

Since its foundation, the Museum of European Cultures has been an important element of the yearly Berlin excursion of the Reinwardt Academy, as were since the mid 1980s both its predecessors, the Museum of European Ethnology and the European collection of the Ethnological Museum. It might not have been the most spectacular of the Berlin museums, but the museum, its collection and its staff, had much to offer to our museology students. The ways the museum answered the challenges offered by the merger of two different museums, by the revolutionary developments in the field of ethnology, and by the cultural dynamics of a new Europe, were discussed in an open and welcoming atmosphere. Also in a broader sense, the staff of the museum made – and is making – major contributions to the professional discourse on, for example, representation and participation in a multicultural society, by its exhibitions and publications. We are happy that the museum after a long period of extensive renovation work is able to re-open. The Museum of European Cultures deserves to be re-discovered by the citizens of Berlin and tourists. We, and our students, will continue to visit the museum and follow its activities with great interest.

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