

The English-Speaking Union Portugal

NEWSLETTER

Volume 1, Number 1

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Welcome.



Welcome to the first issue of our newsletter. 2017 is going to be a busy year for the English-Speaking Union Portugal, so we thought this would be the best way to get the news to all of you who have supported us for years and to the schools that are joining us for the first time.

This year we will be hosting the International Council Meeting which will attract delegates from many international branches of the English-Speaking Union.

We will also be organi-

sing our usual activities - the National Public Speaking Competition (NPSC), a Debating Workshop and Competition for High Schools, and debating workshops in schools.

The debating workshops, which are run in partnership with the *Sociedade de*

Debates Académicos de Lisboa, are proving to be very successful in raising awareness of the practicalities of a skill that can enhance not only a student's learning experience but may also prove useful in a future career.

We do look forward to seeing you soon.



Forthcoming events

- 26th March—the National Public-Speaking Competition at the British Council
- April/May (date to be decided) Debating Competition
- September—the International ESU meeting

The English-Speaking Union Portugal helping high school students find their own voice

Through our programme of educational and competitive initiatives— public speaking competitions, parliamentary debates and workshops— we seek to help high school students develop skills and confidence in communication and give individuals the opportunity to realise their full potential.

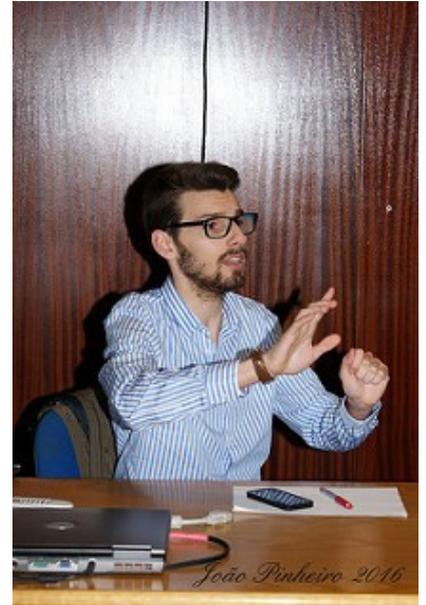


Debating workshops

The ESU has been running debating workshops for a few years now, having invited well known international debaters to lead workshops and competitions for high school students.



Last year, in partnership with the *Sociedade de Debates Académicos de Lisboa (SDAL)*, we ran debate training workshops in schools which were quite successful. These workshops aim at providing the students with a chance to speak in a practice debate and provide them with good feedback in order to improve their debating skills and eventually help them set up their own Debate Clubs.



The National Public-Speaking Competition 2017

In order to be able to comply with the deadlines for the IPSC 2017 Finals in London, our National Competition will be held this year **on Sunday 26th March**. I am delighted to announce that, due to the generosity and support of the British Council, the Competition will be held in the wonderful old Conference Room at the BC in Lisbon.

The theme for the International Final will be **“Peace is not an absence of war”**. This theme will also be used for the National finals, here in Portugal. As in previous years, the winner of the NPSC will repre-

sent Portugal at the International Public Speaking Competition which is held at Dartmouth House, London, the headquarters of the ESU.

These are the criteria that will be used to assess your speeches: Expression and Delivery, Reasoning and Evidence, Organisation and Prioritisation (establishing credibility), Listening and Response (responding to questions).

Just to remind you once again, competitor schools need to be members of the ESU Portugal for the current year. School membership is fifty euros *per annum* and will cover enrol-

ment in events, debating workshops, etc, until the next NPSC in 2018. Membership fees are payable up to the date of the NPSC and we can issue an invoice should you require one.

Competitors should be over 16 years of age.

Please let us know of your intention to take part by **Friday 24th February**, at the close of play.

David Evans

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The International Public-Speaking Competition (IPSC)

The IPSC is the largest public speaking competition in the world involving students from



over 50 countries. The IPSC provides students with an opportunity to develop the vital skills that enable them to speak with confidence in public. Not only does the competition enhance these public speaking and critical thinking skills, it also gives students the opportunity to showcase them in an international competitive arena.

The importance of effective

spoken communication skills cannot be underestimated. Being able to speak with confidence in public will enable you to persuade and inspire.



What you can expect if you win the National Public-Speaking Competition

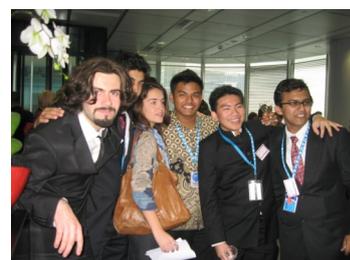
This year the IPSC will take place between Monday 8 and Friday 12 May .

The winner of the national competition will spend 5 nights in London. The flights to and from London, bed and breakfast accommodation, travelling around London and meals, workshops, tours and other

events associated with the IPSC programme will be paid by the ESU. Your only expenses will be the journeys from the airport to the centre of London and back to the airport for your flight home.

What a great opportunity to visit London and meet young people from all over the world!

We do look forward to seeing you at our NPSC in March.





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You can also keep up with news on ESU Portugal events on our Facebook page:
<https://www.facebook.com/ESUPortugal/?fref=ts>

Contacts

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