each major European civic event (i.e. European elections, EU presidencies, etc.), by organizing a series of special initiatives aimed at helping to inform the French people about the proposed Constitutional Treaty. In this regard, it joined forces with the campaigns of the European Parliament and the French government.

This specific project focussed on senior citizens and consisted in welcoming associations of retirees and free-time universities.

We welcomed **four groups of retirees** totalling **140 persons**:

► 12 April 2005 at 2:00 p.m. - the retiree's association of the Ministry of Finance - Yvelines

► 9 May 2005 at 10:00 a.m. - University of Paris V (Jussieu), free-time university plus retirees from the Yvelines brought together by Mrs Argy, the mayor of Queue-lez-Yvelines

► 9 May 2005 at 2:00 p.m. - University of Paris V (Jussieu), free-time university

► 10 May 2005 at 2:00 p.m. - the CCAS of Vélizy-Villacoublay

Programme of the lecture-tour

After an introduction to the history of the Jean Monnet House, a tour of the House with audio-guides, and the projection of a film on the life of Jean Monnet, there was an interactive conference focussing on the European Constitutional Treaty, including a long question and answer session and a debate.

Structure of the conference:

The conferences began by an overview:

1- Summary of the context (often very poorly known): the major advances in European construction since 1950, the seven preceding treaties (from the ECSC to the Treaty of Nice), the challenges posed by the enlargements from 6 to 25;

2- Meeting of the Convention, preparation of the text, the work of the IGC, the ratification procedure;

3- Introduction to the four sections of the ECT, with emphasis on several key points: objectives and principles of the EU, the Charter of fundamental rights, Community policies, general provisions;

4- Clarification of issues (or preconceived ideas) too often directly associated with the ECT: the candidacy of Turkey, the Bolkestein directive, the "setting in stone" of neo-liberalism, the relocation of businesses and the loss of jobs by the countries of the EU 15 to the 10 new member countries.

This overview was followed by a question and answer period between the audience and the speaker, which favoured a very dynamic debate. These discussions were highly productive, revealing not only a very approximate knowledge about the European Union, but also a very real need for understanding and self-expression.

Elements of analysis

After several conferences held on the ECT and the numerous questions asked during hundreds of other more general conferences, several observations can be made concerning the public's approach to this theme, its view of the issues and its reactions to the document itself.

- **The historical overview** offered as an introduction was decisive. Historical facts such as the failure of the European Defence Community, for example, contribute to a better understanding of why the question of European Defence is so complex today. It is obvious that this glance backward at the history of European construction helped participants have a fairer, more inclusive and less controversial view of the document.

- The enlargement issue came up again and again: "the French were not given the chance to vote for or against the enlargement of the European Union to the 10 countries of Central and Eastern

Europe in May 2004." Implemented without sufficient explanation according to the participants, this last enlargement has clearly not been "digested". In other respects they are still very concerned about "Europe's borders". Since they have not been established once and for all, the issue generates a certain amount of concern.

The economic problems stemming (according to many participants) from this enlargement: fears of industrial relocation, social dumping and migrations were omnipresent. There were sometimes just as many questions related to the enlargement issue as questions concerning the proposed constitutional treaty.

- Thus, often presented in a controversial manner by the opponents of the ECT, the construction of Europe via **free exchange** and free circulation was frequently criticized. Most people simply ignored that it was the framework of the EC since the 50s...

- Lastly, some people in the audience did not understand the **referendum** approach: why ask the people to decide on such a long document, which takes so long to read and which is so legally complicated, when there is a real difficulty in understanding the treaty and its ramifications due to a lack of technical and contextual knowledge?

Conclusion

On the whole, the participants were quite eager to learn how to place the ECT in its historical and political context, achieve a better understanding of the European Union in general (its chronology, aims, issues, values, negative and/or positive aspects, advances, etc.), and get concrete answers to their many questions on the document and on other European topics.

The evaluation was thus very positive on the whole, even though the time and means were unfortunately lacking to reach a larger audience.

► In brief

Contest: "The Peace Challenge: Living democracy in Europe" (December 2004-June 2005)

In the context of the commemorations of the 60th anniversary of the Liberation of Western Europe, the French Senate, in partnership with the Caen Memorial, organized a competition for French and European secondary school students.

The Jean Monnet Association participated in the dissemination of information on this competition with its partners and at the Jean Monnet House. Arnaud Pinon, its director, participated in the awards ceremony, held in the amphitheatre of the Senate, on **11 June 2005**. In the words of Christian Poncelet, President of the Senate: "We felt it was important to include young people in these commemorations, in a 'constructive' way: faced with the disastrous record of the 'first half of the 20th century', it was important to consider the road travelled since 9 May 1950, when Robert Schuman and Jean Monnet unveiled the proposed European Coal and Steel Community (ECSC), the beginning of European construction."

"The objective of the competition was to promote reflection and a cooperative effort among national teams on the theme of peace and European construction, in light of the lessons learned from the two world wars. Each team had to produce a presentation of their national political institutions, meet with and interview a member of Parliament, and each of these presentations had to be translated into the partner's language. The final event consisted in the collective writing of a general summary of European construction and citizenship." The competition received approximately fifty entries, representing a hundred or so European establishments, primarily French, German and Italian, but also Spanish, Belgian and British.

On 14 April 2005, the judges' panel chaired by Senator Haenel honoured the 14 winning bi-national teams for the high quality and originality of their work.

Providing socially responsible information: a priority for the Jean Monnet Association

✓ On **16 April 2005**, Elsa Glombard of the Jean Monnet Association participated in an information morning organized by the Yvelines Maison d'Europe at the Inter-age University of Versailles. This morning session entitled "The real issues of European construction" was introduced by Pierre Lequiller, President of the European Union Delegation to the National Assembly, and also included a presentation by Mr Stock, Director of the Robert Schuman Centre at Scy-Chazelles.

✓ On **17 April**, the Yvelines Reserve Officers Association organized an automobile rally entitled "Mémoire citoyenne" (Remembrance and good citizenship) for which the anchor point was the Jean Monnet House.

✓ On **21 April 2005**, the Jean Monnet Association participated in the "Val d'Oise in Europe" event on the theme "Mobility and Vocational training".

✓ On **30 April 2005**, through the intermediary of our Belgian board member Lieven Taillie, we participated in the Open Days for European Institutions. Our documentation in French, English, German and Dutch was available at the stands of the EP's main political groups.

✓ On Saturday, **28 May 2005**, the Jean Monnet House organized an "Open Day" at the initiative of the Mayor of Bazoches-sur-Guyonne and the Jean Monnet Association. This new "Open day" offered the local population an opportunity to keep abreast of current European developments or simply discover a historical figure and an important page of history that are not sufficiently well known.

✓ On **29 June 2005**, at the French Youth information and documentation centre, we participated in a day devoted to "Youth and mobility: destination Europe" organized in partnership with the Ile-de-France region.

✓ On **8 December 2005**, the Jean Monnet Association was also present at the Forum entitled "Young people in today's Europe: initiatives, projects, first-hand accounts", organized at the initiative of the Ministry of Youth, in conjunction with the "European Youth Week".

In the planning stage: a cultural itinerary devoted to the "Founding Fathers of Europe"

At the initiative of the Luxembourg and French Ministers of Foreign Affairs, the EU Council is currently working on a project for a Cultural Itinerary devoted to the "Founding fathers of Europe", which could include the Houses of Jean Monnet, Robert Schuman, Konrad Adenauer, Alcide de Gasperi, Paul-Henri Spaak, etc., and other symbolic places frequented by these "Founding fathers". The aim is to help keeping alive for European citizens the memory of its history and founding values, which is necessary to understand today's and tomorrow's Europe.

Continuing education for the staff of the Jean Monnet Association

On 10 and 11 February 2005, the entire staff of the Jean Monnet Association made a study trip to Brussels where they met with representatives of the European Parliament, the European Commission, the Economic and Social Committee, the European SchoolNet organization and the "Museum of Europe" project.

Obituaries

Mrs Schonfeld, Jean Monnet's assistant from 1956 to 1975, passed away on 1 April 2005.

"I was deeply grieved to learn of the death of Mrs Schonfeld. She worked both for Jean Monnet and for me, but not at the same time; she worked on the Action Committee. She is a person for whom I have the utmost respect, first of all because she worked with Jean Monnet for many years and that merits our respect. It attests to her outstanding personal qualities, including the quality of patience - not that working with Jean Monnet was particularly complicated; it was both very simple and very difficult at the same time because he was very demanding, but if you knew how to resist his demands while following them closely enough so that you kept his trust, things went very smoothly. I learned much from Mrs Schonfeld, both here and in Lausanne, even after her death. It often happens that one discovers hitherto unknown aspects of people after they have left us: I was particularly moved when I learned of a letter, written by Mrs Schonfeld's grandchildren, addressed to the Jean Monnet Foundation after the death of their grandmother. The entire history of Mrs Schonfeld's family is recounted in this letter - her birth in Luxembourg, her parents, who were circus performers and so on. What these grandchildren related about their grandmother is not just the personal story of an individual, it is a slice of history and more especially, of the European sagas of France and Luxembourg.." Jacques René Rabier, former associate of Jean Monnet, member of the board of the Association Jean Monnet.

François Duchêne, a former associate of Jean Monnet, passed away on 12 July 2005.

"François Duchêne played a significant role. He was a true poet. As a journalist, he came to interview Monnet. He immediately established a close connection with Jean Monnet, and with Monnet, the connection was immediate or never. Duchêne came to Luxembourg at the very beginning, and he participated in the writing of several reports. His father, who was Swiss, was the director of the Ritz in London. From this dual British and Francophone heritage, he derived a thoroughly remarkable artfulness and awareness. He wrote a book about Jean Monnet which plumbed

Monnet's soul with a "remarkable sense of creative indiscretion". The subtitle of François Duchêne's book is: "The first statesman of interdependence". He "saw in Monnet" not only the man who gave the initial impetus to the European dream; he also saw another very important aspect of the person and work of Jean Monnet, who applied his ideas not only on the European level but worldwide as well. If you read this book today, you will find that it is highly relevant to the current situation. Georges Berthoin, former associate of Jean Monnet, Honorary Chairman of the Jean Monnet Association.

✓ **Henri Rieben**, creator of the Jean Monnet Foundation in Lausanne (Switzerland), passed away on 11 January 2006 at the age of 85 years. Born in 1920 in Lausanne, and author of a thesis on the European iron and steel industry entitled *From the forgers to the Schuman plan*, Henri Rieben met Monnet in 1955, in the first years of the European Coal and Steel Community. Two years later, he had founded the world's first academic chair devoted to European integration at the University of Lausanne. In 1978, Jean Monnet, considered as the "father of Europe", presented his archives to the Foundation that bears his name. Located at the Dorigny farm, near Lausanne, this institution makes available to researchers a substantial amount of documentation devoted to the history of European construction. In 2005, Henri Rieben transferred the chairmanship of the Foundation to European deputy, Bronislaw Geremek, a former adviser of Lech Walesa and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Poland.

✓ **Mr Sun Huishuang** translated Jean Monnet's Memoirs into Chinese. For many years, he was professor of French at the Beijing Language Institute. He also translated the Memoirs of Pierre Uri. The Jean Monnet Association provided support in 1998 for the translation into Chinese of the Memoirs of Jean Monnet. Sun Huishuang passed away on 10 January 2006. The Jean Monnet Association salutes his memory and conveys its deepest condolences to his wife and son.



A South-Korean television network at the Jean Monnet House

Last May, the leading Korean television network, the Korean Broadcasting System, travelled to the Jean Monnet House for a shooting in connection with a special broadcast aimed at "presenting the efforts of Jean Monnet to Asians for reflection and at finding a solution that will ensure peace between the nations and peoples of the world and at reflecting on our future."

Korean TV Team at the Jean Monnet House



Alain Lamassoure and Philippe Laurette

Annual meeting at the Jean Monnet House

During the last annual general meeting of the Jean Monnet Association, our members and board members had the pleasure of attending two high-quality presentations: "The outlook for the future of the EU after the events of the spring of 2005", by Alain Lamassoure, Member of the European Parliament and former minister and: "Is a socially oriented policy possible?" by Jacques Moreau, President of Europe et Société.



Jacques Moreau and Philippe Laurette

► From the press

"...Because France has always supported the project of Europe, which originated with it, thanks to the historic work accomplished by Jean Monnet and Robert Schuman. Side by side with its partners, our country succeeded in giving the crucial impulse needed for the creation of a political project that has no precedent in the history of mankind (...)." (Pierre Lequiller, "The Union is an opportunity for all", *Le Figaro*, 18 March 2005)

"...From time immemorial, coalitions have brought States together (and not 'unified men', in the words of Jean Monnet) against other States, with territorial and expansionist designs, preceding or following a war, often as a pretext for dismantling an empire (...)." (Patrick Martin-Genier, Lecturer at the Jean-Moulin University, "Towards a European diplomacy", *La Croix*, 18 March 2005)

"... But the historic opportunity of the Ukraine is tarnished with political risks. The democratic process remains fragile. The best means of strengthening it would obviously be to extend to the Ukraine the political domino invented by the father of Europe, Jean Monnet, who's aim was to make war pointless because there is no longer any economic interest in waging it (...). (Fabrice Delaye, "In Kiev, the orange rally owes more to commodities than to the street", *AGEFI Newsletter*, 11-13 March 2005)

"...The daily struggle for the European dimension is like the fight for freedom: it is a relentless struggle, continually called into question, which must be renewed on a daily basis (...). Isn't that what Jean Monnet was thinking, on 9 May 1950, when he wrote, in the speech pronounced by Robert Schuman for the launch of the ECSC, that 'Europe will not be built at a stroke or in accordance with some overall plan; it will be built upon concrete achievements which first create a de facto solidarity'?" (Philippe Tabary, "Daily Life", *Autrement Dit*, 18 March 2005)

"Raymond Aron would no doubt have been delighted to learn that Jean Monnet was a better prophet than his friend Sartre when it comes to predicting the future of this 'decadent Europe' (...)." (Jacques Julliard, "Aron, but of course!", *Le Nouvel Observateur*, 17-23 March 2005)

► International

✓ **Mr Jean-Claude Juncker**, Prime Minister, Minister of State, Finance Minister and, since 1 January 2005, the first permanent President of the Eurogroup, has just joined the Jean Monnet Association's Committee of Honour.

✓ For about seven years now, a group of secondary school students from **Nacka** (Sweden) have visited Houjarray every year for a conference on Europe. It was at the invitation of the French teachers and directors of the international program that our lecturer, Julien Gascard, made a trip to Sweden for the first time in September 2003. Enthusiastic about the conferences and the dialogue with the students, our teaching team decided to repeat the experience in 2005.

From **26 to 31 October 2005**, our lecturer thus travelled to Nacka gymnasium in the south suburbs of Stockholm, Sweden. Five conferences were organized on various topics, including "European construction and the idea of Europe", "European citizenship" (national identities and European identity), "Enlargement", "The borders of Europe", "The ECT and the French and Dutch referendums", "Culture, society and customs in France". The conferences were given in English and in French for advanced students. The first conference was organized for 120 students from Nacka's "international" section, while the other conferences were organized for small groups of 11 to 30 students.

The students engaged in lively discussion on the proposed topics. Evidently, the young people were concerned and sceptical about the contributions of the EU and the proposed Constitution, rejected by the French themselves. Our speaker endeavoured to provide concrete answers to their questions.

✓ After a visit to the Jean Monnet House by Professor Michael Scriven, director of the **European Business School London (EBS)**, Philippe Laurette, President, Arnaud Pinon, Director and Lieven Taillie, member of the Board of the Jean Monnet Association made a visit to London to attend the Jean Monnet Memorial Lecture in December 2005 on the topic of India. During these meetings various possibilities for partnerships were mentioned, including, in particular, preparation of the contents of the next Jean Monnet Memorial Lecture, which will be held in London in the fall of 2006.



Meeting Association Jean Monnet / European Business School



House of the German Chancellor
Konrad Adenauer

✓ Like Jean Monnet, **Konrad Adenauer** is one of the great political figures in the history of Europe in the 20th century - one of those personalities who helped ensure a future of peace and prosperity for Europeans, from which we are still benefiting today.

With the objective of further internationalizing the activity of the

Association, the president and several members of the board set out on a mission to establish contacts with other associations and foundations to defend the current relevance of the heritage left by Europe's founding fathers. A visit to the Adenauer House was called for. On the 17th of last November, Philippe Laurette, President of the Jean Monnet Association and Messrs Philippe Le Guen and Lieven Taillie, members of the Board of the Association, were received by the director of the Foundation, Dr. Corinna Franz, and by one of the granddaughters of Konrad Adenauer.

The house, with its marvellous location in **Rhöndorf**, near Bonn, on the slopes of the legendary 'Siebengebirge' that overlooks the Rhine, surrounded by a heavenly garden, is now owned by the German State and managed by the '**Adenauer House**' foundation. Both a place of memory and a centre for historical research, it fulfils all the functions of a museum. The Foundation pursues an active programme of exhibitions, workshops, conferences and publications. We are looking forward to their visit to the Jean Monnet House this year and plan to develop a number of projects together.

More information is available on their website in German (www.adenauerhaus.de).

Open daily, except Monday, from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Free admission. Tel.: 00 49 2224 921 0.

✓ On 24 November the Prince of Asturias Foundation, associated with UNESCO, celebrated the memory of some major figures of the 20th century in Oviedo. The morning of the ceremony, the Honorary chairman of the foundation, HRH Prince Felipe of Spain, received the descendants of laureates in an audience at the Zarzuela Palace. Jean-Marc Lieberherr, Jean Monnet's grandson, invited the Prince to visit the Jean Monnet House. (see www.fpa.es)

✓ The Jean Monnet Association and Luxembourg's CVCE are currently in discussions to organize joint operations and other forms of partnership in 2006. Since 2003, the ENA has made of the **Virtual Centre for Knowledge on Europe (CVCE)** - a public establishment in Luxembourg - an important research platform for the collection, selection, processing and distribution of information on the historical and institutional development of a united Europe.

Discover the history of Europe and the institutions of a united Europe from 1945 to the current day through specially selected and contextualized documents: that is the objective of the *European NAVigator* (ENA) knowledge bank, which will bring to life more than fifty years of history and shed a new light on the issues relevant to the Europe of the future.

European NAVigator (ENA) collects thousands of rigorously selected multimedia documents, which are organized chronologically and thematically. Original documents (photos, film and sound sequences, treaties, press articles, caricatures, facsimiles, etc.) are found side by side with documents designed by historians and legal experts (general presentations, interactive maps and diagrams, interviews, etc.). The ENA is an effective research tool for teachers, students, and researchers, and offers a variety of entry points for access to the documents, including a tree structure, a search engine, a media library and a thesaurus.

For further information, consult:

www.ena.lu ; www.cvce.lu

✓ At Bruges and Natolin (in Poland), the College of Europe trains competent and experienced Europeans, ready to assume their professional responsibilities in tomorrow's Europe. The **European Centre in Natolin** has been welcoming students from 30 different countries since 1993. A number of joint projects (i.e. publications, conferences, etc.) with the JMA are currently under discussion.

✓ Italy's **Lazio region** and the **Altiero Spinelli Institute** in Rome have joined forces with the Jean Monnet Association to set up a joint project with the objective of possibly preparing a documentary on the lives of Spinelli and Monnet during the Second World War up to treaties of Rome, and of organizing exchanges between Italian and French students, among other things. Numerous projects are under consideration for the year 2006.

✓ The **Foundation Meritis** of Amsterdam, specializing in European cultural exchanges ("Connecting cultures") and the Jean Monnet Association are currently considering several common projects in 2006 (video-conferences between students of different European countries, Jean Monnet Memorial Lecture in Amsterdam, etc.).



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The Association Jean Monnet

9bis rue Georges Berger - F-75017 PARIS

Tél : 33 (0)1 56.33.71.00 - Fax : 33 (0)1 48.88.09.42

E.mail : info@jean-monnet.net

Website : www.jean-monnet.net

Webzine : www.cahierseuropeens.net

Have collaborated to this issue :

Elsa Glombard - Arnaud Pinon - Josette Torres

HOUSE OF JEAN MONNET

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Houjarray - F-78490 BAZOCHES-SUR-GUYONNE

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