

## Summary of project

Youth Exchange called "**Minorities in action**" will take place on the **01 until 12 August 2016** in **Narva-Jõesuu, Estonia**:



Youth Exchange will bring together participants from Estonia, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Norway and Italy. **The main aim of this project** is to discuss topics regarding minorities, offer ideas on how to help minorities to integrate into society, gain knowledge about the problems that they face in their lives when society does not accept them. Participants will share their ideas and opinions in order to know about situation of minorities in different countries of Europe, to find similarities and differences.

Participants will discuss topics that are closely related to minorities such as:

- Ethnic and linguistic minorities, the cultural differences, typical examples of minority groups;
- The influence of religion on politics and vice versa. Discrimination and persecution of dissidents at different times ; to estimate great progress in matters of ethnic tolerance and minority policy;
- Refugees and immigrants in European countries;
- The social status of sexual minorities. What sexual minorities have achieved over the last 10 years?
- Tolerance in the society and attitudes toward sexual minorities in different countries; finding and evaluating information on the Internet and mass media.
- Age minorities. Discrimination against children and elderly people in society; to discuss the possible participation of minorities in public life and integration in general;
- Integration of people with disabilities in the life of the community; improving quality of life for people with disabilities;
- The benefits of integration into society; to teach project participants to accept people as they are;

- Social privileges for minorities in the countries of the participants; to develop a sense of tolerance among the participants, to teach them to think openly and not be afraid to speak out;
- And many other topics regarding these issues.

Participants will share their ideas on these matters, find possible solutions that can be implemented in the future and most importantly get to know that these problems actually exist and that they need to get fixed.

Participants will offer ideas and discuss the topics with others, will also meet with representatives of different age groups, take the interview and get to know the locals, get to know more about violation of children's and elderly people's rights in Estonia. At the end of the project young people will choose the best materials and evaluate ideas, create a list of tasks/a set of rules/. When participants come back home they will apply their knowledge and skills gained from project in lots of different ways.

During Youth Exchange will be used a variety of non-formal learning methods to work with such as team works, discussions, presentations, etc. Young people will have the opportunity to show their creative side during creative evening where they will choose a world famous theme song (all known to all participants) and come up with a creative anthem of unification and friendship among nations.

## Dissemination activities

The objective of our Dissemination Plan is to identify and organize activities that can be performed in such a way to promote the exploitation of the project's results and gain a lot of knowledge from the project.

**1. Blog.** Participants will create blog where they can share their opinions about work done during the day, their experience, outcomes, discuss the themes and objectives of "Minorities in action", add photos, videos, write articles, post other useful information and materials, so that the future participants will get to know the opportunities to apply for future projects.

**2. Facebook group.** Participants will expand their knowledge about minorities by creating their own materials (wiki page, Google application video or a digital story). Young people will create group in social network in order to get access to information and share knowledge with everyone.

**3. Movie:** Movie is one of the strongest components of the project which will ensure a wide and effective dissemination of results. Participants will make interviews during project, record meetings and activities to discuss how to attract minorities in volunteer activities, find the ways of possible involvement of age minorities in social activities and integration into society such as organizing evenings for seniors, mornings with children. Participants will take photos, record video and include best materials in movie.

**4. Brochure.** Brochure "Minorities in action" will cover the problems of minorities and how to solve them, give information about their rights. During Young Exchange participants will consider all topics that will be added to the brochure:

- Rights of racial and language minorities. To identify both common and rare problems for the life of racial and language minorities in different countries as well as to teach participants to be more tolerant of each other;

- Way of integration of ethnic and linguistic minorities into society. In order to expand the horizons of participants, to learn to communicate on equal terms with people from other cultures, ethnicity and racial origins, to find the best methods in fighting discrimination;
- Refugees and immigrants in European countries;
- Different religions. To understand how important in the lives of each of us is faith, to learn to be loyal to people, regardless of their religious identity;
- Tolerance. To study the problem of discrimination against sexual minorities in various countries, to build a strong team spirit, to share personal experiences and knowledge;
- Gender Stereotypes. To share experiences, to acquire skills to think openly, to identify problems of gender minorities, to find ways to improve the social life of gender minorities, options for their integration into society;
- People with disabilities: To understand problems of people with disabilities;
- HIV-positive people. HIV/AIDS-related stigma plays significant role in self-disclosure of HIV-positive people. It can cause potential disruption of relationships with society. Participants are going to develop for HIV-positive people the integration plan into social life.
- The benefits of integration into society.

Brochure will be issued in English, 100 copies for each country. Promoters and partners will distribute information materials during dissemination activities among local youth, NGOs, youth organizations in European countries.

**5. Electronic mailing list.** Mailing list will be created for providing information through project. Group members will maintain contact with each other, respond to evaluation issues related to the success of the project. Regular focus groups will be organized in order to change opinions and ideas.

**6. Web-sites and promoter's web-site.** Promoters will share information, present their articles, materials, post photos, videos, disseminate outcomes of the project. Other web-sites involved in youth exchange will be also share project's outcomes and experience of young people (salto-youth.net, euroopa.noored.ee). Online resources will improve the quality, relevance and effectiveness of the project results.

**7. Publications in local and online newspapers:** The aim is to break down the stereotypes of minorities and for people to get acquainted with the problems that they face.