



# Liberty English Camp in Poland

BY: PAWEŁ TOBOŁA-PERTKIEWICZ, PHOTO: PAWEŁ TOBOŁA-PERTKIEWICZ & KONRAD RAJCA

Between 7-12 September 2008 in the village of Ponikiew into Wadowicami, was held Liberty English Camp organized by the American Language Institute of Liberty, Association KoLiber and PAFERE Foundation. It was the first such camp in Poland, but in a consistent opinion of both the organizers and participants, certainly not the last. The purpose of the camps, organized by Glena Cripe'a, the founder of LLI, is to combine English lessons with the idea of free promotion, foundations, as well as business ethics. The Polish edition of the camp was attended by 30 students and 5 teachers (Mats Walus, Kenli Schooland, Christian Michel, Mary Lou Gutscher, Glenn Cripe). This year, in addition to the camp in Poland, LLI organized a similar meeting of young people in five other countries: in Ghana, Slovakia, Slovenia, Georgia and Lithuania. Participants of the camp were divided into 3 groups, in which the whole day engaged in discussions, among others: action of the state, morality, human rights and philosophy of freedom. The course lasting several hours a day, but hot philosophical discussions lasted often well after the end of the course.



The Foundation PAFERE took the patronage over English Liberty Camp. Thanks to our handling each participant received free several editions “The Freeman” magazine, as well as classical book: The Law by Frédéric Bastiat. Special thanks go to the American Foundation for Economic Education, which immediately sent to Poland two large packages of educational materials.

The PAFERE Foundation distributed among students also it’s own magazine “IDEAS”, as well as some books published with the support of the Foundation. The PAFERE president, Mr. Jan Michał Małek has been present at the camp for a few days and took part in several discussions.

Apart from lectures, discussion and different classes, a time for the game wasn’t missing. Liberty Camp was also full into the sequence of entertainment, among others of a game of the earth pin-stripe, the volleyball, the competition of talents or a swimming gala. Some of the participants have also went to mountain hills near Ponikwia. The entire camp was finished with the traditional conferring of the certificates and a common photo of teachers, organizers and students.

In the unanimous opinion of LLI representatives as well as our Foundation and the Association Koliber, camps of this type should be continued each year, even more often. We shall take part in the efforts to make the next editions possible, and already today PAFERE invites all students to participate. ■



Educational materials for students were sponsored and distributed by PAFERE and FEE.



Christian Michel leads discussion about freedom with students.



MARTA KORCZAK  
FROM POLSKI:

I am absorbed by the classes here, because everybody knows how do they look like int the normal school. This is something quite different than normal lessons. During those few days I can develop my knowledge and think more than usually. I like the fact that so many interesting people have gathered, you can talk to them on interesting topics and at the same time improve your English. At school learning English looks completely different and consists mainly of reading some boring texts or listening to tapes with old news services.



AURELIA SLANINA  
FROM MOLDAVIA

I came here to improve my English. I have heard about this Camp during another Liberty Camp in Austria last year. I’m not a libertarian, but who knows, maybe some day... I have met many great people and found out many interesting things. Maybe I’ll try to organize a similar camp in Moldova, where people do not know much about such things, so it would be great to have something like this camp there. The camp is an opportunity for meetings and discussions between young people from the whole world about freedom. It’s good that the camps are held every year in different countries. It’s a perfect way of learning to understand English, philosophy of freedom and business ethics, but also learn about other people, often from countries which we do not know too much about.



KENLI SCHOOLLAND  
FROM HAWAII:

I have decided to organize the camp, because I believe that the combination of two ideas: learning “live” English and disseminate knowledge about classical liberalism and entrepreneurship, is so unique conjunction, that is really great! I wasn’t wrong. This is illustrated by the level of satisfaction of participants, who even asked of the possibility of further learning. Also, that there would be no success without a real family atmosphere that reigned in the camp, which is the achievement of a very good cooperation of staff and participants. Already today I can say, the we plan to do something like this also next year.