



Proclamation: EUROPEAN DAY OF CREATIVITY

Dear friends from 20 countries,
this is a very exciting moment for me and the members of the German Association for Creativity: September 5th is not a normal day because we use to celebrate the national DAY of CREATIVITY.

We all know very well that every day in our life should be a *creative* one and we also know that it could be – if we try !

So, what is a creative day / what makes a day a creative one ?

Well, there exist at least two possibilities:

The one is, you found a pretty good idea or even more than one to solve a special problem – it might happen in your business sphere or in your private life.

The second one: somebody else has an idea and you just decided to promote this idea so it might evolve and later on might be transformed into an innovation.

But we also know that many people don't think that way and don't act in this manner. Therefore, in 1998 we decided to create somewhat like a *remembrance day* and we called it

DAY OF CREATIVITY

But what date would be a highly appropriate one ?

We believe that there is no better than september 5th because this was the day in the year 1950, when Joy Paul Guilford addressed his famous speech **CREATIVITY** to the American Psychological Association after he was elected for president. With this speech Guilford for the first time had brought creativity



into the focus of scientific attention and emphatically mandated its importance for the survival of our societies.

How did the German Association for Creativity celebrate this day in the past ?

For 1999 and 2000 we decided, that some members gave lessons or speeches within the field of education. This meant, that we talked about creativity and playfully showed ways of idea stimulation to kids of all ages, from Kindergarten to/till ?? University, to parents and to teachers. In '99 this occurred on a more local level, but in 2000 we organized a one-day-conference on creativity and education especially for teachers at the WORLD EXPO in Hannover.

Furthermore we promoted the idea of a DAY OF CREATIVITY on the occasion of two symposia held at the Technical University at Darmstadt in 2001 and 2002. So we asked ourselves what should happen in 2003 ?

It was a great honour for us to organize the 8. European conference and so the idea came up to broaden our activities and to announce the EUROPEAN DAY OF CREATIVITY here in Mainz.

To get support we asked the president of EACI Jan Buijs as well as Han van der Meer and the answer was as we hoped to be. Then I asked our honorary chairman of the conference, Mr. Sidney Parnes, and he agreed too.

We would now like to invite you to sign the DECLARATION OF CREATIVITY we prepared on our wall-paper which we call a *wall of commitments*, because we hope that you will support this project in your country or in your company in 2004 and beyond as an ambassador of creativity: