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CONFIDENTIAL

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PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY



COMMITTEE ON REGIONAL PLANNING AND LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize
and the propagation of the European idea

EUROPE PRIZE

Candidature of the town of FELLBACH
(Baden-Württemberg), Federal Republic of Germany

- Replies to the questionnaire

63.095
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CONFIDENTIAL

Question 1: Membership in organisations of local authorities

Reply

The town of Fellbach is a member of the International Union of Mayors and has applied for membership of the German section of the Council of European Municipalities; the Presidential Council will be taking a decision on this application on 19 March 1980.

Question 2: Contribution to their activities

Reply

Question 3: "Twinning activities"

Reply

- a. Fellbach is twinned with Tain-l'Hermitage and Tournon in France and with Erba in Italy. Exchanges of information are organised every year in connection with these pairings. The traditional wine festival known as the "Fellbacher Herbst" provides an opportunity every year to discuss questions of mutual interest here in Fellbach in specialised committees; the questions discussed are mainly to do with exchange visits of schoolchildren. Last year an industrial exhibition was organised at which the twin towns were able to display their industrial products. In addition, there have been various exchange visits by trade, cultural and sports associations. The activities of the 1979 "Fellbacher Herbst" included a debate, complete with simultaneous interpreting, on the theme "What do the citizens of the towns and communities of Europe expect from a united Europe?"; this event, in which representatives of both the authorities and the citizens of the four towns took part, was followed with great interest by the local audience.

Question 4: Other relations with municipalities abroad

Reply

Question 5: Exchange of persons

Reply

Exchanges of persons have been arranged on a number of occasions; for example, Fellbach has made trainee posts available for French and Italian apprentices. The town has also supported local trade associations' exchange projects by helping with their travel expenses.

Question 6: Organisation of European events

Reply

In recent years Fellbach has repeatedly organised European events in the cultural and sporting fields. Here we should mention joint sports meetings organised by the town at considerable expense, visits by local music clubs to our twin towns and performances by French and Italian groups in Fellbach, again with considerable financial support from the town. Another event in the European mould was an exhibition of works by artists from the four towns, which was organised as part of the "Fellbacher Herbst" festivities.

Question 7: Europe Day

Reply

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Question 8: Support to European movements

Reply

Fellbach runs a youth centre which is intended primarily for young foreigners living in the town; over 700,000 DM are spent on this centre every year. The town has often organised special cultural events, eg film shows and concerts, for young Europeans living or working there.

Question 9: Propagation of the European idea

Reply

Fellbach supports exchange visits by schoolchildren as far as possible; it has also organised drawing competitions on European themes in connection with the twinning agreements.

Question 10: Actions of European solidarity

Reply

Fellbach has often encouraged its inhabitants to take part in demonstrations of solidarity with the victims of natural disasters in the countries of its twin towns.

Question 11: Presentation

Reply

If awarded the Flag of Honour, Fellbach undertakes to organise a public ceremony with active participation by young people.

Question 12: Other initiatives

Reply

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