

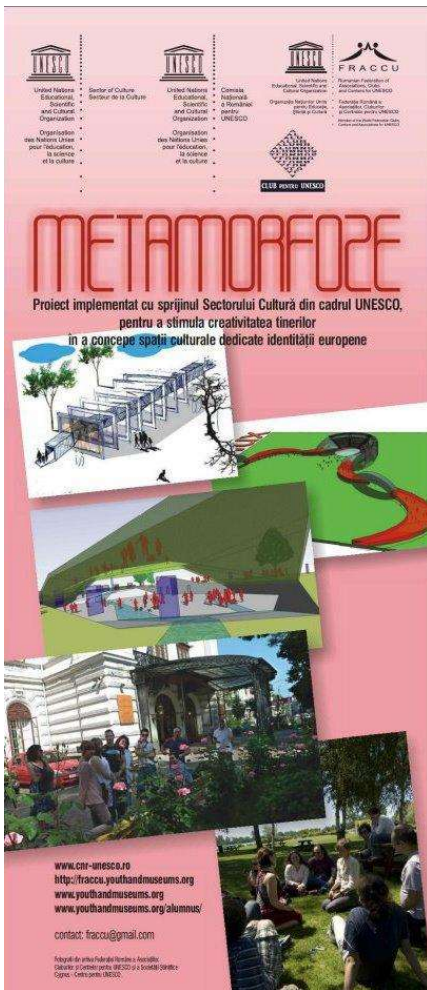
UNESCO's Academy of Young Women 2017

Newsletter

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Metamorphoses Project presentation



The "Metamorphoses" project, created and implemented by the Alumnus Club for UNESCO, is an international project which annually proposes themes of high value (educational and creative camps), aimed at stimulating young people's ideas, talents and ambitions in order to create artistic works (such as exhibitions, movies and performances) and a conceptual virtual space for a European identity as seen in many aspects: cultural, ethnical, scientific and artistic.

***SINCE
2009***

The aim of the project is to strengthen the feeling of a "European identity" as a quantum of national and regional identities, to promote cultural exchange by having access to examining and using information about the European countries, thus reinforcing the idea of a "tangible" European identity, brought as a response to the integration of the ethnographical diversity and of the European minorities.



About Alumnus Club for UNESCO



Alumnus Club for UNESCO is an organization created in 2000, which has been gathering for more than a decade and a half members from 10 countries. It is part of the Romanian Federation of UNESCO Associations, Centers and Clubs, and implicitly of the World and European Federations for UNESCO. The club is formed mainly by young students, and its aim is to offer its members the opportunity to get involved in projects aimed at developing their experience in their selected field of study. Through its UNESCO affiliation, the Alumnus Club has access to an important network of information regarding the activities developed in domains such as education, science, culture and communication.

Metamorphoses over the years (2009-2012)

-July 2009 – Metamorphoses I – *European Identity* – In Sinaia, Romania and 16 young people from 7 countries collaborated to propose 3 projects for a museum of the European identity: EUROMORPHO, EUROPEION, EUROFLUX; the projects were presented during a exposition in Paris in October 2009.

-June 2010 - Metamorphoses II – *The Woman in Europe* – The event concluded with the screening of a movie created by the participants from 7 countries regarding the condition of women in Europe. The project took place in Tergnier, France.

-May 2011 - Metamorphoses III – *The European City in the Context of Multiculturalism* – the event took place in Bucharest, Romania and reunited young people from 8 countries; it concluded with the creation of a movie (“The European City”).

- August 2012 - Metamorphoses IV – *A Life Dedicated to UNESCO* – the project followed creation of a film which brings homage to the personalities who have dedicated their lives to UNESCO. The movie shows the awarding of the ceremonial plaques “A Life Dedicated to UNESCO”; the festivity which was part of the third General Assembly of the European Federation of UNESCO Clubs, Centres and Associations in Bucharest, Romania.

Metamorphoses over the years (2013-2016)

-October 2013 – Metamorphoses V – *Interethnic Traditions Camp: The European city at Brasov* – the project ended with the opening of the European City exhibit where the works of the young participants were displayed.

-October 2014 - Metamorphoses VI – *Bucharest Rediscovered* – the project concluded with the homonymous photograph exhibition by the famous photographer George Dimitriu and the photo album “Bucharest Rediscovered” which summarizes useful information regarding Bucharest, a city full of charm, stories and bewitching hidden places; the album was published in 3 languages and contains touristic and historical information.

-October 2015 – Metamorphoses VII – *The Traditional European Culinary Arts* – Young people from 18 countries cooked traditional national dishes in Bucharest, Romania at the Arts and Crafts College UCECOM Spiru Haret. Three sessions of the project were financed by UNESCO.

- October 2016 - Metamorphoses VIII – *Minorities, Culture, Goodies* - The project aimed to encourage cultural integration through the uncovering of the culinary traditions and creative customs such as the painting of eggs and traditional dances of the Roma, the Ukrainian, the Russian Lipovan, the Hellenic, the Italian, the Bulgarian, the Turkish, the Tatar, the Polish, the Serbian, the Armenian, the Hungarian, the Jewish and the German minorities in Iasi, Romania. In partnership with the Romanian National Commission for UNESCO and the Romanian Government through the Interethnic Relations Department, an intercultural cookbook was published online.

The 2017 edition: Metamorphoses IX 27 August 2017



Participants from previous editions who also participated in UNESCO's Academy of Young Women shared their experience and advice on how to best approach the question of the European identity, taking into consideration cultural, geographic and national aspects of an individual's identity.

The 9th edition of the Metamorphoses project was launched on the second to last working day of the Academy and commenced with a short presentation by Ms. Ana Dumitrescu, former UNESCO Paris employee, of the previous editions.



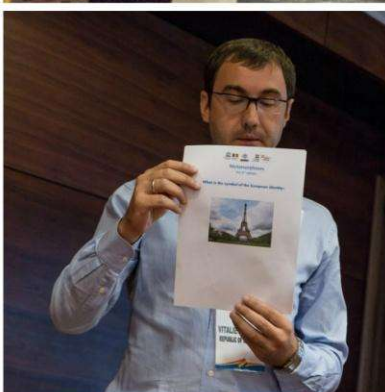
The presentation ended in a film viewing. The short movie was the product of a previous Metamorphoses edition on the theme of "*The Woman in Europe*" and showed both men and women participants in various situations related to discrimination, stereotyping and oppression.

What is the symbol of the European identity?

This year, the Academy of Young Women guests tried their best to answer a very broad but important question: *What is the symbol of the European identity?* Some chose well-established depictions, such as the euro currency sign or the “United in diversity” motto, while others put their imagination to use and created new representations – a pigeon representing peace, a book indicating the importance of education and a ship of interculturality and values were among the symbols proposed by our participants. All of their creations and ideas will be collated by the organisers in partnership with an artist to create a visual illustration of what Europe means to its inhabitants



More symbols



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