AIACE Germany Annual Conference in Regensburg

August 24-27

Regensburg, situated on the Danube at the intersection of numerous trade routes in the heart of Europe, has always been a very European city. The first European Parliament, the "Perpetual Diet" (Immerwährender Reichstag), met in Regensburg from 1663 to 1806. It boasts a completely preserved medieval old town with a Gothic cathedral, which is protected in its entirety as a World Heritage Site. In the first four centuries of the last millennium, Regensburg was at times the largest and also the wealthiest city in Europe. Today, Regensburg benefits as a business location from the founding of the university in the 1970s and the establishment of new industries.

This was the setting for this year's general assembly which was attended by around 100 members. For the first time, the general assembly was chaired by our, in last year newly elected president, Viola Groebner. This year, the members elected Hiltrud Besgen as vice president. She had already

held this position in an acting capacity for several months. In addition to the legally



required official duties, the specific concerns of EU pensioners living in Germany regarding health insurance, pensions, and the advancing digitalization were discussed with representatives of the Commission and AIACE INT. Following this, we heard presentations from the head of the European Commission's regional representation in Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria, the head of the Regensburg Office for Economic and Scientific Development, and from one of our members on artificial intelligence and its regulation in Europe.

Elisabeth Pape, who was previously responsible for event organization on the board, had worked hard to put together an interesting supporting program around the general assembly, which we all greatly appreciated.

We were received by the Mayor of Regensburg in the Old Town Hall, the Reichssaal, where the "Perpetual Diet" was held for many centuries. At this reception, we presented our annual donation to the organization CampusAsyl, which is dedicated to the integration of refugees.

Other highlights of our accompanying program included a theater evening, where we were introduced to the secrets of the Bavarian language, and a visit to the microchip company Infineon. On our last day, we visited the Liberation Hall at Kelheim, built by the Bavarian King Ludwig I, and then hiked to the Baroque Weltenburg Monastery. This excursion included a boat trip through the famous Danube Gorge.



Regensburg is also worth a visit for its culinary delights, and we were able to enjoy them in various restaurants during our stay. Our annual meeting concluded with a gala dinner in the open-air brewery of the princely palace.



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