



INFO PACK FOR PARTNERS

The type of project:
Network Intercultural Action – Training course

Title of project
“Ambassadors of Intercultural Dialogue Education – A.I.D.E.”

Present project, consisting of 20 participants from 10 different partner organisations, of ALF's hellenic network, addresses social issues through ***intercultural dialogue education***. The activities of this project will be based on combined formal and non-formal education, dealing with topics of intolerance, discrimination, confrontation (of various forms), hateful speech, etc. **“Ambassadors of Intercultural Dialogue Education”** will be composed of three separate seminars, each lasting one week. During the seminars, participants will be involved into several activities, aiming in the promotion of intercultural dialogue and human rights, in order to acquire new skills, attitudes and notions, regarding civil values such as active citizenship, social inclusiveness and prosperity. Additionally, after the project, participants are expected to return to their organisations determined to abolish stereotypes and prejudice in their local communities, through realisation of their own initiatives that will multiply the effects of this project.

Who we are:

"United Societies of Balkans" (USB) is a non-governmental organisation, founded in Thessaloniki in 2008, by a team of active young people, socially sensitised, having rich experience regarding voluntary programs. Our main vision is promotion of youth mobility, youth involvement in volunteering and further sensitising around social issues.

Balkans and Eastern Europe are geographical regions with many cultural features which offer a broad spectrum of actions and youth involvement initiatives. The organisation was created as a response to the pressure of constant changes in the Balkan and Eastern European region, under the need of a better social environment.



Key areas of our organisation's activities concern defense of human rights, conduction of youth exchanges and training courses, that will bring young people from Balkans and Europe together, hosting of local educational seminars and multimedia production.

Main goals of the organisation:

- To promote values of non-formal learning, volunteering, active citizenship and democracy for the creation of a better future for European youth.
- To promote human rights, solidarity and respect for diversity.
- To get involved with minorities and immigrants.
- To build healthy cooperation bridges between countries of the Balkans and Eastern Europe with the rest of Europe.
- To locate and multiply the special cultural attributes of our societies.
- To abolish prejudices and stereotypes between Balkan countries.

About Anna Lindh Foundation:

The purpose of the Anna Lindh Foundation is to bring people together from across the Mediterranean to improve mutual respect between cultures and to support civil society working for a common future for the region.

Since 2005, the ALF has launched and supported action across fields impacting on mutual perceptions – education, culture and media – as well as developing a region-wide Network of over 4000 civil society organisations. Through its action and reflection the ALF aims to contribute to the development of an Intercultural Strategy for the Euro-Mediterranean Region, providing recommendations to decision-makers and institutions and advocating for shared values.

The main scope of the ALF is overcoming the misunderstandings and stereotypes which affect relations between and within the societies of the Region, a task which became of utmost importance in the last decade. As a contribution to the creation of a space of prosperity, coexistence and peace, the ALF works to restore trust in dialogue and bridge the gaps in mutual perceptions, as well as promoting diversity and coexistence.



About the Network Intercultural Action:

As a result of the economic crisis in Greece, raising levels of unemployment and extreme right wing parties have sharpened intolerance towards many youth, especially those who belong to socially vulnerable groups (refugees, LGBTQI, roma, etc). In order to enhance social integration it is essential that we create a generation of Human Rights defenders that promote Intercultural Dialogue and peaceful conflict resolutions. Current project is totally compatible with the objectives of the Anna Lindh Foundation. The specific addressed objectives of the "N.I.A." are:

- Tackling intolerance, stereotypes and other key socio-cultural concerns, promoting mutual respect within and between local communities;
- Empowering Euro-Med civil society organisations to work on intercultural dialogue through local collaborations.

This project enhances social and civic values, such as interculturalism, equality, solidarity, tolerance and inclusion, while it promotes active citizenship.

Training course activities:

The realisation of the project will consist of three separate seminars (first seminar: Intercultural Dialogue and Human Rights, second seminar: Intercultural Dialogue and Conflict Management, third seminar: The step from Xenophobia to Xenophilia).

- Online preliminary/preparatory activities
- Mapping our communities
- Team building (comfort in approach, environment for fertile discussions)
- Intercultural workshops (embracing diversity, respect towards the human rights)
- Experiential learning (mental broadening, use of appropriate arguments)
- Multilateral/bilateral debating (constructive and mutually gainful approach, compromise against confrontation)



- Thought shower (sharing impressions about the project, plans about future collaboration)
- Follow up networking (aiming broader future projects)

Target group:

Youth workers with some similar experience, who want to enhance their capacity related to issues such as stereotyping and intolerance, through experiential activities based on non-formal education.

Objectives:

- To build a new generation of youth workers who are able to deal with issues such as stereotyping and intolerance and are able to prevent or resolve intercultural conflicts, through experiential activities based on intercultural dialogue methods.
- To strengthen the participants' understanding of key concepts such as intercultural dialogue and intercultural education and to share the realities and challenges they face in their daily lives, in order to identify mutual problems and consolidate common practices to solve them.
- To reinforce civil society with a new generation of Mentors, Trainers and Project Coordinators able to promote the values of intercultural dialogue and to soothe negative aspects of economic crisis, hampering social integration, in Greece.

Working language: English – all participants must be able to actively communicate using English language.

Period of realisation: May, July and October 2016

Location: Thessaloniki, Greece

Partners:



- PRAXIS
- AENAO
- SCI Hellas
- System and G
- KANE
- EDRA
- Association of Active Youths of Florina
- UNESCO Youth Club of Thessaloniki
- YOU in EUROPE

Funding: 100% of accommodation and travel cost (Apex tickets) will be covered after receiving original receipts.

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