



Generation Europe Debate

"The response of Europe to the Economic Crisis & Effectiveness of French EU presidency"

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The GE ambassador in the UK in cooperation with Birmingham Model UN society organised a forum on December 10th with topic "The response of Europe to the Economic Crisis & Effectiveness of French EU presidency"

The GE ambassador in his speech mentioned that France had faced very serious challenges during its presidency such as the war in Georgia, economic meltdown, and protests across individual countries in Europe against the globalisation and free market Politics (e.g. Greece). However, it did quite well. "Europe showed that united it can do better, it showed that stability comes when everyone is united under the same principles and ideas, and such unity characterises the EU today." Always in a democracy there will be people that disagree and that is the joy of democracy as long as this expression of disagreement does not come at the expense of the others, he said mentioning the unrest in Greece. In regards to the Economic Crisis Mr Repakis said "Unfortunately this crisis has now reached the real economy, in other words it has reached everyone's wallet in here. However, we see that moves such as the introduction of the Euro currency –which were severely criticised by many- has actually helped the vast majority of the EURO zone countries "stand on their feet" and prevented their economies from collapsing, and that the measures taken by EU countries in common agreements at least ease that downfall, obviously there is a lot to be done but significant measures have been taken and more are on their way"

At the end of the event everyone agreed that the French Presidency has been a relatively successful one, and that the issues that the Czech Presidency of the EU will have to deal will need careful handling.