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The topic of the upcoming PLOTKI #6 is “voluntary“. In PLOTKI #6 you will find accounts of volunteers from the West, working in Eastern Europe, on the one hand, and articles portraying Eastern Europeans' experience, as having become the object of Western philanthropy, on the other. What does “Western-style” voluntarism look like when faced with the reality of Eastern Europe? And how does today's young generation of Eastern Europeans leave behind the prejudices against voluntary work that communism seems to have planted into many people's heads?

Apart from the questions raised by voluntary work, PLOTKI #6 covers many other facets of “voluntary”, like voluntary exile and migration, individual choices and self-development. A young mother writes about self-sacrifice versus self-realization, while another text depicts the complicated life of some people in an ethnically mixed village, who have chosen to marry beyond the boundaries of their ethnic group.

In addition to our cover topic “voluntary”, PLOTKI #6 features a country special on Romania – a collection of articles and photographic work that was created during our ten-day seminar in Transylvania in August 2003. Among other stories you can read about the village Viscri, whose entire population is involved in the sock-knitting business and an extensive reportage on Rosia Montana – the most controversial gold mining project in Europe.

This issue is presented on a tour in Poland and Germany as part of the program “Europäischer Frühling” by the DPJW. Furthermore PLOTKI #6 is sponsored by “YOUTH” of the European Union.

For distribution locations as well as monthly updated rumours check our website www.plotki.net. Or contact us at contact@plotki.net or write to our Berlin headquarters: PLOTKI c/o Apfel Zet, Schleuse Neukölln, Lahnstr. 3-5, 12055 Berlin, Germany. Phone: 0049+30+ 68 22 48 53, Fax: 0049+ 30+ 68 22 48 54.