

Come and join the culture week in 2010!



ICWiP is one of the most important and popular thematic youth and student cultural festivals of East Central Europe and the Alps Adriatic region. The festival is organised in the city of Pécs, in Southwest Hungary. For more than a decade now, every year around 250-300 students from 30 different countries have come to spend their time together at the end of July.

The main objective of the festival is to increase tolerance and enhance intercultural dialogue. ICWiP gives opportunity to young people from all over the world to meet each other and to discuss and debate over various questions and problems. The participants can learn from each other and find common ground for a common way of thinking. Cultural innovation through interactive communication is placed in the centre of discussions and actions.

Pécs, a European Capital of Culture

The unique character and atmosphere of Pécs is largely determined by the fact that it is a university city. Thanks to the more than thirty five thousand national and international students of the University of Pécs, the youthful energy of the city, the busy street life, squares and places of entertainment can be sensed on simple weekdays as well as during the time of large-scale festivals.



In the past Pécs developed cultural layers of Latin, Turkish, German, Croatian and Hungarian origin. A short walk in the downtown area reveals a multitude of coexisting cultural and historical zones. The Turkish mosque standing on the main square today functions as a Catholic church. The peaceful coexistence of cultures is vividly symbolised by the Turkish crescent and the Catholic cross on the dome of the mosque.

This corner of the world is Pécs. This place is a workshop for those longing for knowledge, a Canaan for travellers and the centre of the world for the local residents. In 2010 Pécs will be the European Capital of Culture.



The cultural, artistic and intellectual heritage of the city, the traditions of its ethnic minorities and its geographical location and environment make Pécs one of the most exciting cities of Hungary. In July every year, the prime of all those interested in culture come to the city from all over the globe to attend the International Culture Week in Pécs (ICWiP).

ICWiP 2010 – Balkans: Re-loaded

The theme of ICWiP2010 is Balkans: Re-loaded, which stems from the concept of the original European Capital of Culture application of the city of Pécs.

The geopolitical area of the Balkans is unique and at the same time very multicultural. In 2010 Pécs may become the first European Capital of Culture to open a gateway to the rich multiculturalism of the Balkans, including its Islamic heritage.

During the conference and festival we will be discussing what a “Balkans identity” is or whether it even exists. How does today’s youth reflect the national identities in relation to a possible “Balkans identity”?

How does the youth view the future of the area? The formation process of the Balkan nations is important from the viewpoint of democracy. Keeping this in mind we have invited lecturers also from other countries and continents to share their views and experiences on the democracy development in practice.

There will also be workshops connected to lectures of the conference. Workshops will concentrate on practical skills such as grant-writing, multilateral project management and modern communication methods.

The Balkans will be also brought forth via music, theatre and movies. There will be traditional Balkan music as well as visual art pieces from the Balkans area. Participants of the festival will have a possibility to get to know and work out “Balkan multiculturalism” via different activities. We arrange plenty of entertainment activities in “the Balkan spirit” for relaxation and enjoyment of the participants. The performer of the closing concert of the festival in 31st of July is Goran Bregovic!



Opinions of participants

9 Enrico, Italy (2008)

When I get back home, I think I will realise what I missed, but there is nothing at the moment I do. This whole event makes you forget about the things you leave behind for this week, so you can't miss anything. I liked the sports day the most!

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9 Neil, South Africa (2008)

I was quite informed through the invitation mail, I found it interesting. At the moment, I am working on a project of my own at home – the Mothership Project, which deals with the problem of sustainability. I hope to establish lots of contacts with the participants, for it could be accomplished more together.

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9 Bojana, Croatia (2008)

I know these debates were concentrating on environment protection, about NGOs and multinational corporations. I actually came, because I am part of several student organizations and NGOs in my country, so I want to see whether I could use the knowledge I will get here. I hope we will share the way we are dealing with these problems, because I think knowing about something going on will help you make a change locally.

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” **Alex, Brasil (2009)**

My expectations were simply to meet new people, and to have a closer look at the institution of ICWiP, because we’re trying to organize something similar in Brasil. We found this particular event through the SORCE website, we got informed there. The first thing I thought about this event when I found it: it’s going to be fun indeed.

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” **Seth, Ghana (2007)**

I am having a very good time, it is a very interesting, very cosy place. Let me stress that I find the whole festival marvellous, I would be very happy to come next year, and I hope there will be an ICWiP every year till the end of times.

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” **Poonit, India (2009)**

I found out about ICWiP through a chain of people. Some of my friends attended a conference earlier in Germany. They met their own friends who told there is going to be a conference organized in Hungary. I was interested in the topics that they will be talking about. I’m an economics student, so I am absolutely interested in global economic crisis, global democracy. I’m thrilled to be here, this is my first time in Europe, and this country, or at least what I saw so far, is beautiful!

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Apply now!

ICWiP has an on-line application form at www.icwip.hu - Please read through the application details before proceeding to the form.



Application step by step

Click on Application form.

Complete the on-line application form. Please, note that there are obligatory data to be given.

Make sure that all the data you filled in are correct.

Submit the application form. Please, pay attention to the deadline applicable to your country.

You can download your submitted application form in PDF. We recommend you save on your computer or print it.

Check your e-mail box for auto-reply. As you submitted the form, an automatic confirmation e-mail will be sent to the mailbox, so you will know that the system has recorded your application. May you have not received this e-mail, please, contact the Organising Team.

The Organising Team will inform you about the approval of your application via e-mail in 2 weeks after the applicable deadline. If your application is approved, the Organising Team will send you information materials via e-mail to help your preparations for ICWiP.

Participation fees

Fee for individuals: **190 EUR** / person

Early bird registration: **140 EUR** / person, if you register and transfer the fee until 15 April.

Individuals coming from specific countries (related to this year's theme), including Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia: **120 EUR** / person

Discount for groups: For every 5 persons registered as a group (e.g. group from Torino, group from the University of Nitra, etc.) each person receives a **20%** discount from the fee.

Deadlines for application

Early bird Registration: 15 April 2010

Visa-countries: 30 April 2010

Non-visa countries: 31 May 2010

Getting to Pécs

Besides its outstanding regional role, Pécs is also the gateway of Hungary to Croatia, the Balkans and the North-Italian region.

By plane to Budapest

The international airport of Hungary is called Ferihegy. There are about 50 companies flying to Budapest. Malév Hungarian Airlines flies directly from more than 30 countries. Wizzair, Ryanair and EasyJet offer cheap flights to Budapest from a lot of destinations.

By coach to Budapest

Volánbusz runs regular transport services from about 18 different European countries. Through its partners, Volánbusz organises services from other countries, too. Buses arrive at Budapest Népliget Coach Terminal.

By rail to Budapest

Hungarian State Railway Company (MÁV) has rail services that run as far as London, Stockholm, St Petersburg, Istanbul and Rome. There are direct lines connect Budapest and 16 European capitals. Most international express trains arrive at Keleti Railway Station where you can find trains to Pécs right away (see details below).

By train to Pécs

There are several daily trains between Budapest and Pécs. We recommend you to take InterCity trains which are faster and more comfortable.

By coach to Pécs

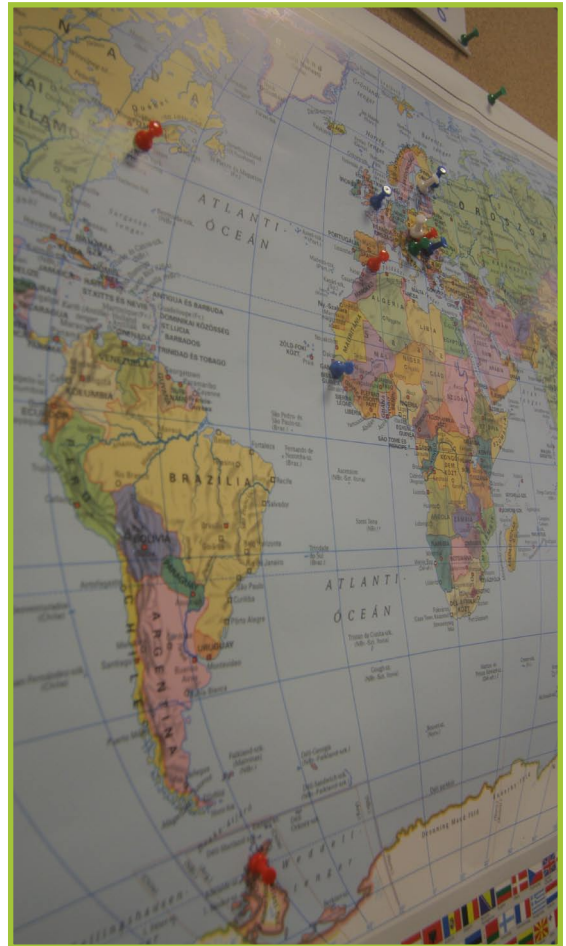
Volánbusz runs domestic coaches in Hungary, thus daily coaches to Pécs. They leave from Budapest Népliget Coach Terminal.

By car to Pécs

You can come to Pécs by car through Budapest taking the motorway M6 then road no. 6.

When you arrive to Pécs

If you come by train or coach, ICWiP hosts and hostesses will be waiting for you to greet you and to help you to get to the dormitory. If you come by car, you can get right to the dormitory or ask guidance on phone from ICWiP Info Desk.





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ICWiP is a pillar-programme of Pécs2010 European Capital of Culture

Main performers at ICWiP 2010

Goran Bregović Wedding & Funeral Band

Bregović has composed for such varied artists as Iggy Pop and Cesária Évora. He rose to fame playing guitar with his rock band Bijelo dugme. Among his better known scores are Emir Kusturica's films (Time of the Gypsies, Arizona Dream, Underground). Since 1998, Bregović has been performing his music mainly in the form of concerts all over the world with his Weddings and Funerals Orchestra.

Russkaja

In the past years the extraordinary Russian-Balkan-Ska group Russkaja (who started out as an insiders' tip in Vienna) became a virtual cross-over cult music group. Their concerts are driven by a perfectly choreographed stage show fuelled by Russkaja's 100% physical and musical commitment as well as by the enthusiasm of their constantly growing fan base.

Karawane 2010

A unique world music cooperation of the three European Capitals of Culture in 2010: the Ruhr-region, Istanbul and Pécs. A musical journey in space and time throughout the three regions.

Big Daddy Wilson

Bluesman, singer and songwriter from Edenton, North Carolina (USA). Wilson creates lovely blues, roots and soul music in an acoustic formation.