

Dear Colleagues, Dear Friends,

How to present in short a 'dinosaur' of EYCA, working for the association already more than 25 years? Should't be in the Board only young people, who can still use the card and have „fresh” experiences from today's world?

Maybe best solution is to mix new Energy with old experiences?

I started my civic activity during me study in Gdansk, Poland in 1988. I was one of the founders of NZS – Independent Student Association – the first independent youth and student organisation in Soviet block. Of course our main goal was that time to fight against th communist regime together with Lech Walesa and his Solidarnsc trade union and change the whole system for free and democratic. But NZS developed also social programmes for students and took care on their education, sport, travel, culture and social life. Finally I was a President of the National Board of the organisation, having more than 100.000 members.

I was one of the initiators of the Polish Youth Council of the independent youth organisations, having close co-operation with scouts and sport organisations as well.

In 1995 we started European Youth Card EURO<26 in Poland, which we continue till now. The card has been used during all this years by more than 2,5 million young Poles. We offer all of them, and those who visit Poland, access to solid discounts. And from the very beginning an excellent insurance policy for Polish cardholders.

Me, and our organisation were alwas active within EYCA family. We hosted in Poland 2 EYCA Conferences (las one 4 years ago), 3 so-called Teychnical Meetings, 3 separate EYCA Board Meetings and few Regional Meetings. We were always open to share our experiences with other EYCA members. Representants of Bulgaria, Romania, Serbia, Russia, Ukraine, Czech Republic etc. visited as in the past, learning e.g. about our distribution system, discount negotiation, co-operation with banks and insurance companies.

My carieer let me also touch a bit politics and business world. I was elected twice to the Polish Parliament (even beeing the Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee) 2007-2009) and after that to the European Parliament (2009-2014). In the European Parliament I worked in the Foreign Affairs Committee, Committee of Development Policy but also Youth Intergroup.

After that I am working for one of the biggest Public Relations and Public Affairs companies in the world, what let me know high level business sector and its representatives as well.

I think both experiences can be usefull for EYCA. For example, we try as EYCA to develope our relationship with the European Parliament, where I know personally probably half of the members. Even last years I helped EYCA office to organise a seminar in the European Parliament building. I also helped Manel, EYCA Director to meet high level European representatives of such a giant companies like Samsung and Huawei.

I am still the President of the Polish member of EYCA – Polish Youth Projects Association and still would like to dedicate my time to EYCA.

Because I still belive in this beautifull project!