

6. Mediation Deutsch-Englisch (13. Klasse)

6.1 DIE WUT DER NEUEN EUROPÄER

(Beispiellösung)

The new Europeans are angry

When going to work, Bulgaria's parliamentarians are regularly greeted with insults from pensioners demanding substantial pension increases. The protesting pensioners are only one of many opposition groups in Bulgaria today. Citizens groups have also been protesting all over the country against the increase in alcohol taxes that has been demanded by the European Commission.

This is because Bulgarians have realized that the EU membership of their country does not only promise growing wealth, but that it also includes many unpopular decisions made in far-away Brussels.

Similarly, opposition has been growing against the EU environmental programme which calls for setting up a network of conservation areas. Opponents fear that they could lose their right to build houses in those areas.

However, parliamentarians in Bulgaria have taken a step to prevent further Euroscepticism: They have promised that they will not pass any laws restricting smoking in public places.

(about 150 words)

6.2 DEUTSCHLAND FEHLEN AUSLÄNDER

(Beispiellösung)

[According to an OECD report published in Paris last Wednesday ...]

Germany took in fewer immigrants than most other Western industrialized nations in 2006, eleven percent less than in 2005. The report insisted Germany should adjust its immigration policy more to the future demand on its labour market.

Compared to the population as a whole, the inflow of foreigners has decreased even further, the OECD said. If this trend continues, the workforce will shrink by 2.5 percent till 2020 and the large number of temporary workers cannot compensate for that. Moreover, in future not even the demand for seasonal migrants will be covered.

The OECD considers it wrong to build an immigration policy on the assumption that foreigners should stay only temporarily. Employers will then constantly have to train new migrants instead of relying on experienced personnel.

However, the OECD is not really worried that more and more Germans are emigrating to work abroad because 20 to 50 percent are coming back within five years, with the return rate of highly-qualified people being particularly high.

(about 160 words)

Quelle: Thomas Liebig, Süddeutsche Zeitung, 10. 09. 2008