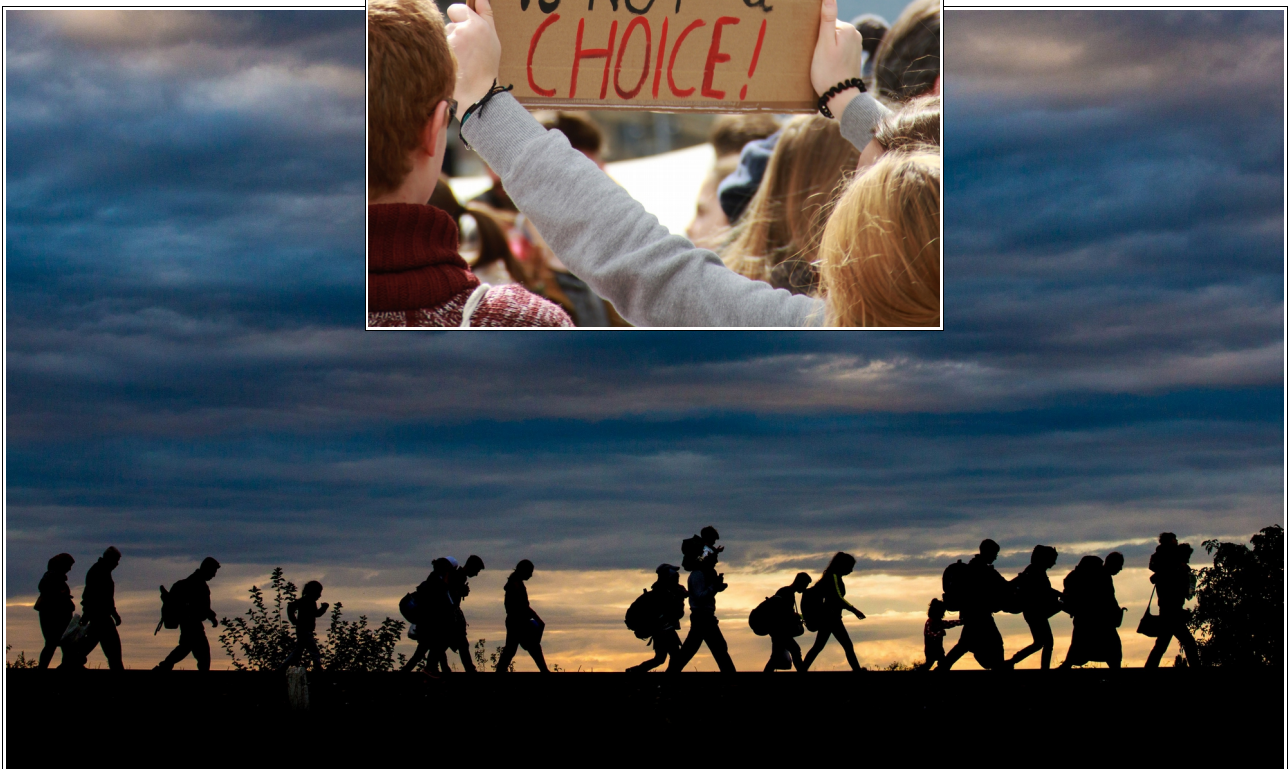


BEING A REFUGEE IS NOT A CHOICE

Youth Exchange
2016 – KA1

Mavi – Association of Social Promotion is glad to welcome you to
“Be a refugee is not a choice”
an “Erasmus Plus” Programme project, that going to
take place in Riva del Garda, Italy
from 21th to 27th of October 2016



About Erasmus Plus

Erasmus+ is the European Union programme for education, training, youth and sport. It runs for seven years, from 2014 to 2020, with organisations invited to apply for funding each year to undertake creative and worthwhile activities.

Erasmus+ aims to modernise education, training and youth work across Europe. It is open to education, training, youth and sport organisations across all sectors of lifelong learning, including school education, further and higher education, adult education and the youth sector. I

About the project

Our contemporary world is experiencing a period of great change, where next to the ongoing social transformations are needed parallel personal paths of evolution. Alongside the social policies to find the balance, we need to carry on a process of personal growth and awareness that starts from each individual.

Photography, as a medium, can contribute to this process of identification and personal evolution, becoming an instrument through which to look, and see the world, helping to create the basis for a more conscious and active attitude.

Photography can become a bridge-contact between us and others as well as being an authentic communication tool; tool that can give voice to our thoughts, putting us in connection - human – in an authentic way. Than Photography is a universal language, without linguistic and geographical boundaries, suitable for intercultural experiences between people from different countries.

This project, entitled *“Being a refugees is not a choice”* is a project that uses the photographic instrument as a tool like a “bridge” between each participant and what is the thematic reference: migration policies that are literally transforming our world and bringing to the surface fears and limitations to which all of us we are living.

There is a fundamental work of sensitization and integration that we should to do.

The photographic process which leverages this project is called “Photovoice”, where, through video or photographic images, gives the opportunity to express own vision, own feelings, thus creating a network connection and sharing people and different way of live. It is a technique that has been used in many countries in various situations, including the issues related to young people in difficulty, to the integration of people belonging to minorities, in recovery groups from violence. It 'a process that revolves around the concept of “empowerment”. This process is stimulated by a technique that puts so much the individual as the group in a position to express themselves or learn to express themselves, especially on issues related to the world of emotions and the ability to express own feelings.

Photography is also a creative and fun language, which does not require language skills to convey messages (each image is a kind of self-portrait of the person who took it), which puts the person in a position to observe reality differently thus creating important changes with regard to the perception of the world.

Objectives of the project:

- To promote EU values and “Erasmus +” programme
- To encourage participation to organize different actions and projects to reach the awareness in the community of social problems on local, national and international level.
- To recognize, value and celebrate young people's positive contributions to society.
- To create intercultural dialogue
- Multiplication of the project results
- The participants to learn more about the issues of migration, of the Dublin Convention, the human situation that migrants find themselves, but above all on the awareness that being a migrant is not a choice, but the consequence of very complex economic and social balance.
- To understand that “the other” is never different from us, a reflection on how to live responsibly and not ego-centered, making them aware of what aspects of our lives can make the changes so that have a benefit for the whole community
- Discover different opinions and point of view about contemporary social problems
- Building critical thinking and observation skills thanks the medium of Photography
- Empowering to articulate interpretations about a social problem with the photographic tool
- Start to use a Digital Media as Facebook for social purposes. The photographic portfolio realized will become awareness material on the net, through the creation of visual storytelling on migration
- Raise awareness about the problems by organizing local event and create online campaign.
- To know more about different countries, cultures, languages, ecc.
- To overcome the language barriers

Working methods:

- Ice-breakers and teambuilding games to getting to know each other
- Workshop
- Simulation games will allow to identify current challenges of non-formal education and show possible measures that strengthen. These sessions will provide the participants with concrete ideas that can be implemented in their local communities, thus ensuring an important multiplier effect.
- Reflection groups will take place every evening and will serve as platform where the participants can give feedback on the activities of the day and also share general impressions they had. Those sessions will be facilitated by experienced facilitators to ensure their quality and value.

Participant's Profile:



Participants: 6 + 1 leader per country

Who: Young people, students, youth leaders and youth workers interested of the topic from Italy, Turkey, Czech Republic, Bulgaria and Lithuania.

Age: From 18 to 26 years (No age limit for the group leader)

Gender: All the participating organisations have agreed on sending equal number of participants from both genders

Language: The project will be held in English so the participants should be able to understand and express himself in English

Information about the place:

Trentino Alto Adige is situated in the very north of Italy bordering Austria and Switzerland, and is best known for the beauty of its peaks. Trentino is a mountainous region. The Adige river flows through central Trentino in a valley named after the river. The principal towns of Trentino lay in the Adige Valley, which has been a historical passage connecting Italy with Northern Europe.

The project will be in the great scenario of Mount Baldo. It is situated between the River Adige and Lake Garda, in a strategic position that makes him preserve both geological and prehistoric findings of great interest. It is also a witness to important events that have marked history and a natural oasis that is perfectly intact. Mount Baldo is a truly unique mountain.

The lake climate influence on the mountain allows many different natural environments to co-exist, from the Mediterranean scrub to the pastures and rocks on the higher peaks. It is thanks to these particular features that Mount Baldo has earned the name of "Garden of Europe," veritable interconnection between the Alps and the Mediterranean.

Seen from the south, on a clear winter's day, Mount Baldo stands in all its impressive beauty: a candid white peak and slopes already warmed by the first breezes of spring. This image sums up the extraordinary characteristic of this place: a mountain that comes alive in every season. In winter, the "Garden of Europe," much admired for its prodigious blooms during the other seasons,

becomes a paradise for snow-lovers and skiing enthusiasts. On Mount Baldo, every season has its own irresistible charm. During the project we will make a hike in the mountains and we will visit Riva del Garda. After Desenzano, Riva is the second-largest town on Lake Garda, and it has a very different atmosphere from the other lake resorts: simultaneously alive yet staid.



How to get here:

Monte Baldo & Lake Garda is in a strategic position within easy reach of the principle national and international airports, the nearest being **Verona-Villafranca**, approximately 15 km, and **Brescia-Montichiari**, 30 km. Both are situated south of the lake and are connected to the Verona and Brescia railway stations by an airport coach service.

Another important airport is **Bergamo-Orio al Serio**, about 80 km from the lake.

Personalized **transfer services** are available to and from all the localities on the lake.

The Milan (Linate and Malpensa) and Venice airports are about 100 km from Lake Garda.



IMPORTANT: We recommend arriving at the AIRPORT OF VERONA – VILLAFRANCA and from there is possible take a train to ROVERETO STATION where we could easily come to pick you up.

NB: Whether it will be possible to organize the arrival of all groups at the same airport, we can organize a group bus to pick up you all up from the airport.

State Railway site: <http://www.trenitalia.com/>



What to bring with you:

- Passport or other ID
- The early autumn in Monte Baldo., is not cold. The average temperature for that period is around 18 at 24 degree. But we still advice you to bring warm clothes as well.
- Comfortable clothes for a workshop activities and that you aren't afraid to get dirty.
- Towels and personal care products: shampoo, tooth paste, etc.
- Pills and medicine
- For the Intercultural Evening please bring something typical from your country, it could be food, drinks, touristic materials, little gifts or whatever you want.
- **IMPORTANT: Each participant is required to bring along a digital camera or a phone with which you can take pictures in good resolution and all cable you need to download pictures.**

- IMPORTANT: For each national group is required to prepare a short interview (video or photo + captions, in this last case you will make a power point) to local people on migration. Title of the the interview will be: "Immigration problem or resource?" Write 2/3 questions that you will do to some people in your neighborhood.**

Schedule of the project:

	21/10	22/10	23/10	24/10	25/10	26/10	27/10	
8.30-9.30	<i>Arriving Welcome</i>	<i>BREAKFAST TIME</i>					<i>Departure Good bye</i>	
10:00 - 11:30		Presentation & introduction	Introduction of the Topic	Photographic Game	<i>Excursion</i>	<i>Editing time</i>		
11:30 - 11:45		<i>COFFE BREAK</i>						
11:45 - 13:30		Ice Breakers Game of Identity	Ice Breakers Game of Identity	Yoga and Vision Activity		Photo Exhibition + creating web platform		
13:30 - 14:30		<i>LUNCH TIME</i>						
15:00 - 17:00		Photographic Game	The Dublin Convention	Creating a Story Telling		Photo Exhibition + creating web platform		
17:00 - 17:15		<i>COFFE BREAK</i>						
17:15 - 18:00		Refugees or Human Being?	Migratory situation in our Country	Creating a Story Telling		Opening Photo Exhibition & Evaluation		
18:00 - 20:00		<i>FREE TIME (Coffe/Shower/Friends.....)</i>						
20:00 - 21:00		<i>DINNER TIME</i>						
22:00	Welcome Party	Intercultural Night	Intercultural Night	Intercultural Night		Good By Evening		

SEE YOU SOON



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