

# Resolutions of YPAC 2017:

## Postulation 1: Getting rid of the 50%

This postulation is about increasing the attractiveness of bikes as means of transport to commute in urban areas by mainly improving bike availability and paths.

The main issue is that 50% of the times we get into a car we drive less than 5km, which is why we want to encourage people to use their bike more often instead of their car. This is achieved by increasing the route network of bike paths and improving existing bike paths in order to make cycling more comfortable, enjoyable and safer. Cycling is to be supported by city councils due to its eco-friendliness and many health benefits. For tourists and locals without bikes who want to rent a bike, we want to simplify the renting process. Locals would – once they are signed up – receive a card, which is eligible for buses as well as bikes and only needs to be connected to the renting station when renting a bike. Tourists are given the same kind of card but theirs is linked to the accommodation in order to avoid the sign-up process.

## Postulation 2: Digitalization of rural alpine regions

This postulation is about the digitalization of rural alpine areas. In order to improve the attractiveness of these regions and the functioning of the local agriculture, we want to enhance the Internet connection in rural alpine areas. By expanding high-speed Internet networks, rural areas are bound to gain attractiveness:

Firstly, the Internet diminishes the technological gap between rural and urban areas and therefore breaks the feeling of isolation. Secondly, fast Internet allows companies to outsource certain workplaces to rural areas, but maintain the same labor efficiency as in urban areas. These companies could bring jobs not only for low-skilled but for high-skilled workers to these regions. Thirdly, well-connected villages are more independent, which enables them to obtain public recognition. Alpine villages can pride themselves on crafts, tight-knit communities and picturesque environment, with digitalization they can promote themselves and feel connected to the rapidly moving globalized world. Finally, the digitalization also supports the agricultural sector. Information that is up to date and new, effective practices of farming are something that improve the status quo. Additionally, the data-entering mechanisms require technical advances that our postulation would provide. Governmental subsidies and tax remission accelerate the digitalization process and thus provide initiative for the telecommunication companies to expand the reach of their services.

In conclusion, digitalization of the rural Alpine areas provides an extremely promising starting point for further development and emancipation of remote regions.

## Postulation 3: Glamping – sustainable summer tourism

This postulation is about the expansion of sustainable summer tourism by creating ecofriendly accommodation in rural areas.

In the Alpine regions, winter tourism vastly dominates the tourism sector. This leads to different problems, for example the migration of workers in summer. To counteract this issue we introduce the concept „Glamping“, a combination of „glamor“ and „camping“. This kind of accommodation is an eco-friendly way of spending time in the nature while enjoying the luxury of a hotel. The facilities will consist of easily-degradable material, produced by local businesses. That means the local workforce is supported. Another part of the “Glamping-experience” are activities, such as guided tours, climbing expeditions and cultural excursions which raise the awareness of nature. With this concept we do not only solve the problem of seasonal fluctuations in the Alpine tourism but also the issue of rural depopulation as new year-round working places are generated as well as it stands for sustainable, eco-friendly tourism.

#### **Postulation 4: Network between companies, universities and students**

This postulation is about improving job possibilities for university students and highly-skilled workers in order to provide jobs for them in the local surroundings.

Today, the majority of university-graduates leave the Alpine region after having studied. To solve this problem, we introduce a network in which companies can hire students from universities in order to include them in their company. The advantage of this is that students acquire working experience in their field while they are studying. In addition to that, local companies profit, as they receive young, highly-skilled, specialized workers. These companies will be provided with subsidies if they accept students from local universities. Subsequently, the universities would obtain a better reputation because of the practical training for their students. All in all this is a feasible solution to counteract brain-drain.

#### **Postulation 5: Promotion of nature protection in the Alps**

The aim of this postulation is to raise awareness about nature protection by promoting the Natura 2000 project.

In general, most people do not know much about what is done to preserve nature in the Alpine regions. One example is the Natura 2000 project, which is the largest coordinated network of protected areas in the world. It emphasizes the benefits of working in a sustainable way with nature instead of harming it. We would suggest to create a new green start-up company, financially supported by the local government. That company should organise different activities, such as workshops in schools and projects which could be called “Nature Day“ in Alpine towns, where people would be animated with quizzes, prize games and similar. Furthermore, projects such as « Nature Day » would guarantee that children as well as teenagers and adults would be informed about the preservation of flora and fauna in

the Alpine region.

### **Postulation 6: Including biodiversity into Alpine cities**

In this postulation, we will present our idea on how we could include biodiversity into cities by transforming pre-existing and new space into green areas.

Biodiversity is constantly decreasing in the Alpine region. In order to prevent further damage, we suggest to create green alleys, on which endangered species will be planted, as well as rooftop gardens. To draw attention to the plants, signs will be placed next to them. These green areas will increase the diversity of the ecosystem in cities by creating habitats for animals (such as birds) and reduce pollution. In addition, these places could be used as recreation areas.

### **Postulation 7: Youth centres**

This postulation is about creating and improving youth centres in the rural areas.

Weak connections among the young outside the cities are due to remote and dispersed living areas, hence, youth centres would provide a great opportunity for young people of all ages to get together.

Adolescents who live in rural areas do not have the same possibilities as their peers living in cities. Youth centres combat this by providing a place with different activity possibilities. With the youth centres, we want to support the connection between the young residents of the rural areas and also increase the population aged between 25 and 35 as a long-term effect.

We propose an outline for youth centres because they are different in every country. The basis of every youth centre should be a balance between sportive, cultural, nature and also indoor activities. Our main concern is that youth centres are not common in every alpine region. To make the already mentioned centres more attractive we propose a collaboration between youth centres in rural and urban areas and with that create a connection between them. The youth centres offer various activities for pupils of different ages. As a result of that, the participants have the opportunity to get to know their region better and meet new people.

### **Postulation 8: CULTURAL EXCHANGE AND EDUCATION OFFERS**

This postulation is about the exchange between local people and refugees focusing on culture and education.

Fears and conflicts on both sides are often caused by prejudices. This situation could be improved by providing possibilities for people to get in contact with each other. Therefore we suggest to provide "Cultural Exchange Centres" where refugees and locals can meet, talk and exchange experiences. These places should include various facilities, for example people would have the possibility to spend time together, by cooking typical food from different countries to become more open-minded towards other

cultures. In addition, these places could provide other activities such as language courses and any other kind of lessons.

## **Postulation 9: DEVELOPING CHILD-CARE IN RURAL AREAS**

The main goal of this postulation is to provide family-friendly services for families living and working in the rural Alpine regions, struggling to find day care for their children during their work time.

They are sometimes forced to put their children in the day care centres located in the cities. To be able to reach said day care centres they need to drive to the nearest city, which is among being time-consuming also bad for the environment. Therefore our aim is to provide day care centres that would offer child supervision for pre-scholarsof parents who work in rural areas. Building the day care centres in the rural areas does not only ensure a stress free life for the parents but also creates new jobs in the villages which results in a better quality of life. Parents should be able to go to work knowing that their children are looked after. Because of the small amount of parents in villages and children we can afford to make the opening hours adequate to the working times of the parents. Especially mothers often find themselves experiencing difficulties balancing their work and raising their children, and one should not be prioritized at the expense of the other. At the end of the day, our ultimate aim is to improve the quality of life in the Alpine regions and our postulation offers a concrete suggestion for a better lifestyle.

## **Postulation 10: Working space for Start-Ups**

This postulation is about giving start-ups a place where they can easily establish and expand their company.

It is difficult for people to find cheap places for their newly founded company. Therefore we propose shared space which can be rented beside other start-ups. The facilities include offices as well as labs. In the offices they can cooperate with entrepreneurs from other startups which already have experience in different fields. Both sides profit from the exchange of knowledge. In the labs you are able to develop and produce your products. All needed infrastructure, such as high-speed Internet, will be provided. The creation of the building should be subsidized by the regional government. This project gives more innovators the chance to start a business which leads to a greater variety of sectors. This way, creativity and innovation is being boosted.