



# Anniversary Toolkit

For AEGEE locals organising an anniversary event in 2015  
Celebrating 30 years of AEGEE

#AEGEE30

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The **Anniversary project** was established by two consecutive Comité Directeurs in order to have a team of people working on the coordination, planning and realisation of a series of anniversary events in 2015 across the AEGEE network - celebrating the 30th anniversary of the foundation of AEGEE. The project team consist of 6 AEGEE members from all over Europe, eager to work hard on ensuring the anniversary celebrations will be among the most successful AEGEE events next year.

Our main **AIMS** are:

- to **SUPPORT** the organisation of the anniversary events across the network by providing them with the general thematic framework "Europe in me - me in Europe",

- to **PROVIDE** locals with ideas for possible activities and materials for the anniversary events - the locals are free to use them and/or do their own sessions and activities (as long as it is connected to the anniversary thematics!)

- to **CONNECT** the anniversary events - to increase the internal and external impact of the event series, to reach out to our members and reach out to future members, partners and supporters,

- to **EDUCATE** our members about AEGEE's past achievements, successful projects, struggles, hardships, the Europe our predecessors were living in and the possibilities they had and by understanding that

- to **INSPIRE** our members to become active contributors in fulfilling the true potential of our organisation and reestablish AEGEE as the revolutionary and influential youth organisation it was once conceptualised to be by our founders,

- to make AEGEE's anniversary celebration the highlight of the year 2015.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE ANNIVERSARY PROJECT





## Anniversary events across the Network

Organised by any AEGEE local using the Anniversary Toolkit  
Length and time of the event depends on the local Anniversary Calendar\*

Anniversary Celebration  
AGORA Oviedo

## The Night of the Seven Antennae

Organised by 7 selected locals  
3-day event commemorating the event of 1986  
In cooperation with Association des Amis de Franck Biancheri

Final Conference  
Brussels

Europe in me - Me in Europe

Cooperation of:

AEGEE locals

Anniversary Team

Comité Directeur

Les Anciens

Association des Amis de Franck Biancheri



### The Anni Team provides you with:

- Guidelines for setting up your event
- Content support and ideas for Thematic activities
- Contact towards external speakers
- Contact towards Les Anciens
- Anniversary Calendar
- Promotion for your local anni events

### The Hosting Local provides:

- Logistic arrangements (venue and accommodation)
- Local promotion
- Contact with local media
- Audience!

Organising team that turns the anni event into the event of the year!

## Is your local **organising an Anniversary event** next year?

Read further and find your guidelines and tips here for two different types of Anni events:

- A. 'AEGEE 30' anniversary event
- B. The 'Night of the Seven Antennae' event



- a. Would **host 40+ participants from various backgrounds** and AEGEE/non-AEGEE involvements - but try to involve as many people as possible!
- b. Should be **open to externals as well** - non-AEGEEan activists, locals groups or (possible) supporters - keep in mind, an event like this could give you a huge possibility for fundraising activities!
- c. Would be **built on the general thematics of the Anniversary concept**: find some tips and ideas for sessions and activities in the second half of the booklet - AND contact the Anni team or CD if you need more support!
- d. Would **welcome the alumni or “oldies” of your local** to introduce past stories from the local to your participants, to share best practices, be inspired by success stories and learn from mistakes made - continuity is essential!
- e. Would be **reported by local media portals**, newspapers, student TV or even municipality or governmental institutions. Contact the relevant portals and try to advertise your event as a highlight of your activities and explain the advantages the local media could get from being present at your event - it is not as hard as it might seem first! :)
- f. Would **have a European dimension** and would put AEGEE’s role into a European context: learn more about our AND Europe’s history and have sessions and debates following a critical line of thinking analyzing the past and present processes in Europe
- g. Would be a **European event ensuring the cultural aspect** is well-represented there; cultural performances, concerts, stand up comedy, whatever you can think of to entertain your participants!





1. The events **MUST** be of **high quality and executed with neat organisation** - make a careful choice when selecting the venue, inviting externals and partners etc. - imagine you want to organise an event that is impressive and speaks highly of our organisation! Ideal venues: conference halls, university auditorium or main hall, municipality conference room etc.
2. The events **MUST** be **open to AEGEE and non-AEGEE members** from any antennae or local group that is interested in participating.
3. The events should be telecasted - **online streaming MUST** be provided. The financial support you will receive from the AAFB will allow you to pay a professional who will take care of this aspect.
4. Your event **MUST reflect upon the event of 1986 and include a session on the life and work of Franck Biancheri** - either by a informative and interactive session for the participants or an exhibition with a tour around during the event. (The Anni Team can provide you with the materials)
5. Your event **MUST be linked to the general thematics of the AEGEE Anniversary:**  
Europe in me - Me in Europe: The role of youth in the construction of the future of Europe  
Details about the 5 subtopics and content/activity suggestions will be detailed in the second section of the booklet.
6. Your event **MUST involve elements of the European culture** as one of the highlight activities: organise a concert, invite a performer (e.g. stand up comedy), or the audience on stage (talent show), ask participants to introduce their culture - recreate the traditional Cultural European Night



### **How many participants should we have in our event?**

Ideal number of participants: 40+ but depending on the capacity of your local, try to involve as many people as possible. Targeting university students, local groups, other NGO members, you can present your event as a more international cooperation-focused event that fosters young people's role in today's society. Know your audience and meet their needs in presenting yourself!

### **Are we allowed to ask for a participation fee from our participants?**

You are allowed to ask for a reasonable amount of participation fee from your participants but only upon preliminary consultation with the Anniversary Team and explaining the budget. The support of the Association of the es Amis de Fanck Biancheri would ideally cover all your costs for the event but if you still cannot make ends meet, participation fee is allowed.

### **Can we host our participants in a gym?**

You are allowed to host participants in a gym but if the circumstances make it possible, dormitory or youth hostel is preferred. Note that you must provide a hostel room for your possible speakers and external guests.

### **Who is responsible for the content of the event? Can we come up with our own activities or can we only use the toolkit?**

The final programme of the event should be checked by the Anniversary team and CD. The toolkit provides you with some guidelines and there will be presentations available for every local to use but in case of the N7A events and because of the involvement of the Association de Amis de Franck Biancheri, we would like to follow the events from planning until the end. But of course, locals are free to come up with their own ideas for sessions, workshops and other activities during the events!

### **So it's one night with 7 simultaneously happening events in seven cities. Is there also going to be a party like in 1986?**

There should be! One of the key elements of the 1986 event was that it provided not only the educational experience but also great entertainment for the audience live and sitting in front of the television. For an authentic recreation of the event, we strongly advise the locals to think about the cultural entertainment part of the programme :)





### **Think out of the box!**

The Night of the Seven Antennae's programme also included concerts, telecasted entertainment combined with the learning experience. Think of your anni event not only as a serious conference but as an one-day event that people can engage in fun activities as well: energisers, organised flashmobs, interactive games, mini study fair or... invite a cool local band to give you a concert!

### **Share and grow together!**

Invite your fellow local activists from other NGOs to your anni event. By taking one step back and learning more about the history of the organisation you both might realise you have more in common than you had thought... so why not cooperate and have more impact together?

### **Call the paparazzi!**

Organising a great event is just as important as having good PR for it. Make sure you not only promote but also report from your event AND get in touch with the local media channels who would be interested in broadcasting as well! Think big, call newspapers, local TV channels - think of it as a great fundraising opportunity!

### **Don't forget your AEGEE oldies!**

For the most authentic history session of your anni event, invite your former members, founders of your local (if available) to present for your participants and for your local board. Learn more about the past from the ones who were there, learn about their motivation, hardships and outcomes and plan the next project together!

### **The many faces of AEGEE**

Viral videos are the ultimate tools for getting the attention of the masses. Shoot a short (30sec - 1 min) video at your anniversary event and send it to the Anniversary team for the final video compilation of the Anniversary Year! Video ideas: what does AEGEE mean to you? (3 words), welcoming words from your event, introducing something unique about your local etc.



Europe needs youth!

AEGEE as a provider of non-formal education

Europe in me - Me in Europe  
The role of youth in the construction of the future of Europe

Old Europe, New Europe

Mobility and borderless Europe

The state of (our?) democracy



## Europe needs youth!

### **Present and future of the European Union - dialogue between young people and politicians over the past 30 years**

Do you know any historian/professor in your faculty you could invite to your event to discuss the past and present state of the EU, it's opportunities and struggles?

**Idea for panel discussion**

### **Shaping Europe - how can youth influence the future?**

AEGEE's role and major historical achievements in mobilizing, educating and fostering the knowledge of the next generation of active European citizens?

Do you know any AEGEE oldie with an incredible success story you could invite to your event as guest speaker?

CD and Les Anciens can help you with the selection\*

**Idea for panel discussion**

### **Civic education under 18 - involving a greater mass of young people**

What are the pros and cons in the better involvement of the younger generation in the political processes?

On a bigger platform: European Youth Forum's Vote at 16 campaign

**Case study: revisiting AEGEE's Yourope needs you! project**

### **Youth empowerment, participation, employability, youth rights**

Europe-wide campaigns ran by AEGEE and several other youth NGOs in order to have a more effective lobbying platform for young people's interests towards the European Institutions

**Case Study session on: Y Vote campaigns, youthrights.eu campaign**





Youth and citizenship; inclusion in the decision-making processes

Topics of the Structured Dialogue on youth - Introducing the Structured Dialogue to the participants of this particular session;

Challenges and opportunities in youth political participation on local, regional, national and European level

**Idea for simulation and discussion**

**European Citizens' Initiative** - AEGEE's role in including it in the Lisbon Treaty

History and recent challenges, improvements - reconnecting citizens and institutions

<http://www.greeneuropeanjournal.eu/end-ecocide-shows-eci-can-mountain-climb-activists/>

**Idea for case study on the End Ecocide in Europe ECI or Fraternite 2020's HelpErasmus.eu**

**AEGEE taking part in political protests**

AEGEE members at Gezi Park

AEGEE members at Maidan Square - and the rest of Ukraine

**Idea for panel discussions - different events focusing on the different countries**

**How to make the European processes less bureaucratic and more youth-friendly**

Youth-led initiatives bringing the EU closer to the citizens

**Idea for case study: Europe on Track project**



## Old Europe, New Europe

### **How did it look like being a youth activist back in the 1980's, 1990's, 2000's?**

Opportunities for young people to get involved in the political field in the past and nowadays

**Idea for panel discussion** - invite the alumni of your local who were active during these decades or ask for the contacts from Les Anciens or CD\*

### **The past of international project management - back to the basics**

Letters, fax machines and live meetings: advantages and disadvantages of working on international projects before the internet

**Simulation: setting up and managing a project/organising a European event - without internet**

### **Expansion of AEGEE / expansion of the EU towards the East**

Revisiting the time the East-West WG was working hard on the expansion of AEGEE and how did this milestone affect the development of our organisation. Revisiting the time the Berlin wall fell and the Eastern countries became a step closer to joining the Union - pros and cons of the past challenges and a critical analysis of the situation today

Look for experts among your professors, MPs, MEPs - ask CD or Les Anciens for further help with possible speakers!

**Idea for panel discussion or Oxford debate**

### **Bridging Europe: The European Neighbourhood region**

AEGEE's role in the European Neighbourhood countries - inviting speakers from the region to talk about recent developments

**Idea for Panel discussion / Debate** - in cooperation with the Eastern Partnership Project



## The state of (our?) democracy

### **The roots of democracy - from ancient to modern times**

The initial idea behind democracy and its evolution over the centuries

#### **Idea for simulation practice - recreate the ancient Agora of the Greeks**

(The decision-making process and the measures - and a toga party can follow!)

### **Information availability to motivate youth engagement in EP elections**

Online campaigns and reaching out to people (do citizens care enough?)

Youth campaigns launched in 2014 to motivate young people to take an active part in the EP elections (European Youth Forum's League of Young Voters, Young European Federalists' bus tour, AEGEE's Y Vote, etc.)

#### **Idea for panel discussion / case study**

### **Where past and present collide: revisiting old projects and founding new ones**

Education for Democracy & Democracy in Practice project co-hosted event

Research the previous project and get in touch with former project team members

**Idea for case study / workshop:** - motivation and main outcomes of the past project vs. the current project





### **Democratic innovations: E-Democracy**

Pros and cons, success stories and the possible mass implementation in the future

**Idea for case study session:** Estonia

### **Democratic innovations 2: Power of the social media**

(e.g. ice bucket challenge)

CD / Les Anciens can help you with finding an expert / speaker on the topic

**Idea for workshop / simulation**

### **Generation Y: study of the millennial culture and their engagement in democratic processes**

Abundance of information, means and tools for participation, yet lack of interest in doing so

Lack of ownership of citizenship, lack of willingness to change status quo - problem of an entire generation?

**Idea for panel discussion / consultation with experts**

### **Current state of democracy in Europe - a critical analysis**

Ideal state of democracy vs. reality - lack of trust and transparency

Hardships and obstructing forces faced by many European countries and their citizens

(e.g. Romanian elections, Hungarian civil society-limiting measures)

**Ideas for case study sessions**



## AEGEE as a provider of Non-Formal Education tools

### **AEGEE Academy and European Schools - founded in the 1990's**

Find previous ACA board members or even founders to talk about their experiences from the past: how did training in AEGEE start and how did it develop; current ACA members could describe the current state of trainings in AEGEE

**Idea for case study session / training development**

### **Results of the impact measurement surveys conducted**

Presenting the results during this session and discussing it with the participant if they can relate to the outcomes of the surveys

**Idea for case study:** Create the portfolio of the average AEGEE member - a careerist, an adventurer, a trainer, an idealist etc.

### **State of recognition of non-formal education - ambiguities in the process**

Preceding projects and initiatives to recognise NFE and the answer from the institutions

Impact/development measurement: grades vs. certificates

NFE vs. formal education - complementary or discrepant?

**Idea for panel discussion** - speakers invited from you university and experts from the NFE field

### **'We learn in universities but we are taught in AEGEE' - Success stories from the past**

Involuntary obtaining of skills or a planned development process?

European Schools vs. individual project management and european level membership

**Meet AEGEE oldies and learn their stories of success**



## Mobility and borderless Europe

### **Young Europeans on cultural exchanges over the past 30 years -**

how this experience shapes the identity of young people.

Exploring European / nationalistic / sentiments - Do you feel European? Why?

**Idea for workshop / personal stories** - try to capture the moment on video!

### **'Erasmus Generation' - and possibilities we are given by the 'borderless Europe'**

How does the EU / Schengen zone influence our everyday lives, right and responsibilities as European citizens

**Idea for simulation practice:** compare the generation of your parents and their opportunities to nowadays

**Idea for activity:** exhibition of the different maps of Europe 50-60 years back

### **AECEE's advocacy and youth movements supporting mobility programmes in Europe**

The road to Erasmus+: previously proposed programmes by the Commission (Erasmus for All, Yes Europe etc.),

Brief explanation of the Multiannual Financial Framework supporting mobility programmes and how funding is divided

**Idea for case study:** getting to know the system behind the famous brand (Erasmus)

### **Organise a Mobility Fair at your university and invite people for a session**

Case studies on different mobility programmes asking the participants which one they have taken part in

**Idea for comparative analysis**





## What about the materials?

There are already available resources your local can use for illustrations at the event:

[AEGEE History Toolkit](#)

[AEGEE TV videos](#)

[One decade and beyond - Anniversary booklet](#)

[AEGEE History video - 20 years anniversary](#)

Key to Europes

And what the Anniversary Team can provide you with:

Materials and contacts from Association des Amis de Franck Biancheri

Materials and contacts from Les Anciens

Survey templates about youth activities / engagement

Online platforms - for promotion and communication

AEGEE Anniversary Calendar



That's all, folks!

You can reach the Anniversary Team at:  
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For 30 years with AEGEE - Europeanly yours,  
The Anniversary Team  
Anna, Evita, Johannes, Mara, Réka, Veronika and  
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#AEGEE30

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