

le p'tit **E** tudiant

SPECIAL EUROPEAN STUDENTS CONGRESS

FEDE's newspaper

EUROPEAN STUDENTS CONGRESS

15 - 21 NOVEMBER 1992

FRANÇOISE LANNÓY

A woman as president



What are the differences between the present Congress and the previous one?

We based our programme initially on what was done in 1990. But we have gradually added things, for instance the five topics that will serve as focal points for discussions throughout the week.

What are these topics?

As a team we have tried to find out which topics "bothered" European students in 1992. A common theme will obviously be Europe, its problems and its future. First of all we will consider the "position of Europe in the world", where it stands compared to the United States or Japan, how it will be affected by the collapse of the US-SR. These questions cannot be avoided at a time when wars rages in Yugoslavia and the European Community proves itself powerless to act.

Environment is the second unavoidable topic. The third topic, "A Europe with twelve or thirty countries?" should be of interest to all, but especially to representatives of Central European countries. The fourth topic raises the question of social policy within the European community. We have called the fifth and last topic "European Democracy" rather than exclusions or racism within Europe. This would have had an immediate mediatic appeal. But we prefer considering the problems of democracy in general, whether in the East European countries faced with a new form of capitalism, or in the rise of fascism both east and west. I am convinced that these topics will appeal to local students as well as to our foreign guests.

How will those discussions be organized?

On Monday afternoon five lecturers will introduce the five topics at the same time but in five different lecture rooms on the Sart Tilman campus. Each lecturer will be a specialist in the chosen field. Madame Laurette Onkelinx, for instance, who as Belgian Minister for Environment was our representative at the Rio Conference, will introduce the discussions on environment. In each case we have selected people who can help us to formulate concrete propositions.

On Wednesday morning students will meet in groups of 20 to 30 and discuss one of the topics. An organizer from the previous congress will lead debates which will be summarized by a spokesman chosen from the floor. Of course these de-

bates are open to local students too.

They will continue on Friday afternoon. Having shared their conclusions at a plenary session, we would like each student and each university to give some kind of undertaking. With respect to the environment, for instance, every university could launch a campaign for recycling its own paper.

Will the press echo those debates?

Absolutely! We want things to be clear and concrete. We'll send a report to the press, but also to the concerned ministries, and each participant will commit her/himself to make our conclusions known within his or her university. We know that the media are interested in these debates and are ready to broadcast our conclusions.

How many students have actually taken part in this organization?

There are 25 students on the coordinating committee. More widely, there are some sixty students involved in the organization of the Congress.

Are some faculties more responsive than others? Is the congress "owned" by one faculty?

Not at all! While some faculties are indeed more involved in general coordination, others are more concerned with producing a good programme from within the faculty itself.

Which faculties are involved in the general coordination?

Mostly engineers, people from Applied Sciences. You can feel the influence of the *Cercle Europe Ingénieurs* in this. The Arts Faculty, on the other hand, has done an excellent job in unifying its several departments around a single approach. Similarly, you will see very few medical students on the coordinating committee, but their programme is simply superb.

Two years ago, the Law Faculty was reluctant to join in. Are they more forthcoming this year?

Very much so, thanks to the ELSA group (European Law Student Association) that has taken over the organization within the Law Faculty.

How much will the Congress cost?

We started with a budget of BEF 6 millions, but we had to reduce our ambitions. We now reckon on something like 3 millions.

Where does the money come from?

The University helps us a lot. We also receive money from other public bodies. It is more difficult with private companies. When we get in touch, they tell us that this is a great idea but they are sorry there is no money left!

Will you have enough money to cover the costs?

Enough at least for things to work. Nothing should be left out of the programme. We only hope that the profits will balance the costs.

There were 850 participants two years ago. Some speak of 1,000 participants this year. Does it sound realistic?

If people keep registering at the present rate, it certainly does. At present (i.e. one month before the Congress begins) we already have 750 firm registrations. And we receive an average of 30 every day...

The academic authorities see in this congress an opportunity to stress the European dimension of the University of Liège. What kind of relations have you had with these authorities?

We have to mention the substantial help we have received from Vice-Rector Willy Legros and Rector Arthur Bodson. M. Legros's contacts in the worlds of business and politics have proved extremely useful. Our university has everything to gain from the congress: the media will be full of it. It is a great showcase.

Since you have used the word show, I believe the European Marquee will be the Congress emblem once again this year?

That it will! Like last time, it will be built on the "esplanade des Sciences", between the Psychology Faculty and the Law Faculty. This year, however, we ordered a bigger and more stable marquee than the one we had in 1990, which proved inadequate for the parties we held in the evenings. And this time we do expect quite a lot of people, especially for the "Nuit du Rock" (Rock Night) on Wednesday.

Tell me, Françoise, what is your dearest wish a few weeks before the congress is launched?

That everything will run smoothly, without any major hitch, ... and to relax and to be able to say on the evening of the 21st november: "It's all over at last. Now I can have a good sleep!"

Françoise Lannoy was interviewed by Didier MOREAU and Florence COUTELLIER.

THE ORGANIZING TEAM



Didier MICHEL

5th year student in Applied Sciences. Didier has been involved in different students' societies for quite a long time, but he also took part in the 1990 Congress at our university, and decided to join up again for 1992. This time, his know-how will be devoted to a touristic rally aimed at developing contacts between foreign students, and also between the latter and their Liège counterparts.



Pascal PETRY

3rd year student in Criminology. Pascal is very busy: he has "administrative" functions at the university (as representative for the Criminology students at the Faculty Council, e.g.), and he also involves himself in the cultural life (singing, drama...). Nevertheless, he still has some time left for the Congress, and manages to take on one of the most crucial tasks of its organization: transport and drinks.



Vincent REIDEMEST

Graduate in Computer Sciences. Post-graduate student in Management. For a while, Vincent has been treasurer of the Liège Computer Scientists Association (AGIL), a post which developed his interest in the secret art of organisation. And this made him an obvious candidate for processing all the data connected with the Congress.



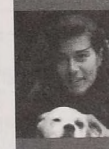
Denis JEUKENNE

3rd year student in Criminology. Denis is in charge of the Sport Day Committee, which doesn't give him much time to play either his trumpet or his bass. He admits he took on part of the Congress organization to get his share of heavy responsibilities. "University life should be something else than just sitting rooted to one's chair!". That is at present his view of life!



Bernard HEMBLENNE

Graduate in History. Bernard graduated three years ago, but his knowledge of rock circles in Liège singled him out as the ideal organiser for the Rock Night (together with Pierre OZER). He also involves himself in the "Fruits de la passion" (a non-profit-making organization), and signs a monthly ... rock column in the "P'tit Etudiant".



Françoise HUBERT

3rd year student in Psychology. Françoise is the Congress's main secretary. Though a bit shy, she is a go-ahead type, and her meetings minutes have become quite renowned. She says organizing the Congress satisfied her need for an opening onto the world.



Kira MAKEDONSKY

3rd year student in Psychology. Kira leads the Congress's Supply Corps. But that's not a new job to her since she worked in the same committee for the 1990 Congress. Why should she re-enlist? "I still can't think why I did", she admits. She started giving a hand, and soon found herself giving the whole arm!



Catherine Robert

4th year student in Communication Studies. Catherine is an impetuous brunette who passes like a raging wind everywhere she goes, promoting the Congress through the media, as she already did two years ago. Besides leading the Public Relations committee, she also gave the Communication Students Society (CELEC) new strength as its leader. In short, she knows what she's doing when it comes to organizing a Congress!



Françoise PERREZ

3rd year student in English and Dutch. Languages being Françoise's special field, it was not too difficult to decide who should lead the Translation Committee. She provided accommodation for our 1990 guests (not all of them, mind you!), and slowly made her way into our organizing team. Why? "My feet weren't really firmly on the ground!" She wanted to get some other experience than just studying the whole year round, and also to meet students from other Faculties. Now she is going to meet Europe through the Congress!

(to be continued on page 6)

PROGRAM FOR THE CONGRESS WEEK

The editors would like to thank Andrew NORRIS, Christine PAGNOULLE and Eric SCHWEICHER for their contribution to this special issue of the P'tit Etudiant.

(program subject to eventual modifications)

COMMON PROGRAM

Sunday	All day 14:00-20:00	Reception of the attendees Rally on foot in Liège
Monday	10:30 13:30 16:30 21:00	Opening ceremony in the marquee Cocktail Lecture and debates: "Should I stay or should I go?" Several lectures on the theme: "Europe in search of ... Europe" Opening party
Tuesday	All day	Faculty activities
Wednesday	09:30 13:00 18:00 20:00	Workshops: "Europe in search of ... Europe" Afternoon devoted to sport Reception at the Town Hall Rock Night
Thursday	All day	Faculty activities
Friday	14:00 16:00 20:00	Workshops: "Europe in search of ... Europe" End of the debates Congress Ball
Saturday	All day	Departure of the attendees

Law Faculty

Tuesday

Morning 12:30 15:00	Reception and guided tour of the law courts. Lunch. Attendees will be able to meet some key Belgian political figures. Simultaneous lectures: "Criminology and Assistance for the Victims" "European Minorities from the socio-political Standpoint." Author: Didier Seiler, Lausanne.
Evening	Party.

Thursday

Morning 14:00 16:00 Evening	Workshop on the theme of: "The Participation of citizens in law-making" A film will be shown. Lecture: "Standardization of Business Law" Author: Prof. Gandolfi (Chairman of the Conference on Civil Law Standardization). Exchange of views on the theme: "Law Studies in Belgium and elsewhere" Party in the marquee.
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Business and Management Faculty

Tuesday

Morning Afternoon Evening	Workshop and students-meeting: "Which Business Studies to choose in 1993?" Drink with the Faculty teaching staff. Lectures and debates on the theme: "Liberalism and Protectionism in 1993" Faculty party.
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Thursday

Morning 14:00 Evening	Meeting with firms: "Young European Executives: why not us?" Lecture and debates: "European aid for the East" Faculty dinner. Night stroll in the "Carré" in Liège.
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Medicine Faculty

Tuesday

Morning	Mr Kulbertus, Dean of the Medicine Faculty, will welcome the students. Cardiology symposium: "New Nuclear Medical Techniques for Cardiology" "Heart Transplants" "Hypertension"
Afternoon	Debates: "The Year 2000: Genetic Engineering and Human Genom Sequencing" "Ethics in Medicine"

Thursday

Morning	Guided tour of the University Hospital. Presentation of the cyclotron. Lecture: "Nuclear Magnetic Resonance and the new Medical Image Analysis Techniques"
Afternoon	Neurology symposium: "The Culture of Neurons" Lecture: "Discovery of Fibre Optics and their Application in Medicine" "Medicine in the Third World"

Veterinary Medicine Faculty

Tuesday

Morning	Guided tour of our clinics. Mr Dewaele, Dean of the Veterinary Medicine Faculty, and the Faculty authorities, will welcome the students.
Afternoon	Lecture: "Veterinary in Europe" Author: Valère Bienfait. Guided tour of the Aquarium.
Evening	Faculty Dinner at the "Maison des Docteurs" Faculty Party.

Thursday

Morning Afternoon	Trip: The Artificial Insemination Centre at Ciney. Lectures: "Respiratory Tract Endocrinology for small Animals" Authors: Drs. Henroteaux and Clerck. "Arthroscopy for large Animals" Author: M. Gerpeyn. Demonstration of the moving walkway in the Physiology Department (Prof. Lekeux).
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Sciences Faculty

Tuesday

Morning	The Dean of the Faculty will welcome the students. Guided tour of the Aquarium in the "Maison de la Science"(Science Centre). Guided tour of the laboratories.
Afternoon	Lecture: "Problems of Ecology and Waste Recycling"
Evening	Party in the marquee.

Thursday

Morning	Departure for the natural sanctuary of the "Fagnes"(hilly marshy area in the eastern part of the Liège province). A talk will then be given at the "Mont Rigi" on the region's ecosystems.
Midday Afternoon	Barbecue in Malmédy. Hike in the "Fagnes" natural sanctuary.

Applied Sciences Faculty

Tuesday

Morning 14:00 16:30 Evening	Guided tour of some firms: Cockerill, Celem and Technifutur. Lecture and debates: "Technological Decline and Development in Eastern Europe" Guided tour of IBM. Faculty dinner at the "Maison". Faculty party with the Psychology Faculty.
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Thursday

14:00 16:30	Lecture and debates: "Applying for a patent in Europe" A presentation of BEST, ATHENEA, IEEE.
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NOV. 15TH TO 21ST

Applied Sciences Faculty

BEST General Assembly

Saturday

All day: Arrival of BEST members.
Evening: Reception dinner.

Sunday

Morning: Workshops.
Afternoon: Workshops.
Evening: The Speaker's Corner.
Rally on foot in Liège.

Monday

Morning: Opening session.
Afternoon: Workshops.
Evening: Interfaculty party.

Tuesday

Morning: Workshops.
Afternoon: Lecture: "Technological Decline and Development in Eastern Europe".
Evening: General Assembly.
Faculty dinner.
Faculty party with the Psychology Faculty.

Wednesday

Morning: Workshops.
Afternoon: Sports.
Evening: Rock Festival.

Thursday

All day: Workshops.
Presentation of such international organizations as: BEST, ATHENA, EUROAVIA, IEE, ...
Evening: General Assembly.
BEST dinner at the "AILg" (Liège Engineers Society).

Friday

All day: Official meeting with Tempus and Erasmus.
Evening: Workshops.
General Assembly.
Congress Ball.

Saturday

All day: General Assembly.

Psychology Faculty

Tuesday

All day: Presentation of the main theme: Psychology and Communication.
Evening: Lecture: "Intercultural Psychology".
Lecture: "Media Lies".
Faculty party.

Thursday

Morning: Lecture: "The Anthropology of Communication".
Special guests:
Uli Windisch (Geneva)
Adam Kendon (Pennsylvania)
Christian Bronberger (Aix-en-Provence)
Christine Langlois ("Terrain" magazine)
Films will be shown by the lecturers.
Afternoon: Workshops on the morning's session.
Evening: Faculty party.

Arts Faculty

Archeology Department

Tuesday

All day: Experimental Archeology day.
Activities reviving old techniques and fire making.
Guided tour of the museum and of the Ramioul Cave.
Barbecue gathering the persons in charge of the excavation sites in the region.

Thursday

Morning: Lecture: "The Integration of Archeological Vestiges in an Urban Environment".
Afternoon: Guided tour of the "place Saint-Lambert" excavation site followed by an analysis.
Visit of the "Eurégio" exhibition dealing with excavation sites in Belgium, Germany and the Netherlands.

Communications Department

Tuesday

All day: Media day. Seminars will deal with the radio, television, video, the press and photography.
20:00: Lecture: (together with the Psychology Faculty) "Media Lies".
Evening: Special guests: Collon, de Selys, Lange, Wolton, Brachman.
"Guinguette" (refers to the former open-air cafés) evening starting at 23:00 with a Karaoke Sing-along machine at "L'Escalier", rue Saint-Jean (in the "Carre").

Thursday

All day: Common activities with the Psychology Faculty.
Movies Festival:
10:00-12:00: "Toto le héros", directed by Jaco Van Dormael.
13:00-15:00: Short films.
16:00-18:00: "C'est arrivé près de chez vous", directed by Rémy Belvaux, André Bonzel and Benoît Poelvoorde.
20:30: Lecture: "Once upon a time, there used to be the Belgian cinema..."

Germanic Languages and Literatures Department

Tuesday

All day: Day out in Bruges.

Thursday

Morning: Lecture: "Our Languages and European Unity" Author: David Dalby.
Afternoon: Theatre: "Passion", by Edward Bond.
Evening: Played by the Liège Germanists Company.
Surprise party.

History Department

Tuesday

All day: Day out in Bruges.

Thursday

All day: Seminar on European Integration.
Evening: Department dinner.

Art History Department

Tuesday

All day: Day out in Bruges.

Thursday

Morning: Lecture and debate: "Any Prospect for the Art Historian in the Future?".
Afternoon: Talk on the raison d'être of art history, followed by some accounts.
Debate on the European cultural policy.
Creativity competition.

Romance Languages and Literatures Department

Tuesday

All day: Day out in Bruges.

Thursday

Morning: Lecture: "Belgian Literature" Author: J.M. Klinkenberg.
Afternoon: Followed by an aperitive.
Evening: Trip to Redu (the Belgian equivalent of Hay-on-Wye, GB).
Evening at the "Cirque Divers".

THE 1865 CONGRESS

The Marseillaise before the Internationale

Dear Sirs and Members of the Students Congress, your invitation has just reached me before I leave for Guernsey. I regret I am unable to attend your noble and touching meeting. Your Students Congress shows a fortunate initiative. You prove the existence of evolution. That is good. Today, you bring into being through the brotherhood of peoples what we dream of for tomorrow. Who but you, young people, should constitute the avant-garde? (...).

The most clear-sighted among you will already have recognized Victor Hugo's prose behind this text. The great writer was then answering the invitation sent to him by the organizers of the first Liège International Students Congress in 1865. Hugo, just as Guizot, Thiers, Dupanloup, Littré, and others, are already "great" adults. Nevertheless, the students have made of them their intellectual models. What can be more normal than inviting the intellectual guides of the then studious youth for such an exceptional meeting? Alas! All of them, ungrateful as they were, shied away... Even so, the organizers had taken precautions. So as not to offend those people's sensibilities, they had voluntarily ousted other guides who were too controversial to be approved unanimously: Marx, Blanqui, Renan, Michelet, Montalembert, Veuillot. A pity, for a confrontation between say, Veuillot (ultra-uncompromising catholic) and Marx (ultra-socialist middle-class) would have excited everybody's curiosity. There are also

some others whose aura never ceased planing over the debates: Comte and Proudhon, whose writings, rather than their tombs, served as shrines. Today one would call that sort of pilgrimage the "relics cult".

But why gather 1400 European students (accommodated by their Liège counterparts) at the University of Liège from October 29th till November 1st 1865? In order to talk about "education", just as the organizers had planned they would? Well, yes and no. The students of that time were not really like us: they were hopelessly addicted to politics, as well as verbal sparring match fanatics. As L.-E. Halkin, historian of the Congress, makes it clear, they will thus talk about "education, politics, education policy and even education in politics" in those few days. In a meeting room galvanized by the inflammatory words of French students who came to Liège to shout out their disgust for Napoléon III, "le petit", as Hugo used to add... The way the debates were developing shows



the evolution of social and political ideas that drove that youth: anticlericalism, extreme radicalism (which sometimes bordered on anarchism), praising of republican ideas (especially among the French), scientific claims. The chanceries were disturbed by those bold words. The French Foreign Minister, among others, demanded a detailed report. The "agitators" were arrested or excluded from their Faculties when they came back from Liège. Reports of the Liège debates were published in all international newspapers. Europe's eyes were riveted on the "Cité ardente"!

As a conclusion to this great gathering, the students were invited to attend a banquet, followed by a ball. That was the beginning of another celebration. Throughout Liège's alleys, euphoric students started singing the "students' Marseillaise", which had been composed during the Congress. Its chorus was spreading in the night: *Arise, Students! The Congress's flag finally united the soldiers of Progress...*

the ambassadors of the young generations from both the East and the West. It was finally possible to communicate, to talk about daily concerns, to quibble about philosophical questions, and above all to exchange opinions about political, economic and social choices for their different home countries.

But all work, and no play, makes Jack a dull boy! That's why the organizers had planned to have a Sports Day and some guided tours. The students from all over Europe thus discovered special sites, museums, exhibitions, natural sanctuaries... Of course, there was no such thing as a trip without any panic: losing people, then one's head, and fortunately finding both again. The European Congress could also be attended "by night": concerts, folklore, and chiefly, one might say, the inescapable Faculty parties! Regardless of where they were organized (under the marquee or in the city), those parties did draw many people. Belgian beer was flowing freely and seemed to be approved unanimously by the guests. The good-natured atmosphere often turned quite wild. Give us some steam... At dawn, one discovers that the meaning of celebration is universal.

Which conclusion should we draw from all this? This extraordinary event was regarded by all as a success. It allowed us to draw up a "European Students Charter", boosted the development of programs between universities, and, last but not least, made human contacts possible. The only things we deplore are that few if any students from other Belgian universities took part (they had been invited in the same way as their foreign counterparts), some Faculties or Departments of our University showed a complete lack of interest, and English was used much too sparsely during the lectures (the language of this text seems to show something...). But I am sure the organizers of the coming Congress have taken account of those problems! The only thing left for me to say is that I wish the 1992 Congress as much success and mostly as much vitality as its first edition.

THE ORGANIZING TEAM (continuation)



Dominique FAIRON

3rd year student in Law.
A.k.a. Scrooge, Dominique is in charge of the Sponsorship Committee. She lurks around on the phone, just like the Sheriff of Nottingham in Sherwood Forest, and relieves the region's companies of their means!



Manuel BASILAVECCHIA

5th year student in Civil Engineering.
His job consists in organising the Erasmus Conference due to follow the opening ceremony. He is a "pathologically convinced" European, and keeps dreaming of new experiences. This literature addict thinks nothing beats "discussing life in a smoky bar at 4 a.m. with loud music playing." I bet that the Congress will give him the opportunity to remake the whole world!



Bernard STAS

4th year student in Civil Engineering.
Bernard leads the Reception and Accommodation Committee. He involves himself in numerous students organisations, and still finds some time to devote to lots of hobbies: scuba-diving, volley-ball, sailing, scale models, water-polo, tennis, soccer, travels, Genesis, and the Italian opera. He's simply a living paragon of eclecticism!



Pierre OZER

4th year student in Geography.
Pierre is the only student-administrator to take part in the Congress (four of them sit at the University Administration Council). In collaboration with Bernard Hemblenne, he has organized the Rock Night. Main characteristic: he never takes himself seriously. That might explain why we voted for him in the last university election...



Maud BAY

3rd year student in Applied Sciences.
That's not Maud's first experience in Congress organizing. But this time, she went a step further up in the hierarchy, since she became our Vice-chairwoman, the chairwoman's right-hand woman. With two young damsels in control, male chauvinism had better watch out, being on the verge of dying out!

RALLY ON FOOT

Europe on the street

The Congress attendees will only just have arrived in our ardent city when they will be taken on a welcoming tour. How? Through a rally on foot which will take its participants into a crazy play ramble. This will be punctuated with riddles to be solved, questions about the history of Europe, and historical information about the places they will visit. This rally is also open for all Liège students who will thus (re-)discover their city, and above all build up contacts

with their foreign guests. Good spirits required. Competitive spirit excluded (but some small prizes will reward the winners).

When? Sunday 15th November. New departures every 30' from 2 p.m. on. Registration: on the same day, in the reception hall of the University, place du 20-Août, 4000 Liège.
Person in charge: Didier MICHEL.

SPORT DAY

Europe has some nerve

"Mens sana in corpore sano", says the adage. The Congress attendees will put this philosophy into practice after much cogitation and bustle... Europe has an appointment with Sport on Wednesday November 18th. Meet us then to recover your strengths and end the Congress week in peak form! Use the program below to organize your sport day.

SPORT	TIME	PLACE
VOLLEY-BALL	16:30-19:00	Blanc Gravier
TABLE TENNIS	15:00-18:30	Gymnasium 1
AIKIDO, TAE KWON DO (Initiation and demonstration)	16:30-18:30	Gymnasium 3
SWIMMING	15:00-16:00 18:00-19:00	CEREKI Swimming pool
CANOEING, KAYAK, SCUBA DIVING	16:00-18:00	Swimming pool
POWER-TRAINING	13:00-16:00 18:00-19:00	Sports Centres
SQUASH (tournament possible)	13:30-15:30 16:30-18:30	Sports Centres
CLIMBING	14:00-18:00	Blanc Gravier
MINI-SOCCER	14:00-18:00	"Terrains stabilisés" (consolidated grounds)
SAUNA	14:00-18:00	Sports Centres
SOCCER	14:00-18:00	Grass field

CHRONICLE OF THE 1990 CONGRESS

Remember, all of you, two years ago...

The Europe of tomorrow, the Europe of the citizens will also be the Europe of the students. The latter will be more and more numerous to carry on with their studies abroad in an increasing number of universities; and the most appreciated will be those who enjoy an international reputation. The University of Liège is conscious of this, and in order to avoid becoming a second-best only university, it has decided to react and attract the attention of students from all over Europe with one feat.

Therefore Mr Legros, Vice-Rector of our Alma Mater, agreed in 1989 to let students organize a European Students Congress. In accordance with the Vice-Rector's wishes, this Congress would on the one hand revive the medieval tradition of mobility dear to Erasmus or the thinkers of the Enlightenment; and on the other hand revive a nearer past by reminding us of this Congress held in 1865 by Liège students. All in all, it would be a unique event, a multi-disciplinary Congress bringing together students from different nationalities and from various universities.

An organizing team was quickly formed. The work was entrusted to a handful of students mostly moving in the circles of our main Students Society, the FEDE (the Students Federation of the University of Liège). Nonetheless they were given material and moral support by the academic authorities. But the tasks to be done were far from easy: the newly created team had to familiarize themselves hastily with press conference or sponsorship techniques, and to find out how best to feed, accommodate, transport, inform, interest and even entertain a rather heterogeneous crowd. And they were in a hurry, since the Congress was due to open in November 1990. One year of preparation is not much! The organizers shared out the work among different committees in order to avoid losing too much of that precious little time. Besides, it was also decided that the main (and mostly common) activities would be set up by the participating

Faculties, which was an excellent opportunity to learn to work hand in hand, that is to discover the meaning of interfaculty cooperation!

On D-Day-1, a reception committee was sent to the Guillemins Station to welcome the 850 guests coming from 27 different countries. The latter were then sent over to the Val Benoit campus where their hosts/hosstesses (that is the Liège students and their families) took charge of them. The distribution was not carried out without difficulty! We eventually succeeded in separating the group of Hungarian girls who insisted they should remain together. And the Liège student who had been arguing for over two hours with anyone near enough because she wanted to accommodate a German student and no Frenchman was satisfied. Everybody did find some accommodation, even the late-comers and the unexpected newcomers. The 1990 Congress could start at last. On November 4th, after the usual (and a little long-winded) speeches, all the students were invited to talk about European students exchange programs, such as Erasmus, Comett, Lingua... in the marquee set up on the Sart Tilman campus. The Congress attendees did in fact debate during the whole week, since each Faculty was offering a great choice of lectures which favoured the contacts. Many students from Hungary, Bulgaria, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, ... answered the call of their Liège counterparts. The Congress became consequently an un hoped-for meeting place for