

Chemnitz, 1 August 2016

EUROPEAN MOBILITY WEEK

16-22 SEPTEMBER 2016



On Mobility Day the Lost Property Office will again be auctioning bicycles on Neumarkt Photo: City



This year again activities for children and young people will be a major focus Photo: City



The European Week of Sport with a training exercise by Chemnitz FC Photo: City

European Mobility Week versus European Week of Sport

As is tradition, from 16 to 22 September 2016 local authorities all over Europe and beyond address the question of mobility. The European Mobility Week is concerned with developing transport so that it is environmentally friendly, sustainable and accessible for all. For many years the City of Chemnitz has been active during the week of action and year after year the city organises a rich and varied programme of events based on the topics mentioned with a broad range of partners. Also this September there is going to be a wide variety of activities and informative events in the city centre and in other parts of the city.

On Mobility Day, 16 September 2016, those who are interested can get information on the Neumarkt from the Public Works Department about, among other things, the new ring bus route and the implementation of the concept for bicycle traffic. On an open test area belonging to Railbeton, a Chemnitz manufacturer of transport components, visitors will learn how barrier-free construction is put into practice. The Chemnitz Environment Centre will provide information about eco-friendly transport such as electromobility and car-sharing. During the week of action the Czech author Radek Friedrich will be reading from his poetry collection "Nebožky/Selige" in the historic tram from the Tram Museum. Once again there will be a city tour in the programme on the topic "Mobility in Chemnitz". Kindergartens and schools will again be invited directly to a Children's University on the subject of transport, to climb the High Tower of the Town Hall or to an English-language tour of the city centre.

This year the European Mobility Week overlaps with the European Week of Sport, which Chemnitz is participating in for the first time. From 10 to 17 September 2016 ideas and motivation for physical exercise will be given to people, young and old, by means of a range of low-threshold exercises. Initiated by the Sonnenberg District Management Team sports clubs and associations, kindergartens and schools will be offering a family sports day, a sports badge day, a course about healthy nutrition, a treasure hunt with a quiz and lots more. The Mobility Day on 16 September 2016 will be enhanced by Sonnenberg with a range of sporting and fun activities.

You will find the programme for both weeks in due course on the [Internet page of the city's EU Office](#).

“Viva La Musica” – a music project in transnational cooperation

Within the framework of the SN-CZ 2014-2020 Cooperation Programme, the Sächsische Mozart-Gesellschaft Association in Chemnitz and the Jan-Evangelista-Purkyně University in our Czech twin town Ústí nad Labem have been granted EDRF funds for their “Viva La Musica” Project for a period of three years. As part of this project it has already been possible to carry out the Long Piano Night in Chemnitz with young musicians from the music schools in Chemnitz and Chomutov and the European Summer Philharmonia and Choir in Chemnitz und Chomutov from 24 to 29 June 2016. For the future there are plans for further events which will deepen transnational cooperation and promote good neighbourly relationships, e.g. the St. Hubert’s Mass in Augustusburg and Klásterc nad Ohrí, the Jirkovsky Písňovar Choir Competition in Jirkov and the living musical Advent Calendar in Chemnitz, Zschopau and Ústí nad Labem. It is also planned within the framework of the project to expand the themes and locations of the Saxon Mozart Festival, which has taken place in Chemnitz annually since 1991.



The aim is to link musicians and music lovers transnationally
Photo: Ania Wagner



The Sächsische Mozart-Gesellschaft has been active in Chemnitz for 25 years
Photo: Ania Wagner

Jaume Pujol Obiol, university graduate from Catalonia reports on his internship

“I come from the town of Amposta, which lies south of Barcelona. Shortly after I finished my degree in technical architecture, a course where you learn the skills of both a civil engineer and an architect, there was a large economic crisis in Spain. From one moment to the next there were no employment opportunities for us in the construction industry anymore. Through a project of the Catalan Employment Agency, which was funded by the EU, and solaris FZU I got the opportunity to do an internship here in Chemnitz in the Technical Town Hall. Of course, foreign work experience is a boost for your CV. In addition, in Germany you acquire skills and strategies that you might not have gained at home. Therefore I willingly seized the opportunity. I enjoy the work here. I think it’s good that interns are allowed a lot of freedom at work. It was possible for me to look at various projects and to decide which of them I would work on and to what extent and I was taken round various departments. Among other things, I was able to observe how Chemnitz works with renewable energies and green spaces. For example, I very much like the fact that here a great deal of effort is expended on conserving green spaces.”



The intern from Catalonia at his desk in the Urban Planning Department
Photo: City

The “TLG Youth Train-Learn-Grow” project of the [solaris Förderzentrums für Jugend und Umwelt gGmbH Sachsen \(FZU\)](#), funded by the European Social Fund (ESF), arranged a three-month internship in Chemnitz for Spanish graduates. In Chemnitz companies and public authorities the participants were able to acquire and develop social, professional and language skills. From April to June 2016 Jaume Pujol Obiol got to know the tasks of the Urban Planning Department of the City of Chemnitz. In addition, a young Catalan woman who was a history graduate was deployed in the Schlossberg Museum.



Presentation of the “IncrediBol!” Programme in the Green Salon of the Town Hall Photo: City



Presentation of the “IncrediBOL!” sponsorship programme for the culture and creative industries

On 10 June 2016 Silvia Porretta of “IncrediBOL!” gave an introduction in Chemnitz to the funding programme of the City of Bologna as best practice. In front of representatives of the Chemnitz City administration, business development and creative industries she reported about experiences and successes. The main objective was to make it easier for people to set up businesses and for this purpose to initially find out together with them what kind of assistance they require for their projects. “IncrediBOL!” is unable to provide extensive financial support, but can provide a broad range of consultancy and support services: Staff members help, for example, with dealings with authorities, provide advice and assistance in drafting business plans, provide support for public relations work and offer opportunities for training. In cooperation with Property Management Department of the City of Bologna “IncrediBOL!” arranges premises for set-ups and makes them available to the companies rent-free. Examples of projects that have been supported successfully are, among others, the crowd-funding platform “ideaginger.it” and the “Orchestra Senzaspine” youth orchestra. In Autumn 2015 in Bologna two representatives of the City of Chemnitz were already convinced of the success of the programme. At present it is being checked whether it is feasible in Chemnitz.



At the opening meeting the recruitment of six new members was announced. Photo: City

EUROCITIES Cooperation Platform in Porto on 12 and 13 May

An important subject that is continually being worked on by the EURO CITIES Network is the consideration of the interests of the cities on the European level. This was also emphasised by the General Secretary of EURO CITIES, Anna-Lisa Boni in her opening speech at the Platform and she highlighted the significance of the cities with the remark: “Europe is made by the cities, not by the governments.” In this context the cities had to be encouraged to do active European work. Thus one of the workshops at the Cooperation Platform centred on how to successfully motivate staff members in the relevant departments of the city administration to participate in EURO CITIES. In addition, in the various items on the agenda of the meeting issues were discussed, such as integration of refugees and concepts for improving energy efficiency and the quality of life in cities, which were summed up in the slogan “Smart Cities”. A study visit brought the EU Coordinator of the City of Chemnitz, Pia Sachs, to the Serralves Foundation. 25 local authorities share the financing of the foundation and as a result can borrow the exhibitions.



Visit to the Serralves Foundation cultural institution, which works a great deal with residents Photo: City

Permanent “Europa Experience” Exhibition in the European House in Berlin

Not far from the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin the “Europa Experience” Exhibition can be visited daily from 10.00 a.m. to 6.00 p.m. In the “Parlamentarium”, a 360° cinema, you can experience a session of the European Parliament and at numerous audiovisual and interactive installations you can discover and explore the history, the member states and the current policies of the European Union. There are also regular talks, discussions and group simulation games about the way the EU functions. The exhibition is available in 24 languages, fully accessible for wheelchairs and designed for people with hearing impairments. Admission is free of charge.

Erlebnis Europa
Europa Experience

Further information and registration of larger groups (at least four weeks in advance) on the website of the exhibition:

<https://erlebnis-europa.eu/>

Events from August to October 2016

17 September 2016 12.00 noon on Neumarkt
Opening of the Intercultural Weeks “Diversity: The Best Cure for Insularity” in Chemnitz

26 September to 2 October 2016
“Schlingel” International Film Festival for Children and Young Viewers

10 to 16 October 2016
European Local Democracy Week 2016: “Living together in culturally diverse societies: respect, dialogue, interaction.”

2 November 2016 TU Chemnitz, Old Boiler House
Lecture: “The Fuggers - a European merchant dynasty” with Prof. Dr. Michael Hinz within the framework of the European Year “Europe is everywhere”



In 2016 the EU Office is also coordinating European Local Democracy Week. Participants, organisations and associations will receive support for preparing and implementing their ideas and activities.

Further information in English at:

<http://www.congress-eldw.eu>

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