



INTERNATIONAL STUDY PROGRAMS

"Come together to
create Europe"



Europäische
Akademie
Otzenhausen

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WHO ARE WE?

The Europäische Akademie Otzenhausen (EAO) was founded in 1954, less than a decade after the end of the Second World War, the deadliest and most destructive war in human history. Since then, the Academy has been promoting democratic culture, the ideals of a peaceful, free and united Europe, and the guiding principle of sustainable development.



As an independent, non-partisan, non-denominational educational institution, by our programs we want to contribute to the promotion, strengthening and empowering of an active civil society in which responsible thinking and acting, open-minded citizens get involved.

WHAT DO WE WANT TO ACHIEVE?

We want our participants to experience Europe fully in its many political, economic, social and cultural dimensions. To deepen their knowledge of Europe, its role in the world and its international perception, to actively support the active creation of personal networks and to further promote intercultural understanding.



HOW DO WE DO THAT?

HOW WILL YOUR STUDENTS BENEFIT?

Education is our passion.

We put special emphasis on the variety of methods and activities introduced at each of our seminars to enable

- an intercultural experience
- professional guidance
- time and space for both individual reflection and the opportunity for personality development on an individual and group level

In our programs we offer a well-thought-out and combined method that includes a combination of

- expert lectures, workshops and future labs
- simulations on different topics
- moderated panel discussions with expert guests (a.o. diplomats, MEPs, business representatives)
- discussion rounds
- excursions, site visits and city rallies in Strasbourg, Brussels, Luxembourg, Frankfurt and Trier (Council of Europe, European Parliament, European Investment Bank, European Central Bank, European Commission, European External Action Service, European Court of Justice, NATO, Eurocorps, etc.)



LEARNING OUTCOMES

We prepare the young generation for everyday life in a globalized, international environment through a well-structured program. In addition to the thematic focus of the seminar, participants expand their knowledge in their field and exchange views and opinions with others in a friendly, respectful and supportive environment.



WHAT ARE WE EXPERTS IN?

Our thematic portfolio includes

- European Integration, European Politics and International Relations
- Intercultural Competence & Communication, facilitating/monitoring/reflecting group dynamics, processes
- Human Rights and Diversity
- Political Systems & Democracy
- Aspects/Perspectives of Remembrance Culture(s)
- Challenges of Sustainability



NEVER HEARD OF OTZENHAUSEN BEFORE?

Don't worry, you're not the only one.

Otzenhausen is located in Saarland, the smallest federal state of Germany, locally referred to as the "Heart of Europe".

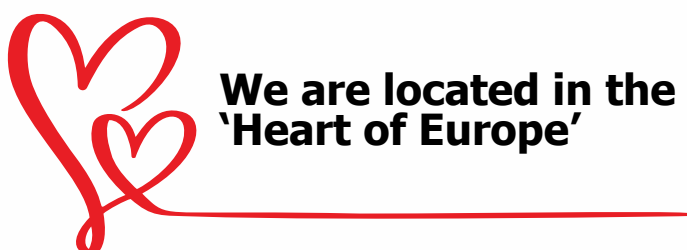
The Academy park covers 11,7 acres with five buildings providing:

- accommodation capacity for approx. 100 people
- 17 modern and high-tech seminar rooms
- restaurant with a barbecue terrace
- well-equipped gym
- games room with billiards, table tennis, table football, board games, all free of charge
- in-house evening bar with two skittle alleys

Are you more an outdoor person? Let's go and explore the Hunsrück-Hochwald national park that literally begins behind our academy walls.

And are you interested in history? The Celtic Hill Fort in Otzenhausen is one of the largest Celtic fortresses in Europe that dates back to approximately 400 B.C. and looks as if created by the hands of a giant.

DESTINATION OTZENHAUSEN



OUR PROGRAMS

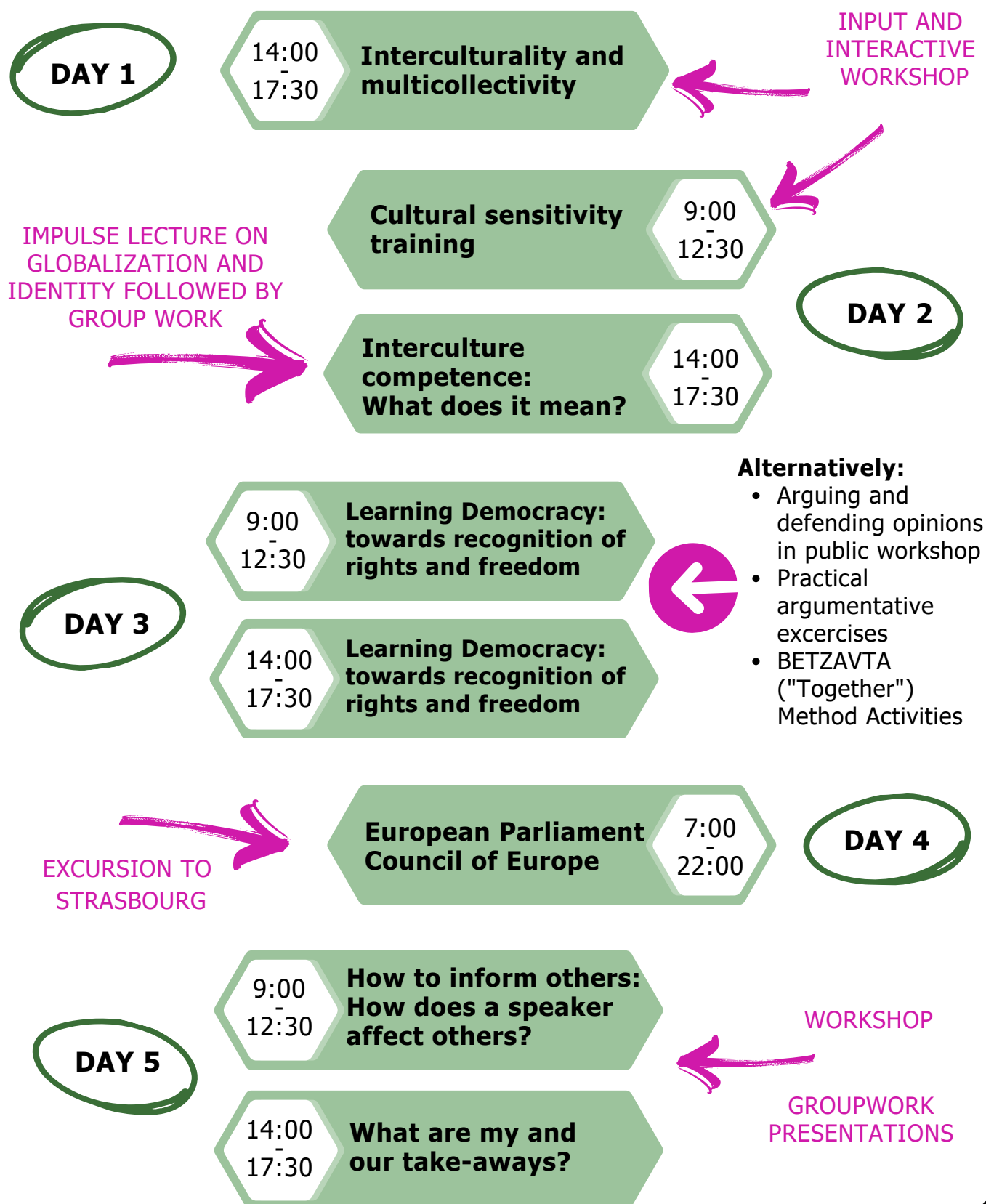
The following pages provide a brief overview of the topics covered by the EAO programs. The thematic focus of the course can be combined and adapted to the desired program duration, the level of prior knowledge of the participants, and the outcomes expected by the partner organizations.

An "ideal" EAO program involves at least two partner institutions from different countries, bringing a minimum of 15 participants to EAO for 5-12 days, and providing them with a truly intercultural experience.



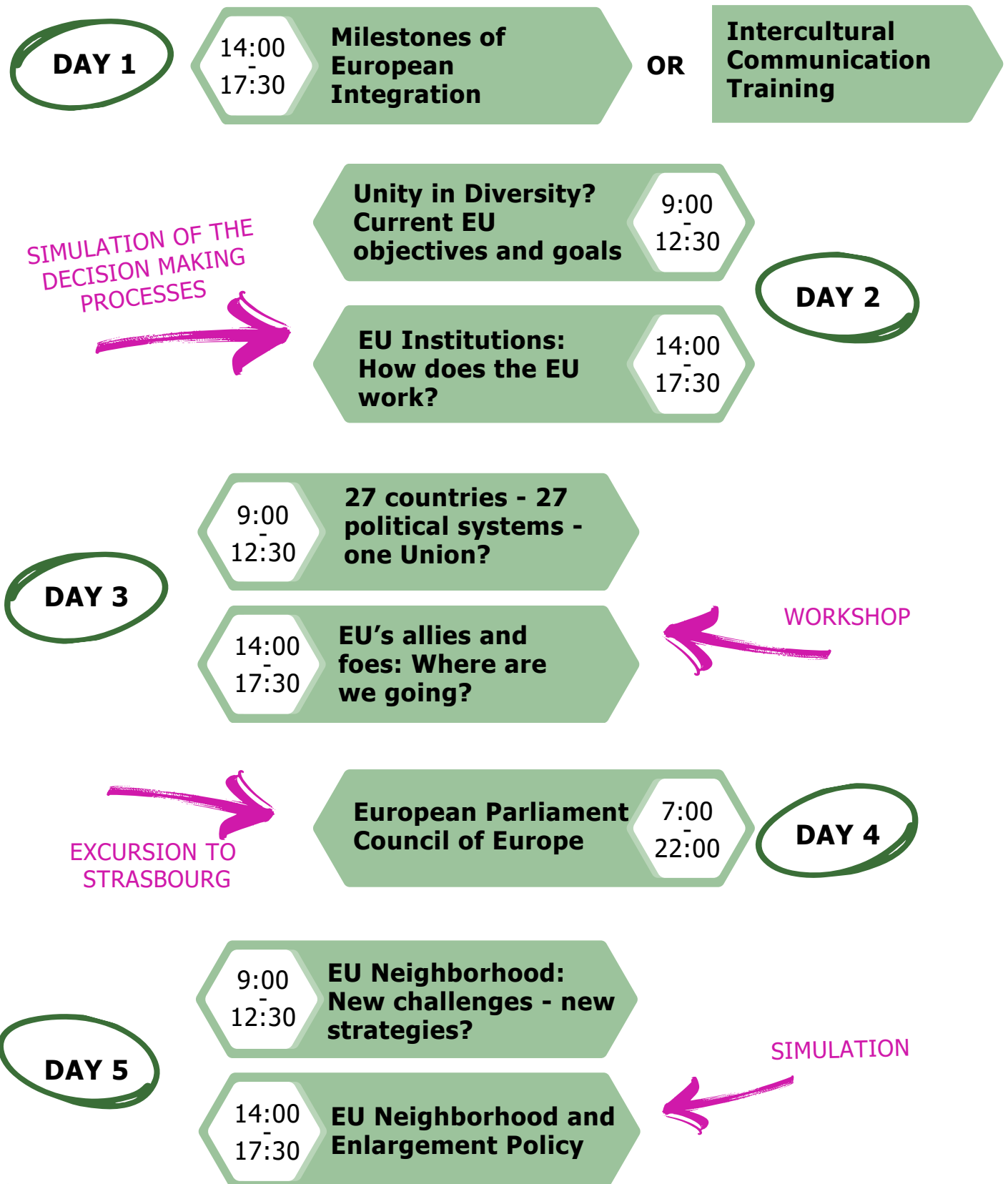
FOCUS: INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION AND COMPETENCIES & RHETORICAL COMMUNICATION

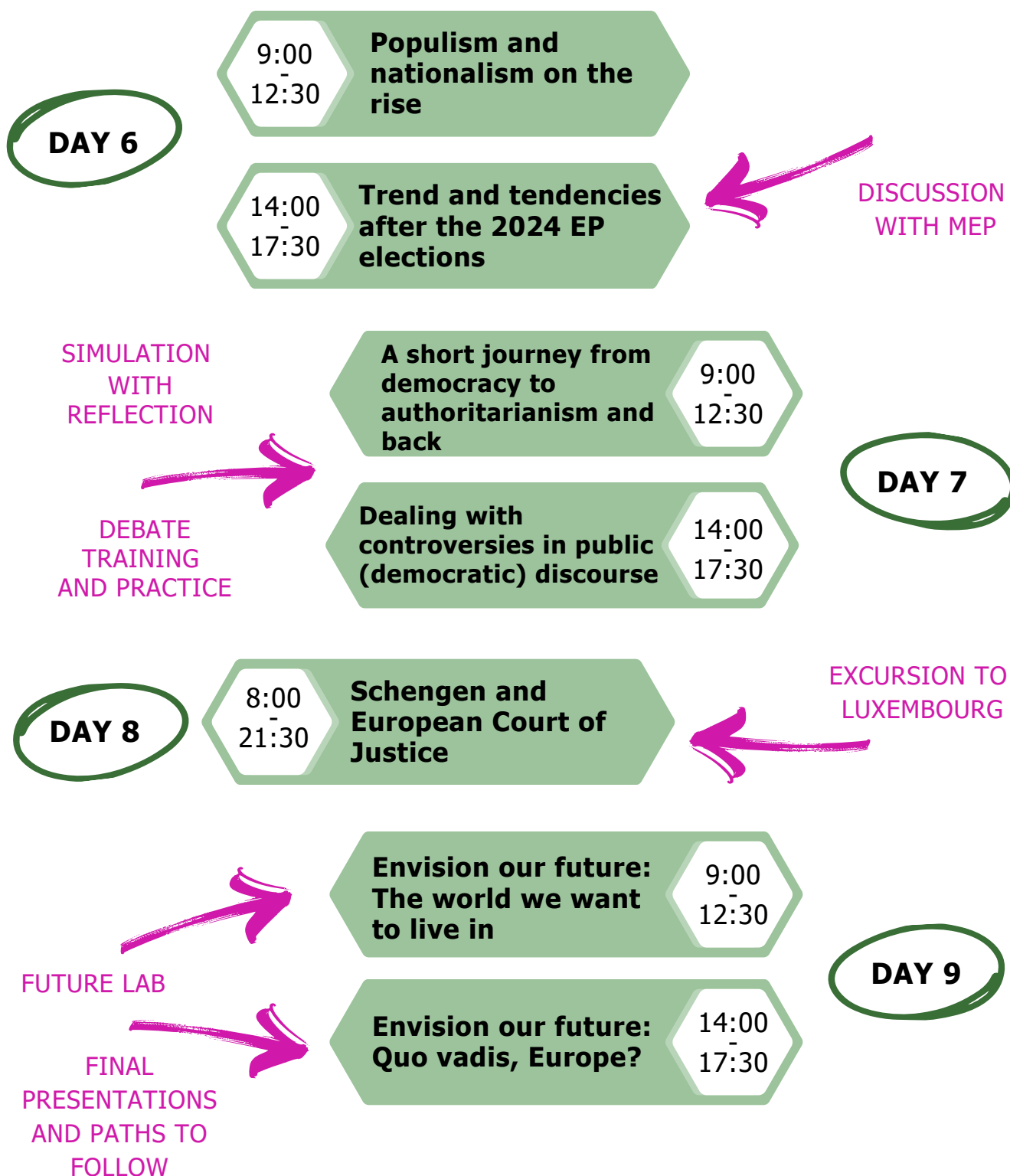
(PROGRAM DURATION: 5-12 DAYS)



FOCUS: EUROPEAN POLITICS

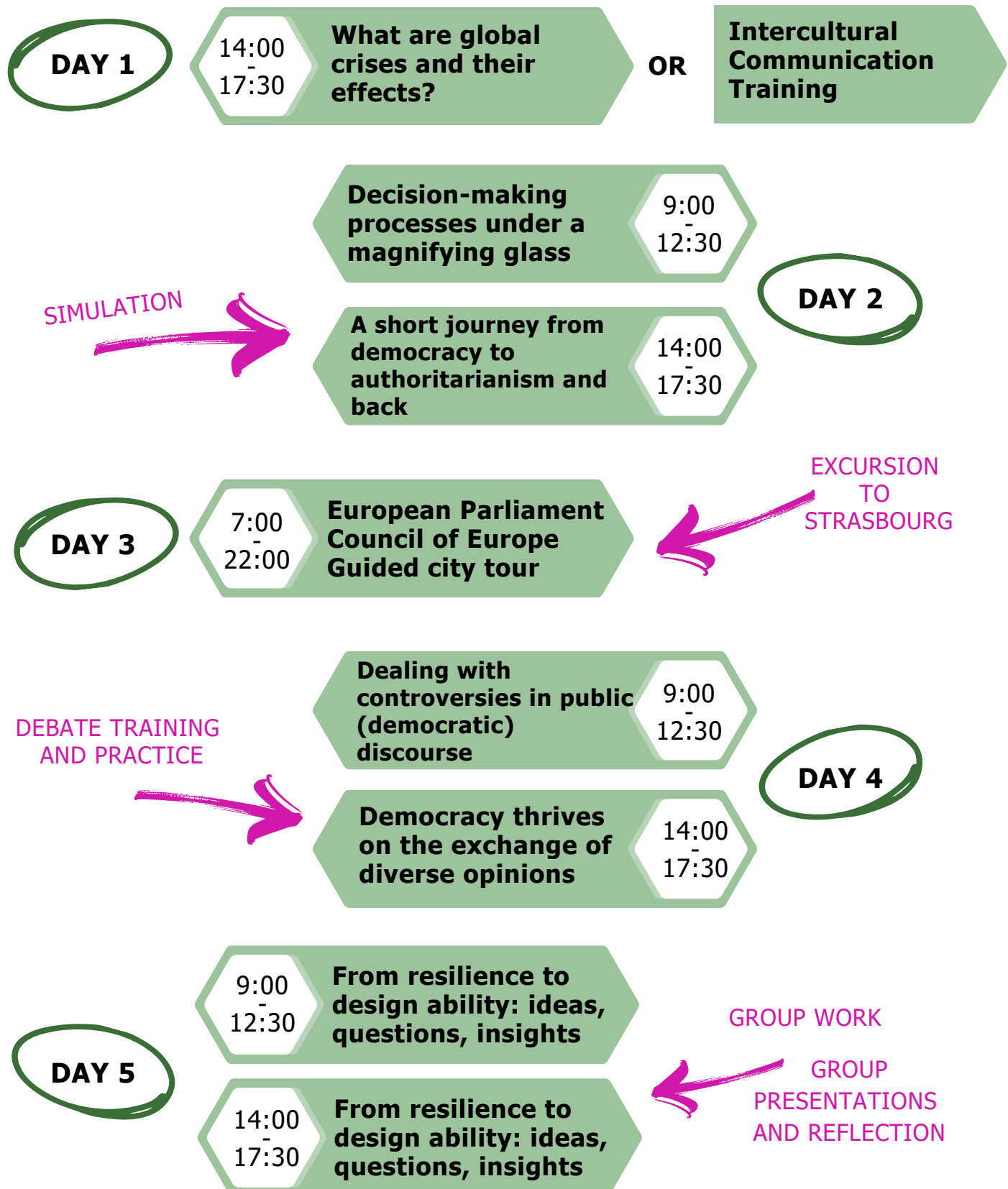
(PROGRAM DURATION: 5-12 DAYS)





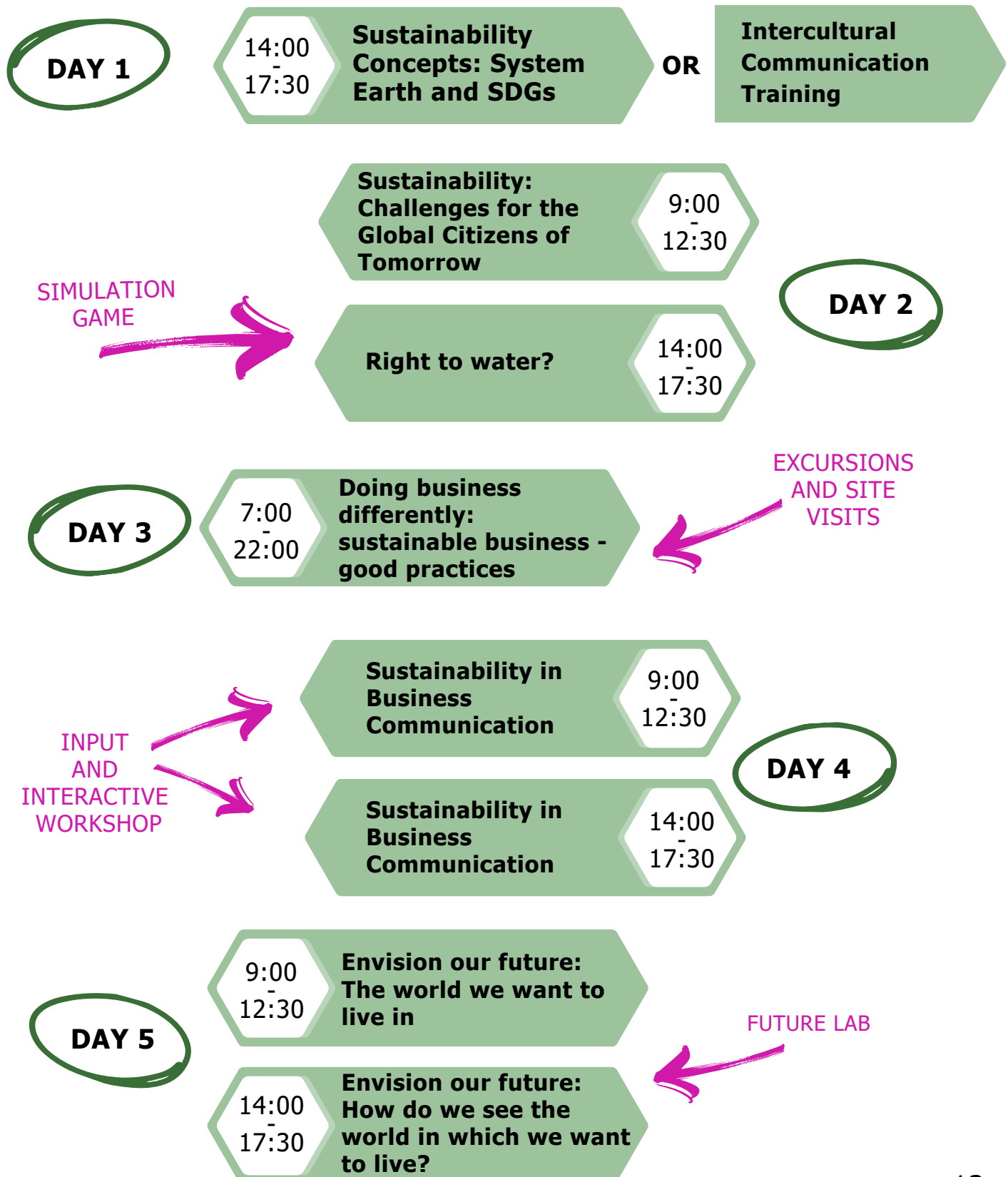
FOCUS: DEMOCRACY, POLITICAL SYSTEMS AND GLOBAL CRISIS RESILIENCE

(PROGRAM DURATION: 5-12 DAYS)



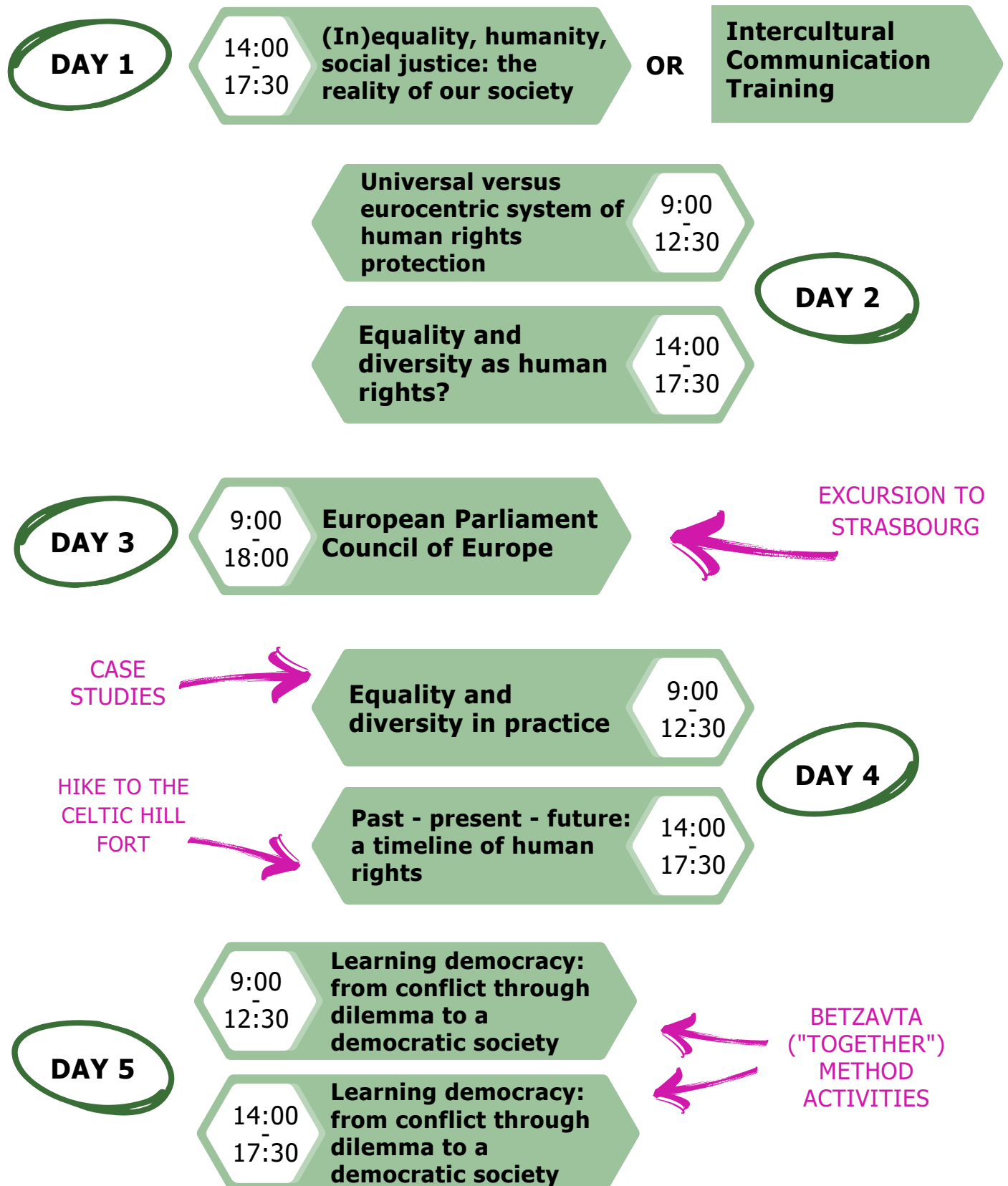
FOCUS: ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABILITY, SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS

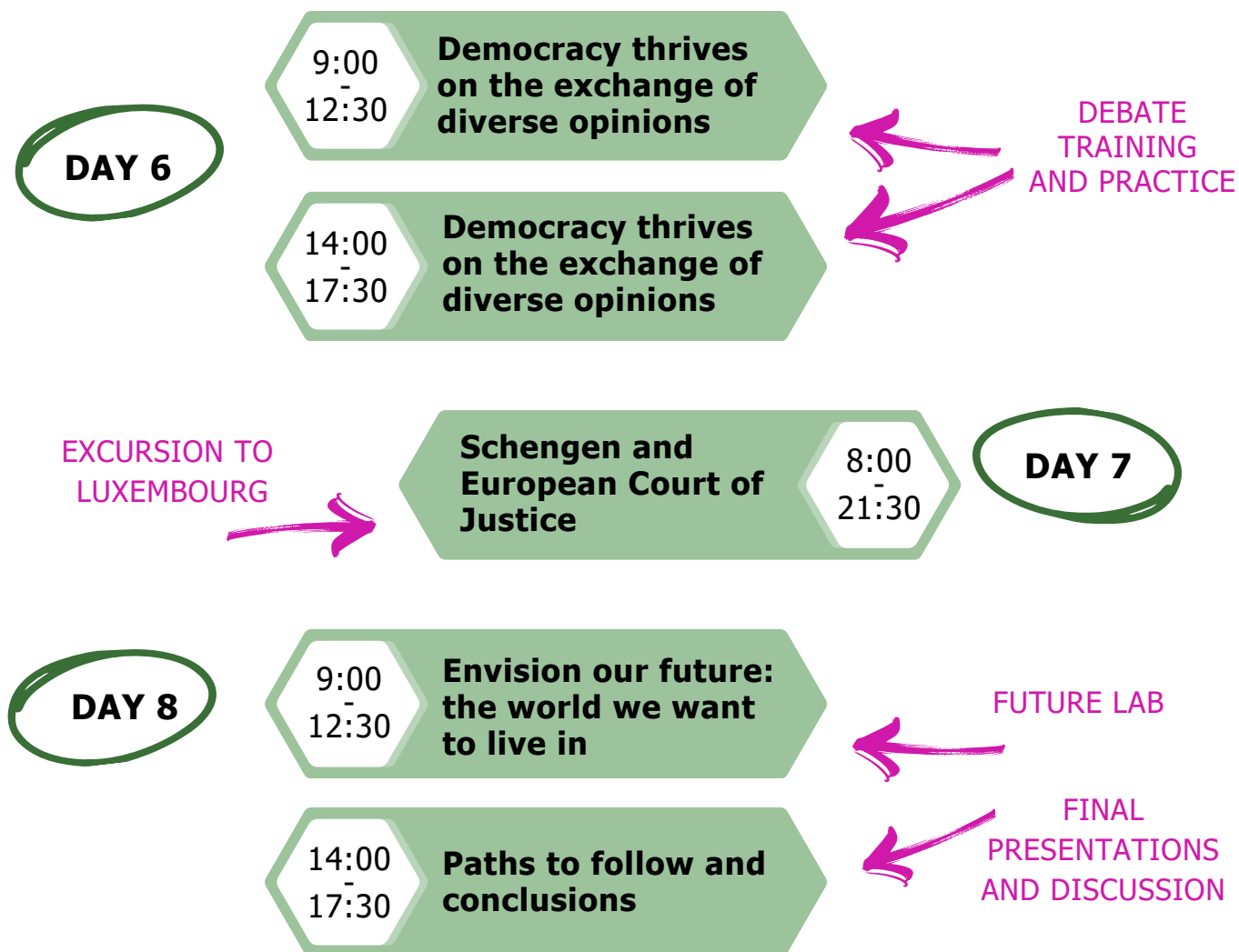
(PROGRAM DURATION: 5-12 DAYS)



FOCUS: DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

(PROGRAM DURATION: 5-12 DAYS)





OTHER TOPICS

EU AFFAIRS

- Brussels Effect
- Common Foreign and Security Policy
- Neighborhood Policy
- EU Identity and Values

INTERNATIONAL POLITICS

- EU-Balkans Relations
- Transatlantic Relations

DEMOCRACY

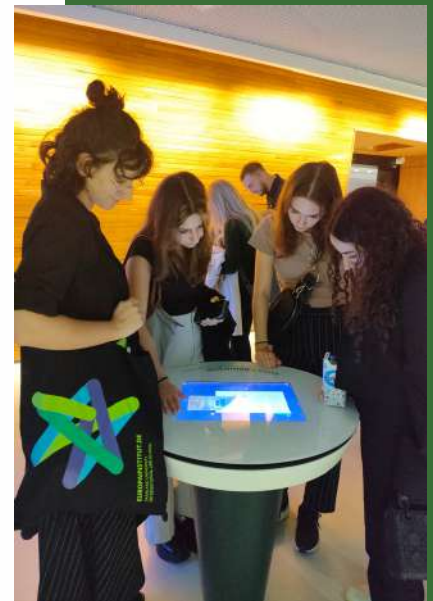
- Identity and EU Values
- 3rd Generation Human Rights
- Populism, Extremism, Antisemitism
- History of the 20th Century
- Remembrance Culture

SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

- Climate Change Policy
- Social Media Communication with a focus
on Sustainable Businesses and NGOs

FURTHERMORE

- History of the 20th Century
- Fake News and Disinformation



EXCURSIONS

LUXEMBOURG CITY, LUXEMBOURG

- European Court of Justice
- European Investment Bank
- European Parliament

STRASBOURG, FRANCE

- Council of Europe
- European Court of Human Rights
- Eurocorps
- European Parliament

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM

- European Commission
- European External Action Service
- European Parliament
- Parlamentarium
- NATO



EXCURSIONS

FRANKFURT, GERMANY

- European Central Bank

SAARLAND, GERMANY

- Celtic Hill Fort Otzenhausen
- Otzenhausen Path of Remembrance / 'Siegfried Line'
- Völklingen Ironworks - UNESCO World Heritage Site
- Saarland State Office





SOCIAL PROGRAM

HISTORICAL SIGHTSEEING

- **Trier**

The oldest city of Germany with Roman monuments: Porta Nigra, Roman baths, amphitheatre; basilica and Moselle Bridge, birthplace of Karl Marx

- **Strasbourg**

A European City on the French-German border



WINE TASTING

- Winery Weingut Schlöder-Thielen: dinner and wine tasting at Longuich, Moselle region
- Weingut Simon Ollinger: Organic wine production and tasting, Perl



TESTIMONIALS

"The European Summer Course in Otzenhausen gave me the opportunity to connect with students from all over the world, to discuss the issues of our time, to go on excursions together and to gain motivating and inspiring experiences as well as great friendships!"

Noemi

ESC 2023: #NewVisions4theWorld
(24.07.-02.08.2023)



"Participating in the European Summer Course granted me the opportunity to not only deepen my knowledge of some of the most critical issues Europe is facing thanks to high-level lectures, but also to visit some of the institutions that form Europe's beating heart, such as the European Parliament, the Court of Justice of the EU and the Council of Europe. Overall, it's been an amazing experience!"

Riccardo

ESC 2023: #NewVisions4theWorld
(24.07.-02.08.2023)

"I am very glad that I had the chance to participate in the Summer School "Democracy in Danger?! Europe in Danger?!" because it was a great opportunity to meet and interact with like-minded students who are as interested in current political issues as I am. The summer school gave me a deep insight into the difficulties of the decision-making process in the European institutions and I really enjoyed the interesting and diverse lectures and discussions that took place during this fantastic week."

Lea

Democracy in Danger?! Europe in Danger!? Stand
up for our common values ... but which ones?
(13.-19.08.2023)





„This study abroad program helped and encouraged me to leave my comfort zones and getting out of my 'normal routines' throughout the days. To learn about myself, to feel and to be more connected with other people through interaction and the constant exchange of perspectives. The structure and methodology of the program supported these learning outcomes.”

Rami
Diversity and Human Rights in Europe.” Study abroad
Program for First Generation Scholars
(24.05-07.06.2024)

“EAO Summer School is all about thought-provoking discussions and vibrant energy. My personal highlight is the people. The passion and intellect of my fellow young participants are truly inspiring. Grateful to be here, and kudos to the organizers!”

Yavuz
Democracy in Danger?! Europe in Danger!?
Stand up for our common values ... but which
ones?
(13.-19.08.2023)



“The combination of classes, the retreat atmosphere of the Academys campus, various excursions, seeing new places, trying new food, meeting other students with diverse backgrounds – it’s been great and enriching.”

Emily
Diversity and Human Rights in Europe.” Study abroad Program for First Generation Scholars
(24.05-07.06.2024)

„This was a beautiful experience that combined culture, language, nature, and education in an authentic and refreshing way. At night, after all the day's activities were finished, I would regularly think to myself, "I will remember today for a long time. That was one of the coolest things I have ever done." I cannot recommend it enough."

Leo

Spring Academy 2025: Transatlantic Relations and Current World Cha(lle)nges
(07.03.-15.03.2025)

"I am truly grateful for the opportunity to be part of this incredible group. The week flew by, filled with meaningful discussions and valuable insights. From the very first day to our departure, we engaged in conversations that led to a greater sense of mutual understanding"

Lucie

Spring Academy 2025: Transatlantic Relations
and Current World Cha(lle)nges
(07.03.-15.03.2025)



„We had a great experience in Mexico, especially on campus, where we had the opportunity to connect exchange with Mexican students. We learned a lot about the country, it's history and its rich culture. The warm and welcoming atmosphere made this experience even more special, and I will always cherish these memories."

Fabienne

Current developments in the world: The common challenges and opportunities for the EU and Mexico
(18.-26.03.2025)





"Attending the seminar at the European Academy Otzenhausen offered a unique opportunity to engage in thoughtful dialogue with French and German students on shared global challenges. As an American, I appreciated the cultural exchange and diverse perspectives that enriched our discussions and broadened my worldview!"

Kennedy,
Maymester 2025: Discovering the Heart of Europe
(11.05-16.06.2025)

"On our first day at EAO, our seminar leader Jana spoke about the idea of encounters, the idea of people from different backgrounds, different countries of origin, different universities coming together and discussing various topics together.

How Amazing is that?!

The lecture on global crises emphasized political, economic, and social challenges, but underlying it all was the interconnectedness that draws us all together. The collaborative atmosphere and diverse perspectives of each participant is what makes time spent at the EAO completely unique and valuable."

Mattie
Maymester 2025: Discovering the Heart of Europe
(11.05-16.06.2025)

"I would like to sincerely thank you for the extraordinary experience you offered us. The punctuality, professionalism, and kindness shown by you and the entire staff made our stay in Otzenhausen truly fantastic. This will undoubtedly remain an unforgettable experience, and I sincerely hope that one day we will meet again."

Eneo,
Encounter Europe: European Summer Academy
(23.08.-01.09.2025)



"I would like to sincerely thank you for the extraordinary experience you offered us. The punctuality, professionalism, and kindness shown by you and the entire staff made our stay in Otzenhausen truly fantastic. This will undoubtedly remain an unforgettable experience, and I sincerely hope that one day we will meet again."

Eneo

Encounter Europe: European Summer Academy (23.08.-01.09.2025)



"Thank you for being an awesome host and for organizing this fantastic event. It was a pleasure being part of the school and to hang out with all these beautiful people."

Gjorgji

Encounter Europe: European Summer Academy
(23.08.-01.09.2025)

"What's the best thing about meeting people from so many different countries?
I think we live in a bubble, like each one lives in a bubble. And we meet only in our daily life, we meet only friends with the same values, the same culture and the same language in the same country. So it's really interesting to discover new people of a new country with new cultures. Because I think it changes a little bit your mind, what you think, and you discover new things. So I think it's really interesting."



Matthias

European Summer Course 2026, (13.07.-22.07.2026)



"I think the classes have been super and also meeting so many people from all around the world and seeing their perspective and just being with them all the time. And what's the best thing about meeting people from so many different countries? I think it was getting to know their perspective also of Europe and seeing how they perceive it and also in our free time how each one likes to spend it and how we interact with each other."

Elena
 European Summer Course 2026
 (13.07.-22.07.2026)

"It has really changed the way I perceive the Gen Z's, if I may say, because I used to work with them and I had very different idea of their attention span long they would stay in a room and be interested in a topic and so on. Whereas actually I think they're way more involved in topics and political topics than I would have previously thought."

Tihomira
 European Summer Course 2026
 (13.07.-22.07.2026)



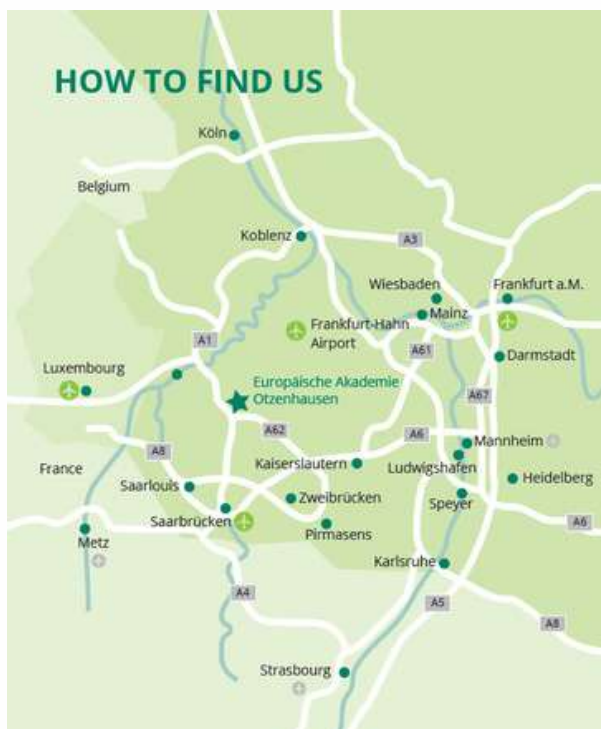
CONTACTS

Jana Stehlíková

Director of Studies

stehlikova@eao-otzenhausen.de

+49 6873 662-488



<https://www.eao-otzenhausen.de>



[instagram.com/eao.otzenhausen](https://www.instagram.com/eao.otzenhausen)



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Europäische Akademie Otzenhausen gGmbH
Europahausstraße 35
66620 Nonnweiler Germany



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