

**Speech on Monday 15th of June 2009 at 6:30 pm
House of the Caritas, B 5, 19**

**Dear ladies and gentleman,
Dear Dr. Claus Eppe, dear Mrs. Hertlein, dear Mrs. Kemptner, dear Mrs. Krause, dear Mrs. Heyduk,**

for me it is a very great honour and as well a great pleasure, to welcome all of you, the participants of the AAMEE workshop, here in the house of the Caritas in Mannheim. My name is Regina Trösch and I'm happy to represent the Lord Mayor of the City of Mannheim, Dr. Peter Kurz.

I am allowed to bring you his greetings and as well the greetings of the whole former and as well the new chosen City Council of Mannheim, which has 48 members in this institution. The election took place on the 7'th of June and we got a very new Council. Member since 18 years, I decided to try some more 5 years. So here I am.

I hope, all of you had a good travel to Mannheim, a good entry in your hotel and found the way to this place in safety. And, when I soon have finished my speech, we will have a nice dinner on the invitation of the City of Mannheim.

But please, give me the chance to tell you some details of our beloved Mannheim. Mannheim is the second largest town in Baden Württemberg and it was our city in Baden, which decided to get together with Württemberg and established the very prosperous federal state of Baden-Württemberg.

Nearly 170 nationalities live together in our town and they live here in peace and good cooperation.

We have a University and BWL is one of the most prosperous studies here. As well we have a campus for medicine.

Cultural we have our National Theatre, where Schiller first time performed his wellknown spectacle "Die Räuber". Kunsthalle and Reiss-Engelhorn Museum are located in the middle of the City.

But as well, Mannheim is located in the middle of Europe and you can reach our town by train, by car and by airplane very easy.

As I saw the program you absolute the next two days, I was very happy, because I think there are the important cooperations our Caritas does.

You will learn, how the project "Breakfast with Teens and Seniors" works.

The Caritas Conference of the parish St. Hildegard will give you a review on the development of this project.

Myself had the honour to be chief of Caritas in the parish of "The Good Shepherd" in Mannheim Schönau. There we have a lot of poor people and the crisis we have urges us, to help as good as we can.

On Wednesday perhaps I try to join you and learn the practical recommendations.

I wish you a nice evening and a good dinner. As well I wish you good news by participating in this workshop:

"Active Ageing of Migrant Elders across Europe (AAMEE)"