



Welcome to the thirteenth edition of the Pirate Times Newsletter.

To start with we wrote a report of the most recent PP-EU summit in Zagreb where Pirates from all over Europe worked on a common program. We continue with excellent news from Poland, their Pirate Party has started accepting membership requests.

We have also started a regular series of articles about the differences between Pirate Parties. There has also been a conference in Germany where the German pirates worked on their European positioning and their economic views.

We're ending with a tips and tricks article about how to work with Placards and a big thank you all for your Flattr donation.

We hope you enjoy the news and we're always happy for feedback, ideas or tips at contact@piratetimes.net

The Pirates Times Team

Btw: You can also read the Pirate Times online at our [blog](#) or for offline reading just download the PDF version: %PDF_LINK%

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Pirate Times Review

A regular review of some things that passed the Pirate Times by in the previous week and a preview of some events coming in the week ahead.

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The week in review 18 - 24 March 2013

□ 20 - 21 March Conference Online Privacy: Consenting to your Future

□ 21 March Live streaming [video broadcast](#) on the subject of International Trade Agreements after ACTA , from the office of [Amelia Andersdotter](#).

□23-24 March PP Belgium held its [General Assembly](#)

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Some events that should be interesting for Pirates in the coming week

□27 March [Document Freedom Day](#) Amelia Andersdotter will chair one of the panels

□27 March PP-HR (Croatia) [Extraordinary General Meeting](#)

□21 March Live streaming [video broadcast](#) from the office of [Amelia Andersdotter](#).

□31 March [International Transgender Day of Visibility](#)

Featured image: by [gerlos](#) [CC BY-SA](#)

Written by Andrew Reitemeyer published at March 25, 2013

PPEU: The Zagreb Summit



During the weekend of the 16 and 17 March 2013 the [Pirate Party of Croatia](#) (PP-HR) hosted a European Pirate conference. This is part of a process started on 15 April 2012 during the [Pirate Parties International](#) (PPI) annual General Assembly. The goal is to have a common election program and to coordinate cooperation between the different national Pirate Parties and their MEPs. This joined ambition was formulated in the "[Prague Declaration](#)". Previous

meetings where held in Potsdam (July), **Barcelona** (September), Rome (November), Manchester (December) and **Paris** (February). The next one will be held in Kiev in May. The focus of the summit in Zagreb was the common election program. Over a dozen representatives from different European countries worked together to prepare the European elections of 2014.

Saturday

The meeting began with preparation of a press conference. After the press conference and lunch work began on the election programme. Work was continued where the Paris conference ended.

Sunday

On the second day began with a short presentation. One of the members of PP-HR made a nice logo that could be used to identify PPEU in the future. No decision on the use of this or any other logo was taken during the meeting. Next presentation focused on an e-democracy platform currently developed by several members of PP-HR. After that work continued where it left of the day before.

A new topic was spontaneously added to the agenda

Croatia will join the European Union on 1 July 2013 and needs to be represented in the European parliament from that moment onwards. To appoint these representatives there will be elections held in Croatia on 14 April. Candidates elected at this time will only serve for the remainder of the 2009-2014 term. In 2014 there will be EU elections in all EU countries.

The PP-HR is a recently founded party, officially registered less than one year ago on 6 April 2012. It will be the first time they compete in an election. However, they have already been mentioned in one **poll**. This poll gives the party a whopping 6.4%. So chances are real that out of the 12 representatives elected to represent Croatia, one will be a Pirate. Since there is only a short time left before the elections (only short notice was given), the inexperienced Party will need help to match the poll results. On behalf of the Croatian Pirates I would like to ask all of our readers who can to lend a hand. Pirates are after all a transnational movement.

Polish Pirate Party started accepting membership requests



On Monday 18 of March 2013 the **Polish Pirate Party** (PP-PL) started **accepting membership requests**. This is another step in creating a new politics in Poland a reality. Pirate Parties around the world are showing that you can make politics in a different way and empower people.

"We are back for good on the Polish political scene to fight for Pirate ideas - free knowledge, right for privacy and confidentiality of correspondence, free and culture heritage and transparency of governmental decisions. We will do everything to be sure that our party will become the first one, to not just fight for power, but more to change social reality."

B?a?ej Kaczorowski, the party spokesperson, wrote to us.

PP-PL declares that they are not outraged, but just disgusted with and tired of politics as it looks now. Instead of shouting they want to teach. They will not only make technological but also economic demands based on common sense and calculations.

They primarily operate in the field of education - teaching and showing that in our society there is still lack of democratic ideals and how new technologies can help create real participative mechanisms for the exercise and control of power. They co-operate with Pirate

Parties around the world - last week they were **visited by representatives of the Pirate Movement formed in Belarus**, and in 3 months will be organizing a conference in Warsaw concerning the creation of the European Pirate Party, which will be established to coordinate next year's elections to the European Parliament (for more information on PP-EU and the conference itself we will provide more information soon).

Written by Zbigniew Å• ukasiak published at March 21, 2013

Corporations should pay users for sharing their products



This article is the first of a new series here at the Pirate Times. It is an editorial and so will contain subjective opinion in contrast to a pure news story. As such, it reflects the opinions of the author and cannot necessarily be construed as the being the opinions of the Pirate Times, Pirate Parties International or any Pirate Party. The Pirate Movement is diverse and thrives on lively debate that is held in a respectful manner. We encourage you to add to this in the comments section.

Copy is everybody's right

Pirates, in the sense corporations put it, have always existed and are all of us! Wrongly, everyone has made copies of his favourite music on cassettes and other storage media, because it was and is illegal. But how many beautiful moments have we experienced, by being pirates and copied music to liberate it everywhere, at friend's homes, in the car, at the office. It is something that people feel deeply inside them, the desire to share things with those they love.

There was once the "home taping is killing music" motto, a directive that no one ever took

seriously. Well, if this is the definition of "piracy" then everybody is a "pirate." Remember the ship of the Pirate Bay has a cassette and bones in its flag?

Cassettes offered people the choice to copy, from a lot of records, the songs that we liked. Why were consumers not allowed this option? After all they bought the records and paid for copyright. Copy is everybody's right. We made a copy, a sample, for our friends to listen to. By copying, we acted as a salesman for a product and advertise it to friends. Maybe all, or one or none of them being influenced, depending on the presentation.

Word of mouth

There is a selling method called viral marketing, via networks, otherwise "word of mouth" well known from the beginning of last century. These networks always existed and were the cheapest and easiest way of advertising goods. Corporations elegantly adopted this element of advertising and require internet users to pay for using their projects.

During the seventies and eighties, people used to gather at home with friends and listen to vinyl records. This describes a private moment, happening in a house and no one has the right to know what the person inside doing with his friends, with whom he is doing something he likes. Namely, he publishes his music preferences in a private circle. Essentially advertising to his friends, an artist or band and thus the recording company and those involved with the production of the project.

His friends maybe would buy the album, as everyone has done before, buying records they would not have known existed unless their friends had never played them for him. These gatherings and meetings are currently happening digitally, over the web.

In the case of the web, apart from the fact that our private moments are violated and made public - in which our friends were in the meeting, how many listened to the song and liked that - corporations are seeking new ways to put taxes on copyright!

They do not take into account this element of advertising that exists in every posting of our favourite artists on the web. The fairest solution would be for corporations to pay us, for each time we advertise their products, by giving us a portion of their income for our contribution to their promotion.

If we add the fact, that many people have already paid twice or maybe more times for copyrighted material, by buying the song on cassette, vinyl record, CD, DVD, then we are talking about greed on the part of corporations and insult to the consumers. We have paid so many times for copyright and do not know sufficiently well where the money goes, to artists or **traders and manufacturers of these products** ?

Protection of privacy

Today, meetings with our friends happen over the web though with one significant difference; we have so many more friends than ever before and thus there is a spectacular increasing rate of our influence on them.

Companies seem contrary to such a perspective and believe, in a simplistic way, that this is a case of "piracy." It's the eternal confrontation of «home taping is killing music». In fact copying, is like freeing the music, because music should not be imprisoned and killed. For Pirates, all knowledge, art, information, should be free to use in the internet.

But our digital "meetings", with friends at "home?", raise some more issues, such as invasion of privacy and freedom of expression, namely, the natural rights we enjoy in real life, to meet with our friends and talk about everything we want.

In a **recent study in Greece** , among children and adolescents, parents and teachers of all levels of education, it was found that the protection of privacy (83.8%), and the right to control all postings and data (58.2%), were two out of ten top online rights internet users would like to be

respected. The survey was part of actions held to commemorate this year anniversary of 'Safer Internet Day', started 10 years ago.

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Written by Stathis Leivaditis published at March 19, 2013

P-review 18 March 2013



Pirate Times Review

A regular review of some things that passed the Pirate Times by in the previous week and a preview of some events coming in the week ahead.

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The week in review 11 - 17 March 2013

- 12 March The EU Parliament **voted against** a blanket ban on pornography on the net.
- 16-17 March PPNO held its **national conference in Oslo**.
- 16-17 March **PPEU Programme Conference** in Zagreb, Croatia
- 17 March International Day of Farmers Struggle from **The Via Campesina**, a peasant farmer organisation

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Some events that should be interesting for Pirates in the coming week

□20 - 21 March [Conference Online Privacy](#): Consenting to your Future

□21 March Live streaming [video broadcast](#) from the office of [Amelia Andersdotter](#).

Featured image: by [chase_elliot](#) CC BY

Written by Andrew Reitemeyer published at March 18, 2013

Political Differences Between the Pirate Parties



While dozens of Pirate Parties throughout the world agree on the most fundamental positions concerning copyright reform, patents, surveillance and government transparency, many parties have started broadening into other areas. These topics are sometimes more obvious extensions to the existing politics - open access, IT use in government, et cetera - but sometimes cover more controversial issues, often unique for each nation or region, and outlandish in the view of another party.

Some of these "controversial issues" include drug regulation, education, health care, defense,

environment, traditional left-right taxes and several other areas. Some topics are universally accepted in one party - like direct democracy and liquid feedback - but are frowned upon in another country. How do these differences come to be, and how can we work together with a common goal without letting our differences destroy our cooperation?

In a new series of articles here at Pirate Times, I will discuss exactly this, focusing on many of the before mentioned topics. How did the German Pirate Party develop such a liberal view on drugs, while many other parties have no opinion on the topic? Why are the Pirate Parties in some countries seen as right parties, while others are viewed as left? How have some gone much further on the more traditional arenas such as education and healthcare, while others have ignored these completely?

Another question is the more open-ended debate on: what version of broadening your political program is the most effective. I have previously [written on several occasions](#) about the broadening of the Swedish Pirate Party's politics, using a blog where members are free to express and discuss their suggestions informally, before they may be handed in at a member meeting and further discussed and voted upon. It is a slow process, often taking many months or years for a suggestion to settle, but once it's accepted it is almost universally seen as obvious Pirate politics.

These are some of the questions and topics I will focus on throughout this new Pirate Times series of articles, which is planned to start with an article about the different parties' views on drug regulation.

Featured image: CC by [Dolkin](#)

Written by Anton Nordenfur published at March 15, 2013

EuWiKon 2.0 – German Pirates push forward positions on Europe and the economy



Last weekend, 9-10 March 2013, about 80 Pirates of the German Pirate Party met in Frankfurt, Hesse to do a follow-up on [last year's successful conference on European and Economic Policy](#) (or 'EuWiKon?', as the German acronym goes). Just like last time, the event was organised by Pirates from the party's working groups (WG) Economics, Europe and Monetary System.

WG Europe concentrated on refining proposed passages of text for the Party's federal election platform. The WG's coordinator Gilles Bordelais stressed how most of what people consider to be wrong with the European Union is perfectly addressed by some of the Pirates' core demands: Transparency for a system perceived as opaque, citizen participation to fix the democratic deficit and civil liberties to counter regulations infringing upon them, such as the data retention law.

The working sessions on European policy discussed a total of eight draft motions, six of which will likely to be voted on at the federal party convention later this year. Most of these motions were about how to make the political system of the European Union more democratic. For instance, one text called for a substantial strengthening of the European Citizens Initiative by making a successful initiative into an ordinary legislative initiative. At the moment, a successful ECI does not necessarily entail a true legislative proposal. Instead, it merely forces

consideration of the idea by the European Commission. The working group also rewrote a draft motion that called for the definition of European social standards.

The WGs Economics and Monetary System discussed economic topics of national and European scope, most importantly of course the European sovereign debt crisis. Arne Pfeilsticker of WG Economics noted in his opening keynote that good policy approaches to the crisis might be seen as a chance for improvement, for the economic system as such, as well as for the Pirates. Matthias Garscha of WG Monetary System struck a less optimistic tone, as he explained that it is crucial to develop feasible alternatives to the failed austerity policies currently being imposed all over Europe.

The economic working sessions covered a wide range of topics and laid the groundwork for the further development of PPDE's economic policy. They started out by systematically going through a comprehensive mind map that intended to provide an overview of the interdependent problems of the financial crisis. After that, they continued by going into detailed discussions on taxation, labour market policy and regulation of financial markets and a few others.

The working sessions were interrupted by something called "bar camp" slots, an open panel discussion and a general exchange of ideas on the eurocrisis. The bar camps covered various issues, among them a session by North-Rhine Westfalian state MP Nico Kern, who presented the state-level perspective on European policy and European economic policy. Despite Nico's presentation having talked about six separate issues, the point most frequently taken up in the following debate was the idea of a comprehensive investment programme instead of austerity – possibly with a priority in fields such as green technology and renewable energy, to deal with another challenge, besides the eurocrisis, that Europe faces at the same time.

PPDE's Working Groups will continue to prepare positions on these issues. By the time of the federal party convention, there should be a whole catalogue of motions to vote on, so an expansion of the party's manifesto and election platform on European and economic policy can be expected.

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Image Source: own work

Written by Paul Wardenga published at March 13, 2013

Tips and Tricks: Placards



If you want to use placards as part of a campaign or to advertise an event then you should make plans well in advance. Here we consider placards of a size that can be put up by one or two people for a reasonable cost.

How Many

First ask your local authorities about any restrictions as to where, and how big they can be and when they may be put up and any other advice they may have. Then get out a map and identify the places where the most vehicle and pedestrian traffic is likely to be. Go to these locations and identify suitable places to post or hang them. Then you can calculate how many you require and place orders from where ever you wish to obtain them or make them yourself if needs be remember to add a few extra to replace those that are damaged during the length of the

campaign. If possible make a route so that you can easily drive, cycle or walk a route that lets you check up on and maintain them for the length of the campaign.

Where

As mentioned above, areas of high traffic are to be preferred but you will have to take into account local laws and property rights. High traffic areas for vehicles are near intersections, railway crossings and feeder roads in built up areas. In pedestrian areas, bus stops, train stations, city centres and schools are places to think about. Good locations are trees, lampposts, street signs, fences, walls and (if available) boards specifically for displaying posters. If you are using private property get permission - also shop owners might consider putting one in their window if you ask. If on public property make sure you are not impeding the right of way or visibility and above all do no damage. Think about ease ? ease of maintaining and removing them. Do not paste them directly onto walls and surfaces where they do not belong. We are Pirates not vandals.

What sort

This is something you will need to decide on taking into account things like cost, weather, time needed to put them up and the environment. Very popular are the new **coroplast** preprinted signs which resemble "plastic cardboard", fibreboard which are more robust, probably more environmentally friendly but harder to put up and take more time as the posters must be pasted on by hand. (Tip: if you are disposing of old furniture the backing of cupboards and shelving units are often fibreboard). There are many other types but we are considering the most practical for Pirates on a budget. Cardboard is also an option where rain is not expected.

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How

There are a variety of ways to affix them to lampposts, fences and the like. Depending on what sort, the best methods are in order of ease cable ties, wire and adhesive tape. What ever method you use you want to aim to have the maxim possible placard surface against the post

and as tight as possible without ripping the material. One of the best solutions is to use two placards back to back with the post in the middle. This also allows for cable ties or wire to be fixed in such a way as to prevent the ends sticking out in an unsightly and even dangerous way.

Use a ladder to place them high, beyond the reach of vandals and where they are not preventing road users from seeing. Record all the places where you have placed them and share them online where your team can find them for the purposes of maintenance and removal. Custom Google maps are one way of and [Ehow have a tutorial](#) on the subject. Use your smart phone to take pictures and note relevant details.

When

Try to put up your placards when traffic is at a minimum. Weekends and times that avoid commuter traffic are best. If you have to work in low light be sure to wear high-visibility vests. Avoid working in wet or icy conditions if using a ladder. If there are restrictions as to how long before an election you can hang them then you are in a race with other parties. Plan to get to the best spots first, before they are snapped up by the opposition.

Maintenance and Removal

During the length of the campaign arrange for regular inspection tours where damaged and stolen placards can be repaired and replaced. You can update the online map in case action must be taken at a later date when you are prevented by traffic or weather conditions from doing so on the spot. You will also find that wind and passing traffic will result in them being twisted from their optimal position. When removing the placards at the end of the campaign take care not to damage them and be sure to have a storage place where you can keep them safely for the next campaign.

Special note:

Today, 12 March, is the World Day Against Cyber Censorship. We would have liked to have brought you an article based on the great work being done by Reporters Without Borders as their work is in line with Pirate Principles. Ironically their site is copyright protected so we cannot use and attribute their graphics and texts in the way we would need to without obtaining express

permission.

However we urge you to [visit their site](#) and inform yourself of the attacks on net freedom.

German speakers might like to visit this [Piratenpartei wiki page](#)

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Featured image: [CC-BY-SA](#) Pirate Times

Written by Andrew Reitemeyer published at March 12, 2013

P-review 11 March 2013



Pirate Times Review

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The winner of the Pirate Times February Quiz was Nofel Tani from PPBE. WE congratulate him and his prize is already on the way to him . A new Quiz will be held at the end of March.

The week in review 4 - 10 March 2013

□4 March PPNO's ISP was forced to withdraw bandwidth for the Pirate Bay because of [content industry threats](#). The Pirate Bay then seemed to return from North Korea and the game

of cat and mouse continues.

□6 March [Google released details](#) of 1000s of requests for personal data searches. The company said the FBI is authorized to make such requests without warrants or disclosure to users.

□6 March Johannes Ponader, the Political Leader of the German Pirate Party indicated he would [resign his position](#) in May at the Party's Federal General Assembly

□8 March On World Women's Day the [EU Parliament blocked emails](#) containing the words "gender stereotypes" .

□9-10 March [2 EuWikon](#) The Germany Pirates held their 2nd European Finance Conference.

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Some events that should be interesting for Pirates in the coming week

□12-13 March [Black Hat Conference 2013](#) where Pirate Party founder Rick Falkvinge will hold a keynote speech

□12 March Reporters Without Borders hold a [World Day Against Cyber Censorship](#)

□14 March Live streaming [video broadcast](#) from the office of [Amelia Andersdotter](#).

□ 16-17 March PPEU Programme Conference in Zargreb, Croatia

Featured image: by [chase_elliot](#) CC BY

Written by Andrew Reitemeyer published at March 11, 2013

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If you have comments, ideas or tips on news we would love to hear from you! Send a mail to: contact@piratetimes.net

