

Press Release

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Nuremberg wins the 2007 Europe Prize

Strasbourg, 01.06.2007 – The 2007 Europe Prize has been awarded to the German town of Nuremberg in Germany. The decision was taken unanimously by the Committee on the Environment, Agriculture and Local and Regional Affairs of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly (PACE) meeting today in Paris.

This Bavarian town developed fourteen twinings throughout the world, nine of them in Europe, supported by ten twinning committees but also by numerous associations and volunteers. Nuremberg's International Relations Office, which co-ordinates all twinning activities, estimated that more than 55,000 people had been involved in more than 5,000 twinning activities since 1991.

Nuremberg organises many conferences and exhibitions and also attaches great importance to all that concerns human rights by awarding an International Human Rights Prize every two years. Nuremberg also hosts cultural events like the International Organ Week and the World Music Festival.

Nuremberg, which was already awarded the Flag of Honour in 1999 and the Plaque of Honour in 2002, is the fourteenth German town to receive this award.

Created by PACE in 1955, the Europe Prize is the highest distinction that can be bestowed on a European town for its actions in the European domain. The prize consists of a trophy, a medal, a diploma and a scholarship to be spent on a study visit within Europe for young people from the winning town.

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The Plaque of Honour, which is the second highest distinction after the Europe Prize, was awarded to eight municipalities:

France	Saint-Sebastien-sur-Loire (Loire-Atlantique)
Germany	Eppstein (Hessen)
	Gau-Algesheim (Rhineland-Palatinate)
	Sinzing (Bavaria)

Poland	Bytom (woj. Śląskie)
Russia	Yaroslavl
Spain	Murcia (Murcia region)
Sweden	Vara (Västergötland Province)

The Flag of Honour was awarded to 18 municipalities this year:

Austria	Wagna (Styria)
Belgium	Evergem (Flanders)
France	Aixe-sur-Vienne (Haute-Vienne) (together with Grosshabersdorf (D))
	Granville (Manche)

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The Parliamentary Assembly brings together 318 members from the national parliaments of the 47 member states.

President: René van der Linden (Netherlands, EPP/CD); Secretary General of the Assembly: Mateo Sorinas.

Political Groups: SOC (Socialist Group); EPP/CD (Group of the European People's Party); ALDE (Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe); EDG (European Democratic Group); UEL (Group of the Unified European Left).

Germany	Amberg/Opf. (Bavaria) Großhabersdorf (Bavaria) (<i>together with Aixe-sur-Vienne (F)</i>) Gunzenhausen (Bavaria) Mallersdorf-Pfaffenberg (Bavaria) Nordwalde (North-Rhine Westphalia) Oppenheim (Rhineland-Palatinate) Ottersweier (Baden-Wurttemberg) Wadersloh (North-Rhine Westphalia)
Lithuania	Alytus (Dzukija region) Trakai
Poland	Białogard (woj. Zachodniopomorskie) Ogrodzieniec (woj. Śląskie)
Romania	Satu Mare
United Kingdom	Verwood and Three Legged Cross (Dorset)

24 municipalities were granted the European Diploma:

Bulgaria	Kavarna
France	Amilly (Loiret) Andrésy (Yvelines) Plaisir (Yvelines)
Germany	Aspach (Baden-Wurttemberg) Harpstedt (Lower Saxony) Kamen (North-Rhine Westphalia) Kerpen (North-Rhine Westphalia) Puchheim (Bavaria)
Italy	Follonica (Grossetto) Russi (Ravenna)
Lithuania	Birzai (Panevezys County) Kedainiai (Kaunas County) Šiauliai (Šiauliai County)
Poland	Gołuchów (woj. Wielkopolskie) Kędzierzyn-Koźle (woj. Opolskie) Łącko (woj. Małopolskie) Leśnica (woj. Opolskie) Lublin (woj. Lubelskie) Środa Śląska (woj. Dolnośląskie)
Russia	Vladimir
Sweden	Borgholm (Öland Island)
Switzerland	Fribourg (Canton of Fribourg)
United Kingdom	Rushmoor B.C. (Hampshire)