
Junior 8 2007 competition

Application form - Italy



Team name: Idee in Comune	School: Istituto Comprensivo di Zanica Scuola Media Statale di Comun Nuovo
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1. Introduction of proposal

As young people coming from a G8 country, why are you interested in global problems and have you decided to participate in Junior 8?

(Write up to 150 words in the grey box below)

We are Juri and Manuel and are President and Auditor respectively of the Junior Municipality Council of Comun Nuovo. The Junior Municipality Council initiative has been in operation for 11 years and is progressing successfully!

We have been elected through our campaigns from the fifth grade of Junior school, and from that time on we have been submitting our proposals at a variety of Municipal Council meetings and we are therefore able to allow the collective voice of young people in the town to be heard, not to mention keeping abreast of all the items discussed by the Council administration.

Given the position we occupy, we have decided to participate in this initiative which we became immediately enthusiastic about as we have been looking for an opportunity to put ourselves to the test against other young people and express our ideas to adults for some time now.

It was not all easy at the beginning, given the complexity of the terms dealt with, however thanks to the research carried out, we have managed to compose a set of proposals that we believe are quite articulate and applicable.

2. Junior 8 Agenda

In reference to the arguments proposed in the Junior 8 (J8) summit agenda, write what you would do in the Head of Government of the G8 to resolve the following



questions. You may write up to 300 words on each of the four arguments taken from the J8 agenda. For more information click [here](#).

2.1 Climate change and energy efficiency

(Your ideas regarding this problem must be written in the two grey boxes below, using 150 words in each box)

Idea 1:

Promote the use of renewable energy, investing capital, through European and Western investment, for the construction of new energy plants in Europe and also into developing countries to convert, for example, solar radiation into thermal-solar energy and photovoltaic-solar energy, or to use geometric, wind-power or biomass and biogas energy. Offer state incentives for industry and individuals to produce their own electrical energy with the installation of solar panels, wind-power generators and alternative energy sources.

Reduce and offer disincentives for economic investment on Hydrogen as this is freely available in nature, but requires extraction from fossil fuels by means of polluting process.

Idea 2:

Propose State incentives for:

- The purchase and production of automobiles and public transport functioning on methanol and hybrid technology.
- The construction of new private buildings with good thermal insulation, ecological materials and energy efficient.
- Economic rewards for families who recycle a lot of waste.

Higher taxation for packaging.

Promote the use of low-consumption bulbs and eliminate the market for common bulbs as soon as possible.

Equip buildings with:

- Low energy consumption bulbs
- Recycled paper and card
- Separated waste collections
- Water metres
- Flow reducers in the sewage systems
- Solar panels on roofs

Install solar panels also on traffic lights and luminous road signs.

2.2 HIV/AIDS

(Your ideas regarding this problem must be written in the two grey boxes below, using 150 words in each box)

Idea 1:

Promote financing for the development of associations involved in the research, discovery and study of the virus that causes AIDS so that they can learn more and move towards a cure for the illness. To obtain this it will be necessary to create new jobs with ever-more innovative and technological materials.

Promote the spread of knowledge and causes of the illness in schools and propose didactic and educational activities to make young people more aware before endangering their health and that of others.

In all types of school system, including evening classes, institutionalise an hour of health education into the curriculum.

Idea 2:

Make all medicine that can treat this illness available to all economic groups in society.

Make Cotrimoxazole accessible for all. This is a recently-discovered medicine that can, in certain cases, render the virus weaker and, with time, may be very efficient in preventing the onset of Aids.

Promote the production of generic pharmaceuticals at low cost.

2.3 Prospects for economic development in Africa

(Your ideas regarding this problem must be written in the two grey boxes below, using 150 words in each box)

Idea 1:

Promote the commerce of typically African products and their exportation to the Western world, via private traders and appropriately instituted associations, with a view to obtaining adequate market prices that favour a more rapid economic development in Africa.

Supply public entity offices with food and drink dispensers that use fair trade sustainable products, instead of those from the usual multinationals.

Devise, in collaboration with European, American and Asiatic multinationals, policies that favour commerce without 'ruthless' competition, whilst encouraging free trade.

Eliminate customs barriers for products originating from Africa.

Idea 2:

Promote development in schools to equip the local populations with appropriate preparation for professional life in their country.

Offer greater access to information and the internet so that Africans can truly break into international markets.

Import the microcredit system that the Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus institutionalised in Bangladesh to Africa. This would mean extending small loans to the local population for entrepreneurial activities, repayable through small instalments.

Institutionalise ethical banks.

2.4 New challenges for the global economy: rights of intellectual property and social responsibility of businesses

(Your ideas regarding this problem must be written in the two grey boxes below, using 150 words in each box)

Idea 1:

Oblige the pharmaceutical industries to invest quotas into common funds for the research into new pharmaceutical drugs sold to the general public with consistent price variations depending on income brackets. This type of process will guarantee these industries the defence of intellectual property against monopoly regimes.

Idea 2:

Impose legislation and rigid regulations for safeguarding workers and implement serious controls to prevent child labour in developing countries.

In developed countries, offer incentives to companies to employ the large masses of unemployed people with a fair wage.

3. Bibliography and sources

Complete the 'Bibliography and sources' section to show the judges which sources you have used for your research for the J8.

(Write up to 150 words in the grey box below)

- www.J8summit.com
- www.unicef.org
- www.meteo.it
- www.iea.org

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- www.data.org
 - www.iprcommisson.org
 - www.galileo2001.it
 - www.aspoitalia.it
 - www.ecodibergamo.it
 - www.virgilio.it
 - www.piemmetispa.com
 - www.oew.org
 - Carlo Rubbia, Cambiamenti climatici eppure il rimedio c'è, pag. 117-118, in "Airone", n. 311, marzo 2007
 - Alberto Carrara, Clima: mai così caldo da 200 anni, pag. 8, in "L' Eco di Bergamo", lunedì 5 marzo 2007
 - Stefan Kornelius, Martin Winter, Parla Angela Merkel: " Il clima è un problema serio l' Europa deve dare l' esempio", pag. 15, in "La Repubblica", lunedì 5 marzo 2007

 - Carlo Rubbia, Climate change and yet there is a remedy, pps 117-118, in "Airone", n. 311, march 2007
 - Alberto carrera, The climate: never as hot for 200 years, p. 8, in the "Bergamo Echo", Monday 5th March 2007
 - Stefan Kornelius, Martin Winter, Parla Angela Merkal: "The climate is a serious problem, Europe must lead by example" p.15, in "La Repubblica", Monday 5th March 2007

4. 'Our j8 experience'

What have you learned from following the J8 path and why should your team be chosen to represent all the young people in Italy at the Junior 8 2007 summit?

- ***How have you managed your work and collaboration?***
- ***Which skills and knowledge have you gained while preparing your proposals for the competition?***
- ***If you were chosen to participate in the Summit what would you then do after to ensure that other young people are motivated and interested in global problems?***

(Write up to 150 words in the grey box below)



The experience has touched us significantly from a responsibility point of view; in fact, not only have we tackled themes that for us were completely new, but we have also learnt that problems on a global scale are only resolved through hard work and if they are taken very seriously.

Our gratitude for this opportunity goes to our teachers that have helped and encouraged us.

We joined forces in order to retrieve further information from the net on local Agenda 21, taking what we felt were important issues to work on together in the construction of projects.

Having already had first hand experience of the Youth Council, the J8 seems a further opportunity for relations both with our peers and adults.