



Press Release

AER asks young citizens: “Do you speak European?”

Vrancea (RO) – 9th May 2008.

The Assembly of European Regions (AER) is marking Europe Day this year by communicating Europe to young citizens. As part of AER’s “Do you speak European?” competition, young people from Romania, Croatia, Sweden and United Kingdom are today presenting their artistic talents in response to the question “What does Europe mean to you?”

Last year’s winner of AER’s Most Youth Friendly European Region Award, Vrancea (RO), is this year hosting a national level competition where six teams of high school students are competing against winners from other Romanian regions. Members of the jury include MEP Adriana Ticau and representatives of AER, the Romanian National Authority for Youth and a youth NGO.

President of Vrancea County Council, Marian Oprisan:

“Vrancea has in the last years consistently developed programs for youth and promoted their ideas. We really are a benchmark in Europe when it comes to applying youth policies, and AER has recognised this fact by inviting us to host the national stage of this competition.”

Launched this year for the first time, AER’s “Do you speak European?” competition has given young people from 36 regions in 12 European countries the opportunity to explore what it means to be a part of Europe. Winners from national levels will go on to compete in the European final on 3rd December in Brussels. The European winners will be awarded an AER prize and their presentation featured at future AER events.

For further information on AER Youth in Europe competition « Do you speak European ? » please visit :

<http://www.aer.eu/home-en/main-issues/youth/do-you-speak-european-aer-competition.html>

*The **Assembly of European Regions (AER)** is the largest independent network of regions in wider Europe. Bringing together more than 260 regions from 33 countries and 13 interregional organisations, AER is the political voice of its members and a forum for interregional co-operation.*

AER Contact:

Malgorzata Kucinska, Youth & Citizenship Officer, Youth.officer@aer.eu, Tel. +33 (0)388 22 74 32