

# **Youth for Europe – development of participation of young people in the forming of European civil society**

**Report of the international training  
for workers with young people**

**Polski Instytut Badań i Innowacji**

Poland

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**Európa Ifjúsága Egyesület**

Hungary

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**Asociatia Tinerii 3D**

Romania

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**ADEFIS JUVENTUD INTERNACIONAL**

Spain

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## **ALTER EGO**

Greece

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### **Hellenic Youth Participation**

Greece

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### **Salihli Merkez Anadolu**

Turkey

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### **Erbaa Egitim ve Yardimlasma Dernegi**

Turkey

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### **Rokiškio jaunimo centras**

Lithuania

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### **Associação Intercultural Amigos da Mobilidade**

Portugal

## GENERAL INFORMATION

**Title of the project:** Youth for Europe – development of participation of young people in the forming of European civil society

**Place:** Kraków, Poland

Kraków is one of the most beautiful town in Poland, situated in the South of Poland.

Kraków is a perfect example of Polish history, culture and tradition.

<http://www.krakow.pl/english/>

**Date:** 11.09 – 18.09.2015

**Participants:** Workers age 20-35 who have experience working with young people, active members of non-governmental organizations and public institutions on a daily basis working with youth and youth leaders interested in using international cooperation to increase their development strategies according with the goals their organization. 22 people from 8 countries - 2 per organization + 2 trainers from Poland.

**Partners:** Poland, Hungary, Romania, Spain, Greece, Turkey, Lithuania, Portugal.

## PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The project “Youth for Europe - development of participation of young people in the forming of European civil society” associated over 20 people from eight countries: Poland, Hungary, Romania, Spain, Greece, Turkey, Lithuania and Portugal

Training was dedicated to active members of non-governmental organizations and public institutions working with young people and youth leaders interested in using international cooperation in order to enhance their development strategies according with the objectives of their organization.

It were affect various aspects of European citizenship. The main objective of the course was developing a sense of belonging to Europe, to show that everyone is equal and has got a place in Europe, to promote cooperation in the area cooperation of youth.

Our project involved performing a training course. This course aimed to work out and improvement of tools and methods used in work with young people, increasing the creativity of the staff working with young people and activating them in the international community.

The themes of the project were: citizenship, solidarity, rule of law, cooperation. Specific work methods that we used: discussions, group work, presentations, simulation games, game city, meeting with local institutions, brainstorming, role play.

Our goal was to develop knowledge and motivation of participants to a critical understanding of European programs for youth and their potential to promote European citizenship dimension in youth work. During the training our goal was to expand the knowledge of participants on the role of historical and current role of the European institutions, formal meanings and ways of expression of European citizenship. We wanted to encourage the participants to reflect on

European citizenship, identity, the need to promote key values: such as the protection of human rights, participation in the development of democracy and respect for cultural diversity.

We would have like also create a new relationship partner, working together on new projects, improve knowledge and skills of youth workers in the preparation of international educational projects.

Also we wanted to develop the skills necessary to ensure that to be an active leader of change and development and provide the knowledge necessary to carry out projects related to the theme of European citizenships.

## RESULTS

Just as we expected, due to its subject matter, the training course Youth for Europe, has achieved great popularity among young people and youth workers. As reiterated by the participants, discussion on topics related to the crisis in Europe, the influx of immigrants, the problems of young people on the labor market and starting their own families is very important.

Everything due to continuing crisis of European values, more often human rights are violated, it comes to terrorist acts against nationality and religious presenting a risk to integration and European solidarity. Participants also observed in Europe an increasing number of Eurosceptics and this figure is also reflected in the European Parliament. Our training was then a great response to these changes.

## **Thanks to a course training in our project participants were:**

- Increasing knowledge about active participation;
- Increasing the knowledge, competencies and skills on helping young people cope with the problems faced by young people;
- Increase their competence in the field of informal education, practical ways of its implementation;
- Improve the tools and methods used to encourage and involve youth in the structure of their organizations;
- Joint search for new, innovative approaches to the topic of youth participation;
- Develop ideas for joint projects;
- Improve their language skills.

After a week of workshops, courses in Krakow, participants will agree on some important problems of young people in the countries of Europe together with Turkey.

## **Introducing a report on set things:**

- The influx of thousands of immigrants who take jobs and money from the state social;
- Fear of the Islamization of Europe and persecution based on religion;
- Increasing fear of terrorist acts;
- The problem of finding a job on favorable terms, for example: a contract of employment, with paid insurance;
- Unpaid internships, after which there is guaranteed employment;
- Inability to defer money to buy an apartment - the result is continuous rent a flat or apartment with parents;
- Unstable financial situation and the lack of stability and security, which negatively affects start a family and decide on its augmentation;
- Exploitation of young people to work dirt-cheap;

- Too high number of very well-educate;
- Lack of prospects for a stable life without credit for 30 years;
- Work on the black market;

### **Proposed by the participants solve that problems:**

- Adaptation of children and young people to the labor market - incitement to apprenticeship and internship as a student;
- Loud speaking about violations of labor rights in the company;
- Teaching youth tolerance for other religions and nationalities;
- Engaging in social activities in their countries opposed to the use of young people in the labor market;
- Engaging in social activities in their countries to promote racial equality, ethnic and religious citizens of Europe;
- Government assistance for the purchase of apartments for young people;
- Government support in obtaining first employment contract;
- Financial support to countries affected by the war in Africa to help people, instead of allowing them to travel to Europe;