

## Europe meets Dortmund: Citizens Meet & Greet



### Review Visit Dortmund May 30 and 31

#### Day 1: Friday May 30

After checking in at the Youth Hostel, we rushed to the Paulus Kirche, where the English Participants from Neighbourhood Pathfinder, were already waiting for us. The weather was very good and very hot, so we were lucky to have lunch outside the church.

Pastor **Friedrich Laker** and his wife Sandra welcomed us and Friedrich and **Ellen Hiep** from R4R Europe introduced the guests from England, Patricia Day and Holland, , as well as Antje Klingeman from Dortmund, , residents who presented their organizations and their neighbourhoods.



After the Living Room Conversations Part 1, we took a Boat Trip on The Ems. A very hot, but wonderful trip that gave us an alternative perspective on Dortmund. There was live entertainment from 3 Fado musicians. We were busy though filling in the quiz that was distributed with questions about cultural and other figures & facts. A simple but successful way to get to know the residents and their city a bit better. By the way, the winner of the Quiz was **Mr. Bram Pater**, from Leiden, he won a tin of 'Haagse Hopjes', well known Dutch sweets (coffee caramels).

Back at the Pauluskirche it was time for Part II of the living room conversations: Introducing from the Hague Bilal Sahin and Halid Gurbuz, from the Father centre in the Hague, Ed Dusschoten from Reva the Hague and mr. Ed Walbeehm from Residents Northern quarter Leiden. They all stressed the importance of interaction between residents and professionals from all ethnic and cultural groups in the quarter. At The "Paulus Kirche" an exhibition was Also the artists who made the pictures and the mobile and the graphics that were placed in the Church.

1. Theo Lebendig, Graphics, inspired by Koran texts'

2. Mina Hassanijani an Iranian photographer showing pictures of 3-generations of immigrant families living in the Nordstad
3. A very large mobile with symbols of the world-religions



During the second part of the Cultural programme several performances were given. The artists were all immigrants, living in the Nordmarkt Quarter, originated from Afghanistan, Turkey, Poland, Iran and Kameroun. This part of the evening started with the Hip Hop dancers from the Nordmarkt quarter, they were very good and we enjoyed their performance very much. We listened to a guitar-duo of Father and Son, Ali and Jouyan Tarzaban. Arkadius & Zia gave a concert and played traditional Afghanistan Music and last but not least we listened to the swinging Gospel Choir named Angel Voices, a feast for ears and eyes.



**Day 2: Saturday May 31:**

There were guided Excursions to:

1. Borsigplatz (Borussia (famous German football Club) area)
2. Hoesch Museum (history of German steel industries)
3. Beginenhof (special housing project for women)
4. Religionstour: Visiting the houses of prayer from various religious communities living in Dortmund
5. Mitternachtmission, little groups of max. 12 participants left at 09.30 from the Kolping Haus.

The excursions were all very different but most of the participants got to learn a lot more about the history, cultural and religious communities in Dortmund. After the excursions we all met at the Nordmarkt for the Boules Cup, we enjoyed the barbeque, the company and the weather.



The people that didn't want to join the Boules Cup, went out and explored Dortmund, or amused themselves having a beer at the Killefet Café terrace, at the Nordmarkt, a newly opened café with the ambition of haven a function in the Nordmarkt society in order to make the Nordmarkt more attractive for families and children and put the Nordmarkt on the map again.

Of course Several R4R-teams joined the Boules Cup and had fanatic matches with opponents like the Dortmund Police force, who were the winners (like last year) of the Boules Cup, but only just!



We had a wonderful time in Dortmund and we found the Dortmund Residents, especially the people from the Nordmarkt very friendly and hospitable.

**Special thanks:** Martin Gansau & Heike Schulz (Quartier management Nordmarkt), Friedrich & Sandra Laker (Paulus Kirche), Christiane Alberts, Ilsegret Bonke, Ruud Laker, Tus Hannibal, Annette Kritzler, the people from the Adolph Kolping Haus who made this visit possible by organising it so well and made us all feel very welcome!

All pictures: by Mr. Ed Walbeehm and Mr. Bram Pater on the R4R website.

**Let's keep in touch:**

R4R Europe: [www.r4r-europe.com](http://www.r4r-europe.com)

Quartiers management Nordstad: [www.qm-nordstadt.de](http://www.qm-nordstadt.de)

Paulus Kirche: <http://www.pauluskircheundkultur.com/>

Neighbourhood Pathfinders Scunthorpe: <http://crosby-npm.org.uk>

Mother Centre/ Moedercentrum de Koffiepot: [www.stichtingmooi.nl](http://www.stichtingmooi.nl)

Father Centre/ Vadercentrum Adam: [www.stichtingmooi.nl](http://www.stichtingmooi.nl)

Residentorg./ Bewonersorganisatie Boreva: [www.boreva.nl](http://www.boreva.nl)

Residentorg./ Den Haag Bewonerorganisatie de Paraplu: [www.deschilderswijk.nl](http://www.deschilderswijk.nl)

Residentorg./ Arnhem Bewonersorganisatie Malburgen: [www.malburgen.nl](http://www.malburgen.nl)

Residentorg./ Leiden Bewonersorganisatie Noorderkwartier:

[www.leidennoord.nl/noorderkwartier](http://www.leidennoord.nl/noorderkwartier)