EYFT action report

Our ambition was to encourage the youngsters to be interested and active in politics. We think that the commitment for politics is too small at our school. We decided to change this status quo with our action. We wrote a request to the school management which includes a claim for an optional subject “politics”. The main topic in this optional subject should be contemporary issues like votes. Political science is also an important topic for since the youth has to understand the political system of Switzerland. In addition, the teenagers should learn how they could discuss and debate about a certain topic, as well as organizing their own public discussions and visiting political events.

At the 11th May 17 we had a talk with the headmasters of our school. They informed us that we could make an elective subject politics in our school under the condition that we would have to organize it ourselves. Now it’s up to us. We have to find a teacher, who would be willing to teach the optional subject. When we have found a teacher, we have to announce the optional subject and promote it.

This discussion was a very important step to realize this optional subject. After the conversation we felt confident that our action will be successful. It was a good feeling that we had the possibility to share our ideas and get the support from the headmasters. Until now, we are satisfied with the implementation of our project. Because we wrote the request during the week in the Pestalozzi Children’s Village, we sent them quite fast after the EYFT. While we were writing the request we were still in the spirit of this interesting week. So it was really easy to find good arguments and ideas for our project. We think, the difficulties in our action could be in the second part of our plan, because than we will have to find a suitable teacher and motivated students for our optional subject. We were not sure if the school management would react to our request and decided quite fast that they will support our idea. As far as now, we achieved the first part of our goals. In the second part of the implementation of our project we’ll see if we can achieve the main goal: the realisation of the optional subject “politics”. Maybe in this more difficult part of our action, there will something we haven’t already foreseen. Apart of our action, we heard that the EYFT will take place in the next year which we were glad to hear. This project has shown us that our school management is very liberal if you want to realize something new at the school. But it’s necessary to have a realistic and reasonable idea as well as being motivated and committed to convert the idea. Because we didn’t finish our project yet, we can’t tell more about what we learned from this action. We think we did a good job with our work to this moment. It was and is a great experience to see that it was worth after all to engage ourselves in our school and change something.

Now we are looking forward to realizing the second part of our project. We hope that we will find some other students who are as interested as we are about this topic. It was also an idea that this optional subject could serve as a preparation to the students for the EYFTs in the following years.