

*Invitation to young European Postgraduates by their colleagues from Ruhr University, Bochum.*

*Dear colleagues!*

We are aware of the troubles in your country, and we are very much concerned about them. Though, do not give up the idea of Europe! Let us think together about Europe in a new way, in a better way - for the benefit of a young European generation! Neither media nor money interests should separate us. And we are all called to fight against national stereotypes: Mediterraneans are not less diligent and proper than Germans. And Germans are not Euro-Fascists, who want to harm other countries. Let us talk about all these concerns!

We would like to invite you to discuss with us the actual problems in Europe and to give us information about the situation in your country. For this purpose the Institute of German Cultural Studies at the Ruhr-University Bochum offers fifteen scholarships for a two weeks visiting term (from 2nd to 16th July).

We are familiar with the mass unemployment, which affect young people in many countries of Europe to an almost unbearable extent. Within the framework of civil dialogues you will have the opportunity to tell about you and your homeland and to learn more about opinions in Germany concerning Europe. These dialogues are going to take place in diverse German schools and other educational institutions.

Many Germans, particularly in the Ruhr Area, are very keen to hear your personal story. It might become a "Story for Europe"!

*You are very welcome!*

*Meine Geschichte für Europa*

**Shaping the European civil society**

**WE NEED YOU!**

**COME AND TELL US YOUR STORY!**

This is an invitation for young graduates from the EU countries to visit Bochum. Facing the Euro-Crisis, mass unemployment and the growing social conflicts, we intend to give a platform for discussion. Let us think together about Europe in a new way, in a better way - for the benefit of a young European generation! Within the framework of civil dialogues you will have the opportunity to tell about you and your homeland and to learn more about opinions in Germany concerning Europe.

**WE OFFER YOU GRANTS**

(up to 1.400,00 € pp)

2<sup>nd</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2013

**Application Requirement:**

[www.rub.de/deutschlandforschung/MeineGeschichte](http://www.rub.de/deutschlandforschung/MeineGeschichte)

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Für großzügige Förderung danken wir der

We are grateful for sponsorship by



Institute for German Cultural Studies



*Meine Geschichte für Europa*

**Shaping the European civil society**

**Invitation program**

for young European graduates

**2<sup>nd</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup> July, 2013**

## Meine Geschichte für Europa Target audience & Application

The Institute of German Cultural Studies at the Ruhr-University Bochum invites young graduates from EU countries to visit Bochum and to give us some information about their homeland and their personal European experiences. In the face of the "Euro Crisis" and the growing social conflicts we intend to give a platform to discuss about the future of our continent. The purpose of the project consists of clarifying media stereotypes and negative concepts about the "Italians", the "Germans", the "Spanish" or the "Greeks". The invitation is addressed to the young generation of graduates which is interested in facing a non-media European reality and wants to participate in different discussion groups shaping the European civil society.

### Requirements:

- Applications are open to graduates of all disciplines who hold a first degree (Bachelor's, Diplom or comparable academic degree).
- Some German language skills.
- Good English language skills.

### Application papers:

- Short Curriculum Vitae with name, address and actual status.
- Certificates of professional qualifications
- Letter of motivation (max. 2 papers).
- Instead of the letter of motivation, you can also send the link of a (short) YouTube video about you and your motivation concerning the project. This is just an option and brings no direct benefits.

Send your complete application via email to:

**IDF@RUB.DE**

**DEADLINE: 17.05.2013**

## Meine Geschichte für Europa Duration & Terms

The Visiting will be awarded for two weeks (2<sup>nd</sup>-16<sup>th</sup> July, 2013). In cooperation with Stiftung Mercator and the Ruhr-University Bochum the Institute of German Cultural Studies will pay an appropriate travel allowance of up to 1.400 €.

The visiting program contains about six points:

**Arrival & Welcome:** Institute's members are going to pick you up from the train station or from the airport and to take you to your accommodation near to the Ruhr-University.

**Introduction:** In an introductory tutorial you are going to get to know other visitors and German students that are also participating in the project. Additionally, professors from the Institute and project coordinators are going to introduce themselves.

**Discussing groups:** The international visitors and German students form discussing groups. Together they will organize diverse discussion terms ("**Bürger-Dialoge**"), which are going to take place in different schools and other educational institutions.

**Bürger-Dialoge:** Civil dialogues and diverse public events belong to the key aspect of this project. Through these dialogues you will have the opportunity to tell about you and your homeland and to learn more about opinions in Germany concerning Europe.

**Excursions:** Have you ever been in the "Ruhrgebiet"? Institute's members are going to accompany you to the main sights

## Meine Geschichte für Europa Bochum & The „Ruhrgebiet“

The Ruhrgebiet – often called "Revier" or "Pott" – is one of the most exciting areas in Germany. With a population of some five million, it is the largest urban agglomeration in Germany and one of the biggest in Europe. By industrialization and coal mining the area grew together and is still shaped by industry.

In 2010 the Ruhrgebiet was one of the European Capitals of Culture. The Industrial Heritage Trail links a lot of tourist attractions. Highlights of the region are among others the Zeche Zollverein in Essen and the Gasometer in Oberhausen.

The biggest cities of the "Revier" are Dortmund, Essen und Duisburg. With a population of 375.000 inhabitants Bochum is located in the heart of the "Pott". In 1965 the Ruhr-University was opened, currently are about 35.000 students enrolled.

Bochum is famous for its "Currywurst", the "Deutsche Bergbau-Museum" and "Starlight Express", the longest running musical in Germany. In the evening the Bermuda triangle is popular, where you find a lot of pubs and bars. For those who prefer theatre is the Schauspielhaus just right.



Highlights of the Ruhrgebiet: Zeche Zollverein in Essen (left) and the Ruhr-University, Bochum.