

## Report of the internationalisation at home project

1. Name of the event/project: Think Drink on European Identity, Kuhasalo Treasure Hunt and BBQ, Movie Screening: Paduak: Myanmar Spring.
2. Organiser(s): AEGEE Contact Antenna Joensuu

### **Think Drink on European Identity**

The Think Drink is a regular event, and the European Identity Think Drink talk took place on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2022. The budget was 90 euro, allocated to buying badges. The Think Drink brings together students to listen to a topic of interest: from environmental matters, to fun facts, cultural events to more intense topic such as gender-based violence. We have a different speaker present about a certain topic which is important to them and the event takes place once a month. This event's theme was 'Borderless Europe', in the sense of eliminating cultural boundaries, not physical borders. The presenter speaks and then the floor is opened to listeners to share their opinions.

For this event we did not collaborate with other organisations, as we felt that we could organise this event alone (but we are open to future collaborations). We organise this regularly, through Instagram and by contacting a speaker beforehand. We try to include our events in both the Finnish and English speaking students newsletters to attract international and Finnish students, to bring them together and include everyone. For this event, our president Eike prepared the speech about European identity.

The event took place through English, which catered to international students, in line with the theme of this grant. We invite international students who we know and promote the event by word of mouth. We advertised the event electronically, not using printed leaflets, which kept the environment in mind. We also did not buy snacks or anything with excessive packaging for this event.

The event was good, as we had good discussions about what it means to be European, and how people feel about this emerging 'European identity', national cultures, traditions and languages. Those who were there enjoyed the discussion! However, we did not have enough participants in general. The good points of the event were that we achieved organising it and opening up the discussion on this topic, bringing international students together, however we did not have enough participants. We needed to do more promotion beforehand to reach a wider audience (r consider other conflicting events which may have stopped people attending our event, such as the Joy Choir practice, or if the topic of the discussion interested people).

We marketed through our Whatsapp group, Facebook, Instagram and the ISYY Weekly Newsfeed. However, we did not attract enough attention and must consider this further.

The project is repeatable and has been repeated each month since this event. We have had varying amount of audiences in attendance (either very large 30+, or a low audience, approx. 5 people). It seems to be a combination of an interesting topic and word of mouth promotion to the speakers friends which attracts a crowd to the events. Communication to a wider audience and ensuring that the event interests participants could improve this event in future.

### **Kuhasalo Treasure Hunt and BBQ**

The Kuhasalo Treasure Hunt and BBQ took place on 30<sup>th</sup> October, with a budget of 80 euro for food and snacks. The purpose of the project was to have Finnish students and international students meet each other, do an activity outdoors and discover a new area of Joensuu, to appreciate the nature around here together. We wanted to show international students both the surroundings and the Finnish culture of grilling and to have as little negative impact as possible (buying 50% of the BBQ food as vegetarian). We did not collaborate with another organisation for this event.

To organise this event, we delegated two OC's: Organising Committee members. These two people took charge of the event organisation and delegated individual tasks to the other board members. One OC was in charge of the treasure hunt (preparation and walking with the participants through the route and to the fire location). The other OC was in charge of food shopping and the fire and cooking in time for the participants to arrive. Other board members assisted these two roles.

The event took place in English to facilitate for international students in line with this grant, and clear location directions were given for the meetup point so that they would not get lost in their new surroundings. The event was accessible both for those with and without bikes. 50% of the food bought was vegetarian to have as little environmental impact as possible, to fulfil the criteria of this event. As little packaging as possible was bought. We ensured the space was clean when we left it.

We had a good treasure hunt and BBQ. We had maybe 25 participants, who enjoyed the treasure hunt and food. It did get cold as the sun set, so for future we could plan the event earlier in the day. We marketed on our WhatsApp group, Facebook, Instagram and through word of mouth and this was successful. We had a sign up form, so that we would have enough food for all the participants from our budget. The project is definitely repeatable, bearing in mind the sunset time and encouraging participants to bring warm clothes for it gets cold quickly in the evening time on Kuhasalo if you are not walking around.

### **Movie Screening: Paduak: Myanmar Spring**

This event took place on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2022 and was successful. There was many participants, with a 130 budget for pizza. There were approximately **30 participants??** Who were engaged in watching the movie and having discussion afterwards about the political and social situation in Myanmar. The event was organised in collaboration with **xxxxx**, which is run by a German international student. It therefore attracted many international students through word of mouth and as the discussion afterwards took place in English. The purpose of the project was to bring attention of students to the situation in Myanmar, and to bring students together in a place where open discussion is facilitated.

This event was mostly organised by the collaborating organisation, as they have the movie, however we booked the room from university facilities, bought the snacks (**pizza was not ordered in the end**) and facilitated the discussion. We tried to minimise packaging of the snacks, to fulfil the environmental criteria of this grant.

We marketed on our WhatsApp group, Facebook, Instagram, word of mouth. The event took place through English, catering to international students and was based on a topic of interest to many students. We arranged the event by booking the room for the screening, promoting it and facilitating discussion after the event. The project is repeatable, and we think that movies attract students due to how enjoyable it is to watch a movie, while having an educational and interesting topic allows us to learn together about a certain world issue.