

March 18th , 1999

1)

Esben (97'er) offered kindly to arrange an information meeting in Latvia on March 8th. Unfortunately nobody had the time on that exact date. The meeting was then cancelled and we will try to arrange another one as soon as possible.

2)

On March 12th we held the first meeting in the group we call the "European Folk High School Initiative". The meeting took place at the Askov Højskole. The aim of the meeting was to get inspiration, critique and ideas from people involved in international school-ideas.

The following persons were present:

Former director of Danish Culture Institutes, Per Himmelstrup
Culture-consulent, Gyrite Andersen, Ribe Council
Head of board AWE (Association for World Education), Ove Korsgård
International consulent, AOF-education-center, Allan Agerbo
Principal at the Askov Højskole, Henning Dochweiler
Principal at the Brandbjerg Højskole, Søren Juhl
Principal at the Højskolen Østersøen, Knud-Erik Therkelsen
Principal at the Snoghøj Folkehøjskole, Bøje Østerlund
Principal at the Aalborg Sportshøjskole, Ole Vøgg Veje
Principal, Sydvestfyns Efterskole, Jørgen Lycke
Project-leader, Højskolen Østersøen, Jürgen Klaassen
Project-leader, Jesper Nielsen, Højskolen Østersøen
Stud.mag. Lis Christensen
Stud.mag. Peter Korsbjerg
Sanne Kutscher, board member, Nordic Academy
Folkhigshool teacher, Elly Andersen, Højskolen Østersøen
Cand.mag. John Petersen

We have presented for this debateforum approximately what is described in the project-description (please confer the www.johnp.dk).

In its maximum version our plans are very ambitious and more strategies were discussed in relation to it. It was discussed to try to get more contacts among influential persons and/or to try to get many more members of the eventual organisation ETS. Our (Elly and John) conclusion has been to work together with what we think we have. Namely the network consisting of former participants in the minority courses. There were many ideas on how to get members, but we have concluded waiting with the expansion of the association 'till it is running and 'till it has shown its capability of living.

We will concentrate on the meeting this summer at Askov Højskole (provided we get the money).

Since it was kind of difficult to explain what exactly the idea is, we have agreed to try to write some more things on an ideological level. We also want to write within short a set of

statutes for the ETS and we want to describe in more details, how our ideal of the future institutions/schools would be. How can you describe a folkhighschool anyway?

One important information given by the group was about the existence of a school in Brussels built on the very same idea as ours. We will try to find out, if we can make some kind of cooperation with this institution. The "Nordic Academy" is not working as a school yet, but as far as we understand, plans are to begin courses and school in 1999.

The name ETS (Education Time Society) was criticized. Lets think of another name.

We had a lot of inspiration from this group and things are then progressing....

Best wishes

John