



FIJET NEWSLETTER

December, 2012 Editor :Tijani Haddad / E-mail : newsletter@fijet.net

Minister of Tourism of CROATIA receives a FIJET delegation



On the occasion of the Marco Polo Award Ceremony which took place in Zagreb, the Minister of Tourism of Croatia Mr. Veljko Ostojic received the delegation headed by Mr.Tijani Haddad and composed of Tina Cubrilo, Ertan Sandikcioglu, Drago Bulc and Plamen Starev. The Minister welcomed the members of the delegation and made short presentation about tourism in Croatia on all its aspects focusing on the steady growth it has recorded in recent years. The Minister raised as well some important items on its agenda namely training and facilitation of visas. He explained that his government raised the budget for education and training because of the importance of human resources in the development of any country. He added that he is leading a European campaign to facilitate the formalities of visas. In his turn, Tijani Haddad spoke of FIJET, its objectives and its various activities. He stressed on the importance of Fijet academy that will take place this year in both Slovenia and Egypt. He added that one of Fijet aims is to help younger generation of Journalists to be specialized in tourism information. Communication is nowadays very important in Tourism promotion, marketing and distribution.

*Happy
FIJET
New Year*



You have all expressed a desire to introduce radical changes in our organization: our by-laws, our election procedure, our structures and our criteria of productivity and professionalism. Your voice has been heard and the proposals you have made have been taken into account. Our hope is to finalize the change before the next meeting of the Board of Directors. Meanwhile, we have already started to renew our website and our newsletter. Both of them are in continuous improvement and updating. We rely on our National Associations to participate in those enrichments. On another level, we are in talks with some countries susceptible to host our Board of Directors and our next congress. We took advantage of our presence in Zagreb for the Marco Polo price to meet the new Minister of Tourism of Croatia with whom we have had a fruitful working session. He reiterated its willingness to contribute to various FIJET activities particularly those relating to the training of young journalists.. Dear colleagues, the year 2013 is already knocking on our doors. On this occasion I wish you all happy and successful New Year. I hope that together we will lead the necessary change to re-invent Fijet for the next generation.

Two FIJET members were awarded Croatian 2012 Marco Polo



During a very nice ceremony, two of our colleagues were awarded 2012 Marco Polo FIJET Croatia for their contribution to the promotion of two tourist destinations hosts our last two conventions. In addition, ten other Croatian journalists were awarded as well this prestigious award. Plamen published through his association all the articles written by himself and 9 of his colleagues in a book titled: Turkey in which they described most of the beautiful sites of Turkey. Brigitta from Slovenia produced with the help of her husband, a documentary film chronicling the highlights of our congress in Romania and the most beautiful views of this wonderful tourist destination. The ceremony was highlighted by the presence of the Deputy Minister of Tourism of Croatia, the former Minister,

and Tijani Haddad President of FIJET, Ertan Sandikcioglu and Draco Bulc President of FIJSLOV. The vice Minister, Tina Cubrilo and the President of the Association of Journalists of Croatia welcomed the personalities present while tracing the history of Marco Polo price and its contribution to the promotion of tourism.



“We discover The world for our readers”

Speech at the Marco Polo ceremony

By Plamen Starev



It is a great honour for me to receive the Marco Polo award. Marco Polo is not only a great traveller – he is the man who has visited places which are difficult to reach even today with the benefit of modern aircraft. He is a highly intelligent man. Most probably he kept notes of his travels, which – if we find them – will be a model of journalism that strives for the novel and the unknown.

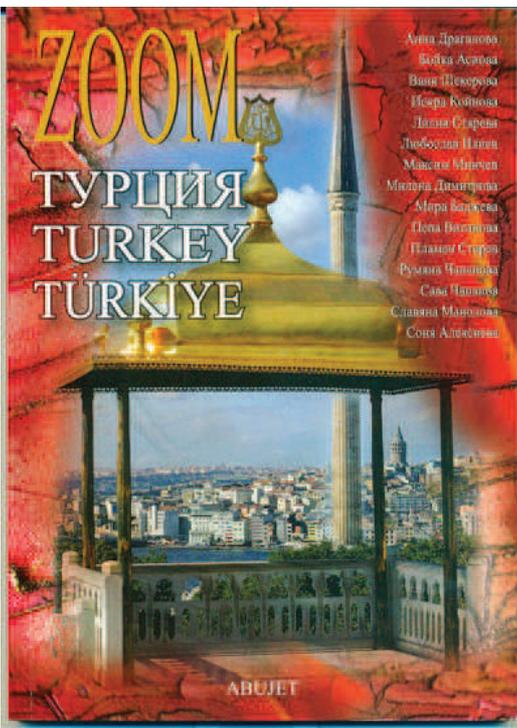
For me that is what journalism is about – to speak about novelties. And always to tell the truth.

We, Bulgarian journalists, and – I believe – the thousand of colleagues from FIJET, have set ourselves the task of discovering the world for our readers, to make it come closer and more accessible for them. For it to be interesting and alluring. To arouse their curiosity and desire to travel. And for those who cannot travel – we can also be of benefit – we tell stories from the vast world. I accept the award as a token of appreciation of the work of our colleagues from A BUJET. There are 30 of us, journalists from leading Bulgarian media.

It should be mentioned here that we deeply admire our colleagues from FIJET – Croatia, who have one of the largest organizations in FIJET, no matter that Croatia has a population of a little over 4 million, and Bulgaria has one of 7 million. Obviously you like reading, listening and watching about tourism more than we do. Maybe you are more open to the world?

So far we have published 2 books – with Never-ending China we reached China, where Marco Polo spent maybe the best years of his life. Last year we published Zoom Turkey. We like both of our books very much – even without knowing that we would win this prestigious award. Now we like them even better.

You have initiated the award. We write books. That is a good coordination. Each of our 2 associations has sought to support FIJET in its aspiration to be the centre of attraction for professional journalists who write about tourism. To be a sought-after media partner for all countries around the world irrespective of their economic development or their



location. And once again I would like to express my deep sense of gratitude for the distinction.

Strasbourg : AFJET'S GRAND PRIX AWARD CEREMONY



Text and
photos by
Jacques
Campé



Established in 1953, AFJET's Grand Prix is awarded yearly to a book or other contribution in French language covering a domestic or foreign tourist destination. On November 24, 2012 it was awarded to « LE PALAIS ROHAN » published by « Les Musées de la Ville de Strasbourg » and written by its chief curator Etienne Martin with photographs by Marc Walter. The impressive 224-page color book gives a detailed description of the Rohan Palace, a key landmark of the glorious city of Strasbourg (Alsace area/France). Sold to the public, the book will henceforward also be distributed as a gift to visiting VIPs. The ceremony was attended by numerous personalities, including Mrs Maria-Fernanda Gabriel-Hanning, member of the City Council and journalist, and Mrs Joëlle Pijaudier-Cabot, Director of Strasbourg Museums. The Rohan Palace was built between 1732 and 1741 by architect Robert de Cotte for Prince-Bishop Armand Gaston de Rohan-Soubise, putative illegitimate son of Sun King Louis the 14th. It was used successively as the residence of four cardinals of the Rohan family, City Hall and Imperial Palace at the

Next page 5



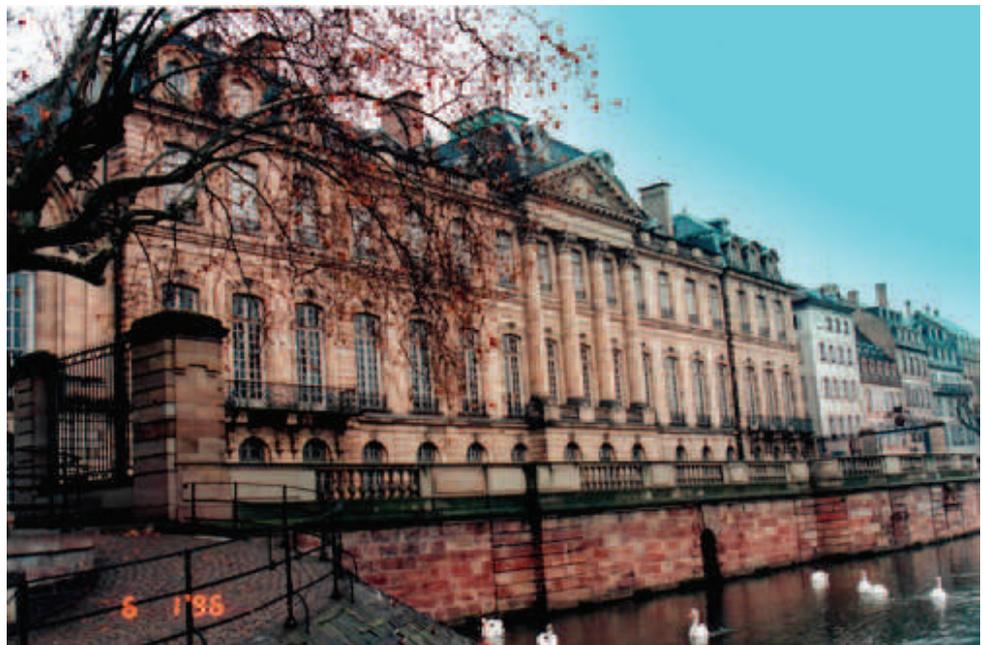
Strasbourg : AFJET'S GRAND PRIX AWARD CEREMONY



time of Napoleon the First. Nowadays, it houses three museums dedicated to Decorative Arts, Fine Arts and Archeology. Seat of the European Parliament and the Council of Europe, Strasbourg with its 275000 inhabitants is one of the most attractive cities on the Old Continent. Its city centre has been on

UNESCO's World Heritage list since 1988. It is one of those few cities that leave an enduring memory on visitors. Main other points of interest : Our Lady's Cathedral, built of pink sandstone over four centuries (1015-1439) with its 132m bell tower, houses an impressive organ, a gothic pulpit of lace stonework and a remarkable astronomic clock next to the « pillar of angels », a masterpiece of verticality with its twelve stacked sculptures crowned by the statue of Christ. The building is surrounded by a maze of small streets lined with typical houses in the local style. The most famous example of local architecture is to be found in the « Petite France » district where most houses were originally built in the 14th century. Straddling three branches of the Ill river, it was in earlier times an active centre for numerous craftsmen (millers, tanners, etc .)

In December, Strasbourg organises a world-famous Christmas market that welcomes close to four million visitors on their season's shopping spree. If you have seen Paris, the Castles of the Loire valley and the Côte d'Azur, do not miss the opportunity to visit the city at the heart of the Alsace area of beautiful France.



UBJET : "Info-UBJET" New look



Walter Roggeman
President UBJET / FIJET-Belgium

Despite difficult economic circumstances during the past year 2012, our association has been able to achieve several significant advances. We should mention first of all our activities, including the excellent general meeting in Antwerp, our summer lunch with a Brazilian show in the club "trendy" Brussels "News", the visit of the Euro Space Center Redu and the Museum of the bell Tellin.

Our next General Assembly will take place on 23 March 2013 in the beautiful Guillemins station.

One of the landmark decisions last year was undoubtedly to shift our magazine "Info-UBJET" from paper version to digital version). Its distribution increased significantly. Our magazine has become a professional media thanks to one of our newer members Alex Karpov himself editor together with a team of experienced staff.

On behalf of the Board of Directors and on my own behalf I wish to all of you

a very happy new year 2013!

UBJET General
Assembly will take
place on 23 March
2013 in Guillemins

Winter Dream

A quote from an article written

By Charles Labalue et Jean-Marie Chavée

At the invitation of Offices tourism Rhineland-Palatinate, Traben-Trarbach, Bernkastel and Koblenz, we had the chance to re-discover this beautiful region illuminated throughout the period of Christmas and New year. Aged 2000 years, Trier is the oldest city in Germany with historic, religious and Fascinating monuments which date back to the Roman period. It was indeed an unforgettable experience. Trier owes this cultural heritage from Constantine, the emperor who the 4th century, encouraged by his mother St. Helena, gave to Christians an important impetus. How not to be seduced by this beautiful city? With its Roman amphitheater, its thermal baths and the basilica.



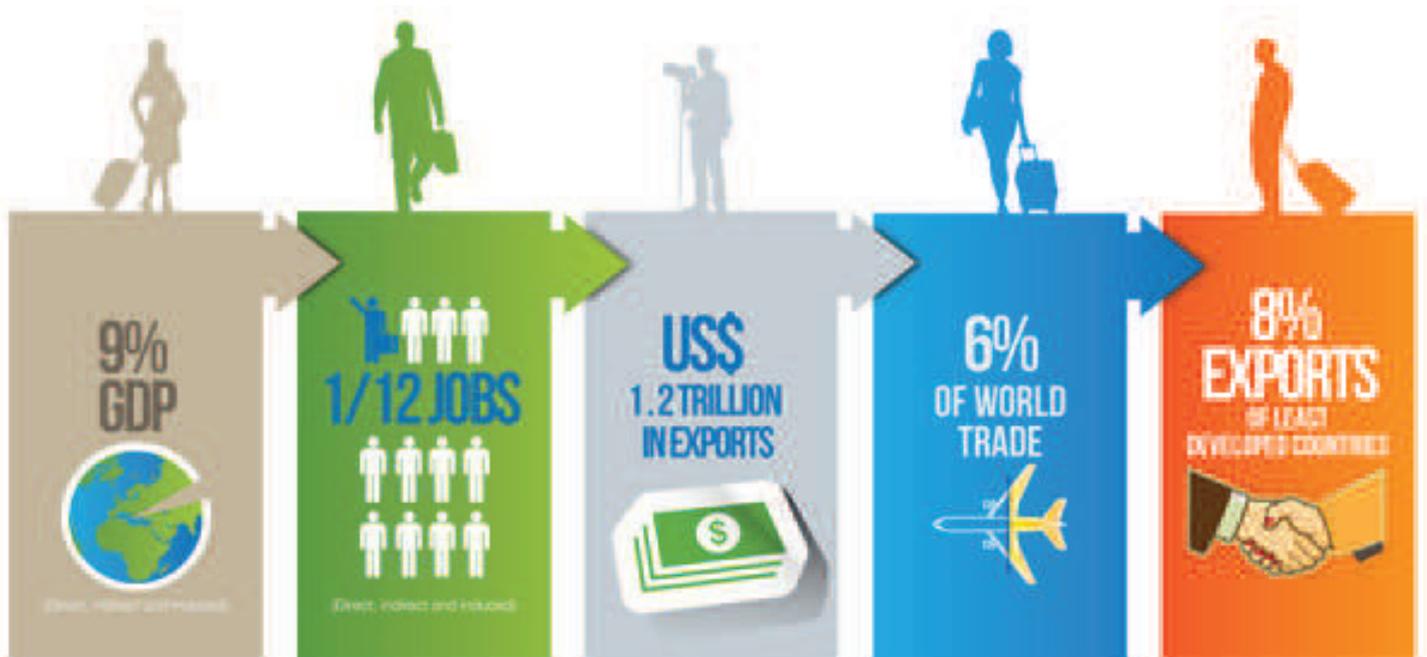


NEWS FROM UNWTO

UNWTO welcomes the world's one-billionth tourist

A British tourist visiting Madrid, Spain on 13 December has been revealed as the symbolic face of the one billion international tourists travelling in 2012. The tourist was welcomed by the Minister of Industry, Energy and Tourism of Spain, José Manuel Soria, UNWTO Secretary-General, Taleb Rifai, and the Mayor of Madrid, Ana Botella, at an event in Madrid's Museo del Prado, held to celebrate a record one billion international tourists in 2012. The event, part of the UNWTO One Billion Tourists: One Billion Opportunities campaign, recalled how tourism can create billions of opportunities for growth and development around the world (Madrid, Spain, 13 December 2012).

"Today, we welcome the symbolic arrival of the one-billionth tourist," said Mr Rifai. "The one-billionth tourist, Mrs. Dale Sheppard-Floyd from the United Kingdom, is visiting Spain for three days. During that time she will experience a new culture, meet new people, support the local economy and help to sustain the jobs of waiters, tour guides and many more working in tourism, as well as of all those whose jobs are indirectly linked to tourism such as taxi drivers, food producers or shop attendees. If we multiply this impact by one billion, we begin to understand the enormous significance of reaching this milestone." The celebration was held in Madrid's Museo del Prado, the city's most visited tourism attraction, in the presence of UNWTO representatives and Spanish tourism and private sector officials, as well as many of the museum's daily visitors from around the world. As it is impossible to know exactly where the one-billionth tourist arrived, many countries celebrated the occasion by also welcoming tourists arriving on 13 December.



WHY TOURISM MATTERS



zoom on



30 January
3 February **2013**

Fitur, the International Tourism Trade Fair, celebrates its 33rd staging from January 30 to February 3 2013.

FITUR is a global meeting point for tourism professionals and the leading trade fair for inbound and outbound Ibero American markets.

In 2012-confirming the trend towards recovery in the industry- 9,506 exhibiting companies from 167 countries/ regions, 119,322 trade participants and 91,555 people from the general public, met during FITUR to transform leisure into business and business into development. Moreover among the participation figures of note was the presence of 6,313 journalists from 54 countries, a turnout that demonstrates the importance of FITUR on the international circuit of tourism sector events.

Dates	January 30 to February 3 January 30, 31 and February 1- Only professionals February 2 and 3- Open to general public and professionals
Venue	Feria de Madrid, Madrid, Spain
Opening Hours	January 30, 31 and February 1: from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. February 2: from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. February 3: from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Tourist Buyers from all around the world will come to Madrid on FITUR's Invitation

Noticia Prensa IFEMA G Once again this year, with a view to generating business opportunities, FITUR has undertaken an ambitious Hosted Buyers Programme for the thirty-third staging of the fair. This programme consists of a carefully-selected group of guest visitors made up of leading representatives of the tourist industry who have high decision-making power. The guests have been selected based on the proposals of the companies, bodies and institutions taking part at FITUR 2013, in accordance with their promotional and marketing interests. On this occasion, around 200 buyers from around the world have been invited to attend the fair.

INTERNATIONAL TOURISM EVENTS

Academic Conference in Antalya-2013

14th to 16th January 2013
Antalya, Turkey

Website:

<http://www.westeastinstitute.com/conferences/antalya-turkey-january-14-16-2013/>

Contact person: Alexander Magill

The purpose of the WEI conference is to provide a platform for academics, researchers and professionals. We offer four tracks at our conference: Business & Economics & Management, Law & Humanities, Education & Teaching, and Health Sciences

International Forum for Health Tourism

25th to 27th January 2013

Iasi, Romania

Website:

<http://amphitheatreconferences.gm.ro/the-second-edition-of-international-forum-for-health-tourism-will-take-place-on-january/>

The International Forum for Health

Tourism aims to create a communication platform between experts in touristic and health services, in order to identify the main, specific resources and solutions for health tourism development.

Organized by: Amphitheatre Foudation



ORGANIZING SECRETARIAT:

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ITB BERLIN

6 - 10 March 2013



The whole variety of travelling is present at ITB Berlin: Destinations, tour operators, booking systems, carriers, hotels and all other suppliers who want to embellish their customers' most beautiful weeks of the year. ITB Berlin brightens your business.



2013

*Wishing FIJET a bright future
Wishing you and your family
happy new year full of joy and success*

Tijani Haddad

Message from S.G :

We remind all Associations that have not sent their suggestions for changes in our bylaws that the deadline is January 31, 2013. Thereafter, the EC will appoint a lawyer to help draft a first revised version of the bylaws which will be reviewed and voted on at the next Board of Directors meeting.