

## Fact sheet 1: 10 years of “Europa macht Schule – Europe meets School” – overview

### The programme

- **Guest students from Europe** carry out a project about their home country together with school classes in Germany.
- **Visions and aims:** “Europe meets School” is a programme to promote interaction between Europeans, and is carried out on a voluntary basis. It aims to bring the idea of European exchange to life and ensure greater knowledge and understanding of each other. The intercultural exchange aspect of the “Europe meets School” programme actively contributes towards intra-European dialogue, encourages a sense of belonging and togetherness in Europe and helps to strengthen European unity. Guest students from all over Europe act as mini ambassadors for their country. They present their home country and its specific cultural, historical, social and political characteristics in creative ways in schools throughout Germany.
- The **non-profit association Europa macht Schule e.V was founded** in 2006 following a student conference on the topic of “What keeps Europe together?”.
- In 2017, Federal President Frank-Walter Steinmeier became patron, taking over from his predecessors who had likewise been patron since 2008.
- Since 2009, the programme has been **coordinated** by the DAAD and **funded** by the Federal Ministry of Education and Research.

### What has EmS achieved to date (2006/07–2015/16)?

- Around **1,500 guest students** have taken part in the “Europe meets School” programme to date
- They have carried out **1,400 school projects** in total
- These projects have reached around **35,500 pupils**
- Projects take place **annually** at over **150 schools**
- Every year approx. **30 locations** are involved with over **200 active voluntary location team members**

### Milestones and awards:

- Recognition of the **500th participant** in the 2010/11 programme year (Hélène Marquaire of France, with the project “The immigration novel *Un aller simple* by Didier van Cauwelaert”, carried out at Europaschule Bornheim)
- Recognition of the **1,000th participant** in the 2013/14 programme year (Markéta Filipová of the Czech Republic, with the project “The Czech Republic – a country of fairy tales”, carried out at the Swiss International School Regensburg)
- **Engagement award** from FES-Ehemalige e.V. (2007)
- **Charlemagne Youth Prize** for the partner location of Prague (2012)
- **Euroscola prize** of the European Parliament for a project in Mölln (2012)
- **European award “Big Blue Bear”** of the state of Berlin and the Representation of the European Commission for the location of Berlin (2015)
- **10-year programme anniversary in the 2015/16 programme year** (various activities)
- **European Lily for European Youth Work** for the *Europa macht Schule e.V.* association, awarded by Europa-Union Deutschland e.V. (2016)

### “Europe meets School”

... creates a specific point of access to the topic area of “Europe”.

... makes the idea of European exchange a lively and tangible experience.

... increases knowledge of other cultures within Europe.

... promotes European mobility among school pupils.

... contributes towards making guest students' stays in Germany successful.