



Halma
Das europäische Netzwerk literarischer Zentren

Berlin, December 10th 2007

Ambassadors' initiative for HALMA

European ambassadors in Berlin support the literary network HALMA

Sixteen European ambassadors support the literary network HALMA through a letter to the EU-commissioner for culture Ján Figel. They appeal to the EU to be conducive to HALMA's European scholarship program, so that old and new EU-countries will have equal opportunities in the context of the network.

Talented authors can receive HALMA-scholarships which lead each of them into two different European countries. During their stays, the authors' texts are translated into the respective national language and presented publicly. The initiative by the ambassadors and HALMA aims at a EU-sponsorship of half of each scholarship for the new member countries.

The letter was signed by the ambassadors of the countries Austria, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Sweden, Slovakia, as well as the attaché of the Flemish community in Belgium, and the representative of the French community and the Walloon region of Belgium.

HALMA is a European network of literary centres which was introduced in May 2007 by the German foreign minister Frank-Walter Steinmeier. It was founded following the initiative of the Literary Colloquium Berlin, the Robert Bosch Foundation and the Centre Pogranicze.

The network wants to systematically create a public awareness for the literature of European countries. European thoughts shall be able to circulate and inspire discussions without halting at national borders.

It would be great if you included these news in your publications. For further questions, please feel free to contact me.

Sincerely,

Sonja Müller