



BULLETIN

March 2016

www.oko-centrum.cz www.okocentrum.blogspot.cz

Rebekah from Germany

Hello everybody! My name is Rebekah and I am **18 years old**. I come from **Leipzig/Lipsko**, a city in the east of Germany. I live together with my 15 year old brother and my mother. She teaches at a school for future social workers. My father is from England and lives there.

Last year in autumn I dropped out of school. Since then I've been looking for a new project. My sending organisation forwarded me a mail from OKO, in which they were looking for a **new volunteer**. So I applied and got accepted very fast. I'm a **great fan of languages**. In the past I have tried to learn multiple languages, but I have to say that the only ones I speak on a decent level so far are **German and English**. I like both languages a lot and am very glad about the opportunity to use both of them. Hopefully I will also be able to speak some Czech after the EVS.



Me in Rychnov



My hometown Leipzig!

My Hobbies!

Reading and Travelling

I enjoy reading a lot. Some of my favourite authors are **Juli Zeh, Franz Kafka and Haruki Murakami**. But generally I read books from lots of different authors and genres.

I also like to travel and see other countries, because it's great to see new places and learn new things.



Reading on the train to Britain

Theatre

From primary school on I have always played theatre and liked to watch it. For me it's amazing to **play someone else** and try to show why they act the way they act. And to be honest: It's fun to entertain people and give them a good time.



My theatre group during a play in 2014

Music and Politics

I'm interested in changing our life to the better through the means of **politics** and direct action. The **Conne Island** in Leipzig is a place where I learned a lot about this. They have great bands playing there, too!



The Conne Island!

Germany

Germany:
the Länder



Germany and the Bundesländer

Germany is a **federation consisting of 16 „Bundesländer“**. Each of them has their own history, their own education system, their own money policies and is more or less allowed to follow their own foreign policies.

Germany is a relatively young country. It was **first unified in 1871**, was split in 1949 into the western, allied controlled and the eastern, soviet controlled part. It exists **in the borders of today since 1990**. The image of Germany is two-faced. On one hand it's famous for composers and philosophers, as well as technology and football. On the other hand it has a brutal past.

Saxony/Sachsen

Saxony, in German: Sachsen, is one of the „Bundesländer“. It's in the very east of Germany, **bordering Poland and the Czech Republic**. It has a beautiful landscape.

Before the first unification, it was a kingdom. The kings built many impressive castles and churches, especially in the capital Dresden. They also established the **first production of porcellain in Europe**. The „Meißner Porzellan“ is still famous and sold world wide.



The „Bastei“ in so called „Saxonian Switzerland“

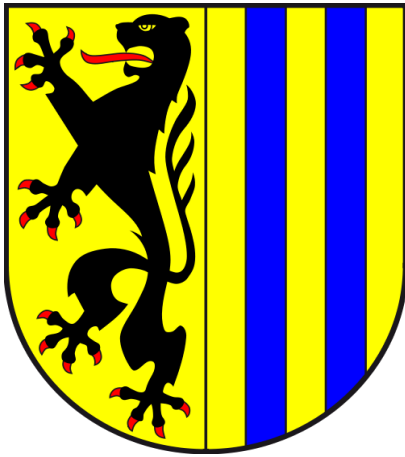


The flag of Saxony



„Frauenkirche“ in Dresden

Leipzig



The Crest of Leipzig

My hometown Leipzig (Lipsko in Czech) is in central-eastern Germany. With roughly 560,000 inhabitants it is one of Germany's 11 largest cities. Traditionally, Leipzig is a **city of university and trade**. The Leipzig Trade Fair exists already for 850 years! The most famous fair is probably the book fair in march, but there are also fairs on many other things, like cars, design, weddings or cosmetics.

The city has a vivid underground and conventional **cultural life**. There are multiple cinemas, galleries, theatres, a center for classical music and an opera. Composers like **Mendelssohn Bartholdy, Schumann** and **Bach** lived and worked in Leipzig. It's still possible to listen to Bach's music in the church he composed for.



The documentary film festival



Flea market on the Karl-Heine Street

Flea markets are very popular. Every weekend there is at least one somewhere in the city, but usually there are more. In summer they turn into street festivals with art, music and food.



The „skyline“ with the most important buildings