

Press release:

re:publica 2013 More international than ever.

Berlin, 28 February 2013 – Under the motto IN/SIDE/OUT, re:publica continues its successes from previous past years. Internationality and co-operation will be represented more than ever and are central focal points at this year's conference. We are not only looking to break down the barriers between the digital and analogue society, in order to tackle old problems with new solutions. We are also looking to initiate and strengthen networks beyond national boundaries. re:publica is not only a German conference but also highly regarded internationally. Today, we would like to share some information on our international activities.

Global Innovation Lounge at re:publica

In co-operation with the GIZ (Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit), the German Agency for International Cooperation, and AfriLabs, a virtual network, we invite you to the Global Innovation Lounge at re:publica. Its focus will rest on innovation hubs from Africa, Asia, and South America, which will discuss their experiences in promoting technologies, business innovations, and community building. On side of the African hubs, all representatives of AfriLabs will be present. This will mark the first time that all AfriLabs members will be personally present at one single event! Among them, one of the most influential African blogger and founder of Ushahidi, Erik Hersman.

Embassy reception on the second evening of re:publica

On 7 May, the second evening of re:publica, we again invite members of foreign embassies to a special reception. Berlin is not only an important centre for new networks but is also making efforts in becoming a new incubator for new enterprises. Here, new projects, businesses, and technologies are created daily, which attract the attention of international observers, investors, and creative minds. What would be more relevant than to come into contact with this international scene at re:publica and take in new impulses, surprising insights, and fresh inspiration?

The Enterprise Europe Network at re:publica

This year, re:publica will be host to the annual meeting of the ICT Industry & Services Sector Group. The Sector Group is part of the Enterprise Europe Network, a network initiated by the European Commission, which brings together science, co-operation, and knowledge exchange. With nearly 600 member organisations in around 50 countries, the Enterprise Europe Network is one of the largest networks of its kind and represented, via diverse Sector Groups, in many branches and economic areas. During re:publica, a unique international B2B co-

operation exchange will help to match make and the ICT Sector Group team will inform participants on topics such as EU funding, market access, technology transfer, and international networking.

#### re:publica represented at the Service Jam Zaragoza

As a co-operation partner, re:publica will take part at the creative workshop "Service Jam Zaragoza" from 1 to 3 March. For a whole weekend, creative minds from across Europe will come together in order to develop new ideas and concepts for innovative services. By the end of the weekend, the results will be presented to the world via the web. (More info at: <http://servicejamzaragoza.com>)

The transformation of the digital society is happening across all national borders and continents. re:publica creates a framework in which we and our visitors not only scrutinise this processes but also actively encourage it. Our increased international connections and activities help us in this.

Andreas Gebhard, chief executive of the republica GmbH, is looking forward to the event of the year with increased anticipation: "Year after year, we have more international guests attending re:publica which makes us very happy! This year, we are expecting a real surge in international visitors. Our business festival has developed from a national must-attend event to a Global Digital Society Gathering!"

#### **About re:publica:**

re:publica is Germany's largest conference on weblogs, social media, and the digital society. It sees itself as a political, cultural, and particularly as a very young conference which has evolved from its founding in 2007 as a blogger meeting, with 700 visitors, to *the* event for internet enthusiasts and professionals with 4.500 visitors. re:publica is a republica GmbH event. For over a decade, its associates, newthinking communications and Spreeblick Verlag, have been involved in internet-political themes and various aspects of digital culture and the digital society and run two of the most well-known weblogs in Germany: netzpolitik.org and spreeblick.com.

**re:publica will take place from 6 to 8 May at STATION-Berlin.**

#### **More information at:**

<http://re-publica.de>

<http://www.facebook.com/republica>

<http://twitter.com/republica>

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