

Energy Simulation Game, Rome, 19-21 June 2008
Sascha Faradsch

On the 18th of June three students from Leiden University Douwe Cunningham (UK), Sascha Faradsch (Germany) and Christian Struwe (Denmark) traveled to Rome to take part in an energy conference discussing if the ECSC was negotiated today – how would it look?

In 1952 the ECSC was considered the start-up engine of the European integration process. The conference wanted to bring to the attention of the students the importance the European Union has today in solving thorny problems like climate change, growing dependence on energy imports, the rising price of oil and natural gas.



Colosseum in Rome

Prior to arriving in Rome we decided to have a road trip through Italy sampling some of the food and wine of Tuscany and Umbria whilst viewing the beautiful landscape and architecture of various towns we stopped at along the way.



The BeNeLux delegation

We were really excited upon arriving in Rome looking forward to the following day when we would meet all the other participants from five other corners of Europe. (Spain, Italy, Germany, Croatia, Turkey). The conference was interesting and challenging – we were split into 5 different working groups: institutional framework; research and development; climate change; energy security and the creation of an energy common market. Within each working group each participating country was able to deliver their national positions and after much discussion and debate a common position was reached. Following these meetings the groups came together and a final energy treaty was able to be drafted.



Final session, 21st June 2008

After an intensive day beers and food were in order and the whole group went to enjoy some fine local cuisine. All in all it was a very interesting conference and a nice alternative way of following the nations participating in Euro 2008 people from all countries.