

## **LAUNCH OUT INTO EUROPEAN JOURNALISM WITH THE "EURANET AWARDS"!**

*The Pan-European radio network Euranet is officially launching the "Euranet Awards" today, a contest for European students to encourage creativity on the topic of European citizens' rights. The initiative is highly symbolic of Euranet network's daily commitment to better mutual understanding amongst European Union citizens, and better knowledge of EU institutions.*

**Paris, 21 September 2011.** During their debate "Connecting U and the EU", which brings together European students and EU political leaders each month at the European Parliament, **Euranet**, a Pan-European network of 19 public and private regional national and international radio stations, announced today the official launch of their "**Euranet Awards**".

From **21 September** onwards, students from all over Europe are invited to participate in the contest. The principle is to make an **audio report on the topic of European citizens' rights**. After closure of inscriptions on **19 October at midnight**, the successful candidates will be invited to Brussels from **8 to 10 November 2011** to produce their report 'in the field'. The report is to be 4 to 5 minutes in length. All the possibilities permitted by radio media will be available (opinion piece, interview, environmental sound capture, music, etc.).

After deliberation by a jury of journalists specialised in European issues (who are also EU country nationals), **5 winners** will be chosen. The best reporter will receive first prize: **two work placements to experience daily life at Euranet network radio stations** (four- to six-week placement at one or two radio stations of the winner's choice within the Euranet network). The first prize-winner will receive funding from Euranet to cover travel costs and accommodation. The top candidates will also each receive an iPad 2.

The Euranet network, which reaches out to **almost 15 million listeners** each day in 20 different languages throughout Europe, is seeking to go beyond the often too nationally-oriented treatment of European news by bringing a fresh outlook on European affairs through their political, economic, cultural or social diversity. As such, each member radio station broadcasts live programmes and field reports each week on both local and transnational topics, constantly examining European identity, its characteristics and particularities.

Aimed at European students, the "Euranet Awards" contest is further demonstration of the network's commitment towards the future stakeholders of Europe. The contest is taking place within the context of the 8 campus radio stations, members of the Euranet network, which organise monthly debates between European students and EU political leaders.

#### About **Euranet**

**The European Radio Network Euranet** - an amalgamation of international, national, regional and local European broadcasters – brings a whole new dimension to reporting in Europe. Instead of national perspectives, Euranet covers events in Europe from a transnational point of view.

The Euranet network is now made up of **19 international, national and regional, professional European radio stations** from 17 EU countries plus **8 campus radio** from European universities. It reaches **a daily audience of nearly 15 million listeners** across Europe.

Euranet's aim is **to set up better communication between European citizens and EU policy-makers**. With its joint programmes and multi-lingual, interactive audio offerings, the new European network creates a sense of togetherness, improves European communication and further develops the much-debated European « public sphere ». This cross-border initiative is not only innovative, but also unique.

Euranet's joint broadcasts went on air at the beginning of **April 2008**.

<http://www.euranet.eu>

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