

EUSTORY Mission Statement

We are a network of non-governmental organisations that run research-based history competitions for young people in Europe. Our perception of Europe reaches further than the territory of the European Union.

What we aim at

Through our projects and activities, we encourage young people to develop their own dynamic and unprejudiced understanding of the past and present.

We foster learning through research, especially about local history and communities over time to include a vast diversity of topics and experiences »from below« into the perception of European history.

EUSTORY strives for an open and critical bottom-up approach to the past that focuses on dialogue and mutual understanding on a local, national as well as a transnational level. This approach assists young Europeans to deal with the (mis)use of history as an ideological weapon and helps to strengthen democratic values.

What we do

The Network supports the set-up and strengthening of non-governmental national history research competitions for young people in Europe.

We exchange expertise in the field of history and civic education in Europe. We initiate international exchange and encounters of prize winners from the different member competitions and its partners to strengthen ties between young people in Europe and foster cross-border dialogue among them on topics related to history and identity. We provide support for teachers who conduct historical projects with students. We initiate discussions about historical culture and identity and aim at developing ideas, recommendations and joint initiatives regarding history in Europe.

What we believe

We believe that EUSTORY experiences generate competences which are crucial for the 21st century, contribute to the development of intercultural and mutual understanding among young Europeans, strengthen cross-border dialog in Europe and initiate discussion and reflection on historical culture and identity.

We believe that listening to others and telling our stories in an empathetic manner makes them understandable and meaningful for people from diverse backgrounds and helps building a peaceful coexistence.

Our Framework and References

The EUSTORY Network was founded in 2001 by the Körber Foundation in Germany who is running the EUSTORY International Office since then. The Network operates on the basis of the principles and procedures set out in the EUSTORY Rules. Its general principles are laid down in the EUSTORY Charter, the Network's founding document laid down in 2001 and finally updated in 2004.