



Youth for
Human Rights



Co-funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
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'Youth for Human Rights' project brief synopsis

Lessons learned

Project design:

- The project objectives and activities correspond well to the aim of mainstreaming HRE in the field of youth, thus serve the project well. The linkages in between activities and partner cooperation support implementation.
- It is yet too early to draw conclusions from the key capacity building activities of the project, such as Training of trainers, training of youth workers/leaders, NA staff training and transfer seminars, since majority are scheduled but still ahead of us, according to the implementation plan.

Project implementation:

- Project transnational Human Rights Education (HRE) mapping report gave specific importance to the **added value** of the Erasmus+ dimension, specifically looking at activities carried out in the framework of the Erasmus+ programme via quantitative analysis, which was based on statistics of the typology of the Erasmus+ projects in project partnering NAs since 2014. The analysis concluded that there is an adequate coverage for HRE activities within the Erasmus+ YiA programme. However, there is no clear proof how generalised, intentional, deep or explicit the link with HRE was in the different E+ projects, and there was also a big diversity of issues and target groups.
- The project transfer seminars will be based on an academic paper *Human Rights and Youth Work*, and the need for this paper was raised by the Expert group working in this project. The case studies collected in the paper should inform future collaboration in between NAs and universities providing youth work studies curricula, in an attempt to integrate HRE to formal preparation of youth workers. The paper and the collaboration behind it is have the potential to be a **key dissemination and policy impact moment** of the overall project, as the paper could be seen as stemming from a gap in youth work policy and thus holding importance as a mechanism designed to overcome this gap. Having said that, we still need the experience of implementing transfer seminars to promote the paper recommendations, in the first place.
- As a follow up to the project, some synergy with the formal education sector for a positive impact on the project could potentially be foreseen in the future, for instance building common national HRE strategies which would dedicate attention to both non-formal as well as formal stakeholders who contribute to mainstreaming HRE, such as kindergartens, schools, training of social workers, etc.

Challenges:

- There is a top-down-approach in this project design which does not necessary challenge **common understanding of HR** as narrow and elitist. The project design has not explicitly taken into account rejection of the 'human rights' paradigm itself which is unfortunately increasingly popular nowadays in Europe, however through sensitive implementation this gap can be overcome. The aim in this case is to be more open while tackling everyday issues of young people in relation to democracy and HR.
- Transnational HRE analysis conducted in the framework of the project found that although valuable and useful training formats, tools and resources exist from different institutional bases and backgrounds, however a clear and evident need **to scale up** these resources came to fourth in national, regional and local levels. The challenge is in **reaching out to the local levels of youth work**. In other words, there are known large stakeholders in the HRE area but there is a scale-up issue when it comes to the already existing training formats, tools and resources, and **this content needs to be funded especialy in the local level**