

## CULTURAL IDENTITY DAYS



NETWORK IDENTITÀ  
CULTURALI  
2007/2009

con il Patrocinio  
della Presidenza del  
Consiglio dei Ministri

## PIÙ CULTURE UNA CIVILTÀ: L'EUROPA



IL FILO DI ARIANNA:  
ARTE COME IDENTITÀ  
CULTURALE



Fondazione  
Cardinale Cusano



COMITATO NAZIONALE  
MINORANZE ETNICO-LINGUISTICHE  
IN ITALIA DEL MINISTERO PER I  
BENI E LE ATTIVITÀ CULTURALI

Sede operativa del  
Comitato Scientifico e  
Organizzativo:  
Comune di Salò (BS)  
Lungolago Zanardelli, 55

Coordinamento:

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## 2008 EUROPEAN YEAR OF THE INTERCULTURAL DIALOGUE

### MORE CULTURES ONE CIVILISATION: EUROPE Art as cultural identity

#### Introduction:

The European Union respects the national identity of its Member States (article 6, paragraph 3, of the EU treaty). The EU should not be a fusion of states but a union of member states which keep their national characteristics. This diversity in characteristics and national identities gives the EU its moral strength put at the service of everybody. Also the Council of Europe states that in Europe cultural heritage is recognised as a vehicle of cultural identity. The knowledge of this heritage depends on both the quality of its enhancement and on the ability of Europeans to recognise and appreciate national cultural heritage and that of the other EU countries.

In order to find some procedures suitable for an answer to these needs of our society, the Scientific Association I.C.S. International Communication Society, made up of teachers, journalists, publishers, which for about ten years has been dealing with the dissemination of art, culture and science through the use of new technologies (the Perseo project supported by the European Commission within the framework of Culture 2000 programme, Multimedia Theatre, Netdays, eSchola) proposed in 2005 the project: "**Ariadne's Thread: Art as Cultural Identity**". The title suggests the strategy on which the project is based: rebuild through the labyrinths of memory the past of our Country from the origins to date, thus leaving the identity as value and culture emerged in particular through its cultural heritage and its symbols.

The intervention areas regard the promotion of projects aimed at training and raising awareness of young people to culture in all its aspects, through the activation of educational itineraries which have as a starting point the artistic and cultural heritage of one's region within the framework of Italian and European cultural heritage; the promotion of study, research and documentation initiatives (with paper and multimedia publications) regarding cultural heritage and activities in order to enhance history, culture and traditions of regions at a national level with experimental models which can be reproduced and adjusted to various levels of communication, information and training.

The experimentation of the project "**Ariadne's Thread: Art as Cultural Identity**" has had until now a positive outcome and a good assessment from those Bodies in charge of checking.

Therefore we have embarked on a three-year project with the proposal of suggestions to schools and universities for regional experimentations (2007-2009).

The same method was implemented in 2007 to celebrate the fiftieth anniversary of the historic signing of the "Treaties of Rome" on 25 March 1957: the General Secretariat of the Presidency of the Republic in collaboration with the Delegation in Italy of the European Commission, with the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities, with Regione Lazio and with the Support of the European Parliament, organised a big Exhibition in Salone dei Corazzieri of Palazzo del Quirinale (24 March/20 May 2007) in which 27 EU countries (Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Czech Republic, Great Britain, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Hungary) participated with their artistic works.

*"These works - said Italian President Napolitano - show us as Europe has*

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*been and is at the same time one and plural, capable of being, without cancelling its differences, in a common cultural space and therefore in a common project of economic, judicial and political integration".*

The President of the European Commission, José Manuel Durão Barroso said: *"European culture is the place for diversity, a diversity which is our richness and has to be preserved. However, apart from this diversity, have we done enough to create a sentiment of European identity and belonging? I think it is a capital question to which European, national, regional and local Institutions as well as our civil society must give an answer".*

In order to widen this initiative and get European people's to carry out an in-depth study on the knowledge of their own identities and to know that of the other countries, the Association I.C.S. International Communication Society launches for 2007/2010 the project

### **MORE CULTURES ONE CIVILISATION: EUROPE** **Art as cultural identity**

This project aims to share the methods and experiences of the project **"Ariadne's Thread: Art as cultural identity"** with other European countries.

This initiative will begin from the school year 2007/2008 and the first results will be presented in the 2008 edition of the project.

In order to promote the initiative, the Association I.C.S. will give information on the above-mentioned Exhibition in Italian, French, English and German in its website ([www.icsociety.net](http://www.icsociety.net)) and will create a Network of Cultural Identities where to put, year after year, the project results. Prizes could be some travels to know the works of another country which are of particular interest, thus developing the intercultural dialogue.

Another aspect to highlight is given by the "common Christian roots" which cannot be ignored and consequently the outstanding cultural heritage of the Sacred Art (art for the space of liturgical celebration, religious Christian art, art inspired from a Christian point of view) relevant also to the European cultural identity cannot be ignored as well.

This particular aspect of cultural heritage will be developed in collaboration with Fondazione Cardinale Cusano, presided over by Monsig. Giangiulio Radivo whose main objective is the promotion of knowledge of "the Artists in the world" and the passing of memory on to future generations".

The "map" of the cultural identity would not be complete without the knowledge and updating on ethnical linguistic minorities. For this reason an agreement has been signed with the National Committee for Ethnical and Linguistic Minorities in Italy of the Ministry of Cultural Heritage and Activities presided over by Prof. Pierfranco Bruni to propose also this sector to the in-depth study on the part of schools and universities.

A special Scientific Committee will coordinate the different events and evaluate students' works.

Contest Notice  
**MORE CULTURES ONE CIVILISATION: EUROPE**  
**Art as Cultural Identity**

Following the events held in 2006 within the framework of CULTURAL IDENTITY DAYS and collaboration agreements with public and private Bodies, the Association I.C.S. International Communication Society widens the 2007/2008 session of the Network of Cultural Identities for the research project "Ariadne's Thread: Art as Cultural Identity" within the framework of the European Year for intercultural dialogue.

All this is done in harmony with **the general objectives of the 2008 European Year** which will have to regard the promotion of intercultural dialogue through specific projects aimed at helping European citizens "to learn how to live together in harmony and how to overcome the differences relevant to their cultural, religious and linguistic diversity not only between cultures of different Member States, but also between different cultures and religious groups of the Member States". Furthermore the objective of the project is to raise awareness among European citizens and those who live in the European Union to the "importance to develop an active European citizenship open to the world, respectful of cultural diversity and founded on EU common values".

However the actions will have to "highlight the contribution of the different cultures and expressions of cultural diversity to the heritage and to the ways of life of the EU Member States" and "to export the EU common values" to the relations of the EU with the rest of the world, "thus strengthening its leading role in the promotion and safeguard of human rights and democracy". Another objective is also to turn education into a "a fundamental vector to learn diversity and to better understand other cultures", to promote mobility exchanges and know-how application and "to give mass media an important role in the promotion of the equality principle and reciprocal understanding". Furthermore the actions will have to be done in cooperation with European institutions, national, regional and local authorities and with international Bodies such as the Council of Europe and UNESCO. In order to reach the objectives of the European Year, some events and initiatives on a European scale will be encouraged whose main aim will be to promote intercultural dialogue and to highlight the experiences on the theme of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue. But there will be also events and initiatives at a national and regional level with a strong European dimension aimed at promoting the objectives of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue, "with a specific reference to actions aimed at civic education and at the perception of the other in its difference" as well as information and awareness campaigns.

There will be also consultations with transnational networks and with those interested of the civil society in order to evaluate the effectiveness and impact and launch the bases for long-term developments of the European Year of Intercultural Dialogue.

Young people's projects within the framework of EC programmes such as Socrates, Youth and Culture will be favoured.

**In order to participate in the fulfilment of the above-mentioned objectives, the Association I.C.S. International Communication Society in collaboration with public and private Bodies promotes the project "More Cultures One Civilisation: Europe: Art as Cultural Identity" with the specific aims to :**

**strengthen the spirit of European citizenship starting from the knowledge and enhancement of cultural heritage and of the specific belonging identity;**  
**favour cultural interaction and multicultural dimension of education through differences and resemblances in the ways of knowledge in different cultures.**

**All this through the definition of specific intercultural curricula in collaboration with different disciplines: from the Italian language to history, from geography to music, from religion to education and image up to the scientific sector.**

**Participation:**

Students from Middle Schools (10-14 years old), High Schools (14-18 years old) and Universities (19-24 years old) **in collaboration with similar school institutions of one or more Countries belonging to the European Union are invited to participate.**

Works can be made by using new communication technologies (CD-Roms, Internet, Video) as well as the traditional paper material (in this case a short summary in PowerPoint is needed).

The product must be accompanied by a short summary in digital and paper of one page at most illustrated by a short bibliography and sitography. No more than two works are accepted for each school.

**It is possible to choose among the following sections:**

**1- General Section:**

Research can be carried out either as "excursus" on a given subject (for example architecture of houses and/or of cities, theatre, means of transport, communication, fashion, etc.) or by highlighting new phenomena or regarding a specific historical period (Roman period, Middle Ages, Renaissance, etc.).

**2- Sacred Art Section:**

Research on cultural heritage of the Sacred Art: art for the space of liturgical celebration, art with religious Christian subject, art inspired from a Christian point of view, in relation to time, space and literature.

**3- Ethnic-Linguistic Minorities Section:**

Research of knowledge and in-depth study on the cultural contribution of ethnic-linguistic minorities existing in Italy and Europe.

**4- Local History Section:**

Research can be carried out either as "excursus" on given subject or by highlighting the original phenomena of one's own local reality or as a study on a specific period of one's own local history.

**5- Terms of Communication**

Please send the entry form by **30 November 2007**

Works should be sent by **15 May 2008**.

The events for the 2008 Cultural Identity Days will take place from October to November.

Upon receiving the attached form, we will send a participation form to be filled in and sent together with the work.

**6- Selection**

A qualified jury belonging to different sectors of Italian and European culture and of new technologies will select the best works which as said before will belong to the project previously presented in local and national events. In any case all the works will be put in an Internet site dedicated to "Ariadne's Thread" which will be a sort of handbook for research and educational in-depth study activities with the possibility of being a real project "in progress" open to dialectics between schools and institutions, a place of synergy whose main objective is to give voice to those "livelier" forces existing in schools, thus contributing to their autonomous expression.

**7- Information**

The contest notice will be disseminated in the websites of the Ministry of Education, Universities and Collaborating Bodies as well as in the I.C.S. International Communication Society website [www.icsociety.net](http://www.icsociety.net).

For any further information please write an e-mail to [icsociety@tin.it](mailto:icsociety@tin.it) and the answers together with the questions will be put in a space of the I.C.S. website and of those websites interested in collaborating (a list will be provided). There will be also a space for possible suggestions and communications of both the participating schools and the Bodies interested in the project.

**8- Prize-giving**

The best works of the various sections will receive prizes such as travels in the "cultural identities" of the European countries, multimedia products and will be published in a publication on the Italian identity which is being organised.

*Coordinating Body:*

*Associazione ICS*

*International Communication Society,*

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*website: [www.icsociety.net](http://www.icsociety.net)*

SCHEDA DI ADESIONE

**PIÙ CULTURE UNA CIVILTÀ: L'EUROPA**  
**Arte come identità culturale**

SPAZIO RISERVATO I.C.S.

DATA RICEZIONE

CODICE /□□□

DATI ADESIONE

*Nome della scuola partecipante*

*Indirizzo*

*cap / città*

*Telefono e Fax*

*e-mail*

*Nome e dati delle Scuole di altri Paesi europei che collaborano al lavoro*

*Indicare un referente a cui far pervenire le comunicazioni*

1.  SCUOLA MEDIA / 5<sup>a</sup> ELEMENTARE
2.  SCUOLA SUPERIORE
3.  UNIVERSITA'
4.  ALTRO (*SPECIFICARE*)

Aggiungere eventuali altre informazioni

Inviare ad Associazione I.C.S. via fax oppure e-mail

Associazione ICS

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