

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Youth Exchange: Youth Ambassadors for Change

9th – 17th May 2017 (Cascais, Portugal)

DEAR INTERESTED PARTICIPANTS

Rota Jovem, a youth association from *Portugal*, in collaboration with other organizations from *Armenia, Lebanon, Spain, Greece, Ukraine, Macedonia (FYROM) Hungary, Bulgaria and Serbia* is organizing an Erasmus+ multimeasure project around the topic of **migration, identity and human rights**.

With this multimeasure project we aim at discussing the issues of (forced) migration, refugees and the changes in societies that are now shaping European Union, analysing how notions of citizenship, cultural insecurity and fear of otherness have impacted on personal and community lives, policies and mostly mentalities and how basic democratic values are being disregarded. We wish to bring up the importance of DIALOGUE (dialogical learning, the dialogical self) and how it can change positively the way we self-reflect and the way we deal with others. We hope to contribute to a bigger awareness regarding intercultural and interreligious dialogue, self-reflection, to provide basic tools to decipher hate speech and most of all to develop a feeling of a shared humanity based on international solidarity and cooperation.

OBJECTIVES OF THE PROJECT “MIGRATION AND OTHERNESS”

1. to reflect on the historical and contemporary notions related to the topic (refugee, migrant, citizenship, national belonging, cohesion otherness, interculturality, interreligious dialogue...)
2. to acknowledge the importance of international solidarity and cooperation in a globalized world and the role of youth work in it;
3. to reflect on the notion of DIALOGUE and construction of one’s identity;
4. to analyse one’s fears, prejudices and opportunities for self-development;
5. to identify hate speech and political/religious extremism speech and be able to deconstruct it and confront it;
6. to understand the importance of media in defining political and sociological discourses and how it has shaped public opinion and policies regarding the refugee crisis and migration policies;
7. to reflect on the power of civil society and the responsibility of non-state actors in the defense and improvement of Human Rights;
8. to empower participants with new competences (theoretical background, life skills, attitudes of tolerance and empathy) to develop critical and change-oriented youth work in their local communities;

9. to create a transnational network of civil society organizations and youngsters which, in their own terms, work and collaborate for the defense of human rights and democratic values with and for youngsters.

The project **Migration and Otherness** consists in:

- ✓ the **Youth Exchange- Youth Ambassadors for Change (May 9th-17th May 2017)**
- ✓ the *Training Course- Don't fear the refugee! (perspectives on hate speech and fear of otherness relating to refugees)* (to be held after the summer 2017)

CONTEXT OF THE YOUTH EXCHANGE

With the Youth Exchange **Youth Ambassadors for change** we aim at discussing with and among youngsters the issues of (forced) migration, identity and citizenship, human rights and interculturality.

Living in a globalized and interdependent world has changed greatly the way both individuals and communities see and analyse themselves. The feelings of safety and immutability of the local environment and of the nation-state are no longer possible and in many contexts have been highly defied. Modern identities are not unidimensional anymore and individuals are required to adapt themselves constantly to *otherness* and *difference*. The current events of (forced) migration, the creation of multicultural societies and the intense exchange between individuals from different backgrounds has created a new promising typology of modern individuals, but it has also deepened the fear towards foreigners and migrants/refugees and is pushing people and societies towards nationalist/fundamentalist attitudes. In the most extreme cases, these ideas have generated physical violence and even desire of extermination.

We are inviting partners from different geographic areas, distinct characteristics and coming from countries with specific political and social contexts. **The idea is that at least one of the youngsters participating in the Youth Exchange can later on be a participant in the Training Course (after Summer 2017) and make a connection between the two activities.** We wish to create a multicultural space where everybody involved can deeply reflect about what constitutes their identity(ies), what are the most important values in life for them, what are they willing to fight for and how can they open up to otherness and difference. We wish to bring up the importance of **DIALOG** (dialogical learning, the dialogical self) and how it can change positively the way we self-reflect and the way we deal with others.

OBJECTIVES OF THE YOUTH EXCHANGE

1. to reflect on the notion of Human Rights and its reach;
2. to reflect on the impact of forced migration in both individuals and communities;
3. to reflect on the different meanings of citizenship, national belonging, cohesion and otherness;
4. to reflect on the notion of DIALOG and construction of one's identity
5. to analyse one's fears, prejudices and opportunities for self-development;
6. to acknowledge the importance of international solidarity and cooperation in a globalized world;
7. to identify hate speech and be able to deconstruct it and confront it;
8. to develop intercultural and interreligious life skills and learn from good practices;
9. to reflect on the power of civil society and the responsibility of non-state actors in the defense and improvement of Human Rights;
10. to empower youngsters to develop tools for action and reflection;
11. to create a transnational network of civil society organizations which collaborate for the defense of human rights and democratic values.

METHODOLOGY:

We will use mainly the **non-formal methodology** in order to create a real dynamic and active participation from participants, who are expected to contribute with real input and reflections to the discussions. Theoretic and academic information will also be discussed. Working language is **English**.

TARGET GROUP & CONDITIONS:

4 youngsters + 1 youth leader between 16 and 26 (leader can be older, but never below 18) (preferably gender mixed) from each country (5 in total) who are concerned with Human Rights in general and migrants/refugees and hate speech issues in particular and wish to develop further projects in this area for their organizations and local communities. Participants will be required to prepare themselves before coming into the Youth Exchange, including preparing some modules/workshops to discuss with other youngsters during the Y.E It is highly valued if the participants belong to a **minority** (ethnic, religious, sexual...).

Participants are responsible for supporting and helping their Sending Organization and Rota Jovem before, during and after the Youth Exchange.

Selection of Participants is done by each SENDING ORGANIZATION.

COVERED COSTS:

All costs, including 100% of travel costs (if they are not higher than those established by the [European Commission](#) in relation to the [distance for mobility](#) of **youth exchanges**), visa, accommodation and food, are covered by the programme. Other expenses on free time are the responsibility of the participants.

Extras costs with the trips will also be paid by the participants (this is why once the group is formed, the leader with the permission of the Sending organization should be by the trips).

Travel and visa expenses will be reimbursed by bank transfer at the end of the Youth Exchange. If there are some financial complications, both Sending Organization and Rota Jovem should be informed by the leader of the group and the participants involved.

ACCOMODATION:

Fundação/ **Colónia Balnear “O Século”**

Av. Marginal, 4350 S. Pedro do Estoril 2765-246 Estoril.

30 minutes away from the city center LISBON (the capital) –easily reached by public transportation

Shared rooms of 12 beds (mixed and non-mixed gender will be available). There's no need to bring anything regarding accommodation.

Meals are the responsibility of Rota Jovem. Dietary options will be taken into account.

CONTACT PERSONS:

Rota Jovem (Portugal)

Ana Montanha (f)

E-mail address: goeurope@rotajovem.com

Telephone: 00351 21 486 2005/ 00351 91 384 0069

Website: www.rotajovem.com

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/associacaorotajovem>

Sending Organization in your home country: check last page

ROTA JOVEM:

[Rota Jovem](#) is a non-profit Youth Association based in Cascais, which promotes and supports activities for young people. With 22 years of existence, it has about than 1600 members, mostly youngsters from 16 to 30 years old.

Rota Jovem's activities are open to its members and also to young people from the community in general, and they take place at a local, national and international level, developing and exploring partnerships and networks with other organizations working with young people, aiming always at giving youngsters the opportunity to develop their ideas, their dreams and having all the support to do it.

Rota Jovem's structure promotes the voluntary work of several young people, and its main areas of action are: environment, free time occupation in the area of sports, active citizenship, adventure and culture. There are also international activities such as youth exchanges, EVS, Leonardo da Vinci mobility internships and international workcamps.

PARTNER ORGANIZATIONS IN YOUTH EXCHANGE

PARTNERS (SENDING ORGANIZATIONS)	COUNTRY	CONTACT PERSON	E-MAIL/ WEBSITE	APPROVED AMOUNT FOR TRIPS <i>in EUR (per person)</i>	APPROVED AMOUNT FOR VISA <i>in EUR (per person)</i>
Civil Society Institute NGO (CSI)	Armenia	Mariam Sargsyan	mariam@csi.am http://www.csi.am/	620	100 <i>(including insurance and trips)</i>
Media Association for Peace (MAP)	Lebanon	Vanessa Bassil	vanessa.bassil@maplebanon.org http://maplebanon.org/	620	100 <i>(including insurance and trips)</i>
InterAlia	Greece	Boyka Boneva/ Anna Cheimona	boneva@interaliaproject.com anna.cheimona@gmail.com http://www.interaliaproject.com/	270	x
Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia (HCHR)	Serbia	Izabela Kisc/ Jelena Dzombic Stefan Jeremic	kisiczabela@gmail.com dzombic.jelena@gmail.com jeremic.stefan.oghobg@gmail.com http://www.helsinki.org.rs/	270	x
Esplais Catalans	Spain	Irene Asensio Nerin/ Cira Diakhaby	internacional@esplac.cat cira.dg@hotmail.com http://www.esplac.cat/	170	x
Rota Jovem	Portugal	Ana Montanha/ Graziano Tullio	goeurope@rotajovem.com	20	x