



European IntercultuRal Education towards a New Era of Understanding

Public Report

5th–13th December Palermo, Italy

ERASMUS+ programme, Key Action 1 - Mobility of Youth Workers.



Co-funded by the Erasmus+ Programme of the European Union



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Introduction: What EIRENE has been?

EIRENE- European IntercultuRal Education towards a New Era of Understanding has been a 8- day training course (TC) under Key Action 1- Learning Mobility of Individuals within Erasmus + programme.

The aim of the project was to establish a bridge that covered the gap through the promotion of cooperation as a behavioural model. In fact, it layed the basis for a domino effect among youth workers, youth leaders, youth advisors and project managers working in the field of youth and their respective youth.

Partners:

Coordinator: CESIE (Italy)

Platform AGORA - Active Communities for Development Alternatives (Bulgaria)

INTER ALIA (Greece)

Duha-UNITED (Czech Republic)

School of Social Work, Rotterdam University (Netherlands)

Associação para a Formação Profissional e Desenvolvimento de Montijo - AFPDM (Portugal)

Unión Romaní (Spain)

Young Partners for Civil Society Development Association (Romania)

DBD- Divadlo bez domova (Slovakia)

Municipality of Kochani (Macedonia)

System and Generation Association - S&G (Turkey)

Mersey Media CIC (UK)

Cooperation and Development Institute -CDI- (Albania)

Beyond Barriers Association (Albania)

PRONI Centar for youth development Brcko (Bosnia and Herzegovina)

Kosovo Young Lawyers association (Kosovo)

Montenegrin Association for New Technologies - MANT (Montenegro)

OSMEH (Serbia)

Participants and countries:

40 youth workers, youth leaders, youth advisors and project managers from Bulgaria, Greece, Netherlands, Portugal, Italy, Spain, Romania, Slovakia, Macedonia, Turkey, UK, Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Montenegro, Serbia.

Duration of the TC:

05/12/2015-13/12/2015

Venue:

Palermo (Italy)

Objectives:

- To **strengthen** youth workers, youth advisors and project managers working in the field of youth's participatory attitude and key competences, while exploring intercultural relations and new socio-political perspectives;
- To **promote** intercultural dialogue through non-formal education to the benefit of young people's well-being and career perspectives;
- To **promote** the culture of non-violence and constructive conflict resolution;
- To **stimulate** youth organisations' openness and, ultimately, youth work in the EU and the Balkans through capacity building in the field of mediation and communication.

Methodologies:

The working methods were based on the active participation and learning of participants, promoted through non-formal and informal activities. Theoretical sessions were also integrated in an interactive way, as a basis for future self-mastery. The main methodological approaches will be based on:

1) Creative thinking methods; 2) Experiential learning; 3) Cooperative learning; 4) Peer learning; 5) Open Space Technology; 6) Outdoor activities & experimental learning.

All participants were actively involved in the preparation of the training course by creating interactive presentations together with the partner organisations and gathering information on the topics, as well as in everyday activities of the training in Palermo, bringing along their experience and vigorously participating in the learning process.

EIRENE Main Programme

	05 th December	06th December	07 th December	08h December	09th December	10 th December	11 th December	12 th December	13¤ December
Morning 9.30-13h	Anival of participants Welcome and accommodation	Presentation of the TC - Objectives, learning outcomes, working methods Expectations, motivations, motivations, contributions and concerns of participants.	"Tell Us Your Myth" - An exploration of myths and legends by country in order to discover similarities and differences Anatomy of Conflict - Decosntruction for deeper understanding	Description of Peace and the Lack of It The Role of Media The Non-Violent Communication Method and Ingredients of Communication	Visit to Palermo: the CESIE Office Study visit to Libera	The Role of Art	The role of youth work: the Log-book & Presentation of Log- book by Chapters	Pass the Peace Over: Follow Up and Planning for the Future Creation of New Ideas and Projects	
Afternoon 15-18:30h	Ice-breaking and team building activities	The Culture of Peace in My Country & What is Peace for me? Organizations' Bazaar	Towards understanding and acceptance Build Your Ideal World	Negotiation issues and skills & Limits of Multiculturalism: misunderstandings and ways out	Transtemporal task	Workshop for Peace	EU policies and programmes in the Youth field - Special focus on employability and culture Project writing: principles and tips	Presentations and feed-back from trainers	Departures of participants.
8 H	Welcoming dinner and other team	Daily Evaluation Dinner and team- building game: "The	Daily Evaluation Intercultural evening (I) - open to the local	Daily Evaluation Intercultural evening (II) - open to the local	Typical dinner in Palermo city	Daily Evaluation Movie evening	Daily Evaluation Dinner	Final Evaluation	
Evening 20h-22h	building activities	Night is Falling in Palermo"	community	community	centre				

DAY 2 > SUNDAY 06/12/2015

Objectives:

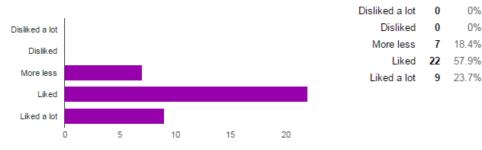
- to know the project and its programme and objectives.
- to get in touch with the main concepts of the TC.
- to know each other better & develop capacity to work together.
- to help trainers to take into consideration participants' demands (expectations, motivations, contributions and concerns).
- to understand the concept of Peace
- to know the different sending organizations

MORNING:

[Presentation of the TC - Objectives, learning outcomes, working methods]

The coordinator of the project introduced the training course, explaining team work (project coordinator, trainers and support staff), objectives, target groups, working methods and the general TC's programme as well as the Programme Erasmus +.

Presentation of the Training Course, objectives and agenda, training team and rules [DAY 2> Sunday 6th of December 2015]



[Group building activities / Games to know each other]

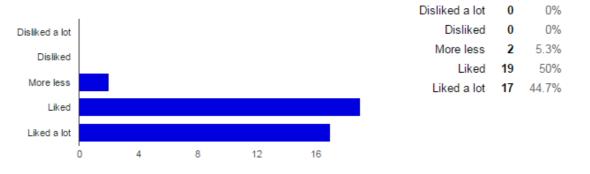
Ball of thread: sitting in circle and using a ball of thread, each person introduced themselves saying the name and some interesting fact regarding their life. After that, they threw the ball of thread to another person, thus forming an informal network that can be seen. After everybody spoke, they tried to un-knit the net, by throwing the ball of thread back to the person they have received it from, saying his/her name.



[Expectations, motivations, contributions and concerns of participants]

Using three different post-it of different colors, participants were asked to write their hopes, fears and contributions regarding the TC and hang them in the working room, so that everyone had a chance to look during all the week. Moreover, this was an opportunity for the trainers to have an overview on the initial situation of the participants, thus allowing them to plan better the following learning path.





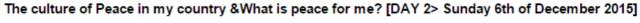
Expectations, motivations, contributions and concerns [DAY 2> Sunday 6th of December 2015]

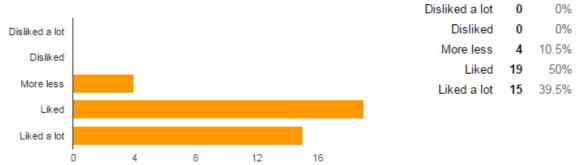
AFTERNOON

[The Culture of Peace in My Country & What is Peace for me?]

Introduction of the basic concepts of the TC (peace, conflict, intercultural dialogue) through the exercise of "Mindmapping". Participants had time to explore the topic on their own and to share the results in the group at the end of the session, allowing a continuous exchange on the same topic.





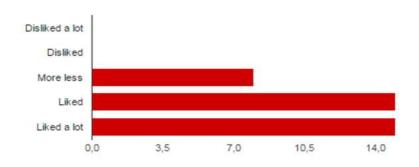


[Organisations' bazaar]

In the beginning the coordinator of the TC introduced CESIE, as the hosting organization. After that, other sending organizations had the opportunity to have the floor through the method "organisations' bazaar". Participants simulated a bazaar in which each one of the stands represented one partner organization. They could move and visit different stands to get information about their activities directly from the other participants.



This activity was very important in order to network and share any idea, useful to make organizations aware about the work of the others, putting the basis for the potential developmento of new projects.



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8	21.1%
15	39.5%
15	39.5%
	0 8 15

Organizations' bazaar [DAY 2> Sunday 6th of December 2015]

DAY 3 > Monday 07/12/2015

Objectives:

- To visualize diversity through performance.
- To transform myths into a learning situation.
- To stimulate the creative thinking.
- To find a communication code.
- To present the view of the ideal world.

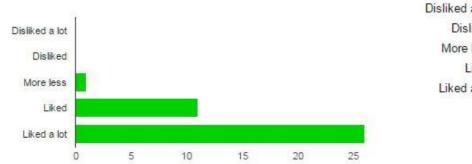
MORNING

["Tell Us Your Myth" - An exploration of myths and legends by country in order to discover similarities and differences]

Using the information they were asked to collect before the TC, participants presented a famous myth or legend in their own country through a role play. The metaphors of the myths will be used for showing how the same myth have different interpretations and pretentions for ownership. This activity has been



really useful since it helped to transform the "storytelling" of a myth in a learning situation. At the end of the session participants discussed to draw some conclusions on the different





 Disliked a lot
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 Disliked
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 More less
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 2.6%

 Liked
 11
 28.9%

 Liked a lot
 26
 68.4%

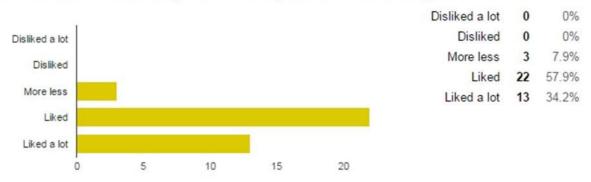
representations they saw from each national group.

[Anatomy of Conflict - Deconstruction for deeper understanding]

This activity required the preparation of some tasks by the participants at home. Participants were asked to present visually the idea/understanding of "conflict" and of "culture of conflict". This activity was followed by a general discussion on the repercussion of this understanding on their daily life.



Deconstruction of conflict [DAY 3> Monday 7th of December 2015]



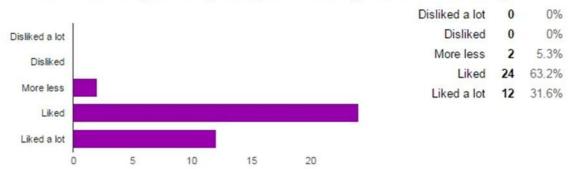
AFTERNOON

[Towards understanding and acceptance]

Participants were involved in an interactive debate – role-play like – with controversial statements about refugees and politics linking with the recent European news. The group has been invited to choose from "yes", "no" or "I don't know" depending on the statement and their opinions, and some of the participants was invited to argue on a specific view. One of the trainer has been the moderator in order to ensure respect among the participants. The main aim



was to introduce the meaning of the different points of view and the limits of tolerance.



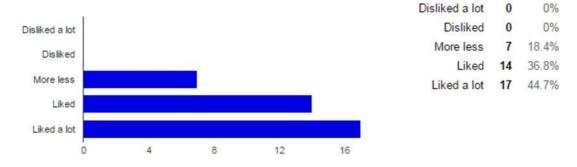
Towards understanding and acceptance [DAY 3> Monday 7th of December 2015]

[Build your Ideal World]

Participants were invited to build in a creative way & divided in groups a prototype of an ideal world. The activity stimulated the creative thinking, but also allowed them in the process of thinking about the "group". In fact, in groups they had to image their ideal world by using material as papers, recycled items, pens, colours, glasses etc.







Build your Ideal World [DAY 3> Monday 7th of December 2015]

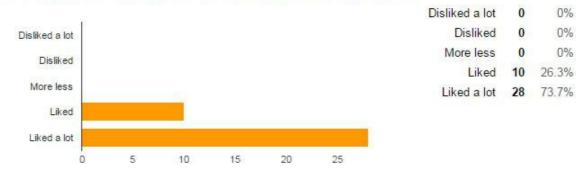
EVENING

[Intercultural evening I]: Turkey, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Macedonia, Netherlands, Albania, Kosovo

During an event open to the local community, the above countries' participants presented own culture through food, beverages, music, dances, etc.. The night was a chance to exchange culture, traditions and much more among the participating countries and the local community, developing that sense of understanding at the basis of the training.



Intercultural evening (I) [DAY 3> Monday 7th of December 2015]



DAY 4 > TUESDAY 08/12/2015

Objectives:

- ٠ To understand how media represents conflict.
- To raise awareness about the role of media.
- To discuss about images related to conflict. •
- To explore the non-violent communication method. ٠
- To raise awareness about the negotiation skills and issues. •

MORNING

[Description of Peace and the Lack of It: The Role of Media]

What is conflict for Media and for me? Participants played a "Gossip game" in 2 parts: 1) firstly, they search how media represents conflict in their countries showing images to the group; 2) then, split in different groups, they went to make short interviews, and at the end they showed to the other participants only the answers, making them think about the possible questions connected to them. These 2 activities helped the discussion about how media can influence our daily life and also our opinion about conflict.





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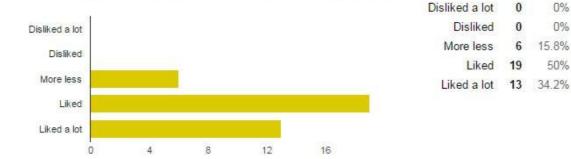
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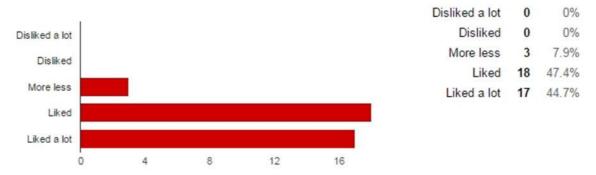
The role of media- Description of Peace and the lack of it [DAY 4> Tuesday 08th of December 2015]

[The Non-Violent Communication Method and Ingredients of Communication]

The method of non-violent communication was introduced to the participants. Then, they could explored the concept through different simulation with the following topics: 1) judge back, 2) judge yourself, 3) self-empathy, 4) listen empathy; 5) honest-self expression. The participants were involved actively in a game in which they have to answer according to the items mentioned before.



The non-violent communication [DAY 4> Tuesday 08th of December 2015]



AFTERNOON

[Negotiation issues and skills + Limits of Multiculturalism: misunderstandings and ways out]

Through a game participants were included in a negotiation process first in couples, then in small groups. There were planned at least 5 stages that participants had to complete, representing different phases of "negotiation": trainers asked participants to identify the techniques, the behaviors and the main items of this process. At the end of the activities, trainers asked also emotional feedbacks on the activities, focusing more on the required skills for negotiations. The second session was about how conflict management, especially regarding conflict based on stereotypes & prejudices.



Negotiation issues and skills [DAY 4> Tuesday 08th of December 2015]

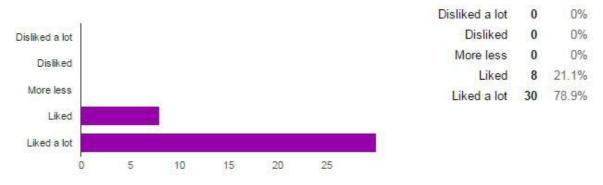


[Intercultural evening II]: Serbia, Bulgaria, Greece, Portugal, Romania, Czech Republic, Slovakia.

As it was organized in the previous same activity, this event -open to the local community – made the above countries' participants present own culture through food, beverages, music, dances, etc., with interaction with representatives of the local community.



Intercultural evening (II) [DAY 4> Tuesday 08th of December 2015]



DAY 5 > WEDNESDAY 09/12/2015

Objectives:

- to know a local NGO and its work.
- to know an experienced European NGO
- to get to know Palermo and its surroundings.

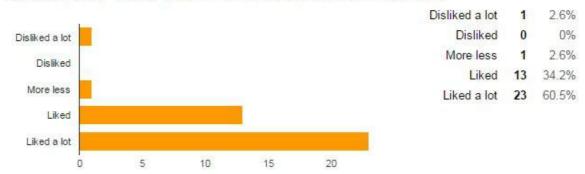
MORNING

[Study visit to Libera]

"Libera. Associations, names and numbers against mafias" was born on 25 March 1995 with the purpose of involving and supporting all those who are interested in the fight against mafias and organized crime. Libera is presently a network of more than 1,200 associations, groups and schools, committed to build up organizational synergies between the political and cultural local realities capable of promoting a culture of lawfulness. The visit was a chance for the participants to discover how the culture of non-violence is put in practice by the local organizations, allowing them to enlarge their network & taking inspiration from the best practices presented.



Cultural visit of "Libera" [DAY 5> Wednesday 09th of December 2015]



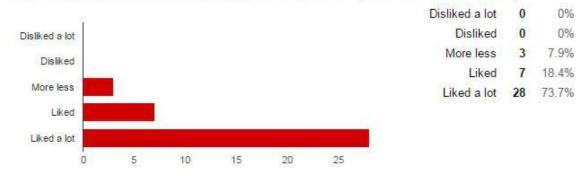
AFTERNOON

[Transtemporal task]

During their visit to Palermo, participants had a "itinerary task-contest": to take a "selfie" in front of an historical building & places of Palermo, which are clearly influenced by a foreign culture. Then, they had to publish the picture with the hashtag **#EIRENE**. In this way, the winner would have been who had received more likes.

This activity was meant to be a bridge for the following activities which would have had at their core the art as a tool to work with in the non formal education.





Transtemporal task-visit to Palermo [DAY 5> Wednesday 09th of December 2015]

DAY 6 > THURSDAY 10/12/2015

Objectives:

- To understand the role of art.
- To stimulate creativity.
- To introduce peace between different cultures.
- To recognize art as an expression of feelings.

MORNING

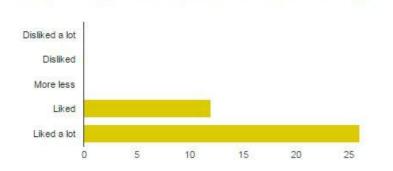
[The Role of Art]

In the previous days participants were invited to choose a type of art: performance, dancing, paintings to represent "peace" through art. At the beginning of the sessions, trainers talked about art as a mean of universal communication and tool for peace. Then, participants, divided by group, started to develop according to the artistic tool chosen their idea of peace. After, they discussed about the importance of art during the centuries.









The Role of Art [DAY 6> Thursday 10th of December 2015]

Disliked a lot	0	0%
Disliked	0	0%
More less	0	0%
Liked	12	31.6%
Liked a lot	26	68.4%

AFTERNOON

[Workshop for Peace and RMA]

First of all, the trainers introduced the concept of RMA: Reciprocal Maieutic Approach developed by Danilo Dolci. This was is a dialectic method of inquiry and "popular selfanalysis". It promotes a sense of responsibility among people and can be defined as a "collective exploration process that considers individuals' experience and intuition as a reference point". RMA is intended to create a safe context for people to express themselves, to listen each other, to discover. to be creative, to learn relational and communication competencies. After introduction,



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participants experimented a session of RMA on the topic of peace. After this first part of the session, they were asked of creating their own sculpture of peace according to the outcomes of the previous session of RMA, using different kind of artistic tools and materials. The results of the session were exhibited in the public space of Baida.

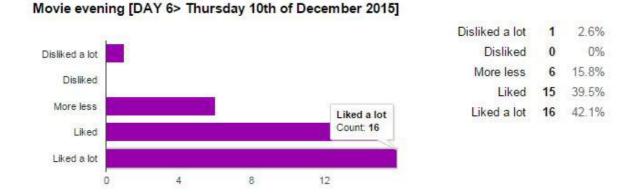


Workshop for Peace through RMA [DAY 6> Thursday 10th of December 2015]

EVENING

[Movie evening]

At the end of the day, participants were invited to watch the movie about the story of Danilo Dolci, "God of Ticks", which was introduced by his youngest son, En Dolci.



DAY 7 > FRIDAY 11/12/2015

Objectives:

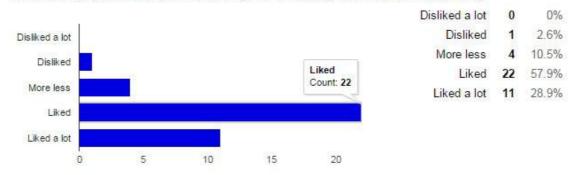
- To create a log-book
- To understand the importance of a log-book
- To know better the role of the youth work
- To acquire knowledge about the Erasmus + programme

MORNING

[The role of youth work: the Log-book + Presentation of the Log-book by Chapters]

After an introduction about the Log-book, participants were invited to be split in groups and to start a "brainwriting" to choose the structure of this document, dividing it by sessions/chapters. It would have included suggestions/hints and methods at the basis of the activities of the project. In the following session, the results of each group about the log-book were put together, thus helping trainers to take into account all the feedbacks for the production of the final product.





The role of youth work- the Log book [DAY 7> Friday 11th of December 2015]

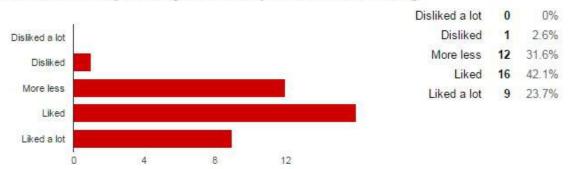
AFTERNOON

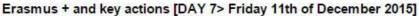
[EU policies and programmes in the Youth field - Special focus on employability and culture + Project writing: principles and tips]

The trainer explained Erasmus + programme focusing on the employability of the young people and the different opportunities that this programme give to European youth, focusing also on each single Key Action, the priorities, the expected results for all the people involved and so on. Moreover, regarding employability and culture, a certain space of time has been dedicated to the general presentation of Erasmus for Young Entrepreneurs and Creative Europe. Procedures to apply to each action of the programme have been explained, in order to guarantee their participation for the next deadlines.



Following this introduction, trainers explained few methods to write project, from the analysis of the situation, the generation of the idea and the project structure (explaining also the SMART approach).





DAY 8 > SATURDAY 12/12/2015

Objectives:

- To get to know Youth Pass.
- To generate new ideas of project.
- To evaluate the contents & logistics of the TC, in order to have a feedback from participants that will be useful to improve future projects.

[Pass the Peace Over: Follow Up and Planning for the Future + Creation of new ideas and projects + presentation & feedbacks by trainer]

Through the Open Space Technology (a participatory method for generating new ideas through the use of the space and a clever way of saving time), participants could propose ideas for future projects and give personal contribute to the ideas they like most. They were free to move and change groups, multiplying their ideas and capacity to contribute to the follow up projects and activities.

At the end of the session, they were invited to present the developed ideas, thus receiving both feedbacks from participants and from trainers, in order to improve the ideas and make them exploitable for possible future projects/initiatives.

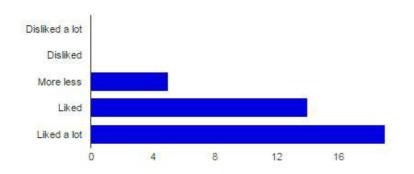


[Final Evaluation]

The final evaluation of the TC was done in both formal and informal ways: the non formal part was structured with non formal activities, whilst the formal one was done through an on line questionnaire (whose results and graphics have been used in this Public Report).



Final evaluation [DAY 8> Saturday 12th of December 2015]



Disliked a lot	0	0%
Disliked	0	0%
More less	5	13.2%
Liked	14	36.8%
Liked a lot	19	50%



Thank you and see you soon!

Contacts

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Eirene

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www.cesie.org



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