



Project Reference: 2019-3-IT03-KA205-017627

## WP11 – Preparatory works



## **Youth Work for Integration**

**Project Reference: 2019-3-IT03-KA205-017627**

### **Work Package II**

#### **ASSOCIATION FOR PROGRESS, EDUCATION AND LOBBYING NEL SKOPJE**

**Work 1: describe at least two activities or projects realized by your organization focusing on integration of migrants**

Among the first projects we were part of was “From borders to European integration – itineraries from yesterday to today” which took place in four different countries in the 2012. It was a project under the Europe for Citizens programme founded by the European Commission. This project raised awareness among the participants about the topic of migration and the importance of integration of migrants in the society. It allowed them to engage in a dialogue and discuss various themes related to borders such as urban exclusion, ghettoization, multiculturalism, physical borders, social exclusion and linguistic barriers. Through this project the participants had also the chance to visit some important places related to migration, such as former borders in Berlin, Checkpoint Charlie-the crossing point between eastern and western Germany during the Cold war, museums telling stories about the Nazi regime period etc. These experiences enabled the participants to better understand the situations and conditions the migrants have gone through and how difficult it has been to them and also why is it important to speak more on this topic.

Another project we took part in was “Youth Mobility in the Age of Crisis”. It was a seminar during which different aspects of migration were explored and discussed. An accent was put on marginalized groups, especially the Roma community known as one of the most migratory and discriminated minority group in Europe. Additionally, topics such as integration, inclusion and exclusion were tackled in order to give the participants insight of the situation around Europe related to migration. Since all countries involved in the project were facing migration issues there were many fruitful discussions during which the participants could share knowledge on the topic, best practices and come up with ideas for improving the situation in their local community, at least when it comes to inclusion and involvement of migrants into everyday life.

**Work 2: describe at least two good practices that, according to your experience, can highlight the power of youth work (and the commitment of youth workers) about promoting and/or improving the integration of migrants.**

Youth work and youth workers are an important part of the puzzle for integration of migrants in the society. Only by speaking openly about this topic, by which they raise awareness among people about this issue, they already do so much for the migrants. However, this alone is not enough. There is a need for actual actions that will help this group of people to be integrated and included in the local community.

Providing possibilities for education and information of migrants is maybe one of the most important thing youth workers can do. Almost always migrants that join a certain country do not know the language of the country they go to, so in order to help them integrate it is very important to help them first of all to learn the language and give them information about how the things in that specific countries work. This can be really helpful for them, because once they learn the language they can use their knowledge and skills in order to find a job, provide for them and their family, it also enables kids go to school, make friends etc. All of this can be achieved by involving volunteers from the local community or EVS volunteers and in that way migrants will get the help they need, volunteers will get some experience, learn new skills and competencies and in the same time through this action there will be an increased awareness among youngsters about the issue.

Organizing local activities involving both migrants and the local community! This is an amazing opportunity for migrants to get in touch with local people, and in the same way for local people to meet migrants, get to know them better, their history, the reasons for their migration and the difficulties they had while on their journey. Migration is a topic that is rarely discussed and this can help to raise awareness among people, and help migrants integrate better in the society. This can also be done with younger kids so they can learn from the very young age to be more acceptable and open-minded. By doing so, a change in the society can be made because once they grow up they will already be aware of the migration that is happening around the world and will be able to react in a more positive manner.

Creating projects on the topic of migration. It is very important that more and more people get to learn more about migration if we want to improve the way society accepts migrants. Of course youth workers cannot reach everyone, but by implementing at least one project on the topic they will already reach to a good amount of people in a direct or indirect way. Also, very often these projects motivate and encourage young people to become advocates for a change which is also beneficial for all parties involved.



**Work 3: please indicate the links to your communication activities about the Learning Teaching Training activity made in Skopje in September 2021.**

<http://www.pel.mk/short-term-joint-staff-training-project-youth-work-integration/>

[https://twitter.com/AssociationPEL/status/1439988391823675395?s=20&t=Ncqr\\_Ztq\\_y5hKeWyR3Ybog](https://twitter.com/AssociationPEL/status/1439988391823675395?s=20&t=Ncqr_Ztq_y5hKeWyR3Ybog)

<https://www.facebook.com/157310164365243/posts/4486119654817584/>

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### **Work Package II**

#### **ASOCIATIA TINERILOR CU INITIATIVA CIVICA**

**Work 1: describe at least two activities or projects realized by your organization focusing on integration of migrants**

##### **1. The Refugees Song**

ATIC participated in a Youth exchange with the overall aim to put choral music at the service of mutual understanding, reflection on the situation of migrants and refugees in the world in general and Europe in particular, as well as to offer a framework for debate towards solutions of progress for our countries where young people play a central role.

##### **2. Learning Inclusive Forms of Exchange**

ATIC was partner of this project in Villa Nova, Portugal, aiming to promote a set of activities that lead to results with a national and international impact, leading to the adoption of social inclusion behaviors and respect for diversity, leading to global mobilization around the problem of exclusion and discrimination.

**Work 2: describe at least two good practices that, according to your experience, can highlight the power of youth work (and the commitment of youth workers) about promoting and/or improving the integration of migrants.**

1. To send youth worker abroad to exchange experience and acquire new skills. In this way the young people from our community can take back experiences and tools helpful for creating project inside our local contexts.
2. To realise mobility events funded by EU in our community, led by youth workers, involving migrants or foreigner people. In this way we connect EU, local communities and minorities of our geographical context.



**Work 3: please indicate the links to your communication activities about the Learning Teaching Training activity made in Skopje in September 2021.**

<https://www.facebook.com/AsociatiaTinerilorcuInitiativaCivica/posts/pfbid0ZC3PkSiUpsHqaDcJ4dNHTdQtMgDeVprPKd8e3Y1bndgs9F6XkTrX7G7fSEAj8jH9I>

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#### **Asociación Multideportiva Euexia**

**Work 1: describe at least two activities or projects realized by your organization focusing on integration of migrants**

- Every week we realize a spanish workshop for all the foreign people who are living in our town. It is a free program, focused on improving the migrants'itegration through language exchanges.
- We coordinate the "Extremadura Solidarity Corps" project in Caritas, an organization supporting migrants, refugees and homeless people. Every year a volunteer coming from a different EU country, works there to support, help and promote the integration of these people with few opportunities.





**Work 2: describe at least two good practices that, according to your experience, can highlight the power of youth work (and the commitment of youth workers) about promoting and/or improving the integration of migrants.**

- Participating in training courses and seminars related to this topic
- Realize a volunteering experience, both in-country or abroad, with people in need



**Work 3: please indicate the links to your communication activities about the Learning Teaching Training activity made in Skopje in September 2021.**

<https://www.facebook.com/207280442680523/posts/6004978362910673/>



## Youth Work for Integration

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### Work Package II

**Work 1: describe at least two activities or projects realized by your organization focusing on integration of migrants**

In our recent project Learning Through Art, which took place at 17-25th February in Antalya, we created art projects such as designing clothes, stop motion videos, giving public concerts to invite people to learn about recycling. These sub-projects were created by people from 7 different countries, few in whom were migrants, designing a way of communication and creation. By our own experiences on migration, we came up with these projects in order to encourage people communicate without fear with migrants or foreigners. We reached out to locals, taught them sustainable ways of creation and communication by being a part of these projects. Breaking the barriers of language, through these projects we encouraged people to try out new skills and use them again and again to create and communicate better in a language free scale such as creating a basic stop motion video.

Short films enable young people with a migrant background to express their opinions and ideas freely and creatively. In one of our recent projects Get Your Own Picture, international creatives come together to shoot a film to their stories, which released on festivals and digital platforms, in a free speech and barrier free environment. These films included art films, music videos and various kinds, enabling the participants to reveal their skills in the medium that they were already interested, or in the new mediums that they never had tried. In order to boost their creative thinking and improve their skills, they participated trainees hold by us. The aim was to share diverse voices and boost interacting with both locals and migrants, as well as people with few opportunities as some films were described verbally or with subtitles, as they got displayed for wide range of audiences.

**Work 2: describe at least two good practices that, according to your experience, can highlight the power of youth work (and the commitment of youth workers) about promoting and/or improving the integration of migrants.**

In Learning Through Art, participants created a screenplay which students could stop and change the lines to direct the flow into a positive direction. It was about a family dinner, in which the parents gave a hard time to their to-be-married son and his migrant girlfriend. It was all humorous but not a happy-ending play. By changing the lines, children could play with their destiny. Encouraging shy children to take was a really challenge on this one, but participants made it by leading them to the way. They replaced the racist father, instead they welcomed the girl and ask questions about her background. When the boy was pissed at their mother for her attitude, they replaced him and explained the situations at her, tried to have a conversation and change her mind. At the end of the day, the kids explored how social prejudices, racism and sexism take place in our daily and social lives and how they can develop tolerance for other people.

In our projects, we aim to guide our youths to share their voices through a common topic, such as environmental crisis, sustainability and social problems. We worked together on which methods that we can create awareness, to protect the world we live in all together. For example, the target group of the project "It's My Life - Short Films by Immigrant Young People" are young people and young adults from immigrant families, in particular newly immigrated young people and young adults with special integration needs. We invite young people, regardless of their migration background to get creative in front or behind the camera, to encourage them to open up new and old forms of social, cultural and political concerns.



**Work 3:** please indicate the links to your communication activities about the Learning Teaching Training activity made in Skopje in September 2021.

Marlon Vogel knows the details.