

**“DIFFERENCES CHALLENGE ASSUMPTIONS”**  
TRAINING FOCUSED ON EXPLORING CULTURAL RELATIVISM  
18 – 27 NOVEMBER, 2016  
BUCKINGHAMSHIRE (*LONDON COUNTRY SIDE*), UNITED KINGDOM

## CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

**Important** - *We invite all the interested people to read thoroughly the information included in this call. If you are not sure if this is the right training for you please contact us before you apply so we can clarify any question.*

**The project is designed to be highly challenging** in terms of provoking the participants outside of their comfort zone and stimulating them to rethink and maybe shift their own view on the world and their position in the highly complex intercultural world we live in.

### Background of the project

Often in international projects or the ones including intercultural dialogue, learning or diversity elements will include one sessions of 1.5 or 3 hours where a simulation or a game will be implemented (from the variety of alternatives available online as well), with a fast debriefing (if at all), which will introduce very fast the concepts of stereotypes, prejudices and discrimination –which then will be taken for granted and not pushed outside of the comfort zone of the learners. The same holds for international projects where intercultural learning is left just for the intercultural nights or the free time of the participants. Of course this is not a constant in the field but rather an observation after years of working in international field.

“Differences challenge assumptions” project wants to address the lack of advanced intercultural working competencies and sensitivity in the youth work field and especially of the ones active and working in international or multicultural settings.

The main goal of this project is to increase the level of intercultural competence, sensitivity and quality in the youth work field.

### More specific Objectives that will contribute to achieve the main aim:

- To increase/upgrade the knowledge level of youth workers in Intercultural Learning Topics (culture, identity, prejudices, stereotypes, assumptions, relativism, communication, clashes, intercultural sensitivity);
- To contribute to a deep understanding of the global settings and influence on the cultural awareness of young people;
- To develop practical skills in working and managing quality intercultural learning process in international projects with young people;
- To develop high cultural sensitive attitudes in the youth work field;
- To empower youth workers to act as responsible intercultural sensitive actors in the international field and project ;

**The training course** is strongly based on experiential learning (learning by doing) and non-formal education, with adequate time allocated for debriefing and reflection throughout the whole program as the process will be highly personal and aim for attitudinal changes, hence the reflection is very important part of the process (as the educational team is well aware of).

### Target group and criteria for selecting 26 participants

#### The prospective participants should:

- **Be youth workers, leader's coordinators, facilitators and trainers** from active NGOs that have mission and objectives that are related to multiculturalism, international activities, intercultural learning;
- **Have experience in the international field and basic experience in intercultural learning ;**
- **Be ready to be challenged beyond their mental comfort zone;**
- **Have a high multiplicative potential and motivation;**
- **Be at least 18 years old**
- **Have at least medium level of English comprehension** (to be able to participate in discussion and in training activities);
- **The participants should be resident of one of following countries:**

**Romania, Turkey, Bulgaria, Germany, Spain, Croatia, Greece, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Slovakia, Czech Republic, UK**

**\*(Important Note:** applications from people residents in other countries (regardless if they are nationals of the countries mentioned before will not be accepted)

### Financial aspects

This project is funded by Erasmus + (KA1) of European Commission. According to its financial rules some costs are fully covered some not, like following.

- **100% costs of board and logging will be fully covered;**
- **Travel and visa costs will be fully covered** (from the country of residence – which has to be on the list mentioned before-no exceptions allowed) up to certain limits (see below) upon the receipt of all original tickets and invoices.

Bulgaria= 275 euro  
Czech Republic=275 euro  
Croatia=275 euro  
Germany=275 euro  
Greece= 360 euro  
Lithuania= 275 euro

Malta= 360 euro  
Poland= 275 euro  
Romania= 360 euro  
Spain= 275 euro  
Slovakia= 275 euro  
Turkey=530 euro

- **The transport and visa cost will be reimbursed** at the end of the training course with the condition to have full costs supported by financial documents.

**There is a participation fee** for making sure all the quality conditions for an impactful training are met which is **40 euro**. The participation fee can be discussed case by case if some participants are paying more than the limit for travel mentioned before or experience a hard financial situation. The participation fee will be paid during the training course.

**If you are interested in taking part in this training course**, please fill in the application form and return it completed to the e-mail address you find below **by 25<sup>h</sup> of October 2016!**

**For more information** please send us an email below. We suggest that you read the information presented in the call beforehand!

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