THE FUTURE OF EUROPE: AN INTEGRATED YOUTH APPROACH

CENTRE MAURITS COPPIETERS
BRUSSELS | 2012
THE FUTURE OF EUROPE: AN INTEGRATED YOUTH APPROACH
COORDINATED BY JANA BACEVA
CENTRE MAURITS COPPIETERS
2012
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BEING YOUNG IN CORNWALL

John Rowe
On behalf of Kernow X

ECONOMIC SITUATION

At present, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly are classified as an Objective One region within the EU, supported by a £500 million programme of EU Convergence funding in place until 2013, with the aim of moving Cornwall towards a high value, knowledge-based, green economy. In addition, Cornwall is a NUTS II region. For statistical purposes, a NUTS II region is the basic European regional unit. Assessments of economic needs are often made on the basis of NUTS II regions. Cornwall is considered to be a region of special economic need and particular identity, and has therefore been granted Objective 1 funding on this basis.1 Youth unemployment, and unemployment as a whole, remains significantly higher than the UK average2 and as such Cornwall qualifies for EU convergence funding.

1 http://www.cornishassembly.org/caseforcornwall.htm
2 http://www.objectiveone.com/ob1/pdfs/SPD2.pdf

BOS YOWYNK YN KERNOW

John Rowe
Kernow X

STUDH ERBYSEK

Y’n eur ma Kernow ha Syllan yw kllassys avel tiedh Amkan Onan a-ji dhe’n UE, skoođhs gans towlen a £500 milvil a arhasans Keskeveryans UE yn le bys yn 2013, gans an towlow dhe vovyva Kernow troha erbyseidh glas, a dalvosogeth uhel ha selys war skians. Dres hemma, Kernow yw tiedh NUTS II. Rag achesonys statystykel, tiedh NUTS II yw an unses tiedhek Europék selvenel. Arbrisyansow a edhomnom erbyseidh ysr gwrys yn fenowgh war roniel a diredhow NUTS II. Yh yw konsydrys bos Kernow tiedh a edhom erbyseidhek arbennek keffrys ha honanieth arbennek, ha rakhenna re beu grontys arhasans Amkan 1 war an grond ma.1 Diweythieth an yowynketh ha diweythieth a wodrig dre vrahs uhella dres ehen es kresek an R2 hag yndella Kernow yw gwiw rag arhasans Keskeveryans UE.

1 http://www.cornishassembly.org/caseforcornwall.htm
2 http://www.objectiveone.com/ob1/pdfs/SPD2.pdf
One of the successes for younger people in Cornwall was the creation of the Combined Universities of Cornwall at the Tremough campus. This, for the first time, allowed young people from Cornwall access to Higher Education without leaving Cornwall itself. It is our hope that this venture will continue to grow and allow more graduates to stay within Cornwall. We also hope that the University aids the area to invest in people by creating a knowledge based economy within the Duchy.

I believe Cornwall’s economy has a future because it is blessed with ample renewable energy resources and minerals. Once these are in greater demand, as it is predicted they will be, Cornwall could become a centre for renewable energy production through its solar, wind, and wave resources.

ENVIRONMENTAL SITUATION

Given Cornwall’s rural and maritime history the landscape and environment cannot be viewed separately from Cornish identity. Recently there has been a move towards greener technology and a stronger focus on sustainable community based living. In particular, there is great scope for solar and wave energy in Cornwall given that Cornwall only has a few miles of land border so the potential for wave and tidal power is huge.

When King Arthur died, it is said that he passed his soul into a Chough. This bird is now a symbol of Cornwall and features on our national emblem. The Chough disappeared for 30 years, and its return has been seen as a mark of the renewal of Cornish identity and culture.

It has been noted that due to the economic problems that families in certain areas of Cornwall face there can be a lack of interaction with the environment. Some children who live within 15 minutes’ drive of a beach have never been there. Young people living in deprived areas do not always have access to the beautiful marine environment of Cornwall.

Onan a’n sewenyrs rag tus yowynka yn Kernow o gwriann an Pennskoyow Kesunys a Gernow dhe’n kampus Tremoagh. Hemma rag an kynsa tro a asas tus yowynk dhyworth Kernow hedhas dhe Adhlysans Uhella heb gasa Kernow hy honan. Yth yw agan gwytyans y pes tevi ha gasa gradhesigyon moy dhe wodriga a-ji dhe Gernow. Ynwedh y hwrra gweres dhe gevarhewiyn tus dre wruthyl erbsiedh selys war skians a-ji dhe’n Duketh.

My a grys bos termyn a dheu rag erbysiedh Kernow drefen hy bos benigys gans dasnowytadowyon pals, asnodhow nerth ha monow. Mar teuth ha bos an re ma yn gorholeth brassa del yw dargenyts i dhi’y wul, y halsa Kernow dos ha bos kresen rag askorrans nerth dasnowythdow, dre hy asnodhow tonnow, gwyns ha howlek.

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STUDH KERHYNEDHEK

Der istori morek ha powek a Gernow, ny yll an tirwedh na ha’n kerhynnedh bos gweyys yn tiblans a honanieth Kernewek. A-gynsow y feu movyans troha teknegeth moh glas ha fog kreffa war vewnans selys war gemeneth sostenadow. Yma kyns oll chons meur rag nerth howlek ha tonnek yn Kernow drefen na’s teves Kernow marnas or tir a nebes mildiryow, hag ytho an possybylta rag nerth tonnek ha mordidel yw kawrek.

Pan verwis Myghtern arthur yth yw levers y ros y eney yn Palores. An edhen ma yw arwodh a Gernow hag omdhiskwedhes war agan tokyn kenedhlek. An balores eth ‘mes a wel dres 30 bledhen, hag y feu gwelys bos hy tehwelans merk dasnowytytheans an honanieth ha gonisogeth Gernewek.

Y feu notys der an gudynnow erbsiethek ha gw y eneys gans teyluyow yn ranndiryow komparek a Gernow, y hyll bos fowt a ynterhreans gans an kerhynnedh. Nehes fleshes neb yw triogys a-ji dhe viag a 15 mynysen a’n treth, ny vons bythkweyth ena. Avel hemma, tus yowynk yw triogys yn ranndiryow esowys ny’s teves pub prys hedhas dhe’n kerhynnedh morek teg a Gernow.

1 http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cornwall-17161930
2 http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/may/18/solar-farms-cornwall-silicon-vineyards
4 http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/may/18/solar-farms-cornwall-silicon-vineyards
6 http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-cornwall-17161930
7 http://www.guardian.co.uk/environment/2010/may/18/solar-farms-cornwall-silicon-vineyards
So, although Cornwall has a beautiful environment its economic problems have hindered children gaining access to it.

**CULTURE, IDENTITY AND YOUTH**

One of the main expressions of Cornish culture is the Cornish language. As we say in Cornish “Den heb tavas a gollas y dyr” or in English: *a man without a tongue has lost his land*. In recent years, there has been a lot of progress towards modernising the language; films have been made in Cornish, courtesy of the Govyn Kernewek award which supports Cornish language cinema6 and the use of social media is helping.

Being able to use Facebook and Twitter has connected many Cornish language speakers who would have otherwise not spoken to each other. It has also allowed Cornish speakers to organise events more easily and contribute to phenomena such as internet radio stations. Mathew Clarke, a Cornish speaker and producer of Radyo an Gernweregva a Cornish language radio show, remarked that social media is: “Helping communication within a very dispersed Cornish language speaking community. Geographically, Cornwall is a very long country.”

This technical development has made the language more accessible to younger people, in particular, since they are more disposed to using social media. The development of a Cornish language nursery school is also helping even younger children to gain access to the Language. Movyans Skolyow Meythrin provides a happy and relaxed atmosphere in which nursery school children can learn both the English and Cornish languages through play, songs and games.7

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7 http://cornwallfilmfestival.com/govyn-kernewek
9 http://movyansskolyowmeythrin.yolasite.com/about-msm.php
However, funding for the Cornish Language from central government still remains inadequate. If the current funding regime is reduced to a per person per year figure, the central government currently spends only £0.22 per person per year on the Cornish language in Cornwall; according to population figures from 2010. Many thanks also have to be given to the organisation Maga Kernow, which has been instrumental in organising many of these events and projects.

There is a growing awareness in younger people of their own identity. Since 2006, school children in Cornwall have been allowed to record themselves as ‘ethnically’ Cornish on the annual Schools Census. Since then, the numbers identifying themselves as Cornish have risen from 24% to 41%. 2006: 24 percent, 2007: 27 percent 2008: 30 percent, 2009: 34 percent, 2010: 37 percent and 2011: 41 percent. This is illustrated on the next page:

It is particularly encouraging that the option to define oneself as Cornish comes before the option of being English or British.

**DEMOCRACY, DEVOLUTION AND YOUTH**

In 2001, a 50,000 strong petition for a Cornish Assembly was delivered to the British Government, representing 10% of the population of Cornwall. This was particularly good in terms of youth action as younger people became increasingly involved in the petition gathering process itself with the majority of petition gatherers on the streets being below the age of 24.\(^\text{12}\)

This interest in devolution continues to grow; in 2003, the Cornwall Council conducted a telephone survey and found 72% in favour of holding a referendum on a Cornish Assembly.\(^\text{13}\) It is clear that there is a will for devolution and an increased awareness in young people of their own identity. This author has no doubt that if we can shape our own future, our identity will continue to flourish at an even greater pace.

**Kernow Arta**

\(^{12}\) http://www.cornishassembly.org/caseforcornwall.htm
\(^{13}\) http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/england/2810789.stm
The European Parliament recognized the Centre Maurits Coppieters (CMC) as a Political Foundation at a European Level in 2007. Since then the CMC has developed political research focusing on European issues, also in the fields of multilevel governance, management of cultural and linguistic diversity in complex (multi-national) societies, decentralization, state and constitutional reform, succession of states, conflict resolution and protection of human rights.

So far, every little step has been important to the steady consolidation and growth of the Centre, that’s why I’m especially proud of this publication. Indeed, it undoubtedly represents a crucial contribution to the current state of affairs and will certainly have a notorious impact both in the Academia and among European decision makers in a broad sense, including European Institutions (like the European commission, European Parliament, Council and Committee of the Regions), other political actors, think tanks, research centers and contributors to the European integration process.

On behalf of the Centre Maurits Coppieters and our partners I sincerely wish to thank the author of the report for his groundbreaking approach to the subject and his passionate, conceptually robust and well structured factual presentation.

Finally I also wish to thank you (the reader) for your interest in our organization and for reviewing our modest contribution to a much wider European political debate in this area.

Gunther Dauwen
Secretary of Centre Maurits Coppieters
www.ideasforeurope.eu

GOALS OF THE EUROPEAN POLITICAL FOUNDATION CENTRE MAURITS COPPIETERS (CMC)

According to its general regulations, the Centre Maurits Coppieters asbl-vzw pursues the following objectives and references:

• Observing, analysing and contributing to the debate on European public policy issues with a special focus on the role of nationalist and regionalist movements and the process of European integration;
• Serving as framework for national or regional think tanks, political foundations and academics to work together at European level;
• Gather and manage information for scientific purposes on all nationalist and regionalist movements, organisations, structures,… in all its appearances situated in a European context;
• Making available information to the public on the implementation of the principle of subsidiarity in a context of a Europe of the Regions;
• Promoting scientific research on the functioning and the history of all national and regional movements in the EU and making the results public to as many people as possible;
• Developing actions to open information sources and historical information sources in a structured and controlled way with the aim to build a common data network on issues of Nationalism and Regionalism in Europe;
• Maintaining contacts with all organisations who are active in national movements and with the Institutions of the EU;
The Centre Maurits Coppieters asbl-vzw takes all the necessary actions to promote and achieve the higher stated goals always observing the principles on which the European Union is founded, namely the principles of liberty, democracy, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the rule of law.

Mauritius Coppieters (Sint-Niklaas, 1920 – Deinze, 2005)

The Fleming Mauritius Coppieters studied history and later became a Doctor of Laws and obtained a master’s degree in East European studies. During the Second World War, he refused to work for the German occupier. After many years as a teacher, he worked as a lawyer for a while. He was one of the people who re-established the Vlaamse Volksbeweging (Flemish People’s Movement), of which he was the President from 1957-1963.

Coppieters’ political career began when he became a member of the Flemish-nationalist party Volksunie (VU) which was formed in 1954. With the exception of two years, Coppieters was a town councillor between 1964 and 1983. He was also elected as a member of the Belgian Chamber (1965-1971) and Senate (1971-1979). At the same time, Coppieters became President of the newly formed ‘Cultuurraad voor de Nederlandstalige Cultuurgemeenschap’ (Cultural Council for the Dutch-speaking Community, from which later the Flemish Parliament emanated), when the VU formed part of the government. In 1979, Coppieters was moreover elected during the first direct elections for the European Parliament.

As a regionalist, he became a member of the Group for Technical Coordination and Defence of Independent Groupings and Members in the European Parliament (TCDI). Among other things, he made a name for himself when he championed the cause of the Corsicans. In the meantime, Coppieters also played a pioneering role in the formation of the European Free Alliance, of which he became the Honorary President and in whose expansion he continued to play a role, even after he said farewell to active politics in 1981. In 1996, Coppieters joined forces with the president of the Flemish Parliament, Norbert De Batselier, to promote ‘Het Sienjaal’, a project with a view to achieve political revival beyond the party boundaries. Coppieters died on November 11, 2005.

Among other things, Coppieters was the author of: ‘Het jaar van de Klaproos’; ‘Ik was een Europees Parlementsled’; ‘De Schone en het Beest’. He is Honorary member of the EFA.

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