

**“Healthy Aging”** is the theme of the Regional Conference “North” taking place on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> of September in the Estonian capital, Tallinn. The conference is organised by the senior citizens' association of the unified party “Pro Partia” and “Res Publica” chaired by Ann Räämet. She also invited representatives of the three Baltic States, together with the European Senior Citizens' Union Vice-President, Leif Hallberg (Sweden).

European Senior Citizens' President Dr. Worms commemorated the **victims of the Dresden bombing** of February 1945 by laying a wreath at the Altmarkt where thousands of casualties were collected after the bombing. Another commemoration ceremony on the occasion of the Regional Conference “East” took place at the premises of the synagogue destroyed by the Nazis.



Dr. Worms (middle) in the company of Dr.-Ing. Rainer Jork (R) and U. Winz (L) in Dresden (Photo: J. Wawrzinek)

**Keeping the legacy of dictatorship and war victims** awake is of particular significance to the European Senior Citizens' Union. Let us remember the numerous commemorative events: in Prague (memorial for the victims of Stalinism) in 2003; Warsaw (victims of the uprising in 1944) in 2004; Buchenwald D (concentration camp and Soviet internment camp) in 2004; Warsaw (national cenotaph with “eternal flame”) in 2005; Berlin (“Old Sentry”: Nazism and war victims) in 2006; Prague (Pinkas synagogue) in 2007; Poznan (German military cemetery and memorial of Polish Uhlans) in 2008; and in Vilnius in 2008 (Antakalnis cemetery; 14 victims of “bloody Sunday” on 13<sup>th</sup> of January 1991).

**“Belarus Generation”** is the name of a newsletter published and distributed in Belarus by the Belarusian Senior Citizens Association “Our Generation/Nashe Pokolenie”. The first issue covered the history, structure and mission of the organization whereas issues 2 and 3 reported on the difficult socio-political situation and amongst others an incentive by the Senior Citizens' Association for bringing old and young together.

The **Vice-President, Dr. jur. Vaclav Roubal (CZ)**, represented the European Senior Citizen's Union at Prague Castle during the award of the International Adalbert Prize to Dr. Arpad Göncz, former state president of the Republic of Hungary for many years. This prize honours outstanding endeavours “for peace, freedom and collaboration in Europe”. The Czech president statutorily hands over this award named after Saint Adalbert (Polish: “Wojciech”) who originated from Prague and lost his life in 977 in the attempt to convert the Pruzzen (Prussians). The tomb slab and the reliquary casket are at the Cathedral to Gniezno, Poland.

Dr. Edeltraud Paul always uses the **Visits to the Parliament** to which the Austrian People's Party regularly invites their members to discuss forming of political will in the country and the European Union. In this way she helps to dispel citizens' objections “against Brussels” and encourages personal political commitment. According to her own statement this also includes reinforcement of democracy through participation in elections. The Austrian People's Party members also show interest for the information about the matters of ESCU, whose Treasurer Edeltraud Paul is.

The Board of the ESCU will meet in **Königswinter (Rhineland, Germany)** on 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> of October for a convention to discuss projects planned for 2010. In this context we kindly remind you to submit suggestions for the large-scale events of the ESCU in the upcoming year. ([esu@cdu.de](mailto:esu@cdu.de))