

AN ASSOCIATION FOR TOWNS AWARDED THE EUROPE PRIZE



The "Association of Towns awarded the Europe Prize" was set up in 1984. It brings together all winning municipalities and meets at least once a year.

The association enables a deeper exchange of ideas on the various efforts made by each town and the projects currently under way.

TOWNS AWARDED THE EUROPE PRIZE SINCE 1955

To learn more about the Europe Prize, the prize-winning towns and the countries concerned, scan this :

www.coe.int/en/web/europe-prize-exhibition/home



Europe Prize



THE EUROPE PRIZE

EUROPE FROM TOWN TO TOWN



WHAT IS THE EUROPE PRIZE?

The Europe Prize was set up in 1955 by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg to reward municipalities which are particularly active in promoting the European ideal.



The Prize recognises the efforts made by local authorities to champion the idea of Europe (by twinning their towns with other European towns, and organising European events and exchange visits).

In order to apply for the Prize, municipalities must first apply for three other distinct awards in the following order: the European Diploma, the Flag of Honour and the Plaque of Honour.

WINNING THE EUROPE PRIZE, STEP BY STEP

First step: the European Diploma

The diploma takes the form of a parchment bearing the name of the town and the date on which it was awarded. It is handed over to the mayors of the award-winning towns at an official ceremony held at the Palais de l'Europe in Strasbourg in late June every year.

Several diplomas are awarded each year.

Second step: the Flag of Honour

This award – a flag, embroidered and fringed with gold – is the most popular. A member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe presents the flag to the winning town at a ceremony that is open to a wide audience. Up to 15 flags are awarded each year.

Third step: the Plaque of Honour

The Plaque of Honour represents the mythical seduction of Europa and the twelve stars of Europe. It is handed over to the winning towns by a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe at a ceremony to which the local population is invited.

Eight to ten plaques are awarded each year.

Final step: The Europe Prize

The Europe Prize, which consists of a trophy, a bronze medal, a commemorative parchment and a scholarship to fund European study visits for young people in the winning municipality, is the highest of the four awards. It was set up in 1955 and recognises outstanding efforts in promoting European unity. The Prize is awarded during a "Europe Day" held by the prize-winning town.

To date, over 70 towns have won the Europe Prize. One or two towns each year are awarded the Prize.

60 YEARS OF SUCCESS!



Since its creation in 1955, the Europe Prize has inspired towns from all over Europe. In the early 1990s, when the countries of central and eastern Europe joined the Council of Europe, the Europe Prize took on particular significance as it provided the opportunity to build bridges between east and west.

The Europe Prize has given thousands of young people the opportunity to travel and benefit from exchanges all over the continent. Recognition by an international organisation has helped many towns to achieve greater prominence on the European stage.

The Europe Prize also fosters the European spirit among people of all ages and helps them to become involved at the youngest possible age.

