

THINKING EUROPEAN HISTORY AND CULTURE



Lifelong
Learning
Programme

The project has been funded with support from the European Commission. This information reflects the views only of the author, and the Commission cannot be held responsible for any use which may be made of the information contained therein.

Table of Content

Project Description	3
European Identity.	5
Visit to Çeşme Halk Eğitimi Merkezi	
Çeşme Lifelong Learning Centre	8
Informal get-together and diner	9
Ancient handcraft workshop: Marbling	10
„Tourism Week“ Celebration in Çeşme City Center.	11
Ephesus	12
Şirince Village (ancient greek village)	13
Çeşme City Tour: Çeşme Castle, Kervansaray, ancient Çeşme Fountains	14
Ancient Erythrai	15
Work meetings and social dinner	16
Visit to Aachen and the Meuse-Rhine Euroregion	
KreaScientia: Institution for sustainable learning.	18
Informal get-together and BBQ	19
Aachen City Tour: Hot Springs, Roman Excavation, Aachen Cathedral	20
American Cemetery and ancient monastery of Val Dieu	21
Art Tower in Eben Emael and 3-Country-Point	22
Work meetings and social dinner	23
Cologne City Tour	24
Visit to Reims L'Ardenne	
Route Européenne des Légendes	26
„Le Musee de la reddition“ and „Cave de champagne Mumm“	27
Reception City Hall Reims.	28
Reims City Tour Cathedral and Palais du Tau	29
Fort de la Pompelle	30
Reception Council Region Champagner-Ardennes	31
Butte de Vauquois.	32
Camp de repos allemand de la Vallée Moreau	33
Tranchées de la Main de Massiges.	34
American Cemetery.	35
Les Points de vue de Noyers Pont Maugis and Castle Sedan	36
Musee Le Dernières Cartouches (Bazeilles) and Musee Le Grand Marionnettiste (Charleville)	37
Sozial dinner	38
Chemin des Dames and Paris.	39
Work meetings	40

Project Description

The project aims at strengthening the sense of European citizenship through education and promotion of our common culture and history, to give a European dimension to the currently nation-oriented perspective of their thinking, learning and teaching, as well as to enrich the competencies of the professionals working in the related sectors. The focus of the project is set on the European aspects of history and culture beyond the national borders, which will allow us to make the common heritage accessible for the general public by offering a multilateral point of view to the historical and cultural processes in Europe. The participants in the project will be invited to discuss the cultural historical heritage of Europe with the aim to establish the cross-cultural links and reach a common perspective.

Objectives of the project:

- To strengthen the sense of European citizenship and identity through introducing a broader approach towards European history and culture
- To reinforce the cooperation among different organizations in Europe, working for the valorisation of the common cultural and historical heritage
- To enrich the competencies and knowledge of the professionals, working in the sectors related to the cultural and historical heritage, mostly those from the education field, but also those working in other related sectors
- To give a European dimension of the local and national heritage of the participating states, inscribing them in a multicultural context

The partnership activities are expected to lead to a new approach towards thinking about our common European history. The project will have impact as on the direct participants and guests of the planned workshops and conferences, as on indirect beneficiaries, such as learners, media audience, etc. The participants in the workshops and conferences – professionals in the fields of academia, education, media, NGOs, etc., from different European states will enrich their own knowledge on the common European history on the one hand, and will introduce this new approach towards European history, will put it into practice and disseminate it through their work in the institutions and organizations involved, i.e.: universities, educational institutions, media, non-governmental networks and others.

Three thematic four days long workshops will be organized in three different states on different epochs of European history.

1. Ancient period - Çeşme, Turkey:
 - Ancient Greek culture in the context of a European Community in antiquity
 - The Ancient civilizations as a fundament of the modern European civilization
 - Mythologies between facts and fiction

2. Middle Ages – Aachen, Germany:
 - Political and cultural relations between the West and the East
 - Europe and religions – the relations among: Catholic Europe, Orthodox Europe, the Islam, the heresies
 - The Medieval heritage in popular culture

3. Modern times - Reims, France:
 - Raise of nationalism and the World wars
 - Cold war – political and cultural relations between the two sides of the Iron curtain
 - European Union and the process of creation of a European identity

European Identity

European identity and European citizenship, as one of its building blocks are in the core of European integration. Although the concept of citizenship implies the notion of belonging to a community, so far Europe has succeeded in building the economic and legal reality of European citizenship but these are the rational foundations. It is necessary to distinguish the different facets of the concept of collective identity (Chauvel)(1).

This concept is composed of objective and subjective factors, linking institutions and cultural specificities, which form a „collective consciousness“. European citizenship, as the accomplishment of the objective Europe, is to a large extent seen by citizens as a mere legal status. What is missing from this status, is the emotional attachment, which is subjective, and explains the difficulty for citizens to feel part of a European community. According to the Standard Eurobarometer Survey 77 (Spring 2012) on European citizenship(2) the attachment of citizens to the European Union has suffered significant deterioration since the spring 2010 survey (EB73). Europeans who are attached to the European Union are now in the minority: 46% are attached to the EU (-7 percentage points) compared with 52% who feel no attachment to it (+7), 15% of whom are “not at all attached” to it (+2). As citizenship affects not only the reason, but also appeals to the emotions, the accomplishment of common identity can be strengthened through purposeful actions towards the promotion of our cultural and historical heritage from a supranational perspective. To develop a sense of European citizenship, allowing greater cohesion and fostering a sense of unity, it is necessary that the people of Europe can identify themselves more with their community. The construction of European identity is a conscious act, requires a deep reflection about ends and means. If we adopt the definition of Jean - Marie Domenach(3) that „identity is a learning process that transforms the heritage into conscience“, then culture and education will inevitably be the „engines“ of such a process.

Up to now the approaches of “teaching” history and culture and of promoting the historic cultural heritage are very nation-oriented, as relayed in educational texts and the media. The wide-spread approach of thinking Europe from a cultural perspective is rarely focused on its European dimension but is rather oriented towards the content of national culture, ethno-history and traditions and thus relate to the continuous process of “thinking” the nation. Moreover, this approach is in the core of the sense, expressed by the majority of European citizens that a European citizenship would compete and even threaten their national identity. The cause for this assumption is that the broadest “identity” citizens are taught in, rarely exceeds the national borders. We believe that in order to strengthen the sense of a European identity a new approach of education and promotion of culture and history is needed, which ensures its cohesion with national identities. While often being a topic of disagreement and confusion, the relevance of such cohesion is explained by Tsvetan Todorov: „To feel European solidarity, we must share European identity. Such an identity, we must immediately add, would not compete with the national identity of each, or with other collective identities. The reason is that human beings have no difficulty to assume several identities at once, and thus to experience multiple solidarities. This diversity is the rule, not the exception“(4). We need symbolic representations

of Europe, widespread and also represented in our national identities, not outside them. While the cultural Europe exists, it is often unknown, as generally it is often only fragmentally thought, taught and promoted in our national cultures. We believe that education is the main tool for promotion and reinforcement of our European identity. For this reason the project is oriented mainly towards professionals in the fields of education, academia and cultural heritage promotion. Professionals from different states and fields will be brought together in order for them to be able to enrich their knowledge, to discuss and think their cultural historical heritage in a European context, to establish the cross-cultural links and to outline a joint method for integrating this European approach to each organization's ongoing activities and broader dissemination. The major focus of the consortium will be the European aspect of cultural historic heritage and the integration of national and local specificities into a larger context. Such an approach will ensure European dimension of the subject treated and at the same time will preserve the local, regional and national diversity. The work of the consortium will be based of dialogue and will embrace the cultural historical heritage from Antiquity until Modern times.

As all the participants in the partnership are expected to enrich their knowledge and widen their perspective, the project will provide for strengthening the sense of European citizenship, which is the major goal of this „tour“ through the memories of Europe. We believe that we will find a way to „assemble“, without confusing the greatest diversities and to associate the opposites in a non-separable way(5).

1. Louis CHAUVEL Intervention de Louis Chauvel in Aziliz GOUEZ (coord.), La question de l'identité européenne dans la construction de l'Union, op. cit., p. 37.
2. http://ec.europa.eu/public_opinion/archives/eb/eb77/eb77_citizen_en.pdf
3. Jean-Marie DOMENACH, Europe : le défi culturel, op. cit., p. 22.
4. Tzvetan TODOROV, « Faut-il refonder le projet européen sur des principes identitaires ? » in Aziliz GOUEZ
5. (coord.), La question de l'identité européenne dans la construction de l'Union, op. cit., p. 89. Edgar MORIN, Penser l'Europe, pp. 22

Visit to Çeşme Halk Eğitimi Merkezi

12. - 16. April 2014

This was the program for the meeting in Çeşme, Turkey:

Sunday, April 12th

Informal get-together and dinner

Monday, April 13th

First official meeting at Çeşme Lifelong Learning Centre

Introduction and welcome-lunch

Ancient handcraft workshop: Marbling

Tuesday, April 14th

Workmeeting and discussion: „Ancient world in Europe: national perspectives“

Join „Tourism Week“ Celebrations in Çeşme City Center

Wednesday, April 15th

Excursion and cultural program

Visit to Ephesus Historic Site

Visit to Şirince Village (ancient greek village)

Thursday, April 16th

Çeşme City Tour

Visit Çeşme Castle, Kervansaray, ancient Çeşme Fountains

Visit to ruins of ancient Erythrai and modern Alaçatı

Social Dinner

Friday, April 16th

Meeting of TEHC project partners

Çeşme Lifelong Learning Centre

Çeşme Lifelong Learning Centre started its service in 1981. It reached today with increasing acceleration due to helpful services. Our Institute is located in Çeşme which is one of the most popular touristic towns in Çeşme, İzmir. Our company has been contributing to the region's social and cultural development in an important way with the courses which have been developed since the establishment until now. The mission of our company; by taking persons to the centre, we provide improvement in all the areas that people feel they aren't sufficient. While our company establishes the person's needs, we also improve people to be well-educated, capable, compatible with social life, accomplished the necessity of democratic life, self-confident, apologist of their values, open to change, modernist, earned their life with the products they produce and serve. They are able to follow the development of technology. We achieve this by not looking at any kind of social status, race, and sex or religious differences. Beyond the Turkish National Education's essential aims and principles, we want to be an active company that provides education for every person while following the technological and scientific improvement. Being a company which doesn't approach the education of adult people as a luxury or as an individual's limited period of life, contrary to this attitude our institute insists that the education is an act which is an essential part of national necessity and irrevocable part of being a citizen and also both a global and lifelong period. Thus, within the scope of this aim, our institute has several courses which are about traditional handicrafts, traditional folk dancing, Latin dances, playing musical instruments, photography, foreign languages and other skills. We also have courses for people who are under protection and need special education, for the children who work and live in the street in terms of the objectives of European Lifelong Learning Programme. Culture is our address; we will participate in all project activities, bring in our local network and will be responsible for setting up the agenda and for the practical arrangements and workshops. Together with the other partners we will take part in the preparation and implementation of all the planned activities and events, we will also be responsible for publishing and disseminating the project results in Turkey through the visual and written media.

Further informations: <http://cesmehem.meb.k12.tr/>

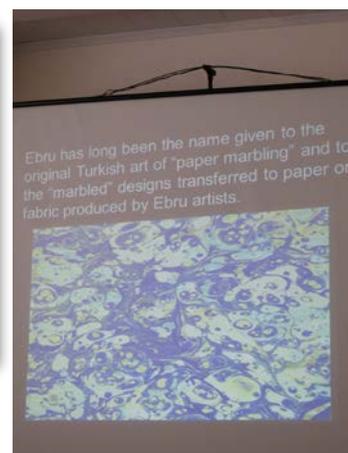
Informal get-together and diner

Informal first meeting and get-together of french, german and turkish participants.



Ancient handcraft workshop: Marbling

Hands on ancient handcraft, marbeling: with drops of colors placed on a basin filled with water and oil, a marbel-line strukture can be created by carefully place a papersheet onto the liquid. The color sticks to the paper. Every participant created his own unique artwork.



„Tourism Week“ Celebration in Çeşme City Center

Invitation to the presentation of Çeşme’s hotels and restaurants. The event took place at the ancient castle, build in 15th century.



Şirince Village (ancient greek village)

When Ephesus was mostly destroyed and abandoned in the 15th century, some of the Greek inhabitants settled just a few kilometers away and founded the village of Şirince. Today, the village is a touristic spot with small lanes and shops for herbs and jewelry.



Çeşme City Tour: Çeşme Castle, Kervansaray, ancient Çeşme Fountains

Today's Çeşme is a beautiful city and the holiday place. The historic towncenter is dominated by the harbour and the Çeşme Castle. The name Çeşme mean fountain in Persian, Çeşme has several hot springs.



Ancient Erythrai

The ancient city of Erythrai was one of the twelve cities of the Ionian colonies. Today, only ruins of the theatre are visible. Although it is an important historic place, it is not developed as a touristic spot like Ephesus. The amount of ancient ruins in this region is immense.



Work meetings and social dinner

During the first work meetings, the differences in culture and languages were discussed. The visits and experiences showed, how important and influencing the ancient history is to our common life. With wonderful food and a good "spirit" the first mobility of this project was celebrated.



Visit to Aachen and the Meuse-Rhine Euroregion

6. - 12. September 2014

This was the program for the meeting in Aachen, Germany:

Saturday, September 6th

Organisational meeting of teamleaders

Sunday, September 7th

Visit to traditional craft market, Aachen towncenter

Informal meeting of all participants, BBQ

Monday, September 8th

Workshop I: Welcome, Presentation of program

Guided City-Tour

Visit of Hot Springs, Roman Excavation, Aachen Cathedral

Tuesday, September 9th

Workshop II: Middle Ages in Europe: Aachen and the other regions

Visit to Exhibition „Charlemagne“

Wednesday, September 10th

Bustrip:

Visit to American Cemetery, ancient monastery of Val Dieu, Belgium

Visit to Art Tower in Eben Emael, Belgium

Visit to 3-Country-Point(Belgium-Germany-Netherlands)

Thursday, September 11th

Workshop III: Collecting information, planing of website and handbook, evaluation

Social Dinner

Friday, September 12th

Trip to Cologne by train

Guided city tour

Visit of Cologne Cathedral

KreaScientia: Institution for sustainable learning

KreaScientia as a non-profit organization supports social and cultural learning processes in the context of European integration and sustainable development. For this purpose KreaScientia develops learning tools, organizes seminars and works closely with European partners in the voluntary and educational sector. Located in the heart of Western Europe, KreaScientia is convinced that the future of Europe lies in the development of a regional and supra-national consciousness of the common cultural heritage of 3.000 years of European civilization. The awareness of the shared past reinforces European identity. This learning process can provide best in authentic learning sites.

KreaScientia has developed a toolbox on the European heritage showed on the Euro as common money (5 Euro Antiquity to 500 Euro Modern time). This is a framework that will be used for the exchanging activities. KreaScientia sets up projects and training courses for adults in the Euregion Meuse-Rhine - the three nation region of Germany, The Netherlands and Belgium. The experiences in cross-cultural communication in a broad sense will be brought in as expertise to conduct the project „Thinking European History and Culture“. This expertise will foster the benefit of participants and the distribution of the results.

We have been working with the French organization “Route Européenne des Légendes” in European seminars in 2012 on similar topics and since then we have a fruitful exchange of information, expertise and visions. We see it as a great chance to use the learning partnership of the Grundtvig programme continue and expand the previous work with other European partners. We will participate in all project activities, host the second set of workshops, bring in our local network and will be responsible for setting up the agenda and for the practical arrangements. Together with the other partners we will take part in the preparation and implementation of all the planned activities and events, we will also be responsible for publishing and disseminating the project results in Germany through the selected media by working within an European context.

Future-oriented learning of people and regions. By creative use of knowledge. KreaScientia combines scientific principles with creativity. The aim is to promote the sustainability of people and regions. People learn in the region in which they live. The creative use of knowledge for their own actions as well as in the conceptual work is KreaScientia’s guiding principle. The following criteria are relevant in this context:

- Cross-curricular and systemic thinking
- action-oriented learning (regional, European, international),
- learning from history for the future,
- cooperative and creative working

Further information: <http://www.kreascientia.org/>

Informal get-together and BBQ

First informal get-together and a typical german BBQ with the turkish and french participant and the german hosts.



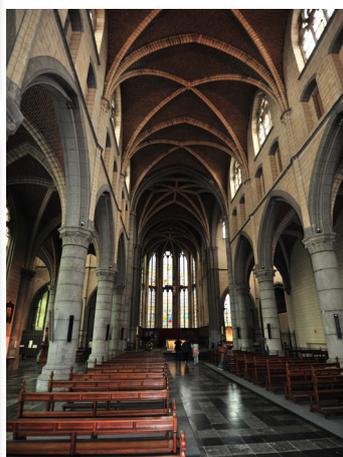
Aachen City Tour: Hot Springs, Roman Excavation, Aachen Cathedral

The City of Aachen is most famous for its medieval town center with the town hall and cathedral. The cathedral was the place of coronation of 33 European kings and queens. Charlemagne, one of Europe's most important emperors, chose Aachen as capital of his empire.



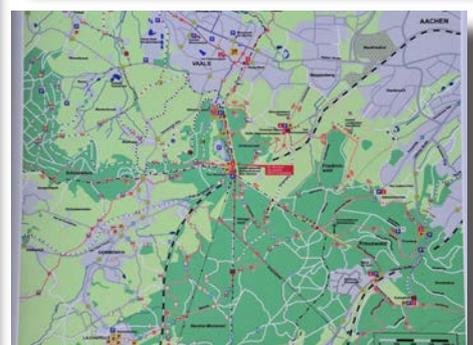
American Cemetery and ancient monastery of Val Dieu

Belgium is just a few kilometers south of Aachen. During the first and second World War many battles were fought in this region. Giant cemeteries still show this sad time in history. But Belgium is also well known for its world famous Abbey beer, still brewed in christian monasteries.



Art Tower in Eben Emael and 3-Country-Point

The art tower of Eben Emael in Belgium, just 10 km south of Maastricht, Netherlands is a symbol for peace. This memorial as the three-country-point of Belgium, Netherlands and Germany it must-see touristic spot. The place of three-country-point is also the highest point of the Netherlands.



Cologne City Tour

Cologne, the river Rhine and the world famous ‚Dom‘ are touristic, cultural and historic important spots no visitor should miss. The cruise on the river and the taste of the ‚Kölsch‘ beer was a good finish for this mobility.



Visit to Reims L'Ardenne

11. - 16. May 2015

This was the program for the meeting in Reims L'Ardenne, France:

Monday, May 11th

Informal meeting of all participants
Visit ,Le Musee de la reddition'
Visit ,Cave de champagne Mumm'
Reception in the City Hall

Tuesday, May 12th

Guided tour: Cathedral and Palais du Tau
Visit ,Fort de la Pompelle'
Reception in the council of Region Champagne-Ardennes

Wednesday, May 13th

Bustrip:
Visit ,Butte de Vauquois'
Visit ,Camp de repos allemand de la Valée Moreau'
Visit ,Tranchées de la Main de Massiges'

Thursday, May 14th

Bustrip:
Visit of American Cemetery
Visir ,Les points de vue de Noyers Pont Maugis'
Visit Castle in Sedan
Visit Bazeilles ,Musee Les dernnieres cartouches'
Visit Charleville-Mezieres ,Musee Le Grand Marionnettiste'
Social Dinner

Friday, May 15th

Bustrip:
Visit ,Chemin des Dames'
Visit Paris
(optional) ,Les Invalides'
(optional) Exposition De Gaulle - Churchill
(optional) Tour Eiffel
(optional) Montmartre
Bustour ,Paris by night'

Saturday, May 16th

Workshop: Collecting information, planing of website and handbook, evaluation

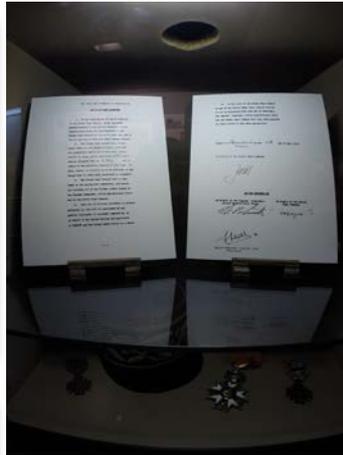
Route Européenne des Légendes

Association „Route Européenne des Légendes“ is a non-profit organization working in the fields of education, culture and tourism. Our main objective is to contribute the valorisation of the European intangible and tangible cultural heritage, stepping on the grand tales and legends. We unite experts with different national and professional backgrounds in order to combine knowledge from different cultures and scientific disciplines and reconstitute and preserve this heritage. The governing council of the association is composed of 31 members from six European countries, coming from the fields of academia, culture and performing arts, tourism, education etc. Our association is composed of 4 councils – cultural, tourism, scientific and international council where the major achievements and challenges in the relevant fields are discussed. Because of the growing number of institutional partners showing interest in our activities, a council of public authorities is currently under construction. The association organizes regularly groups of reflection, conferences and workshops to share this knowledge, exchange ideas and good practices. We operate educational, cultural and tourism circuits aiming at the promotion of the cultural heritage and its territories of origin. We are working on the establishment of a new route of “slow progression” (by walking, cycling, horse or boat) called Via Bayard, on the model of pilgrim routes in order to make discover the value of nature and countryside through the steps of the European tales and legends. We organize training courses for cultural tourism animators with the support of the French League of Education. We will participate in all project activities, host the third set of workshops and will be responsible for setting up the agenda and for the practical arrangements. Together with the other partners we will take part in the preparation and implementation of all the planned activities and events, we will also be responsible for publishing and disseminating the project results in France through the selected media.

„Le Musee de la reddition“ and „Cave de champagne Mumm“

At ‚Le Musee de la reddition‘, a former school building, the declaration of surrender was signed on May 7th 1945.

In the afternoon we visited one of Reims famous Champagner producers, G.H. Mumm.



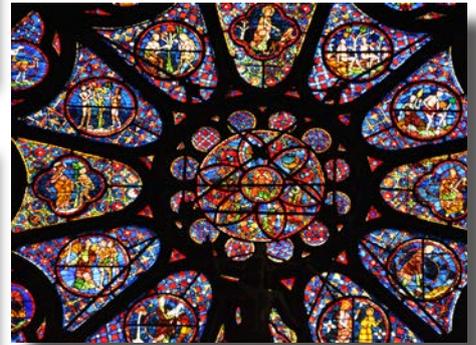
Reception City Hall Reims

Visiting the City hall of Reims, the participant could admire the richness of its time. In a discussion with local representatives, the participants learned more about administrative structures in modern France.



Reims City Tour Cathedral and Palais du Tau

The Cathedral of Reims was the place of the coronation of several french kings. It has the same importance as the cathedral of Aachen or the Westminster Abbye of London. During the World War I, German troupes destroyed most of the Cathedral to demoralize the french civilians.



Le talisman de Charlemagne
Or, décor en filigranes, saphir, grenats,
émeraudes et perles
Xe siècle



Fort de la Pompelle

The Fort de la Pompelle was one of Reims defensive forts during World War I. After it was occupied 1914 by the Germans and reoccupied three weeks later, it remained French although heavy bombardments and assaults.



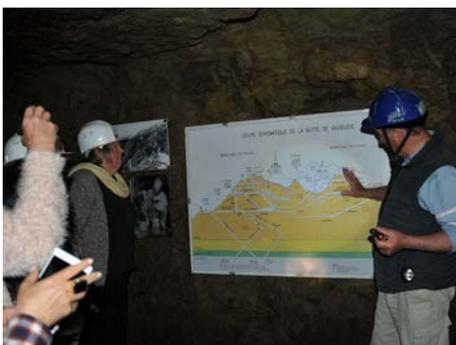
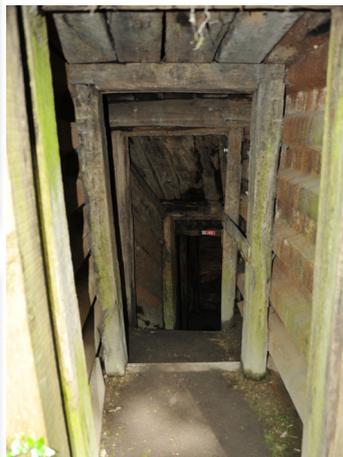
Reception Council Region Champagner-Ardennes

France is divided into 27 regions of which Champagner-Ardennes is again divided into four departments. With just about 1.3 million people living in this region, it is world famous for its Champagner. Together with Lorraine and Alsace it is also known for several deadly battles during World War I and II.



Butte de Vauquois

The Butte de Vauquois is a hill with military importance because of its observation possibilities. During World War I French and German troops conquered and recaptured the hill several times and digged several tunels to place mines in the hill. More than 4.000 soldiers of both sides where killed on this fightings.



Camp de repos allemand de la Vallée Moreau

During the visit to the German Camp at Vallée Moreau, the participants became an inside view how life was for the soldiers at this place during World War I.



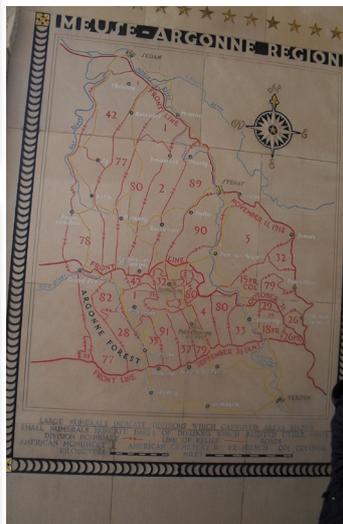
Tranchées de la Main de Massiges

The dreary trenches that looked like the war has just stopped let most of the participants feel the hopelessness soldiers at that time must have felt. The opposite armies were just in talking distance. In the white calkstone gravel still corpse of killed soldiers are found nowadays.



American Cemetery

A place of peace but also a place of death are the several cemeteries in the region. American, French, Russian and also German soldiers are buried in endless rows showing the futility of all wars.



Les Points de vue de Noyers Pont Maugis and Castle Sedan

During World War I and II the city of Sedan and the surrounding hills were an area of deadly battles. This is also visible by the more than 27.000 mostly German graves at the nearby cemetery.



Musee Le Dernières Cartouches (Bazeilles) and Musee Le Grand Marionnettiste (Charleville)

The two museums „Le Dernières Cartouches“ (The last cartridges) and „Le Grand Marionnettiste“ (Grand Puppeteer) could not be more different. While the first museum show the heroic fight during the Franco-Prussian War (1870-71), the second givs an impression of the common culture of puppets around the world.



Sozial dinner

After visitin several places of death and war during the last few days, all participant were happy to enjoy some fun and laughing. Only the weather could have been a bit better.



Chemin des Dames and Paris

Visiting France without visiting Paris would have been just halve of the trip. After another battlefield and war tunnels, a city tour with stops at Napoleons Grave, Montmatre and the Champs Elysee, the Eiffeltower was the final highlight.



Work meetings

The evaluation of the visit to France took place at the last day of the mobility. For all participants it was important, that we all have one thing in common: nobody wants war!

