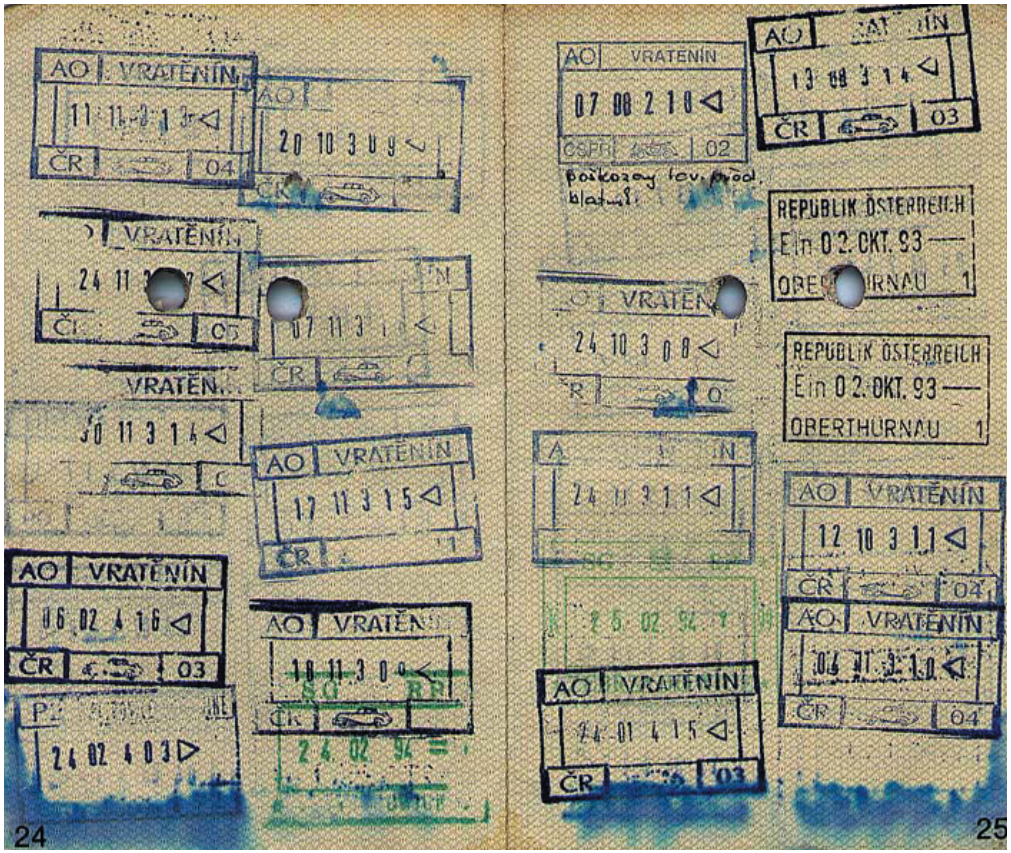
European Citizenship - a look back and a glimpse forward

A broad, complex and contested concept ...

Heureka! Europa? Training Module on European Citizenship. Input by Andreas Karsten.



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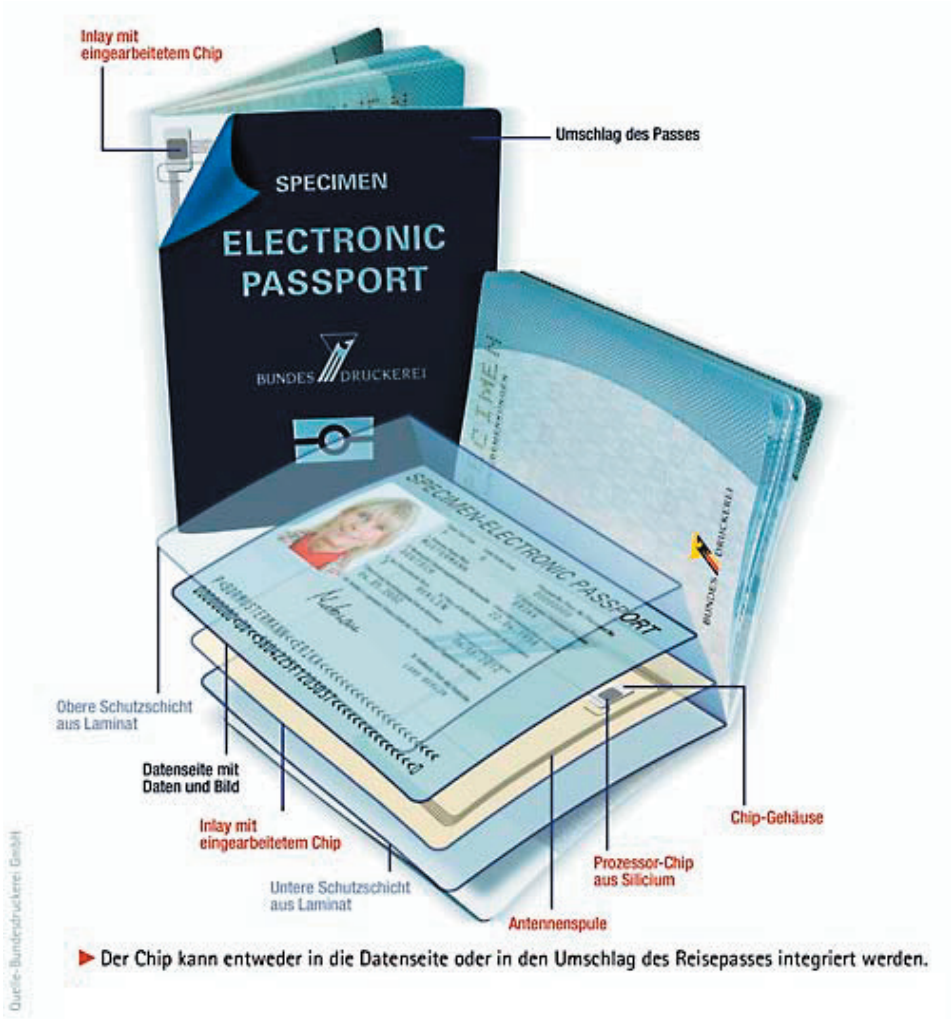

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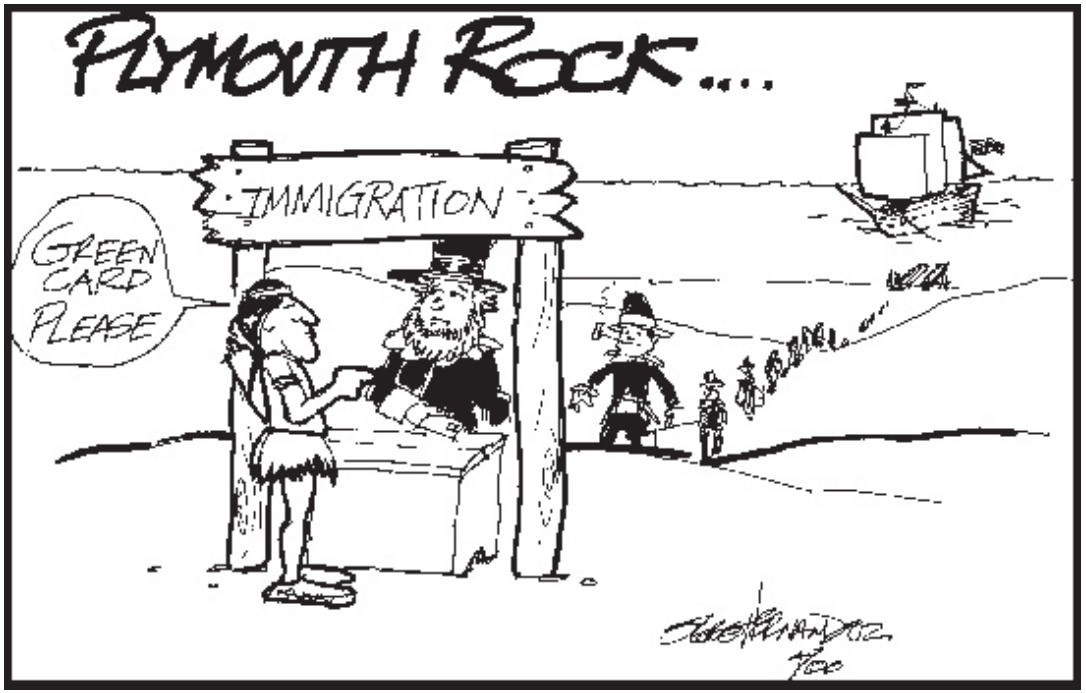

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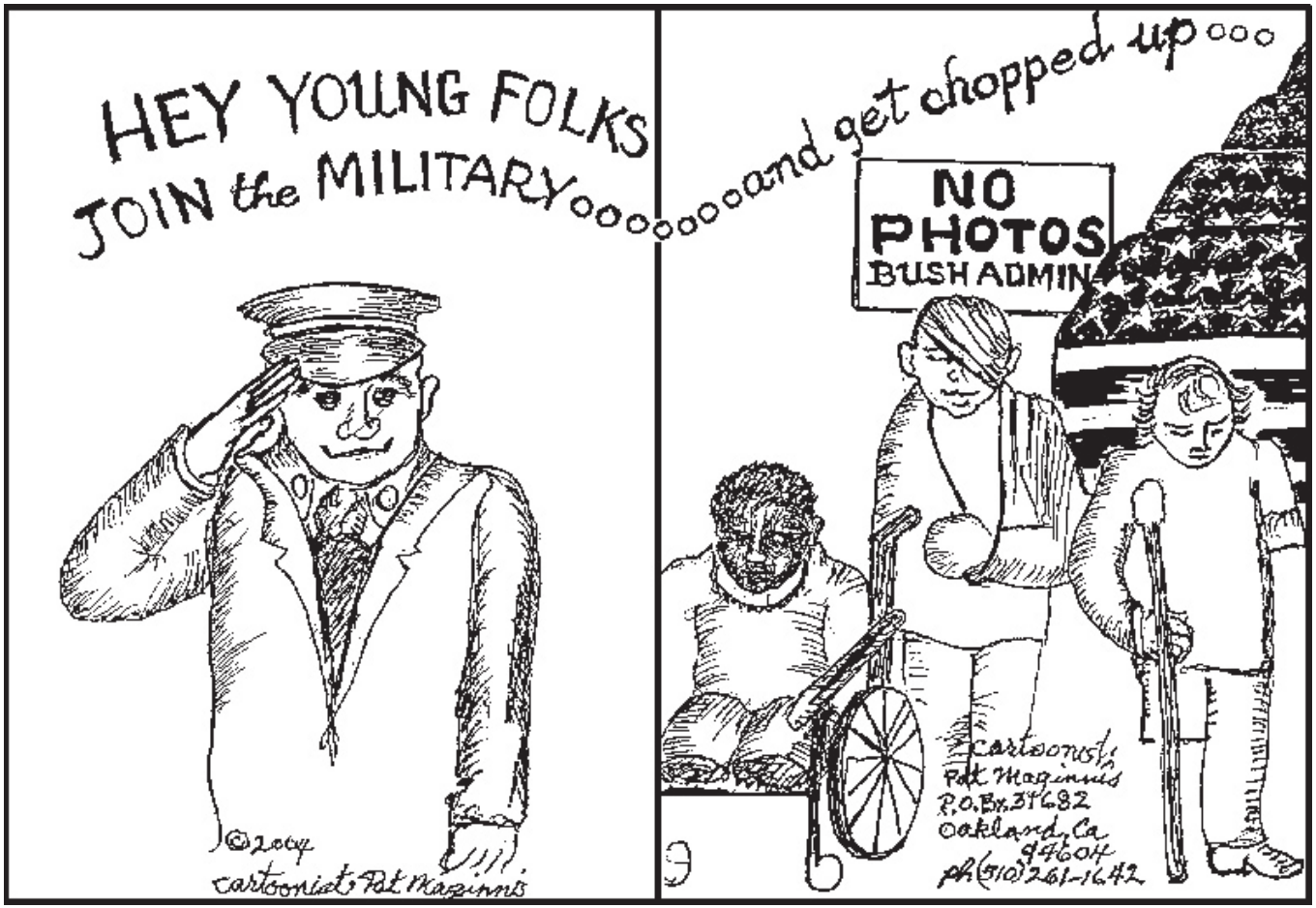

European Citizenship

A broad, complex and contested concept ...

Introduction

Different understandings of the term throughout Europe

European Citizenship

A broad, complex and contested concept ...

Ancient times

Greeks and Romans > free resident men > civitas - win or loose > disconnected from democracy / human rights > Plato: Democracy is the best form of civil society > Aristotle: Citizens want more than just survive. The whole is greater than the sum of its parts > Agora

Medieval times

Citizenship disappears... > and returns > 16 century > Renaissance > Venice. Live and pay taxes for 15 years ...

Enlightenment

18 century movement > rationality, control > Voltaire > Hume > Smith > JJR > all citizens should contribute to political decisions > French revolution > Declaration of the rights of **man** and citizen > American constitution > European constitution > JFK: Political action is the hightest responsibility of a citizen

Liberalism

Liberty of individuals > liberty of collective society > connection of liberty and freedom with collective responsibility and equality of people > citizens are not born, they are made

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Citizenship has not always been a notion connected with democratic values

European Citizenship

A broad, complex and contested concept ...

>> Citizenship - a broad, complex and contested term

many publications, conferences, articles, books, researches - and many different understandings

>> Citizenship - a legal status by the state ?

You get a passport, you can vote, you are entitled to the protection by the state

Straightforward relation between citizen and state - rights and responsibilities

>> Contemporary citizenship - multidimensional

Feelings, morality, multiple senses of belonging, identity

Citizen - state > citizen - community > citizen - citizen

Voluntary engagement in community > civil society

European Citizenship

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„Citizenship is the practice of a moral code – a code that has concern for the interest of others – grounded in personal self-development and voluntary co-operation rather than the repressive compulsive power of the state intervention."

(Hayek, 1967)

„Citizenship is a status bestowed on all those who are full members of a community. All who possesses the status are equal with respect to the rights and duties which the status is endowed. There are not universal principles that determine what those rights and duties shall be, but societies in which citizenship is a developing institution create an image of ideal citizenship … Citizenship requires a direct sense of community membership based on loyalty to a civilisation which is a common possession. It is a loyalty of free men endowed with rights and protected by a common law."

(Marshall, 1973)

„Citizenship is the peaceful struggle through a public sphere which is dialogical."

(Habermas, 1994)

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„Citizenship is not just a certain status, defined by a set of rights and responsibilities. It is also an identity, an expression of one's membership in a political community."

(Kymlicka and Norman, 1995)

"Citizenship is a complex and multidimensional concept. It consists of legal, cultural, social and political elements and provides citizens with defined rights and obligations, a sense of identity, and social bonds."

(Ichilov, 1998)

"Citizenship is the active membership and participation of individuals in society who are entitled to rights and responsibilities and who have the capacity to influence politics. Therefore citizenship has to be more than a political and juridical status; it also is a social role."

(Cesar Birzea in June 2002 at the 2nd Pilot Course on European Citizenship)

European Citizenship

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>> Common elements

Question of belonging to a community (shared values, identical rights & obligations, sense of identity)

Geographically: local community - place in which one lives > nation state - country to which one belongs

Citizens have equal rights & responsibilities to be exercised in public and democratic spaces respecting others

>> Differences

Democratic citizenship > active citizenship >

European citizenship > territory ***vs*** values and rights

>> Deficits

Failure to describe the complexity of modern multidimensional citizenship

European Citizenship

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**Observations made in 2002.
Today it might be different...
What do you think?**

>> European Union

EU citizenship is clearly and strictly conditioned: Citizen of a member state = citizen of the EU

Still lots of politicians talk about European citizenship, simply and merely meaning the legal citizenship of the EU

Overconfident and self-centred. Only at convenience is it understood beyond these limits (learn to live democracy)

>> Council of Europe

European Citizenship as a value-based concept. Human Rights, Democracy, Rule of Law.

Convention of Human Rights protects any human being in the geographical area covered by the convention

>> Youth sector: We have made Europe, but how do we make Europeans?

EU: Individual intercultural experiences, voluntary service, direct dialogue with young people

COE: Intercultural group experiences, intercultural learning in protected environments, multipliers

PARTNERSHIP: Trying to bring the two approaches together and create something new

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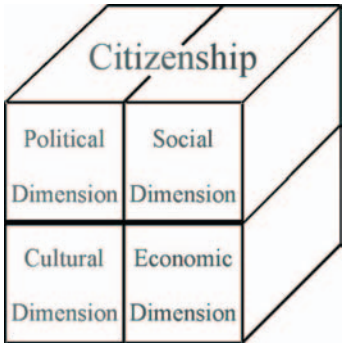
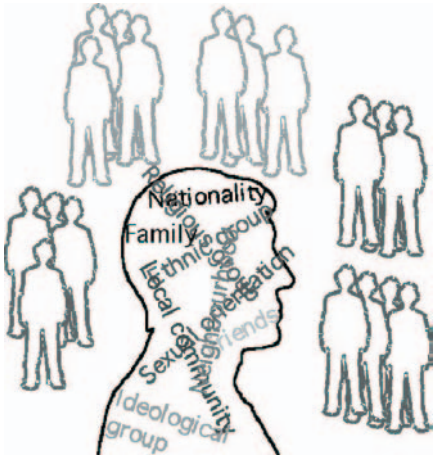
>> Citizenship as a dynamic, complex and integral concept





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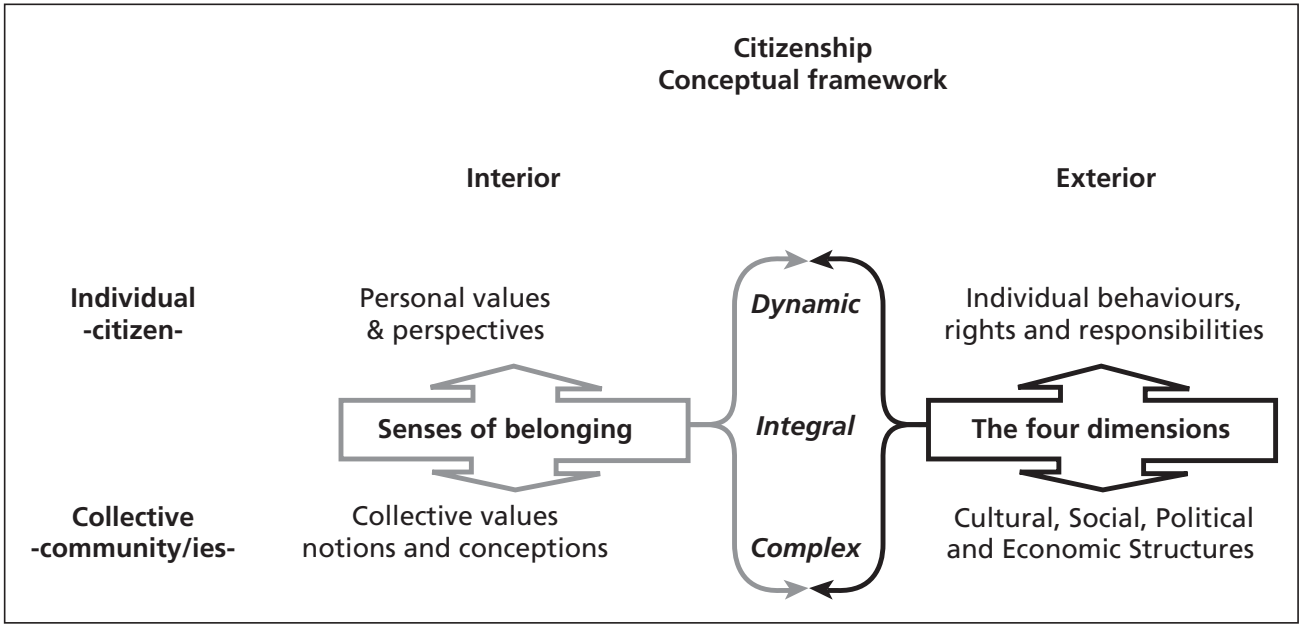

>> T-Kit 7 “Under construction” >> www.training-youth.net

European Citizenship

A broad, complex and contested concept ...

>> 3 years later - a tender glimpse at some developments - relevant but incomplete

Socio-political developments

>> 9/11, security debate, biometric passports, Irak, Afghanistan, EU constitution blowup, Turkey, Russia, ...

Institutional developments

>> White Paper follow-up, Debates around constitution, Youth Pact, Youth in Action, Participation resolution, ...

>> COMPASS, HRE Programme, European Year, Green Book, Charter, ...

>> Partnership EU-COE enlarging and blossoming more than ever, ...

Training experiences

>> 3 pilot courses 2001-2003, 6 pilot modules 2004-2005, national courses, T-Kit seminar, ...

Personal experiences

>> 300 youth workers and youth leaders with experience reg. applicability in youth work and youth training, ...

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>> 3 years later

Socio-political developments

>> Security debate, Irak, Afghanistan, EU constitution bl

Institutional developments

>> White Paper follow-up, Debat ction, Partnership

>> European Year, Gre

Training exper

>> Pilot course courses, T-Kit 7 Seminar

Personal experiences

>> applicability in youth work and youth training

Which questions do you see in a different light after this morning?