2013 prämiert im Rahmen von

Herausforderung
Unternehmertum
Ein gemeinsames Projekt der Heinz Nixdorf Stiftung
und der Stiftung der Deutschen Wirtschaft

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The Danube youth network swims against the stream
YCDN wins the prize of the founder competition „Herausforderung Unternehmertum 2013" called by the Foundation of German Business and the Heinz Nixdorf Foundation.

Who can tackle the urgent problems of the youth in the Danube region better than not themselves. This is the approach of the seven team members of the *Young Citizens Danube Networks* (YCDN). The network exists since 2010 and won with this idea the prize *The Challenge of Entrepreneuship 2013* organised by the Foundation of German Business and supported by the Heinz Nixdorf Foundation. The focus of the initiative is to create a space for young people in the Danube region to meet and exchange their experiences.

The background of the network is that in 2011 the European Council passed the EU-Danube region strategy, which aims to strengthen the coalescence of the Danube regions. Politicians thought about various fields such as economy, science and culture but not the youth. "Seeing the fatal economic situation of the youth in the individual Danube countries, this strategy misses sustainability", stresses Johann-Jakob Wulff, chairman of YCDN.

Experiences have shown that there are many different initiatives by young people in the Danube region but these are commonly bilateral, uncoordinated and lack structures. This is exactly where YCDN starts its work. The sponsoring of *The Challenge of Entrepreneurship 2013* enables the team to focus on the institutionalization of the Danube youth network.

Until the final establishment similar to the German French Youth organisation much water will flow down the Danube. Yet, the first step into the direction is taken. YCDN, which sees itself as a representation of the youth, continues to campaign for the interest of youth in the Danube region.

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Young Citizens **Danube** Network. Ein Jugendnetzwerk zur Stärkung der europäischen Integration.
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